



CITY OF INGLEWOOD

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER



DATE: May 12, 2020

TO: Mayor and Council Members

FROM: Economic and Community Development Department

SUBJECT: Set Public Hearing – General Plan Amendment GPA 2020-01 to Adopt Environmental Justice Element of the General Plan

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Mayor and Council Members set a public hearing for May 26, 2020, at 2:00 p.m., to consider the adoption of Categorical Exemption EA-CE-2020-36, and General Plan Amendment GPA 2020-01 to adopt an Environmental Justice Element of the General Plan.

BACKGROUND:

On September 24, 2016, Senate Bill 1000 (SB 1000), the Planning for Healthy Communities Act, was signed into law mandating that cities and counties adopt an environmental justice (EJ) element or integrate EJ goals, objectives, and policies into other elements of their General Plans.

Municipalities are to adopt or review the environmental justice element, or the environmental justice goals, policies, and objectives in other elements, upon the adoption or next revision of two or more elements concurrently on or after January 1, 2018.

DISCUSSION:

In anticipation that future, current and long range planning projects could trigger the Environmental Justice Element compliance requirements, the City decided to proactively adopt an Environmental Justice Element ahead of State-mandated deadlines to address important land use and equity issues throughout the City.

The City commenced preparation of the Environmental Justice Element in October 2018. The City and consultant conducted several outreach sessions to gain public input on environmental justice issues in the City and how they should be addressed. On January 17, 2019, a Community Workshop was conducted with over 40 residents and other interested stakeholders in attendance. On February 26, 2019, additional input was provided at two Focus Group meetings conducted in English and Spanish. Participants provided valuable discussion on a variety of environmental equity topics.

SPA-1

The Inglewood General Plan Environmental Justice Element sets forward goals and policies related to ensuring environmental justice in the City. In adopting the Environmental Justice Element, the City is ensuring that decisions related to land use and development are made in an equitable manner and take into consideration the health and well-being of our most vulnerable populations.

The key environmental justice topic areas addressed in the element are:

1. Meaningful Public Engagement
2. Land Use and the Environment
3. Mobility and Active Living
4. Access to Healthy Food
5. Healthy and Affordable Housing
6. Public Facilities, Improvements and Programs

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. The Draft Environmental Justice Element does not conflict with any other policies of the General Plan.

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-2020-36), a copy of which has been available for review on the City's website or by email request to fljackson@cityofinglewood.org.

As recommended by resolution of the Planning Commission on May 6, 2020.

A more detailed staff report will be provided for the public hearing.

FINANCIAL/FUNDING ISSUES AND SOURCES:

There is no fiscal impact.

LEGAL REVIEW VERIFICATION: YD

Administrative staff has verified that the legal documents accompanying this report have been submitted to, reviewed and approved by the Office of the City Attorney.

BUDGET REVIEW VERIFICATION: YD

Administrative staff has verified that this report, in its entirety, has been submitted to, reviewed and approved by the Budget Division.

FINANCE REVIEW VERIFICATION: YD

Administrative staff has verified that this report, in its entirety, has been submitted to, reviewed and approved by the Finance Department.

DESCRIPTION OF ANY ATTACHMENTS:

None

APPROVAL VERIFICATION SHEET

PREPARED BY:

Christopher E. Jackson, Sr., Economic and Community Development Department Director
Mindy Wilcox, AICP, Planning Manager
Fred Jackson, Senior Planner

COUNCIL PRESENTER:

Christopher E. Jackson, Sr., Economic and Community Development Department Director

DEPARTMENT HEAD APPROVAL:



Christopher E. Jackson, Sr., ECD Director

CITY MANAGER APPROVAL:



Artie Fields, City Manager