

Liaison Updates - April 2024



Citywide

Executive Directive (ED) 1 Updates:

ED 1 expedites the processing of shelters and 100% affordable housing projects in Los Angeles. Eligible projects receive expedited processing, clearances, and approvals through the ED 1 Ministerial Approval Process.

1. The [ED 1 Implementation Guidelines](#) have been updated as of March 21, 2024. The updates include: A new ED 1 Property Owner Declaration to be provided to LAHD as a requirement of project review;
2. Technical clarification on eligibility and City Planning application filing standards to qualify for the ED1 Ministerial Approval Process;
3. Technical updates to LAHD Replacement Unit Determination procedures, reflecting new State law in effect as of January 1, 2024.

For more information, please visit City Planning's dedicated [ED 1 landing page](#).

Housing Element Rezoning Program Updates:

City Planning hosted [a series of webinars](#) throughout the month of April to receive feedback on the Citywide Housing Incentive Program (CHIP) Ordinance, the Housing Element Sites Ordinance, and the Resident Protections Ordinance. The department also hosted a CHIP presentation during the [PlanCheck NC Alliance meeting](#) on April 13, 2024 (meeting recording [here](#)).

Following the 2022 certification of the 2021-2029 Housing Element, City Planning has been working to develop and implement the ambitious programs identified in the [Plan to House LA](#). The Plan identified that there is a significant housing need in Los Angeles, reflected by high rents, overcrowded conditions, and increasing housing instability. The Housing Element Rezoning Program aims to address Los Angeles' significant housing needs, for the City to provide greater housing access and meet its state housing obligations.

As a result of [conversations and public feedback over the course of 2023](#), City Planning recently released three draft ordinances (not yet finalized) supporting the Housing Element Rezoning Program. These ordinances include the:

- Citywide Housing Incentive Program (CHIP) Ordinance
- Housing Element Sites Ordinance
- Resident Protections Ordinance

Updated on 4/16/24

More information on each of these ordinances can be found on City Planning's website [here](#).

Landscape and Site Design Ordinance

A new draft Landscape and Site Design Ordinance is now available for [public review](#) and feedback. This ordinance aims to foster healthy, walkable communities that address public health and climate needs, while also streamline the review process for new ground-up developments. Get involved and provide feedback! Webinars with live Q&A sessions will be held on **April 16th (in english)** and **April 17th (en español)**. Planning is also hosting additional [office hours](#).

Highlights of the draft include:

- The introduction of a [Performance-Based Point System](#), an innovative approach intended to adapt to a wide variety of uses, project scales, and settings, rather than a one-size-fits-all approach.
- The replacement of existing ordinance and guidelines.
- Changes in treatment of partially covered outdoor areas, aimed to no longer be counted towards floor area.

For more information, please visit the dedicated [webpage](#) and [Fact Sheet](#). Please [sign up for updates here](#) and/or email planning.urbandesign@lacity.org to provide feedback.

New Zoning Code:

City Planning is establishing a modern and efficient Zoning System that is easier to use and more responsive to the needs of the community ([Animated Information Video](#)).

The New Zoning Code is currently being reviewed by the City Attorney's Office for form and legality.

Zoning determines the uses permitted on a parcel and provides regulations for development, including height, bulk, and setbacks.)The adoption of the [Downtown Community Plan](#) will mark the initial implementation of the [New Zoning Code](#). Sign up [here](#) to receive updates.

Regional

Southwest Valley Community Plans Update

On March 28th, the Department released [draft components](#) of the Southwest Valley Community Plans, covering the Canoga Park, Winnetka, Woodland Hills, West Hills, Encino, Tarzana, Reseda, West Van Nuys, and Lake Balboa Community Plans. These drafts include the Land Use Chapter of the Policy Plan, an [Interactive Zoning Map](#), and an updated General Plan Land Use Designation Map.

The team will also hold [virtual office](#) hours where stakeholders can meet with planning staff to discuss the drafts in more detail and ask questions. To sign up for virtual office hours with the

Southwest Valley Community Plan Updates Team, please visit the [Office Hour Appointment Form](#).

For more information, please [sign-up](#) to receive updates by email about upcoming events. Any questions or feedback can be sent to the project team at planning.swvalley@lacity.org or via this [feedback form](#).

Southeast Valley Community Plans Update

The Southeast Valley Community Plans Update (SEVCPU) has released the Draft General Plan Land Use (GPLU) Designations for three Community Plans: North Hollywood - Valley Village, Sherman Oaks - Studio City - Toluca Lake - Cahuenga Pass, and Van Nuys - North Sherman Oaks. These GPLU designations reflect the community's vision for the area and are accessible through a [StoryMap](#), offering comprehensive information on land use strategies and incorporating community feedback. The release of the GPLU Designations marks a significant step in the Community Plan Updates process, inviting public review and input on the draft proposals.

For more information, please [sign-up](#) to receive updates by email about upcoming events. Feedback is encouraged and can be submitted to planning.southeastvalley@lacity.org.

El Sereno/710 Corridor Rezoning

On Thursday, April 11, City Planning requested that the El Sereno/710 Corridor Rezoning item be continued to the June 13 City Planning Commission (CPC) meeting. City Planning is working on updates to the land use designations and zoning for properties in the El Sereno neighborhood. These properties were initially designated and zoned for Public Facilities or Open Space, aligning with a former proposal for extending the 710 freeway. However, since the State of California has abandoned this extension plan, the City now aims to replace these designations with the following:

- General Plan Amendment (GPA) to amend the Northeast Los Angeles Community Plan land use map to designate the properties within the corridor to a mix of Low Residential, Low Medium II Residential, Medium Residential, and General Commercial land use designations;
- Zone Change (ZC) to zone the properties within the corridor to a mix of R1, RD1.5, R3, and C2, and a Height District Change from 1 to 1VL in commercial zones.

[Fact Sheet](#), [Public Hearing Notice](#), [Contact Info](#)

East San Fernando Valley Transit Neighborhood Plan (ESFV TNP)

The [ESFV Transit Neighborhood Plan \(TNP\)](#) is a work program aimed at updating land use and zoning regulations around the new Metro light rail on Van Nuys Boulevard. It focuses on Pacoima, Arleta, and Panorama City to ensure equitable housing, support for transit use, and the boosting of economic vitality. Community input is actively being listened to in order to shape land use maps, with a draft expected by Winter 2025.

Please visit the [recently refreshed website](#) to learn more about the work program, review materials from previous events, and [sign-up](#) to receive updates by email and/or text message about upcoming events and activities. Feedback is encouraged; contact planning.esfvtnp@lacity.org.

Ventura-Cahuenga Specific Plan Update

On March 15, 2024, the Los Angeles City Council reviewed the Specific Plan Amendment, which included modifications proposed by Council Districts 3 and 4 and was previously approved at the Planning and Land Use Management Committee. Following Council's direction, the Planning Department and City Attorney's office have initiated the form and legality review process. Upon completion of this process, the updated ordinance will be brought back to Council for adoption.

For updates on upcoming meeting dates and transmitted materials, interested parties are encouraged to subscribe to the [Council File 17-1071-S1](#). You can also visit the [Ventura-Cahuenga Boulevard Corridor Specific Plan Amendment webpage](#) to stay informed on this work program.

Westside Community Plan Update

The Westside Community Plans Update team has released the 2024 Draft General Plan Land Use [Storymap](#) - addressing issues such as housing, transportation, climate change, and equity across the westside region.

The published StoryMap features updated draft General Plan Land Use Designations (GPLUs) for the Palms-Mar Vista-Del Rey, West Los Angeles, Westchester-Playa del Rey, and Venice Community Plan Areas, including the coastal zone, based on feedback received after the publication of the Westside Community Planning Advisory Group (WCPAG) from community members and groups engaged with the process thus far.

Engagement will continue with the Westside Community Planning Advisory Group ([WCPAG](#)) on various issues relevant to the community plan updates, as well as Neighborhood Councils and stakeholders across the four Community Plan Areas. **The Team will be present at CicLAvia Venice Sunday, April 21, 2024.** Planning extends an invitation to come and engage with WCPAG at CicLAvia if you are able to do so!

For more information, please [sign-up](#) to receive updates, explore the interactive [StoryMap](#), share your thoughts in the [feedback form](#), and visit the Westside Community Plan Updates [website](#).

Helpful Resources

- [Animated video series](#) about the new, updated zoning system and its modules
- [Executive Directive 1 Implementation](#)
- [Home-Sharing Records Portal](#)
- [City Planning Prefixes and Suffixes](#)

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- [Community Plan Updates](#)
- Do you think City Planning should come to your community event? We're interested! Please send us future outreach opportunities via planning.liaison@lacity.org.