DATE: June 20, 2023

TO: Mayor and Council Members

FROM: Economic and Community Development Department

SUBJECT: Public Hearing to Consider General Plan Amendment 2022-002 for the Adoption of the Safety Element

RECOMMENDATION:
It is recommended that the Mayor and Council Members conduct a public hearing and take the following actions:

1. Affirm Categorical Exemption (EA-CE-2022-117); and
2. Adopt a Resolution approving General Plan Amendment 2022-002 (Safety Element).

BACKGROUND:
The Inglewood General Plan consists of eight elements: Land Use, Housing, Noise, Circulation, Conservation, Open Space, Environmental Justice, and Safety. The Safety Element was originally adopted in 1974 and was last comprehensively updated in 1995. The intent of the Safety Element is to discuss specific hazards with a high likelihood of occurrence or high impact of severity that could potentially affect the City of Inglewood. The Safety Element integrates Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions related to safety throughout the community.

The Safety Element of the General Plan is closely tied to the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP). The LHMP is incorporated by reference into the Safety Element. The State mandates that when updating the federally required Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, the City must also update the Safety Element. The City of Inglewood Office of Emergency Services (OES) received grant funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in 2021 and retained Dynamic Planning and Science (Consultant) to update the City’s Hazard Mitigation Plan and Safety Element.

In April 2021, the City commenced preparation of the Safety Element and Hazard Mitigation Plan including community outreach. Community outreach was conducted in conjunction with the Hazard Mitigation Plan and included community events and stakeholder outreach.

On December 2, 2022, the Planning Commission reviewed the Draft Safety Element and adopted Resolution No. 1943, recommending approval to the City Council. At the time, the City Council had not yet adopted the LHMP.

On April 18, 2023, the City Council adopted the LHMP in order to be eligible for federal funding/grants. Under State law, the City may incorporate the LHMP into the General Plan Safety...
Element by reference. Accordingly, staff is asking the City Council to adopt an amendment to the Safety Element to incorporate the previously adopted LHMP.

On May 3, 2023, the Planning Commission reconsidered the Draft Safety Element, which included the recently adopted Local Hazard Mitigation Plan. The Planning Commission adopted Resolution No. 1960, recommending approval to the City Council. As part of their approval, the Planning Commission made a recommendation that a policy be incorporated to address man-made hazards.

On June 6, 2023, the City Council set a public hearing for June 20, 2023, to consider the Safety Element (GPA 2022-002).

DISCUSSION:
In updating the Safety Element, the City is ensuring that the LHMP and Safety Element are working in concert to meet state-mandated requirements as well as ensuring City of Inglewood residents are adequately protected.

The key Safety Element topic areas analyzed are:

1. Public Safety and Emergency Response
   - Emergency Services
   - Community Awareness and Engagement
   - Military Installations
2. Natural Hazards
   - Earthquake and Geologic Hazards
   - Drought Hazard
   - Climate Change
3. Providing a Safe Environment
   - Urban Fire Risk
   - Air Traffic Hazards
   - Hazardous Materials and Waste Management
   - Safety through Design
4. Goals, Policy and Actions

Based on Staff’s analysis of Safety topic areas, as well as community input, the following Goals and Policies were developed:

GOAL S-1 Minimize the risk to life, property, infrastructure, and social and economic disruption from all natural hazards that pose an unreasonable risk to the community.

POLICY-S-1.1 Implement the City of Inglewood Hazard Mitigation Plan.

POLICY-S-1.2 Minimize societal disruption during and following a disaster and provide continuity of critical operations.
POLICY-S-1.3 Promote emergency and disaster prevention and preparedness through public education programs.

The Goal and Policies associated with Minimizing the Risk from Natural Hazards are addressed with 25 Implementation Actions such as the following:

- Update the Hazard Mitigation Plan regularly, as required to stay in compliance with relevant FEMA and state requirements.
- Develop a program to train repair personnel at the Emergency Operations Center to ensure the communication system can be maintained during an emergency.
- Through the city website and other channels, provide information to the public about hazard risk, high-hazard areas, and ways to reduce and mitigate risk.

GOAL S-2 Minimize the risk to life, property, infrastructure, and social and economic disruption from earthquake and other geologic hazards.

POLICY-S-2.1 Ensure seismic risks are minimized for new development and promote earthquake building safety throughout the community.

POLICY-S-2.2 Ensure that all utility lifelines, critical facilities, and places of assembly are seismically sound.

The Goal and Policies associated with Minimizing risk from Earthquakes and Other Geologic Hazards are addressed with 17 implementation actions such as the following:

- Identify and prioritize seismic retrofits to ensure that all potentially hazardous buildings are reinforced or demolished, especially public buildings.
- Create an inventory of soft story buildings that may need reinforcement to better understand the scope of the problem and to apply for appropriate funding to address it.
- In cooperation with Los Angeles County, routinely inspect and maintain sewer systems to ensure it is seismically sound and to minimize the risk of rupture during a seismic event.

GOAL S-3 Minimize the risk to life, property, infrastructure, and social and economic disruption from drought, climate change, extreme heat, and heavy rain.

POLICY-S-3.1 Minimize the risk to life, property, infrastructure, and social and economic disruption from drought through water conservation and smart water policy.

POLICY-S-3.2 Minimize the risk to life, property, and infrastructure from climate change, including from extreme heat and heavy rain.

The Goal and Policies associated with Minimizing Risk from Climate Change are addressed with 12 implementation actions such as the following:
• Expand the use of low-water drought-tolerant native vegetation and landscaping through the adoption of development incentives, standards, or other means.
• Incorporate greening elements efficiently and effectively into development or redevelopment projects and infrastructure improvements and promote greater climate change resilience for the community.
• Identify and inventory urban flooding hot spots for maintenance and future stormwater management projects.

GOAL S-4 Create and maintain a safe environment.

POLICY-S-4.1 Improve public safety personnel and emergency response capabilities within the community.

POLICY-S-4.2 Minimize the risk to life and property from urban fires.

POLICY-S-4.3 To the extent possible, minimize the risk to life and property from air traffic hazards.

POLICY-S-4.4 Protect the community from the adverse impacts of hazardous materials.

The Goal and Policies associated with Maintaining a Safe Environment are addressed with 21 implementation actions such as the following:

• Evaluate new methodologies and technologies that might improve services to the community and reduce emergency response times.
• Periodically review and revise fire and building codes for greater community protection.

Staff has reviewed the Planning Commission recommendation related to man-made hazards. It has been determined that a policy of this kind is best addressed in the Land Use Element rather than the Safety Element. The City would address this concern in the Land Use Element with a policy to formalize Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) as part of the review of public and private developments, including in the Right-of-Way.

The City is in the process of hiring a consultant to prepare a comprehensive General Plan update. As part of the update, a CPTED policy can be included in the Land Use Element. In the interim, Planning staff currently coordinates with Inglewood Police Department in the review of private developments that create public or semi-public spaces, to identify design improvements that will protect public safety.

Local Hazard Mitigation Plan
The purpose of the LMHP is to guide planning efforts to better protect the people, property, and critical facilities of the City of Inglewood from the effects of natural hazard events. This plan helps the City toward reducing risks from hazards. It also serves as a tool to help decision-makers direct mitigation activities and resources. Lastly, the LHMP is developed to ensure the City of Inglewood’s continued eligibility for certain federal disaster assistance, specifically FEMA,
Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) grants, including the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Program, and Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Program.

General Plan Consistency
The Inglewood General Plan serves as a blueprint for the physical development of the City. It sets long-term physical, economic, social, and environmental goals for a jurisdiction and identifies the types of development needed to achieve those goals. The eight required ‘Elements’ of the General Plan (Land Use, Housing, Circulation, Conservation, Open Space, Noise, Safety, and Environmental Justice) complement each other and provide a comprehensive plan for the future of the jurisdiction. When a General Plan is developed as a comprehensive document, the elements comply with and do not contradict one another. Over time, as individual elements are modified, a jurisdiction must ensure that any modifications do not conflict with any other part of the General Plan.

Public Comments
As of the preparation of this report, no public comments in favor of or against this matter have been received.

Environmental Determination
An exemption was prepared in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) stating that the project will have no significant adverse impact upon the environment (EA-CE-2022-117), a copy of which has been available for review in the Planning Division Office located on the fourth floor of City Hall. An electronic copy is available by email request at bmccrumby@cityofinglewood.org.

COMMISSION COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:
The Planning Commission recommended approval of General Plan Amendment 2022-002 on May 3, 2023, pursuant to Resolution No. 1960. The Planning Commission included a recommendation that a policy be included to address man-made hazards in an effort to provide a safer area under the 405 Freeway at Century Boulevard, due to recent deaths that occurred under the overpass. The Commission recommended that the City engage with CalTrans to provide lighting under the overpass to create a safer environment.

FINANCIAL/FUNDING ISSUES AND SOURCES:
There is no fiscal impact.

DESCRIPTION OF ANY ATTACHMENTS:
Attachment 1: Notice of Exemption
Attachment 2: May 3, 2023 Planning Commission Minutes
Attachment 3: Planning Commission Resolution No. 1960
Attachment 4: City Council Resolution
Attachment 5: Safety Element
Mayor and Council Members
Public Hearing - GPA 2022-002 (Safety Element)
June 20, 2023

PREPARED BY:
Mindy Wilcox, AICP, Planning Manager
Bernard McCrumby Jr., Senior Planner

COUNCIL PRESENTER:
Mindy Wilcox, AICP, Planning Manager
APPROVAL VERIFICATION SHEET

DEPARTMENT HEAD APPROVAL: 
Christopher E. Jackson, Sr., ECD Dept. Director

CITY MANAGER APPROVAL: 
Artie Fields, City Manager
NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

Prepared in accordance with California Environmental Quality Act Section No. 15300, and the Inglewood Municipal Code, the following Notice of Exemption is made.

Project Title: General Plan Amendment GPA-2022-002
CEQA Case No: EA-CE-2022-117
Location: Citywide
Zoning: All Zones
Project Sponsor: City of Inglewood
Address: One Manchester Boulevard, Inglewood, CA 90301
Agency Contact: Bernard McCrumby, Senior Planner
Telephone: (310) 412-5230

Project Description
General Plan Amendment 2022-002 (GPA 2022-002) to update the Safety Element of the Inglewood General Plan.

Exempt Status
Categorical Exemption: Section 15061(b)(3) and 15060(c)(2)

Reason for Exemption
The proposed General Plan Amendment qualifies under the "common sense" CEQA exemption pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3) and 15060(c)(2), which provides that, where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that a project may have a significant effect on the environment, the project is not subject to CEQA. CEQA only applies to projects that have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment - either through a direct impact or reasonably, foreseeable indirect impact. The proposed General Plan Amendment will not have a significant impact on the environment and is therefore exempt from the provisions of CEQA.

Signature:
Name: Bernard McCrumby
Title: Senior Planner
Date: October 20, 2022
Planning Commission Meeting Excerpts May 3, 2023


Mr. Bernard McCrumby, Senior Planner, made the staff presentation.

Chairman Springs asked the Planning Commission if there were any questions for staff.

Commissioner Trejo asked staff -
- Could we include a policy that would say, 'Identify man-made hazards in locations including but not limited to freeway underpasses that can be explored for finances', that would then give the State a hook to come up with funding to provide lighting and surveillance cameras?
  - Mr. McCrumby responded to Commissioner Trejo’s question and said that Staff could include this as a recommendation for the City Council to explore as we look to adopt the Safety Element.

Chairman Springs asked the Representative to come forward to address the Planning Commission.

Representative from the City of Inglewood Office of Emergency Services came forward.

Chairman Springs asked the Planning Commission if there were any questions for the Representative.

Commissioner Rice asked the Representative -
- Do you have any information on the two persons that passed away under the freeway?
  - Mr. McCrumby responded to Commissioner Rice’s question.

Chairman Springs opened the public hearing to the audience to speak either for or against this project.

FOR / AGAINST:
None.

Chairman Springs asked the Planning Commission if there were any further questions for the OES Representative, there were none, and called for a motion.
Commissioner Trejo made a motion to affirm categorical exemption EA-CE-2022-117 and adopt a resolution recommending approval of General Plan Amendment No. 2022-002 and include a recommendation that a policy be adopted to address man-made hazards such as those under freeway overpasses that are dark with no lighting and no surveillance cameras and was seconded by Commissioner Patrick that Resolution No. 1960

A RESOLUTION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF INGLEWOOD, CALIFORNIA, RECOMMENDING CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL OF THE UPDATE TO THE SAFETY ELEMENT OF THE INGLEWOOD GENERAL PLAN.

Be approved.

The motion was carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Patrick, Rice, Trejo, Shaw-Williams and Chairman Springs.

There is no appeal process.
RESOLUTION NO. 1960

A RESOLUTION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION
OF THE CITY OF INGLEWOOD, CALIFORNIA,
RECOMMENDING CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL OF
THE UPDATE TO THE SAFETY ELEMENT OF THE
INGLEWOOD GENERAL PLAN

(Case No. GPA-2022-002)

WHEREAS, Section 65302 (a) of the California Government Code
requires certain Elements to be included in the City of Inglewood General
Plan (General Plan).

WHEREAS, on April 18, 2023 the Inglewood City Council adopted
the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) and this requires a conformance
update to the Safety Element of the Inglewood General Plan;

WHEREAS, the City has initiated an update to the Safety Element
of the General Plan. The proposed Safety Element Amendment is provided
as Exhibit A;

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission scheduled a public hearing for
the 3rd day of May 2023, beginning at 7:00 p.m. to consider General Plan
Amendment No. 2022-002 (GPA 2022-002); and

WHEREAS, notice of the time and place of the hearing was given as
required by law; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission conducted the hearing at the
time and place stated in the notice and afforded all persons interested in
the matter of the proposed General Plan Amendment, or in any matter or
subject related thereto, an opportunity to address the Planning Commission
and be heard and to submit any testimony or evidence in favor or against;
and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 65103 of the California Government
Code, the Planning Commission, acting as the City of Inglewood Planning
Agency, is charged with the administration of the City's General Plan and with making recommendations to the City Council on amendments to the City's General Plan; and,

WHEREAS, after taking public testimony and fully considering all the issues, the Planning Commission determined that General Plan Amendment GPA-2022-002 should be recommended for approval to the City Council as set forth herein below.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF INGLEWOOD, CALIFORNIA RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1.

The Planning Commission has carefully considered all testimony and evidence presented in this matter, and being so advised, finds as follows:

1. All procedural requirements for the Planning Commission to recommend to the City Council approval of the Safety Element General Plan Amendment have been followed.

2. The Safety Element General Plan Amendment substantially complies with the applicable requirements of state law.

3. The Safety Element General Plan Amendment is substantially compatible with the other Elements of the General Plan and will maintain an internally consistent General Plan.

4. The Safety Element General Plan Amendment is reasonably related to the protection of the public health, safety, and welfare of the residents of the City of Inglewood.

5. That the amendment is categorically exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act.

SECTION 2

The Planning Commission of the City of Inglewood, following review of the proposed General Plan Amendment, and consideration of testimony at the
public hearing, the City staff reports and other information in the record as a whole, finds the proposed General Plan Amendment to be adequate as presented and worthy of approval and hereby recommends to the City Council approval and adoption of the General Plan Amendment attached hereto as Exhibit A.

SECTION 3.

The Secretary of the Planning Commission is hereby instructed to forward a certified copy of this resolution to the City Council as a report, findings and recommendations of the Commission with reference to the General Plan Amendment attached hereto as Exhibit A.

This resolution, a recommendation to the City Council to approve the General Plan Amendment No. 2022-002 (GPA-2022-002) attached hereto as Exhibit A, is passed, approved, and adopted, this 3rd Day of May 2023.

Larry Springs, Chairman
City Planning Commission
Inglewood, California

Attest:

Cynthia Robinson, Secretary
City Planning Commission
Inglewood, California
RESOLUTION NO. _____


(Case No. GPA-2022-002)

WHEREAS, pursuant to California Government Code Section 65588 and Section 65584.02, the City of Inglewood is required to update the Safety Element of its General Plan when the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan is updated; and,

WHEREAS, City staff prepared a Draft Safety Element to update the Safety Element per State law, incorporated input and direction from the City of Inglewood City Council, Planning Commission, and the public; and,

WHEREAS, to implement the Safety Element, a series of policies and programs have been incorporated within the Safety Element; and,

WHEREAS, on May 3, 2023 the Planning Commission conducted a public hearing for the matter and approved Resolution No. 1960 entitled:

A RESOLUTION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF INGLEWOOD, CALIFORNIA, RECOMMENDING CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL OF THE UPDATE TO THE SAFETY ELEMENT OF THE INGLEWOOD GENERAL PLAN

WHEREAS, on June 6, 2023 the City Council scheduled a Public Hearing for June 20, 2023, that was properly noticed pursuant to Section 65355 of the California Government Code with a legal notice published in the Herald Publication, a newspaper of general circulation and a notice posted on the City Hall public information board; and,

WHEREAS, on June 20, 2023 the City of Inglewood City Council conducted the public hearing, reviewed the Safety Element policies, goals and
programs and provided an opportunity for members of the public to address
the City Council regarding the Safety Element; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 65350 of the California Government
Code, the City Council is charged with making amendments to the City's
General Plan as needed;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
INGLEWOOD, CALIFORNIA DOES RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1.

The City Council has carefully considered all testimony and evidence
presented in this matter, and being so advised, finds as follows:

1. All procedural requirements for the City Council to approve of the
Safety Element General Plan Amendment have been followed.

2. The Safety Element General Plan Amendment substantially
complies with the applicable requirements of state law.

3. The Safety Element General Plan Amendment is substantially
compatible with the General Plan and will maintain an internally consistent
General Plan.

4. The Safety Element General Plan Amendment is reasonably
related to the protection of the public health, safety, and welfare of the
residents of the City of Inglewood.

5. That the amendment is categorically exempt from the
requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act.

SECTION 2.

Pursuant to the foregoing recitations and findings, the City Council
hereby approves the Safety Element as attached (General Plan Amendment
2022-002).

SECTION 3.

The City Clerk shall certify to the passage of this resolution and to its
approval by the City Council and shall cause the same to be published in accordance with the City Charter. Passed, approved and adopted this ____ day of ______ 2023.

__________________________
JAMES T. BUTTS
MAYOR OF THE CITY OF INGLEWOOD, CALIFORNIA

Attest:

__________________________
AISHA L. THOMPSON
CITY CLERK
(SEAL)
Link to the Safety Element: