

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The City of Inglewood is undergoing an effort to develop a Citywide Economic Development Strategic Plan. The objective of this project is to collectively develop strategic economic development goals and objectives for the City of Inglewood that will include prioritizing economic development and redevelopment projects; recommending development opportunities and identifying potential uses and substantiating the recommendations with market data; assessing the financial investment needs; and establishing an implementation plan.

The City hired Wilbur Smith Associates in association with the University of Southern California, Center for Economic Development for this important endeavor. The city plans to engage the community and stakeholders in the visioning and planning process, identify commercial uses that reflect the needs of the changing demographics, evaluate Inglewood's retail capacity based on the projects that are underway or planned, examine the appropriate mix of commercial, industrial and residential uses, evaluate land use and zoning issues, and recommend a development strategy. The strategic planning effort will employ the following four phases of work.

Phase I – Present Assessment and Analysis of Economic and Community Problems and Opportunities to the City's Stakeholders

The tasks involved are to organize a series of community meetings on a district-by-district basis structured around economic and community based stakeholders and conduct a series of informational meetings in the city. The meetings will be held to provide citizens, stakeholders and city staff with a comprehensive review of the recently completed studies and previous studies that have relevance in completing the strategic plan. The public will also be informed about the visioning process and the community's participation in the strategic planning process.

Phase II – Community Visioning

A charrette will be conducted involving key partners, including the Mayor and Council members, local businesses, property owners, residents, local political leaders; non-profit organizations, and schools and universities, which will define problems and arrive at recommended solutions for developing a strategic economic development vision and mission statement for the City.

Phase III – Economic Development Strategy Action Plan

Using the information produced in Phases I and II, and combined with substantial public participation, an action plan for the Citywide Economic Development Strategy will be developed involving the following tasks: Vision, goals and objectives, implementation strategies and benchmarks.

Phase IV – Evaluation

This essential phase will outline how the vision, goals, objectives, strategies and benchmarks are, or have been, met.

The final report is expected in January of 2005.

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