

Green Vision Project's General Plan Research



Panelists:

- Jack Eidt, Wild Heritage Planners
- Damon Nagami, Natural Resources Defense Council
- Melanie Schlotterbeck, Friends of Harbors, Beaches & Parks
- Terry Watt, Attorney General's Office

General Plans

- Need
- Requirements
- Potential for Problems
- Importance



New State Mandates

- AB 32
- SB 375

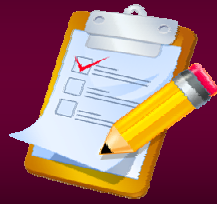


General Plan Research Project

- Reviewed 29 general plans
 - 6 Cities in an Update
- Focused on innovative policies
- Created a Resource Directory

Specific Language

- Policy Checklist
- Require vs. Encourage
- Innovative or Climate Mitigations
- 12 Topics Reviewed



Types of Policies Reviewed



Administrative



Agricultural



Climate Change



Community Design

Types of Policies Reviewed



Energy



Jobs/Housing



Land Use



Open Space

Types of Policies Reviewed



Safety



Sustainable Developments



Transportation



Water Quality & Conservation

Office of Planning & Research

"It is better to adopt no policy than to adopt a policy with no backbone."

- **Quantifiable Goals**
 - For example: A 20% reduction
- **Timeline for Implementation**
 - For example: by 2014



Administrative Policies

Provide priority development review processing for low and moderate income housing applications.



Cypress General Plan

Administrative Policies

Buy or lease fuel-efficient vehicles for City use—provide standards for use by operators.



Santa Ana General Plan

Administrative Policies

Encourage the use of solar energy to supplement conventional heating systems.



Dana Point General Plan

Agricultural Policies

Improve access to healthy and local food by encouraging community gardens, farmers markets, and farm-to-school programs.



Laguna Hills General Plan

Agricultural Policies

The City should explore all sources of possible federal, state, and county funding for open space lands, and the conversion of surplus public lands to open space.



Seal Beach General Plan

Climate Change

Reduce the roof temperature by specifying cool roof products that meet Energy Star levels of efficiency.



Westminster General Plan

Climate Change

Reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions 80% below 1990 levels by 2050.



Laguna Beach General Plan

Climate Change

Increase public awareness regarding air quality, global climate change gases, implementation issues, reporting, and enforcement through internet resources, public presentations, booths, or kiosks.



Stanton General Plan

Climate Action Plans or Elements

- Inventories Baseline GHG Emissions
- Know Your GHG Sources
- Sets Climate Adaptation Strategies
- Sets Feasible Emission Reduction Targets
- Mitigates Climate Impacts
- Update Every 5 Years

Community Design

Encourage infill development projects within urbanized areas that include jobs centers and transportation nodes.



Garden Grove General Plan

Community Design

Maintain and continue to enhance high quality mixed use development throughout the City.



Fountain Valley General Plan

Community Design

Maintain and enhance infrastructure to promote alternative vehicle access where feasible.



Laguna Woods General Plan

Energy

Achieve a reduction in projected per capita energy demand and consumption by the year 2005.



County of Orange General Plan

Energy

Pursue adoption of an Energy Conservation Program that requires the use of materials, devices, and measures to reduce energy consumption above the energy conservation requirements of Title 24.



Costa Mesa General Plan

Jobs/Housing

Provide convenient connections and shuttle services from commuter rail stations to employment centers and entertainment venues.



Anaheim General Plan

Jobs/Housing

Assist 5 first-time homebuyers by providing tax credits.



La Palma General Plan

Land Use

Establish developer incentives to encourage well-designed mixed use and infill development projects in these areas.



Laguna Hills General Plan

Land Use

Pursue smart growth principles by supporting the construction of higher density housing, affordable housing, and mixed use development (the vertical and horizontal integration of commercial and residential uses) in proximity to transit, services, shopping, schools, senior centers and recreational facilities, where possible.

Tustin General Plan

Open Space

Conserve and protect important topographical features, watershed areas, and soils through appropriate site planning and grading techniques, re-vegetation and soil management practices, and other resource management techniques.



Lake Forest General Plan

Open Space

Continue to preserve the coast live oak woodlands in the City by retaining the habitat as open space.



Rancho Santa Margarita General Plan

Open Space

Ensure that no buildings will encroach upon any ridgeline designated for preservation.



San Juan Capistrano General Plan

Safety

Avoid development in areas susceptible to erosion and sediment loss.



Aliso Viejo General Plan

Safety

Institute a “High Risk Fire Hazard Area” and establish development standards which will reduce the risk for wildfires.



Yorba Linda General Plan

Safety

Review any development application for shoreline construction with respect to the effects of beach encroachment, wave reflection, flood and wave hazards, public access and public recreation, shoreline sand supply, and aesthetics.



Seal Beach General Plan

Sustainable Developments

Preferential and free parking for carpoolers and vanpoolers.



Irvine General Plan

Sustainable Developments

Require that residential units be developed at a minimum density of 30 units and maximum of 50 units per net acre averaged over the total area of each residential village.



Newport Beach General Plan

Transportation

Increase vehicle work trips by transit from 5.1% in 1984 to 19.3% in 2010.



Huntington Beach General Plan

Transportation

Require that a percentage of required parking spaces in new developments be set aside for bicycles.



La Habra General Plan

Water Quality/Conservation

Require use of reclaimed water for landscaping, grading, and non-contact uses.



Huntington Beach General Plan

Water Quality/Conservation

Require the use of drought resistant plant species (native species where possible) in landscaping for private and public areas, including parks.



Brea General Plan

Water Quality/Conservation

All new commercial development shall install and utilize non-domestic water facilities for use in irrigation whenever feasible.



Mission Viejo General Plan

Tips to Strengthening Policies

- Review Resources
 - AG’s website (www.ag.ca.gov)
 - CAPCOA publications
- Convert words
 - Should → Shall
 - Encourage → Require
 - May → Must

Tips to Strengthening Policies

- Mitigate Climate Impacts
 - Add metrics (15%)
 - Add timelines (by 2011)
- Monitoring/Adaptation Policies
 - Adapt to a changing environment

Strengthen This Policy:
The City should protect agricultural lands from conversion.

Strengthen This Policy:
Support programs that reduce air quality emissions related to vehicular travel.

Strengthen This Policy:
Seek to achieve a jobs/housing balance of 1.15.

Strengthen This Policy:
At no time should the City average density exceed 2.8 dwelling units per acre.

Strengthen This Policy:
Encourage developments to meet Title 24 standards.

Strengthen This Policy:
Encourage the protection of open space lands in the City.

Strengthen This Policy:

Ensure all commercial developments provide adequate on-site parking.

Strengthen This Policy:

Encourage developments to install water conservation features like low flow toilets, shower heads and smart timer irrigation devices.

General Plan Resource Directory



Tying it all Together

Feedback

- Form for comments
- Deadline: November 30