CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH
GENERAL PLAN UPDATE STEERING COMMITTEE
AGENDA
COMMUNITY ROOM - 100 CIVIC CENTER DRIVE

Monday, July 11, 2022 - 6:00 PM

General Plan Update Steering Committee Members:
Phillip Brown
Kimberly Carter
Nancy Gardner

Staff Members:
Seimone Jurjis, Community Development Director
Jim Campbell, Deputy Community Development Director
Ben Zdeba, Senior Planner

The General Plan Update Steering Committee meeting is subject to the Ralph M. Brown Act. Among other things, the Brown Act requires that the General Plan Update Steering Committee agenda be posted at least seventy-two (72) hours in advance of each regular meeting and that the public be allowed to comment on agenda items before the Committee and items not on the agenda but are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the General Plan Update Steering Committee. The Chair may limit public comments to a reasonable amount of time, generally three (3) minutes per person.

The City of Newport Beach’s goal is to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in all respects. If, as an attendee or a participant at this meeting, you will need special assistance beyond what is normally provided, we will attempt to accommodate you in every reasonable manner. Please contact Jim Campbell, Deputy Community Development Director, at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting to inform us of your particular needs and to determine if accommodation is feasible at (949) 644-3200 or jcampbell@newportbeachca.gov.

NOTICE REGARDING PRESENTATIONS REQUIRING USE OF CITY EQUIPMENT
Any presentation requiring the use of the City of Newport Beach’s equipment must be submitted to the Community Development Department 24 hours prior to the scheduled meeting.
I. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

II. **WELCOME AND ROLL CALL**
   a. Committee Member Introductions
      
      *Recommended Action:* Each committee member should provide short introductory remarks.

III. **PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

   *Public comments are invited on non-agenda items generally considered to be within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Committee. Speakers must limit comments to three (3) minutes. Before speaking, we invite, but do not require, you to state your name for the record. The Committee has the discretion to extend or shorten the speakers’ time limit on non-agenda items, provided the time limit adjustment is applied equally to all speakers. As a courtesy, please turn cell phones off or set them in the silent mode.*

IV. **CURRENT BUSINESS**

   a. Selection of a Chairperson
      
      *Recommended Action:* Identify who will serve as chairperson by putting forward a nomination and voting on the nomination.

   b. Update on Status of Housing Element (Attachment 1)
      
      *Recommended Action:* No action.

   c. Update on Status of Circulation Element (Attachment 2)
      
      *Staff will present on the status of the Circulation Element update.*
      
      *Recommended Action:* No action.

   d. General Plan Update Overview (Attachment 3)
      
      *Staff will present on the status of the General Plan update, the anticipated schedule, and the selection and use of consultants.*
      
      *Recommended Action:* Discuss and provide feedback to staff on:

      1. Anticipated schedule;
      2. Selection and use of consultants; and
      3. Any other items the committee members think is important.

   e. Steering Committee Schedule Discussion
      
      *Recommended Action:* Discuss and determine the frequency and timing of meetings.
V. COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS OR MATTERS WHICH MEMBERS WOULD LIKE PLACED ON A FUTURE AGENDA FOR DISCUSSION, ACTION OR REPORT (NON-DISCUSSION ITEM)

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Next Meeting: TBD based on the outcome of Agenda Item IV(e).
Attachment 1
Revised Housing Element Update

Available Online Here:
www.newportbeachca.gov/DraftHEUpdate
Attachment 2
Revised Circulation Element Update

Available Online Here:
www.newportbeachca.gov/DraftCEUpdate
Attachment 3
General Plan Guide and Anticipated Schedule
Memorandum

To: General Plan Update Steering Committee (GPUSC) Members
From: Benjamin M. Zdeba, AICP, Senior Planner
Date: July 7, 2022
Re: General Plan Guide and Anticipated Schedule

The enclosed General Plan Guide was prepared in November 2019 and was shared with the former Steering Committee in December 2019. While there have been legislative changes since, much of the content remains relevant. The Guide serves as a good overview of the City of Newport Beach General Plan and its elements.

At the end of this attachment is an anticipated schedule for the update. Staff will present additional details at the July 11 GPUSC meeting and is seeking the Committee’s feedback on this schedule.
Newport Beach
General Plan Guide
NEWPORT BEACH GENERAL PLAN GUIDE

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**Community Character**
We have preserved and enhanced our character as a beautiful, unique residential community with diverse coastal and upland neighborhoods. We value our colorful past, the high quality of life, and our community bonds. The successful balancing of the needs of residents, businesses, and visitors has been accomplished with the recognition that Newport Beach is primarily a residential community.

**Growth Strategy, Land Use, And Development**
We have a conservative growth strategy that emphasizes residents’ quality of life—a strategy that balances the needs of the various constituencies and that cherishes and nurtures our estuaries, harbor, beaches, open spaces, and natural resources. Development and revitalization decisions are well-conceived and beneficial to both the economy and our character. There is a range of housing opportunities that allow people to live and work in the city.

Design principles emphasize characteristics that satisfy the community’s desire for the maintenance of its particular neighborhoods and villages. Public view areas are protected. Trees and landscaping are enhanced and preserved.
A Healthy Natural Environment
Protection of environmental quality is a high priority. We preserve our open space resources. We maintain access to and visibility of our beaches, parks, preserves, harbor, and estuaries. The ocean, bay, and estuaries are flourishing ecosystems with high water quality standards.

Efficient And Safe Circulation
Traffic flows smoothly throughout the community. The transportation and circulation system is safe and convenient for automobiles and public transportation, and friendly to pedestrians and bicycles. Public parking facilities are well planned for residents and visitors.

Community Services
We provide parks, art, and cultural facilities, libraries, and educational programs directly and through cooperation among diverse entities. The city facilitates or encourages access to high-quality health care and essential social services. Newport Beach is noted for its excellent schools and is a premier location for hands-on educational experiences in the natural sciences. Our streets are safe and clean. Public safety services are responsive and amongst the best in the nation.

Recreation Opportunities
Newport beach attracts visitors with its harbor, beaches, restaurants, and shopping. We are a residential and recreational seaside community willing and eager to share its natural resources with visitors without diminishing these irreplaceable assets in order to share them.

We have outdoor recreation spaces for active local and tourist populations that highlight the City's environmental assets as well as indoor facilities for recreation and socializing. Coastal facilities include pedestrian and aquatic opportunities.

Boating And Waterways
We are recognized as a premier recreational boating harbor. We have maintained a hospitable, navigable pleasure boating harbor in the lower bay through careful, low-density, nonintrusive on-shore development, by regularly dredging navigation and berthing/mooring areas, and by providing adequate access to the water and vessel-related servicing facilities. The upper bay retains an unencumbered shoreline, and its waterways are maintained free of sediment and debris.

Airport
We remain united in our efforts to control and contain noise, air, and traffic pollution associated with operation of the John Wayne airport (JWA). Our city government vigorously and wisely uses the political process to control the impact of JWA on our community. This has resulted in a level of JWA operations that preserves our unique character and land values.

Responsive government
Elected officials and city staff listen and respond to the interests of residents and the business community.
Big Picture
The Land Use Element is a required element and is the foundation of the General Plan. It provides guidance on how existing development is going to be maintained and enhanced, and where new development occurs. The Land Use element focuses on how population and employment growth can be strategically placed to preserve Newport Beach’s unique character and community values. The Zoning Code is designed to implement the guidance of the policies in the Land Use Element.

Key Goals and Policies
The Land Use Element includes goals and policies designed to maintain the community character and land uses that contribute to Newport Beach’s livability, vitality, and the image of existing neighborhoods, districts, corridors, and open spaces.

The goals for the Land Use Element are focused on maintaining a primarily residential community that balances the needs of residents, businesses, and visitors with a conservative growth strategy. These goals include:

1. Unique residential community with diverse coastal and upland neighborhoods, which values its colorful past, high quality of life, and community bonds, and balances the needs of residents, businesses, and visitors through the recognition that Newport Beach is primarily a residential community.

2. Living, active, and diverse environment that complements all lifestyles and enhances neighborhoods, without compromising the valued resources that make Newport Beach unique. It contains a diversity of uses that support the needs of residents, sustains and enhances
the economy, provide job opportunities, serve visitors that enjoy the City’s diverse recreational amenities, and protect its important environmental setting, resources, and quality of life.

3. Development pattern that retains and complements the City’s residential neighborhoods, commercial and industrial districts, open spaces, and natural environment.

4. Management of growth and change to protect and enhance the livability of neighborhoods and achieve distinct and economically vital business and employment districts, which are correlated with supporting infrastructure and public services and sustain Newport Beach’s natural setting.

**Future Considerations**

Land Use is one of the general plan elements that guides the development of a city, as new trends emerge, many changes will be reflected in the Land Use Element. One such trend is sustainability, which is the ability to “meet the needs of the current generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs.”

Some communities include the three legs of social, environmental, and economic sustainability as components of the General Plan. Sustainability can be applied as a separate Element or incorporated in policies throughout the General Plan. The Land Use Element also has a direct relationship with the Housing Element, this important as any state mandate to either element would generally impact the other.
Circulation Element

PROVIDING A SAFE AND CONVENIENT MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION NETWORK THAT MEETS THE NEEDS OF ALL USERS OF STREETS, ROADS AND HIGHWAYS.

Big Picture
The relationship between roads and land use often guides the way that people move through the City. The Circulation Element is a State-required element that addresses the movement of people and goods via automobiles, transit, bicycles, and other modes. It covers key issues such as parking, bicycle, pedestrian and equestrian access, traffic flow, transportation improvements and funding, traffic safety, and roadway planning. The Circulation Element correlates with the Land Use Element as well other elements within the General Plan, providing a connection between the different land uses such as housing, commercial and office.

Key Goals and Policies
Local roadways are the most important component for mobility in Newport Beach. However, transit, shuttles, the bicycle and equestrian trail system, and the harbor provide opportunities for alternative modes of travel that could relieve traffic on some roadways. The Circulation Element governs the long-term mobility system of the City of Newport Beach. Its goals and policies are closely correlated with the Land Use Element and are intended to provide the best possible balance between the City’s future growth and land use development, roadway size, traffic service levels and community character.

HIGHLIGHTS
There are five different classification of roadways used in the City of Newport Beach:

- Principal Arterial (8 lanes divided)
- Major Arterial (6 lanes divided)
- Primary Arterial (4 lanes divided)
- Secondary Arterial (4 lanes undivided)
- Commuter Roadway (2 to 4 lanes)

The goals of the Circulation Element are focused on providing a safe and efficient transportation system that is friendly to all users. These goals include:

1. Efficient mobility in the City through a well-designed transportation system that maintains the character of the City, reduces impacts from seasonal visitors, and manages necessary truck route activity.
2. A safe and efficient roadway system that facilitates the movement of goods and people within and through City limits.
3. **Regional transportation** policies that ensure safe and efficient movement of people and goods from within the City to areas outside its boundaries and minimizes the use of City streets by regional through-traffic.

4. A **public transportation system** that provides mobility for residents and encourages use of shared transportation as an alternative to automobile travel.

5. **Alternative Transportation modes** that include trail systems, pedestrian connectivity, and public water transportation (like ferries).

6. The use of **transportation system management (TSM)**, including synchronized traffic signals, and promotion of ridesharing, carpools and public transit use.

7. An adequate supply of convenient **parking** throughout the City.

8. Adequate **funding** for needed transportation infrastructure and operations.

**Future Considerations**

The State of California has programs and laws in place that will be a part of the updated Circulation Element. These include the following:

- **Complete Streets Act (2008)** - The Complete Streets Act of 2008 (California Government Code Section 65302(b)) requires that California communities plan for a “balanced, multimodal transportation network that meets the needs of all users of streets, roads, and highways for safe and convenient travel.”

- **Senate Bill 743** - Senate Bill (SB) 743 of 2013, committed the State to changing the way that transportation impacts are analyzed under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). SB 743 requires cities to use vehicle miles traveled as the metric to evaluate transportation impacts as opposed to vehicle congestion.
Housing Element

Big Picture

The Housing Element addresses issues, goals, and policies related to ensuring an adequate supply of housing opportunities for all residents. Unlike the other elements, State law sets forth very specific regulations regarding the content and breadth of the Housing Element. Typically Housing Elements must be updated every 8 years in response to Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) cycles established by the State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD).

Key Goals and Policies

Through evaluation and analysis, the City has identified priority goals, polices, and programs that directly address the housing needs of current and future City residents. Goals for the City include the following:

1. Quality residential development and preservation, conservation, and appropriate redevelopment of housing.

2. A balanced residential community, comprised of a variety of housing types, designs, and opportunities for all.

3. Housing opportunities for as many renter- and owner-occupied households as possible in response to the demand for housing in the City.

4. Preservation and increased affordability of the City’s housing stock for all-income type households.

5. Effective and responsive housing programs and policies.

HIGHLIGHTS

Between 1990 and 2012, 9,883 housing units were constructed in and/or annexed into the City of Newport Beach.
Future Considerations

The City of Newport Beach will review this Housing Element annually as part of its General Plan review to evaluate appropriateness of objectives, effectiveness of programs, and progress in implementation. The Housing Element will be revised again in October 2021, in accordance with State law.

The California State Legislature has passed various new laws related to housing. These state laws include:

- **Senate Bill 35** streamlines the approval process for certain infill developments in communities that have not met their regional housing needs allocation (RHNA).

- **Senate Bill 167, Assembly Bill 678, and Assembly Bill 1515, Collectively**, these three new laws that strengthen the Housing Accountability Act (HAA), originally enacted to limit the ability of local jurisdictions to deny or make infeasible qualifying housing developments without first making specified findings that require analysis of the environmental, economic, and social effects of the action.

- **Assembly Bill (AB) 1397** adds to that requirement by stipulating that sites listed on the inventory must be both available and suitable for residential development.

- **Assembly Bills (AB) 671, 1255, and 1486, collectively**, these 3 bills require local government agencies to prepare a list of surplus lands under their ownership and provide it to the State for inclusion in a digitized statewide inventory of surplus governmental lands suitable for residential development.

- **Assembly Bill 881, Assembly Bill 68, Senate Bill 13, and Assembly Bill 671, are intended to facilitate construction of accessory dwelling units (ADUs), or secondary housing units either attached or detached from a main house on the same lot.

- **Senate Bill (SB) 330** limits the ability of cities and counties to move the goalposts for housing development projects during their application process and strengthens the protections of the Housing Accountability Act and the Permit Streamlining Act.

- **Assembly Bill (AB) 1763** provides a significant density bonus to housing development projects with 100 percent of units affordable to lower income households.

- **Assembly Bill (AB) 2797**, requires the State Density Bonus Law be harmonized with the California Coastal Act so that both statutes can be given effect within the coastal zone so as to increase affordable housing in the coastal zone while protecting coastal resources and access.
Newport Beach has a wide range of art and cultural organizations, which are a source of community pride. These include the City Arts Commission, performing and visual arts community, museums, events and festivals, and libraries. This element is intended to identify and integrate the types of resources needed to provide arts and cultural facilities and programs to the community.

**Key Goals and Policies**

The goals and policies of the Arts and Cultural Element serve as a guide for meeting the future cultural needs of the community. Addressing future challenges in Newport Beach will require building on the community’s current cultural arts activities by coordinating with various community groups, businesses, agencies, citizens and the City to create an active and cohesive cultural and arts programs.

**HIGHLIGHTS**

The City of Newport Beach Arts Commission was established in 1972, and acts in an advisory capacity to the City Council in all matters relating to artistic, aesthetic and cultural aspects of the City.
Goals for the Arts and Cultural Element are focused on an ideal future, written as if the goals have been achieved, with funding goals designed to be aspirational. These goals include:

1. Active and vital arts, cultural, and literary activities and programs that enrich the community.
2. Adequate physical facilities and venues that support cultural art and literary programs.
3. A broad range of public and private funding sources to support cultural arts goals and activities.

Future Considerations

Newport Beach has a wealth of organizations, attractions, and activities that are a source of community pride and enrichment. Arts and cultural achievements have evolved over time and have been the result of dedication and involvement of numerous individuals, groups, and organizations. However, without intervention, coordination, preservation, and promotion, arts and cultural activities and resources can easily be lost through loss indifference, or unintended land-use decisions or policies.
Newport Bay, including the Upper Bay and Newport Harbor in the Lower Bay, is a vital feature of Newport Beach's natural environment, community identity, and economy. Having an enjoyable and navigable pleasure-boating harbor is a hallmark feature of Newport Beach.

The Harbor and Bay Element helps guide development in the Harbor and identifies what activities can take place on the water. It also includes land-use decisions for waterfront property surrounding Newport Harbor.

Goals and policies within the Harbor and Bay Element address both water- and land-related issues, provision of public access, water quality and environmental issues, visual characteristics, and the administration of the Harbor and Bay.

**Key Goals and Policies**

The Harbor and Bay Element is designed to promote diversity and charm for the Harbor and Bay without restricting the rights of the waterfront property owner. Goals and policies within the Harbor and Bay Element have been organized to address both water and land related issues, provision of public access, water quality and environmental issues, visual characteristics, and the administration of the Harbor and Bay. It also highlights important land use decisions related to waterfront property around Newport Harbor.
Harbor and Bay goals are primarily categorized under these broad categories:

1. Preservation of the Harbor and waterfront
2. Retention of water related uses
3. Preservation of waterfront commercial uses
4. Provision and maintenance of public access

**Future Considerations**

Some aspects of the Harbor and Bay Element that address public access, water quality, and the environment and administration are also covered in the Natural Resources, Recreation, Safety, Circulation and Land Use Elements.

It is also important to understand several issues that currently face the Harbor and Bay areas. These include:

1. Economic pressures to replace marine uses and harbor support facilities and services with residential uses.
2. A balance of access to, and benefits of, marine uses such as recreational boating activities and marine commercial uses.
3. An increasing demand to accommodate larger vessels in the Harbor.
4. Seasonal presence of a large population of California Sea Lions, which can cause noise, pollution, property damage, and odors.
The Historical Resources Element is meant to help protect Newport Beach’s historic sites and resources and to plan for what is needed to preserve these sites for future generations to enjoy. These “resources” include historic, cultural, and archaeological places and buildings in the City. The goals and policies in this element are focused on helping preserve and keep these resources safe. They are also meant to make people aware of and appreciate the City’s rich history.

**Key Goals and Policies**

Many historic sites in Newport Beach are important both locally and nationally, and these sites have been preserved by residents, community groups, private organizations, and the City of Newport Beach. It is important to protect Newport Beach’s heritage for future generations, and to find other sites worthy of protection. It is also important to make sure that any new development enhances rather than changes or removes reminders of Newport Beach’s rich heritage.

The City of Newport Beach has set up the Newport Beach Register of Historical Property, or the City Register, to include buildings and properties that have local historical or architectural significance. City Council has also set up an Ad Hoc Historic Preservation Advisory Committee to investigate historic places in the City and to make recommendations on what should be preserved.
The Historical Resources Element includes two goals, each with policies designed to help with implementation.

1. Recognize and protect historically significant landmarks, sites and structures.
2. Identification and protection of important archeological and paleontological resources within the City.

**Future Considerations**

The Federal government and the State have programs and laws in place that impact Newport Beach’s Historic Resources Element. These include the following:

- National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966 is a federal law that is intended to preserve historical and architectural sites throughout the United States.

- The California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR) was created to name resources considered worthy of preservation on a state level and was modeled closely after the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA).

- California Health and Safety Code (Sections 7050.5, 7051, and 7054) - These sections address the illegality of interference with human burial remains as well as the disposition of Native American burials in archaeological sites.

- California Senate Bill 297 (1982) addresses Native American burials in archaeological sites and protects such remains from disturbance, vandalism, or inadvertent destruction and provides guidance on what to do if remains are discovered.
Big Picture

The idea of sustainable development means thinking about how to conserve and efficiently use natural resources like water, air, minerals, and energy, for both the current generation and future generations. Conservation is a required General Plan topic in the State of California. In Newport Beach, conservation is discussed within the Natural Resources Element. This element incorporates policies that are designed to address how finite resources, like safe water, marine life, coastal bluffs, and energy are can be managed so they are available for the future. This is important for the physical and mental health and well-being of a community and helps strengthen the local and regional economy.

The Natural Resources Element provides direction on conserving natural resources, balancing development, and using resources wisely. It identifies which natural resources exist in Newport Beach. It also provides goals and policies for the preservation, development, and wise use of resources. This element addresses water supply (as a resource) and water quality (including bay and ocean quality, and potable drinking water), air quality, land and marine resources, open space, mineral resources, visual resources, and energy.

Key Goals and Policies

The goals for the Natural Resources Element fall into nine broad categories, each focused on the preservation of Newport Beach’s natural resources. These categories include:

1. Water Supply - Reducing water consumption through conservation and identification of alternative water resources to plan for future growth.

2. Water Quality - Protecting water quality in the coastal waters, creeks, bays, harbors and wetlands, as well as...
maintaining water quality standards and monitoring sewer outflows. Enhancing and protecting the water quality of all-natural water bodies, including coastal waters, creeks, bays, harbors, and wetlands.

3. **Air Quality** - Reducing emissions from vehicles, industrial buildings, and aircraft at John Wayne Airport.

4. **Biological Resources** - Protecting marine life on the coast, in Newport Harbor, and in Upper Back Bay, while balancing development and recreational boating activities, taking care of the coastal dunes and wetlands, maintaining deep water channels that allow passage of.

5. **Open Space Resources** - Maintaining, enhancing, and expanding open spaces in the community.

6. Protecting **archaeological and paleontological resources**.

7. **Mineral Resources** - Minimizing impacts from oil and gas drilling activities.

8. **Visual Resources** - minimizing appearance of signs and utility infrastructure and maintaining development intensity to be consistent with the visual scale of Newport Beach and respecting the coastal bluffs.

9. **Energy Conservation** - Increasing energy efficiency in City facilities and operations and in private developments.

**Other Considerations**

Some of the City’s open space areas consist of dedicated lands addressed in the Circulation Improvement and Open Space Agreement (CIOSA). This agreement is between the City of Newport Beach and The Irvine Company, and has allowed granting of building entitlements to The Irvine Company in exchange for payments on required proposed projects, an interest free loan, land for open space, and potential senior housing sites for the City. The amount of open space land dedication is substantially greater than what would have been required under the City’s Park Dedication Ordinance.
Big Picture

Noise is generally defined as unwanted sound. Noise from overhead aircraft, or highway traffic can negatively affect the mental and physical well-being of individuals and communities. The Noise Element is a required element and identifies land uses that are sensitive to noise, sources of excessive noise, and areas where noise can impact people. The Noise Element helps balance land uses and noise levels. Goals and policies within this element provide a framework to protect the Newport Beach community from excessive noise.

Key Goals and Policies

The Noise Element is updated to be compatible with state guidelines in Section 46050.1 of the Health and Safety Code. The element identifies how much noise is in the environment and what noises could occur in the near- and long-term because of various levels of development and traffic activity. The most common sources of noise in urban areas are transportation related. These include automobiles, trucks, motorcycles, boats, and aircraft. This element acts as a framework to determine what land uses are compatible with different noise levels. It also defines baseline noise levels and the source of noises so they can be enforced.

HIGHLIGHTS

Environmental noise levels are generally considered low when the noise is below 55 decibels (dBA), examples of low daytime levels are isolated natural settings that can provide noise levels as low as 20 dBA, and quiet suburban residential streets that can provide noise levels around 40 dBA.
There are 5 goals for the Noise Element. The goals and policies are written with land use noise compatibility in mind:

1. Minimized land use conflicts between various noise sources and other human activities to help ensure noise-level compatibility.

2. Minimized motor vehicle traffic and boat noise impacts.

3. Minimized noise from commercial air operations at John Wayne Airport, in the City Council Airport Policy.

4. Minimized noise from non-transportation-related sources.

5. Minimized noise from construction projects.

Other Considerations

The Noise Element follows a State guideline in the Health and Safety Code. If there are updates to the State’s Health and Safety Code, the Noise Element will be updated to match.

The City has seen many victories collaborating with community groups over noise-related issues in Newport Beach, including protecting residents from excessive noise at John Wayne Airport.
RECREATION ELEMENT

IDENTIFIES RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR RESIDENTS AND VISITORS, HIGHLIGHTING PARKLANDS AND RECREATIONAL AMENITIES THAT NEWPORT BEACH HAS TO OFFER.

Big Picture

The City’s parks, bicycle and pedestrian trails, recreational facilities, and beaches play a vital role in the physical, mental, social, and environmental health of Newport Beach residents. The Recreation Element looks at how much of the City’s land is dedicated to parklands and what recreational programs are available to Newport Beach residents to meet the City’s park and recreation needs.

Key Goals and Policies

The purpose of the Recreation Element is to balance the availability of parks and recreation facilities with the residential and business population in Newport Beach. The Recreation Element focuses on parks and recreation facilities, recreation programs, shared facilities, coastal recreation and support facilities, marine recreation, and public access. The City is divided into nine different service areas for the purpose of park planning.

The Recreation Element includes nine overall goals with policies that take a deeper dive into implementing each goal:

1. Provision of adequate park and recreation facilities that meet the recreational needs of existing and new residents of the community.
2. Maintenance and preservation of existing parks and recreation facilities.
3. Accessibility of parks and recreation facilities to people with disabilities.

HIGHLIGHTS

- 8 Park types in Newport Beach: Community Park, Mini Park, Neighborhood Park, View Park, Greenbelt, Open Space, Public Beach, School
- 278 acres of developed parks
- 10 public docks in the harbor
- Newport Beach Park Dedication Standard 3-5 acres of park area per 1,000 residents
4. Provision of a variety of seasonal and year-round recreational programs designed to meet the needs of all residents, including children, seniors, and people with special needs.

5. Maximized use of the community’s recreational resources by coordinating with the agencies responsible for non-city recreational facilities and open space.

6. Provision of Coastal Recreational Opportunities—Protection and enhancement of a wide-range of recreational opportunities along the coast and beaches.

7. Provision of Adequate Support Facilities, serving recreational opportunities within the coastal zone.

8. Provision of Public Access—Provision and maintenance of public access for recreational purposes within the City’s coastal resources.

Future Considerations

California state law requires that recreational issues are included in the General Plan. While some cities address both recreation and open space issues in one element, only policies related to recreation are included within Newport Beach’s Recreation Element, while open space policies are contained within the Natural Resources Element.

Some of the City’s parks and open space areas consist of dedicated lands outlined in the Circulation and Improvement and Open Space Agreement (CIOSA). This agreement is between the City of Newport Beach and The Irvine Company, and has allowed building entitlements for The Irvine Company in exchange for payments for circulation projects, an interest free loan, and land for open space and potential senior housing sites for the City. The amount of open space land dedication is substantially more than what would have been required under the City’s Park Dedication Ordinance.
Safety Element

PROVIDES GUIDANCE ON HOW TO REDUCE RISKS TO PEOPLE, PROPERTY, COMMUNITIES, AND THE ECONOMY FROM NATURAL AND MAN-MADE DISASTERS.

Big Picture

There are many disasters that could impact Newport Beach. These might include natural disasters, like tsunamis or wildfires, or human-caused disasters such as the release of hazardous waste into the environment or an airplane crash. The Safety Element is a required element. It helps anticipate which hazards are most likely to affect the City and identifies how to reduce the risk of those hazards for people, property, and the economy.

Key Goals and Policies

The primary goal of the Safety Element is to reduce the potential risk of death, injuries, property damage, and economic and social dislocation resulting from natural and human-induced hazards. This Safety Element recognizes and responds to public health and safety risks that could cause exposure for the Newport Beach community. This element addresses coastal hazards, geologic hazards, seismic hazards, flood hazards, wildland, and urban fire hazards, hazardous materials, aviation hazards, and disaster planning.

HIGHLIGHTS

Newport Beach is currently using the Standardized Emergency Management System for its emergency response. Depending on the type of incident, several different agencies and disciplines may be called upon to assist.

The current Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) is incorporated in the Safety Element. The Safety Element and the LHMP are complementary documents that work together to reduce the impacts of disasters on the community.
The Safety Element incorporates City, County, and State emergency response and mutual aid plans to help avert or minimize hazards. Incorporating these outside plans into City policy also helps the City recover in a timely manner after a disaster event.

The goals for the Safety Element are focused on seven categories that prioritize reduction of potential risks. These categories include:

1. **Coastal Hazards:**
   a. Minimization of Tsunamis and Rogue Wave Hazards
   b. Minimization of Storm Surge and Seiche Hazards
   c. Minimization of Coastal Erosion Hazard

2. **Seismic and Geologic Hazards:** Minimization of Seismic and Geologic Hazards

3. **Flood Hazards:** Protection from Flooding Risks

4. **Fire Hazards:** Protection from Wildfire and Urban Fire Risk

5. **Hazardous Materials:** Minimization of Hazardous Materials Exposure

6. **Aviation Hazards:** Protection from Aviation-Related Hazards

7. **Disaster Planning:** Adequate Disaster Planning

**Future Considerations**

The State of California has policies that must be considered for the Safety Element. These include the following:

1. **Government Code 6530 (g) (2) - Flooding**
   This California Government Code requires an update to the Safety Element of the General Plan timed with the next update to the Housing Element to address new requirements related to flooding.

2. **Government Code 6530 (g) (3) - Wildfire**
   This California Government Code requires an update to the Safety Element of the General Plan timed with the next update to the Housing to address new requirements related to wildfire.

3. **Senate Bill 379**
   Senate Bill (SB) 379 requires all cities and counties to include climate adaptation and resiliency strategies in the safety elements of their general plans upon the next revision beginning January 1, 2017.
Current General Plan Update Schedule

Circulation
- 07/08/22 Revised Draft Posted
- 08/18/22 PC Recommendation
- 09/13/22 CC Adoption

Housing
- 06/28/22 4th Revision to HCD
- 08/26/22 HCD Comments Due
- 09/13/22 CC Re-Adoption
Anticipated General Plan Update Schedule

**Land Use and Rezonings**
- 07/11/22 GPUSC Meeting
- Fall 2022 GPAC Formation
- Fall 2022 Continue EIR Preparation w/ Current Consultant
- Late 2022/Early 2023 Begin Community Outreach
- 08/17/23 PC Study Session
- 10/19/23 Airport Land Use Commission Review
- 09/15/23 Notice of Completion EIR
- 09/21/23 PC Public Hearing
- 10/24/23 CC Notice of Intent to Override ALUC
- 10/30/23 EIR Comment Period Closes
- March 2024 Charter Section 423 Ballot Vote

**Remaining Elements**
- 07/11/22 GPUSC Meeting
- August 2022 RFP Review and Release
- Fall 2022 GPAC Formation
- Winter 2022 Consultant Selection and Contract
- Late 2022/Early 2023 Begin Community Outreach
- Late 2024 Study Sessions and Adoption

*Includes possibility of creating specific plans for areas like Airport Area, West Newport Mesa, others?