

*Phase 3*

# City of Palmdale

# General Plan Update

## Phase 3 (Preferred Land Use Alternative)

## Summary of Engagement

### *Introduction*

In 2019, the City of Palmdale launched Palmdale 2045, a comprehensive, multi-year effort to update its General Plan. The General Plan serves as the City's primary guide for land use and development decisions and other City issues such as economic growth, open space, transportation, conservation, affordable housing and employment. It is a key tool for influencing and improving the quality of life for residents and businesses in Palmdale. During the first round of public engagement (Summer 2019), the project team held community workshops, pop-up events, focus groups, and conducted a survey to receive community feedback on their priorities and vision for the future of Palmdale. For the second round of engagement (Summer 2020), the City sought to gather feedback on how the General Plan land use map should be updated through the presentation of three proposed alternatives for future land use regulations in the City. The public input received on the alternatives was used to develop a draft preferred land use alternative. In the third round of engagement (Winter 2021), the City brought the preferred land use alternative to the public and gathered additional input and feedback on elements including the health and wellness districts, education districts, village centers, and other land uses. Public comments on these alternatives will help refine the final alternative and establish what land uses, as well as businesses and services, should go where in the future. Several community engagement tactics were used throughout the third round, including a live virtual workshop with Q&A session, online briefing book with survey, General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC) meeting, and focus group meetings.

### *Live Virtual Workshop with Q&A Session*

Round 3 of the public engagement was held virtually to abide by public health and safety regulations due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The live, online workshop was held in English and Spanish on Thursday, February 4, 2021 to allow the public to engage in a live discussion, ask questions and provide comments directly to the project team. The focus of the workshop was to discuss the project's current status, provide a brief overview of the General Plan existing land uses, and present the preferred land use alternative. The workshop included a detailed analysis of proposed locations for each land use through maps and graphics, as well as information on the health and wellness district, educational district, and village centers.

Participants had the option to listen to audio of the presentation in Spanish and to provide questions or comments via text message. Dedicated Q&A segments were available throughout the workshop to answer attendees' questions and concerns. The team polled attendees throughout the workshop to capture their input on the proposed land use designations and features. The polls and public comments from this workshop will be incorporated into the preferred land use alternative recommendation, which is to be presented to the Planning Commission and City Council in the Spring of 2021. A total of 88 persons attended the Zoom workshop and 4 persons watched from the YouTube live stream. The recording was posted on the project website, Palmdale2045.org, and on the project's YouTube channel. To date, the recorded workshop has been viewed more than 71 times.

### ***Online Briefing Book with Survey***

An online briefing booklet and survey were created to educate and garner feedback on the project's preferred land use alternative. The briefing booklet consisted of a project overview and detailed information on land use designations, a map of existing land uses within the City, and a map of the preferred land use alternative. Detailed information for specific key designations was provided, including the health and wellness districts, education district and village centers. The briefing booklet and survey were available to the public in English and Spanish beginning January 13, 2021 and ending on February 17, 2021. A separate report has been prepared with full details.

### ***General Plan Advisory Committee Meeting***

A General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC) meeting was held on January 13, 2021 to review and discuss the preferred land use alternative with the group. The agenda, presentation and recording for this meeting is available on the project website, Palmdale2045.org

### ***Focus Group Meetings***

During this phase of engagement, the consultant team also conducted three stakeholder group meetings with Palmdale industry leaders, educational entities, faith-based organizations, community-based organizations and others to receive more focused input and inquiries on the preferred land use alternative. These meetings were held the week following the public workshop to allow the stakeholders to hear that information first, before participating in the smaller group sessions. Participants in the stakeholder meetings were asked to share updates to their respective groups, and continue to spread awareness for the General Plan Update.

A separate report has been prepared with full details for these meetings, which were held on February 8, 2021.

## Notification

In an effort to raise awareness and promote the virtual workshop and online survey, a comprehensive and targeted citywide notification campaign was undertaken in both English and Spanish, which included print, digital and radio components. The section below provides detail on the efforts carried out to notify the public of the engagement activities.

### Electronic Notification:

Electronic noticing was a key component in the virtual workshop + survey notification process. The following is a complete list of the electronic notification methods:

- English/Spanish paid and organic social media posts via city social portals, including Facebook, Instagram and Twitter
- Digital geotargeting/geofencing
- Digital press releases in the Antelope Valley Press, Antelope Valley Times and the Antelope Valley Daily News
- Spanish ad via Café Con Leche radio show
- Spanish radio promo
- Adelman Broadcasting Station promo
- The Palmdale Minute weekly video segment in English and Spanish
- Palmdale Connections online newsletter
- Weekly project database e-blasts in English and Spanish
- Electronic billboard advertisements in both English and Spanish
- Council announcements

Social media ads on Facebook and Twitter reached a total of 5,822 people and resulted in 572 engagements and 141 post clicks. Organic Instagram ads were posted as well.

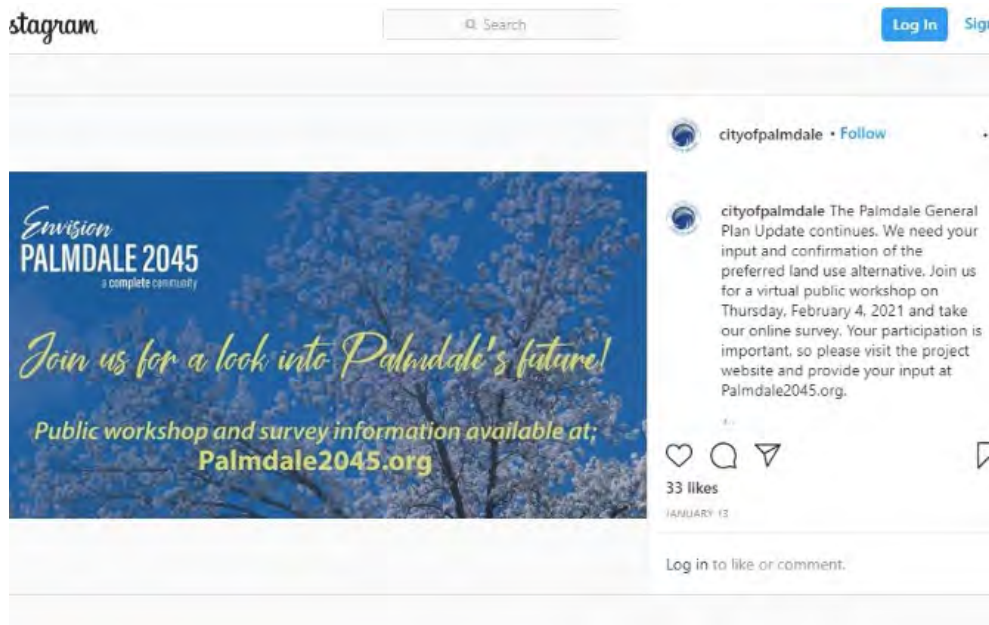
Digital geotargeting was employed within the Palmdale sphere of influence geographic area throughout two separate phases. This method of notification pushes ads through the electronic devices of people who live, work in or are passing through the specified campaign area. Eight ad sizes were created so the campaign would appear on mobile devices, desktops and tablets. The campaign generated 199,999 impressions and resulted in 371 clicks to the website.



**'Palmdale Minute' Video Segment**



**City of Palmdale Instagram/Twitter Post**



**Geotargeting Ad Portfolio**

**Creative**  
January 13 – February 3, 2021 3

The creative portfolio displays several ad variations for 'Envision PALMDALE 2045'. The ads feature a blue background with a tree and the text: 'Envision PALMDALE 2045 a complete community', 'Join us for a look into Palmdale's future & take our survey!', and 'More Info: Palmdale2045.org'. Each ad includes a QR code. The variations include a large vertical ad, a medium vertical ad, a horizontal ad, and a wide horizontal ad.

**Electronic Billboard**



**Print Notification:**

The project team used print notification as another key component in the survey and presentation notification process. This effort was made in an attempt to reach those in the community who have limited or no online/digital access to notification materials. All print materials were distributed in both English and Spanish. The following is a complete list of the print notification methods and repository sites:

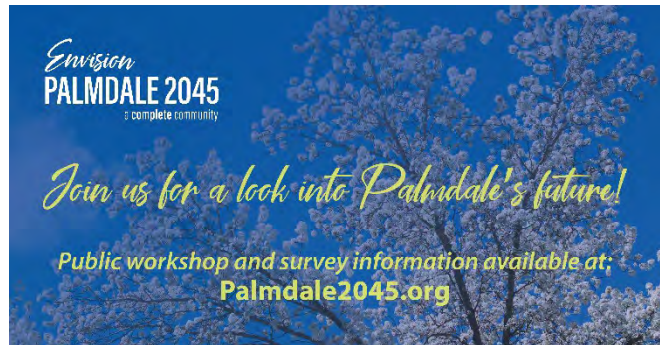
- Posters were displayed at the following high-visibility locations:
  - City Hall
  - Palmdale Transportation Center
  - Yucca House Community Garden
  - Marie Kerr Center
  - Dominic Massari Park
  - Pelona Vista Park
  - Chambers of Commerce
- Workshop flyers were distributed to the following organizations and locations:
  - The Palmdale School District lunch program
  - City Hall
  - Marie Kerr Center
  - Dominic Massari Park
  - Pelona Vista Park
  - Legacy Commons Senior Center
  - Chambers of Commerce
  - SAVES Palmdale and SALVA
- Postcards were provided through the library book pick-up program and on City public counters
- Print advertisements were placed in El Sol Magazine, AV Smart Buys and Palmdale Connections Magazine

**El Sol Spanish Magazine**



**Extended Outreach**

Key stakeholders and GPAC members were also enlisted to serve as ambassadors for the project and provide support in promoting the virtual workshop and survey by way of a communications tool kit, which offered a variety of cut-and-paste ready messaging and graphics for stakeholders to easily share with





their organizations and audiences via online portals, including social media, websites, digital newsletters, and as hard-copy pieces. The team reached approximately 120 stakeholders via phone call and follow-up email which included the toolkit and informational flyer. The extended outreach was documented to capture organizations that were reached and to record the number of stakeholders that expressed interest in promoting information within their

audience.

### **Next Steps**

The General Plan Project Team will collect all input received from the survey and virtual workshop to further refine the preferred land use alternative. In Spring 2021, the team will present the preferred land use alternative to the Planning Commission and City Council for approval and adoption.



# Live Presentation + Q&A

## Discussion Summary

Virtual | February 4, 2021 | 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

On Thursday, February 4, 2021, the City of Palmdale hosted a live presentation + Q&A discussion to review the preferred land use alternative for Palmdale 2045, the General Plan Update. Members of the public were encouraged to view the preferred land use alternative briefing book and participate in an online survey that was available from January 13 – February 17, 2021. This virtual event serves as the third workshop in a series of four that will take place over the course of the Update. The live presentation was conducted via Zoom Webinar and attended by 88 people. Participants in the live event could listen to audio in English or Spanish and submit their questions and/or comments verbally or by sending a message in Zoom Webinar or via text message. The live presentation began with an overview of the Palmdale 2045 project and was followed by a discussion with community members about the preferred land use alternative. A recording of the live event is available on the Palmdale 2045 YouTube Channel.

## Presentation

After a brief overview of meeting logistics by Celeste Milam of Arellano Associates, Carlene Saxton, Director of Economic and Community Development Department for the City of Palmdale, opened the meeting and welcomed participants. Simran Malhotra of Raimi + Associates, led the presentation which included four key components: project background; review of how we got here; review of the general plan land use designations; and overview of the preferred land use alternative. Throughout the presentation, the General Plan Team paused to answer questions and facilitate polls. Below are highlights of these presentation sections.

### Project Background

Simran began the presentation with a brief overview of the General Plan and its significance to the community. The milestone schedule was provided, showing the current phase which includes preparation of the preferred land use alternative and policy development.

### What is Land Use?

This section provided background and served as a precursor to the preferred land use alternative. Definitions and examples of the land use designations, maps of existing land use—what is currently on the ground today—as well as the existing 1993 General Plan land use were presented. The section also provided an overview of the land use framework, three land use alternatives previously discussed in the Summer 2020 engagement phase, and community feedback that directed the preferred land use alternative.

## Palmdale 2045 Land Use Designations

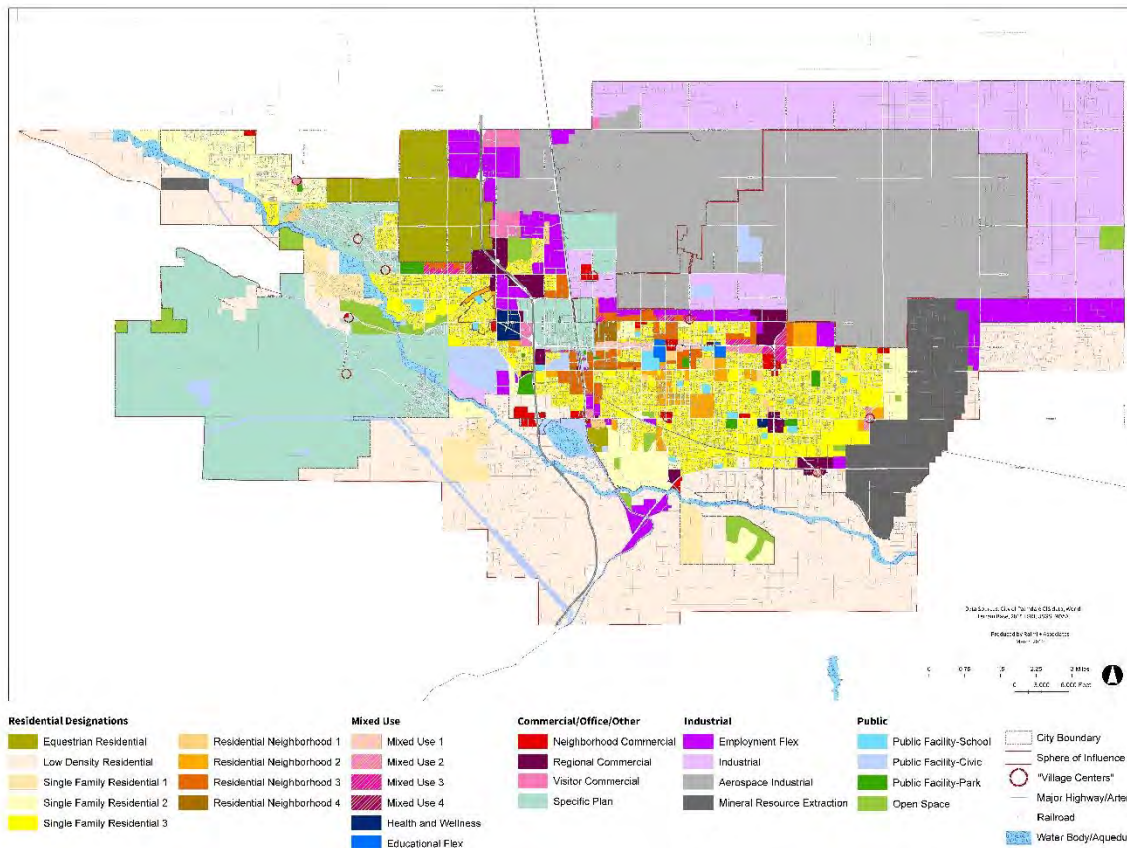
Simran then reviewed the proposed land use designations which were grouped into categories of residential, mixed-use, commercial, office, and industrial, and public uses. The designations included sample images and symbology that corresponds to the alternative map.

### Preferred Land Use Alternative

The purpose of the preferred land use alternative is to adjust and confirm the draft General Plan Land Use Map with the community prior to its endorsement by decision makers.

In this section, the land use framework and key features of the preferred land use alternative were presented. The preferred land use alternative contains two health and wellness districts which build off existing medical centers in Palmdale, two education districts on Palmdale Boulevard, expanded employment uses surrounding Plant 42, mixed residential uses on both sides of Palmdale Boulevard, village centers that provide daily goods and services within walking distance to existing neighborhoods, and regional commercial uses around the Antelope Valley Mall.

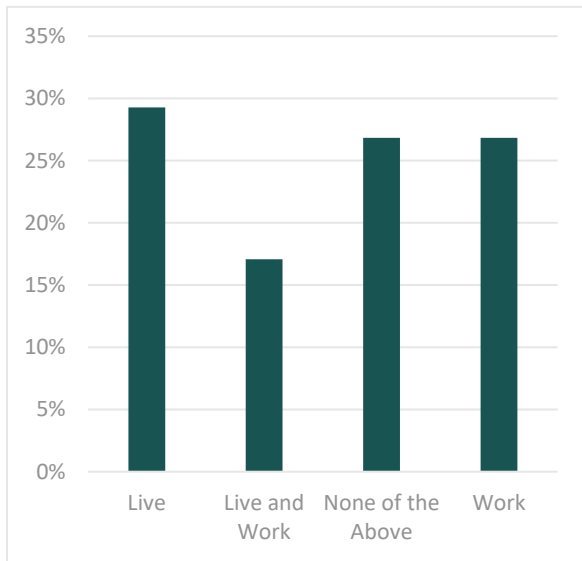
Metrics and a breakdown of land uses comparing the existing 1993 General Plan to the preferred land use alternative were also reviewed. Simran shared the intent, location, proposed uses, and an illustrative example for the various village centers. In the subsequent sections, Simran reviewed the health and wellness districts, and education districts - also providing intent, location, and illustrative examples for context.



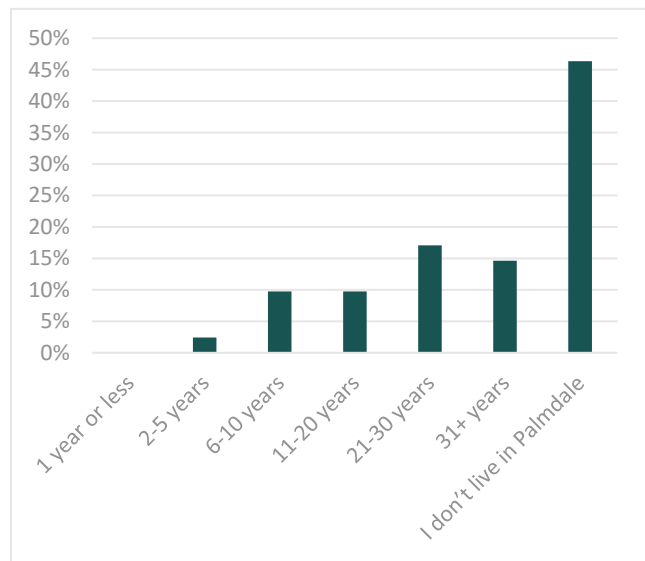
# Polling

Throughout the presentation, the General Plan Team used polls to engage attendees. Below are the poll questions and corresponding results. Please note that not all participants completed one or all of the polls, and the participants who connected by phone only did not have access to the virtual poll.

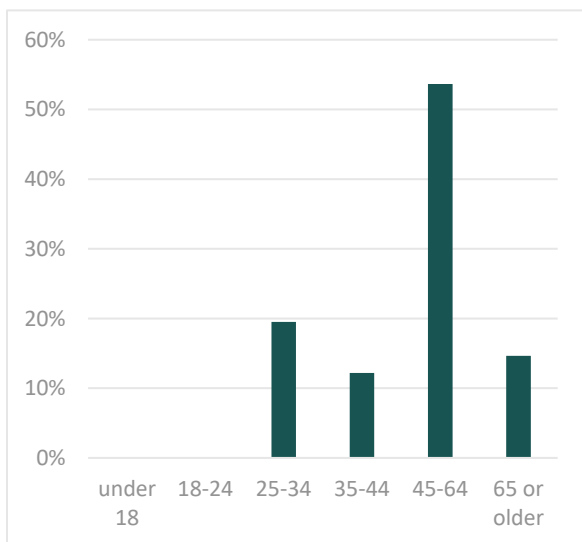
**Do you live and/or work in Palmdale?** (41 Responses)



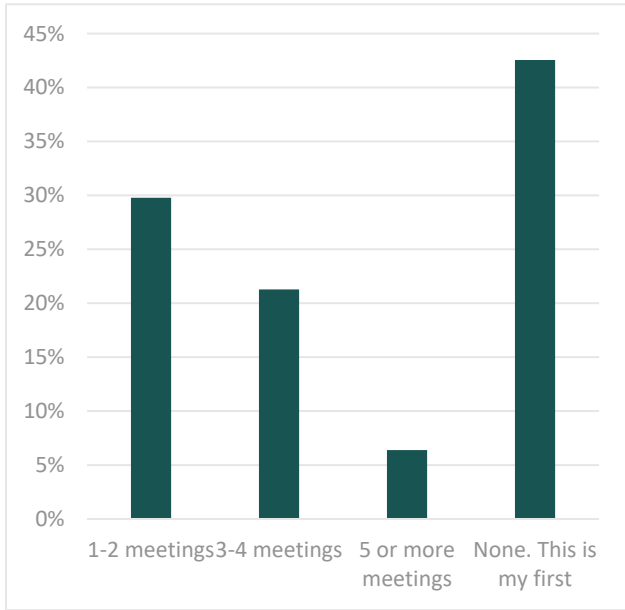
**If you live in Palmdale, how long have you lived here?** (41 Responses)



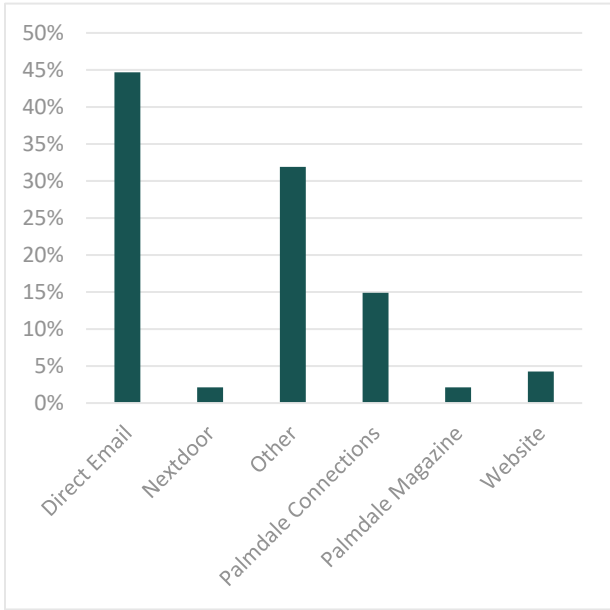
**What is your age range?** (41 Responses)



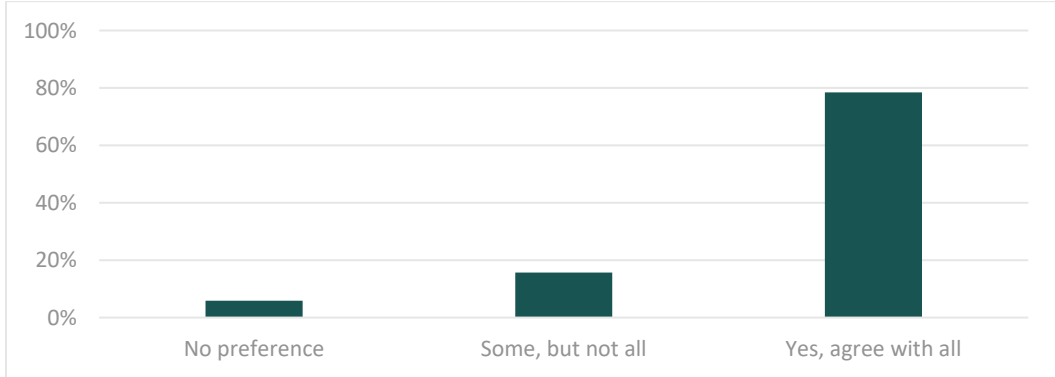
**How many General Plan-related meetings have you attended?** (47 Responses)



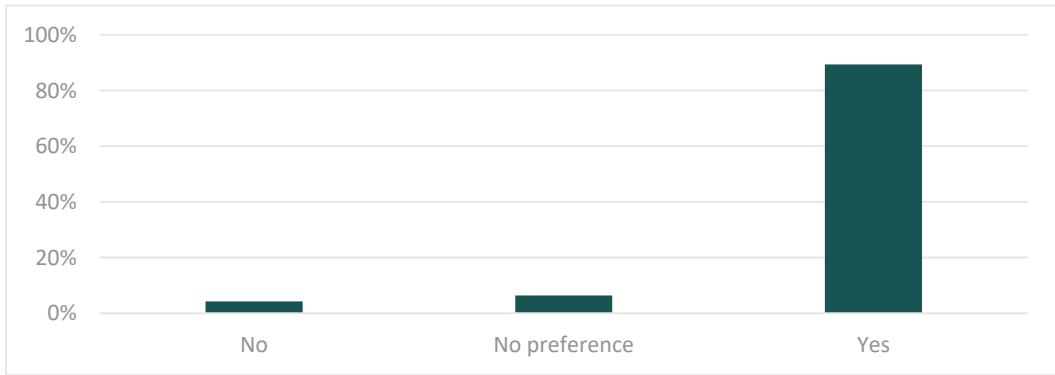
**How did you hear about this meeting?** (47 Responses)



**Do you agree with the addition of new land use designations that allow for different types of housing, mixed use development, health and wellness, and education flex uses?** (51 Responses)



**Do you agree with the vision for the village centers throughout Palmdale? Would these types of uses be acceptable in a village center in your neighborhood?** (51 Responses)



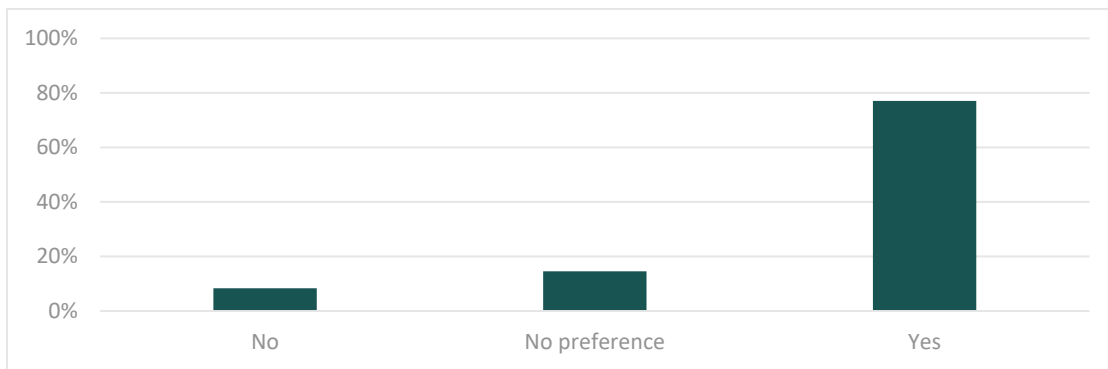
**Do you agree with the identified locations for village centers throughout Palmdale? (47 Responses)**



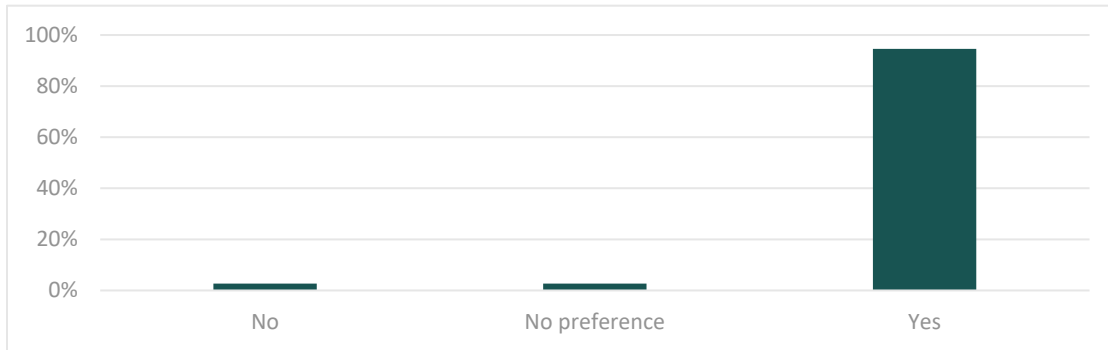
**Do you agree with the vision for the health and wellness districts? (48 Responses)**



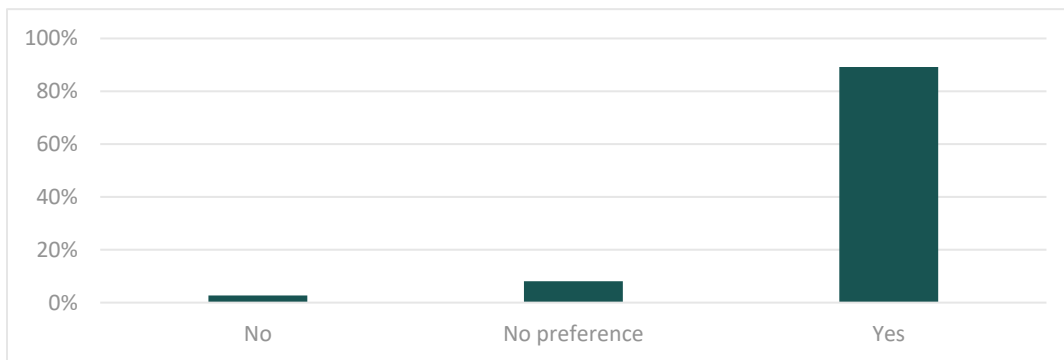
**Do you agree with the location for the health and wellness districts? (48 Responses)**



**Do you agree with the vision for the education districts?** (37 Responses)



**Do you agree with the identified locations for the education districts?** (37 Responses)



**Have you taken the online survey for the preferred land use alternative?** (33 Responses)



## Questions and Comments

Throughout the presentation, the General Plan Team paused for questions to allow for robust discussion and stakeholder input. The General Plan Team answered various questions from the public asked verbally and submitted through the Q&A feature in Zoom Webinar. Questions and comments from the public are listed below (bolded) along with the General Plan Team responses (italics).

### **Some of us built according to the old General Plan land use designations. Will there be provisions in the Plan so we can continue with our previous land use?**

*Your developed properties can continue as they are – it would become a “legal non-conforming use.”*

### **What kind of land use can accommodate storing trucks?**

*The General Plan designations are broad. Following the adoption of the General Plan, the City will be updating the Zoning Code and Zoning Map. At that time the exact permitted uses will be detailed. Generally, storing trucks would fall under the industrial land use designation. City staff reached out with additional information to this property owner.*

### **Is there going to be a hospital built?**

*The General Plan identifies areas where certain uses can go – such as medical uses or a hospital - but the plan does not build anything.*

### **Can you find a new site for the Palmdale dump and rezone the existing site? It's very close to a residential site.**

*The landfill is an existing use and service provided to the Palmdale community, so moving that use would have to be at the direction of City Council or the property owner. The City has an existing hauling agreement with Waste Management that is tied to that location. In the next year or so the City will be revisiting that agreement to ensure compliance with the Conditions of Approval agreement is a benefit to the community.*

### **Why is the High Desert Corridor not showing on any of the maps?**

*The freeway portion of the corridor is a future transportation facility, the exact alignment has not been finalized. As we work through the transportation recommendations, we will revisit the planned future improvements such as the High Desert Corridor.*

### **Parts of the City are within the Air Force AICUZ (Air Installation Compatible Use Zone). Have you taken these AICUZ zones into consideration?**

*Yes, the team has taken the AICUZ areas into consideration when preparing the land use alternatives. As we continue to get input on the preferred land use alternative and make adjustments, we will revisit the AICUZ areas in greater detail prior to taking the map to Planning Commission and City Council.*

### **Will there be more jobs in the downtown area that allow for greater walkability and bikeability? Including living closer to where you work?**

*New jobs are planned for several areas around Palmdale including downtown, areas north of downtown, along Avenue Q, surrounding Plant 42, within the multi-use nodes and village centers. All areas of the City will hopefully provoke new job creation - any new projects constructed will create jobs as well as all commercial facilities.*

**Is there a plan to create more green space (parks and open space) in the densely populated areas of Palmdale?**

*The intent is to have additional parks space that meet the City's park space goals. We can only indicate parks or open space on City-owned property. We will be recommending general areas that need additional parks space for when land is available for purchase. Also, new multi-family development is required to provide common open space for their residents in addition to the park space that is provided by the City.*

**With so much growth, how will we meet the needs of our citizens with healthcare when we only have one hospital? Will Kaiser grow here or do we need to bring in another provider? Palmdale Regional Medical Center is at it's peak. What will we do?**

*The General Plan and City acknowledges the need for additional medical facilities and healthcare providers in Palmdale. This is why the General Plan land use map offers dedicated spaces for expanded health and wellness type uses. The City is continuing to work with existing providers to learn about their expansion plans, to see what they can do to support existing medical facilities, and attract new ones.*

**Will there be any new school built as part of the Plan or will existing schools be renovated? Palmdale has a lot of old schools.**

*Throughout the General Plan Update, we have coordinated with all school districts with facilities in Palmdale. Based on the projected growth in the General Plan, the school districts will update or expand their facilities to meet the needs of the community.*

**Please consider incentivizing applicable new businesses within the educational district to offer internships to students. This can also be applicable to internships within our village centers.**

*Internships are a great opportunity for young residents to gain experience and learn about the workforce. We will look for ways to create job training and internship programs through policies in the General Plan. The City has an existing community programs division that specifically works on those types of requests, we can make their contact information available.*

**What is Palmdale doing to increase and accelerate economic growth and improve infrastructure?**

*The City is currently working to obtain federal grants to support existing local businesses and attract future businesses to Palmdale. The City is also working with Los Angeles County on an application for Enhanced Infrastructure Financing Districts (EIFD) to put infrastructure in place in Palmdale and pay the costs associated with that new infrastructure over time. This will help Palmdale get much needed infrastructure improvements without burdening any single particular development. The General Plan will also have an Economic Development Element that details strategies and policies to continue the existing work the City is doing, and identify new actions the City can take to accelerate improvements.*

**Are there any plans to close all the liquor stores on Palmdale Boulevard and create more appropriate spaces?**

*The City currently has separation requirements for liquor stores, limiting their location and providing distance requirements near sensitive uses like schools, parks and religious institutions. Those policies will be carried over into the General Plan Update.*

**Are there any plans for existing low-density residential to allow for multiple residential units?**

*The State recently passed legislation to allow every single-family homeowner to build one accessory dwelling unit (ADU) and one junior accessory dwelling (JADU) unit on the same lot as a single-family home.*



**Are you allowing first preference for existing Palmdale businesses to occupy new mixed-use buildings?**

*The City is not building new buildings; new development will be built by private developers on private property. The General Plan indicates what uses are permitted in each area of the city.*

**Following up on the Palmdale Landfill question and response, are there any plans or vision to relocate the landfill to a more remote location within the City? The current location is near residential uses.**

*The Palmdale Landfill was originally located in a desolate area, that was later developed with residential uses. As the current preferred land use shows, we are not planning to relocate the landfill at this time. In addition, there have not been any proposals to relocate the landfill at this time. There are distance separation requirements in place now, so any future expansion or development of residential uses would have to allow for a buffer.*

**What kind of oversight is there on the development of the general plan? In the previous alternative, the zoning for the eastside wellness district was much bigger than it is now. The change seemed to only happen after public input pointed out the current zoning realities in the city. There are similar changes made to the east side education district. Does the public or city council go through the plan, block by block before the general plan is adopted? Is the general plan just a formalized pipe dream?**

*In this stage, we are looking for public input on the preferred land use alternative. City staff and members of the GPAC have been reviewing and considering the proposed uses and preferred alternative map. We will compile all feedback and present to City Council and Planning Commission for consideration. If you have specific concerns or feedback, this is a good time to share with the team by email and/or by responding to the survey.*

**Why is the aqueduct access behind highland high school fenced off? It is a prime hiking area for residents near the school.**

*Joshua Ranch is a proposed development in that area. This development proposal would include trails, trailheads, and parking areas. Part of that area is private property and while there will be interruptions to access through that area, the long-term plan is to have formalized access to that area.*

**Additional Questions and Comments:**

- *When does this renovations start?*
- *We kindly ask when presenting graphs comparing the old plan to the new plan that the actual figures are shown to substantiate the bar graphs. We have no idea what scale we are using when looking at the graphs. Just a friendly suggestion.*
- *Is there any flexibility on the land use from agricultural to multi unit residential?*
- *Kaiser Permanente is the only hospital Organization that requires their in-house carpenters, superintendents, foremen to go through a rigorous 24 hour ICRA class infection control risk assessment classes.*

Several folks at the meeting submitted written comments related to requiring local hire and skilled and training workforce in Palmdale. The City supports employment growth in Palmdale and supports local hire. City Council will consider policies in the General Plan about requiring prevailing wage or contracting with union labor for future projects. Additionally, the General Plan is a plan for the future to help build the community of Palmdale with the goal of allowing people to live and work in the City.

## Next Steps

After the survey closed on February 17, 2021, the General Plan Team analyzed input received for presentation of the results to the Planning Commission on March 11, 2021 and City Council on March 16, 2021. City Council and Planning Commission will provide the General Plan Team with direction for the final land use plan.

# Preferred Land Use Alternative Survey Summary

Online Survey | English & Spanish | Open January 13 – February 17, 2021

The English and Spanish briefing book generated a total of 1,085 views during the engagement period. A total of 207 surveys were collected (201 English and 6 Spanish), with an average of approximately 41 surveys filled out per week. The summary below provides survey questions and the public responses, opinions and comments provided by participants. The findings were prepared to inform the project team and help refine the preferred land use alternative for the City to consider adopting to guide development over the next 25 years.

Survey Question	Strongly Agree/Agree	Neutral	Disagree /Strongly Disagree
1. Overall do you agree with the preferred land use plan?	<b>69% Strongly Agree or Agree</b> <i>(29% Strongly Agree and 40% Agree)</i>	<b>18% Neutral</b>	<b>14% Disagree or Strongly Disagree</b> <i>(10% Disagree and 4% Strongly Disagree)</i>
2. Do you agree with the location of the village centers?	<b>73% Strongly Agree or Agree</b> <i>(22% Strongly Agree and 52% Agree)</i>	<b>16% Neutral</b>	<b>10% Disagree or Strongly disagree</b> <i>(7% Disagree and 3% Strongly Disagree)</i>
3. The village centers are intended to offer a mix of residential uses and daily goods and services within neighborhoods in a mixed use setting. These centers can be made up of a variety of land use designations including Mixed Use 1 (MU1), Mixed Use 2 (MU2), and Neighborhood Commercial (NC). Village centers will also include publicly accessible plazas or courtyards connected to the larger	<b>82% Strongly Agree or Agree</b> <i>(43% Strongly Agree and 39% Agree)</i>	<b>10% Neutral</b>	<b>7% Disagree or Strongly disagree</b> <i>(4% Disagree and 3% Strongly Disagree)</i>

Survey Question	Strongly Agree/Agree	Neutral	Disagree /Strongly Disagree
pedestrian and bicycle network. Do you agree with these types of uses in village centers?			
4. Do you agree with the location of the health and wellness districts?	<b>76% Strongly Agree or Agree</b> <i>(32% Strongly Agree and 44% Agree)</i>	<b>16% Neutral</b>	<b>8% Disagree or Strongly disagree</b> <i>(6% Disagree and 2% Strongly Disagree)</i>
5. The Health and Wellness designation provides for a mix of public and private medical, health, and wellness uses including emergency medical facilities, medical and supportive offices, healthcare clinics and pharmacies. Do you agree with these types of uses in the health and wellness district?	<b>85% Strongly Agree or Agree</b> <i>(46% Strongly Agree and 39% Agree)</i>	<b>10% Neutral</b>	<b>5% Disagree or Strongly disagree</b> <i>(3% Disagree and 2% Strongly Disagree)</i>
6. Do you agree with the location of the education districts?	<b>67% Strongly Agree or Agree</b> <i>(28% Strongly Agree and 40% Agree)</i>	<b>26% Neutral</b>	<b>7% Disagree or Strongly disagree</b> <i>(3% Disagree and 4% Strongly Disagree)</i>
7. The Education Flex designation provides for a mix of educational types uses like trade schools, public and private higher education facilities, and satellite campuses, along with supportive retail, office and housing. Do you agree with these types of uses in the education district?	<b>82% Strongly Agree or Agree</b> <i>(38% Strongly Agree and 44% Agree)</i>	<b>13% Neutral</b>	<b>5% Disagree or Strongly disagree</b> <i>(2% Disagree and 3% Strongly Disagree)</i>

# Open-Ended Comments

In addition to the key messages listed below, many respondents noted their approval of and excitement for the Preferred Land Use Alternative and vision for the future of Palmdale.

Category	Key Message
<p><b>Education</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need a centralized Education District that serves the Westside</li> <li>• Desire for educational flex uses on the Westside</li> </ul>
<p><b>Employment</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain Aerospace presence in Palmdale</li> <li>• Desire for new employment opportunities</li> <li>• Hope the updated General Plan will bring new employment opportunities to Palmdale</li> </ul>
<p><b>Growth &amp; Development</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General Plan should be aggressive and targeted for the next 10 years</li> <li>• Appreciate the land use alternative’s flexibility</li> <li>• Hopeful for the future of Palmdale and implementation of the preferred alternative vision</li> <li>• Hope to eliminate inequities and division across Palmdale through the General Plan process</li> <li>• Desire to have fewer unoccupied buildings and empty lots across Palmdale</li> <li>• Desire for three story height limit and maintaining small-town atmosphere</li> <li>• Encourage new development as soon as possible</li> <li>• Let free market determine where new growth locates</li> <li>• Not enough development or change proposed to the Eastside</li> <li>• Not enough development or change proposed to the Westside</li> </ul>
<p><b>Housing</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More housing options, densities and mixed-use with residential needed throughout Palmdale</li> <li>• Housing for specific populations like seniors and young professionals are needed</li> <li>• Encourage new residential uses near job centers</li> <li>• Increase overall residential area</li> <li>• Concern that new housing will be expensive</li> </ul>

Category	Key Message
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep residential away from disruptive uses</li> <li>• Maintain existing R1 properties</li> </ul>
<b>Village Centers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Desire to keep village centers commercial</li> <li>• Desire for more mixed-use in village centers</li> <li>• Promote inclusivity and accessibility in village centers</li> </ul>
<b>Infrastructure &amp; Transportation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need a complete bike lane network, including protected bike lanes, recreation trails, and sidewalk network to promote safe walking and biking</li> <li>• Mitigate traffic impacts from proposed new development</li> <li>• Promote non-automobile modes of transportation</li> <li>• Sewer system extensions are needed on the Eastside</li> </ul>
<b>Health &amp; Wellness</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Address populations that are unhoused and health disparities</li> <li>• Need for an additional hospital on the Eastside, specifically Kaiser Permanente</li> </ul>
<b>Parks, Open Space, Recreation, &amp; Conservation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Desire for additional parks, paseos, open space, shade trees, and conservation areas</li> <li>• Maximize use of native plants</li> <li>• Desire for specific uses like a cultural center or museum, sports complex, and outdoor amphitheater</li> </ul>

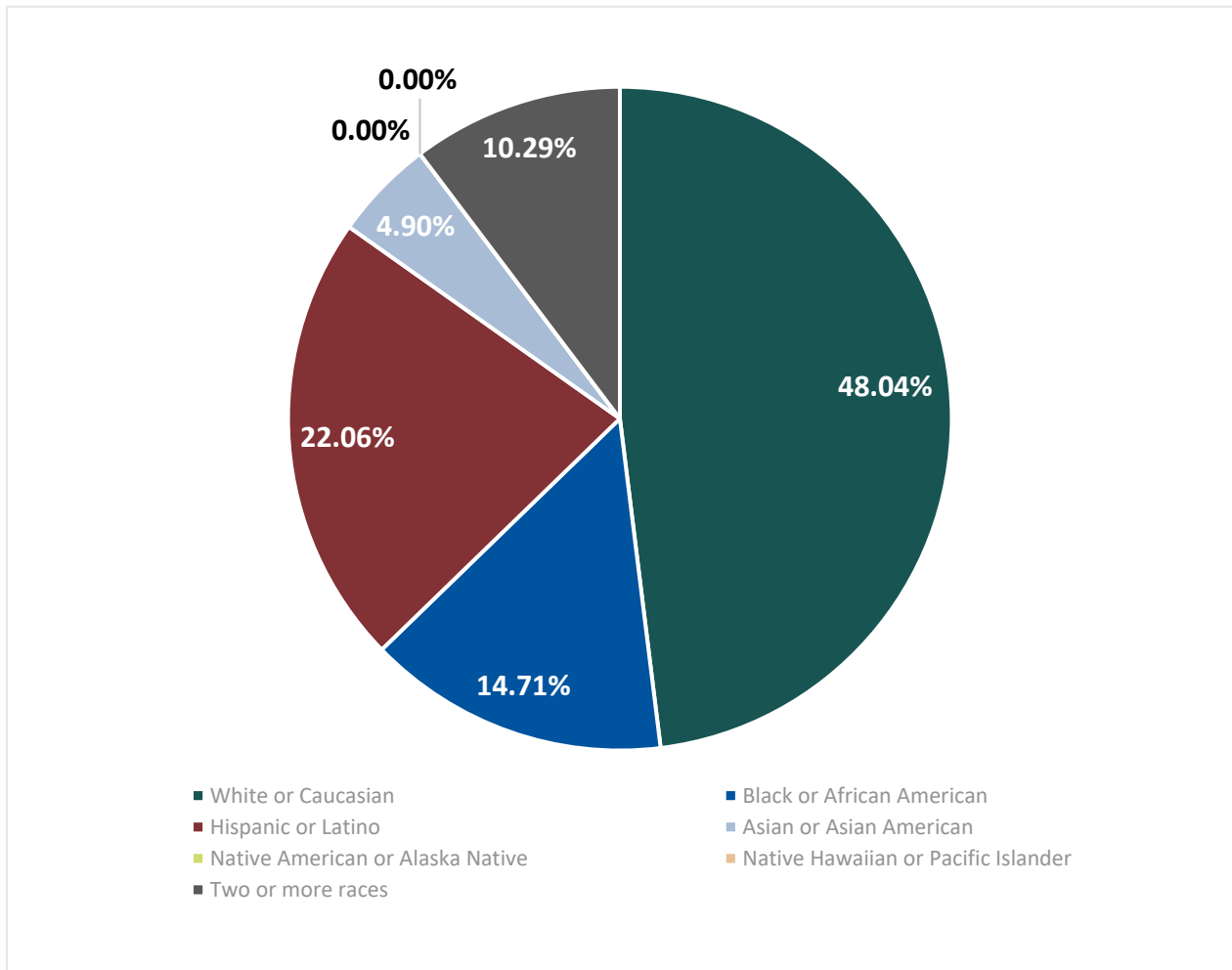
## Conclusions

Overall, respondents clearly indicated a high level of support for the preferred land use alternative. Seven of the 13 survey questions asked respondents to rate their level of agreement with the overall preferred alternative as well as distinct features of the preferred land use alternative. In each instance, an overwhelming majority of respondents agreed or strongly agreed with the survey statement. Many respondents expressed their excitement for the future of Palmdale and eagerness to implement the plan’s vision. Some comments expressed a displeasure with the lack of change proposed for either the Westside or Eastside of Palmdale, while some comments had specific desires for future development in Palmdale.

# Participant Demographics

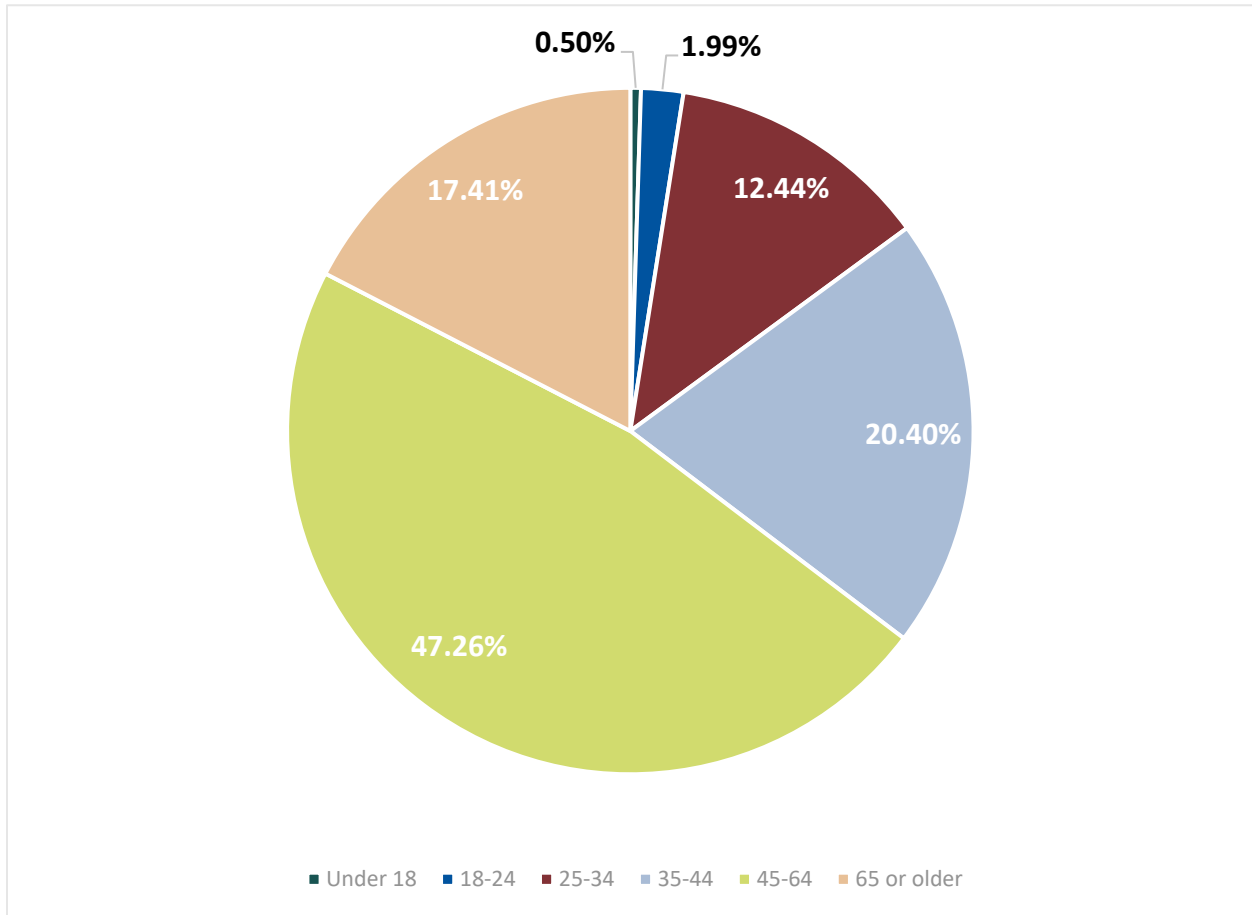
An earnest effort was made to engage the entire community of Palmdale and ensure that diverse and broad participation was achieved. Demographic survey data shows a wide range of responders, representing a variety of age groups and ethnicities within the City.

## How do you identify?



Answer Choices	Responses	
White or Caucasian	48.04%	98
Black or African American	14.71%	30
Hispanic or Latino	22.06%	45
Asian or Asian American	4.90%	10
Native American or Alaska Native	0.00%	0
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0.00%	0
Two or more races	10.29%	21
<b>Answered</b>		<b>204</b>

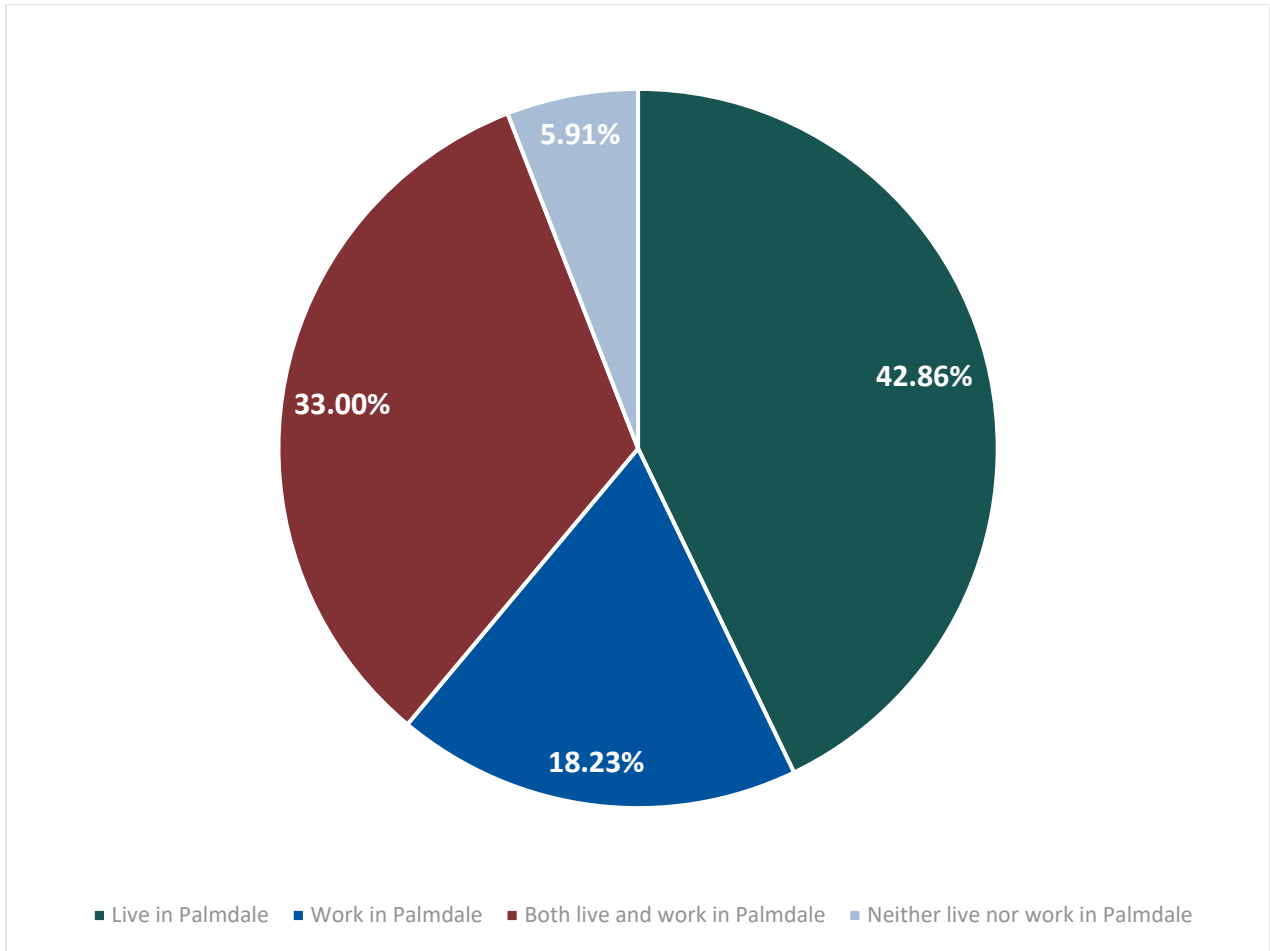
### What is your age range?



Answer Choices	Responses	
Under 18	0.50%	1
18-24	1.99%	4
25-34	12.44%	25
35-44	20.40%	41
45-64	47.26%	95
65 or older	17.41%	35
<b>Answered</b>		<b>201</b>

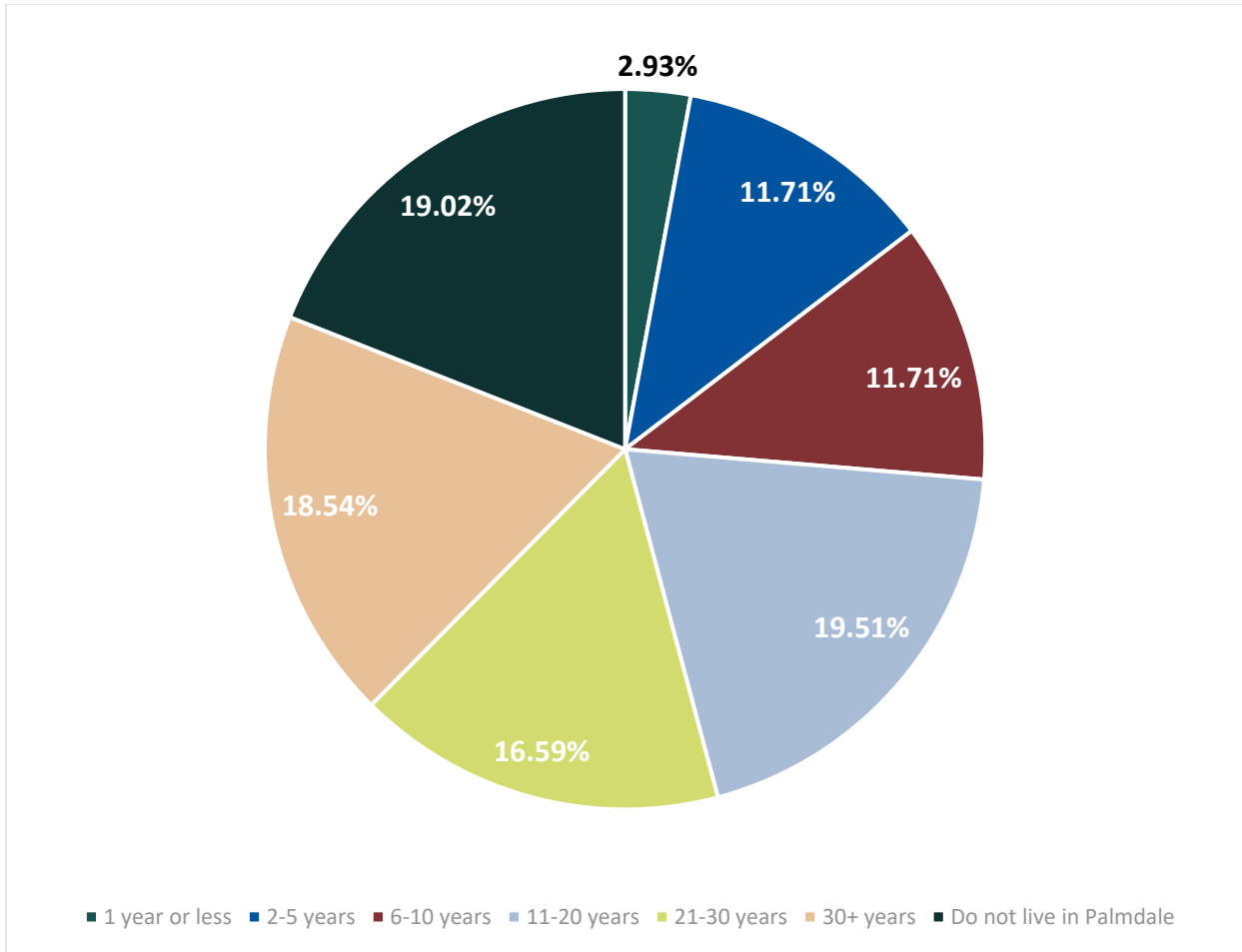


### Do you live or work in Palmdale?



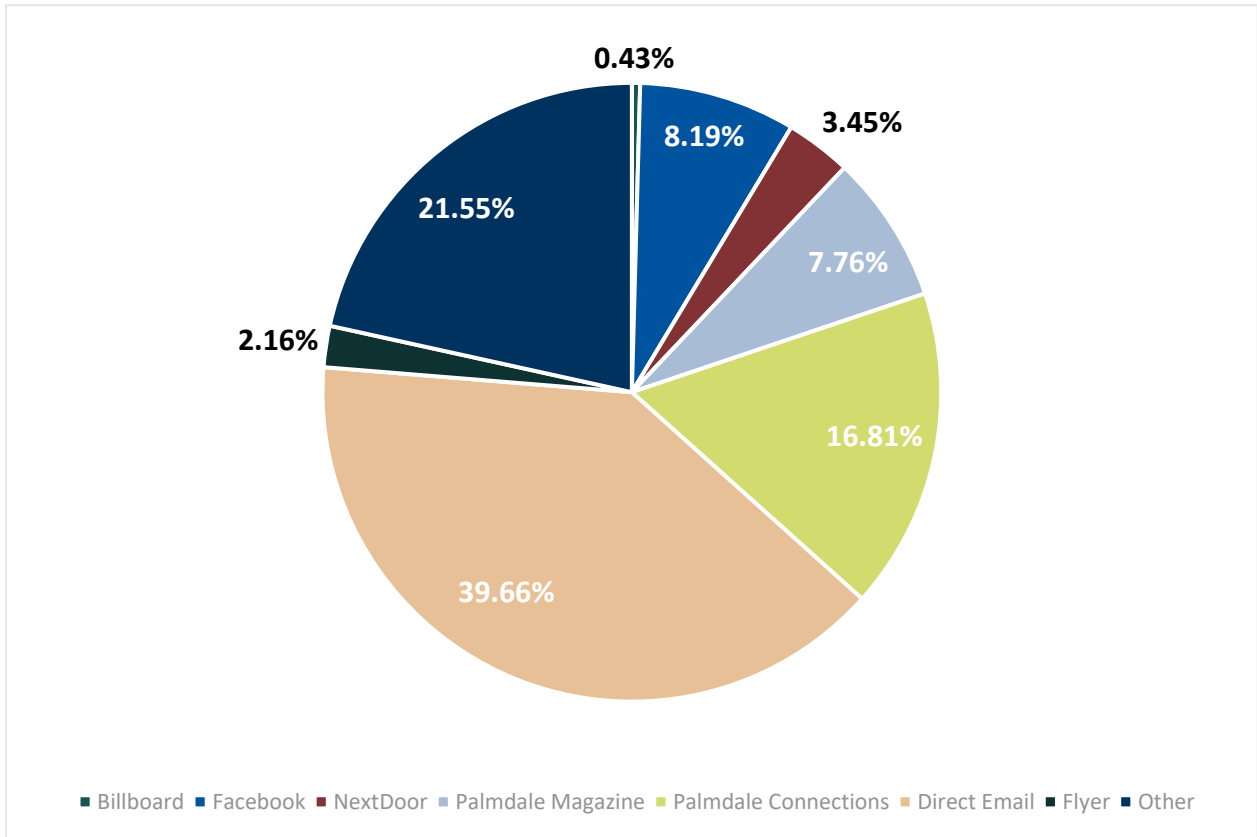
Answer Choices	Responses	
Live in Palmdale	42.86%	87
Work in Palmdale	18.23%	37
Both live and work in Palmdale	33.00%	67
Neither live nor work in Palmdale	5.91%	12
<b>Answered</b>		203

### How long have you lived in Palmdale?



Answer Choices	Responses	
1 year or less	2.93%	6
2-5 years	11.71%	24
6-10 years	11.71%	24
11-20 years	19.51%	40
21-30 years	16.59%	34
30+ years	18.54%	38
Do not live in Palmdale	19.02%	39
<b>Answered</b>		<b>205</b>

### How Did you hear about this survey?



Answer Choices	Responses	
Billboard	0.43%	1
Facebook	8.19%	19
NextDoor	3.45%	8
Palmdale Magazine	7.76%	18
Palmdale Connections	16.81%	39
Direct Email	39.66%	92
Flyer	2.16%	5
Other	21.55%	50
<b>Answered</b>		<b>232</b>

# Stakeholder Focus Group Meetings Summary 3

*On February 8, 2021, Raimi + Associates conducted three stakeholder focus group meetings with Palmdale industry leaders, educational entities, faith-based organizations, and community-based organizations to receive their input on the Palmdale General Plan Update preferred land use alternative. The comments received at these meetings have been categorized into major groups: overall preferred land use alternative, village centers, health and wellness districts, education districts and other comments.*

## Consolidated Feedback

Feedback was received at the stakeholder focus groups. Several polls were used to gauge level of agreement with the preferred alternative and the various elements. In general, the majority of participants agreed with the preferred land use alternative. Several participants felt neutral in terms of specific elements of the preferred plan.

The following sections detail the range of comments received during the focus groups.

### *Overall Preferred Land Use Alternative*

- Residential uses near 10<sup>th</sup> Street and Avenue P would conflict with an extended runway centerline at Plant 42 – suggest revision.
- Mission of Plant 42 must be preserved - limit surrounding incompatible uses.

### *Village Centers*

- Would like to see family resource centers or some sort of community resources available in village centers.
- Desire for residential options in village centers that include subsidized or affordable housing.
- Allow/encourage sports fields and recreation centers in or near village centers.

### *Health and Wellness Districts*

- Provide for non-profit, Veteran-owned, and community organization spaces in the Health and Wellness Districts.

- Suggest policies to connect the health and wellness district and education district in some way or allow them to cluster together, like some University healthcare operators.
- Desire to see some type of community resource area within these districts.
- Need mental health services in Palmdale.
- Hotels should be allowed within the Health and Wellness districts to support patients, physicians, etc. (*hotels are an allowed use*)
- Existing Palmdale residents need access to medical and educational facilities.

### **Education Districts**

- AVUSD is looking to expand adult education facilities in other areas of Palmdale.
- An education district is needed on the Westside of Palmdale.
- Would like to see a four-year University in Palmdale, the General Plan should reserve land for such a University.
- There may be some concerns related to locating higher education near Palmdale High School, responsibility index differs for age groups.
- Supportive of more vocational, trade and technical education in Palmdale for High School students to help keep students in the Antelope Valley after graduation.

### **Other**

- Would like to see sports and recreation facilities located on the map, Palmdale does not have enough recreation centers.
- Want to ensure these plans happen in the future, not just land designated for certain uses.

# Feedback by Group

## Education, County Organizations, Social Service Organizations and Non-Profits, Religious Groups

- The Palmdale Aerospace Academy
- Antelope Valley Union High School District
- First 5 Los Angeles/Best Start Palmdale
- Los Angeles County Regional Planning
- P.A.W.S. Forward Foundation
- Children's Bureau
- Antelope Valley WIC Program
- Faith Community Church
- SoCal Gas Company

### *Overall Preferred Land Use Alternative*

- N/A

### *Village Centers*

- Would like to see family resource centers or some sort of community resources available in village centers.
- Desire to see residential options in village centers that include subsidized or affordable housing.
- Would like to see sports fields and recreation centers in or near village centers.

### *Health and Wellness Districts*

- Would like to see non-profit, Veteran-owned, and community organization spaces provided for in the Health and Wellness Districts.
- Suggest policies to connect the health and wellness district to education districts or allow them to cluster together, like University healthcare operators.
- Desire for some type of community resource area within these districts.
- Need mental health services in Palmdale.

### *Education Districts*

- AVUSD is looking to expand adult education facilities in other areas of Palmdale.
- An education district is needed on the Westside of Palmdale.
- Would like to see a University in Palmdale.
- There may be some concerns related to locating higher education near Palmdale High School, responsibility index differs for age groups.

### *Other*

- Would like to see sports and recreation facilities located on the map, Palmdale does not have enough recreation centers.
- Want to ensure these plans happen in the future, not just land designated for certain uses.

### **Aerospace and Medical**

- **Palmdale Regional Medical Center**
- **Lockheed Martin**
- **US Air Force (Plant 42)**
- **Northrup Grumman**

### *Overall Preferred Land Use Alternative*

- Residential uses near 10<sup>th</sup> Street and Avenue P would conflict with an extended runway centerline.
- Mission of Plant 42 must be preserved - limit surrounding incompatible uses.

### *Village Centers*

- N/A

### *Health and Wellness Districts*

- Hotels should be allowed within the Health and Wellness districts to support patients, physicians, etc.
- Existing Palmdale residents need access to medical and educational facilities.

### *Education Districts*

- Desire to reserve land for a 4-year University.
- Supportive of any additional trade and technical education in Palmdale.

### *Other*

- N/A

## **Businesses, Residents, Religious and Advocacy Groups**

- **Courtyard and Residence Inn**
- **Hispanic Chamber of Commerce**
- **CHIRLA**
- **Palmdale Vineyard Church**
- **Palmdale Resident**

### ***Overall Preferred Land Use Alternative***

- N/A

### ***Village Centers***

- N/A

### ***Health and Wellness Districts***

- N/A

### ***Education Districts***

- More vocational and trade training for High School students to help keep students in the Antelope Valley after graduation.

### ***Other***

- N/A



# *Digital Campaign*

# Programmatic Display Summary

Run Dates	Strategy	Impressions	Clicks	CTR
1/13 – 2/4	Geo Targeting	94,001	168	0.18%
2/5 – 2/14	Mobile Geofencing	105,998	203	0.19%
<b>Total</b>		<b>199,999</b>	<b>371</b>	<b>0.19%</b>

# Geo Targeting

January 13 – February 4, 2021

Ad Size	Impressions	Clicks	CTR
<b>Total</b>	<b>94,001</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>0.18%</b>
160x600	2,209	9	0.41%
300x250	12,073	17	0.14%
300x50	9,067	10	0.11%
300x600	1,004	4	0.40%
320x480	3	1	33.33%
320x50	42,536	67	0.16%
728x90	26,597	60	0.23%
970x90	512	0	0.00%

Device	Impressions	Clicks	CTR
Mobile	54,398	85	0.16%
PC	21,026	22	0.10%
Tablet	18,577	61	0.33%

# Mobile Geofencing

February 5 – 14, 2021

Ad Size	Impressions	Clicks	CTR
<b>Total</b>	<b>105,998</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>0.19%</b>
160x600	2,574	8	0.31%
300x250	30,072	44	0.15%
300x50	2,949	8	0.27%
300x600	1,156	8	0.69%
320x480	8	0	0.00%
320x50	49,348	74	0.15%
728x90	19,308	58	0.30%
970x90	583	3	0.51%

Device	Impressions	Clicks	CTR
Mobile	67,456	117	0.17%
PC	21,704	34	0.16%
Tablet	16,838	52	0.31%

# Geo Targeting Creative

January 13 – February 4, 2021

Envision  
**PALMDALE 2045**  
a complete community

*Join us for a look into  
Palmdale's future &  
take our survey!*

More Info:  
**Palmdale2045.org**

Envision  
**PALMDALE 2045**  
a complete community

*Join us for a look into  
Palmdale's future &  
take our survey!*

More Info:  
**Palmdale2045.org**

Envision  
**PALMDALE 2045**  
a complete community

*Join us for a  
look into  
Palmdale's  
future &  
take our survey!*

More Info:  
**Palmdale2045.org**

Envision  
**PALMDALE 2045**  
a complete community

*Join us for a look into  
Palmdale's future &  
take our survey!*

More Info:  
**Palmdale2045.org**

Envision  
**PALMDALE 2045**  
a complete community

*Join us for a look into Palmdale's future &  
take our survey!*

More Info: **Palmdale2045.org**

Envision  
**PALMDALE 2045**  
a complete community

*Join us for a look into Palmdale's future &  
take our survey!*

More Info: **Palmdale2045.org**

Envision  
**PALMDALE 2045**  
a complete community

*Join us for a look into Palmdale's future & take our survey!*

More Info: **Palmdale2045.org**

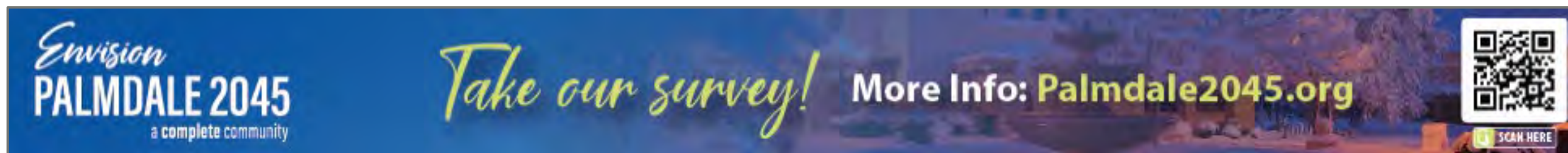
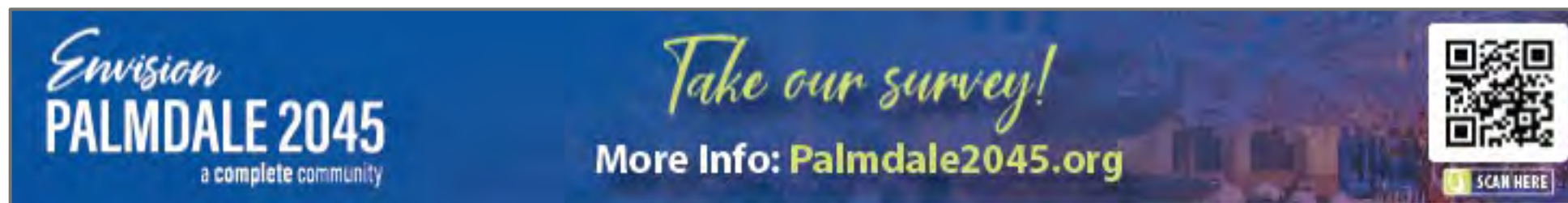
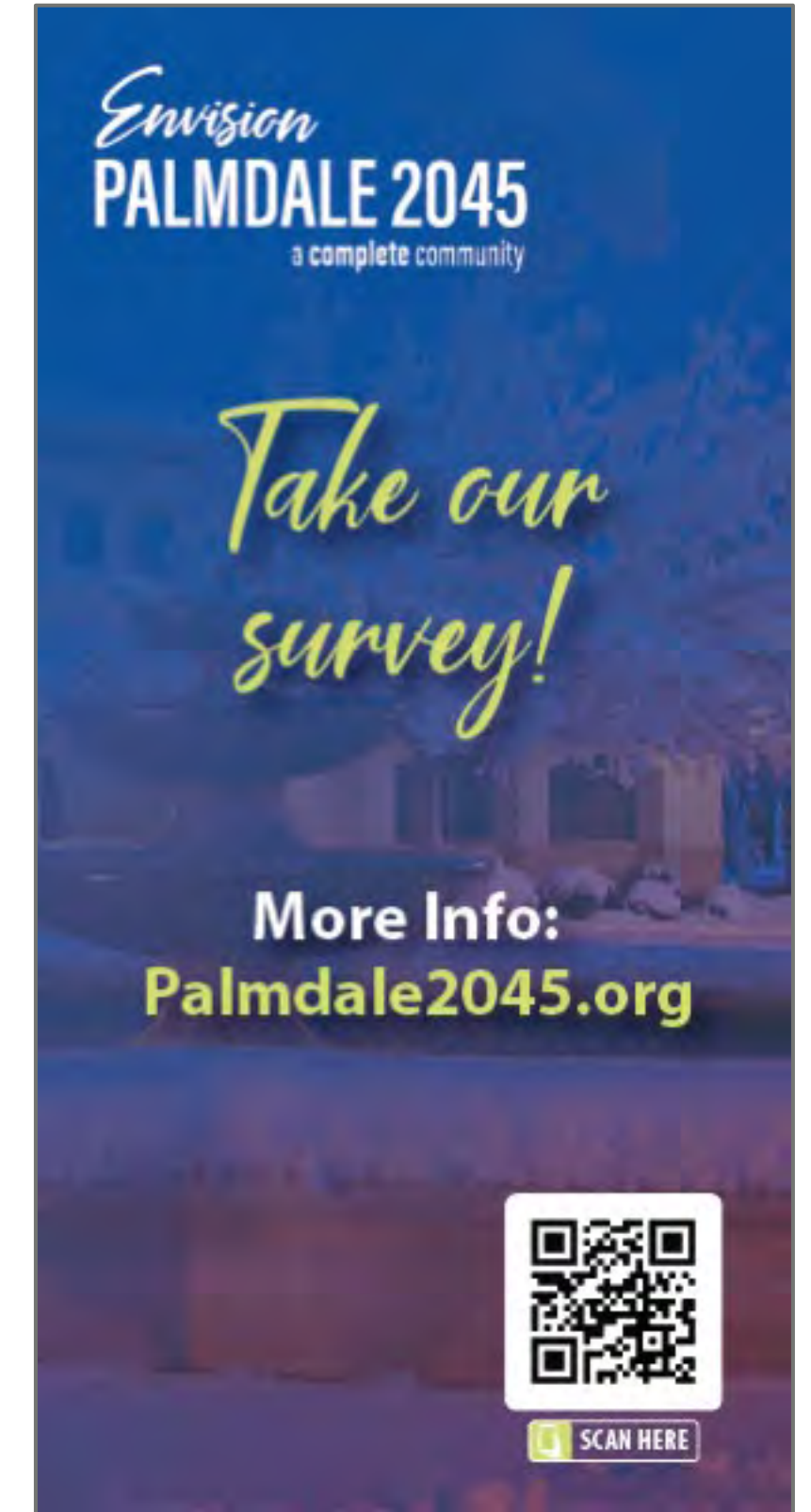
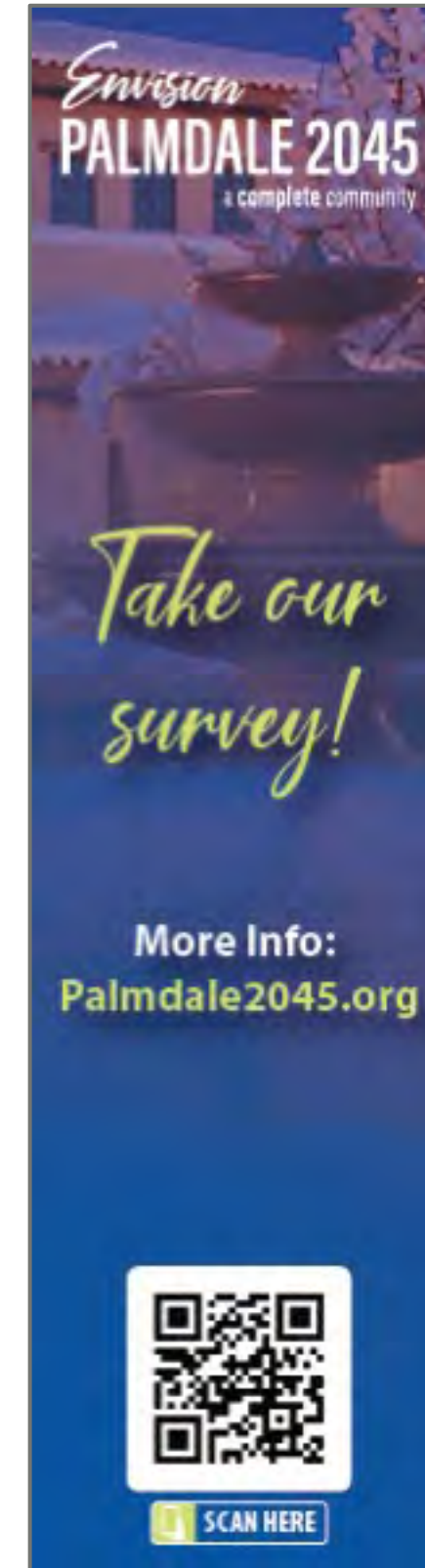
Envision  
**PALMDALE 2045**  
a complete community

*Join us for a look into Palmdale's future & take our survey!*

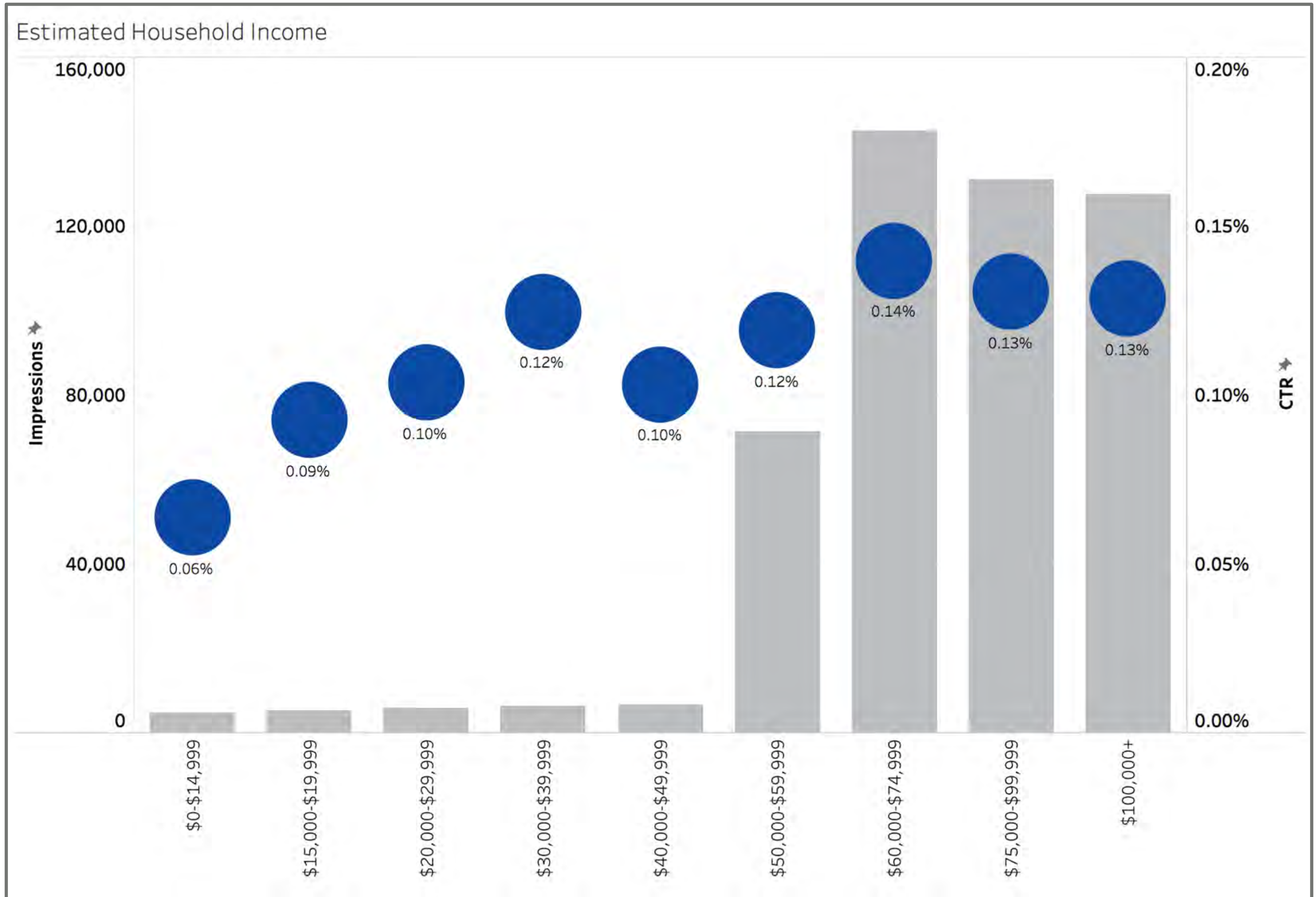
More Info: **Palmdale2045.org**

# Mobile Geofencing Creative

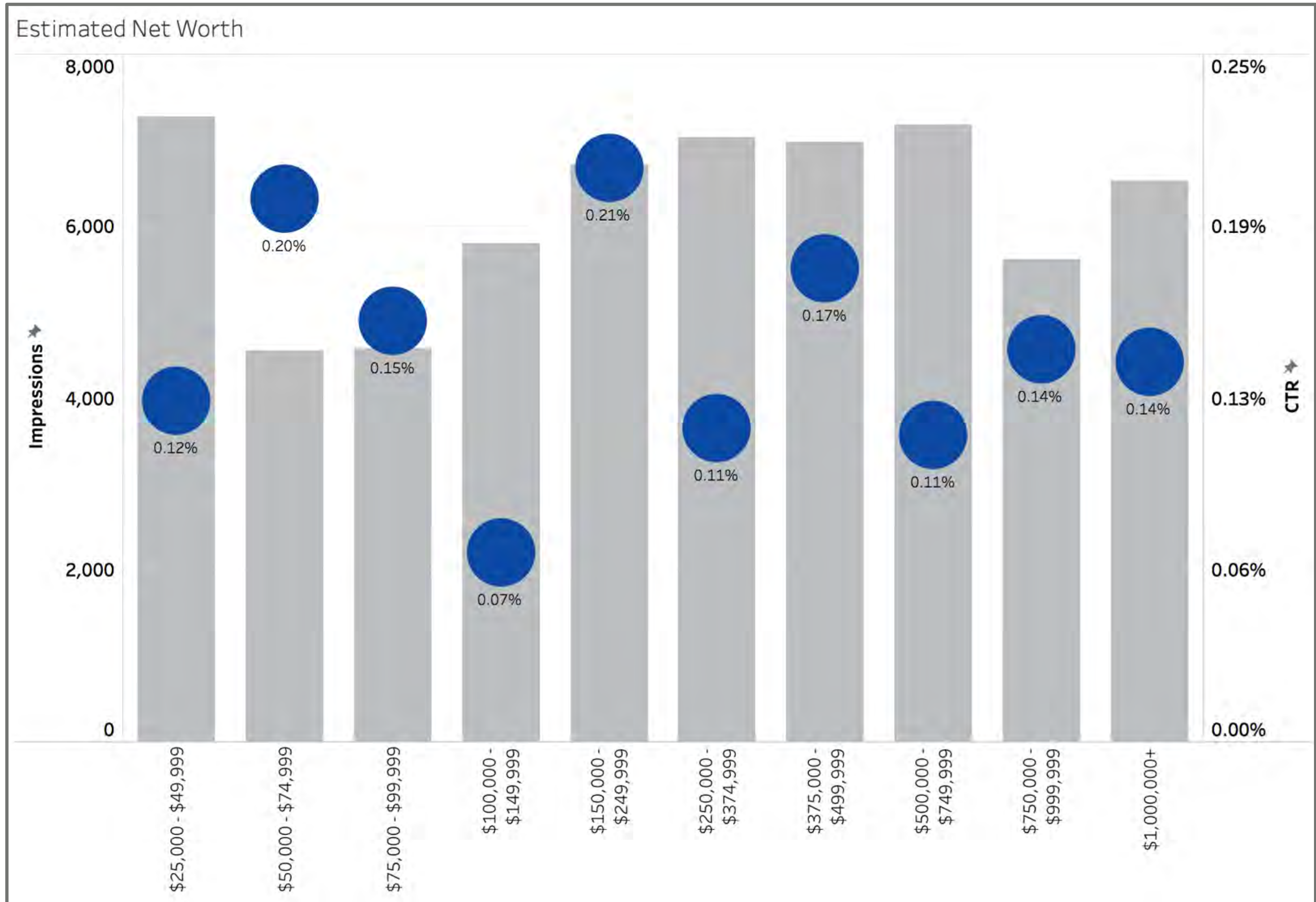
February 5 – 14, 2021



# Audience Insights

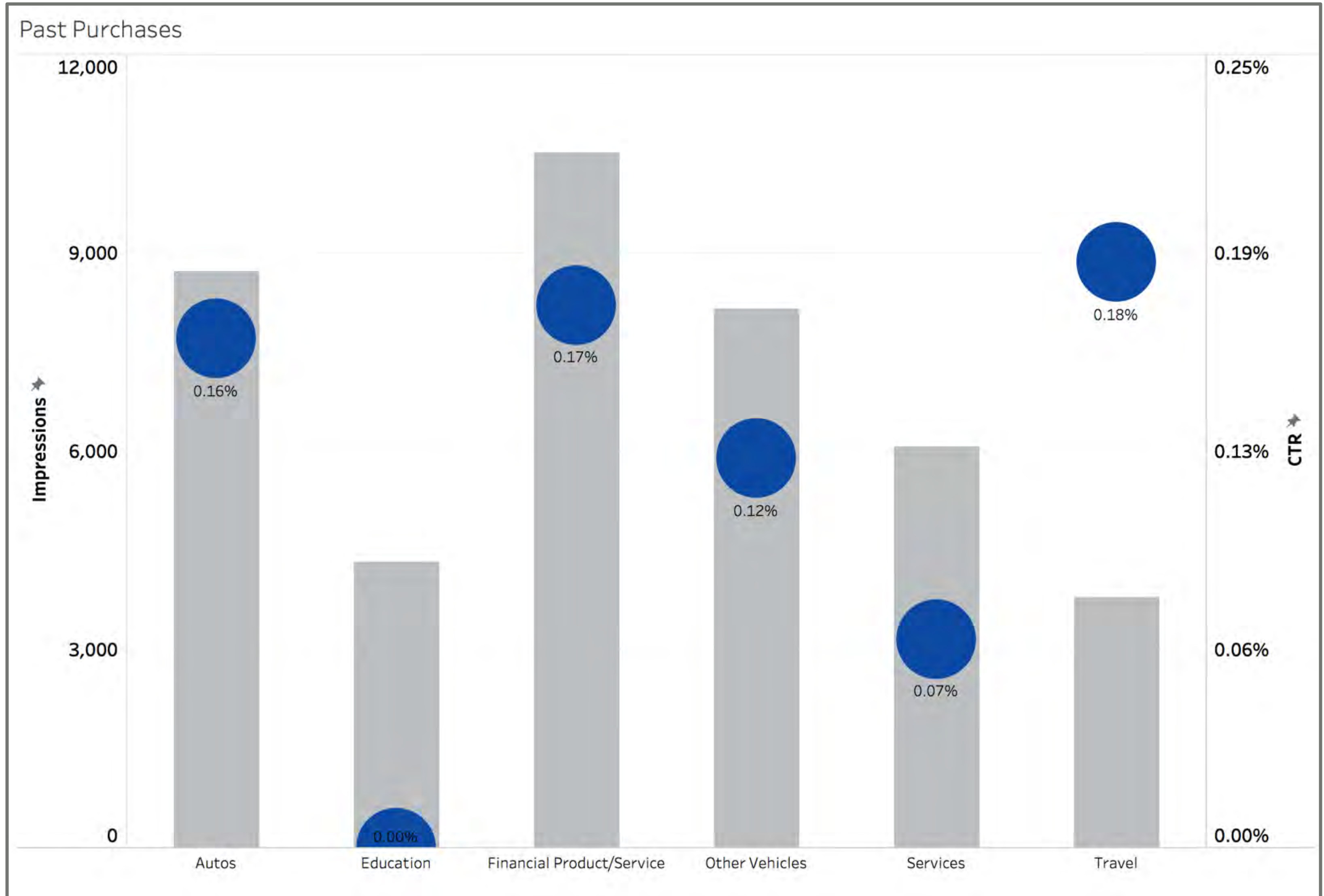


# Audience Insights

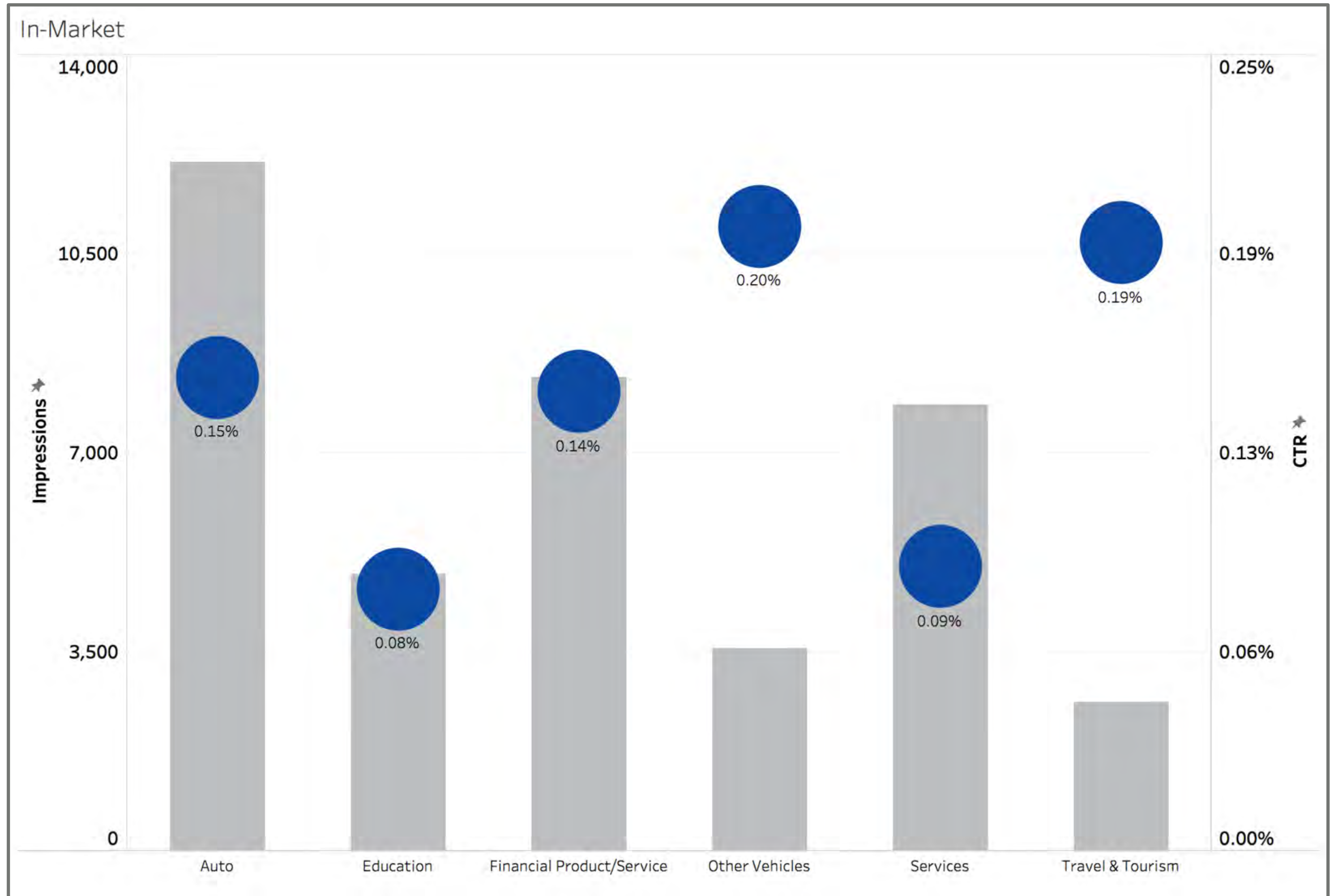




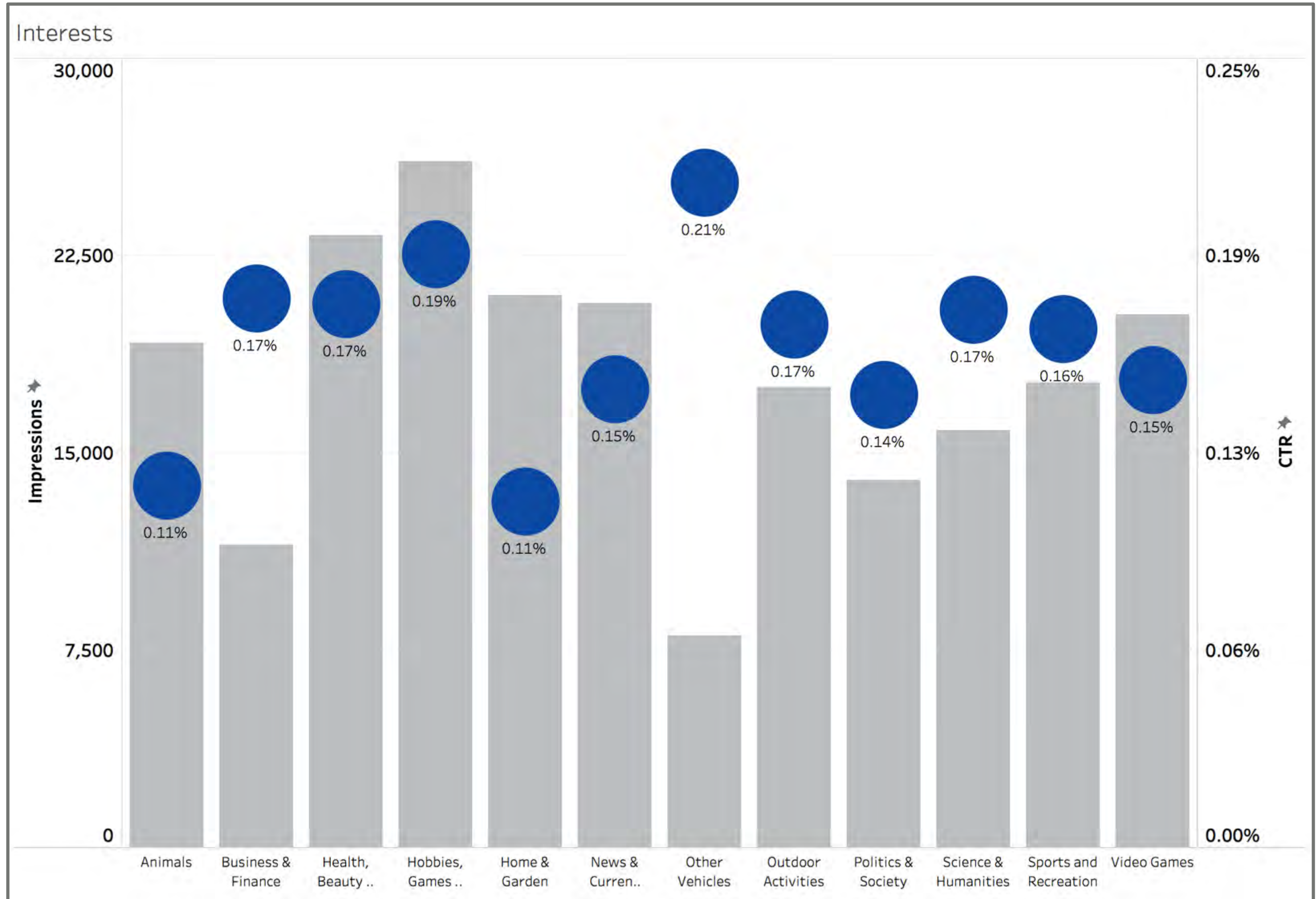
# Audience Insights



# Audience Insights



# Audience Insights



# *Promotional Materials & News Coverage*

# Envision PALMDALE 2045

a complete community



SCAN HERE / ESCANÉA AQUÍ

## Join us for a look into Palmdale's future!

The Palmdale General Plan Update continues! In Summer 2020, we received extensive community input on three land use concepts in the City with an online survey and virtual community workshop. This input serves as the basis for what is referred to as the “preferred land use alternative.” The preferred land use alternative incorporates favored components from each of the initial three concepts and fine-tunes ideas from the public, stakeholder groups, General Plan Advisory Committee, and Palmdale’s decision makers.

Now, we seek your input and confirmation of the preferred land use alternative. The preferred land use alternative will ultimately become the updated General Plan Land Use Map, which is the blueprint for land uses across Palmdale.

In the interest of public health and safety, feedback and public input on the preferred land use alternative will be collected virtually. If you would like the materials in a non-digital, hard-copy format, please send your request to the project team at [generalplan@cityofpalmdale.org](mailto:generalplan@cityofpalmdale.org).

## Survey

An online survey to explore the preferred alternative, provide feedback, and comments will be available beginning **January 13, 2021**. This survey can be accessed at your convenience, 24-hours a day, 7-days a week through a link on the project website, [Palmdale2045.org](http://Palmdale2045.org).

## Live Presentation and Q&A

Join us for a live, online presentation with city staff and the project team on **Thursday, February 4, 2021 from 5:00-7:00 p.m.** You will be able to review details of the preferred land use alternative with us, ask questions and provide comments on the live platform or on the phone. To join the virtual meeting, use the login information below or visit the project website at [Palmdale2045.org](http://Palmdale2045.org) and access the meeting link. Simultaneous Spanish interpretation will be provided during the meeting.

Meeting Link: <https://tinyurl.com/y694dvl4>

Webinar ID: 996 5403 8457

Passcode: 2045

The live presentation audio is available for listening only by dialing one of the numbers below:

English call-in: +1 (669) 900 6833, Webinar ID: 996 5403 8457, Access Code 2045

Spanish call-in: +1 (872) 240-3212, Access Code 249-503-509

Comments and questions can be submitted via text message for those who participate by phone by texting (661) 241-8994 during the meeting.

## Stay Connected

Join our mailing list to stay informed about the General Plan Update and stay connected via the following methods:

Website: [Palmdale2045.org](http://Palmdale2045.org)

Email: [generalplan@cityofpalmdale.org](mailto:generalplan@cityofpalmdale.org)

Requests for ASL and other languages will be accommodated if made at least three working days (72 hours) in advance of the scheduled meeting date. Please send your request to [generalplan@cityofpalmdale.org](mailto:generalplan@cityofpalmdale.org).

# Imagina

## PALMDALE 2045

una comunidad **completa**



ESCANÉA AQUÍ

# ¡Únase a nosotros para ver el futuro de Palmdale!

La Actualización del Plan General de Palmdale continúa. En el verano de 2020, recibimos una amplia opinión de la comunidad sobre tres conceptos de uso de la tierra en la ciudad con una encuesta en línea y un taller comunitario virtual. Esta información sirve como base para lo que se conoce como la "alternativa de uso de la tierra preferida". La alternativa de uso de la tierra preferida incorpora componentes favorecidos de cada uno de los tres conceptos iniciales y afina las ideas del público, los grupos de partes interesadas, el Comité Asesor del Plan General y los tomadores de decisiones de Palmdale.

Ahora, buscamos su opinión y confirmación de la alternativa de uso de la tierra preferida. La alternativa de uso de la tierra preferida finalmente se convertirá en el Mapa de Uso de la Tierra del Plan General actualizado, que es el modelo para los usos de la tierra en Palmdale.

En interés de la salud y la seguridad pública, se van a obtener virtualmente comentarios y opiniones del público sobre la alternativa preferida de uso de la tierra. Si desea los materiales en un formato de copia impresa no digital, envíe su solicitud al equipo del proyecto a [generalplan@cityofpalmdale.org](mailto:generalplan@cityofpalmdale.org).

## Encuesta

Una encuesta en línea para explorar la alternativa de uso de la tierra preferida y proporcionar comentarios estará disponible a partir del **13 de enero de 2021**. Se puede acceder a esta encuesta a su conveniencia, las 24 horas del día, los 7 días de la semana a través de un enlace en el sitio web del proyecto, [Palmdale2045.org](http://Palmdale2045.org).

## Presentación en vivo y preguntas y respuestas

Únase a nosotros para una presentación en vivo en línea con el personal de la ciudad y el equipo del proyecto el **jueves 4 de febrero de 2021 de 5:00 a 7:00 p.m.** Podrá revisar los detalles de la alternativa de uso de la tierra preferida con nosotros, hacer preguntas y proporcionar comentarios en la plataforma en vivo o por teléfono. Para unirse a la reunión virtual, utilice la información de inicio de sesión a continuación o visite el sitio web del proyecto en [Palmdale2045.org](http://Palmdale2045.org) y acceda al enlace de la reunión. Se proporcionará interpretación simultánea al español durante la reunión.

Enlace de reunión: <https://tinyurl.com/y694dvl4>

ID del seminario web: 996 5403 8457

Código de acceso: 2045

El audio de la presentación en vivo está disponible para escuchar solo marcando uno de los números siguientes:

Llamada en inglés: +1 (669) 900 6833, Seminario web: 996 5403 8457, Código de acceso 2045

Llamada en español: +1 (872) 240-3212, Código de acceso 249-503-509

Aquellos que participen por teléfono, pueden enviar sus comentarios y preguntas por un mensaje de texto al 1-661-241-8994 durante la reunión.

## Manténgase conectado

Únase a nuestra lista de correo para permanecer informado sobre la Actualización del Plan General y manténgase conectado con los siguientes métodos:

**Sitio web:** [Palmdale2045.org](http://Palmdale2045.org)

**Correo electrónico:** [generalplan@cityofpalmdale.org](mailto:generalplan@cityofpalmdale.org)

Las solicitudes de lenguaje de signos americano (ASL) y otros idiomas se atenderán si se hacen al menos tres días hábiles (72 horas) antes de la fecha de la reunión programada. Por favor envíe su solicitud a [generalplan@cityofpalmdale.org](mailto:generalplan@cityofpalmdale.org).

*Join us for a look into Palmdale's future!*

Provide your input on the General Plan Update preferred land-use alternative. An online survey is available 24/7 beginning **January 13, 2021**.

In addition, join us for a live, online presentation on **February 4, 2021**  
**5 – 7 p.m.**

Visit **Palmdale2045.org** for more information.



SCAN HERE

*Envision*  
**PALMDALE 2045**  
a complete community

*¡Únase a nosotros para ver el futuro de Palmdale!*

Denos su opinión sobre la alternativa de uso de la tierra preferida de la Actualización del Plan General. Una encuesta en línea disponible las 24 horas, los 7 días de la semana a partir del **13 de enero de 2021**.

Además, únase a nosotros para una presentación en línea en vivo el **February 4, 2021**  
**5 - 7 p.m.**

Visite **Palmdale2045.org** para más información.



ESCANÉA AQUÍ

*Imagina*

**PALMDALE 2045**

una comunidad completa





# Envision PALMDALE 2045

a complete community

[Anuncio en Español](#)

*Join us for a look into Palmdale's future!*

The Palmdale General Plan Update continues! In Summer 2020, we received extensive community input on three land use concepts in the City with an online survey and virtual community workshop. This input serves as the basis for what is referred to as the "preferred land use alternative." The preferred land use alternative incorporates favored components from each of the initial three concepts and fine-tunes ideas from the public, stakeholder groups, General Plan Advisory Committee, and Palmdale's decision makers.

Now, we seek your input and confirmation of the preferred land use alternative. In the interest of public health and safety, feedback and public input on the preferred land use alternative will be collected virtually.

---

## **General Plan Advisory Committee Meeting**

Please join us virtually for the next Palmdale General Plan Update Advisory Committee Meeting on **January 13, 2021 from 6:30-8:30pm** by clicking on the link below for the Palmdale 2045 YouTube channel. All General Plan Advisory Committee meetings are open for the public to view and participate. At this meeting, we will be discussing the preferred land-use alternative.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdvhML3Vem2NfFJZ1Ig9kDw>

Instructions:

- From the main channel page, the live meeting will be viewable by selecting the 'Home' menu and 'Video' option
- Input and questions can be submitted in the comments forum on the live stream page during the meeting

## Survey

An online survey has been developed for you to explore the preferred alternative and provide feedback. Beginning **January 13, 2021**, this survey can be accessed at your convenience, 24-hours a day, 7-days a week on the project website, [Palmdale2045.org](http://Palmdale2045.org).

---

## Live Presentation and Q&A

Join us for a live, online presentation with city staff and the project team on **Thursday, February 4, 2021 from 5-7 pm**. You will be able to review details of the preferred land use alternative with us, ask questions and provide comments on the live platform. To join the virtual meeting, use the login information below or visit the project website at [Palmdale2045.org](http://Palmdale2045.org) and access the meeting link. Simultaneous Spanish interpretation will be provided during the meeting.

Meeting Link: <https://tinyurl.com/y694dvl4>

Webinar ID: 996 5403 8457

Passcode: 2045

The live presentation audio is available for listening only by dialing one of the numbers below:

English call-in: +1 (669) 900 6833, Webinar ID: 996 5403 8457, Access Code 2045

Spanish call-in: +1 (872) 240-3212, Access Code 249-503-509

Comments and questions can be submitted via text message for those who participate by phone by texting (661) 241-8994 during the meeting.

If you would like the materials in a non-digital, hard-copy format, please send your request to the project team at [generalplan@cityofpalmdale.org](mailto:generalplan@cityofpalmdale.org). Requests for ASL and other languages will be accommodated if made at least three working days (72 hours) in advance of the scheduled meeting date. Please send your request to [generalplan@cityofpalmdale.org](mailto:generalplan@cityofpalmdale.org).

---

Sincerely,

Carlene Saxton, Acting Director of Economic and Community Development  
City of Palmdale  
Department of Economic and Community Development  
Planning Division

## Stay Connected

Join our mailing list to stay informed about the General Plan Update and stay connected via the following methods:

**Website:** [Palmdale2045.org](http://Palmdale2045.org)

**Email:** [Generalplan@cityofpalmdale.org](mailto:Generalplan@cityofpalmdale.org)

## Toolkit Notification Options:

### 1. Facebook, Instagram or Next Door:

#### **Launch Post:**

The Palmdale General Plan Update continues. We need your input and confirmation of the preferred land use alternative. Join us for a virtual public workshop on Thursday, February 4, 2021 and take our online survey. Your participation is important, so please visit the project website and provide your input at [Palmdale2045.org](https://Palmdale2045.org).

#### **-Reminder Post:**

Don't forget to join us for a virtual public workshop on Thursday, February 4, 2021 and take the survey! Provide your input on the preferred land use alternative by visiting the project website at [Palmdale2045.org](https://Palmdale2045.org).

<p>Link the Palmdale General Plan image to the following:</p> <p><a href="https://Palmdale2045.org">https://Palmdale2045.org</a></p>	 The image is a promotional graphic for the Palmdale 2045 project. It features a blue background with white cherry blossom branches. At the top left, the text reads "Envision PALMDALE 2045" with "a complete community" in smaller text below it. In the center, the phrase "Join us for a look into Palmdale's future!" is written in a yellow, cursive font. At the bottom, it says "Public workshop and survey information available at: Palmdale2045.org" in a yellow, sans-serif font.
--	--

### 2. Twitter:

#### **Post Text:**

Join us for a virtual public workshop on Thursday, February 4, 2021. Visit the project website and take the survey at [Palmdale2045.org](https://Palmdale2045.org).

#### **-Reminder Post:**

Provide your input by joining us for a virtual public workshop on Thursday, February 4, 2021 and taking the survey at [Palmdale2045.org](https://Palmdale2045.org).

<p>Link the Palmdale General Plan image to the following:</p> <p><a href="https://Palmdale2045.org">https://Palmdale2045.org</a></p> <p>g</p>	 This is an identical copy of the promotional graphic described in the previous block, featuring the "Envision PALMDALE 2045" logo, the cursive text "Join us for a look into Palmdale's future!", and the website information "Public workshop and survey information available at: Palmdale2045.org" against a blue background with white cherry blossoms.
---	--

**3. Website or Newsletter:**

*Text:*

The Palmdale General Plan Update continues. We need your input and confirmation of the preferred land use alternative. Join us for a virtual public workshop on Thursday February 4, 2021 and take our online survey. Your participation is important, so please visit the project website at [Palmdale2045.org](https://Palmdale2045.org) to learn more and take the survey!

<p>Link the Palmdale General Plan image to the following:</p> <p><a href="https://Palmdale2045.org">https://Palmdale2045.org</a></p>	
--	--

**4. Email Blast**

*Text:*

Subject: Join us for a look into Palmdale’s future!

The Palmdale General Plan update continues. We need your input and confirmation of the preferred land use alternative. Join us for a virtual public workshop on Thursday February 4, 2021 and take our online survey. Your participation is important, so make sure your voice is heard! Please visit the project website at [Palmdale2045.org](https://Palmdale2045.org) to learn more and take the survey.

<p>Link the Palmdale General Plan image to the following:</p> <p><a href="https://Palmdale2045.org">https://Palmdale2045.org</a></p>	
--	--

## Opciones de notificación del kit de herramientas:


### 1. Facebook, Instagram o Next Door:

#### **-Publicación de lanzamiento:**

La Actualización del Plan General de Palmdale continúa. Necesitamos su opinión y confirmación de la alternativa de uso de la tierra preferida. Únase a nosotros para un taller público virtual el jueves 4 de febrero de 2021 y tome nuestra encuesta en línea. Su participación es importante, así que visite el sitio web del proyecto y denos su opinión en [Palmdale2045.org](https://Palmdale2045.org).

#### **- Mensaje recordatorio:**

¡No olvide acompañarnos para un taller público virtual el jueves 4 de febrero de 2021 y tomar la encuesta! Denos su opinión sobre la alternativa de uso de la tierra preferida visitando el sitio web del proyecto en [Palmdale2045.org](https://Palmdale2045.org).

<p>Vincule la imagen del Plan General de Palmdale a lo siguiente:</p> <p><a href="https://Palmdale2045.org">https://Palmdale2045.org</a></p>	 The image is a promotional graphic for Palmdale 2045. It features a blue background with white cherry blossom branches. At the top left, it says "Imagina PALMDALE 2045 una comunidad completa". In the center, it says "¡Únase a nosotros para ver el futuro de Palmdale!". At the bottom, it says "Información sobre la encuesta y talleres públicos disponibles en: Palmdale2045.org".
--	---

### 2. Twitter:

#### **Texto de publicación:**

Únase a nosotros para un taller público virtual el jueves 4 de febrero de 2021. Visite el sitio web del proyecto y tome la encuesta en [Palmdale2045.org](https://Palmdale2045.org).

#### **-Mensaje recordatorio:**

Denos su opinión uniéndose a nosotros para un taller público virtual el jueves 4 de febrero de 2021 y respondiendo la encuesta en [Palmdale2045.org](https://Palmdale2045.org).

<p>Vincule la imagen del Plan General de Palmdale a lo siguiente:</p> <p><a href="https://Palmdale2045.org">https://Palmdale2045.org</a></p> <p>g</p>	 The image is a promotional graphic for Palmdale 2045, identical to the one above. It features a blue background with white cherry blossom branches. At the top left, it says "Imagina PALMDALE 2045 una comunidad completa". In the center, it says "¡Únase a nosotros para ver el futuro de Palmdale!". At the bottom, it says "Información sobre la encuesta y talleres públicos disponibles en: Palmdale2045.org".
---	--

### 3. Sitio web o boletín:

**Texto:**

La Actualización del Plan General de Palmdale continua. Necesitamos su opinión y confirmación de la alternativa de uso de la tierra preferida. Únase a nosotros para un taller publico virtual el jueves 4 de febrero de 2021 y responda nuestra encuesta en línea. Su participación es importante, así que visite el sitio web del proyecto en [Palmdale2045.org](https://Palmdale2045.org) para obtener más información y tomar la encuesta.


<p>Vincule la imagen del Plan General de Palmdale a lo siguiente:</p> <p><a href="https://Palmdale2045.org">https://Palmdale2045.org</a></p>	
--	--

### 4. Email Blast

**Texto:**

Asunto: ¡Únase a nosotros para ver el futuro de Palmdale!

La Actualización del Plan General de Palmdale continua. Necesitamos su opinión y confirmación de la alternativa de uso de la tierra preferida. Únase a nosotros para un taller publico virtual el jueves 4 de febrero de 2021 y responda nuestra encuesta en línea. ¡Su participación es importante, así que su voz sea oída! Por favor visite el sitio web del Proyecto en [Palmdale2045.org](https://Palmdale2045.org) para obtener más información y tomar la encuesta.

<p>Vincule la imagen del Plan General de Palmdale a lo siguiente:</p> <p><a href="https://Palmdale2045.org">https://Palmdale2045.org</a></p>	
--	--

**From:** John Mlynar <[jmlynar@cityofpalmdale.org](mailto:jmlynar@cityofpalmdale.org)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 12, 2021 7:06 PM

**Subject:** PR: City of Palmdale to Present General Plan Land Use Alternative

Image attached:

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## CITY OF PALMDALE

### *NEWS RELEASE*

**CONTACT:** John Mlynar

**PHONE:** 661/267-5115

**DATE:** January 12, 2021

#### City of Palmdale to Present General Plan Land Use Alternative

PALMDALE – The City of Palmdale will virtually present Palmdale’s preferred land use alternative as part of the General Plan Update process and is inviting the community to provide input.

The preferred land use alternative incorporated favored components from each of the three initial concepts and fine tunes ideas and input from the public, stakeholder groups, General Plan Advisory Committee, and Palmdale’s decision makers. The Palmdale General Plan Update will serve as a 25-year guide for growth and development and will provide guidance for land use, economic growth, open space, conservation, affordable housing, and employment.

Beginning Wednesday, Jan. 13, an online survey will be available for the public to explore the preferred alternative and provide feedback and comments. The survey will be available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at [www.Palmdale2045.org](http://www.Palmdale2045.org).

The next General Plan Advisory Committee Meeting will be live streamed through a link on [www.Palmdale2045.org](http://www.Palmdale2045.org) on Wednesday, Jan. 13 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. The meeting is open to the public for viewing and participation.

The public is also invited to participate in a live online presentation with City staff and the project team on Thursday, Feb. 4 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Participants will be able to ask questions and provide comments on the preferred land use alternative on the live platform. The registration link is available on the project website at

[www.Palmdale2045.org](http://www.Palmdale2045.org).

In addition, the live presentation audio will be available for listening only by dialing 1-669-900-6833, webinar ID 996-5403-8457, access code 2045. To hear the presentation in Spanish, call 1-872-240-3212, access code 249-503-509. Comments and questions can be submitted via text message for those who participate by phone by texting 1-661-241-8994 during the meeting.

Requests for ASL and other languages will be accommodated if made at least three working days (72 hours) in advance of the scheduled meeting date.

“The foundation for creating a great general plan is having solid community engagement,” said Palmdale Director of Economic and Community Development Carlene Saxton. “We encourage our residents, businesses, and stakeholders to be a part of shaping the future of Palmdale.”

Visit the project website at [Palmdale2045.org](http://Palmdale2045.org) to access all online meeting links and materials. For more information, contact the City of Palmdale’s Planning Division at 661/267-5200 or by email at [generalplan@cityofpalmdale.org](mailto:generalplan@cityofpalmdale.org).

-30-

Communications Department • 38300 Sierra Highway • Palmdale, CA 93550  
[www.CityofPalmdale.org](http://www.CityofPalmdale.org)

**John Mlynar**

Communications Manager/Public Information Officer



**Communications/Administration**



38300 Sierra Highway, Suite A  
Palmdale, CA 93550

661/267-5112 Direct  
661/267-5115 Main  
661/544-5055 Cell  
661/267-5122 Fax

[www.CityofPalmdale.org](http://www.CityofPalmdale.org)

Hours: Monday-Thursday, 7:30 am-6 pm. Closed Friday.

# Envision Palmdale 2045, a complete community

Dec 22 2020 9:59 AM

The Palmdale General Plan Update continues! In Summer 2020, we received extensive community input on three land use concepts in the City with an online survey and virtual community workshop. This input serves as the basis for what is referred to as the "preferred land use alternative." The preferred land use alternative incorporates favored component from each of the initial three concepts and fine-tunes ideas from the public, stakeholder groups, General Plan Advisory Committee, and Palmdale's decision makers. Now, we seek your input and confirmation of the preferred land use alternative. The preferred land use alternative will ultimately become the updated General Plan Land Use Map, which is the blueprint for land uses across Palmdale. In the interest of public health and safety, feedback and public input on the preferred land use alternative will be collected virtually. If you would like the materials in a non-digital, hard-copy format, please send your request to the project team at [generalplan@cityofpalmdale.org](mailto:generalplan@cityofpalmdale.org).

Contact Us

## Survey

An online survey to explore the preferred alternative, provide feedback, and comments will be available beginning January 13, 2021. This survey can be accessed at your convenience, 24-hours a day, 7-days a week through a link on the project website, [Palmdale2045.org](http://Palmdale2045.org).

## Live Presentation and Q&A

Join us for a live, online presentation with city staff and the project team on Thursday, February 4, 2021 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. You will be able to review details of the preferred land use alternative with us, ask questions and provide comments on the live platform or on the phone. To join the virtual meeting, use the login information below or visit the project website [Palmdale2045.org](http://Palmdale2045.org) and access the meeting link. Simultaneous Spanish interpretation will be provided during the meeting. Meeting Link: <https://tinyurl.com/y694dvl4>

Webinar ID: 996 5403 8457

Passcode: 2045

The live presentation audio is available for listening only by dialing one of the numbers below:

English call-in: +1 (669) 900 6833, Webinar ID: 996 5403 8457, Access Code 2045

Spanish call-in: +1 (872) 240-3212, Access Code 249-503-509

Comments and questions can be submitted via text message for those who participate by phone by texting (661) 241-8994 during the meeting.

## Stay Connected

Join our mailing list to stay informed about the General Plan Update and stay connected via the following methods:

Website: [Palmdale2045.org](http://Palmdale2045.org)

Email: [generalplan@cityofpalmdale.org](mailto:generalplan@cityofpalmdale.org)

Requests for ASL and other languages will be accommodated if made at least three work days (72 hours) in advance of the scheduled meeting date. Please send your request to

[generalplan@cityofpalmdale.org](mailto:generalplan@cityofpalmdale.org)

Contact Us

---

**DOWNLOAD FLYER - ENGLISH**

**DOWNLOAD FLYER - SPANISH**

*Phase 4*

# City of Palmdale General Plan Update

## Phase 4 (Release & Review of the Draft General Plan)

### Summary of Engagement

#### *Introduction*

In 2019, the City of Palmdale launched Palmdale 2045, a comprehensive, multi-year effort to update its General Plan. The General Plan serves as the City's primary guide for land use and development decisions and other City issues such as economic growth, open space, transportation, conservation, affordable housing and employment. It is a key tool for influencing and improving the quality of life for residents and businesses in Palmdale. During the first round of public engagement (Summer 2019), the project team held community workshops, pop-up events, focus groups and conducted a survey to receive community feedback on their priorities and vision for the future of Palmdale. For the second round of engagement (Summer 2020), the City sought to gather feedback on how the General Plan land use map should be updated through the presentation of three proposed alternatives for future land use regulations in the City. The public input received on the alternatives was used to develop a draft preferred land use alternative. In the third round of engagement (Winter 2021), the City brought the preferred land use alternative to the public and gathered additional input and feedback on elements including the health and wellness districts, education districts, village centers, and other land uses. Public comments on these alternatives will help refine the final alternative and establish what land uses, as well as businesses and services, should go where in the future. Finally, in this last round of engagement, the project team made the Draft General Plan available for public review and commenting before City adoption.

#### *Public Workshop*

The public workshop included an in-person presentation and open house on Wednesday, August 10, 2022 from 6:30-8:30pm at the Chimbole Cultural Center Ballroom. The purpose of the workshop was to provide an overview of the General Plan, recap of the community engagement efforts, review of the key components of the General Plan, and to discuss the next steps. Spanish interpretation was made available and no requests were made for any other languages. The workshop commenced with an open house session, followed by the presentation with a Q&A session, and closed by another open house session. The open house approach was done for this workshop to allow the public to ask questions in an intimate setting and to provide their feedback on specific topics related to the General Plan.

The presentation portion was recorded and made available on the project website, Palmdale2045.org, and on the City's YouTube channel. The full meeting presentation slides, sign-in sheets, and comment cards are provided in the appendices of this report.

The meeting was attended by approximately 31 community members who represent Palmdale's residents, business owners, and/or employees, as well as other interested parties.

### ***Open House Session***

The open house portions of the meeting consisted of six stations as outlined below:

1. Introduction
2. Land use and housing
3. Circulation and mobility
4. Environmental, safety, climate resilience
5. Economic development, military compatibility
6. Health, equity, parks, recreation, and open space

The attendees were invited to visit each station and leave their input through the comment cards that were made available at each station. The project team received a total of six comment cards regarding land uses, street improvements, traffic and safety concerns, and open space. Additionally, each station had one project team member available to provide information and assist with any questions. Stations had activity boards where attendees were encouraged to place stickers to indicate their support for or opposition to the proposed outcomes.

### ***General Plan Advisory Committee***

A General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC) held their last meeting on Thursday, July 28, 2022 to review and discuss the Draft General Plan. The presentation and meeting minutes are available on the project website, Palmdale2045.org.

## ***Notification***

In an effort to raise awareness and promote the in-person workshop and Draft General Plan, a comprehensive and targeted citywide notification campaign was undertaken in both English and Spanish and included print and digital components. The section below provides detail on the efforts carried out to notify the public of the engagement activities.

### **Electronic Notification**

Electronic noticing was a key component in the workshop notification campaign. The following is a complete list of the electronic notification methods:

- Weekly project database e-blasts in English and Spanish
- Digital press releases from the City of Palmdale
- City of Palmdale YouTube channel
- Electronic Billboard
- Council announcements

### **City of Palmdale YouTube Video**



## **Print Notification**

The project team used print notification as another key component in the notification campaign. This effort was made in an attempt to reach those in the community who have limited or no online/digital access to notification materials. All print materials were distributed in both English and Spanish. The following is a complete list of the print notification methods and repository sites:

### **Banners were placed at the following locations:**

- City Library
- Marie Kerr Park
- Dominic Massari Park

### **Flyers were displayed at the following high-visibility locations:**

- City Hall
- Palmdale Transportation Center
- Yucca House Community Garden
- Marie Kerr Center
- Dominic Massari Park
- Pelona Vista Park
- Chambers of Commerce
- SAVES
- Print advertisement was placed in El Sol Magazine.

## **El Sol Spanish Magazine**



## ***Extended Outreach***

Key stakeholders and GPAC members were also enlisted to serve as ambassadors for the project and provide support in promoting the workshop by way of a communications toolkit, which offered a variety of cut-and-paste ready messaging and graphics for stakeholders to easily share with their organizations and audiences via online portals, including social media, websites, digital newsletters, and as hard-copy pieces. The team reached approximately 100 stakeholders via phone call and follow-up email which included the toolkit. The extended outreach was documented to capture organizations that were reached and to record the number of stakeholders that expressed interest in promoting information within their audience. A copy of the toolkit and graphics is included in the appendices of this report.

## ***Next Steps***

The team will make the General Plan and Environmental Impact Report (EIR) available for public comment until August 29, 2022. These documents will then be presented to the Planning Commission on September 8, 2022 followed by the City Council Hearing on September 21, 2022 for approval and adoption.



# Palmdale General Plan Update

## Workshop #4 Summary

August 10, 2022 | 6:30-8:30 pm | Larry Chimbole Cultural Center

On Wednesday, August 10, 2022, the City of Palmdale hosted the final workshop and open house to present the community with the Public Draft General Plan document - Palmdale 2045.

The open house included interactive stations covering various elements of the General Plan, an overview presentation, and printed copies of the draft document for attendees to review.

Approximately 35 community members—in addition to City staff and policy makers—attended the event. Spanish interpretation was provided.



The meeting formally began with an introduction by City Staff, followed by a presentation by the General Plan Consultant Team. The presentation provided an overview of the key components of the General Plan including contents of each of the required elements.

### Stations

Prior to, and following the presentation by the General Plan Team, community members were invited to visit the six stations to learn more about each element of the General Plan. Members of the General Plan Team were available to answer questions and engage in conversation.

1. The **Introduction** station included the Palmdale 2045 vision statement, guiding principles, and background on the General Plan.
2. The **Land Use and Housing** station highlighted key land use strategies, provided descriptions of the land use designations, included a large-scale general plan land use map, and overview of housing income distribution, housing cost burden and the City's Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) with City strategy.
3. The **Circulation and Mobility** station included goals, a large-scale roadway classification map, and table summarizing the roadway classifications.
4. The **Economic Development and Military Compatibility** station included economic development strategies and key infographics, military compatibility key priorities, an overview of land use and military operations compatibility and related mapping.
5. The **Environmental, Safety, and Climate Resilience** station highlighted the City's Greenhouse Gase (GHG) inventory, significant ecological areas mapping, and safety element emergency evacuation mapping.
6. The **Health, Equity, Parks, Recreation, and Open Space** station identified future parks priority areas, and provided an overview of disadvantaged communities including mapping results for the City and its Sphere of Influence.

Stations 2-6 included an interactive component; a large format poster board listed the element’s outcomes and asked residents the following two questions:

- Do you think these are the right outcomes?
- Do you think Palmdale 2045 helps us achieve these outcomes?

## Interactive Activity Results

Respondents used sticker dots to cast their vote. Below is a summary of the responses to stations 2-6 interactive activity. Blank boxes indicate no response.

Outcomes	Do you think these are the right outcomes?		Do you think Palmdale 2045 helps us achieve these outcomes?	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
<b>Land Use</b>				
Attract more jobs to promote Palmdale as a complete city.				
Continue to expand Palmdale’s aerospace industry to attract skilled employment and achieve the associated fiscal benefits.				
Attract new types of economic activity to buttress Palmdale against a downturn in any particular industry or sector.				
Leverage the predicted strong market demand for medical office, remote work, educational space, aerospace support, start-up space, etc.				
To diversify the City’s housing stock, provide more housing options, and specifically address the previous gap in allowed housing densities (between 16.1 and 30 dwelling units per acre), which functionally limit development of rental housing/ apartments.				
Take advantage of new transit investments by locating enough new residential units at moderate densities in and around the area, and to generate vibrancy and a sense of place.				
Establish new and strengthen existing Village Centers at the heart of 20-minute neighborhoods to increase availability of daily services, provide convenient multimodal access to amenities and offer the potential to reduce Vehicle Miles Traveled.				
<b>Circulation and Mobility</b>				
Reduce severe injuries and fatal collisions on the City’s roadway network.	<b>3</b>			
More equitable and reliable access to public amenities, services, and opportunities.				
Increase share of trips in the city made by walking, biking, transit, and shared rides.	<b>2</b>			
Reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT) per capita and per employee.				
Increase quality of life and economic competitiveness.	<b>3</b>			
<b>Economic Development</b>				
Foster a job market that sustains a high standard of living for workers with diverse skill sets.	<b>3</b>			
Create educational pathways for Palmdale residents to fully access future economic opportunities.	<b>2</b>			
Build a downtown core in the City where residents and businesses can participate and celebrate in the City’s economic prosperity.	<b>2</b>			<b>3</b>

Ensure that all residents and workers have access to safe and affordable housing.	<b>2</b>			
Provide access to economic opportunities and resources for residents and workers through transportation options.	<b>1</b>			
Promote a City environment that attracts and leverages new development to diversify the tax base.	<b>2</b>			
<b>Military Compatibility</b>				
Create pathways for Palmdale residents to fully access current and future economic opportunities in the aerospace sector.	<b>1</b>			
Reduced risk to the Palmdale community because of Plant 42 Land Use Compatibility operations.				
<b>Sustainability, Climate Action, and Resilience</b>				
Palmdale is a regional leader by integrating sustainability and climate action into all decisions and inspiring other communities to eliminate greenhouse gas emissions.				
New and existing buildings are decarbonized and able to operate on carbon-free energy.				
Secure water supply and efficient use through aquifer management and increased water reuse.	<b>1</b>			
Ecosystems and other existing or future natural open spaces are enhanced through restoration, redesign, and ongoing maintenance practices.	<b>1</b>			
Impacts of urban heat island are reduced and mitigated.	<b>1</b>			
The most vulnerable residents are protected from climate and hazard impacts.				
<b>Conservation</b>				
Preservation of scenic and natural features.	<b>1</b>			
Minimize changes to surface runoff patterns and maintain water quality.	<b>1</b>			
Identify and protect historically significant resources.				
Awareness and preservation of historical, cultural, and paleontological resources.				
Cultural programs that embrace cultural identities in the City.				
Phased transition of mining operations.				
<b>Safety</b>				
Address increased risk related to climate change in accordance with State requirements, particularly along the wildland urban interface at the southwestern and western edge of the City.				
Ensure that soil and groundwater are not at risk from flooding, water quality, and erosion to ensure that they are suitable to support redevelopment following a large fire.				
Protection of Palmdale’s residents, workers, and visitors from fire hazards.				
Protection of persons and property from criminal activity.				
<b>Public Facilities, Services, and Infrastructure</b>				
Protection of Palmdale’s residents, workers, and visitors from fire hazards.				
Protection of persons and property from criminal activity.				
Reduce reliance on imported water from the State Water Project.				
Maintenance of a consistent level of wastewater treatment service to meet existing and new development demands.				
<b>Equitable and Healthy Communities</b>				
An equitable local economy that provides career pathways and economic opportunities for existing residents, especially local youth.				

Diverse housing options including mixed-use and affordable options, for existing and future residents.				
Improved health and quality of life, and lower rates of chronic diseases, among all residents.				
Improved air quality for all residents.				
<b>Parks, Recreation, and Open Space</b>				
Provide more publicly accessible trails.	<b>2</b>		<b>1</b>	
Provide more public parkland and open space.	<b>2</b>		<b>1</b>	
Expanded public recreation amenities and programs.	<b>2</b>		<b>1</b>	

## Public Comments

After the presentation, the group paused for Q&A. Below are a summary of comments received from the public following the open house presentation.

- It is important to have a detailed zoning map created before the General Plan is approved.
- The wellness district should provide assisted living and multi-family housing opportunities.
- I am concerned that we do not have enough doctors and physicians in Palmdale.
- What is happening to Joshua Trees?
- Do land use designations include height restrictions?
- I am concerned that the wellness districts are too restrictive.
- Related to the bond release of funds, I think we should spread the costs and infrastructure across the Antelope Valley.

# *Digital Campaign & Promotional Materials*



# *Envision* PALMDALE 2045

a **complete** community

## *The Draft General Plan is Here!*

The City of Palmdale will host an Open House to celebrate and review the Draft General Plan document. Please join your community in reviewing the Draft General Plan and providing feedback before it is brought to Planning Commission and City Council for review and adoption.

Scan the QR code or visit the project website to view the Draft General Plan and associated environmental review documents.

### **Stay Connected**

Join our mailing list to stay informed about the General Plan Update and stay connected via the following methods:

**Website:** [Palmdale2045.org](https://Palmdale2045.org)

**Email:** [Generalplan@cityofpalmdale.org](mailto:Generalplan@cityofpalmdale.org)





# Imagina

## PALMDALE 2045

una comunidad **completa**

*¡El borrador del Plan General ya está aquí!*

La ciudad de Palmdale organizara una casa abierta para celebrar y revisar el borrador del documento del Plan General. Por favor, acompañe a su comunidad para revisar el borrador del Plan General y proporcionar comentarios antes de que sea llevado a la Comisión de Planificación y al Concejo de la Ciudad para su revisión y adopción.

Escanee el código QR o visite el sitio web del proyecto para ver el Borrador del Plan General y los documentos de revisión ambiental asociados.

### Manténgase conectado

Suscríbese a nuestra lista de correo para mantenerse informado sobre la actualización del plan general y manténgase conectado a través de los siguientes métodos:

**Sitio web:** [Palmdale2045.org](https://Palmdale2045.org)  
**Correo electrónico:** [Generalplan@cityofpalmdale.org](mailto:Generalplan@cityofpalmdale.org)



*Envision*  
**PALMDALE 2045**  
a complete community

*The Draft General Plan is Here!*

The City of Palmdale will host an Open House to celebrate and review the Draft General Plan document. Please join your community in reviewing the Draft General Plan and providing feedback before it is brought to Planning Commission and City Council for review and adoption.

Scan to view the Draft General Plan and associated environmental review documents.



**Meeting Details**

**Wednesday, August 10, 2022 | 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.**

Chimbole Cultural Center – Ballroom  
38350 Sierra Hwy, Palmdale, CA 93550

Light refreshments will be provided. Spanish interpretation will be provided. Requests for other languages will be accommodated if made at least three working days (72 hours) in advance of the scheduled meeting date.

**Stay Connected**

Join our mailing list to stay informed about the General Plan Update and stay connected via the following methods:

**Website:** [Palmdale2045.org](http://Palmdale2045.org)

**Email:** [Generalplan@cityofpalmdale.org](mailto:Generalplan@cityofpalmdale.org)

*Imagina*  
**PALMDALE 2045**  
una comunidad completa

*¡El borrador del Plan General ya está aquí!*

La ciudad de Palmdale organizara una casa abierta para celebrar y revisar el borrador del documento del Plan General. Por favor, acompañe a su comunidad para revisar el borrador del Plan General y proporcionar comentarios antes de que sea llevado a la Comisión de Planificación y al Concejo de la Ciudad para su revisión y adopción.

Escanee para ver el Borrador del Plan General y los documentos de revisión ambiental asociados.



**Detalles de la reunion**

**Miércoles, 10 de agosto de 2022 | 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.**

Chimbole Cultural Center – Ballroom  
38350 Sierra Hwy, Palmdale, CA 93550

Se proporcionarán bocadillos ligeros. Habrá interpretación en español. Las solicitudes de otros idiomas se atenderán si se realizan al menos tres días hábiles (72 horas) antes de la fecha programada de la reunión.

**Manténgase conectado**

Suscríbese a nuestra lista de correo para mantenerse informado sobre la actualización del plan general y manténgase conectado a través de los siguientes métodos:

**Sitio web:** [Palmdale2045.org](http://Palmdale2045.org)

**Correo electrónico:** [Generalplan@cityofpalmdale.org](mailto:Generalplan@cityofpalmdale.org)





# CITY OF PALMDALE

## **Public Draft General Plan Workshop**

Please join us for an in-person presentation and open house on **Wednesday, August 10, 2022, from 6:30-8:30pm**. The presentation will provide an overview of the General Plan, recap of the community engagement efforts, review of the key components of the General Plan, and discuss the next steps.

Meeting details can be found below:

**August 10th 6:30-8:30 pm**  
**Chimbole Cultural Center – Ballroom**  
**38350 Sierra Hwy**  
**Palmdale, CA 93550**

**\*Light refreshments will be provided.**

*Spanish interpretation will be provided. Requests for other languages will be accommodated if made at least three working days (72 hours) in advance of the scheduled meeting date.*

---

## **Taller Público de Anteproyecto de Plan General**

Acompáñenos a una presentación en persona y la casa abierta **el miércoles, 10 de agosto de 2022, de 6:30-8:30pm**. La presentación dará una visión general del Plan General, un resumen de los esfuerzos de participación de la comunidad, una revisión de los componentes clave del Plan General y discutirá los próximos pasos. Los detalles de la reunión se encuentran a continuación:

**10 de agosto 6:30-8:30 pm**  
**Chimbole Cultural Center – Ballroom**  
**38350 Sierra Hwy**  
**Palmdale, CA 93550**

**\*Se proporcionarán bocadillos ligeros.**

*Habrá interpretación en español. Las solicitudes de otros idiomas se atenderán si se realizan al menos tres días hábiles (72 horas) antes de la fecha programada de la reunión.*

---

## Jennifer Velazquez

---

**From:** City of Palmdale <jvelazquez@arellanoassociates.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 14, 2022 4:01 PM  
**To:** Jennifer Velazquez  
**Subject:** The Draft General Plan is Here!



[Anuncio en Español](#)

*The Draft General Plan is ready for your review!*

The Draft General Plan document is ready for your review and feedback prior to Planning Commission and City Council review and adoption.

[Click here](#) to view the Draft General Plan and associated environmental review documents.

---

### **Learn More About the General Plan - Attend the Public Workshop**

Please join us for an in-person presentation and open house on **Wednesday, August 10, 2022, from 6:30-8:30pm**. The presentation will provide an overview of the General Plan, recap of the community engagement efforts, review of the key components of the General Plan, and discuss the next steps. Meeting details can be found below:

**August 10<sup>th</sup> 6:30-8:30 pm**

**Chimbole Cultural Center – Ballroom**  
**38350 Sierra Hwy**  
**Palmdale, CA 93550**

**\*Light refreshments will be provided.**

*Spanish interpretation will be provided. Requests for other languages will be accommodated if made at least three working days (72 hours) in advance of the scheduled meeting date.*

Public safety is our top priority. Please consider wearing a mask to protect yourselves and others.

---

## **General Plan Background**

In 2019, the City of Palmdale launched Palmdale 2045, a comprehensive, multi-year effort to update its General Plan which will serve as the City’s primary guide for land use and development decisions. During the first round of outreach in Summer 2019, the project team garnered feedback on the public’s vision and priorities for the future of Palmdale. In Summer 2020, the city presented and gathered feedback on three proposed alternatives for future land use. In Winter 2021, the project team wrapped up the third round of public engagement after gathering input on the preferred land use alternative. Now, the final phase of the General Plan process is underway. Join your neighbors in planning for the future of Palmdale!

---

Sincerely,

Megan Taggart, Planning Manager  
City of Palmdale, Department of Economic and Community Development, Planning Division

## **Stay Connected**

Join our mailing list to stay informed about the General Plan Update and stay connected via the following methods:

**Website:** [Palmdale2045.org](https://Palmdale2045.org)  
**Email:** [Generalplan@cityofpalmdale.org](mailto:Generalplan@cityofpalmdale.org)

---

City of Palmdale | 38300 Sierra Highway, Palmdale, CA 93550

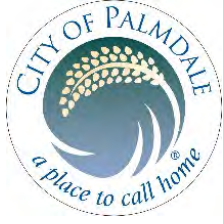
[Unsubscribe jvelazquez@arellanoassociates.com](mailto:jvelazquez@arellanoassociates.com)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by [jvelazquez@arellanoassociates.com](mailto:jvelazquez@arellanoassociates.com)

*GPAC Meeting*

*Minutes*



# City of Palmdale General Plan Update General Plan Advisory Committee

Meeting #1: June 5, 2019 | 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm  
Chimbole Cultural Center “Lilac Room”

## Meeting Minutes (Final – Approved September 11, 2019)

### Objectives

- Initiate the General Plan Advisory Committee.
- Discuss the roles and responsibilities of the General Plan Advisory Committee.
- Provide an overview of the General Plan project.
- Brainstorm on the key issues and opportunities in the City of Palmdale.

### Attendees

#### GPAC Members

**Present:** Tony Avila, Juan Blanco, Colby Estes (Alternate), Lourdes T. Everett, Laura Gordon (Alternate), Theresa Hambro, Matthew Harris, Dean Henderson, Aurora Hernandez, Pat Hunt, Sheri Kaneshiro, Teresa Lamping, Joe Parisio, Deborah Rutkowski-Hines, Jason Zink

**Absent:** None

#### City Staff

Rob Bruce, Planning Manager, Department of Economic and Community Development  
Lynn O’Brien, Administrative Assistant, Department of Economic and Community Development  
Noel Doran, Assistant City Attorney

#### Consultant Team

Raimi + Associates – Matt Raimi, Simran Malhotra, Melissa Stark

### Meeting Minutes

#### Introduction and Welcome

Mayor Steve Hofbauer greeted the GPAC members and thanked them for their time and willingness to participate in the General Plan Update process. Rob Bruce, Planning Manager, also welcomed the GPAC members and introduced the consultant team. GPAC members introduced themselves and shared one personal account of living in Palmdale.

#### Oath and Affirmations

Members were sworn in by Lynn O’Brien, Administrative Assistant, and signed two copies of the Oath.

## GPAC Roles and Responsibilities

Matt Raimi provided a brief overview of the role and responsibilities of the Advisory Committee. Ground rules for participation were also covered. Additional Ground Rules suggested by the Committee members include:

- No phone use, if must, step outside
- Send out names and contacts of consultant team
- Be on time and respect everyone else's time

## Ralph M. Brown Act Training

Noel Doran, Assistant City Attorney, presented information and answered questions regarding the Brown Act.

## Overview of the General Plan Presentation

The consultant team provided a brief demographic overview of the City, a summary of what a General Plan is, key components of the Palmdale General Plan Update, the project schedule and community engagement approach.

## Key Issues and Opportunities

The consultant team posed three questions to the Committee. A summary of responses are as follows:

**1. *What is special and unique about Palmdale that should be preserved during the General Plan update process?***

- Plant 42 is special and needs to be preserved
- Rural suburban lifestyle and low density
- Openness
- Lack of traffic congestion
- Nature needs to be preserved
- Free parking and ease of getting around town
- Small-town community

**2. *What are the key issues that the City is facing now and in the future?***

- Population influx and housing needs
- Circulation
- Transportation
- Abandoned buildings that lead to crime and negative perception of Palmdale
- No downtown district
- Forgotten child of Los Angeles County
- Residents leave the City for work

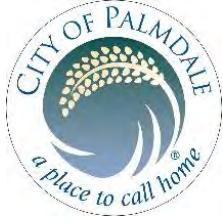
**3. *If you could change one thing about Palmdale, what would it be?***

- Improve public transit like buses
- Raise the standards – visually nicer, more walkways, safer biking

- Create a mixed-use district that is centralized with businesses and housing
- Pedestrian friendly environment
- Infill development
- Create a downtown
- Bring jobs
- Improve the stigma about Palmdale – people are hesitant to invest here
- Remove state highway from Palmdale Blvd
- Make Palmdale Airport viable
- Bring a four-year university to Palmdale
- Save brick-and mortar retailers

**Wrap-up and Next Steps**

**Adjourn and group photo at 8:35 pm**



# City of Palmdale General Plan Update General Plan Advisory Committee

Meeting #2: September 11, 2019 | 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm  
Chimbole Cultural Center “Manzanita Ballroom”

## Meeting Minutes (Final approved November 13, 2019)

### Objectives

- Highlight key existing conditions
- Provide an overview of Workshop #1
- Present community priorities voiced through the survey + workshops
- Establish a draft vision and guiding principles for the General Plan Update

### Attendees

#### GPAC Members

**Present:** Tony Avila, Juan Blanco, Colby Estes (Alternate), Lourdes T. Everett, Laura Gordon (Alternate), Theresa Hambro, Matthew Harris, Aurora Hernandez, Pat Hunt, Sheri Kaneshiro, Joe Parisio

**Absent:** Dean Henderson, Teresa Lamping, Deborah Rutkowski-Hines, Jason Zink

#### City Staff

Rob Bruce, Planning Manager - Department of Economic and Community Development  
Nardy Lopez, Management Analyst - Department of Economic and Community Development

#### Consultant Team

Raimi + Associates – Simran Malhotra, Melissa Stark

#### Public

Four members of the public were present

### Meeting Minutes

#### Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence in memory of September 11, 2001.

Approval of GPAC #1 meeting minutes: Approved with one change – add mention of Mayor Steve Hofbauer’s introduction at the GPAC#1 meeting.

Motion made by Laura Gordon; seconded by Juan Blanco.



## Existing Conditions Highlights

Simran Malhotra provided an overview of existing conditions and key highlights related to population demographics, education, health, housing, transportation, and employment, among others.

## Workshop(s) #1 Overview

Melissa Stark provided an overview of Workshop #1 events, participation, and results. This included an overview of the first online community survey results.

## Community Priorities

The consultant team posed four questions to the Committee. A summary of responses are as follows:

**1. Which priorities resonate with you? Which ones do you think are missing or would you change?**

- Sense of place or downtown
- High crime
- Transportation options
- Diversify industries to weather booms and busts
- Housing diversity
- Higher education opportunities
- Maintain youth population as they age
- Funding for parks
- Palmdale Boulevard

**2. What should be preserved in the future?**

- Unity and small-town feel
- Peacefulness
- Nature, trees, and night sky
- Good circulation
- Plant 42, Airport and Aerospace
- History
- Outdoor family activities

**3. What should change in the future?**

- East and West divide
- Job base/industry
- Airport
- Infrastructure
- Perception – promote positively
- Housing stock options

**4. If you could prioritize the vision for Palmdale 2045 in one sentence, what would it be?**

- Palmdale, A place to be proud to live
- Palmdale, A vibrant, thriving community

- A great place to live, work, and play
- Palmdale, a place of diversity
- We live here, and we love it (+ and work here)
- Palmdale is always bright – where the sun always shines
- Palmdale, state of the art living
- Small town with a big heart
- Youth, small town, tight-knit community
- Sunshine and twinkling lights
- Unity + diversity – everyone is nice here and works together to fix things

### **Public Comment**

Two members of the public shared comments. Their comments are summarized below.

- Planned Town Center near the High-Speed Rail station will result in a great number of people being displaced from their homes. Those people should be given adequate compensation for homes and time lost.
- The Eastside has a concentration of poverty and some of the highest health disparities in the country. This area has high crime rates and concentration of liquor and tobacco outlets. Plan better and don't concentrate alcohol and tobacco in certain areas.
- Beautify Palmdale Boulevard.
- Joshua trees are disappearing on Avenue P.
- Youth are not invited to come to the table and be part of planning for the future.
- Youth are accessing alcohol at Palmdale establishments; strengthen regulations or monitoring.
- Safe Routes to School (SR2S) are needed at Palmdale middle schools and high schools.

### **Wrap-up and Next Steps**

Dean Henderson, a member of the GPAC, has been appointed to the Planning Commission. He will be therefore resigning from the Committee. Laura Gordon (Alternate #1) will take his place.

Next GPAC meeting is scheduled for November 13, 2019.

### **Adjourn at 8:30 pm**



# City of Palmdale General Plan Update

## General Plan Advisory Committee

Meeting #3: November 13, 2019 | 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm  
Chimbole Cultural Center “Lilac Room”

### Meeting Minutes (Final approved December 11, 2019)

#### Objectives

- Provide an overview of Phase One community engagement
- Provide Planning 101 background
- Finalize vision and prioritize guiding principles for the General Plan Update

#### Attendees

##### GPAC Members

**Present:** Tony Avila, Juan Blanco, Colby Estes (Alternate), Laura Gordon, Theresa Hambro, Matthew Harris, Pat Hunt, Joe Parisio, Teresa Lamping, Deborah Rutkowski-Hines, Jason Zink

**Absent:** Lourdes T. Everett, Aurora Hernandez, Sheri Kaneshiro

##### City Staff

Rob Bruce, Planning Manager - Department of Economic and Community Development  
Carlene Saxton, Senior Planner - Department of Economic and Community Development

##### Consultant Team

Raimi + Associates – Simran Malhotra, Melissa Stark

##### Public

Four members of the public attended

#### Meeting Minutes

##### Call to Order

- Pledge of Allegiance.
- Approval of GPAC #2 Meeting minutes. Motion made by Juan Blanco, seconded by Matthew Harris.

##### Planning 101 (City Staff-led)

- Carlene Saxton provided an overview of a General Plan, land use approvals, zoning, specific plans, and Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA).

##### Pop-up Workshops Overview

- Melissa Stark gave an overview of Phase One community engagement including stakeholder interviews, workshop #1, community survey #1, five pop-up workshops, and results from previous GPAC meetings. Next, Simran Malhotra provided a composite summary of the vision, priorities and

opportunities from all meetings and how they relate to the General Plan guiding principles and vision themes.

### **Vision + Guiding Principles Discussion and Prioritization**

- Simran Malhotra introduced draft vision themes and guiding principles crafted from public input and provided context for how they are implemented through the General Plan. Then, participants were divided into three groups each with one General Plan Team facilitator to further discuss and edit the draft vision and guiding principles memo. Groups worked for 45-minutes, then reported back to the larger group for further discussion. A summary of edits is provided below. Detailed changes made to the draft vision and guiding principles memo is attached.
  - Homelessness needs to be addressed
  - Entry or mid-level jobs should be added
  - Diversity needs to be addressed
  - Maintain semi or semi-rural environment
  - Include pride, unity, outward expression of a positive community
  - High quality businesses
  - Better connected trails, open space, neighborhoods and parks
  - Access to healthcare
  - Beautify/improve Palmdale Boulevard
  - Sustainable businesses including private aerospace
  - Smart city – technologically advanced
  - Neighborhood services within walking distance from housing
  - Maintain high quality air

### **Additional Discussion**

- 1993 General Plan applicability
- General Plan examples from cities of Lancaster and Santa Clarita
- Existing and future city utilities including septic tanks

### **Public Comment**

- Four members of the public were present. One shared feedback, which is below.
  - Additional medical services and facilities are needed in Palmdale. Many Palmdale residents go into the Los Angeles basin to receive medical care.

### **Wrap-up and Next Steps**

- Upcoming Meetings:
  - Next GPAC meeting - December 11, 2019
  - Planning Commission Update – December 12, 2019
  - City Council Update – December 17, 2019

**8:30 pm      Adjourn**

***Attachment: Redlined Vision and Guiding Principles document***



# City of Palmdale General Plan Update

## Draft General Plan Vision and Guiding Principles

December 5, 2019

### Overview

Through stakeholder focus groups, community workshops, pop-up events, the first online community survey, and meetings with the General Plan Advisory Committee, we explored how individuals envision the future of Palmdale, what makes it unique and special, and what things residents and businesses would like to change. Building off that community input, this document summarizes a series of high-level visioning themes (green) and a list of guiding principles or community values organized under each of those themes. These visioning themes paint a picture of what Palmdale will be like in the future and capture key values and aspirations. These also provide direction on the development of the Draft Vision Statement. The guiding principles provide a framework to guide future decision-making and serve as a reference point when considering policy trade-offs. **After receiving input during GPAC meetings #3 and 4, Planning Commission and City Council study sessions, the vision statement, themes and guiding principles will be finalized. This redlined version reflects input received at GPAC#3.**

### Draft Vision Statement

**“Palmdale is a thriving, safe, socially and economically diverse community where people of all ages live and work in harmony. Palmdale offers affordable living, high quality jobs and educational opportunities in a beautiful desert setting.”**

### Vision Themes

#### **Vision Theme 1. A unified and welcoming community that we're proud to live in**

- a) Respect and promote diversity within Palmdale
- b) Improve Promote City's Palmdale's positive reputation in the region
- c) Boost community beautification
- d) Offer opportunities for youth to stay in Palmdale – jobs, housing, education
- e) Form Enhance partnerships with surrounding communities in the Antelope Valley

#### **Vision Theme 2. Active and vibrant downtown**

- a) Create a vibrant and active downtown environment
- b) Revitalize Improve the appearance of Palmdale Boulevard
- c) Encourage and foster local businesses
- d) Provide space for community gathering and events
- e) Increase opportunities for entertainment and/or shopping
- f) Consider displacement issues

**Vision Theme 3. Safe, healthy place to live and work**

- a) Improve neighborhood safety
- b) Address crime and safety concerns
- c) [Improve access to quality healthcare services in Palmdale](#)
- d) Improve access to parks and open space
- e) [Support local foster youth and those experiencing homelessness](#)
- f) Foster active living with improvements to pedestrian environment
- g) Prioritize walking, biking, and access to local and regional transit
- h) Promote living and working in Palmdale and reducing commute times

**Vision Theme 4. Diverse and high-quality job options**

- a) Provide job training for Palmdale residents in key industries
- b) [Match-Connect](#) residents with job opportunities in aerospace and other emerging sectors
- c) Encourage telecommuting within Palmdale
- d) [Promote diverse entry-level and mid-level jobs in Palmdale](#)

**Vision Theme 5. Diverse and resilient local economy**

- a) Retain and support aerospace industry presence in Palmdale
- b) Attract new [sustainable](#) employers and industries to Palmdale
- c) Maintain and enhance [wireless technology and infrastructure in smart city technology in Palmdale](#) to support local businesses and telecommuting
- d) Support local small businesses

**Vision Theme 6. Housing options for residents at different stages of life and ability**

- a) Create and preserve affordable housing for residents of Palmdale
- b) Increase supply and diversity of housing to support different types of households including seniors, young adults, families, empty nesters, individuals or families with special needs, and multigenerational families
- c) Maintain city's quiet and safe neighborhoods
- d) [Maintain rural and semi-rural neighborhoods in Palmdale](#)
- e) Connect new development to public transit and open space or public parks

**Vision Theme 7. High quality and accessible educational opportunities**

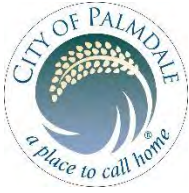
- a) Promote and expand higher educational opportunities in Palmdale
- b) Develop additional trade school training and apprentice programs
- c) Promote opportunities for high-quality childcare and early education
- d) Expand partnerships and programs with public schools, local government and major employers within Palmdale

**Vision Theme 8. Palmdale's beautiful natural setting**

- a) Maintain safe and convenient access to open space and trails
- b) [Improve connectivity and beautify trails and open space](#)
- c) Expand and improve public parks and to meet the needs of current and future residents
- d) Preserve existing mountain views
- e) Preserve access to a dark night sky
- f) [Improve Maintain high](#) air quality

***Vision Theme 9. Forefront of transportation innovations***

- a) Leverage transportation investments in Palmdale
- b) Build on High Speed Rail opportunities
- c) Bring air service to Palmdale Regional Airport
- d) Improve local transit



# City of Palmdale General Plan Update

## General Plan Advisory Committee

Meeting #4: December 11, 2019 | 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm  
Chimbole Cultural Center “Lilac Room”

### Meeting Minutes (Final approved January 15, 2020)

#### Meeting Objectives

- Refine General Plan Vision and Guiding Principles
- Present overview of housing existing conditions
- Discuss potential areas of change and stability in Palmdale

#### Attendees

##### GPAC Members

**Present:** Tony Avila, Juan Blanco, Colby Estes (Alternate), Laura Gordon, Theresa Hambro, Matthew Harris, Pat Hunt, Joe Parisio, Teresa Lamping, Deborah Rutkowski-Hines, Jason Zink, Lourdes T. Everett, Aurora Hernandez,

**Absent:** Sheri Kaneshiro

##### City Staff

Rob Bruce, Planning Manager - Department of Economic and Community Development  
Carlene Saxton, Senior Planner - Department of Economic and Community Development  
Nardy Lopez, Management Analyst – Department of Economic and Community Development

##### Consultant Team

Raimi + Associates – Simran Malhotra, Melissa Stark  
Veronica Tam and Associates – Veronica Tam

##### Public

Three members of the public attended

#### Meeting Minutes

##### Call to Order

- Pledge of Allegiance.
- Approval of GPAC #3 Meeting minutes. Motion made by Juan Blanco, seconded by Matthew Harris.

##### Overview of 1993 General Plan Issues and Opportunities

- Simran Malhotra presented the major goals and issues identified in the 1993 Palmdale General Plan. A comparison between the 1993 General Plan and Palmdale 2045 issues and opportunities was also included.



## Refine Draft Guiding Principles and Vision Statement

- Simran presented updated vision themes and guiding principles to the group, then opened for comment. A few members of the GPAC had specific comments related to wording of selected guiding principles. The group discussed these at length, then in the interest of time continued onto the next discussion. GPAC members were asked to send their revisions to the draft vision themes and guiding principles in writing via email by December 20, 2019.

## Housing Existing Conditions + Housing Element and Discussion

- Veronica Tam presented housing existing conditions including housing stock, income distribution, income by household size, affordability, housing costs, and City of Palmdale Affordable Housing efforts. Next Veronica provided an overview of new California State laws pertaining to housing and consequence of noncompliance.

Following the discussion of housing existing conditions, Veronica provided an overview of the Housing Element requirements, Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA), RHNA requirements, existing land use distribution and benefits of the having a diverse housing stock.

Next, Simran provided an overview of density and intensity and how it relates to housing and development providing visual examples. After the presentation, the group paused for questions and a brief discussion on housing. A summary of the conversation and topics discussed is below.

- Consider funding sources for development in Palmdale
- Consider limitations with infrastructure and utilities
- Desire for more dense development, however Palmdale has existing vacant land that is affordable, but denser development is typically more expensive
- What funding sources are available for new development in Palmdale?
- Interested in programs that support aging in place and first-time home buyers
- Interested in the variety of housing types like mixed-use development, cottage clusters, mobile homes, small lot single family, etc.
- Palmdale has a need for low-income housing, currently a 12-month waiting list for HUD section 8 housing
- Desire for multi-unit complexes with surrounding entertainment, shopping and restaurants
- Interest in inclusionary housing

## Areas of Stability and Growth

- Simran provided an overview of the direction received through the first phase of community input. This included a desire for more housing and diversity of housing choices, more jobs, diversified local economy, adequate infrastructure, and open space, parks, and views. Next, Simran introduced the group activity which involved mapping areas of stability - where character will remain the same - and areas of change. Members of the public were invited to participate however, none elected to join the activity.

Results from the mapping activities are described below:

- Areas of stability
  - Preserve residential neighborhoods east of Highway 14 and South of Avenue R
  - Preserve Plant 42
  - Preserve Antelope Valley Mall

- Preserve transportation center
- Preserve Palmdale Marketplace shopping center
- Preserve Palmdale Regional Medical Center
- Areas of proposed change
  - Areas for future multifamily:
    - South of Avenue S
    - Mixed use West of Highway 14
    - Higher density off Tierra Subida Avenue near Palmdale Regional Medical Center
  - Increase density along Palmdale Boulevard
  - Support services and retail on Avenue P and 15<sup>th</sup> Street East
    - Multi dwelling and support services for Plant 42
    - Keep development out of the path of Plant 42
  - Walmart Shopping center off 10<sup>th</sup> street West could have additional development at higher density
    - Consider transportation connectivity
    - Consider retail and support services
  - Southeastern area of intersection of Avenue O and 10<sup>th</sup> Street West could be developed at higher density
  - Higher density residential development north of Palmdale Boulevard at 47<sup>th</sup> Street East
  - Higher density development located at the intersection of Fort Tejon Road and Pearblossom Highway
  - Higher density residential east of Lake Palmdale South of Avenue S and off Tierra Subida Avenue west between West Avenue Q8 and Rayburn Road
  - Commercial mixed use located at the southern city boundary northwest of Lake Palmdale
  - Non-residential development between Technology, Palmdale Boulevard, Sierra Highway and Highway 14

### **Public Comment**

- Four members of the public were present. One shared feedback, which is below.
  - Desire for restrictions on tobacco and alcohol sales in the city of Palmdale

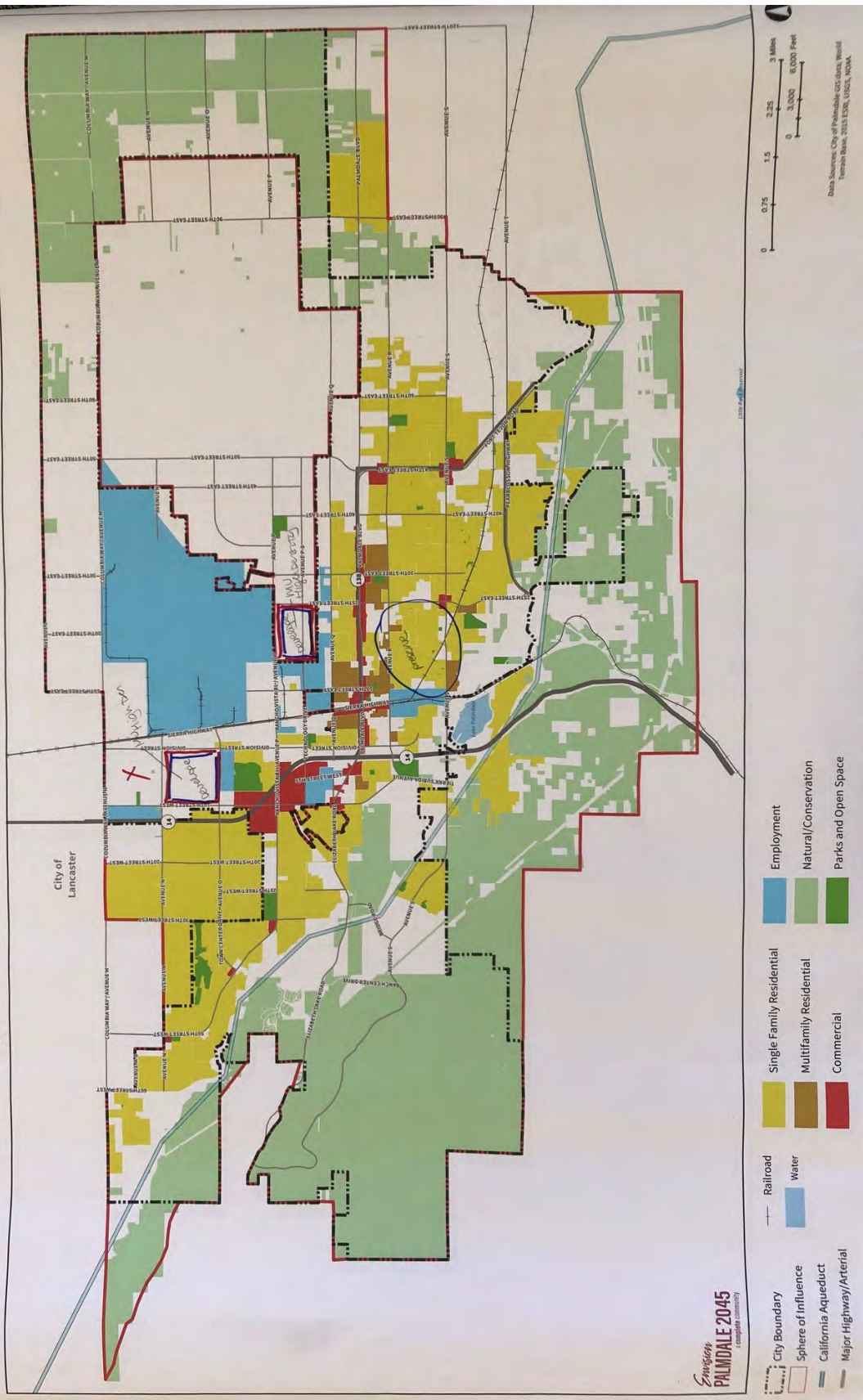
### **Wrap-up and Next Steps**

- Upcoming Meetings:
  - Planning Commission Update – December 12, 2019
  - City Council Update – December 17, 2019
  - Next GPAC meeting - January 15, 2020

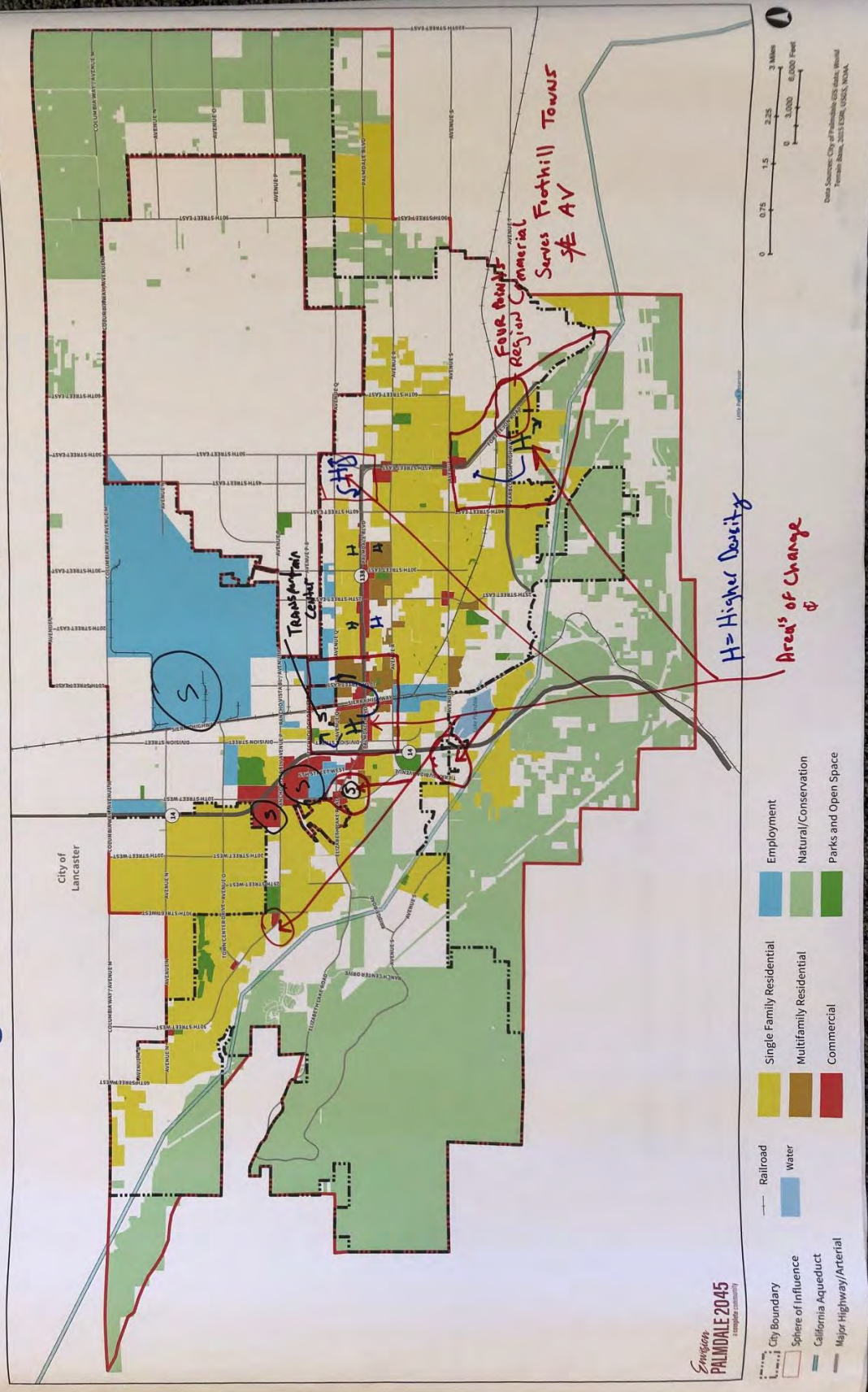
**8:45 pm      Adjourn**

***Attachment: Mapping Activity Results from GPAC #4***

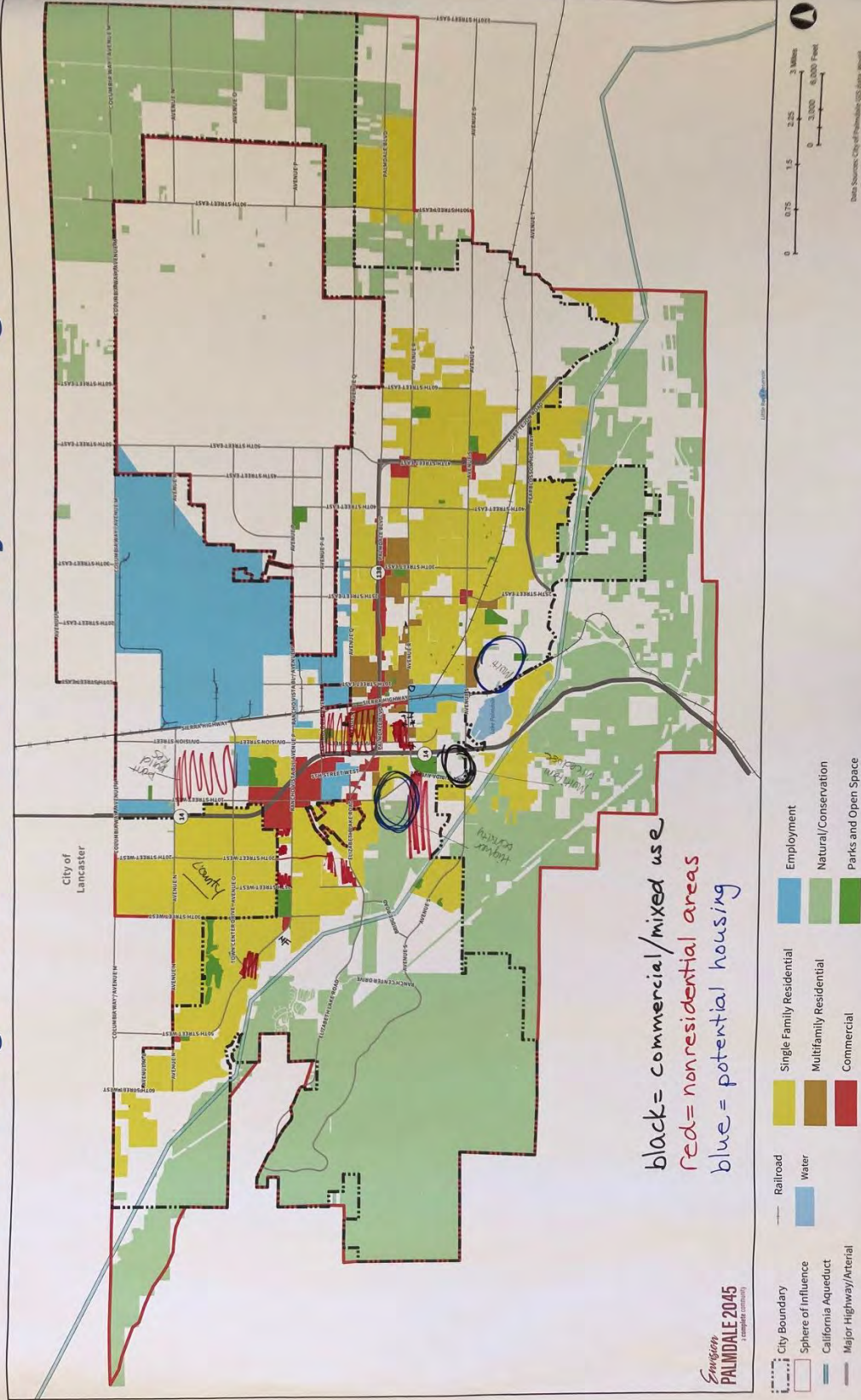
# GPAC Meeting #4: Areas of Stability + Change Exercise



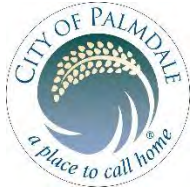
# GPAC Meeting #4: Areas of Stability + Change Exercise



# GPAC Meeting #4: Areas of Stability + Change Exercise



Map Source: City of Palmdale GIS Data, revised February 2011. © 2011 ESRI, INC. USA, JAPAN.



# City of Palmdale General Plan Update

## General Plan Advisory Committee

Meeting #5: January 15, 2020 | 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm  
Chimbole Cultural Center “Manzanita Ballroom”

### Meeting Minutes (Final approved February 19, 2020)

## Meeting Objectives

- Refine areas of stability and growth
- Present overview of development constraints and capacity
- Prepare land use alternatives
- Discuss potential development location, type, and character

## Attendees

### GPAC Members

**Present:** Tony Avila, Juan Blanco, Colby Estes (Alternate), Laura Gordon, Theresa Hambro, Matthew Harris, Pat Hunt, Joe Parisio, Deborah Rutkowski-Hines, Jason Zink, Lourdes T. Everett, Aurora Hernandez, Sheri Kaneshiro

**Absent:** Teresa Lamping

### City Staff

Department of Economic and Community Development staff: Mike Behen, Acting Director; Rob Bruce, Planning Manager; Carlene Saxton, Senior Planner; Nardy Lopez, Management Analyst

### Consultant Team

Matt Raimi, Simran Malhotra, and Melissa Stark, Raimi + Associates

### Public

Thirteen members of the public signed-in at the meeting, see attached sign-in sheet.

## Meeting Summary

### 1. Call to Order

The Meeting began with reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Next, Pat Hunt called a motion to not approve meeting #4 minutes because he felt that the summary lacked detail from the meeting’s discussion. Joe Parisio seconded.

This motion ensued a lengthy discussion regarding the detail of past GPAC meeting minutes. Members of the GPAC spoke openly about their feelings and concerns. Several members stated that in order to remember why a decision was made, they need to have a more detailed record of

the discussion. Some members of the GPAC requested detailed transcripts, video and audio recording, and for individual names to be noted next to specific remarks. One GPAC member cited City Council meeting minutes as the desired level of detail for GPAC meeting minutes. Other members of the GPAC spoke out against having their names denoted in the minutes and requested that meeting minutes be a detailed summary of the discussion and group decisions, noting that they represent the larger Palmdale community. A member of the GPAC suggested tabling approval of the minutes until direction from the City Council could be considered.

The consultant team and city staff responded with options for moving forward:

- One option is to have transcribed notes with a record of each individual comment. This would entail that each GPAC member state one's name prior to making any remarks. This level of detail would be additional work, not previously budgeted by the City under its existing contract with Raimi and Associates, as such, this would require sign-off and budget considerations from the City.
- Another option is to document discussions from the GPAC in greater detail but continue to summarize GPAC responses without noting individuals by name, and not with an official transcription.

Then, City staff asked for individuals to provide feedback on their preference for more detailed meeting minutes. A majority of the GPAC members expressed their preference for “more detail, but no names,” while going around the room. To get a clear idea of GPAC preferences, Matt Raimi called for a show of hands to determine which GPAC members would like more detailed meeting minutes that didn't denote individual names. Many members of the GPAC voted for more detailed minutes without individual names.

As a follow up, Matt Raimi asked GPAC members if they want more detailed minutes with transcript style record including names. Three GPAC members voted for transcript style recording denoting individual names.

Next, the GPAC voted on Pat Hunt's motion to reject the GPAC #4 meeting minutes. The motion fails with three votes in favor, all others opposed.

Laura Gordon, then made a motion to approve the GPAC #4 minutes as-is and provide more detailed meeting minutes for future meetings. The motion also included a request for the City to confer with City Council and make a recommendation for GPAC meeting minutes. The motion is seconded by Theresa Hambro and passes.

Following the discussion, City staff offer to follow up via email with further direction and supplemental information. This resulted in adding an additional GPAC meeting—GPAC #5 Part 2 scheduled for February 19, 2020—which will provide direction and overview of GPAC roles and responsibilities from City Manager, J.J. Murphy, and Assistant City Attorney, Noel Doran.

### **Other Notes**

One GPAC member noted that it's hard to tell what changes were made and why to the vision and guiding principles on the track changes version without additional notes.

The City and Consultant team will revisit the vision and guiding principles document and add clarification for who suggested changes and why.

## 2. Overview Presentation and Discussion of Development Patterns, Capacity, Constraints, and Development Character Types

The consultant team provided an overview presentation of a “Complete City” and a “Complete Neighborhood,” examples of complete cities that are similar in size and locational attributes to Palmdale (Fort Collins, CO; McKinney, TX; and Boise, ID), and how Palmdale measures up as a complete city.

Following this part of the presentation, the group discussed and provided the following feedback:

- The presence of an airport and cost of living should be included in the complete city comparison matrix
- Palmdale needs a four-year college/University
- Palmdale is missing out on having a diversified employer base, a true downtown, and other characteristics of a complete city
- Palmdale only matches up on one of the complete city metrics, we need to get the other 75% of what complete cities have

GPAC members also noted that the following elements are also needed in Palmdale:

- University and higher education
- Passenger Airport
- Diversity of employers
- Publicly accessible trail system
- City center that is like an old town with variety of restaurants and gathering places
- Better dispersed goods and services on the east side, including grocery stores and hotels
- Hospital and medical facilities on the east side
- Transportation investments will be a big factor in the future of Palmdale

Next, the consultant team presented build-out capacity on all vacant land in the City as well as market demand and development capacity through the General Plan horizon of 2045. One of the GPAC members pointed out a totaling error on one of the tables, which was corrected (see attached revised table).

Natural and humanmade constraints to future development were presented. Natural constraints included flood areas, wildfire zones, seismic zones and fault lines, liquefaction risk areas as well as habitat areas (*note: the flood areas map has been updated since this meeting*). Humanmade constraints include Plant 42 and Airport safety zones, the California Aqueduct and SR-14 as well as the lack of utility infrastructure. Implications for development were also discussed. Based on GPAC input and analysis of areas of stability and change (at GPAC#4), as well as these constraints, a smaller Core Area was defined and the development capacity for the vacant lands within was presented.

The last part of the presentation included information about General Plan Land Use designations and Place Types with illustrative examples for each place type. The difference between land use designations and place types was also presented.

Following the presentation, the group had several questions and comments that are summarized below:

- Palmdale’s mismatch between housing and jobs based on the housing demand and jobs demand, is that typical?



- No skyscrapers across the 14-freeway are likely due to the Airport safety zones
- Man-made constraints should include the railroad
- Four Points should be shown as a future retail center or activity commercial center on the activity centers map
- Is the future growth/demand estimated by the market or necessity by regional agencies?
- Interest in modernizing Palmdale, but thinking about design and character
- Want a cohesive look and to be intentional about what goes where in the future
- Hospital owns land near the country club, but users didn't like the suggested location for a future hospital, so it never happened

### **Input from the Public**

One member of the public provided feedback during the discussion, which is summarized below.

- Rose Medina: Kaiser has purchased a lot of land in Palmdale, they are always looking for input. Think it's a good idea to talk to landowners and help influence what goes where. Buildings in Palmdale look like these were design for the climate, with a focus on insulation from the heat and cold instead of design aesthetic.

### **3. Group Activity**

After this discussion and the remainder of the presentation, the group paused. Noting the time and the agenda, the consultant team asked if any GPAC members would consider staying past 8:30 p.m. to complete the group mapping activity per the meeting's agenda. The majority of GPAC members wanted to leave as close to 8:30 p.m. as possible. GPAC members wanted to dedicate adequate time to give the process and activity justice, thus the group activity did not take place. The consensus was to have an additional meeting to allow time for the land use alternatives group mapping exercise.

One GPAC member offered a Saturday as a possible part-two meeting. Majority of GPAC members did not want to have a Saturday meeting. The consultant team and City staff said they would follow up via email with a weeknight date for the part-two meeting to complete the land use alternatives mapping exercise. GPAC members also requested to have a focused part-two meeting with materials sent in advance (*note: Materials for this meeting were sent to GPAC members via email two days in advance*).

After this conclusion, GPAC members requested additional materials and maps as reference for the group mapping activity. These are summarized below.

- Maps on boards or hung on walls, not comfortable to work on tables
- Take maps home to visualize before next meeting
- More information on urban growth boundary
- Map of any proposed transportation changes
- Map of entitled projects (if available)
- Map of current zoning
- Map of broadband infrastructure (if available)
- Information on train "quiet zones"
- Information on specific plans and horse property designations'

City staff and the consultant team will provide the requested information as available and relevant for the alternatives exercise.

#### **4. Group Activity Report Out/Discussion**

The group activity did not take place due to time constraints, so there was no report out or discussion.

#### **5. Public Comment**

Thirteen members of the public signed in, but not all stayed for the entire meeting. Three members of the public shared comments at the end of the meeting, which are summarized below.

- Don Gershal: President of Antelope Valley Audubon Society. Inquiry into any plans for solar fields within Palmdale with the desire to preserve and protect birds.
- Judy Timicow: Longtime resident of Palmdale. Unhappy with sale of “safe and sane” fireworks within the city as they are fire prone and very dangerous. Also happy with city’s response to calls of graffiti which have been cleaned up quickly.
- Brent Shoff: Pastor of Palmdale Church. Palmdale Church is given goods to distribute to those in need within the community. Wants to work with the City and those within the community to provide help.

#### **6. Wrap Up and Adjourn**

The consultant team and city staff confirmed they will email the GPAC to set up an additional meeting to conduct the group activity that did not take place at this meeting. The team will also confirm the date for the following meeting.

City staff presented an opportunity for five GPAC members to attend the Planning Commissioners Academy on March 4-6<sup>th</sup> in Sacramento. Staff confirmed they will also follow up via email with details about the opportunity.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.

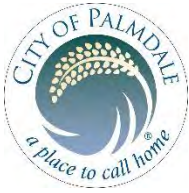
*Attachment: Public sign in sheet*

## General Plan Advisory Committee Meeting #5 Sign In

January 15, 2020 | City of Palmdale

Please include your email address if you'd like to be kept up to date on the General Plan

Name	Email Address
City Carlene Saxton	COP
Tracey La Monica	[REDACTED]
Eg Mantano	[REDACTED]
Hon. Geschl	[REDACTED]
<del>Mills</del>	[REDACTED]
Jennifer Navarro	[REDACTED]
Joyce Bruce	[REDACTED]
Vicky Ventura	[REDACTED]
Judy Timko	[REDACTED]
GPAC Aurora Hernandez	[REDACTED]
Km Fly	[REDACTED]
Glenn Winkelstein	[REDACTED]
Brent Shoff	[REDACTED]
GARY ROYCE	[REDACTED]
Gerald Dummett	[REDACTED]



# City of Palmdale General Plan Update General Plan Advisory Committee

Meeting #5 PART 2: February 19, 2020 | 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm  
Chimbole Cultural Center “Manzanita Ballroom”

## Meeting Minutes (Final approved May 20, 2020)

### Meeting Objectives

- Refine areas of stability and growth
- Present overview of development constraints and capacity
- Prepare land use alternatives
- Discuss potential development location, type, and character

### Attendees

#### GPAC Members

**Present:** Tony Avila, Juan Blanco, Laura Gordon, Theresa Hambro, Matthew Harris, Pat Hunt, Joe Parisio, Jason Zink, Aurora Hernandez, Sheri Kaneshiro, Teresa Lamping

**Absent:** Colby Estes (Alternate), Deborah Rutkowski-Hines, and Lourdes T. Everett (*signed-in and picked up the agenda packet, but was unable to stay for the presentation/activity*)

#### City Council

Laura Bettencourt

#### City Staff

City Manager’s Office: J.J. Murphy, City Manager; Noel Duran, Assistant City Attorney  
Department of Economic and Community Development: Mike Behen, Director; Carlene Saxton, Deputy Director; Nardy Lopez, Management Analyst

#### Consultant Team

Raimi + Associates: Matt Raimi and Melissa Stark

#### Public

Ten members of the public signed-in at the meeting, see attached sign-in sheet.

### Meeting Summary

#### 1. Call to Order

The meeting began with recital of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Next, Joe Parisio motioned to approve GPAC #5 meeting minutes (January 19, 2020) and Laura Gordon seconded the motion, none opposed so the motion passed.

## 2. City Update on GPAC Procedures

J.J. Murphy (City Manager) introduced the agenda, welcomed City Council Member Laura Bettencourt to the meeting, and mentioned the upcoming Planning Commissioners Academy that will take place in Sacramento with five GPAC members in attendance.

Next, J.J. Murphy briefly described the changes taking place within the City of Palmdale, highlighting new City staffing and positioning to promote a more development-friendly City Hall with more flexibility in the future. J.J. mentioned that the city has not had market-rate multifamily development in 25 years, and that he sees this as a time for explosive growth for Palmdale.

One member of the public asked J.J. to describe what he thinks explosive growth looks like in Palmdale. He described growth in Palmdale as investments in downtown, regional transportation, creating walkable and robust public places, the ability to get around without a car, and convenient rail and airport opportunities.

After J.J.'s introduction and overview, Noel Doran (Assistant City Attorney) provided a refresher on the purpose of the GPAC, the Brown Act, and held a question and answer session. During his overview, Noel highlighted three things for GPAC members to bring to the group; knowledge of Palmdale, friends and neighbors; and an open mind to collaborate with others. Noel clarified that the GPAC is subject to Brown Act rules and regulations which prohibits a GPAC majority (more than 8 members) from collaborating outside of a noticed meeting on subject matters of the General Plan Update.

In response to a GPAC member question, Noel clarified that the General Plan Update does consider future land use changes; noting that property owners have certain rights, but they are not absolute. City Council has the ultimate decision on what land use changes take place and property owners are subject to those regulations. The GPAC will not make decisions on specific parcels of land and land transactions should not be based on GPAC meeting comments. As part of the current process, landowners can ask City Council to consider land use designation changes to specific properties at any time.

## 3. Overview Presentation

The consultant team provided a review of the GPAC #5 meeting presentation to prepare the GPAC for the mapping activity. This included describing the distinction between land use designations and place types. Matt Raimi (Raimi + Associates) highlighted that place types consider the character and atmosphere of an area, as opposed to being focused on individual projects.

Matt explained that General Plan land use designations identify use (broad allowed uses) and intensity (dwelling units per acre (DU/AC) and Floor Area Ratio (FAR)). Matt noted that the current General Plan Land Use Map is the starting point for this General Plan Update, and that the current task is to step back and look at the citywide structure.

Matt reintroduced the draft place types, which were developed based on community feedback. The consultant team added a few additional place types including "Industrial" and "Suburban Neighborhood" and "Multi-family," two place types which were previously included under "Traditional Neighborhood."

Next, Matt answered a few questions from the group. The questions and responses are summarized below.

- A GPAC member asked about single family residential tract maps to use as reference for the mapping activity. City staff responded that tract maps aren't all available in electronic format and therefore hard to produce a summary. Staff noted that they are available to serve as a resource for questions regarding existing residential tract projects.
- A GPAC member noted that California needs more housing, and asked how is it accomplished? Also noting that transportation is an important factor for new housing. The consultant team responded that transportation and housing are both important, but it's hard to say which comes first. Keeping in mind connectivity and how compact development can help encourage biking and walking in a region.
- A member of the public asked if there is a land use place type for conserving desert habitat? The Consultant team responded that within City limits all development proposals go through a review process including sensitive land and species review. The goal for this meeting is to identify best places for new development to go now, including areas that it shouldn't go.
- A GPAC member asked if the Consultant team would provide input on the mapping exercise. The consultant team clarified that this exercise is to get GPAC input, and that the consultant team will do additional analysis and brainstorming to prepare proposed land use alternatives subsequently.

#### 4. Group Activity

After the presentation and discussion, the GPAC and members of the public were invited to begin the mapping activity. GPAC members were arranged in three groups, and members of the public were at a fourth table. Each table/group was given a large aerial map of Palmdale with some of the development constraints and planning boundaries highlighted as well as custom place type stickers, pens, and sticky notes. The group worked from approximately 7:30 -8:10pm developing their own land use alternatives. The consultant team and city staff walked from table to table answering questions as needed.

#### 5. Group Activity Report Out/Discussion

At approximately 8:10 pm Matt Raimi invited all groups to stand and walk from table to table and listen to one member of each group report the highlights of their land use alternative. These individual report summaries are below. Photo results are provided at the end the meeting minutes.

##### Table 1 (GPAC)

- One of the primary concepts was to support Plant 42 and develop entire community around it, including: employment district, housing, mixed-use corridor, and village center that transitions into traditional neighborhood with parks and regional commercial
- Industrial complexes and parking garages surrounding the Palmdale Airport terminal (future planned for passenger air travel)
- High density residential north of Palmdale Blvd. between Highway 14 and Plant 42
- Convention center west of Highway 14
- East side of town has no facilities currently
- Suburban neighborhood with village centers near the far east side of Palmdale
  - Need for additional village centers throughout Palmdale so people don't have to travel as far to reach goods and services, using infrastructure that is already in place

**Table 2 (GPAC)**

- Establish bike trails with amenities like trees and benches, similar to Lancaster’s J8
- Preserve Lake Palmdale and natural ponds
- Create a natural corridor near the fault zone that connects to the existing residential neighborhoods
- Invest in regional amenities at Four Points, as it is a major connection to surrounding smaller cities
- Make Palmdale Boulevard into a walkable village
- Create Joshua tree groves along 50<sup>th</sup> Street to Lancaster
- Use Littlerock Creek as a pipeline to the aqueduct to make a series of lakes to recharge groundwater for the Eastside of Palmdale
- Develop mixed-use around existing and future commercial areas
- Plan a Junior College near 47<sup>th</sup> Street, promote education access on the Eastside of Palmdale
- Promote more mixed-use development along Rancho Vista Boulevard on the Westside to Marie Kerr Park and the AV Mall
- Plan for a four-year University near M Street and 10th Street West
- Create an Industrial center off Avenue M & Division Street
- Develop a trail system that ties into existing residential and natural water bodies
- Preserve the natural environment in South Palmdale
- Develop mixed-use around the Transportation center
- Develop apartments and multi-family residential near the future train station at Avenue Q

**Table 3 (GPAC)**

- Want to preserve the mission of Plant 42 and focus on commercial development
- Focus on creating downtown hubs like the transportation center, village center downtown, and employment district
- Equestrian uses near Ritter Ranch neighborhood
- Single family development is planned near the Amargosa recharge area and Highland High School, could include mixed-use and potentially multi-family development
- Develop commercial mixed-use, apartments or townhomes near the existing park along Avenue S corridor
- Keep natural environment in southern Palmdale near the fault zone, add parks or trails in the future
- Continue development of traditional neighborhoods into the Eastside of Palmdale up to the existing quarries
  - In the future, add entertainment like a moto track near the quarries

**Table 4 (Members of the Public)**

- Important to consider nature and existing habitat within future development
- Revitalize Palmdale Boulevard with what’s already developed, make it useful
- Attract people and revitalize businesses within Palmdale
- Create a downtown center or village center that is walkable, and a place people want to be
- Create more jobs, entertainment, and businesses near Palmdale Boulevard
- Encourage a small airport, nothing like LAX, and no commuter flights
- Create places for preservation and nature

- Improve bikeability, make it safer for people to utilize bike lanes and connect lanes to destinations with access to centers in town
  - Similar to Lancaster’s bike trails
- Consider the older population and housing for them within future development
- Create an aerospace village in Central Palmdale
- Create a pleasant residential village along Pearblossom Highway
- Ensure natural habitat is woven in throughout development with walking trails

After the group table report-outs, Matt Raimi asked the entire room to help summarize the commonalities and difference between the group land use map alternatives. Those accounts are summarized below.

#### **Commonalities (As reported by the group)**

- Mixed use corridor located near downtown and future train station
- Preserve habitat, natural water bodies, and encourage development of new trails
- Palmdale Airport runways make development near downtown difficult
- Similar vision of focused nodes with new development in similar areas
- Consider needs of senior population in the future

#### **Differences (As reported by the group)**

- Preserving Plant 42 mission – some groups encouraged development around the Plant, other groups avoided the areas and designed development further away as to not interfere with Plant operations
- Focusing development along one main corridor – Palmdale Boulevard versus Avenue P
  - Avenue P can be utilized to get across town and serve as central centers for goods and services
- Avenue S as a venue for restaurants, focusing on people who live in these areas and keeping things local

## **6. Public Comment**

Ten members of the public signed in, but not all stayed for the entire meeting. Two members of the public shared comments at the end of the meeting, which are summarized below.

- Are there other cities we can look to that are successful as examples for how we should change and grow? The consultant team responded that yes, the group reviewed examples cities at previous meetings. Those presentations are available as reference on the General Plan website.
- We don’t want to see new development that creates new noise. The consultant team responded that new development can be visually attractive with sound buffers that aren’t the typical sound-wall.

One GPAC member also provided additional comment at the close of the meeting. This is summarized below.

- Interested in looking at ways to treat wastewater by pumping through the City to create ponds, and other water bodies. We should use water as a resource to make Palmdale into a paradise. We also should consider the visual points from the freeway; we need a vision for what people see entering Palmdale.



- New development can't be piecemeal, it must look beautiful, like a Biltmore Hotel for example.

## **7. Wrap Up and Adjourn**

The consultant team invited participants to write additional notes on their group map and add their individual names.

The consultant team also invited participants to provide supplemental notes via email that will be uploaded to the website as a separate record for what took place at each GPAC meeting. As previously mentioned in the GPAC email, these notes will not be voted on by the GPAC.

City staff offer additional follow-up via email for the Planning Commissioners Academy packet as needed.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.

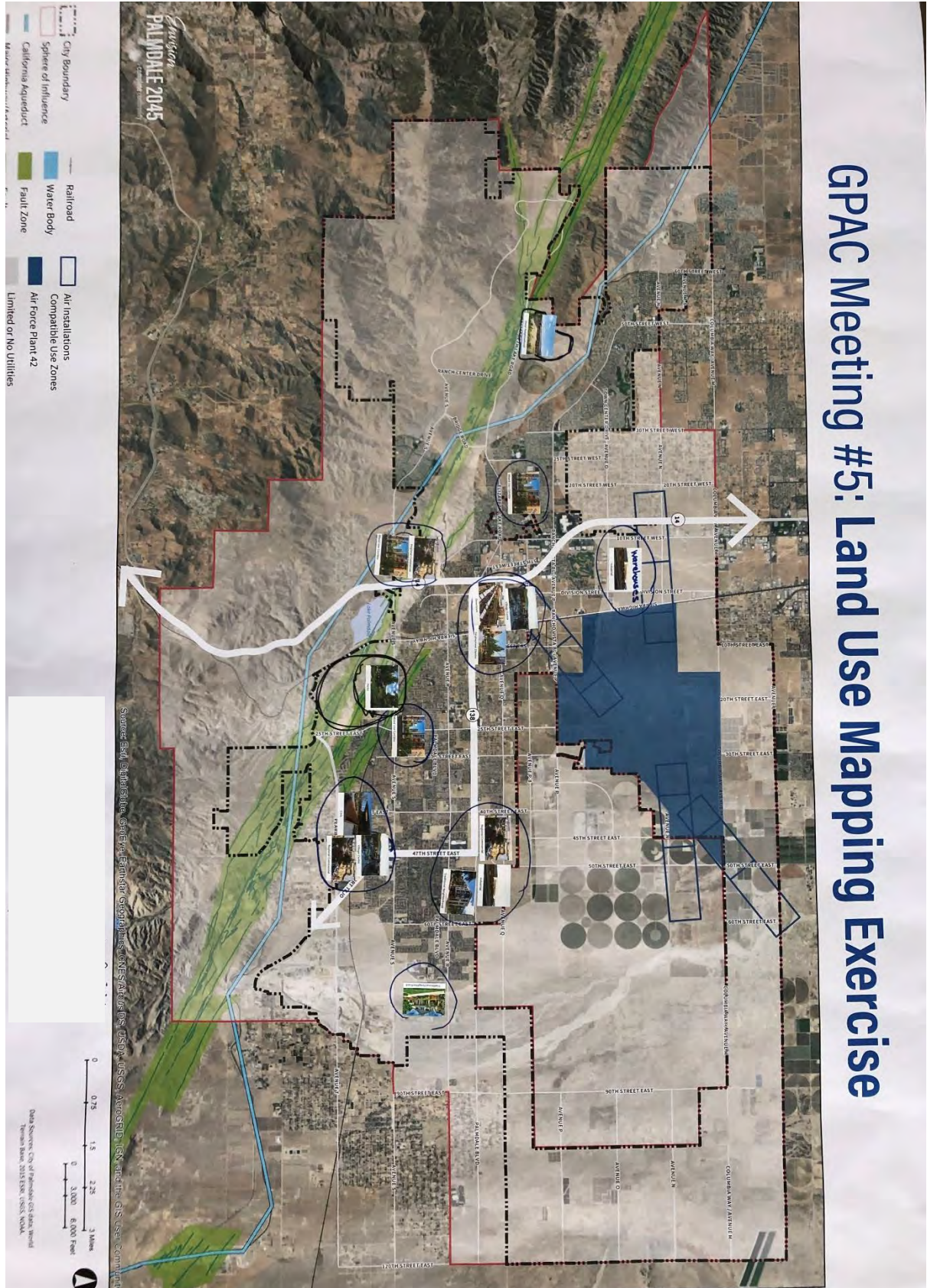
*Attachment: Public sign in sheet and map activity results*

*Note: Individual names on activity maps have been redacted.*

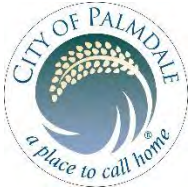




Table 3 Map Results (GPAC)







# City of Palmdale General Plan Update

## General Plan Advisory Committee

Meeting #6: May 20, 2020 | 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

*Virtual Meeting via Zoom livestreamed to YouTube*

### Meeting Minutes (Final approved July 29, 2020)

## Meeting Objectives

- Review and discuss economic market and fiscal health

## Attendees

### GPAC Members

**Present:** Tony Avila, Juan Blanco, Laura Gordon, Colby Estes, Lourdes T. Everett, Theresa Hambro, Matthew Harris, Aurora Hernandez, Pat Hunt, Sheri Kaneshiro, Teresa Lamping, Joe Parisio, Deborah Rutkowski-Hines, and Jason Zink.

**Absent:** None

### City Staff

Department of Economic and Community Development: Mike Behen, Director; Carlene Saxton, Deputy Director; Drew Pletcher, Deputy Director; Luis Garibay, Economic Development Manager; Taggart, Senior Planner; Ben Fiss, Senior Planner

### Consultant Team

Raimi + Associates: Simran Malhotra and Melissa Stark  
HR&A Advisors: Amitabh Barthakur and Garrett Rapsilber

### Public

This was a virtual meeting; hence no public sign-in is available.

## Meeting Summary

### 1. Call to Order & Meeting Procedures

The virtual meeting began with a brief overview of the meeting structure, roll call and introductions of City staff, the consultant team and GPAC members, and group recital of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Then a brief overview of important Zoom features for GPAC members and procedure for meeting comments and questions was presented. GPAC members asked questions at multiple stopping points throughout the presentation. They also used the “raise hand” nonverbal feedback response in Zoom to alert the team of their question. Members of the public were encouraged to follow

along and provide feedback through the Palmdale 2045 YouTube Channel and comments forum. Public comments and questions were shared throughout the presentation.

Next, Joe Parisio motioned to approve GPAC #5 P2 meeting minutes (February 19, 2020) and Lourdes Everett seconded the motion, with one correction to the meeting minutes, none opposed so the motion passed.

## **2. Overview Presentation**

Amitabh Barthakur of HR&A Advisors provided an overview of economic development in Palmdale. His presentation was a synopsis of the Socio-Economic Profile and Market Analysis Report, which was a key milestone in the first phase of the General Plan Update. This report was emailed to the GPAC in advance for review and was also made available on the Palmdale2045 website. Amitabh noted that the report was completed in 2019 and before the current economic conditions caused by the Coronavirus pandemic. He clarified that the data used in the report and analyses was from 2018, the last full year of available data at the time. Amitabh conveyed that the information presented is context for long-term economic conditions in Palmdale, as the General Plan is a 25-year plus document.

The economics overview presentation was divided into four parts: demographics and market conditions overview, real estate trends and future demands, fiscal health, and discussion of economic opportunities and challenges. These sections are summarized below.

### ***Demographics and the economy overview***

Amitabh began the presentation with an overview of Palmdale’s demographics and local economy, noting that manufacturing continues to expand in Palmdale and remains one of the few sources of high-paying jobs in the region. This section covered the growth and recovery from the Great Recession, key economic drivers, and Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) Regional Growth Projections for employment and households. SCAG projects that Palmdale will outpace Los Angeles County through 2040.

### ***Real estate trends & 2045 demand***

In this section, Amitabh reviewed real estate trends from recent years including residential, retail, industrial/flex, office, and hotel trends. He mentioned how many of these data points compare to Los Angeles County as a whole, noting that home values in Palmdale have yet to fully recover from the Great Recession and new construction lags as high construction costs persist. Other key data points included large amount of excess retail space with rents performing below pre-recession levels, strong demand for industrial space, but lack of adequate infrastructure inhibits new development. Amitabh noted the office market has seen little growth in the past decade, while the hospitality industry has matured with new hotels serving the aerospace industry. In summary, Amitabh pointed out that Palmdale’s vast land capacity can easily support future development for all uses, but the capacity is currently higher than market demand. This section ended with an overview of key economic opportunities and needs.

### ***Fiscal health summary***

This section reviewed HR&A’s peer cities evaluation to benchmark Palmdale’s fiscal performance. The evaluation compared Palmdale, Lancaster, Santa Clarita, and Victorville across various fiscal metrics. Amitabh shared some highlights including that Palmdale is less reliant on General Fund revenues than its peer cities, but similarly reliant on property, sales, and use taxes. Other highlights included that Palmdale is a low property tax city, has the lowest General Fund

expenditures per equivalent dwelling unit (EDU) of its peer cities and has one of the lowest financial risks in the state, and has the lowest full-time equivalent (FTE) staff per EDU of its peers cities. This section concluded with a few final fiscal health considerations.

### ***Economic opportunities***

The final presentation section covered key economic strengths and weakness, opportunities and needs, and a resilient COVID-19 recovery framework that highlighted key City initiatives completed to-date. Luis Garibay provided an overview of the City's outreach efforts in the last several months.

## **3. Discussion**

Throughout the presentation, the Consultant Team and City Staff answered questions from the GPAC as well as those submitted through the online forum from the public. These questions and responses are summarized below.

### ***GPAC Member questions and comments (City/Consultant Responses in italics)***

- A GPAC member asked for clarification on the Spatial Distribution of Population by Race in Palmdale graphic, noting that the map appears to only show Hispanic origin. *The Consultant Team noted that the yellow color representing the Hispanic population is most apparent on the map, but not the only race. The team sent out a link to the original source of the map for GPAC members which is available [by clicking here](#).*
- One GPAC member asked the difference between SCAG Regional Growth Projections and Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) numbers. *Amitabh clarified the SCAG Regional Growth Projections are population and household estimates not to be confused with the RHNA numbers which are housing related allocations.*
- A GPAC member asked if the City has found any relief with infrastructure financing from the private development sector. *City Staff mentioned that the City is exploring different options for public private partnerships between developers and the City, to provide some of the financing to make the development in those areas work. The Consultant Team reminded the group that at the last GPAC meeting the activity was based on a map of where the existing infrastructure is, to help guide near-term development ideas versus longer-term opportunities.*
- A GPAC member asked about the private enterprise financing in the area for residential tracts. Since the City has been redlined by the lending industry following the Great Recession, funding for new residential tracts has been limited. *The Consultant team responded that they could see nervousness from the lending industry, since the value of homes has not fully recovered from the Great Recession. City Staff responded that the City has reached out to legislators on this issue, and there is nothing yet to report.*
- One GPAC member expressed a desire to protect natural assets when considering development opportunities for the future. *The Consultant Team clarified that tonight's discussion is focused on a small subset of privately driven commercial land, what makes up economic development. This does not include public facilities, open space, etc. which are all economic opportunities and assets in Palmdale to be discussed later.*
- A GPAC member asked if Mello-Roos is included in the property tax charts shown in the presentation? *The Consultant Team responded they do not include Mello-Roos.*
- Two GPAC members asked for an update on the Palmdale Airport's passenger air service plan. *Mike Behen responded that the City is looking at a new terminal location at the southeast corner of Avenue M and Sierra Highway. They mentioned that the City is in*



*discussion with the Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA), Palmdale Regional Airport, and the Air Force, noting that they are optimistically opening in 3-4 years.*

- One GPAC member asked why there are currently so many General Plan amendments to allow for multi-family housing? *City Staff responded that the City's current General Plan is extremely out of date, which has made it difficult for the development community to respond to current needs including housing. The General Plan Update will create a vision citywide and designate adequate locations for those development types, which will limit the need for amendments in the future.*
- One GPAC member asked for clarification on the General Fund Tax Revenues, what is the "other" category? *The Consultant Team responded that the "other" category can include documentary transfer tax, grants, inter-governmental transfer funds, and even investment earnings.*
- Throughout the presentation GPAC members made various comments based on the economics information, these are listed below:
  - Desire to see Palmdale be more aggressive in capturing high-paying jobs, a Junior College, and a business incubator.
  - Desire to promote Palmdale within the Los Angeles region.
  - Desire to attract the private aerospace industry, entertainment industry including post-production services, battery, and solar manufacturing, among others and take advantage of the miles of underused dark fiber in Palmdale.
  - Consider a mining tax to recover roads and other infrastructure costs.
  - Need to develop amenities along with new multi-family housing to attract and retain employees in Palmdale.
  - Need to expand entertainment opportunities, like a potential casino.
  - Need for both housing that is affordable on wages in Palmdale and need to attract higher paying jobs in Palmdale.

#### ***Public Questions/Comments (City/Consultant Responses in italics)***

- Can you put a timer of 30 seconds on questions/comments?
- Are there plans to focus on building out more "missing middle" housing? Things like townhouses, three flats, and two flats, etc. These types of housing can be much more affordable and attract more buyers, which in turn attracts developers. This type of housing could be really good for Palmdale. *City Staff responded to this question noting that a few multifamily developments have recently been approved by Planning Commission.*
- Do you know if recreational sports leagues (softball, soccer, etc) impact the occupancy rate of the hotel industry? *The Consultant Team responded that they do, it's highly competitive, but doesn't create the same drivers that Palmdale's current aerospace industry does.*
- The Joshua tree forests between Ave. M and Ave. O bordered by Sierra Hwy. and 10th st. West should also be planned as open spaces so they can become Desert conservation areas. What has to be done to implement this?
- All Joshua tree habitats east of 40th St east should be planned as open spaces. They should become desert conservation areas. How is this done? *For both comments relating to Joshua Trees, City Staff responded that the City has a Joshua Tree Preservation Plan to continue to maintain the desert feel of the City.*
- Will the presentation be available to the public? I work for the high school district and it is relevant for our Career Technical Education grants and programs. The Consultant Team responded that yes, the presentation will be available on the website.

#### **4. Public Comment**

Dozens of viewers watched the livestreamed meeting on YouTube. One provided official public comment through the online forum. This comment is listed below.

- The way to expand Aerospace is to provide a place people want to live overall. L(ockheed) M(artin) and N(orthrop) G(rumman) are moving jobs to other sites because of limited hiring and retention success. School quality, social places for just-out-college singles, and general community opportunities like clubs and family activities are more important to organically grow the footprint in Palmdale than directly catering to the companies.

#### **5. Wrap Up and Adjourn**

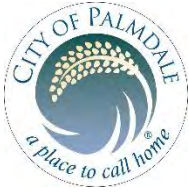
The consultant team invited GPAC members and YouTube viewers to submit supplemental comments or questions via email to [GeneralPlan@cityofpalmdale.org](mailto:GeneralPlan@cityofpalmdale.org)

Next steps will include review of three land use and circulation alternatives which were developed based on GPAC #5P2 and previous community engagement results. Most of the future engagement is anticipated to be virtual. More information on these to come.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.

*A recording of this meeting is available on the [Palmdale 2045 YouTube Channel](#)*

*Note: this virtual meeting did not have a sign in sheet for GPAC members or the public.*



# City of Palmdale General Plan Update

## General Plan Advisory Committee

Meeting #7: July 29, 2020 | 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

*Virtual Meeting via Zoom livestreamed to YouTube*

### Meeting Minutes (Final Approved September 23, 2020)

## Meeting Objectives

- Review and discuss three land use alternatives

## Attendees

### GPAC Members

**Present:** Tony Avila, Juan Blanco, Colby Estes, Lourdes T. Everett, Theresa Hambro, Pat Hunt, Teresa Lamping, Deborah Rutkowski-Hines, Joe Parisio, and Jason Zink.

**Absent:** Matthew Harris, Aurora Hernandez, Laura Gordon, and Sheri Kaneshiro

### City Staff

Department of Economic and Community Development: Carlene Saxton, Deputy Director; Megan Taggart, Senior Planner; Ben Fiss, Senior Planner

### Consultant Team

Raimi + Associates: Simran Malhotra and Melissa Stark

### Public

This was a virtual meeting; hence no public sign-in is available.

## Meeting Summary

### 1. Call to Order & Meeting Procedures

The virtual meeting began with a brief overview of the meeting structure, roll call and introductions of City staff, the consultant team and GPAC members, and recital of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Then a brief overview of important Zoom features for GPAC members and procedure for meeting comments and questions was presented. GPAC members asked questions at multiple stopping points throughout the presentation. They also used the “raise hand” nonverbal feedback response in Zoom to alert the team of their question(s). Members of the public were encouraged to follow along and provide feedback through the Palmdale 2045 YouTube Channel and comments forum. Public comments and questions were shared throughout the presentation.

Next, Lourdes Everett motioned to approve GPAC #6 meeting minutes (May 20, 2020) and Pat Hunt seconded the motion, with two correction to the meeting minutes, none opposed so the motion passed.

**2. Overview Presentation**

Simran Malhotra provided an overview of land use and the proposed land use alternatives. This presentation provides background and greater detail into the proposed three land use alternatives for the City of Palmdale as presented to the public in the virtual workshop and survey that opened for public participation on July 15, 2020. A link to the virtual workshop and survey was emailed to the GPAC in advance for review and is also available on the Palmdale 2045 website.

The land use alternatives presentation was divided into three parts: overview of land use, background of land use alternatives, and presentation of three land use alternatives with group discussion. These sections are summarized below.

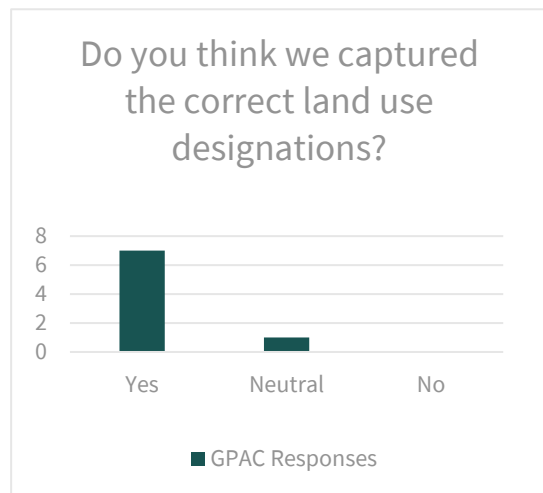
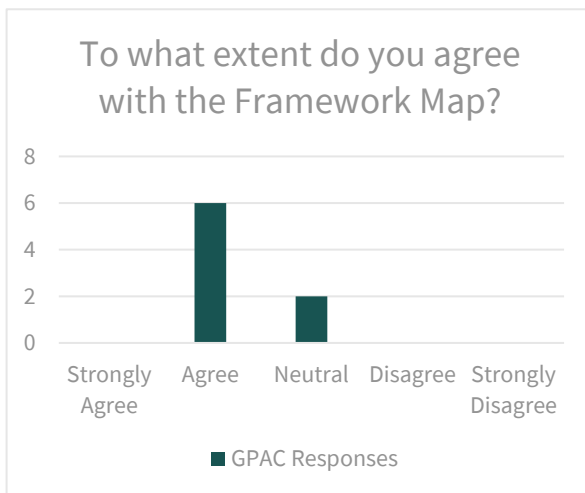
***What is Land Use?***

Simran began the presentation with an overview of land use including the definition, images and examples of different land uses in Palmdale. In this section, maps of existing land use—what is currently on the ground today—as well as current general plan land use were presented.

***Overview of Land Use Alternatives***

This section contained most of the land use alternatives background. Simran began by reviewing the major vision themes that are represented in all alternatives, the purpose of the land use alternatives, and what each alternative tests, also reviewing how the three land use alternatives progress into the preferred land use alternative and General Plan Land Use Map. The remainder of this section was split between several subsections including development constraints analysis, the Palmdale 2045 General Plan Market summary, GPAC and public feedback from meeting #5 Part 2, Palmdale 2045 General Plan Land Use Designations, and the land use framework. This section ended with a discussion of the key elements of each land use alternative.

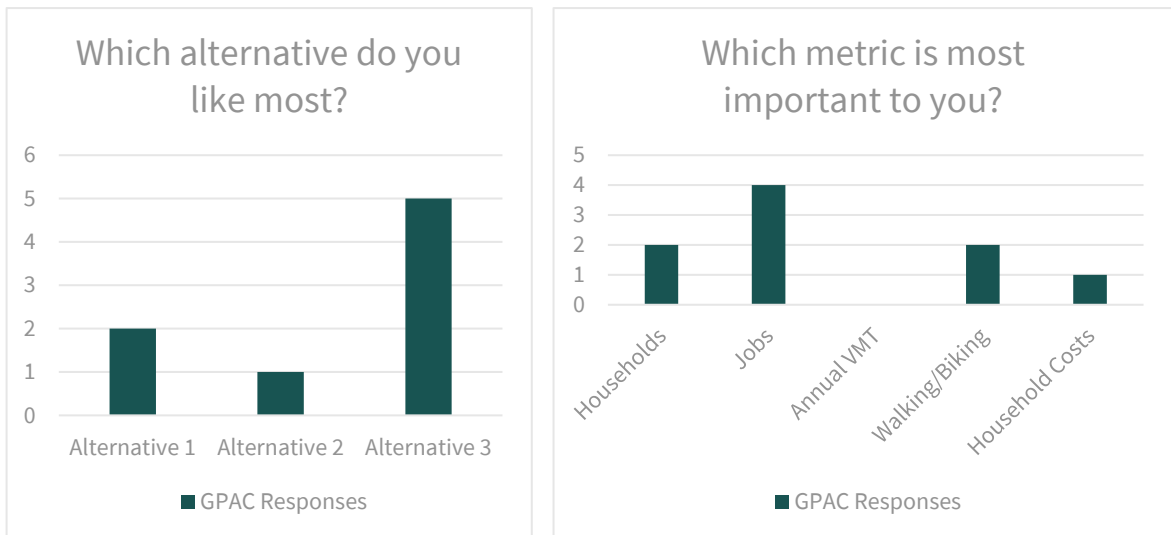
The General Plan Team polled GPAC members during the presentation, below are poll questions and results from this section of the presentation. Please note that some members of the GPAC had connected by phone only and did not have access to the virtual poll.



**Land Use Alternatives**

This section reviewed each of the land use alternatives in detail. Simran highlighted the primary differences between each alternative including housing type and density around Palmdale Boulevard, employment type and density around Plant 42, village center or neighborhood center type near existing neighborhoods, size and location of education and medical districts, as well as amount of regional commercial. A comparison with three metrics for each alternative indicated the types of village center, residential type around downtown and Palmdale Boulevard, and the density of industrial or employment uses. Additional metrics to compare the alternatives included total households, total jobs, annual vehicle miles traveled per household, walking and biking travel mode share, and annual housing costs for transportation, energy and water. The same metrics for the current General Plan were also illustrated as a benchmark.

The General Plan Team polled GPAC members during the presentation, below are poll questions and results from this section of the presentation. Please note that some members of the GPAC had connected by phone only and did not have access to the virtual poll.



**3. Discussion**

After the presentation, the Consultant Team posed a series of questions to spark discussion and collect GPAC member input. The General Plan Team answered various questions from the GPAC as well as those submitted through the online forum from the public. These discussions are summarized below.

***What are your thoughts on the different Education District options and locations?***

- Interested in an alternative that offers one education district on the Westside and one on the Eastside of Palmdale. With both on the Eastside, folks who live on the Westside are closer to Antelope Valley College in Lancaster. We need to serve both sides of Palmdale.
- With the desire to see a 4-year university in Palmdale, we need to consider the future, down the road will we be positioned to get a 4-year university down the road if we split up the education district?
- What is the acreage of the education districts?

- *The General Plan Team noted that they would follow up with that information after the meeting.*
- We should spread the wealth and disperse the education districts onto the Eastside. Currently, the Eastside falls short of having necessary services.
- Prefer Alternative 3 with education centers on both sides of town.

***What are your thoughts on the different Medical District options?***

- Prefer Alternative 3 with the expansion of medical locations, also like the mixed-use neighborhoods alternative and reducing traffic.
- Like the expansion within the existing Palmdale Regional Medical Center area, think there is a good balance, have no strong opinion.
- Feels the Hospital should be on the Eastside.
- The medical district must consider access for medical providers and staff. Ease of access is important, need to be accessible from the Highway.
- Like that the medical center is located near multifamily housing, thinks low-income and senior housing should be near medical center for easy access without a vehicle.
- Transportation is a key point, alternatives show medical districts in the appropriate spot, but need to consider air quality. Palmdale is poised to be an electric city.

***Do we have the right mix between employment uses, residential uses, and mixed use?***

- Prefer Alternative 3 and Alternative 1, which are best on jobs and housing.
- How many years until we are caught up on needed housing?
  - *The General Plan Team responded that the General Plan's role is to plan for future housing, we cannot say with any certainty what will be built. However, we generally plan for 3 times the SCAG RHNA allocation. City staff also mentioned that a map is being finalized for 95 new homes in Palmdale.*
- Like mixed use, young people are leaning towards that. Want to see more mixed-use type of development like the new market that is being developed.
- Like mixed use, hope there are more opportunities for administrative type work in Palmdale to reduce the need for commuting down to the Los Angeles basin.
- Agree, like Alternative 3, but also a lot of housing. Like that Alternative 3 is geared towards jobs, like the mixed use with commercial and residential.
- Employment uses and jobs are more important, we need the tax base to grow to bring more money into the community.
- Like the multi-use and higher density uses, need higher density at 47<sup>th</sup> and Pearblossom Highway, need a 4-year university, need a Junior College on the eastside with university type courses. We need to get Palmdale kids college ready. We also need more county services, and natural open space with connected trails.
- Mixed-use is what we need, more administrative type jobs, more employers within the mixed-use areas.
- Would like to see a combination of Alternative 1 and Alternative 3. Want to have high rate of jobs and high rate of housing.
- The Eastside has more young families, so think the districts and distribution of uses is okay.

***What are your thoughts on the different Village/Neighborhood Center options?***

- Want to have shopping near neighborhoods like a corner stores or corner butcher shop. Prefer the village centers in the third option.

- Prefer Alternative 3, goal is to have neighborhoods within walking distance to store fronts.
- Like the village center in Alternative 3, want to see housing, 1-2 story townhouses, maybe a courtyard setting, and can walk to conveniences. We have a senior population and that style would appear to them.
- Prefer village center 3 option, like having everything close by, walkability, like other bigger cities.
- Prefer Alternative 3, livability and walkability are the future of neighborhoods.
- Oasis Village, 4 Corners and the transportation hub need village centers.
  - *The General Plan Team responded that the village centers are intended to provide commercial hubs within residential areas to create complete neighborhoods. A village center is proposed for 4 Corners. The Transportation Center is covered by the TASP that offer more dense housing and commercial opportunities around the transit station.*
- All have merit, perhaps consider the surroundings when determining the mix of uses, transportation is going to be key.
- Like Alternative 3 with condensed uses on the corridor.
- Do not have a preference.

***Do you have any other priority improvements, strategies, or other thoughts?***

- We need a Junior College in Palmdale, that is the key to the future. It should be located on the Eastside.
- Need to preserve Joshua trees and the natural desert environment.
- We need things for adolescents, we lost the Boys and Girls Club, we need more services for younger people.
- Considering mixed use, where does that put things like parks and open space?
  - *The General Plan Team responded that all new residential development will be required to provide open space. There is an existing parks requirement based on the population. The General Plan can provide a mechanism for funding ongoing maintenance as well as increase the open space requirements for new housing.*
- Feel that we are discussing the right issues, that we are on track.
- We live here and care about the community, we are far away from everything, a lot of people like that, but it makes it hard to live and work here. We need to focus on desirability, promote STEM programs for youth if we want to keep people here. Key aspects are education, things to do, clubs, walkability, housing, open space and parks. We do not want the town to break down.
- Agree that housing and space for youth are critical. We are a strong desert community, but that does not mean we cannot also be cosmopolitan. Consider expanding retail or creating a space like Lancaster Boulevard.
- Poised to be a rural and metro area, sometimes we focus too much on Palmdale Boulevard, want to consider other areas more east.

***Public Questions/Comments (City/Consultant Responses in italics)***

- *A member of the public called with the following comments prior to the GPAC Meeting. This comment was noted during the presentation.*  
 “East of 40th Street to 60th Street East, north and south of Palmdale Blvd is Joshua Tree Habitat and it is identified as residential and mixed use in all three alternatives. Also, north of Avenue O and south of Avenue M between Sierra and 10th Street West is also Joshua Tree habitat and proposed for development in the alternatives.”

- *The General Plan Team responded that the General Plan would address preservation of desert and natural landscape through policies and implementation actions.*
- “What is the difference between neighborhood commercial and regional commercial?”
  - *The General Plan Team clarified that neighborhood commercial is smaller retail located close to existing neighborhoods that offers easily accessible daily goods and services like coffee shops, grocery stores, and smaller offices. Regional commercial is larger big box shopping that a person would likely drive to visit.*

*ADDITIONAL COMMENT SUBMITTED AFTER THE MEETING HAD ENDED*

- “I feel I was ignored and my public input was not considered. Juan said he saw my name on the input. Simran ignored him. She did mention preserving Joshua tree habitats but didn't ask the committee about it. She also didn't answer my comment as to why all 3 alternatives showed development in these wild Joshua areas. Also, I thought a lot of people knew about this. Public input was not present at this meeting!”
  - *This comment was submitted after the meeting ended and therefore not addressed live. Public comments were directed to the survey monkey link provided within the YouTube live description, due to technical difficulties at the start of the YouTube live stream, the chat feature within YouTube was unintentionally active for some time.*

#### **4. Public Comment**

Dozens of viewers watched the livestreamed meeting on YouTube. Two provided official public comment through the online forum. These comments are listed below.

- “Hi. I understand the desire to split the medical services east and west. However, I believe there is also a difference between providing basic medical services, and creating a true medical "center". Research, laboratory facilities and medical support services may be better attracted to a single medical "center". It would be appropriate to ask the medical business and operational industry in order to look at this from more a feasibility level rather than a "I would like to see more medical spread out" approach. As mention, the access to the I-14 freeway is important. Steve J.”
- “So is this the public comment part? What about the chats?”
  - *Public comments were directed to the comments link provided within the YouTube live description, due to technical difficulties at the start of the YouTube live stream, the chat feature within YouTube was unintentionally active for some time. Comments submitted during the meeting through the official comments link were addressed.*

#### **5. Wrap Up and Adjourn**

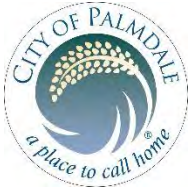
The team invited GPAC members and viewers to attend the virtual workshop and take the online survey available on the Palmdale 2045 website. The team also reminded GPAC members of the upcoming virtual open house on Saturday August 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.

*A recording of this meeting is available on the [Palmdale 2045 YouTube Channel](#)*

*Note: this virtual meeting did not have a sign in sheet for GPAC members or the public.*





# City of Palmdale General Plan Update

## General Plan Advisory Committee

Meeting #8: September 23, 2020 | 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm  
*Virtual Meeting via Zoom livestreamed to YouTube*

### Meeting Minutes (Final Approved October 28, 2020)

## Meeting Objectives

- Provide background on Palmdale parks, open space, conservation, and natural resources and their relationship to the General Plan
- Brainstorm goals and policies that can be included in the General Plan

## Attendees

### GPAC Members

**Present:** Tony Avila, Juan Blanco, Colby Estes, Lourdes T. Everett, Laura Gordon, Theresa Hambro, Matthew Harris, Aurora Hernandez, Pat Hunt, Deborah Rutkowski-Hines, Sheri Kaneshiro, and Jason Zink

**Absent:** Teresa Lamping and Joe Parisio

### City Staff

Department of Economic and Community Development: Carlene Saxton, Deputy Director; Drew Pletcher, Deputy Director; Megan Taggart, Senior Planner; Ben Fiss, Senior Planner

### Consultant Team

Raimi + Associates: Simran Malhotra and Melissa Stark

Rincon Consultants: Joe Power, Lexi Journey, and Andrew Hatt

### Public

This was a virtual meeting; hence no public sign-in is available.

## Meeting Summary

### 1. Call to Order & Meeting Procedures

The virtual meeting began with an outline of the meeting structure, roll call and introductions of City staff, the consultant team and GPAC members, and recital of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Then a brief overview of important Zoom features for GPAC members and procedure for meeting comments and questions was presented. GPAC members asked questions at multiple stopping points throughout the presentation. They also used the “raise hand” nonverbal feedback response in Zoom to alert the team of their question(s). Members of the public were encouraged to follow along and provide feedback through the Palmdale 2045 YouTube Channel and comments forum. Public comments and questions were shared throughout the presentation.

Next, Deborah Rutkowski-Hines motioned to approve GPAC #7 meeting minutes (July 29, 2020) and Pat Hunt seconded the motion, also requesting meeting minutes be shared with GPAC members earlier, none opposed so the motion passed.

## 2. Presentation

Simran Malhotra provided an update on the General Plan, including phase two community engagement and feedback on each of the three land use alternatives. GPAC members were reminded of upcoming small group discussions to hear detailed feedback on the land use alternatives from the Palmdale City Council and Planning Commission.

### Parks, Trails and Open Space

Lexi Journey and Andrew Hatt began the background presentation on parks, trails, and open space with an overview of General Plan regulations including federal and state requirements. The presentation also described how parks can be categorized as neighborhood, community or regional. GPAC members were sent electronic copies of the Public Facilities and Open Space Existing Conditions Report as well as the Conservation Existing Conditions Report in advance of the meeting for context.

The existing conditions overview included an inventory of current parks, trails, parks to population ratio, and parks access analysis.

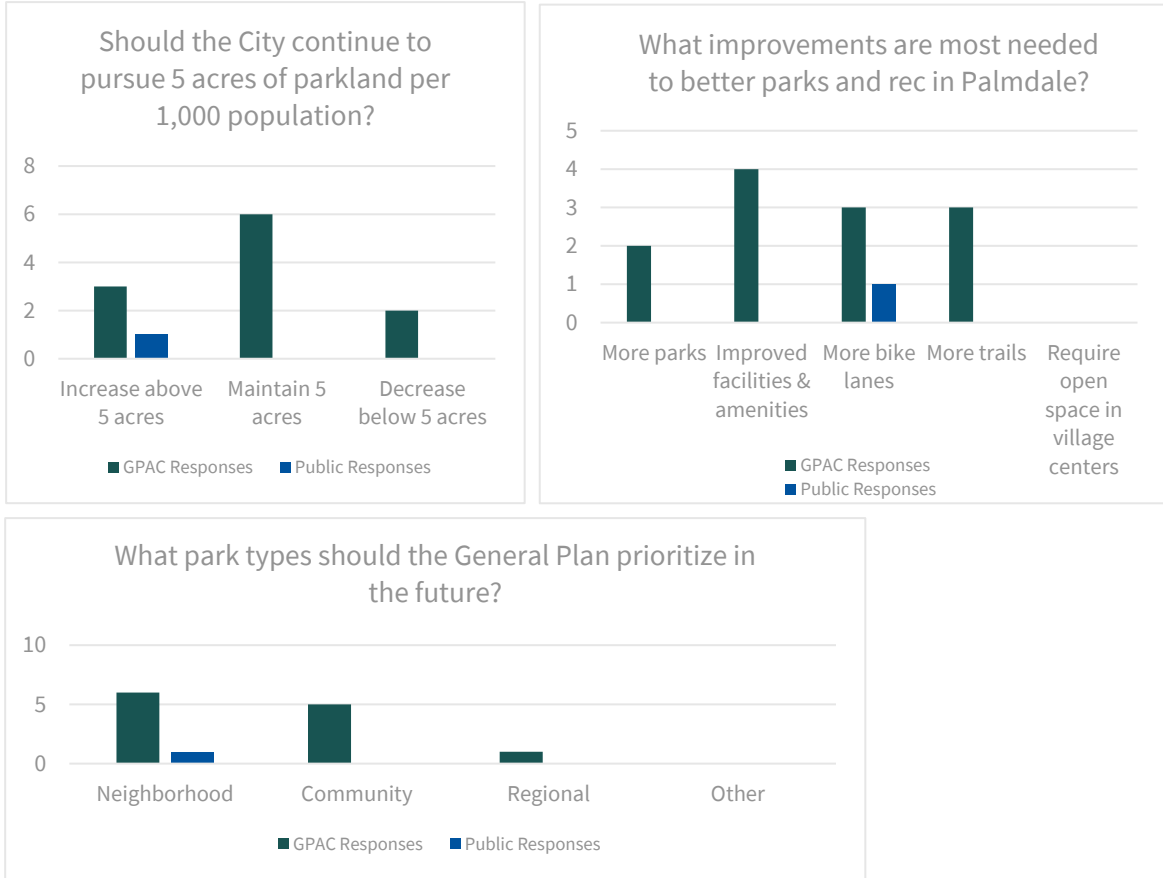
### Feedback

At the end of each section the group stopped for questions and comments. GPAC member comments on parks, trails, and open space are summarized below:

- Regarding the parks inventory, what factors determine the condition of parks in Palmdale?
  - *The team responded that the Los Angeles County needs assessment provides an assessment of all parks in the county. The team noted that they will clarify what factors are assessed.*
- Joshua Trees received a temporary federal designation as an endangered species due to climate change; how will that potentially affect the General Plan Update?
  - *The team requested to come back to this comment – as it is covered later in the presentation.*
- It appears that some parks are not showing on map including the Amargosa Park and Rancho Vista Park.
- The City should set aside areas for protecting Joshua Trees.
- Scenic highways in Palmdale should include Mount Emma Road, 47<sup>th</sup> Street, and Cheseboro Road.
- The parks proximity analysis map includes other recreation centers, like the little league field, that may not be public parks.
  - *The team responded that the parks access analysis was performed at a high-level and did not including amenities present at each facility. The team noted the community's strong desire for more parks in Palmdale while acknowledging the relatively good access to existing parks across the City.*
- One GPAC member requested an inventory of parks by ownership.
  - *The team responded that the Existing Conditions Reports include some ownership information for public facilities that can be referenced.*

**Polls**

Following the first Q&A, the General Plan Team polled GPAC members with a series of questions which a listed below. Please note that not all GPAC members participated in all polls, and members of the public had access to an online polling forum with the same questions as those presented to GPAC members.



**Conservation**

The following section provided background on conservation including protected wildlife species and significant ecological areas. Lexi highlighted several protected species in Palmdale and noted that the city lies almost entirely within the West Mojave Habitat Conservation Plan Area.

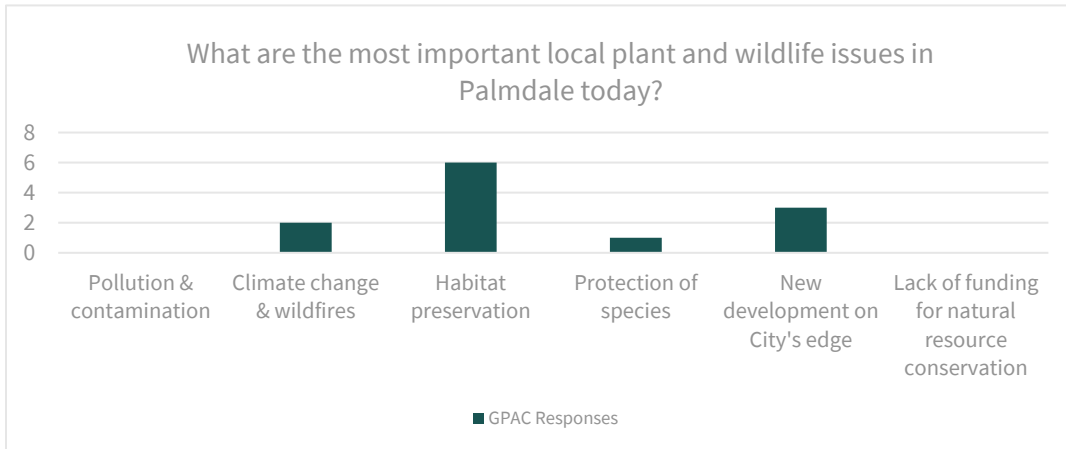
**Feedback**

At the end of each section the group stopped for questions and comments. GPAC member comments on conservation are summarized below:

- Only the trail within Barrel Springs trail is owned by the city, the open space around it is privately owned. The entire area should be protected.
  - *The General Plan Team noted that the policy discussion towards the end of the meeting includes a few suggestions for maintaining and preserving these areas given the ownership.*

**Polls**

The team asked one poll question following the conservation overview. The poll question and results are below. Please note that not all GPAC members participated in all polls, and members of the public had access to an online polling forum with the same questions as those presented to GPAC members.



## Natural Resources

This section provided an overview of the vegetation, natural resource communities, water, mineral, and agriculture resources in Palmdale, as well as existing ordinances in place to protect those natural resources.

On September 22, 2020, the California Fish and Game Commission held a hearing regarding the Joshua Tree, where it was given a temporary designation for a one-year period as a species listed under the California Endangered Species Act. The full impact of this designation is not yet known.

## Feedback

Following the presentation of natural resources, the group paused for discussion and to answer questions. A summary of feedback is listed below:

- How many streams in Palmdale are designated blue line by the Department of Fish and Game?
  - *The General Plan Team noted the Army Corps of Engineers does not have any designated water bodies within the city of Palmdale, and that they will investigate the blue line designations.*
- The City needs to have reclamation plans for the mineral resource areas in Palmdale. Some of the gravel mines are finished with operations, we need to consider what those areas will be in the future.
  - *The General Plan Team responded that each of Palmdale's eight mines are required to have a reclamation plan approved by decision makers and the State, and an annual review of those plans.*
- Palmdale and the Antelope Valley lack a Conservancy District and/or job core program for youth. This should be a priority for the General Plan.
- How has the acreage for natural communities changed in the past 25 years?
  - *The General Plan Team noted that the existing conditions analysis utilized the latest available State data for natural communities.*
- Do we consider the land uses and industries in close proximity to natural communities?
  - *The General Plan Team responded that the focus thus far in the planning process has been on higher-level direct impacts. The General Plan will consider the presence of natural communities and will include policies to protect them. It should be noted that the Joshua Tree listing from the California Fish and Wildlife Commission was largely in response to climate change, which considers global and regional factors.*

- How many Joshua trees have been saved in Palmdale?
  - *The General Plan Team responded that the city has an existing Ordinance to protect Joshua Trees, in the last 13 years 500 Joshua Trees have been transplanted with a 99% success rate. The City is working to coordinate with California Fish and Wildlife to receive delegation authority to continue using the city's Ordinance for protection and maintenance of Joshua Trees. The existing ordinance requires a qualified professional evaluate the site and relocate or save-in-place two trees per acre of land. All transplanted trees must be monitored and thriving for at least two growing seasons.*
- Are there any existing opportunities for a regular citizen to adopt a Joshua Tree that is removed from private property?
  - *The General Plan Team responded that as part of Palmdale's municipal code ordinance, developers are required to notice transplanting of Joshua Trees for 30 days and make them available to the public to adopt for free. This is typically noticed to the public through the newspaper.*
- Does the city track the number of Joshua trees on private property?
  - *The General Plan Team responded that Joshua Trees are not rare in Palmdale and the City has extensive measures to continue monitoring and protecting them. The City is working to retain local control of Joshua Tree preservation, and report back to the group after responses from California Fish and Wildlife.*
- Joshua Trees can be dangerous and very painful.
  - *The General Plan Team agreed and noted that we may want to consider identifying specific remote areas for relocated Joshua Trees.*

### **Existing/Recommended Programs and Policies + Community Insights**

The remaining sections of the presentation reviewed existing programs and policies in Palmdale, community feedback related to parks, open space, natural resources, and conservation, and a series of recommended draft policies and programs based on the background analysis.

### **3. Discussion**

After the presentation, the General Plan Team posed a series of questions to spark discussion and collect GPAC member input. The General Plan Team answered various questions from the GPAC as well as those submitted through the online forum from the public. These discussions are summarized below.

#### ***Several GPAC members want to see more community parks in the city - what kinds of amenities should be in future parks?***

- Desire for more swimming pools since we are in the desert
- Need better access to active parks and trail space
- Desire for additional baseball facilities, youth sports are very important to our community
- Desire to expand current parks and offer other amenities onsite like Central Park in New York City
- Desire to have neighborhoods connected to open space and parks similar to communities in Arizona
- Desire to use reclaimed water to build several little lakes and/or parks within Palmdale
- Like the exercise areas and walking trails at Marie Kerr Park

**Are there any areas of Palmdale that are currently underserved for parks and rec facilities?**

- Generally, the West side of Palmdale is lacking parks
- Park accessibility is important, Marie Kerr Park not accessible for people with young children, need to consider how you access the park and if you have to cross a large street or intersection
- Consider enclosed pools to serve the public year-round
- Consider mini parks and other park types or plazas for new development
- Consider using reclaimed water for dancing fountains during hot months
- Status update on Rancho Vista Park?
  - *The General Plan Team responded that the park is scheduled to break ground in November 2020.*
- Should continue to require that new development provide additional park space
- Certain areas on the East side of Palmdale do not have access to park space
- Add public gathering spaces and park like features to future village centers as a part of private development, so that the City is not responsible for maintenance

**How should the city balance new development and conservation?**

- Adopt a new policy for Joshua trees including designated areas for relocation
- Focus preservation of Joshua Trees by Plant 42, where development could hinder plant operations
- Need policies to balance and control both new development and conservation, Palmdale needs economic development

**Are there other amenities you would like to see in parks and public spaces?**

- Consider using reclaimed water for splash pads around the city, like at Poncitlán Square
- Desire for more dog parks in Palmdale
- Protect bird habitat at Lake Palmdale
  - *The General Plan Team responded that there are existing strict Federal and State regulations in place protecting birds. New construction is required to perform nesting bird surveys prior to development. The team also noted that a bird watching area could be integrated into new parks and open space.*
- Consider adding misters and other water features to parks
- Consider retaining natural seasonal water to support wildlife in Palmdale
  - *The General Plan Team responded that California Fish and Wildlife is not a proponent of interfering with natural streams and wildlife, but a possible idea that could be explored further in the future.*

**Are there any issues related to park maintenance?**

- Concerns over light and safety, especially bathroom security, however, the City has done a great job of keeping the community updated through ongoing parks meetings

**Other comments**

- Desire for better access to Ritter Ranch and dam area
- Desire for a golf course on the East side of Palmdale
- Desire for the City to resume control of the flood control basin and use for recreation by adding trees, trails, add recycled water
- Desire to see a nature preserve like Lancaster's K8 and 30<sup>th</sup> Street West

#### **4. Public Comment**

A handful of viewers watched the livestreamed meeting on YouTube. None, however provided official public comment through the online forum.

#### **5. Wrap Up and Adjourn**

Simran closed the evening's meeting with an overview of next steps. The GPAC will return for a discussion on the preferred land use alternative in November or December 2020 with future meetings on other topics such as health and equity, safety, and transportation and land use.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

*One GPAC member sent additional thoughts during and after GPAC meeting #8 via email. Those messages are attached below for reference.*

*A recording of this meeting is available on the [Palmdale 2045 YouTube Channel](#)*

*Note: this virtual meeting did not have a sign in sheet for GPAC members or the public.*

---

## GPAC 8 Question

---

Wed, Sep 23, 2020 at 6:17 PM

Where is AC Warnack Park and Armargosa Park?

it says we have a standard of 5 acres per 1,000

We have 356 acres We have population of 160,000 residents we should have 800 acres I think right...we need more Parks

What is the estimated build out population and what are the acres needed ....example 400,000 residence (5 acres per 1,00) = 2,000 acres needed?

---

## GPAC 8 Question

---

Wed, Sep 23, 2020 at 6:23 PM

Need Open Space Park Barrel Springs around Palmdale Lake, Una Lake, Indian Ponds(35th East Barrel Springs) and along Barrel Springs Rd and Palmdale Water District Ditch to save Desert Landscape and grass areas. Also not all the water ditch from Littlerock Dam to Palmdale Lake should be covered. It should run like a stream like now with trail bridges crossing over it.

---

## Need more parks

---

Wed, Sep 23, 2020 at 6:30 PM

Where is areas the GPAC thinks they should be. I saw a map that had mile circles around parks to show where they are needed. I don't know if that was from GPAC map hand out or another city map.





**Subject:** GPAC Feedback

I feel that the GPAC committee needs more information from City and more Vision and discussion time. If we are really going to bringing higher standards here. I hear everyone say "we want to be like Santa Clarita City and other places with higher nicer standards" then we need to visualize more pictures more ideas from other places to incorporate them here. Cut and Paste, take the best ideas from other places and make them in Palmdale.

We need to identify areas for parks and open space now so developers can design their housing tract maps to include trails to the parks. Master Plan so you can connect the dots(trails) to parks. In Arizona every housing tract has walk trails that connect to park and flood basin parks and its all green with desert trees and landscaping. And they have park lakes they use recycled water in them.....they have less water and its hotter there. If they can do it we can. Frist Park Lake(ground water recharge) should be at McAdams Park on 5 acres of vacant land to the north between park and bowling alley. Then Dry Town flood Basin.

Needs to have a Master Plan for Gravel Mines made right now. Hire a designer today to make a artis concept plan so its city has a reclamation overview plan of the whole area make it the city's responsibility paid for by gravel mine operators. It's really just Common sense to take the lead now because at the end city has to deal with it. I bet there is free grant money from California Minning Resources to pay for it.

Need Education Facilities needs study. Hire company today. Work with local School Districts(AVC, AVUHSD, PSD, Keppel, Wilsona, Charters) County and State on Junior College Campus and Lancaster and others on State University.

City might consider taking over flood control basins from County so we can use them for Parks. Example Dry Town ugly Eyesore Flood Basin, make it part of landscaping park with walking trail and lake in it. And we can clean up graffiti in those areas that city says is county responsibility. Make tax agreement with County and take them over today.

There is not one grass park East of Sierra Hwy North of Palmdale Blvd or South of Rail Road Tracks. Need to identify and buy now while land is cheap. Need a neighborhood park on far Westside(70th W & Ave M area)too. 20th E & Ave Q , 30th East & Q, 45th E & Q4, 70th E etc.... need staff to identify parcels now. I will help with my real estate background of local parcels. This park map GPAC members were given does not show

Rancho Vista, Armagosa, AC Warnack Parks. It should show them and future potential park sites and Bikeways in the next meeting. So we can plan. PWD just picked up 20 acres for back taxes on Ave S8 and 65th East for hardly nothing. Make it a park with a lake. Why should PWD spend \$100+ Million on land way out there and pump water back to the city. Take that \$+)100 Million and build parks in city. Be smart and make Palmdale a paradise. Common sense.

Bikeways should be Ave S(almost done), Ave R8, Ave Q, Rancho Vista Blvd(would of looked so nice to do one on the Northside of Blvd between Marie Kerr and AV Mall with white rail and trees, Armagosa, Elizabeth Lake Rd, Tierra Subdia, 70th E, 40th East maybe need to look at what streets are possible.

We need a Deseret Habitat Land Bank owned by the City for development impact. That way we can stay pro-business pro-growth. No road blocks or delays. No wasted time in long planning and council meetings people fighting development. I have expressed the need for city to own land along Barrel Springs Rd from Palmdale Lake-Una Lake-Indian Ponds-Cienega Littlerock Creek. S.E.A area. Look see the center on map in green San Andreas.

Buy this 230 acres(link below) for \$2M along with that 20 acres Barrel Springs trail head \$200,000 that I have suggested you to buy for last 10 years. Along with Indian ponds 63 acres for \$1M and you have a start to preserving land. For \$10 Million City investment the City could be set up nice with Land Bank Preserve that the developers will pay back city for over time(they pay mortgagepayments). Get a certificate of deposit city loan on City revenue. You could do this tomorrow, you should of years ago. Yiu could arrange SupervisorBarger to make mortgage payments on land with County Park tax generatedin City limits. Get them in escrow just say "Jason you have our blessing just get it done".....it's so simple and easy. Sometimes other people have talent and skills and you need to use it. 30 years since last City update and the city does not own one piece of land as a Habitat preserve that is of value like Lancaster Preserve, it's really Very sad for our city when it is so easy to do.

230 acres Una Lake Barrel Springs Rd \$2M

<https://www.loopnet.com/Listing/Multiple-Lots-Palmdale-CA/11894618/>

20 acres Barrel Springs Trail Head \$200,000

100+ acres of other properties in that stretch  
\$1M

63 acres Indian Ponds \$1M

<https://www.loopnet.com/Listing/Avenue-T-8-37th-St-Palmdale-CA/20451933/>

50 acres around Lake Palmdale \$1 M

\$5.5M to develop it with trails, park facilities, parking and signage.

\$10M Total

GPAC needs a Bus Tour of Palmdale like I suggested last year. I think City Council and Planning Commission needs to do this too by the way. Rent a Hollywood double deck open air bus for committee so we can see and talk together about Palmdale and Vision. There is not enough input coming from GPAC members of thoughts and ideas in my opinion and in my opinion it's because they don't know Palmdale like some other members do. They can't visualize what is being talked about. I don't like being the only one that talks....I wait for others to give input and very few do and I'm like well how about this and then consultant shuts me off. That is not cool. If I have ideas I should never be limited....no one should. We should go for hours in discussion, that is what this is all about. If we are just going to rubber stamp staff what is the point?

Remember Palmdale is huge even if you don't count the land around Airport or Ritter Ranch far away open space(which I think should not be included in living area of Palmdale discussion. We need to concentrate on Living area and then that area as a side-note. You can't say Palmdale is 50% undeveloped because you include that area. Needs two talking points of Palmdale Living land area and Palmdale with the Airport land. This area should have a specific plan

It was also discussed at GPAC 8 that residents could adopt Joshua Trees that are being torn down to plant in their yard. Never heard that before. Maybe advertise it more with web page off City Website.

What makes this picture of Barrel Springs Trail so beautiful?

Yes you have a trail but the beauty is the "LAND" that surrounds the trail and the city "doesn't" own any of it. Its very sad because everyone thinks the City does own it and it should. Action/Urgency needed in City Leadership!

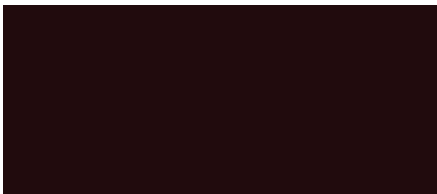
We need a Antelope Valley State Conservancy and Ca Conservation Job Corp. We are one of the only places in the State that does not have one and we are losing millions annually from the State Budget and during State and County Park and Water Bonds in line item direct grants. Who ever wins in November; Steve Fox(who promised me he would propose legislation in the first year) or Lackey or Wilk, they have to make it happen. Mayor Hofbauer I thought of all people because of your background in Boy Scouts you would of been on this years ago to make happen when I brought it to your attention. Always No action and excuses but all it take is a city letter to start things. We have one of the top retired State Federal Forrest higher ups that lives in Palmdale and he is on board to help and you do nothing when you have the power to do it. If the Mayor doesn't push it, then Council members and/or staff should because it's the right thing and smart thing too do! We are too far behind the rest of California, we have to

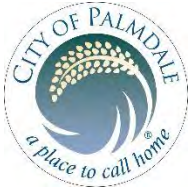
advance and put Palmdale/AV at the State Table on an even playing field to get our fair share of respect and taxes.

Lastly Palmdale Blvd. control. I dont understand for the life of me why Palmdale City has not pushed and made Ave P8 Freeway from 14 Freeway to 50th St. East "FIRST PHASE OF HIGH DESERT CORRIDOR". Stop grouping this section with the whole damn project. This section is seperate and unique and serves more purpose then connecting Victorville. The money for it is there to finish this section for Hwy 138 realignment. \$300 Million is sitting there already in account(set aside for righ-of-way). This will give City control of Palmdale Blvd. And put in new Roundabout on 47th. Have City get estimates for this section of Freeway, 50th St. East improvements and Roundabout from Caltrans.

I hope this feedback helps you out. I hope the city takes my comments positive(I might sound negative at times but years has gone by and things that are easy aren'tbeing done). All I want is for a betterment of city to make it a beautiful place too live and be proud of. A Healthy Walkable Sustainable Lifestyle Community =)

Sincerely,





# City of Palmdale General Plan Update

## General Plan Advisory Committee

Meeting #8: October 28, 2020 | 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

*Virtual Meeting via Zoom livestreamed to YouTube*

### Meeting Minutes (Adopted January 13, 2021)

## Meeting Objectives

- Provide background on health and equity in Palmdale
- Brainstorm goals and policies that can be included in the General Plan

## Attendees

### GPAC Members

#### Present:

Tony Avila, Juan Blanco, Colby Estes, Lourdes T. Everett, Laura Gordon, Theresa Hambro, Matthew Harris, Aurora Hernandez, Pat Hunt, Deborah Rutkowski-Hines, Sheri Kaneshiro, Teresa Lamping, and Jason Zink

**Absent:** None

### City Staff

Department of Economic and Community Development: Carlene Saxton, Acting Director; Drew Pletcher, Deputy Director; Megan Taggart, Acting Planning Manager; Ben Fiss, Senior Planner

### Consultant Team

Raimi + Associates: Simran Malhotra and Melissa Stark

### Public

This was a virtual meeting; hence no public sign-in is available.

## Meeting Summary

### 1. Call to Order & Meeting Procedures

The virtual meeting began with an outline of the meeting structure, roll call, introductions of City staff, the consultant team and GPAC members, and recital of the Pledge of Allegiance. The group was notified that Joe Parisio stepped down from the GPAC. Alternate member, Colby Estes, will now become a regular GPAC member.

Members of the public were encouraged to follow along and provide feedback through the Palmdale 2045 YouTube Channel and online comments forum.

Next, Pat Hunt motioned to approve GPAC #8 meeting minutes (September 23, 2020) and Juan Blanco seconded the motion. None opposed so the motion passed.

Pat Hunt reiterated the desire to receive draft meeting minutes early, to which the General Plan Team agreed and noted that the previous GPAC minutes were sent within two weeks of the last meeting.

**2. Presentation**

Simran Malhotra led the evenings presentation which began with an overview of equity, SB 1000, identification of disadvantaged communities, and questions to consider throughout the presentation.

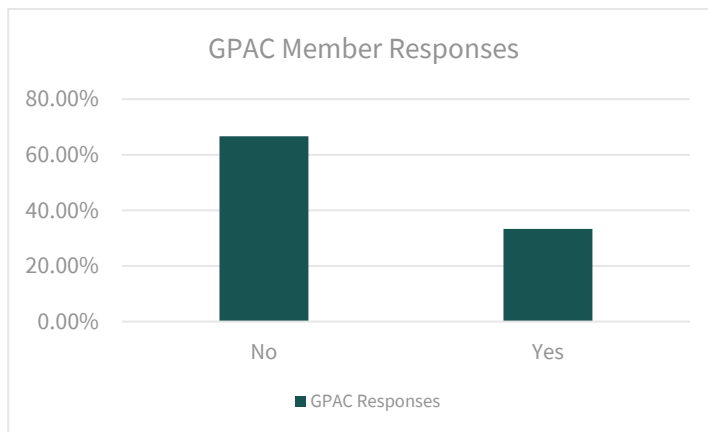
Simran described the methodology and requirements as per SB 1000, the guidance for which has been developed by the Office of Planning and Research and released in June 2020. The presentation was split into seven sections: methodology for community health assessments, social determinants of health, health outcome assessment, built environment assessment, environmental pollution assessment, conclusions, and draft policy topics for discussion. The conclusions section contained maps with the census tracts identified as disadvantaged per the methodology. A modified map that removed the vacant portions of these census tracts was also provided.

GPAC Members were sent an electronic copy of the Public Health and Equity Existing Conditions Report in advance of the meeting for context, links to the Healthy Places Index website that was used for the data in the analysis, and a worksheet with two discussion questions. GPAC members were asked to provide their responses to the worksheet by Monday, November 2, 2020.

**Feedback**

During the presentation, the group stopped for questions, comments, and to administer two polls. Please note that not all GPAC members participated in all polls. Members of the public had access to an online forum with the same questions as those presented to GPAC members, however, there were no responses. GPAC member comments and questions, General Plan team responses, and zoom poll results are summarized below:

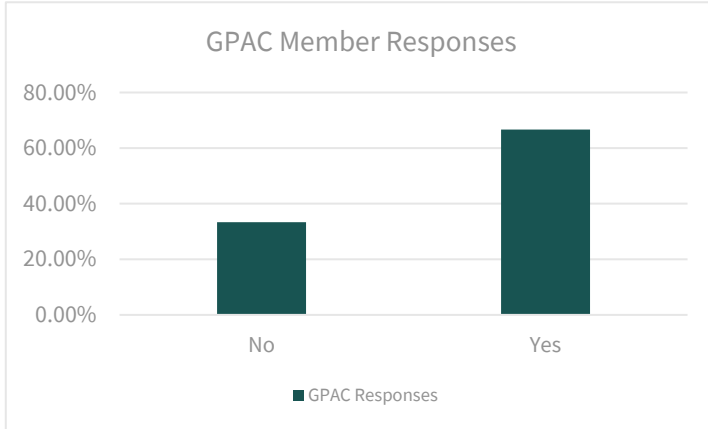
**1. Are we missing any factors to establish health and equity?**



*GPAC Comments on the first poll:*

- Equity in physical fitness across Palmdale. Including access to sports, access to public parks, etc.
- Lower education attainment and lower income also affect health and equity in Palmdale

**2. Do you think there is an issue of equity in Palmdale today?**



No additional GPAC comments on the second poll.

**GPAC questions and comments on the presentation:**

- The median household income census tract map shows a dark area for lower income, but on the second map the same area is showing as vacant. Can you explain why?
  - *The General Plan team noted that information is provided for the entire census tract. Majority of a census tract may be vacant with a small portion of households in one area. The data presented is for the entire census tract, which we agree can be misleading initially. A map that illustrates the vacant portions of these tracts was also presented.*
- Where is the median household income (for census tracts) data presented in this presentation from?
  - *This set of data is from the American Community Survey which is updated every year looking back at a five-year period.*
- Based on the number of cars and trucks in Los Angeles, how can Palmdale create more ozone pollution than the Los Angeles County Basin? These numbers seem skewed, I feel that Los Angeles County dumps on us in Palmdale.
- We have thousands of new jobs protected in the Antelope Valley; population numbers are going to change. We are working on improving things now through the General Plan, how soon will this plan address these issues?
  - *The General Plan team clarified that the purpose of sharing this analysis is not to focus on the results, but to see how things could and should change. What are the policy directives that we can look at and what actions should be taken to address these impacts? How do we make changes? We are here to discuss this tonight.*
- I am concerned with the health and education of Palmdale. The data is showing that both are 20% worse than Los Angeles County. I wish we could look at where people are living in isolation. If you remove the west side, Palmdale does not look like a great place to live.

- To my knowledge Palmdale is worse than Los Angeles County in more than 14 different sectors when looking at key indicators of health. Which data do we use? Are all sources essentially saying the same thing?
  - *The General Plan Team responded that we are using secondary data as required that is available through the State, County, Federal sources and the American Community Survey (ACS). Several indices show specific areas in Palmdale as highly vulnerable including the Healthy Places Index, the detailed CalEnviroScreen results, and the social vulnerabilities indicators from the CDC. Additionally, while the composite score for CalEnviroScreen shows no areas as being impacted, when we look at individual pollution indicators in combination with low income tracts, we see several tracts being identified as DACs. This is primarily due to ozone pollution.*
- This analysis shows the entire city is impacted. What do we do with this data? How do we apply it?
  - *The General Plan Team responded that this analysis shows portions of the City are identified as disadvantaged communities per the required State methodology. There are built environment impacts, access, and environmental impacts. With this data, we understand that health and equity are issues that the General Plan can and should address through policies and actions.*
- This element affects so many other parts of the General Plan. What can we do to address these health issues? It is a vicious circle.
- We have less grocery stores in Palmdale and more fast-food restaurants. How are people supposed to access health foods in Palmdale? Why is Palmdale letting more liquor stores open? It relates to the ongoing health issues.
- In certain areas of the city there are few grocery stores and an abundance of convenience stores that sell tobacco products and liquor.
- Senior and low-income apartments in Palmdale do not have access to a grocery store. Many health problems and disparities are concentrated on the East side of Palmdale.
- A lot of other cities have frequent farmers markets, can we promote and encourage that in Palmdale? It is hard to entice grocers and supermarkets to locate in an area.
  - *The General Plan Team responded that a farmers' market would be a great addition to Palmdale, the city currently does not have any certified farmers markets. Palmdale could potentially support multiple farmers markets across the city.*
- New grocery stores are tied to housing. Developers will look at the housing data and population information before locating a new supermarket. I believe the loss of redevelopment and strict environmental regulation makes it difficult to develop in California.
  - *The team responded that the General Plan would establish policies to attract the right kind of users in certain locations. It will serve as a framework for desired changes to occur.*
- I agree that development fees are too high in Palmdale, it is hurting the middle class.
- What are the control mechanisms for keeping uses like housing, retail, and jobs, etc. balanced in Palmdale?
  - *There are several things the city can do through policy like require phasing of multi-use developments to include retail within a certain timeframe of residential development.*



### 3. Policy Direction Discussion

The GPAC focused on policy direction to improve health and equity for the group discussion, as opposed to specific questions identified in advance. A summary of the feedback by policy topic area is listed below. These are in addition to the topics presented for discussion.

#### Food Access

- New farmers markets throughout town
- Town center and downtown as key locations for supporting new farmers markets
- Open air markets on vacant parking lots

#### Air Quality/Respiratory Health

- Management and expansion of trees
- Discourage cigarette sales and stand-alone liquor stores and discourage clustering of liquor stores near sensitive uses
- Consider an electric tram from Ritter Ranch to Plant 42
- Consider low or-no pollen vegetation for new plantings across Palmdale, as pollen can increase asthma

#### Obesity

- Safety and access to parks, recreation programs, etc. are issues and why many people do not use the existing services and facilities
- Increase family events that promote health and being active at City Hall
- Free or reduced rate activities and programs in Palmdale
- Encourage partnerships with non-profits to improve access to recreational opportunities

#### Housing

- Mixed-use development
- Improve housing affordability

#### Income/Education Disparities

- Educational opportunities on the East Side and West side
- Bring trade schools in Palmdale

#### Other comments

- Desire for more tree management.
- Grocery stores will not locate in areas where they are not allowed to sell liquor or cigarettes.
- Consider AVQMD involvement in our GPAC as a reviewing agency.
- For equity purposes, the library is considering stopping late fees and fees for activities in Palmdale.
- High rate of foster youth in Palmdale who cannot pay service and facility fees for recreation.
- How does Palmdale compare to Los Angeles County for private home loans? Are prospective residents being approved at the same rate?
- Supply versus demand is pushing housing prices up in Palmdale, there is a lack of housing and lack of rental units.
- Consider parking needs with new housing types.

**4. Public Comment**

A handful of viewers watched the livestreamed meeting on YouTube. None, however provided official public comment through the online forum.

**5. Wrap Up and Adjourn**

Simran closed the evening’s meeting with an overview of next steps. The GPAC will return for a discussion on the preferred land use alternative in November or December 2020 with future meetings on other topics such as transportation and land use.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.

*One GPAC member sent thoughts prior to GPAC meeting #9 via email. GPAC members were encouraged to provide their responses to the discussion questions shared in advance. All responses received are attached.*

*A recording of this meeting is available on the [Palmdale 2045 YouTube Channel](#)*

*Note: this virtual meeting did not have a sign in sheet for GPAC members or the public.*

# Attachment:

**GPAC Worksheet Responses + Notes**

# Palmdale GPAC #9 Worksheet

Health + Equity | October 28, 2020

## Instructions

This worksheet corresponds to the General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC) presentation and discussion held on October 28, 2020 covering health and equity in Palmdale. Please use this worksheet to write down your individual notes and responses to the discussion questions below. Completed worksheets should be returned to the city of Palmdale by Monday November 2, 2020 at [generalplan@cityofpalmdale.org](mailto:generalplan@cityofpalmdale.org).

1. Based on the assessments, what are the most critical health and equity topics that the General Plan should address?

Based on the assessments, the most critical health and equity topics that merit attention are as follows:

Land Use- Built Environment	1st Priority
Transportation - Accessibility	2nd Priority

2. What ideas do you have for improving health and equity outcomes in Palmdale?

- What goals should be established?
- Are there specific targets to strive for?
- How can we measure success?
- What specific policies, actions or funding are needed to improve health and equity?

The tables presented on the following pages is a tool for guiding implementation and or facilitating discussion on the topics from the previous question.

Health/Equity Issue	Action	Focus Area	Topic	Supporting Information
<p>The number of alcohol/tobaccos, fast food, convenience, liquor stores surpasses the number of supermarkets in zip code 93550.</p>	<p>develop an ordinance that restricts the location and concentration of liquor stores in all of the City’s neighborhoods, and within 500 feet of schools and parks. Include an incentive program to facilitate the transition of liquor stores to food markets and local grocery stores. Consider restricting stand-alone liquor stores similar to smoke shops.</p> <p>Identify fast food and liquor/convenience stores as “conditional uses” only, conduct conditional use review upon lease renewal or at point of business sale/</p>	<p>Liquor Store Ordinance</p>	<p><b>Built Environment</b></p>	<p>Zip Code 93550 is the only zip code (vs. 93551 &amp; 93552) who has more convenience, liquor, and tobacco stores than supermarkets. The dearth of supermarkets and saturation of unhealthy outlets puts this community at an inequitable disadvantage that exacerbates the poverty and poor health.</p>
<p>The bus system in the city is very limited and prevents/deters people from using our bus.</p>	<p>Public transit service should connect major destinations in Palmdale including education institutions, community facilities, regional open space areas and major commercial corridors to serve a greater number of riders and reduce commuter vehicle miles. All housing units and employment centers in Palmdale should have access to a local and regional public transit stop. Ensure that all transit stations and routes to and from these stations are safe. Support efforts to expand service at night and on weekends and to make transit affordable and accessible to people of all abilities,</p>	<p><b>Accessibility to transit</b></p>	<p><b>Transportation</b></p>	<p>One of the most common crimes in Palmdale is car theft and the most common reason is need for transportation. A question to ponder: Would improving our transit system eliminate/lower the need to steal cars?</p>

	seniors, youth and low-income households.			
--	---	--	--	--

	Improved Safety in Neighborhoods and Public Spaces	Liquor Store Ordinance		
<b>Bicyclists are forced to ride in dangerous conditions due to the fact that the roads are not inclusive</b>	Explore innovative solutions such as bicycle-sharing programs and encourage businesses, schools and residential developments to provide secure bicycle parking to ensure that these ecologically-friendly, low-impact transportation modes are available to all community members, thereby reducing emissions from vehicles within the City, improving environmental quality and enhancing mobility and connectivity	<b>Inclusive road development to include bicyclists.</b>	<b>Transportation</b>	
<b>The roads are uneven and the terrain is not geared for pedestrians which restricts access to city amenities/features for pedestrians, bikes, and elderly/disabled populations.</b>	Promote walking and bicycling as a safe and convenient mode of transportation. Improve pedestrian and bicycle amenities to serve the recreation and travel needs of residents and visitors in all parts of Palmdale. Where feasible, the City could: connect major destinations such as parks, open spaces, civic facilities, employment centers, retail and recreation areas with pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure; promote shared roadways in residential streets; require new development and redevelopment projects to provide pedestrian and bicycle amenities, streetscape improvements and linkages to planned and completed City and regional multi-use trails; and develop safe routes to schools and out-of-school programs that allow access by bicycle and pedestrian paths or reliable and safe transit.	<b>Physical Barriers and Accessibility</b>	<b>Environmental Environment</b>	

<p>The inequity is due in part to an imbalance between economy, equity and environment.</p>	<p>Develop and adopt tools to routinely evaluate the health impact of new projects, plans, and developments; track how developments are incorporating health (e.g. physical activity, healthy food, improved safety) and share the findings with residents via city newsletter ensuring that the report is available in Spanish for non English speakers and accessible at public facilities (e.g. library) for homeless residents.</p>	<p>Balance between equity, economy, and environment</p>	<p>Built Environment</p>	
---	---	---	--------------------------	--

# Palmdale GPAC #9 Worksheet

Health + Equity | October 28, 2020

## Instructions

This worksheet corresponds to the General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC) presentation and discussion held on October 28, 2020 covering health and equity in Palmdale. Please use this worksheet to write down your individual notes and responses to the discussion questions below. Completed worksheets should be returned to the city of Palmdale by Monday November 2, 2020 at [generalplan@cityofpalmdale.org](mailto:generalplan@cityofpalmdale.org).

1. **Based on the assessments, what are the most critical health and equity topics that the General Plan should address?**

Placing apartments close to, or adjacent to, Park & rides, mall, transportation center to minimize travel in vehicles (personal). Especially important to put low income in those areas close to the freeway and travel.

2. **What ideas do you have for improving health and equity outcomes in Palmdale?**

- What goals should be established?
- Are there specific targets to strive for?
- How can we measure success?
- What specific policies, actions or funding are needed to improve health and equity?

I think we need to protect specific types of housing that are not popular elsewhere, but are popular here. For example - we should protect the horse properties that we have with larger lots. We need to protect some of our farmland & we need to provide choice in housing - in other words - keep suburbs suburban by "stepping down" lot sizes as you get closer to the city center & transportation hubs & continuing to allow larger lots as you get further away from amenities.



---

## Palmdale GPAC #9

---

JASON ZINK <zinkjason@hotmail.com>

Tue, Oct 27, 2020 at 6:48 PM

To: "melissa@raimiassociates.com" <melissa@raimiassociates.com>

Cc: p Steve Hofbauer <steve.hofbauer@gmail.com>, Juan Carrillo <architectillo@yahoo.com>, Laura Bettencourt <bettencourt2016@yahoo.com>, Austin Bishop <austin@printingboss.com>, Richard Loa <richardloa@gmail.com>

Just wanted to give feedback on this for GPAC staff and City Council. I think the Council will understand what I have been saying when they see the HPI Data and Map. I wished 1-3-5-10 years would stop going by without City doing anything. In 2021 I hope it is finally addressed and the Palmdale College and other things become reality rapidly.

Healthy Places Index(HPI) Health and Education Equity topics for our City.

### Health Equity:

**-Central Palmdale Civic Courson Park area** . Need Health Education Center(like LA Health Center on Palmdale Blvd and 20th East put closer to Courson to serve most at need). Need Community Gym and outside Education Workout Stations at Courson Park and another one placed at Hammack Center for residents on that side of Palmdale Blvd. like was done for Pelona Park with AV Healthcare District.

-Need a Grocery Store(not one walkable grocery store within a 3/4 of a mile of Courson Park and Village. Yet this area has higher density zoned with lower income residents that do not have vehicles to drive to the store. Move LA County Offices out of Old Grocery Store Building Shopping Center and put it back for residents. Move County offices into 2 story offices building across the street or old DMV vacant buildings area. This area also has the highest Black population in the city and city is not providing equal opportunity to that population and senior citizens. This is about as big of a social justice equality example that needs to be fixed as you could think of. Not providing Fresh Fruits and Vegetables and food to a vulnerable population. This is the perfect LA Times Story of city shame. Palmdale Planning and Zoning and Manager, Housing and Economic Department's needs to bring higher standards for residents. This has been going on far too long and not being addressed by City. Common sense real easy fix.

-More Dog Parks and designate potty area in New Apartment/Condos projects make it nicer for all.

-Need active senior housing tract community developed for aging population that want to down size.

-Need to incorporate more walking & jogging trails with exercise stations. Data shows fewer active people live on the Eastside.

-Need showers placed at every park to cool down and wash-up to make exercising more enjoyable.

-Need more community parks and trails in open space areas to preserve land and provide walking and jogging trails. Lancaster Prime Desert Woodlands and Apollo Park example. Please go visit City Staff and Raimi Associates. Maybe someone can take New City Manager and his family and new city staff members to walk the park and get them excited for Palmdale. Maybe ask Don the President of AV Audobon Society to give you a tour. Your kids will love it and you will too.

-Natural Bird Watching designated areas around Palmdale, Una Lake and Indian Ponds(Barrel Springs Rd/Ave T-8 and around 37th East.

-Golf Course possible and Man-Made Lake for Eastside need to be developed like Apollo Park, Lake Balboa and Echo Park in LA with recycled Water. Turn Palmdale into a paradise with recycled sewer water and recharge the ground table at the same time. Palmdale is one of the few big cities in the nation that does not do this. Why have a recycled joint board with City and PWD if you're not going to develop our resources to the fullest to benefit residence. Years wasted and millions of dollars in grant opportunities lost for Palmdale. I don't get it?????. How are you going to attract top companies and wealth to our City if it looks mediocre???????

-Develop with Littlerock Creek and Irrigation District Regional Park at Ciénaga Falls.

-Develop Littlerock Gravel Pit Master Reclamation Park Plan.

-More Swimming Pools. There should be a Swimming pool near every High Schools in our City. We live in the desert make it fun =). Form a partnership with High School District and City. Knight High does not have one for our Kids and Senior Citizens on the far Eastside.

-Senior and Community High Heat and relaxing Centers placed all over Palmdale like at Palmdale Library but also at Dry Town, Yellen?, Rancho Vista area.

-EMERGENCY ROOM for Eastside.

- Form Health Partnership with AV Hospital Healthcare District, Palmdale Regional, LA County. Gather Data taken of resident. Provide a detailed Palmdale State of Health Report to track data on suicides, drug overdoses, heart attacks, births, diabetes, strokes, child abuse, domestic violence, rape, cancer, fallen down accidents, drownings Track ER waiting times of AV, Palmdale and Mayo Hospital in Santa Clarita to bring higher standards and shorter ER times.
- Look at developing an Antelope Valley Health Insurance Company like some communities in the nation have to bring higher standards for our Valley's local residence and jobs it creates.
- Palmdale City and Lancaster and AV Towns pay a Trauma property tax of about \$12-15 Million collectively each year and we only receive maybe half of it now after decades of being taken advantage of by LA County. We were only getting around \$3 Million annually. We need to bring more of the tax money generated here back to the City and Antelope Valley. Need AV area tax Audit done to show we are not getting our fair share.
- Medical training Campus at Palmdale Regional and County Clinic on 40th East and Palmdale Blvd along with AVC, County, State, Kaiser.
- Elderly Care Facilities along Blvd between 38th East and 47th East.
- Fire stations should have Community Rooms to teach CPR, Emergency preparedness and storage for regional disaster supplies for that area around fire station.

### **Education Equity:**

-Need Palmdale Junior Community College Campus for Eastside so distance of higher education is easy, less expensive and more meaningful(pride). Just look at the Data Map and you will see that the Eastside of Palmdale has a higher ethnic population, fewer people have higher Degrees and lower incomes compared to West Palmdale and Westside of Lancaster because AVC is there on the Westside and brings in more opportunities and wealth. I envision a Soccer Field for students that brings lots of pride to East Palmdale Spanish population. Closer Campus with Athletic Fields that provide Educational Scholarship Grant Opportunities for students to move further in education and make it more rewarding to attend college. Create a level playing field for all residents of Palmdale. Bring more State Jobs and resources to area to benefit residences, it's that simple. It was a good idea in the 1990's with College Park project and in 2008 when AVC spent \$5 Million on 60 acres.....so why is it not now and why would you not fight for it. It's Common sense, or just plan on opening up Welfare offices on the Eastside. Higher Education is the Great Equalizer of unjust Society they say. So why would Palmdale not make it happen for residents.

-The City and School Districts need to form a Partnership with Silicon Valley Companies so our kids get \$100,000+ easy living jobs. And hopefully this will lead to Silicon Valley satellite job center like what is happening with Amazon much smaller HQ Satellites and others that are looking for High Educated population cities and affordable housing to lower company costs. Turn Charter Guidance school into Silicon Valley High School Engineer School. Plant the seed for the Future for our City to bring wealth.

-City Library's needed on Eastside, Westside of City need to be planned. Possible partnership with New Palmdale College.

-Eventually a State 4 Year State College University in AV most likely Lancaster.

Just some things off the top of my head to help with GPAC Discussions tomorrow. Hopefully by me giving you this it will help get my points across better and others have more time to speak at Zoom meeting.

Sincerely,  
Jason Zink

---

**From:** Megan Taggart <[mtaggart@cityofpalmdale.org](mailto:mtaggart@cityofpalmdale.org)>

**Sent:** Friday, October 23, 2020, 9:56 AM

**Subject:** Palmdale GPAC #9

[Quoted text hidden]



**Department of Economic and Community Development**

38250 Sierra Highway  
Palmdale, CA 93550

661/433/0565 Cell  
661/267-5200 Main

661/267/5293 Direct  
661/267-5233 Fax

[www.cityofpalmdale.org](http://www.cityofpalmdale.org)

Hours: Monday-Thursday, 7:30 am-6 pm. Closed Friday.

---

**From:** [THAMBRO@roadrunner.com](mailto:THAMBRO@roadrunner.com) <[THAMBRO@roadrunner.com](mailto:THAMBRO@roadrunner.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 3, 2020 7:03 AM  
**To:** General Plan <[generalplan@cityofpalmdale.org](mailto:generalplan@cityofpalmdale.org)>  
**Subject:** Palmdale GPAC #9 Worksheet answers

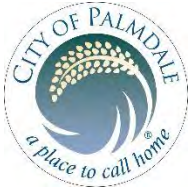
**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organization.

Below you will find my answers to the worksheet questions. Please be advised, that I do not use Microsoft Word. Use Google Docs, it's free.

1. Providing hospitals, medical offices/doctors uniformly throughout Palmdale for all residents to have access.
  - 2.a. treat all people equally, regardless of socioeconomic status, race, etc.
  - b. establish accessible healthcare for all
  - c. by monitoring population of the city with health care facilities and their locations
  - d. (no answer at this time)

Thank you,

GPAC Member, Theresa Hambro



# City of Palmdale General Plan Update

## General Plan Advisory Committee

Meeting #10: January 13, 2021 | 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm  
*Virtual Meeting via Zoom livestreamed to YouTube*

### Meeting Minutes (Adopted February 24, 2021)

## Meeting Objectives

- Review the preferred land use alternative.

## Attendees

### GPAC Members

#### Present:

Tony Avila, Juan Blanco, Colby Estes, Laura Gordon, Theresa Hambro, Matthew Harris, Aurora Hernandez, Pat Hunt, Deborah Rutkowski-Hines, Teresa Lamping, and Jason Zink

**Absent:** Lourdes T. Everett, and Sheri Kaneshiro

### City Staff

Department of Economic and Community Development: Carlene Saxton, Director; Taggart, Planning Manager; Ben Fiss, Senior Planner

### Consultant Team

Raimi + Associates: Simran Malhotra and Melissa Stark

### Public

This was a virtual meeting; hence no public sign-in is available.

## Meeting Summary

### 1. Call to Order & Meeting Procedures

The virtual meeting began with roll call, introductions of City staff, the consultant team and GPAC members, and recital of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members of the public were encouraged to follow along and provide feedback through the Palmdale 2045 YouTube Channel and online comment forum.

Juan Blanco motioned to approve GPAC #9 meeting minutes (October 28, 2020) and Deborah Rutkowski-Hines seconded the motion. None opposed so the motion passed.

## 2. Presentation & Feedback

Simran Malhotra led the evening's presentation on the preferred land use alternative which was split into three main components: background and Palmdale 2045 land use designations, overview of the preferred land use alternative, and detailed look at village centers, health and wellness districts, and education districts.

During the presentation, the group stopped for questions, comments, and to answer interactive polls. Please note that not all GPAC members participated in all polls. Members of the public had access to an online forum with the same questions as those presented to GPAC members.

In advance of the meeting, GPAC members were sent a preliminary copy of the Preferred Land Use Alternative Briefing Book and given an opportunity to provide comments. The General Plan Team received seven comments from two GPAC members on the Briefing Book (which are included as an attachment)

### Background & 2045 Land Use Designations

The background component of the presentation began with a reminder of the overall land use framework, which establishes the vision of the land use map. Next, Simran reviewed the three land use alternatives which were presented to the community in Summer 2020, noting the community's and decision makers' overall preference for Alternative 3. Simran described the 2045 land use designations – many of which are being carried-over from the 1993 Palmdale General Plan – and their intent to create complete neighborhoods, a downtown, employment, education, and medical districts throughout Palmdale. Following this section, the group paused for questions and discussion. A summary of this discussion is below.

#### **GPAC Questions & Feedback:**

- Do we consider School Districts' plans for new school facilities as part of the General Plan Update? Do School Districts have General Plans?
  - *The General Plan Team responded that School districts have their own facilities plans, but typically base their facilities planning on the projected population growth that is laid out in the General Plan Update. As we continue in the General Plan Update process, we will be working with the school districts to anticipate where new growth will be located in Palmdale.*
    - One GPAC member added that school districts typically do not know where growth is going to occur and do not like to advertise in advance of purchasing new land.
  - *The Team also noted that all school districts with facilities in Palmdale have been included in stakeholder discussions and will continue to be part of future discussions regarding growth and school facility needs.*

### Preferred Land Use Alternative

Following the background component, the group reviewed the Preferred Land Use Alternative which began with an overview of the major features and intended changes to the land use map. Key features of the preferred land use alternative include: a vibrant downtown district, two health and wellness districts, two education districts, expanded commercial uses around Antelope Valley Mall, expanded employment uses around Plant 42, Palmdale Boulevard transformed into a mixed-use corridor with mixed residential on either side, and new village centers throughout existing

neighborhoods. Simran highlighted a breakdown of land uses and metrics comparing the Preferred Land Use Alternative to the 1993 General Plan. Following this section, the group paused for questions and to respond to several polls. A summary of this feedback is below.

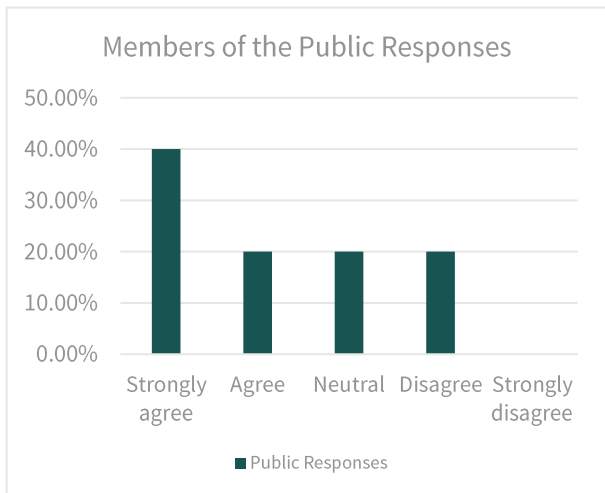
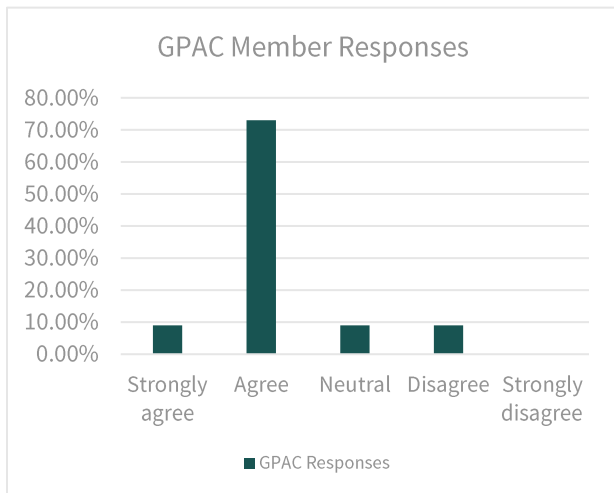
**GPAC Questions & Feedback:**

- Are all circles on the map village centers?
  - *The General Plan Team responded that all red circles on the map represent village centers which are neighborhood commercial centers that can also include mixed use residential. The goal of these centers is to create small hubs of goods and services that are more accessible to existing neighborhoods.*
- What kinds of resources are within the mineral resource extraction area as noted on the Preferred Land Use Alternative map?
  - A GPAC member responded that the mineral resource area includes building materials like sand, gravel, and ready-mix concrete or mortar.
  - *The General Plan Team responded that there are currently eight operators within the mineral resources area. The Preferred Land Use Alternative reduces the area designated for mineral resource extraction. The area with the large County island owned by Los Angeles World Airport (LAWA) is now designated for other uses. It was further noted that the City is unaware of any ongoing mineral resource extraction operations currently happening on the LAWA property.*

**Public feedback from Mentimeter:**

- Is there a development timeline for each of the land uses?
  - *The General Plan Team responded that Palmdale 2045 is a long-term planning document that is required by law to designate a land use on every property within the planning area. The timing of when a property develops is dependent on each individual property owner, and not dictated by the General Plan. The General Plan considers overall anticipated growth over the next 25-year horizon, which is not site specific.*

**Poll #1. Overall, do you generally agree with the preferred land use alternative?**



*GPAC Comments on the first poll:*

- There should be more village centers, specifically across from Dry Town Water Park.
- The Map shows the Specific Plan designation as one color. This should be shown differently to illustrate what the underlying land uses are in each of the Specific Plan areas across Palmdale.
- There should be a medical center or district on Palmdale Boulevard near 40<sup>th</sup> or 47<sup>th</sup> Streets to better serve all of Palmdale.

### **Village Centers, Health & Wellness Districts, and Education Districts**

Following the review of the Preferred Land Use Alternative, Simran introduced detailed descriptions, images and sample site plans for a village center, a health and wellness district, and an education district. The group reviewed the materials and held a robust discussion. A summary of the feedback and responses to poll questions are below.

#### ***Village Centers - GPAC Questions & Feedback:***

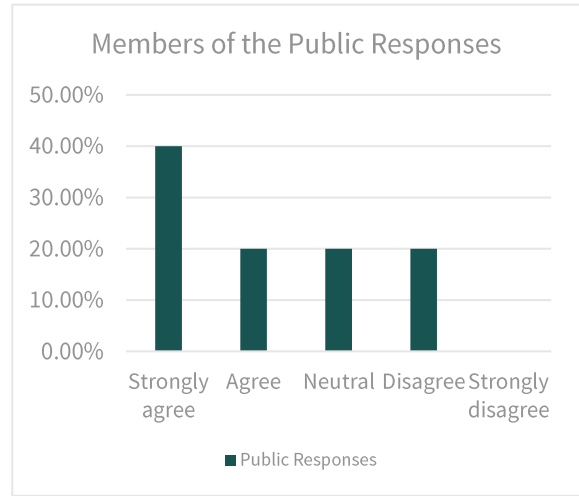
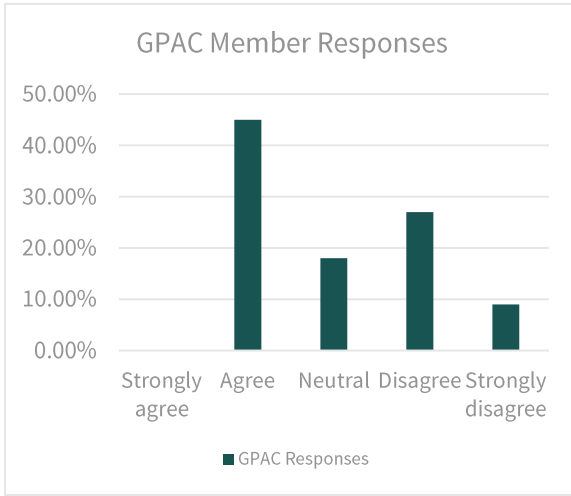
- Is the area where the sample village center shown at the intersection of Rancho Vista Boulevard and Town Center Drive currently zoned for commercial uses? Can the City provide an update to what the plans are for this area?
  - *The General Plan Team responded that the intersection is currently zoned for Commercial uses, but a Specific Plan Amendment may be pending to allow for a residential overlay on the southeast side.*
- Previous attempts to build apartments in the same area as the sample village center was met with a negative response from some community members.
  - *The General Plan Team responded that this example is meant to show what a village center could look like in Palmdale. Some village centers may not include housing. For the village centers that do include housing, the goal is to provide flexibility and opportunity for a mix of housing types, especially those that are lacking in Palmdale like rowhouses, townhouses, and courtyard apartments.*
- A suggestion was made to include a hotel at the Rancho Vista village center.
- One of the GPAC members suggested that village centers should also include storage units.

#### ***Village Centers – Public Feedback from Mentimeter:***

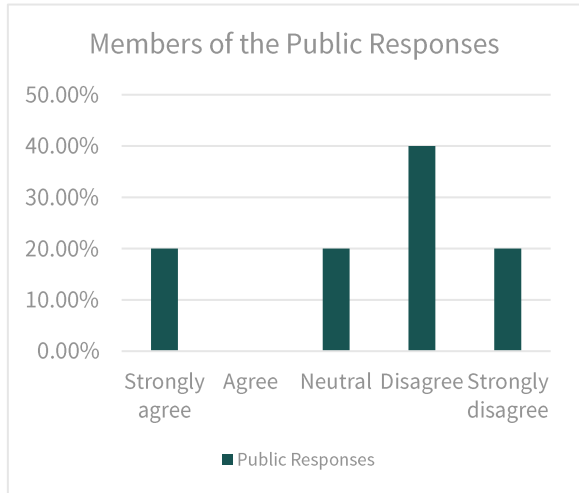
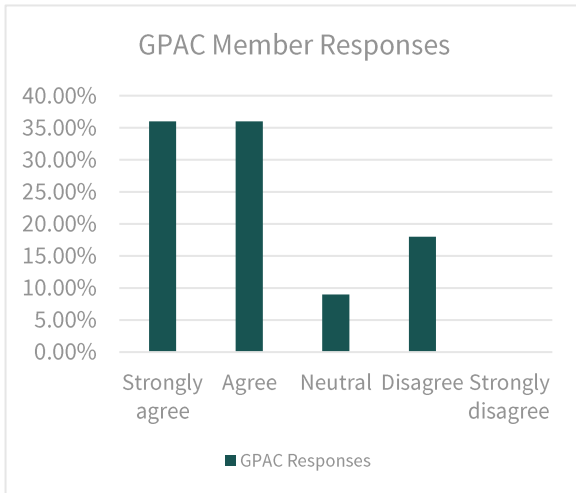
- Are there any labor standards associated with this Plan with it comes to construction of these developments such as local hire and prevailing wages?
  - *The General Plan Team responded that most construction in the City today is privately funded. Those developers or builders are held to the local and state minimum wage requirements. City projects already require prevailing wages. Local decision makers would need to provide direction on the ability to have General Plan policies related to union labor standards.*
- Are there bike paths or parks planned and does that include desert landscaping with environmental concerns?
  - *The General Plan Team responded that at a future GPAC meeting we will present a map illustrating bike lanes and trails across Palmdale.*



**Poll #2. Do you agree with the location of the village centers?**



**Poll #3. Do you agree with the types of uses proposed for the village centers?**



*GPAC Comments on the second and third poll:*

- There should be more village center developments on the East side of Palmdale, specifically between 25<sup>th</sup> Street East, 35<sup>th</sup> Street East, 40<sup>th</sup> Street East, and Avenue P and Avenue S.
  - *The General Plan Team responded that City Council wanted to make sure that the General Plan village centers consider all of Palmdale, not just east or west. This example is of the Westside, but village centers are proposed across all of Palmdale. They tend to pop-out on the westside of the map due to the underlying colors.*
- Village centers need to be thoughtfully located throughout Palmdale, not just located in areas just because they are vacant.
  - *The General Plan Team responded that village centers have been thoughtfully determined and the goal is to provide walkable daily goods and services to existing neighborhoods, creating a complete neighborhood. There are multiple locations on both the east and west sides of Palmdale. On the Eastside, Palmdale Boulevard already provides many of these types of goods and services in close*

*proximity to existing neighborhoods, so there isn't the same need for a village center.*

- We are trying to build an equitable city, there is a need for more development—like those proposed in village centers--on the east side near Avenue P and Avenue S.
- There should be a village center across the street from Dry Town incorporating a jogging trail near the flood control channel, mixed use, and daily goods and services. A village center is also needed at the intersection of 47<sup>th</sup> and Pear Blossom Highway.
- Are we suggesting changes to a Specific Plan Area that has already been built out, like encouraging mixed use?
  - *The General Plan Team responded that in instances where the goal is to provide walkable goods and services for a neighborhood, we are suggesting changes to a Specific Plan Area, to incorporate mixed use development.*

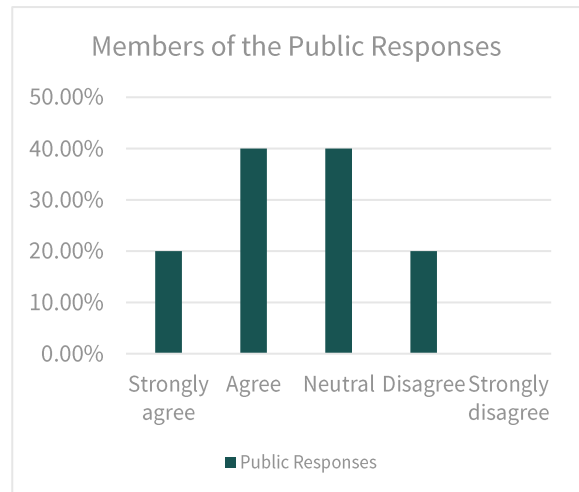
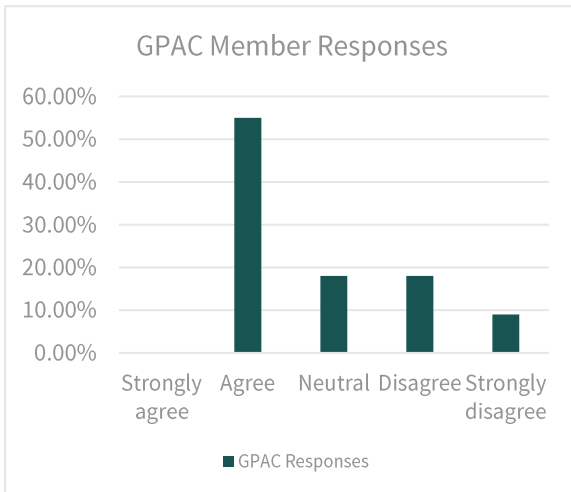
### **Health & Wellness District - GPAC Questions & Feedback:**

- How many acres is the health and wellness district on Avenue S and 47<sup>th</sup> Street?
  - *The General Plan team responded that the Avenue S and 47<sup>th</sup> Street health and wellness district is about 20 acres. This district is adjacent to a large regional commercial center that allows similar type uses.*
- AV hospital has a south campus, why isn't it included as part of the health and wellness district?
  - *The General Plan Team responded that when we were considering various alternatives, the areas that rose to the top were those around Palmdale Regional Medical Center and Kaiser Permanente. There are other medical uses scattered along Palmdale Boulevard, but many of those specific locations do not appear to have enough vacant land to accommodate a future district as it has been envisioned.*
- The Westside health and wellness district is 100 acres, while the Eastside district is 20 acres. With the largest population on the Eastside, there should be a health and wellness district there to serve them. Including a vision for Palmdale with the largest health and wellness district on the Westside does not address the health disparities in Palmdale. Health and wellness should also consider senior assisted living facilities and similar care uses. There should be a health and wellness district between 40<sup>th</sup> and 47<sup>th</sup> on Palmdale Boulevard. Kaiser should not have been located on Avenue S, as it is not centrally located and accessible. Palmdale also provides services to surrounding areas like Littlerock.
  - A GPAC member responded that Kaiser was located on Ave S at the request of medical providers. Easy access to the hospital was a key concern for physicians.
  - *The General Plan Team responded that the Kaiser facility is built, and there is opportunity to expand to the vacant land surrounding it in an efficient manner, which was part of the rationale for locating the health and wellness district in that area. Medical and supportive uses can be co-located in the same area to build synergy. The Team responded that they would revisit the Eastside health and wellness district, to see if there are opportunities for expansion, per consensus from the GPAC.*
  - *The General Plan Team also responded that the Westside health and wellness district expands on an existing large medical facility that is an asset to the*

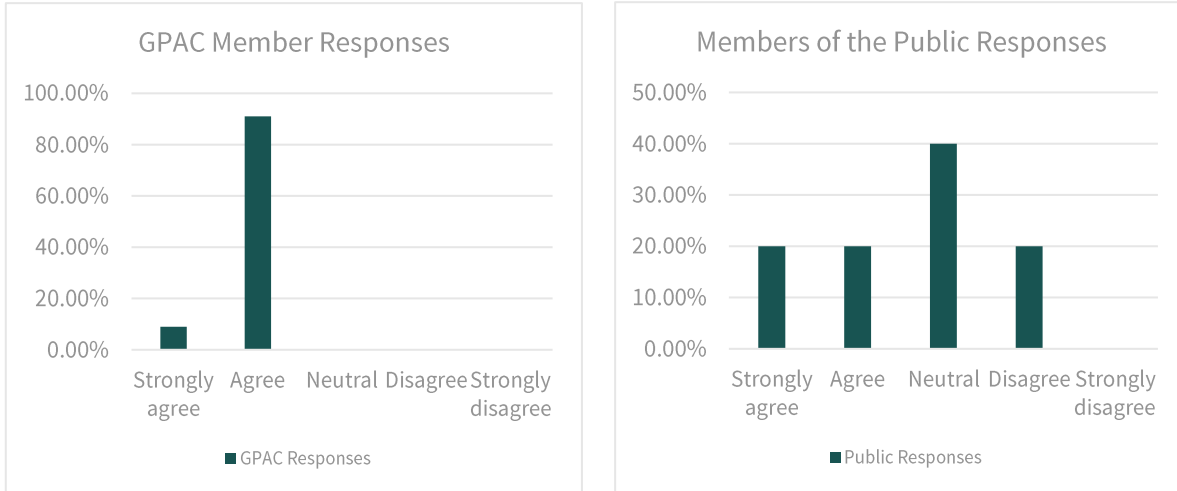
community. It also has the available acreage and existing synergy. Another regional health facility of the same size locating on the Eastside is not as likely. This is a citywide plan, the East 14 of the FWY is identified as a primary medical provider shortage. The Team noted they will reevaluate the size and location of the health and wellness district on the Eastside. Further mentioning, that the city as a whole is the priority, we want to make sure we have the facilities that can attract the providers our community needs.

- The site plan example shows larger research facilities, can those fit on the district off Avenue S? It seems unlikely.
  - A GPAC member responded that there is sufficient vacant land further South to potentially accommodate a facility like the site plan suggests.
- Kaiser typically has their own medical campus and does not share land with other providers or competitors. Would that make our proposed district expanding off the Kaiser facility infeasible? Want to make sure we also provide facilities that are accessible to non-Kaiser members. Do not feel the medical issues for the community are solved in these two districts.
  - The General Plan Team responded that Kaiser is known to co-locate on other facilities, perhaps not built at the same time. Other medical offices or uses could be built in close proximity, on the vacant land surrounding Kaiser. Additionally, medical uses are allowed elsewhere in the city, not just these two areas.

**Poll #4. Do you agree with the location of the health and wellness districts?**



**Poll #5. Do you agree with the types of uses proposed for the health and wellness districts?**



*GPAC Comments on the second and third poll:*

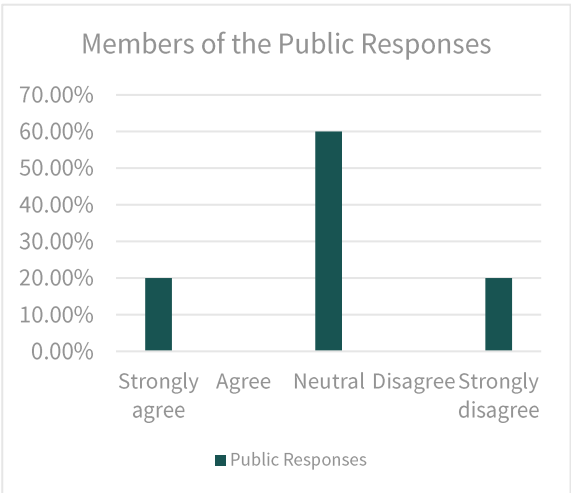
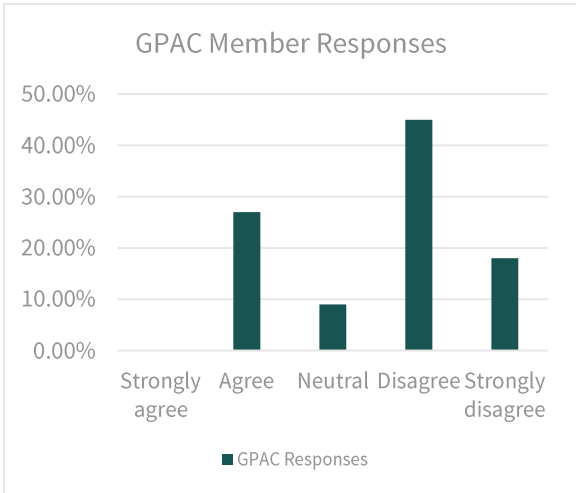
- The General Plan team asked GPAC members if the health and wellness districts should specifically mention senior living facilities as an allowed use within those districts?
  - One GPAC member confirmed that senior living facilities should be called out as a specified use within health and wellness districts, and none opposed.

**Education District - GPAC Questions & Feedback:**

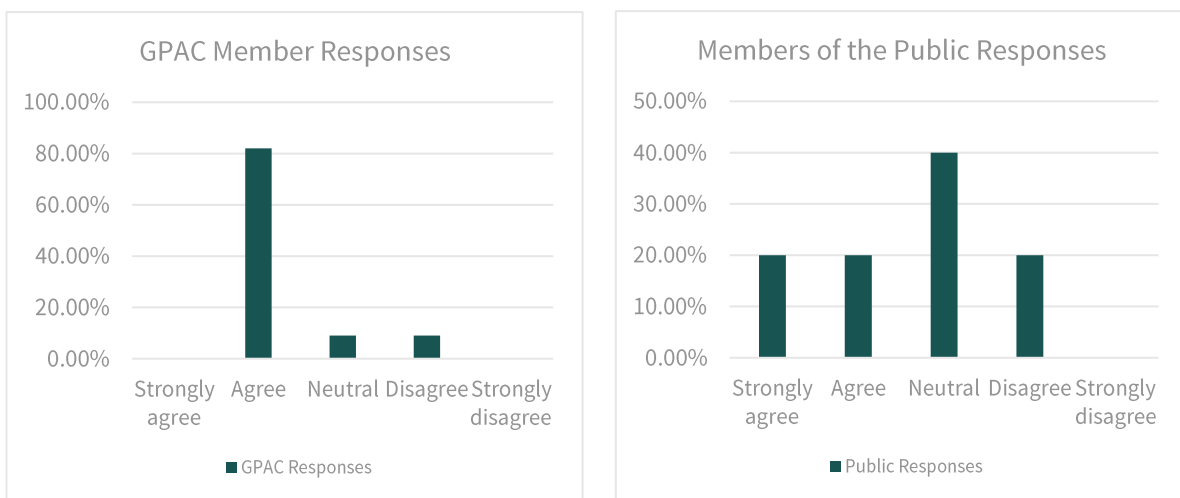
- The education district should be located near a freeway for easy access similar to the medical district.
  - *The General Plan Team responded that the purpose of locating the district in this location is to build on the existing educational uses and create a sense of synergy, and for ease of access from existing neighborhoods and existing public transit. The point of easy access from the freeway is well taken, but if all districts are oriented around the freeway, those districts are not accessible for to the neighborhoods and the rest of the community.*
- There is a large population on the Westside of Palmdale which is over a 30-minute drive from this education district on Palmdale Boulevard and 25<sup>th</sup> street east. The education districts are too far away to serve the Westside of Palmdale.
  - *The General Plan Team noted that in a previous GPAC meeting, the group agreed that residents of the far westside of Palmdale are likely to utilize the Antelope Valley College campus in Lancaster. Also, the health and wellness district at Palmdale Regional Medical Center offers opportunities for education facilities and vocational training that are tied to medical uses.*
  - A GPAC member noted that the original vision was for northwest Palmdale to be served by Antelope Valley College campus in Lancaster, and another campus was to be built the southeast side of the Antelope Valley to serve other residents of the Valley.

- The college campus is not large enough to serve the Antelope Valley. This should be 80-100 acres to serve the Eastside of the Antelope Valley. The educational resources in Palmdale have been short-sided and do not reflect the taxes paid by Palmdale residents.
- *The General Plan Team asked GPAC members if the districts should be located in other areas given existing resources in and available land?*
  - One GPAC member responded that expanding the district would meet the needs, unsure if there is available land on Palmdale Boulevard.
- Why does the education district have to be attached to an existing area that is built?
  - *The General Plan Team responded that there are many benefits to co-locating the education district with other existing educational facilities including existing infrastructure to support development, existing uses that can attract additional development or services and the synergy they create together, and accessibility to the area by existing transit. Starting over further east on undeveloped property would add the burden of needing new infrastructure and forcing all visitors to drive longer distances. The Team noted they will incorporate feedback from City Council, Planning Commission, and the rest of the community to determine if the location and size of this district needs to be reassessed.*
- How does the plan entice people to live nearby the education district? Why do we want mixed use around this area?
  - *The General Plan Team responded that mixed-use is proposed on Palmdale Boulevard, the district, would build off of the high school campuses which allow for joint use agreements, and shared facilities. A brand-new facility is a great aspiration, but the existing location would leverage existing resources to create a similar feeling environment.*

**Poll #6. Do you agree with the location of the education districts?**



**Poll #7. Do you agree with the types of uses proposed for the education districts?**



**3. Public Comment**

The YouTube livestream had over 20 unique viewers during the meeting. Several responded to the poll questions and submitted comments or questions on the presentation, as noted in the summaries in previous sections. Two public comments were submitted, which are listed below.

- Homeowners in Palmdale need to be informed about future development, as property taxes support this type of city growth.
- Are there bike paths and parks planned with desert landscape required for environmental concerns?

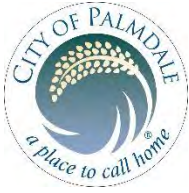
**4. Wrap Up and Adjourn**

Simran closed the evening’s meeting with an overview of next steps. A community survey on the preferred land use alternative is open until February 15<sup>th</sup> and a virtual workshop is scheduled for February 4<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm, all members of the community are encouraged to join. The GPAC will meet again on February 24<sup>th</sup> to discuss transportation.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.

*A recording of this meeting is available on the [Palmdale 2045 YouTube Channel](#)*

*Note: this virtual meeting did not have a sign in sheet for GPAC members or the public*



# City of Palmdale General Plan Update

## General Plan Advisory Committee

Meeting #11: February 24, 2021 | 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm  
*Virtual Meeting via Zoom livestreamed to YouTube*

### Meeting Minutes (Adopted June 17, 2021)

## Meeting Objectives

- Present and review transportation and mobility recommendations for the General Plan Update.

## Attendees

### GPAC Members

#### Present:

Tony Avila, Juan Blanco, Lourdes T. Everett, Laura Gordon, Theresa Hambro, Matthew Harris, Aurora Hernandez, Pat Hunt, Sheri Kaneshiro, Teresa Lamping, and Jason Zink

**Absent:** Colby Estes and Deborah Rutkowski-Hines

### City Staff

Mike Behen, Deputy City Manager; Carlene Saxton, Director of Economic and Community Development; Megan Taggart, Planning Manager; Ben Fiss, Senior Planner

### Consultant Team

Raimi + Associates: Simran Malhotra and Melissa Stark  
Nelson\Nygaard: Meghan Weir and Zach Zabel

### Public

This was a virtual meeting; hence no public sign-in is available.

## Meeting Summary

### 1. Call to Order & Meeting Procedures

The virtual meeting began with roll call, introductions of City staff, the consultant team and GPAC members, and recital of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members of the public were encouraged to follow along and provide feedback through the Palmdale 2045 YouTube Channel and online comment forum.

Teresa Lamping motioned to approve GPAC #10 meeting minutes (January 13, 2021) and Pat Hunt seconded the motion. None opposed so the motion passed.

## 2. Presentation & Feedback

Simran Malhotra provided GPAC members with an update on the Preferred Land Use Alternative, including the community engagement completed to date, and highlights of the feedback received thus far.

Then, Meghan Weir and Zach Zabel led the evening’s presentation on transportation which was split into several sections: mobility today, rethinking mobility, roadway hierarchy, mobility and land use context, and supporting mobility in different contexts.

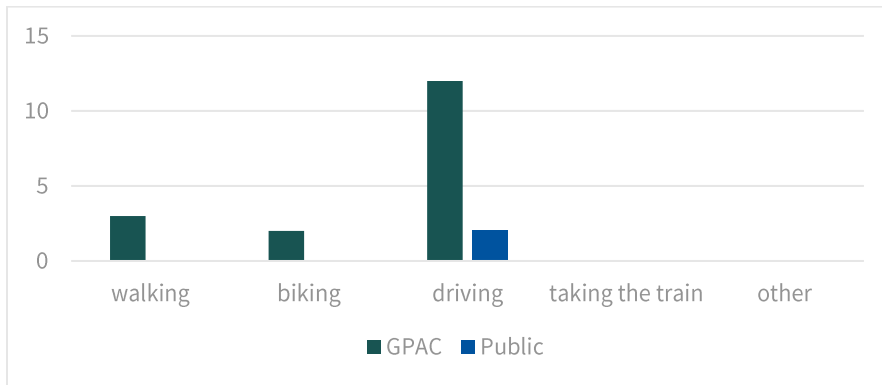
During the presentation, the group stopped for questions, comments, and to answer interactive polls. Please note that not all GPAC members participated in all polls. Members of the public had access to an online forum with the same questions as those presented to GPAC members.

In advance of the meeting, GPAC members were sent a copy of the transportation existing conditions report to review as context for the meeting.

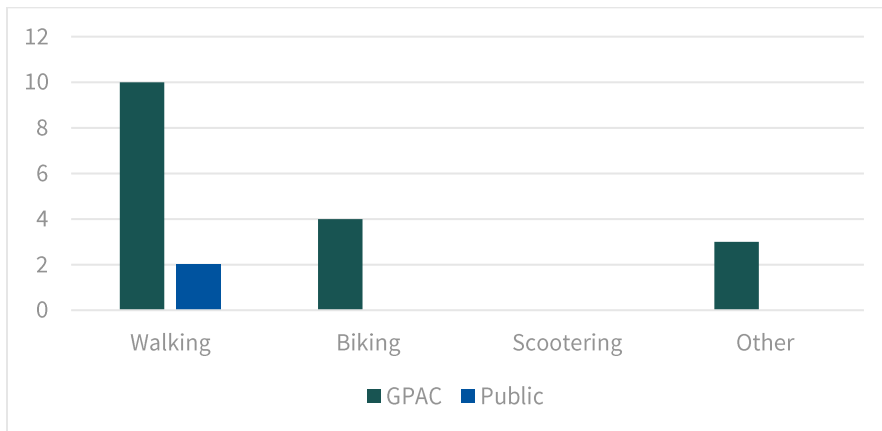
### Mobility Today

The background component of the presentation began with an overview of mobility, how it is defined, and an overview of current routes for bus, car, and bike travel in Palmdale.

#### Poll #1: How do you get around Palmdale?



#### Poll #2: Which of the following modes of travel do you currently use for recreation or exercise?





**GPAC Questions:**

What is the difference between Class I, Class II and Class III bike lanes?

- *Class I is categorized as a separated, or off-street path, Class II is categorized as a painted bike lane on the street – sometimes including a buffer, and Class III is a shared facility for bicycles and cars.*

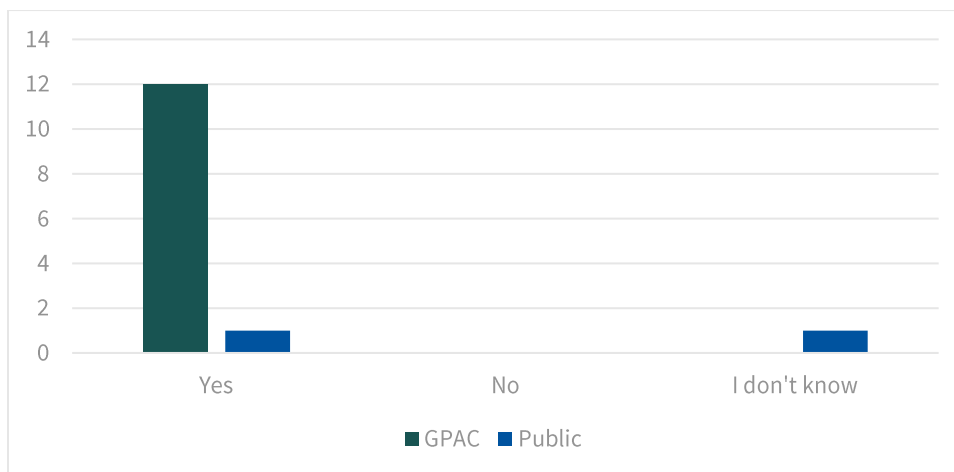
**Rethinking Mobility**

This section of the presentation highlighted existing issues, opportunities, and future needs in the Palmdale circulation network. The team reviewed collision data and roadway segment level of service, which generally indicated capacity on key segments to accommodate a multi-modal network.

**Roadway Hierarchy**

As a precursor to the proposed roadway hierarchy, Meghan introduced ways in which the hierarchy can be established by either functional classification or by modal priority. This also introduced the idea of multimodal streets and opportunities to accommodate different users. The proposed roadway hierarchy was presented with proposed categories of connector, multimodal, regional, and neighborhood streets.

**Poll #3: Is the proposed street hierarchy map helpful for Palmdale’s changing context?**



**Mobility and Land Use Context**

The street hierarchy was overlaid on the land use framework for context and further explanation. The proposed street hierarchy was also highlighted on Palmdale Boulevard and at a neighborhood scale.

**GPAC Questions:**

Does this project look at signal cycle length? It affects if we can have people successfully bike in Palmdale.

- *There is an opportunity to look at that traffic signal cycle length, but today we are looking at the function and design of roadways physical infrastructure. The signal cycle length is an important feature and is an appropriate topic to work into the plan.*

We have learned that truck traffic destroys local roads. The maps are missing the future P-8 freeway that will replace Palmdale Boulevard, which we can divert truck traffic onto in the future. There are a few areas that need to be categorized as a level higher including Technology Drive between 10<sup>th</sup> Street West and Division Street, and 50<sup>th</sup> Street East and East Avenue R.

- *Thank you for the information, these maps are a work in progress, and we rely on the keen eye from GPAC members and the public to help us refine them.*

With Caltrans Highway 138 being on Palmdale Boulevard and being designated as a truck route we should focus less on promoting bicycles here. Does this plan consider the Antelope Valley climate? Lancaster included more bicycle lanes, but they have not seen higher usage. I do not think bicycles will be utilized here, so we should not plan for them. Also, slowing cars down could mean more pollution.

- *There are options for accommodating different modes without being mixed into the vehicle right-of-way. This will ensure the vehicle and truck volume that needs to be accommodated can proceed, while also accommodating other modes. On Palmdale Boulevard, the collision data is showing existing activity despite the current roadway design. So, there is an opportunity to serve those users. Palmdale Boulevard is a mixed corridor that provides unique challenges. Regarding the climate, we have examples all over the world of harsh climates where people choose to walk and bike if the setting is inviting, if the facilities and design are there, it gives folks the option to choose other modes when the weather permits.*

Difference between multimodal and regional. Is one safer for pedestrians or bicycles? 10<sup>th</sup> Street West is listed as multimodal, but I think it would be safer to be regional and take the bicycle lane off the road.

- *The classification does not dictate the cross-section. A street that is multimodal does not necessarily mean bike lane on the road. Multimodal streets present an opportunity to accommodate different modes, but it depends what the priority is on that street. We are looking for opportunities to distinguish the priority for the corridor.*

Within the collision data, is there a category that identifies if homeless people are involved in collisions?

- *There is not a category that identifies if people are unhoused. It is a frequent topic related to pedestrian safety in communities. There are many layers to think about, often the activity of unhoused people is pushed to the fringes of town where the streets are larger, and speeds are higher. Regarding pedestrian safety, streets can be designed so people who are driving and those who are walking have better visibility and safer streets. In general, there is a lot of improvements that can be made to better serve a wide variety of diverse users.*

Can we look at the collision data and time of day? Perhaps the lighting on roads is an issue?

- *The collision data is related to police reports, so there may be that information available to us. That is a great line of thinking, and lighting is something we should investigate.*

Is jaywalking considered in the collision data? I see a lot of people jaywalking on Palmdale Boulevard.

- *People cross without the safety and comfort of a crosswalk when there are not enough crosswalks or safe and inviting opportunity to cross a street.*
- *Want to remind the group of the larger vision for the General Plan is provide flexibility and options that are not currently available in Palmdale.*
- *Also, a reminder that you yourself may not be interested in walking or biking in Palmdale, but others have expressed that desire, which is supported by the data we have. If 10-15% of the traffic on Palmdale Boulevard was reallocated as people walking and biking traffic would flow much smoother. This would also help traffic signal times.*

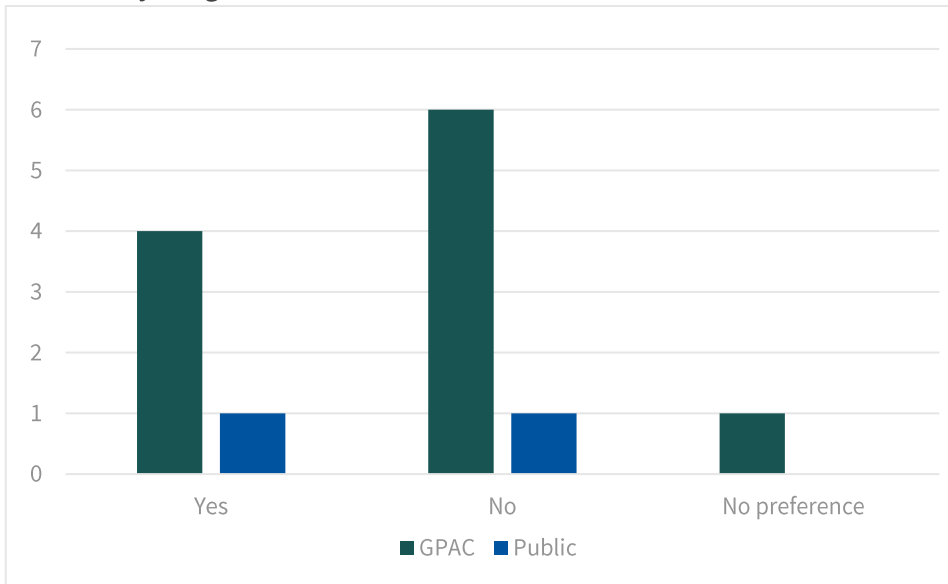
Some of the wide streets in Palmdale do not have street a median or island for pedestrians who cross at a designated crosswalk. One example where one is needed is on Avenue R and 47<sup>th</sup> Street East.

- *Pedestrian islands on wide streets are a critical element for pedestrian safety. Those kinds of items will be in the General Plan to explore further and prioritize safety.*

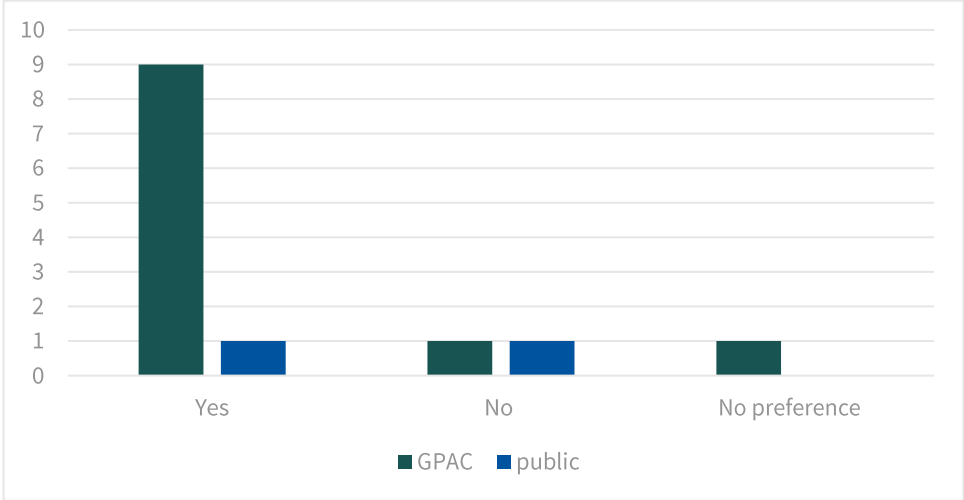
Other GPAC Comments:

- There are difficulties in the current network like vast amounts of area with no sidewalk.
- People will continue jaywalking even with a crosswalk – they do not care.
- Jaywalking and lack of lighting are issues on Palmdale Boulevard.
- If patrons cannot get to a store easily in Palmdale, they will shop online, which does not benefit the city from a sales tax perspective.

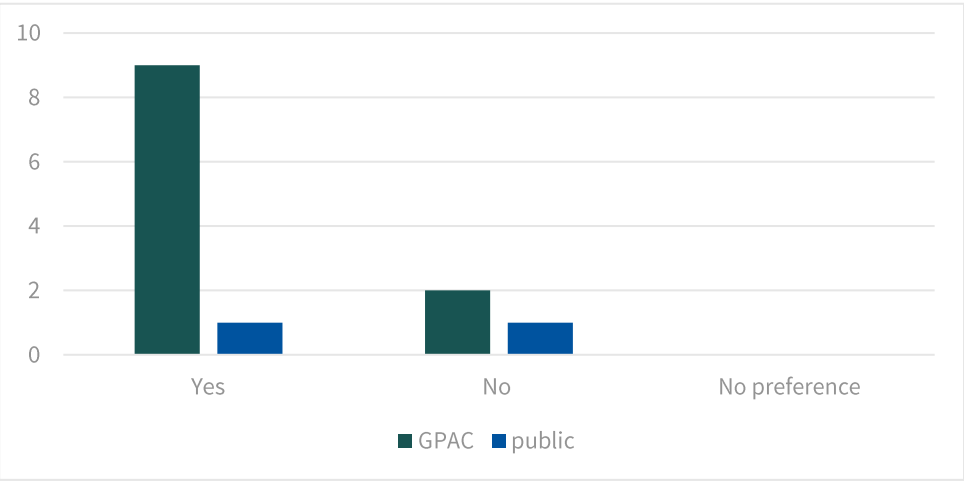
**Poll #4: Do you agree that Palmdale Boulevard should become a multi-modal roadway?**



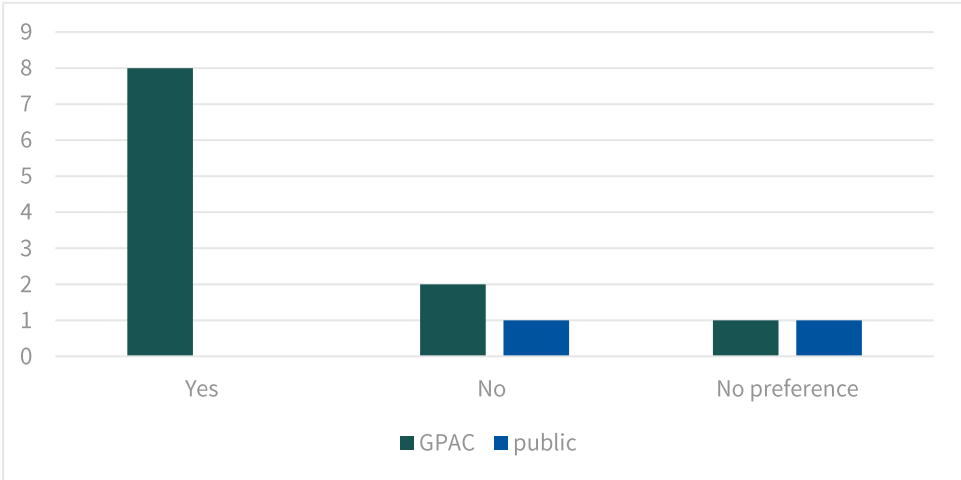
**Poll #5: Do you agree with the approach for village centers?**



**Poll #6: Do you agree with the approach for residential neighborhoods?**



**Poll #7: Do you agree with the approach for rural arterials?**



## Supporting Different Mobility in Contexts

Zach introduced a toolkit of context sensitive solutions that provide a framework for incorporating design improvements on different roadway types across Palmdale. The toolkit will build on the work completed in the City's Draft Complete Streets Plan. Examples of design improvements were presented for village centers, suburban communities, and rural arterials.

### GPAC Questions and Comments:

The previous AVTA maps that were shared seem to lack north-south connections across Palmdale.

- *Transit is run by AVTA, but these comments are helpful for us to report back to the transit authority. The General Plan is one tool to help inform how transit agencies make decisions and identify priorities in the future, but we are not able to make changes to the existing transit service.*
- *AVTA just completed their Regional Plan and will include some changes to the network like the addition of micro service.*

We should introduce roadway diets like what was done in Lancaster where they reduced roadway and introduced bike lanes on both sides. An ideal location for this road diet is 20<sup>th</sup> Street East between Avenue R and Avenue S. I think there is a desire, but people do not ride bikes in Palmdale because it is too dangerous.

- *Road diets are included in the toolkit of solutions for design improvements and are a great way to improve safety and flexibility for other users. The traffic modeling that has been done to date shows excess vehicle capacity into the future on current roadways in their current design. This would suggest there is room to reallocate roadway to other uses like sidewalks, bike lanes, and pedestrian islands, without major disruptions to traffic flow. Excess vehicle capacity does not work for any other user unless you rearrange the way the street is designed.*
- *A lot of the changes we have discussed will not happen overnight. They will take time to implement, and in some cases be temporary demonstration to see if a solution works.*

Is it possible introduce a new transit line that carry passengers from one side of Palmdale to the other?

- *There have been some discussions with the City and AVTA about introducing a rubber tire trolley – that uses the street right-of-way to travel, though this was a longer-term idea. The goals of the plan is to offer options for those who want alternatives to using a car, while still maintaining the ability to travel throughout Palmdale by vehicle.*
- *The General Plan is not a tool to reconfigure regional transit service, but it can identify priorities and ambitions to ensure consistency with future transportation planning efforts.*

Palmdale is unique in that it has a freight line dividing major corridors from Avenue M to Barrel Springs Road and 5<sup>th</sup> Street East to Sierra Highway. How does the plan address this?

- *The City is looking into grade separation – either above or below - of rail and vehicle traffic at major corridors.*

Why wasn't the P-8 Freeway included on the transportation maps?

- *The High Desert Corridor (P-8 Freeway) is not within the time horizon of the General Plan. The General Plan horizon is 2045 and the High Desert Corridor horizon is 2065. As of right*

*now, funding is not available for the project through LA Metro's Measure M funding program. The highway portion of the corridor was involved in a lawsuit that has resulted in the construction being put on pause.*

Additional GPAC Comments:

- I do not think bike lanes and roundabouts are the answer, they can cause more accidents.
- As GPAC Members, we must take into consideration the various perspectives and interests of our diverse community. Pedestrian safety is not just a matter of looking both ways - to make such generalizations would be a disservice to residents who are subject to different circumstances. I spoke to a resident who is in a wheelchair who cannot leave their house because the sidewalk is nonexistent. The roads are too harsh for their wheelchair and they have already suffered injuries from previous attempts. Another thing to consider, many bike lanes and pedestrian zones only extend for short distances. Vehicle drivers are often moving too fast to identify and respond to pedestrians and cyclists. Blind spots for drivers can be death-traps for other road users.

### 3. Public Comment

The YouTube livestream had several unique viewers during the meeting. Two responded to the poll questions, as noted in the previous sections. One public comment was submitted, which is listed below.

- How far in the future is the funding and civil design phase for these street improvements? Is there a plan for a dedicated bus lane in any of these street sections? Not sure if the demand is there in the first place.
  - *Funding for improvements is further down the road, the General Plan sets the priorities and recommendations for the street network and will be followed by more detailed design work along with an implementation plan. The bus lane would be in coordination with AVTA and a longer-term discussion that would not be implemented by the General Plan.*

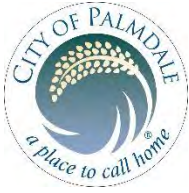
### 4. Wrap Up and Adjourn

Simran shared next steps and closed the evening's meeting. The Preferred Alternative and community feedback will be presented to Planning Commission on March 11, 2021 and City Council on March 16, 2021.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 pm.

*A recording of this meeting is available on the [Palmdale 2045 YouTube Channel](#)*

*Note: GPAC members were invited to provide written comments on the roadway hierarchy map and return to the General Plan Team, however, none were received.*



# City of Palmdale General Plan Update Joint General Plan Advisory Committee #12 and Public Workshop: Safety Policy Frameworks

June 17, 2021 | 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

*Virtual Meeting via Zoom livestreamed to YouTube*

## Minutes for Special Meeting (Adopted June 30, 2021)

### Meeting Objectives

- Review existing setting related to safety topics
- Review and refine preliminary safety goal and policy recommendations for the General Plan Update

### Attendees

#### GPAC Members

##### Present:

Tony Avila, Juan Blanco, Colby Estes, Lourdes T. Everett, Laura Gordon, Theresa Hambro, Aurora Hernandez, Pat Hunt, Deborah Rutkowski-Hines, Sheri Kaneshiro, Teresa Lamping, and Jason Zink

**Absent:** Matthew Harris

#### City Staff

Carlene Saxton, Director of Economic and Community Development; Megan Taggart, Planning Manager; Ben Fiss, Senior Planner; and Ruben Hovanesian, Senior Civil Engineer

#### Consultant Team

Raimi + Associates: Simran Malhotra and Melissa Stark  
Rincon Consultants: Lexi Journey and Andrew Hatt

#### Public

Nine members of the community joined the Zoom meeting, though no public sign-in is available.

### Meeting Summary

#### 1. Introduction

The virtual meeting began with a review of the joint meeting agenda, roll call of GPAC Members, introductions of City staff and the consultant team, and recital of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Pat Hunt motion to approve GPAC #11 meeting minutes (February 24, 2021) and Deborah Rutkowski-Hines seconded the motion. None opposed so the motion passed.

## 2. Presentation & Feedback

Simran Malhotra provided an overview of the General Plan which included the project schedule, summary of engagement to date, description and display of the preferred land use map, and an introduction to the policy frameworks and General Plan Safety Element.

Lexi Journey and Andrew Hatt then led an overview of the existing safety setting in Palmdale including existing plans and programs, and presentation on the draft safety policy framework including draft goals and policies.

During the presentation, the group stopped for questions and to answer interactive polls. All poll questions were available to members of the public and GPAC, but please note that not all participants responded to all polls.

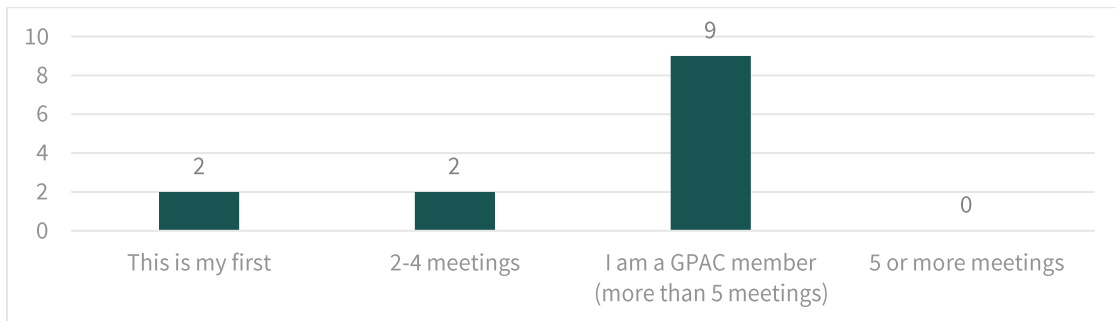
In advance of the meeting, the project website was updated with background materials including the safety policy framework, public facilities and open space existing conditions report, and the natural and manmade hazards report. In addition, GPAC members were emailed these materials to review as context for the meeting.

Below are descriptions of each presentation section and summaries of responses to each poll question. Poll responses are combined for GPAC members and members of the public.

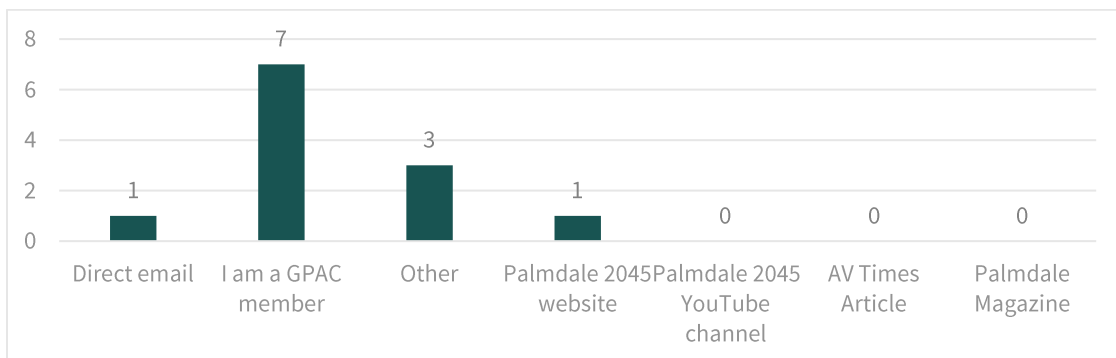
### General Plan Overview

The background component of the presentation began with an overview of the General Plan process, how it is defined, the Palmdale 2045 schedule, summary of community engagement activities to date, major General Plan vision themes, and an introduction to the policy frameworks.

#### How many General Plan related meetings have you attended?



#### How did you hear about this meeting?

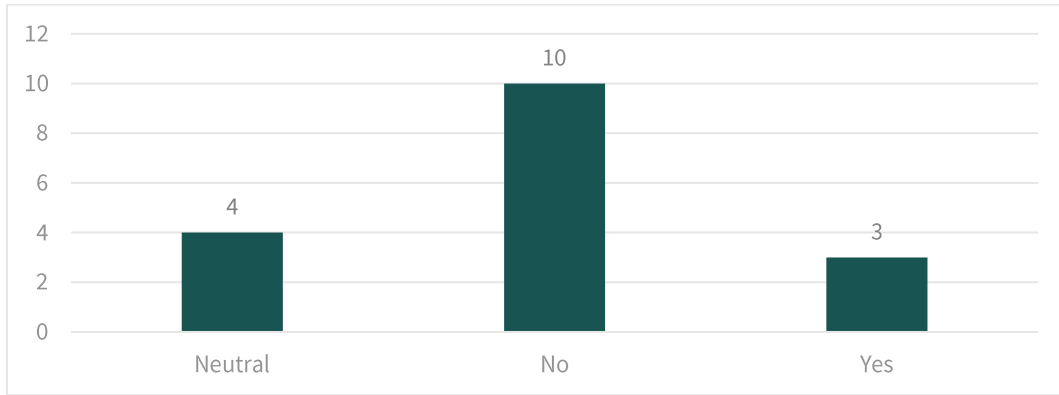




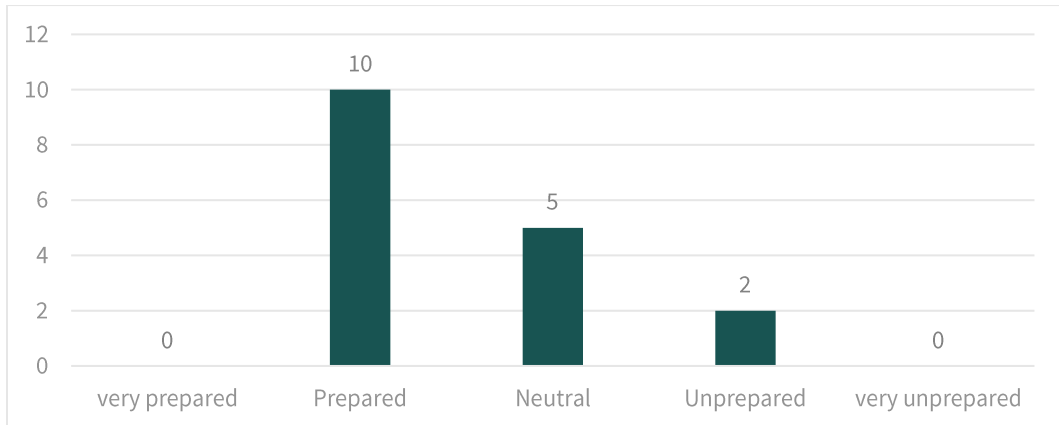
### Existing Setting

As a precursor to the draft goals and policies, Andrew reviewed wildfire, natural, fault, and flooding hazards, with an overview of infrastructure, airport safety, emergency facilities, and crime. Existing plans and programs were covered, and feedback from the community was highlighted. The General Plan Team noted that the presentation does not cover all topics included within the Safety Element.

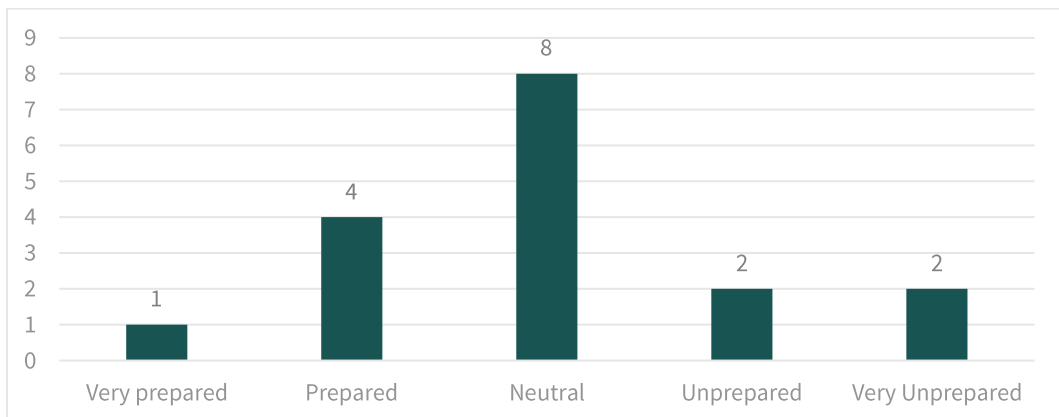
#### Did any of this information surprise you?



#### How prepared do you feel personally for a future emergency?



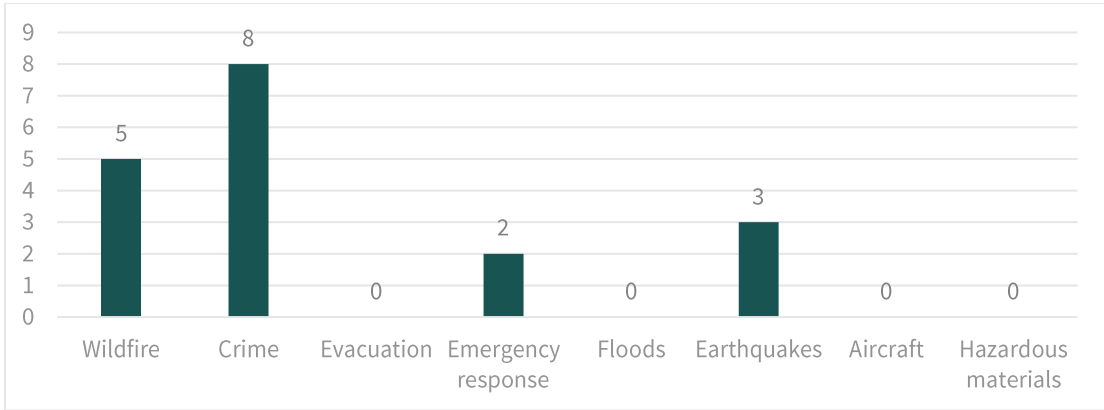
#### How prepared do you feel the City is for a future emergency?



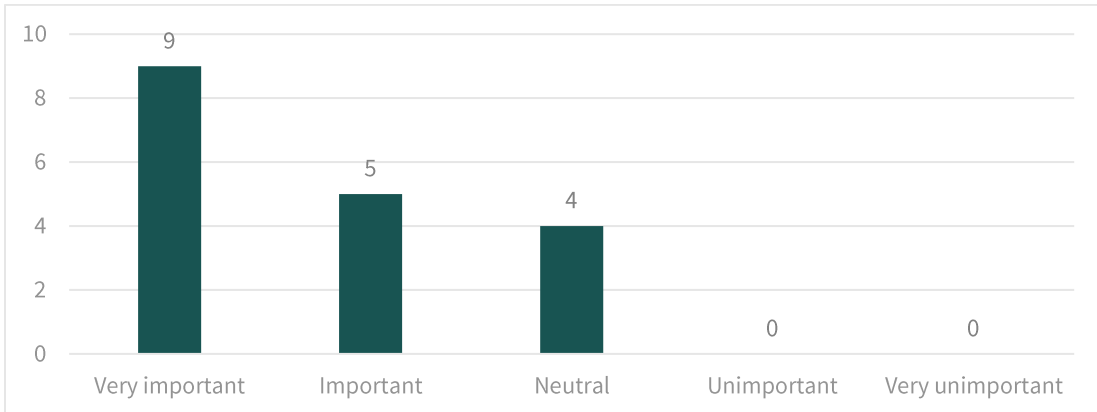
### Policy Framework

Proposed goals and policies were introduced in this section of the presentation. Simran provided an overview of the framework structure, followed by review of desired outcomes, performance metrics, and draft goals and policies led by Lexi.

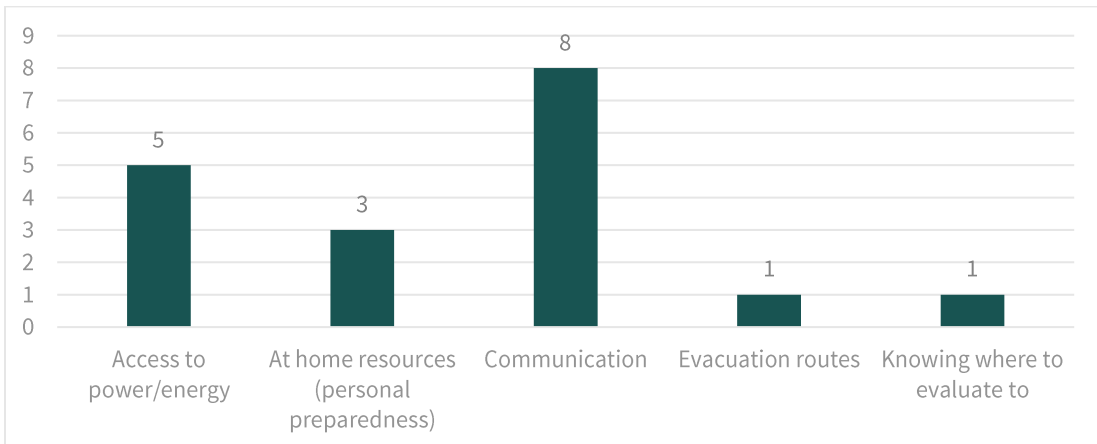
#### Which of these safety element topics/goals are you most concerned about?



#### How important is it for the General Plan Update to address infectious diseases planning/programs in light of the COVID-19 pandemic?



#### During an emergency, which of the following is your biggest concern?



## Other Questions and Comments

Throughout the presentation, GPAC members asked questions and provided various comments. Several questions below were answered during the presentation.

- What is the Sphere of Influence that is shown on the hazard maps?
  - *A Sphere of Influence (SOI) is a planning boundary outside of an agency's legal boundary (such as the city limit line) that designates the agency's probable future boundary and service area.*
- Why are we using crime data from 2015-2018?
  - *The data presented is from the Existing Conditions Report, which was completed in 2019 using the most complete data available, which was from 2018. This serves as the baseline for the General Plan Update project.*
- Perceived crime is an issue, so we may want to show the most up to date crime data to help reduce those concerns.
- What date was the fire hazard map prepared?
- Can we provide rain pipes with water birds and rainwater catch basins in City Ranch and Anaverde area to reduce wildfire risks?
- How often is the southwest runway at Plant 42 used?
- Can we have more interaction with the fire departments? They can assist with emergency response training like CPR.

## Discussion and Report Out

Following the presentation, participants and GPAC members were invited to join small group discussions. Members of the public joined a breakout group facilitated by Andrew and Ben, while GPAC members stayed in the main room for a discussion facilitated by Simran and Lexi. After a 40-minute session, the groups reunited for a report out of conversation highlights from both groups. Below is a summary of the report out.

### *Public Small Group Report Out*

- Residents expressed concern over future wildfires.
- Desire to see an education program that includes evaluation plans and key reminders for residents.
- Recent street racing accidents highlight the ongoing pedestrian safety concerns that need to be addressed.
- Desire to capture and recharge ground water to support limited locally available water.
- Consider Fox Field as a location for future passenger air service.
- Concern over resident notification and communication during an emergency.
- Residents top safety concern is crime and crime prevention.
- Expand community-building events like food truck nights, community gardens, and community clean up events.

### *GPAC Small Group Report Out*

- Advertise and educate the community about Palmdale's emergency evacuation center (the primary one is City Hall).
- Consider an annual newsletter with emergency preparedness and evacuation resources for residents.

- Public Schools have safety and emergency plans that are available to the public when requested.
- Interest in what locations can be used for public gathering in the event of an emergency.
- Members of the public can sign up for text message alerts from the City of Palmdale.
- Fireworks pose safety and noise issues in Palmdale.
- Suggest that landowners are informed when law enforcement is called to a rental property.
- Consider new public safety events for bicyclists and pedestrians focused on youth education.

### **3. Public Comment**

Members of the public who joined the meeting were invited to share public comments—in addition to the breakout group sessions—however, none provided comments.

### **4. Policy Framework Comments**

Melissa shared how to comment and review the policy framework document, by visiting the Palmdale2045.org website and clicking on “Policy.” All policy framework documents will be uploaded to the website and will remain open for review and comment through August 2021.

### **5. Next Steps and Wrap Up**

Simran shared upcoming meetings and next steps at the close of the meeting. The next policy framework meeting will take place on Wednesday, June 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm and will cover resilience, sustainability, and climate change. The General Plan Environmental Impact Report (EIR) scoping meeting will take place prior to the resilience framework meeting on June 30<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.

*A recording of this meeting is available on the [Palmdale 2045 YouTube Channel](#)*

*Attached: Facilitator worksheets from both small group discussions.*

# Facilitator Worksheet

Special Meeting: Joint GPAC and Public Workshop

Policy Framework Series: Safety, Infrastructure, and Hazards | June 17, 2021

## GPAC Small Group Notes

### Questions, Notes, and Report Out:

#### 1. Are there any outcomes we should consider?

##### Notes

- Emergency evacuation
  - Where are emergency evacuation centers located?
    - City hall is the main emergency center
  - Expand education regarding location of the evacuation centers
  - Schools have safety and emergency plans that the City should consider
  - General emergency or active shooter gathering location – agreements with school systems to use gyms as safety centers
- Emergency Communication
  - How does the City communicate with residents during an emergency?
  - Palmdale offers an emergency text message system that residents can subscribe to for updates.
- City has plans with utilities for power shut-offs in the event of an emergency.
- Metrics
  - Once a year City sends a newsletter regarding emergency centers

#### 2. Are there any policy ideas that we should consider?

- Address fireworks
- Address crime associated with rental units
  - Landowners don't know when police and sheriff shows up to their house so landowners can be informed
  - Ongoing coordination with the sheriff's department
- Public safety educational events for schools regarding bike and pedestrian safety

#### 3. Of the policy ideas, which resonate the most?

#### 4. Is there anything else you'd like to share about these topics?

# Facilitator Worksheet

Special Meeting: Joint GPAC and Public Workshop  
Policy Framework Series: Safety, Infrastructure, and Hazards | June 17, 2021  
Public Small Group Notes

## Questions, Notes, and Report Out:

### 1. Are there any outcomes we should consider?

#### Notes

- Anaverde, concerned about wildfires
  - In hills, need people who are in the community and part of evacuations
    - In past fire (July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2010) Street S experienced high concentration of people not knowing where to go; people were shutting off their gas instead of keeping air conditioning on
    - Trainings on wildfire preparedness/evacuation readiness would be helpful
  - Evacuations can be difficult with how streets are oriented
- City preparation is key to community safety in all disaster/emergency scenarios
  - Need to plan with residents to make sure that they are informed and now what to do in a moment
  - Residents do not have good existing preparation, easier for panic to set in among the community
  - Send out brochures, flyers, online information to residents regarding preparedness, evacuation routes, etc.
- Recent street race incident brought up safety issues on the road, particularly related to alternative forms of transportation like biking and walking to feel safe
  - Outcome – safer transportation system design, more alternative transportation infrastructure
- How to keep water during floods in the valley and City, and capture runoff during floods to recharge water facilities and put toward other productive uses

### 2. Are there any policy ideas that we should consider?

#### Notes

- Look into building a new airport
- Include a policy regarding notification of emergencies and evacuations

### 3. Of the policy ideas, which resonate the most?

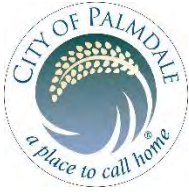
#### Notes

- Wildfires, earthquakes, floods, crime
- Crime is everywhere, so presents a consistent risk
  - In the past, participated in group/forum that discussed things currently going on in the City. Communication is helpful, and these in-person events help make citizens proud about what is going on in the community.

### 4. Is there anything else you'd like to share about these topics?

#### Notes

- Likes community houses and gardens, part of making people take pride in their community and connects with preventing crime
  - More opportunities for people to take pride and participate in their community. Vacant lots present good opportunities for more community gardens and other food trucks/events.
  - Anaverde gets a lot of quality food trucks, popular places for the community to get together. Would be nice to get all local food trucks to an event at large community parks.
- In the past, people in the community helped each other. Now, it seems that people are not spending as much time to get to know each other. Increasing opportunities/events for people to get to know each other is helpful
- There is a lot of trash on trails, around the City. More community clean-up groups and events would be helpful. There are some groups that do this on the weekends, advertised in City newsletter.
  - Public Safety units write a lot of orders regarding illegal dumping in the City. Undeveloped lands are the most problematic for people dumping illegally.



# City of Palmdale General Plan Update Joint General Plan Advisory Committee #13 and Public Workshop: Resilience, Sustainability and Climate Change Policy Frameworks

June 30, 2021 | 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

*Virtual Meeting via Zoom livestreamed to YouTube*

## Meeting Minutes (Adopted July 15, 2021)

### Meeting Objectives

- Review existing setting related to sustainability, resilience, and climate topics
- Review and refine preliminary sustainability, resilience, and climate goal and policy recommendations for the General Plan Update

### Attendees

#### GPAC Members

##### Present:

Juan Blanco, Lourdes T. Everett, Laura Gordon, Theresa Hambro, Aurora Hernandez, Pat Hunt, Deborah Rutkowski-Hines, Sheri Kaneshiro, and Teresa Lamping

**Absent:** Matthew Harris, Tony Avila, Colby Estes, Jason Zink

#### City Staff

Carlene Saxton, Director of Economic and Community Development; Megan Taggart, Planning Manager; Ben Fiss, Senior Planner; Jay Nelson, City Traffic Engineer; Sophia Reyes, Housing Manager; and Ben Lucha, Environmental Resources Manager

#### City Council

Councilmember Juan Carillo

#### Consultant Team

Raimi + Associates: Simran Malhotra, Walker Wells, Melissa Stark, and Sami Taylor

#### Public

Six members of the community joined the Zoom meeting, though no public sign-in is available.



# Meeting Summary

## 1. Introduction

The virtual meeting began with a review of the joint meeting agenda, roll call of GPAC Members, introductions of City staff and the consultant team, and recital of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Pat Hunt made a motion to approve GPAC #12 meeting minutes (June 17, 2021) and Lourdes T. Everett seconded the motion. None opposed so the motion passed.

## 2. Presentation & Feedback

Simran Malhotra provided an overview of the General Plan which included the project schedule, summary of engagement to date, and an introduction to the policy frameworks and topics of resilience, sustainability, and climate change.

Sami Taylor and Walker Wells then led an overview of the existing sustainability and climate change setting in Palmdale including existing plans, programs, and proposed draft policies.

During the presentation, the group stopped for questions and to answer interactive polls. All poll questions—with the exception of the meeting minute approval poll—were available to members of the public and GPAC, but please note that not all participants responded to all polls.

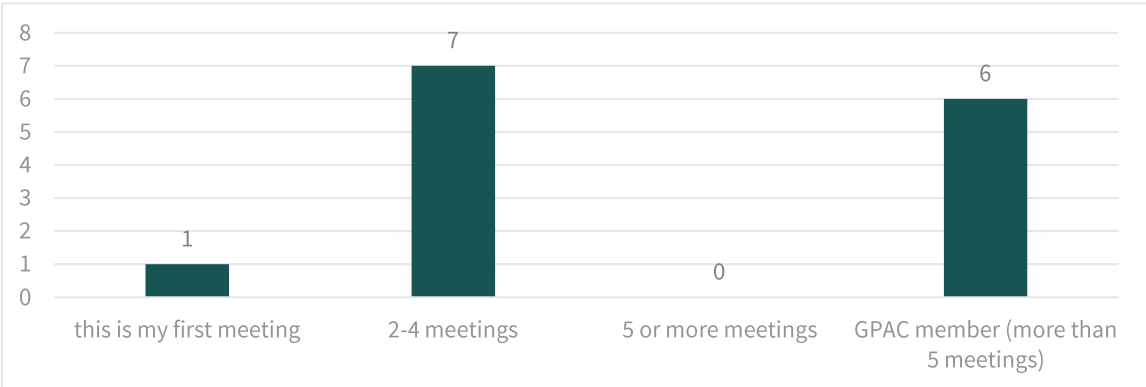
In advance of the meeting, the project website was updated with background materials including the resilience, sustainability, and climate change policy framework, Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory Report and Climate Hazards Assessment Report. In addition, GPAC members were emailed these materials to review as context for the meeting.

Below are descriptions of each presentation section and summaries of responses to each poll question. Poll responses are combined for GPAC members and members of the public.

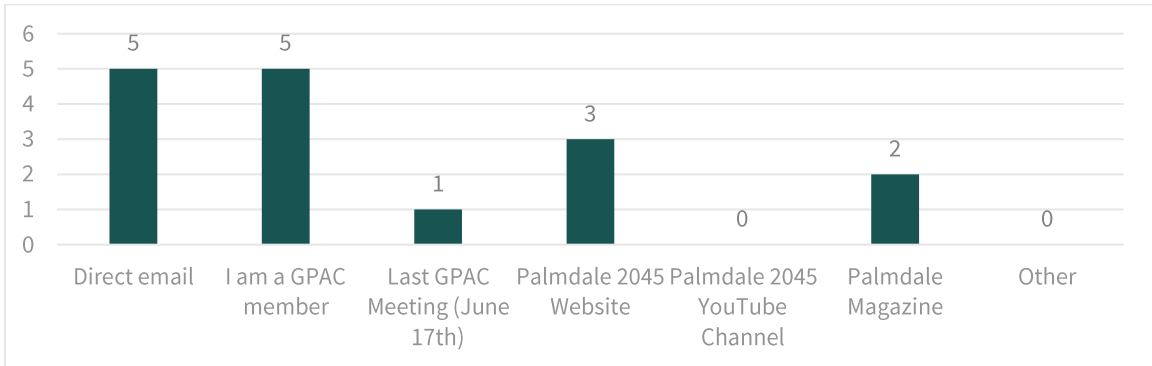
### General Plan Overview

The background component of the presentation began with an overview of the General Plan process, how it is defined, the Palmdale 2045 schedule, summary of community engagement activities to date, major General Plan vision themes, and an introduction to the policy frameworks.

### How many General Plan related meetings have you attended?



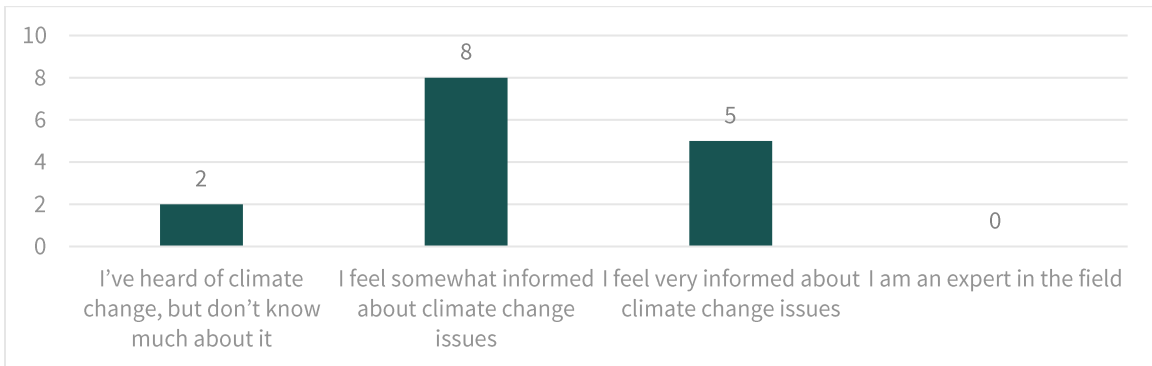
**How did you hear about this meeting? (Select all that apply)**



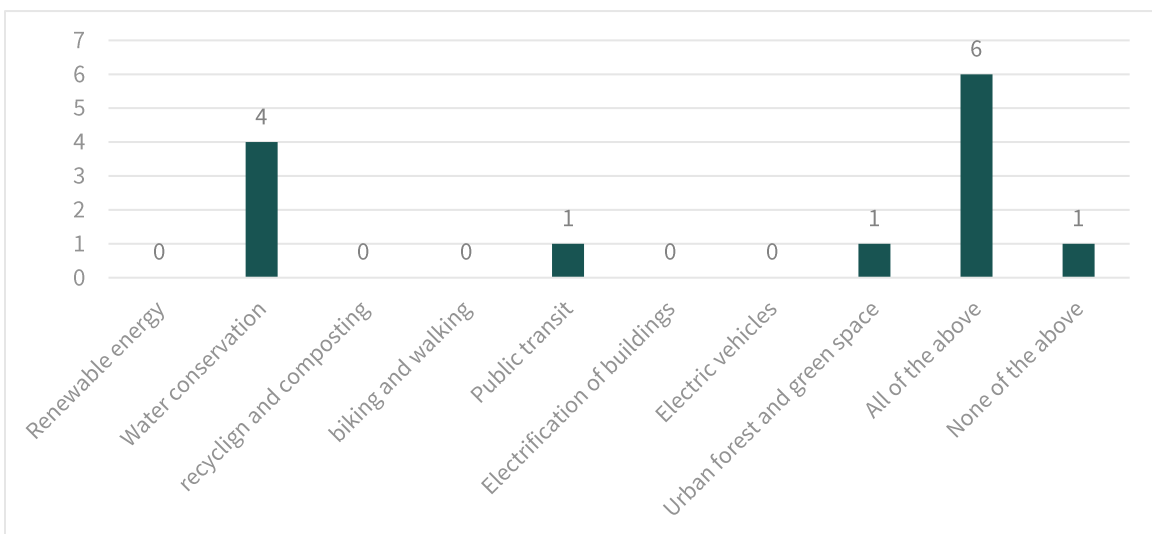
**Existing Setting**

As a precursor to the draft goals and policies, Sami Taylor reviewed the definition of sustainability, ways of achieving sustainability and levels of action, and climate projections and impacts in Palmdale. Sami continued to cover environmental policy in California, noting the several recent requirements for cities, followed by a review of Palmdale GHG emissions.

**How would you describe your knowledge about climate change?**

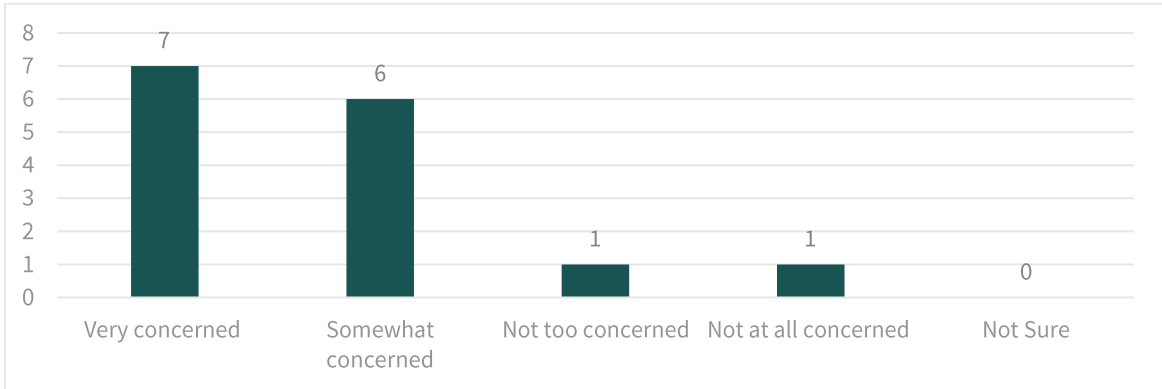


**Which of the following climate-related issues is of importance to you?**

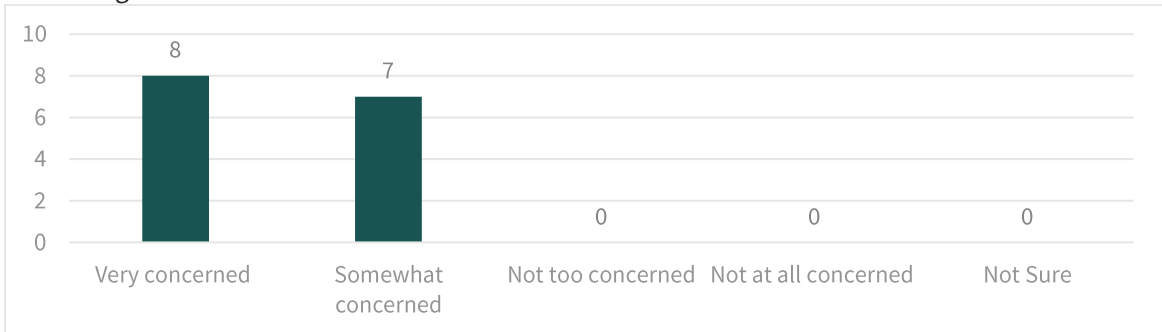


**How concerned are you about the possible impacts of climate change in Palmdale? Please tell us whether you are very concerned, somewhat concerned, not too concerned, or not at all concerned about each one.**

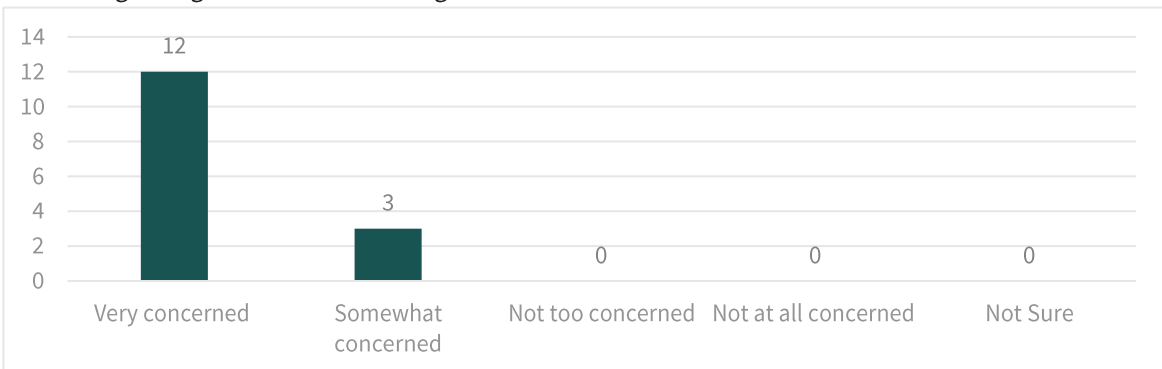
*Worsening air quality*



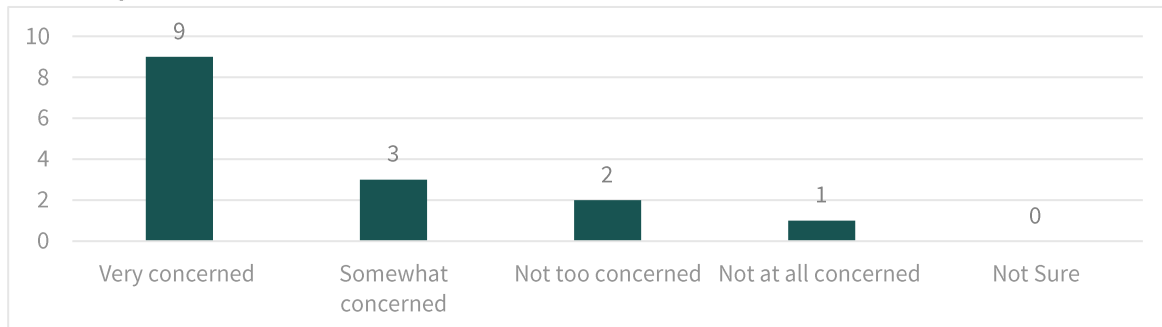
*Worsening wildfires*



*Worsening drought and water shortages*



*Worsening heat waves*



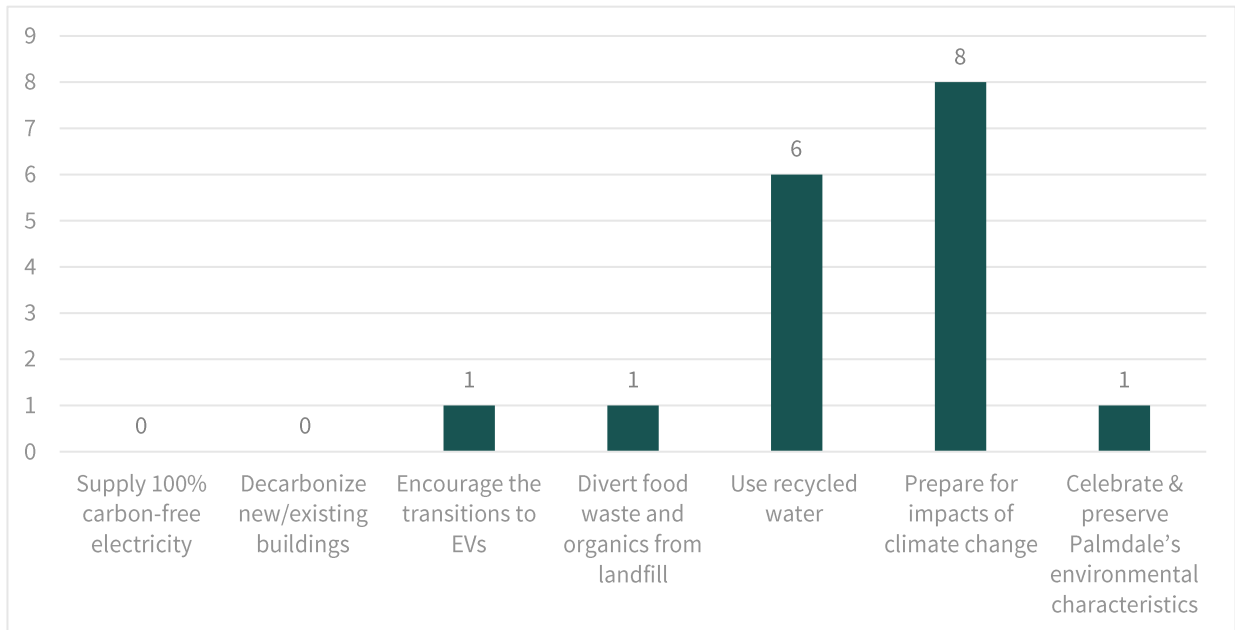
### Existing Plans/Policies and Feedback from Community Engagement

Walker Wells reviewed existing plans and policies noting the progress made in Palmdale, and highlighting community feedback related to sustainability, resilience, and climate change.

### Policy Framework

Proposed goals and policies were introduced in this section of the presentation. Simran provided an overview of the framework structure, followed by review of desired outcomes, performance metrics, and draft goals and policies led by Walker.

### What is your top climate and sustainability action priority?



### Other Questions and Comments

Throughout the presentation, GPAC members and members of the public asked questions and provided various comments.

- Does the City of Palmdale or Waste Management offer a composting program?
  - *Palmdale has an organics proposal from commercial businesses, it is not yet available for residential uses.*
- We should work with plant stores and nurseries to provide free composting for customers.
- Can Palmdale do anything to reduce single-use plastics?
- Building into hillsides can lower building temperatures, like what was done by Frank Lloyd Wright in Tucson, AZ.
- Increasing use of renewable energy will require more battery backups for solar.
- Solar screens were not effective in lowering my utility bills, but options for reducing emissions is helpful.
- We should be cautious about the energy demands on the electric grid.
- How do we mitigate power outages?
- Batteries produce hazardous waste.
- Should consider hydrogen fuel options in the future.

- Wind issues are important to consider.
- Educational resources for gray water landscaping would be helpful.
- How can we hold the State of California accountable for forest management planning?
- Need for better fire road access and wildfire prevention planning.
- Would like to work with restaurants in Palmdale to reduce the amount of plastics and encourage businesses to be more sustainable.
- California borrows a significant amount of energy; how can we solve some of the existing issues we have now?
- Trash sorting should be more widely available in Palmdale.
- The City’s trash hauler should increase the number of recyclables they will take.
- Encourage regular neighborhood clean-up events to remove illegal dumping in the desert.
  - *Weekend clean-up events have been paused due to rattlesnake seasons, but the City will revisit it later in the year and will discuss with the Illegal Dumping Task Force.*

*While the agenda called for breakout group discussions and a brief “report out,” the group opted to maintain one large discussion and summary of feedback with the allotted remaining time.*

### **3. Public Comment**

Members of the public who joined the meeting were invited to share public comments—in addition to those offered during stopping points throughout the meeting—however, none provided comments.

### **4. Policy Framework Comments**

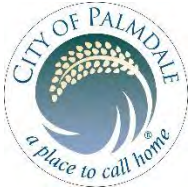
Melissa shared how to comment and review the policy framework document, by visiting the Palmdale2045.org website and clicking on “Policy.” All policy framework documents will be uploaded to the website and will remain open for review and comment through August 2021.

### **5. Next Steps and Wrap Up**

Simran shared upcoming meetings and next steps at the close of the meeting. The next policy framework meeting will take place on Thursday, July 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm and will cover land use, housing, and mobility.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.

*A recording of this meeting is available on the [Palmdale 2045 YouTube Channel](#)*



# City of Palmdale General Plan Update Joint General Plan Advisory Committee #14 and Public Workshop: Land Use, Housing and Mobility Policy Frameworks

July 15, 2021 | 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

*Virtual Meeting via Zoom livestreamed to YouTube*

## Meeting Minutes (Adopted July 28, 2021)

### Meeting Objectives

- Review existing setting related to land use and housing topics
- Review and refine preliminary land use and housing goal and policy recommendations for the General Plan Update

### Attendees

#### GPAC Members

##### Present:

Tony Avila, Juan Blanco, Colby Estes, Laura Gordon, Matthew Harris, Theresa Hambro, Pat Hunt, Sheri Kaneshiro, and Jason Zink

**Absent:** Lourdes T. Everett, Aurora Hernandez, Deborah Rutkowski-Hines, and Teresa Lamping

#### City Staff

Carlene Saxton, Director of Economic and Community Development; Drew Pletcher, Deputy City Attorney; Megan Taggart, Planning Manager; and Ben Fiss, Senior Planner

#### Consultant Team

Raimi + Associates: Simran Malhotra, Troy Reinhalter, and Aram Kamali

Veronica Tam and Associates: Veronica Tam and Holli Safran

#### Public

Twenty members of the community joined the Zoom meeting, though no public sign-in is available.

*Simultaneous Spanish translation was provided at this meeting, as requested by a member of the community more than 72-hours prior to the meeting.*

# Meeting Summary

## 1. Introduction

The virtual meeting began with a review of the joint meeting agenda, roll call of GPAC Members, introductions of City staff and the consultant team, and recital of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Pat Hunt made a motion to approve GPAC #13 meeting minutes (June 30, 2021) and Theresa Hambro seconded the motion. None opposed so the motion passed.

## 2. Presentation & Feedback

Simran Malhotra provided an overview of the General Plan which included the project schedule, summary of engagement to date, and an introduction to the policy frameworks.

The background component of the presentation was led by Simran who reviewed the land use information, the preferred land use alternative process, existing plans, and programs, and proposed draft policies. Veronica Tam provided an overview of housing background including existing plans, programs, feedback from the community, and proposed draft policies.

During the presentation, the group stopped for questions and to answer interactive polls. All poll questions—with the exception of the meeting minute approval poll—were available to members of the public and GPAC, but please note that not all participants responded to all polls.

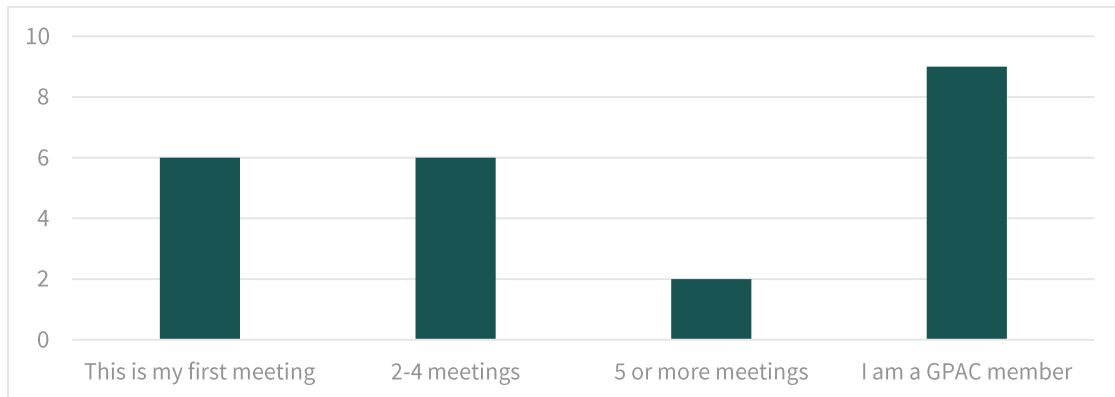
In advance of the meeting, the project website was updated with background materials including the land use and housing policy framework, land use and urban form existing conditions report, and the housing conditions needs assessment report. In addition, GPAC members were emailed these materials to review as context for the meeting.

Below are descriptions of each presentation section and summaries of responses to each poll question. Poll responses are combined for GPAC members and members of the public.

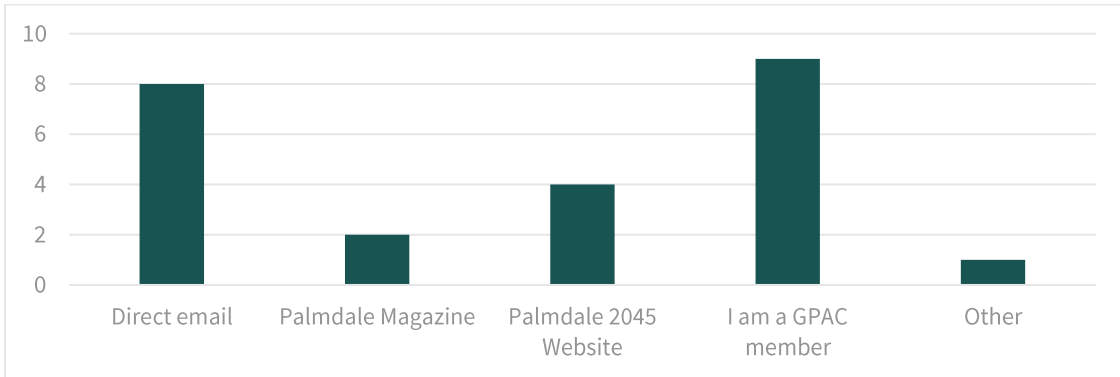
### General Plan Overview

The background component of the presentation began with an overview of the General Plan process, how it is defined, the Palmdale 2045 schedule, summary of community engagement activities to date, major General Plan vision themes, and an introduction to the policy frameworks.

### How many General Plan related meetings have you attended?



**How did you hear about this meeting? (Select all that apply)**

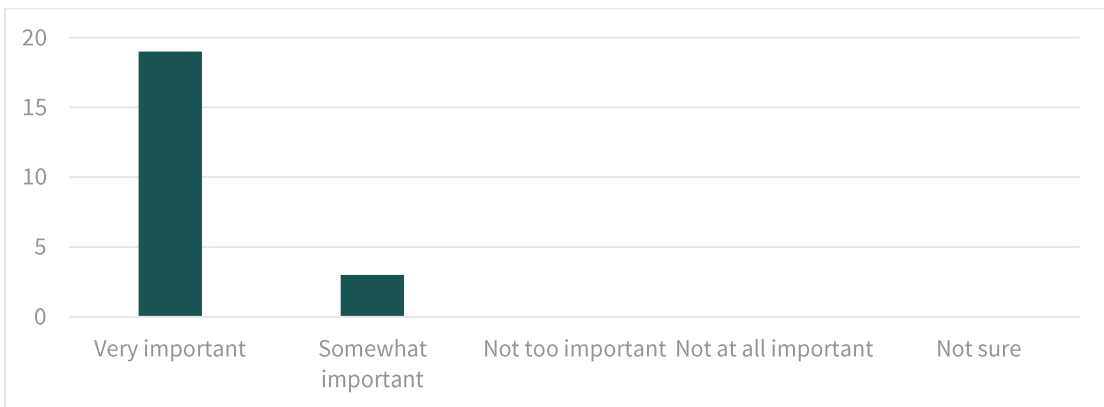


**Existing Setting**

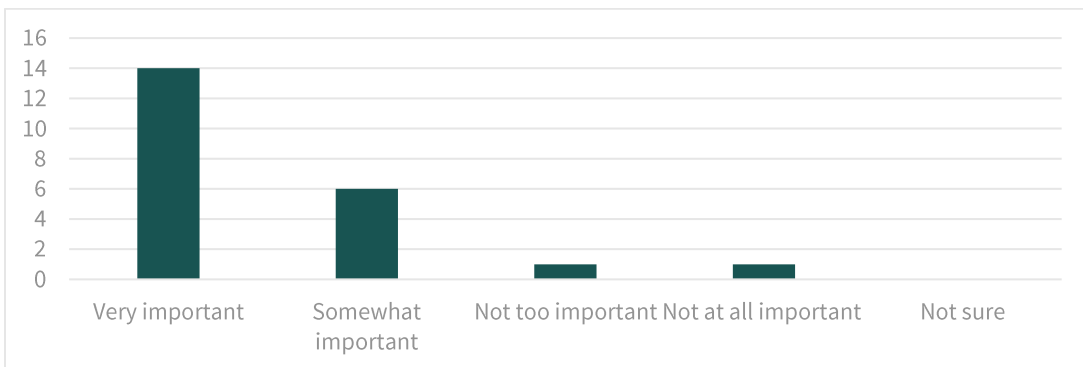
As a precursor to the draft goals and policies, Simran and Veronica provided background on land use and housing conditions in Palmdale, including defining both general plan elements and key requirements.

**How Important are the following outcomes for the future of Palmdale? Please tell us whether each outcome is very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not at all important.**

*Balanced Jobs and Housing Growth*

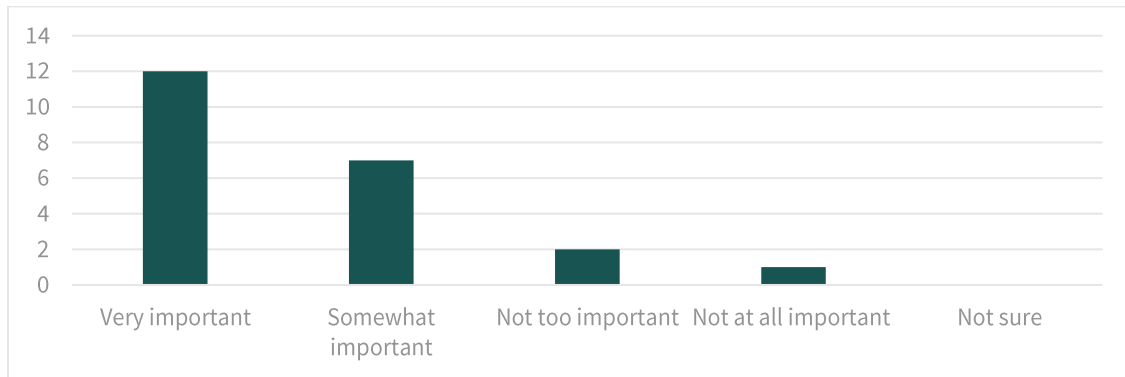


*Promote mixed income and affordable housing*

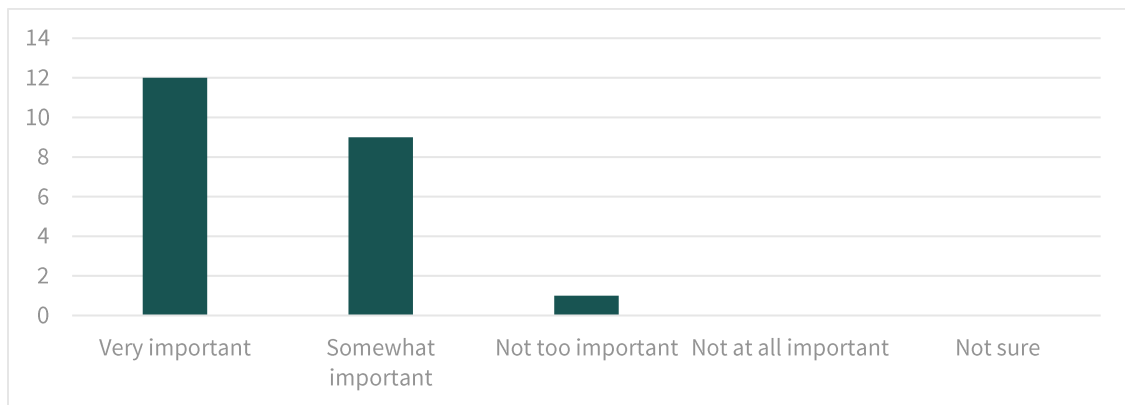




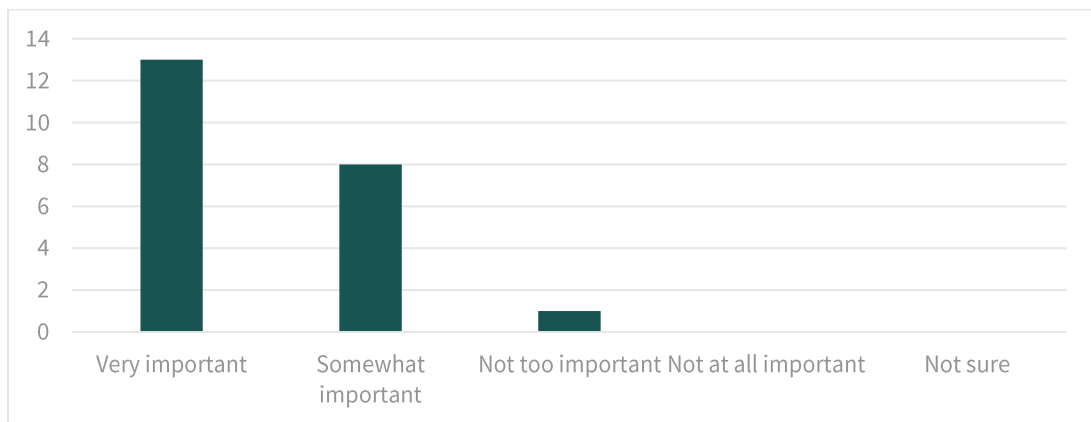
*Walkable, complete, “20-Minute” Neighborhoods*



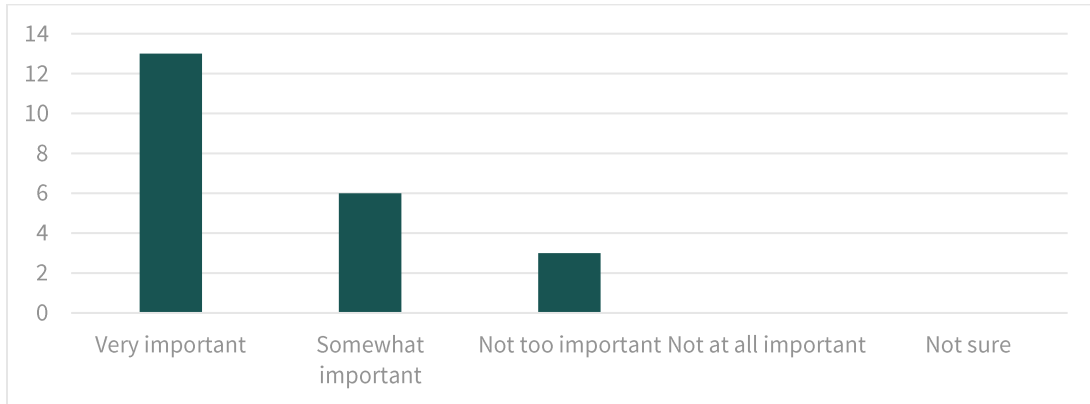
*Transit-Oriented community around the station*



*More Housing Options, Especially Downtown*



*Expansion of Aerospace, Light Industrial, Film, & Office Uses*



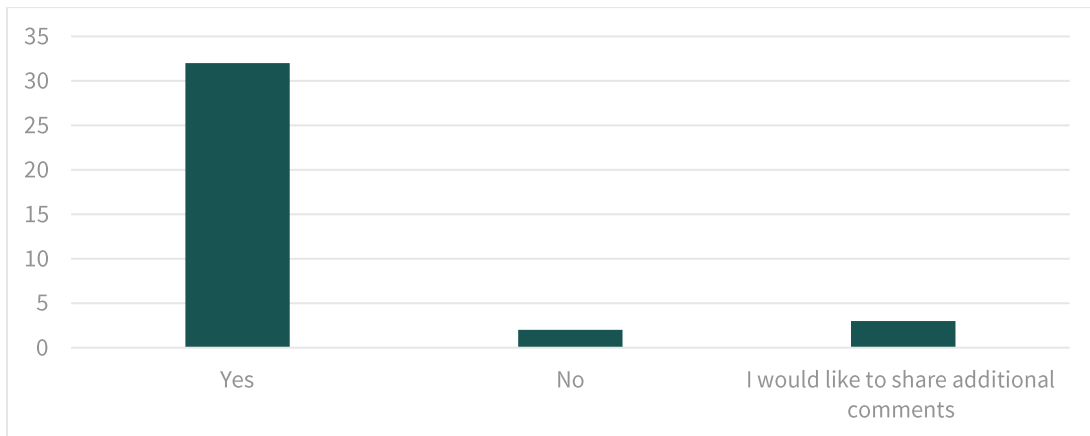
**Existing Plans/Policies and Feedback from Community Engagement**

Simran and Veronica reviewed existing land use and housing plans and programs in Palmdale and highlighted community feedback related to both topics

**Policy Framework**

Proposed goals and policies were introduced in this section of the presentation. Simran and Veronica provided an overview of the framework structure, followed by review of desired outcomes, performance metrics, and draft goals and policies for land use and housing.

**Do these goals address the vision themes and land use outcomes identified for the General Plan Update?**



## Other Questions and Comments

Throughout the presentation, GPAC members asked questions and provided various comments, which are summarized below. General Plan Team responses are shown in italics.

- Do housing constraints consider access to water?
  - *The Regional Housing Needs requires cities to accommodate a set number of housing units, it does not require building of those units. However, lack of water is not a reason to not plan for new growth.*
- Can we survey the folks who work in Palmdale but stay in hotels—as opposed to living in Palmdale—to see if they would consider moving to the City?
  - *While surveying those folks is not part of the General Plan scope, our desire is to create neighborhoods and a sense of community that attracts those people to move to Palmdale.*
  - *In addition, the City of Palmdale actively works with local hotels to survey guests regularly about the nature of their stay in Palmdale.*
- What area is referred to as Downtown?
  - *The area that is the original Downtown and is included in the Palmdale Transit Area Specific Plan (PTASP) between the 14 Freeway and 10<sup>th</sup> Street East and Technology Drive, which is around the future High Speed Rail Station.*

### 3. Small Group Discussions and Report Out

Following the presentation, the GPAC and members of the public separated into two small groups for further discussion. Once completed, a member of each group shared highlights to all attendees of the meeting. More detailed notes from each small group discussion are attached to these minutes.

#### Breakout Group Report Out

- Development of a higher education facility should be included as a key outcome
- Support for 20-minute neighborhoods and increased access to goods and services
- Desire for walkable blocks in the future that increase pedestrian comfort and connectivity
- Improve the overall aesthetic and design of the city
- Neighborhoods should be cleaned, including enhanced sidewalks and more trash receptacles
- The City should fund infrastructure improvements and enhancements to support local businesses and property owners
- Desire for more parks, trees, and greenspaces
- Maintain the natural beauty of Palmdale

#### GPAC Group Report Out

- Preserve natural desert environment and expand parks and open space
- Provide adequate access to goods and services across the City
- Expansion of broad band internet access
- Programs to assist extremely low-income folks access housing
- Consider use of alternative building materials to reduce construction costs
- Disperse affordable housing across the City
- Providing care and services to homeless populations including development of a homeless shelter

#### 4. Public Comment

Members of the public who joined the meeting were invited to share public comments. Three folks provided public comment, which are summarized below.

- How will California's guaranteed income affect affordable housing?
- Are we considering building shelters to support homeless individuals? Are we looking at zoning to allow Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs)? Are there any ideas for professional housing?
- Homeownership as a way of building capital is no longer accessible for most and local governments can only do so much. Corporations, like Amazon, should provide subsidized housing for their employees.

#### 5. Policy Framework Comments

Simran shared how to comment and review the policy framework document, by visiting the Palmdale2045.org website and clicking on "Policy." All policy framework documents will be uploaded to the website and will remain open for review and comment through August 2021.

#### 6. Next Steps and Wrap Up

Simran shared upcoming meetings and next steps at the close of the meeting. The next policy framework meeting will take place on Wednesday, July 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm and will cover part two of land use, housing, and mobility.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.

*Attached: Facilitator notes from the small group discussions.*

*A recording of this meeting is available on the [Palmdale 2045 YouTube Channel](#)*

# Facilitator Worksheet

Meeting: Joint GPAC and Public Workshop

Policy Framework Series: Land Use, Housing, and Mobility | July 15, 2021

*GPAC Breakout Group Notes*

## Questions, Notes, and Report Out:

### 1. Are there any outcomes we should consider?

#### Notes

- Preserving desert habitat (designated lands for parks and open space)
- Access to goods and services within walking distance
- Expansion of broadband across the City for improved access to residents
- Programs to help those who can still not afford 'affordable housing'

### 2. Are there any policy ideas that we should consider?

#### Notes

- Use of alternative building materials to reduce construction costs
- Spreading affordable housing throughout the City
- Avoidance of transporting of the unhoused population from other jurisdictions into the City

### 3. Of the policy ideas, which resonate the most?

- N/A

### 4. Is there anything else you'd like to share about these topics?

#### Notes

- Facilitate the future development of a shelter

# Facilitator Worksheet

Meeting: Joint GPAC and Public Workshop

Policy Framework Series: Land Use, Housing, and Mobility | July 15, 2021

*Public Breakout Group Notes*

## Questions & Notes (10-15 minutes each):

**1. Of the Land Use and Housing outcomes we shared, which resonate the most with you? Are there any other outcomes that we should consider?**

- Missing the addition of a new college/major education facility as a key outcome
- (outcome) Walkable neighborhood
  - > (goal) locate services near housing
  - > (policy/action) change zoning to allow this to happen
- Bringing people closer to amenities (20-minute outcome) has strong support

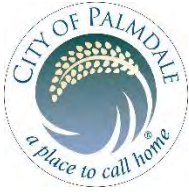
**2. Of the Land Use and Housing policy ideas we shared, which resonate the most with you? Are there any other policy ideas that we should consider?**

- How can we design more walkable blocks? Pleasant pedestrian spaces should be an important outcome and goal
- Add more bike paths out in Anaverde/City Ranch
- Improving neighborhood aesthetics and design (street trees, street grid, connectivity)
  - Cohesive sense of City's architecture and design
- Consider allowing zoning changes to mixed use in the future; greater flexibility in allowed land uses, to promote business and other opportunities for residents (a zoning code update will follow GP adoption. Could move towards a form-based code approach)
- Neighborhoods out past the Metrolink could be enhanced and sidewalks/streets upgraded and cleaned. Some of these areas have very real constraints and barriers that must be addressed. Add policies or actions on community appearance and maintenance:
  - Adding more trash receptacles in new developments, and encourage existing businesses to provide cans (putting some responsibility back on them)
  - Support or expand the existing "Caught in the Act" program
- Greater City support for expanded infrastructure, to support local entrepreneurs and developers. Enhanced Infrastructure Financing Districts is one strategy being pursued.
- Grade separation for rail near Palmdale Blvd? Investigate more. Outcome -> a City that is pleasant to live in and is not overly impacted by noise

- Future of Palmdale will require more parks and trees and nature, trying to integrate green space into all new housing developments. Wild parks with native vegetations
  - -> recognize the AV area's natural qualities in landscaping, parks, city properties, streetscapes, etc. (J tree protections)
- Keep Palmdale special, keeping the beauty of the area (don't start looking like everywhere else)

**3. Is there anything else you'd like to share about Land Use and Housing?**

- Need another DMV location
- Preserving our history -> historical monument or museum?
- More space and facilities for our youth
- Improving the upkeep of senior housing projects



# City of Palmdale General Plan Update Joint General Plan Advisory Committee #15 and Public Workshop: Land Use, Housing and Mobility Policy Frameworks Part 2

July 28, 2021 | 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

*Virtual Meeting via Zoom livestreamed to YouTube*

## Meeting Minutes (Adopted August 5, 2021)

### Meeting Objectives

- Review existing setting related to land use and mobility topics
- Review and refine preliminary land use and mobility goal and policy recommendations for the General Plan Update

### Attendees

#### GPAC Members

##### Present:

Tony Avila, Colby Estes, Lourdes T. Everett, Laura Gordon, Theresa Hambro, Matthew Harris, Aurora Hernandez, Deborah Rutkowski-Hines, Pat Hunt, and Jason Zink

**Absent:** Juan Blanco, Sheri Kaneshiro, and Teresa Lamping

#### City Staff

Carlene Saxton, Director of Economic and Community Development; Drew Pletcher, Deputy City Attorney; Megan Taggart, Planning Manager; Ben Fiss, Senior Planner; Jay Nelson, Traffic Engineer; and Ruben Hovanesian, Senior Civil Engineer

#### Consultant Team

Raimi + Associates: Simran Malhotra and Melissa Stark

Nelson\Nygaard Consulting Associates: Meghan Weir and Zachary Zabel

#### Public

Nine members of the community joined the Zoom meeting, though no public sign-in is available.

*Simultaneous Spanish translation was provided at this meeting, as requested by a member of the community more than 72-hours prior to the meeting.*



# Meeting Summary

## 1. Introduction

The virtual meeting began with a review of the joint meeting agenda, roll call of GPAC Members, introductions of City staff and the consultant team, and recital of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Lourdes Everett made a motion to approve GPAC #14 meeting minutes (July 15, 2021) and Pat Hunt seconded the motion. None opposed so the motion passed.

## 2. Presentation & Feedback

Simran Malhotra provided an overview of the General Plan, which included the project schedule, summary of engagement to date, and an introduction to the policy frameworks.

The presentation was led by Simran who reviewed the background land use information and proposed draft policies. Meghan Weir and Zachary Zabel provided an overview of mobility background including existing plans, programs, feedback from the community, and proposed draft policies.

During the presentation, the group stopped for questions and to answer interactive polls. All poll questions—with the exception of the meeting minute approval poll—were available to members of the public and GPAC, but please note that not all participants responded to all polls.

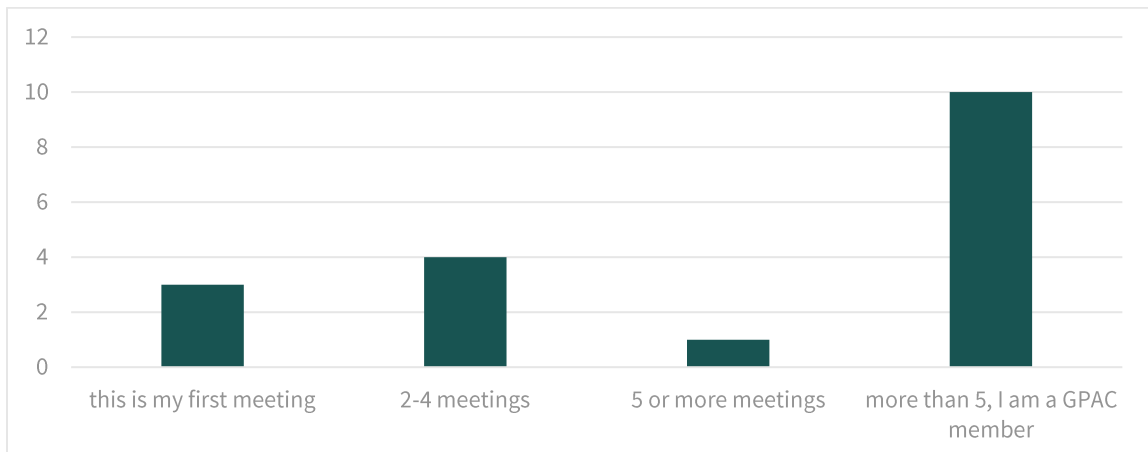
In advance of the meeting, the project website was updated with background materials including the mobility policy framework and transportation and mobility background report. In addition, GPAC members were emailed these materials to review as context for the meeting.

Below are descriptions of each presentation section and summaries of responses to each poll question. Poll responses are combined for GPAC members and members of the public.

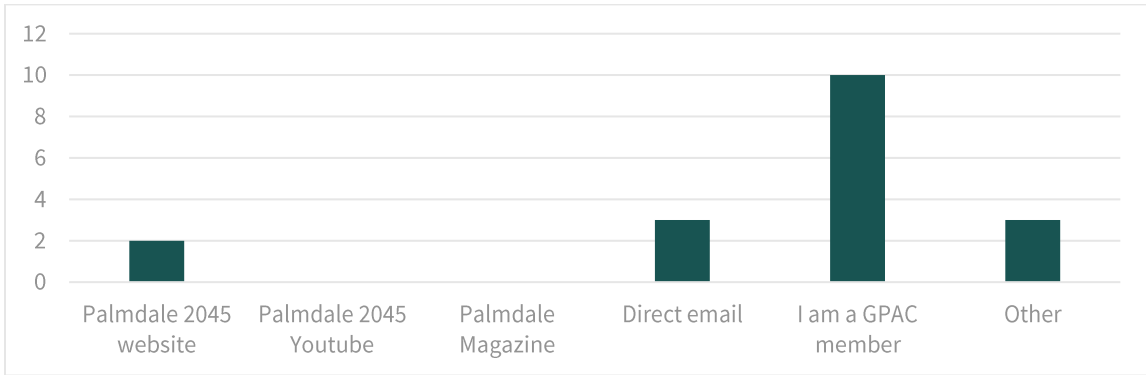
### General Plan Overview

The background component of the presentation began with an overview of the General Plan process, how it is defined, the Palmdale 2045 schedule, summary of community engagement activities to date, major General Plan vision themes, and an introduction to the policy frameworks.

### How many General Plan related meetings have you attended?



**How did you hear about this meeting? (Select all that apply)**



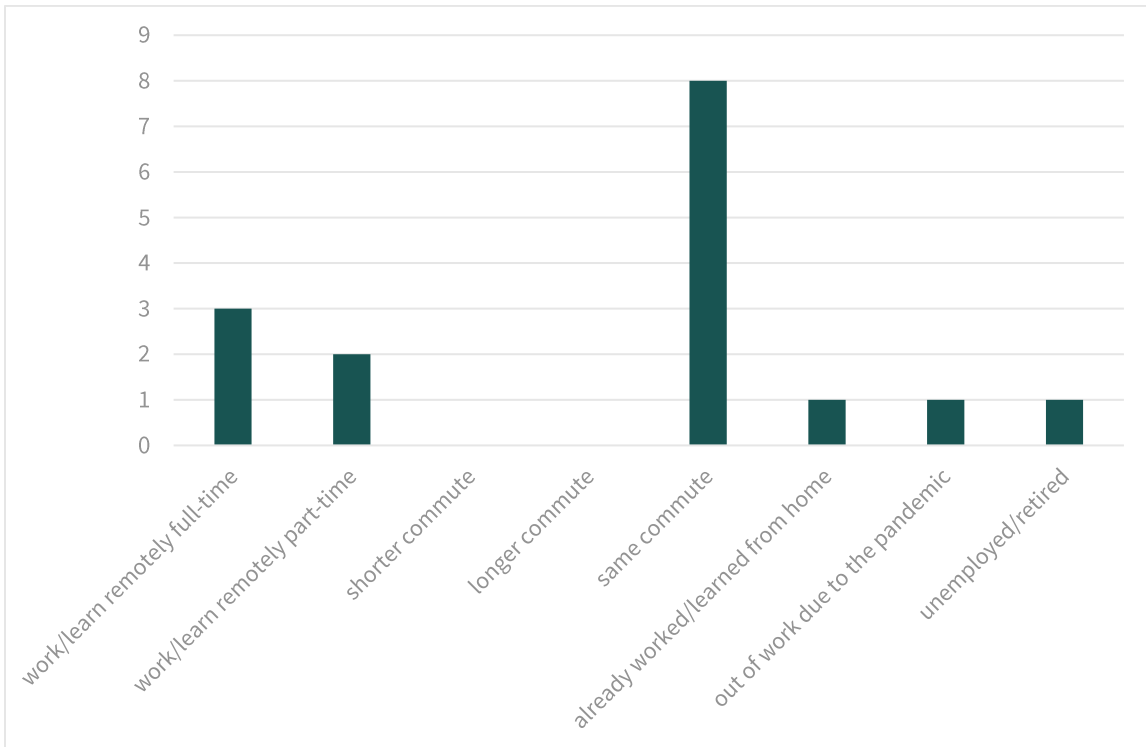
**Existing Setting**

As a precursor to the draft goals and policies, Simran, Meghan, and Zachary provided background on land use and mobility conditions in Palmdale, including defining both general plan elements and key requirements.

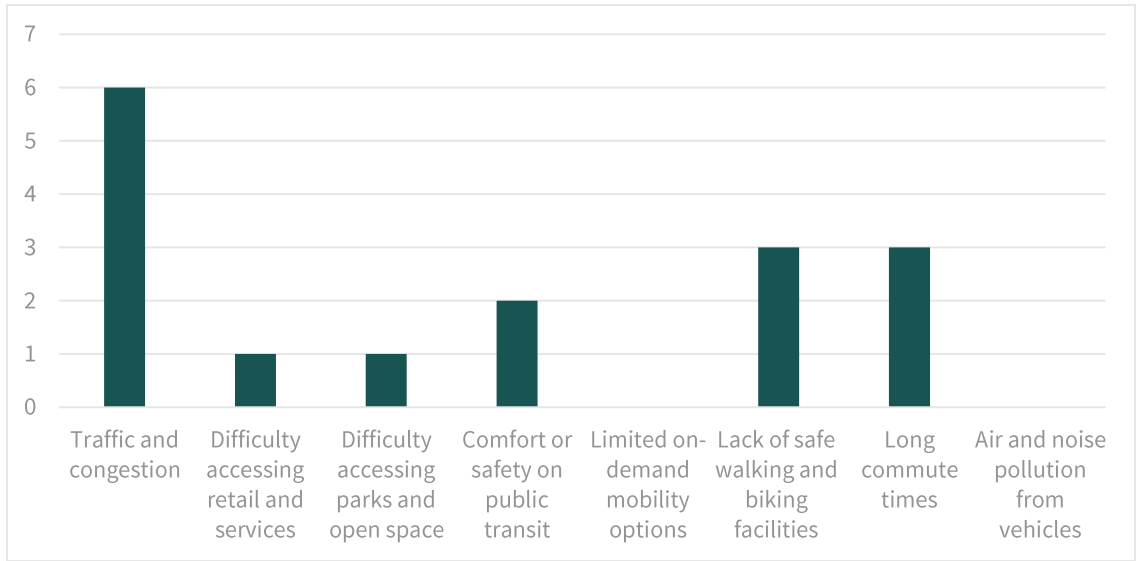
**Existing Plans/Policies and Feedback from Community Engagement**

Simran and Zachary reviewed existing land use and mobility plans and programs in Palmdale and highlighted community feedback related to both topics

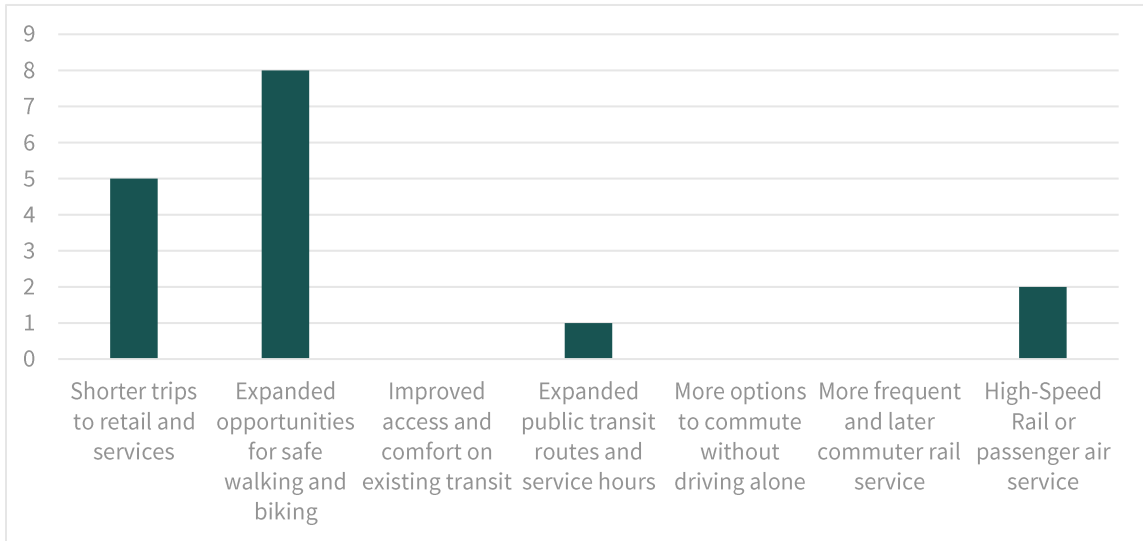
**How has COVID-19 changed your commute patterns?**



**Which concerns impact you the most?**



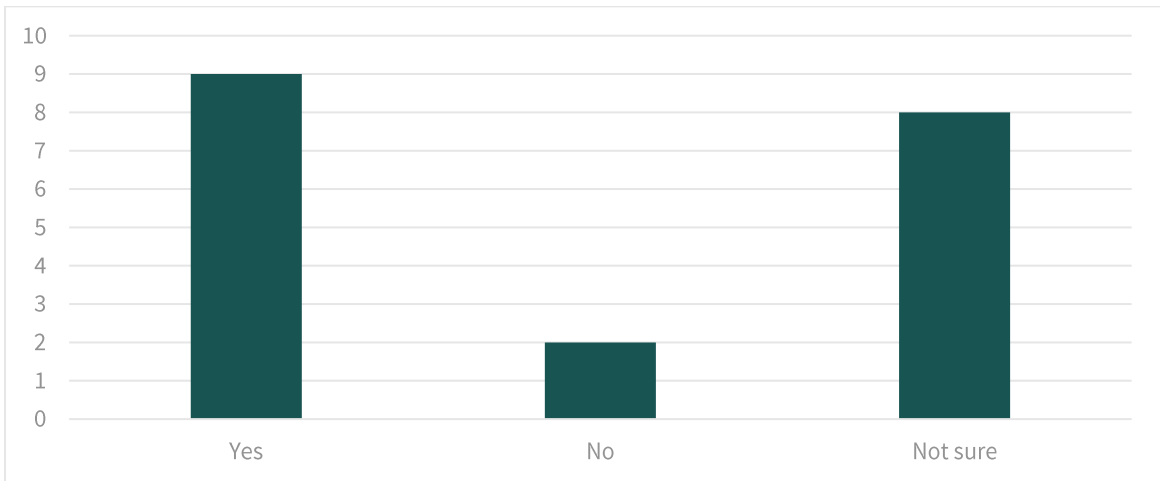
**Which opportunities are the most important to you?**



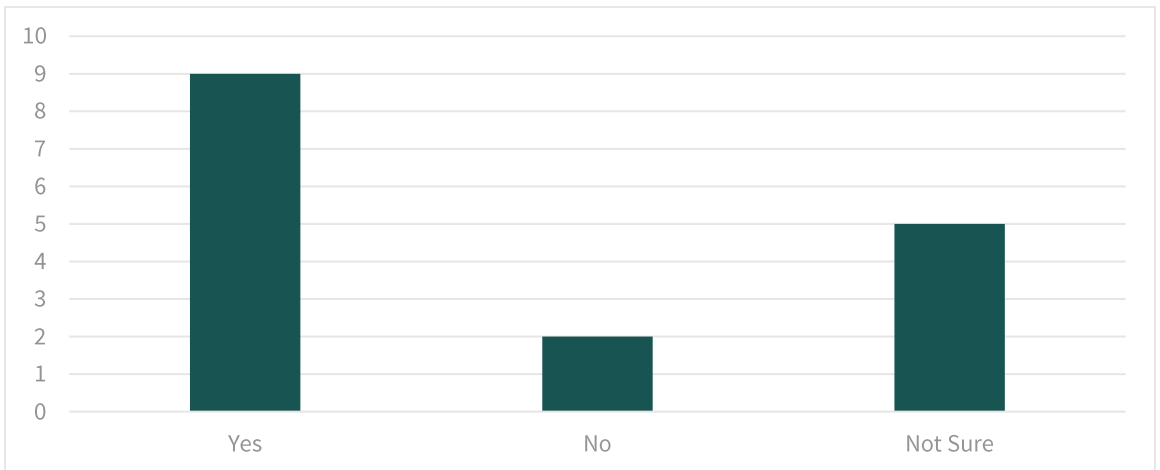
**Policy Framework**

Proposed goals and policies were introduced in this section of the presentation. Simran and Zachary provided an overview of the framework structure, followed by review of desired outcomes, performance metrics, and draft goals and policies for land use and mobility. Meghan introduced the roadway classification system, including a typical functional system and the proposed modal priority system.

**Do these goals address the land use outcomes identified for the General Plan Update?**



**Do these goals address the mobility outcomes identified for the General Plan Update?**



## Other Questions and Comments

Throughout the presentation, GPAC members asked questions and provided various comments, which are summarized below. General Plan Team responses are shown in italics.

- What are we doing to address the free flow of traffic via light synchronization?
  - *Synchronization of lights is a specific tool to address local operational needs of a specific mode of travel. This would be addressed in a more detailed section of the General Plan, as opposed to the high-level policies that we are discussion now.*
- Are we addressing single family housing in the Housing Element?
  - *During GPAC #14 we discussed the Housing Element requirements, which include production of affordable housing. It doesn't look holistically at all types of housing. The General Plan maintains existing single family residential designations, and new areas for higher density housing as well.*
- Concerned with height limits being proposed and required through State mandates. They don't necessarily reflect the character of Palmdale.
- Not in favor of the multimodal concept.
- Will parking be considered in the future? Concerned there will not be adequate parking provided for new multifamily residential units.
  - *Multifamily developments will be required to provide on-site parking for their residents and guests.*
- Concern over better traffic flow on existing Palmdale roads.
- Interested in ability to walk safely in Palmdale, including street lighting, but less concerned with ability to bike.

### 3. Small Group Discussions and Report Out

Following the presentation, the GPAC and members of the public separated into two small groups for further discussion. Once completed, a member of each group shared highlights to all attendees of the meeting. More detailed notes from each small group discussion are attached to these minutes.

#### Public Group Report Out

- Focus on youth and encourage facilities that support youth
- Support and encourage new local small businesses in Palmdale
- Evaluate speeds on roads as they pertain to safety
- Consider parking needs for new development, concern over inadequate parking
- CicLAvia type street closure for outdoor public events, consider on Avenue Q
- Improve lighting on streets
- Consider emergency response times and routes
- Build bicycle facilities that are comfortable for users and are therefore utilized
- Do not detract from vehicular circulation when accommodating bicycles on roadways

#### GPAC Group Report Out

- Address street lighting on Palmdale Boulevard to improve safety
- Ensure that bus lanes and bike lanes work without impacting operations
- Add sidewalks in areas that currently lack them
- Explore truck routes citywide, specifically consider routing them off Palmdale Boulevard
- Consider time limits for trucks serving the quarries

- Consider creating quiet zones for railway intersections
- Explore the future network on Palmdale Boulevard and how to accommodate different users while maintaining traffic flow for vehicles

#### **4. Public Comment**

Members of the public who joined the meeting were invited to share public comments, though none provided public comment.

#### **5. Policy Framework Comments**

Melissa shared how to comment and review the policy framework document, by visiting the Palmdale2045.org website and clicking on “Policy.” All policy framework documents will be uploaded to the website and will remain open for review and comment through August 2021.

#### **6. Next Steps and Wrap Up**

Simran shared upcoming meetings and next steps at the close of the meeting. The next policy framework meeting will take place on Thursday, August 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm and will cover economic development and military compatibility.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.

*Attached: Facilitator notes from the small group discussions.*

*A recording of this meeting is available on the [Palmdale 2045 YouTube Channel](#)*

# Facilitator Worksheet

Meeting: Joint GPAC and Public Workshop  
Policy Framework Series: Land Use + Mobility | July 28, 2021  
*GPAC Small Group Discussion Notes*

## Questions, Notes, and Report Out:

### 1. Are there any outcomes we should consider?

#### Notes

- N/A

### 2. Are there any policy ideas that we should consider?

#### Notes

- Lighting on Palmdale Boulevard – it is hard to see pedestrians at night
- Trucks carrying rocks and gravel should be prohibited during commuting hours on local roads
- Increase train access for commuters to the LA basin
- Consider electric bus lines and bicycle lanes along rail tracks from the train station to Four Points area
- Train tracks on Sierra Hwy should be trenched under surface streets
- Quiet zones for railroad intersections
- Add a bikeway on Avenue R-8 and roundabouts
- Consider bridges over train tracks to maintain connectivity across town

### 3. Of the policy ideas, which resonate the most?

#### Notes

- Expanded sidewalks

### 4. Is there anything else you'd like to share about these topics?

#### Notes

- Rewrite policy related to access to schools – don't want school fields counted as public parks. Schools are not always accessible for adults, and it makes it difficult to build parks
- How do bike lane and bus lanes interact on the same roadway? Specifically, Palmdale Boulevard
- Which modes are used most? Buses or bicycles?
- How do we direct traffic so it doesn't impede local roads?

# Facilitator Worksheet

Meeting: Joint GPAC and Public Workshop  
Policy Framework Series: Land Use + Mobility | July 28, 2021  
*Public Breakout Group Notes*

## Questions, Notes, and Report Out:

### 1. Are there any outcomes we should consider?

#### Notes

- Need to give residents the ability to have access to small/local businesses
- Reduce the speed of traffic, for safety
- Ensure compatibility of new development with the surroundings, including traffic and parking implications
- Do we have plans for youth or children driven locations?
  - The City is currently working on plans for facilities to increase youth facilities
  - The Recreation Element of the GPU will also consider these needs – both facilities, programs, and policies

### 2. Are there any policy ideas that we should consider?

#### Notes

- Ave Q for Ciclovía, street festivals
  - Allow for easier permitting and use of streets for temporary events
- Need to improve lighting across the city for safety
- (From GPAC - noted below) – need to define Vision Zero
- Is there a plan to include a solar corridor in Palmdale?
  - The GPU will address natural resources that will consider solar, there are requests from specific home owners, but no specific plans at this time
- Coordinate with AVTA to identify more bus stop locations – note that this also depends on our population but the is constantly in coordination
- Ensure emergency response times
- Improve wayfinding and signage – especially for placemaking and gateways
- 

### 3. Of the policy ideas, which resonate the most?

#### Notes

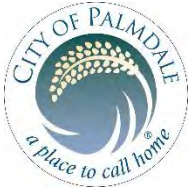
- Focus on safety. If multimodal facilities like bike lanes are built, design them well so that they are used.



**4. Is there anything else you'd like to share about these topics?**

Notes

- Consider the privacy implications of existing neighborhoods near higher density housing
- Really seriously consider the delivery of bike lanes in Lancaster – need to design bicycle facilities that are actually safe and comfortable not just painting lines on the street – prioritize off street locations or providing a degree of separation
- Make sure that bicycle facilities actually form a network to access key facilities
- Provide multimodal facilities without taking away vehicle travel lanes and communicate that too the public.



# City of Palmdale General Plan Update Joint General Plan Advisory Committee #16 and Public Workshop: Economic Development and Military Compatibility

August 5, 2021 | 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

*Virtual Meeting via Zoom livestreamed to YouTube*

## Special Meeting Minutes (Approved August 11, 2021)

### Meeting Objectives

- Review existing setting related to economic development and military compatibility topics
- Review and refine preliminary economic development and military compatibility recommendations for the General Plan Update

### Attendees

#### GPAC Members

##### Present:

Tony Avila, Juan Blanco, Colby Estes, Lourdes T. Everett, Laura Gordon, Theresa Hambro, Matthew Harris, Aurora Hernandez, Pat Hunt, Sheri Kaneshiro, and Jason Zink

**Absent:** Deborah Rutkowski-Hines and Teresa Lamping

#### City Staff

Carlene Saxton, Director of Economic and Community Development; Megan Taggart, Planning Manager; Ben Fiss, Senior Planner; Shant Taslakian, Assistant City Attorney; Sophia Reyes, Housing Manager; and Ruben Hovanesian, Senior Civil Engineer

#### Consultant Team

Raimi + Associates: Simran Malhotra and Melissa Stark  
HR&A Advisors: Amitabh Barthakur and Jazmin Harper

#### Public

Eleven members of the community joined the Zoom meeting, though no public sign-in is available.

## Meeting Summary

### 1. Introduction

The virtual meeting began with a review of the joint meeting agenda, roll call of GPAC Members, introductions of City staff and the consultant team, and recital of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Lourdes Everett made a motion to approve GPAC #15 meeting minutes (July 28, 2021) and Juan Blanco seconded the motion. None opposed so the motion passed.

### 2. Presentation & Feedback

Simran Malhotra provided an overview of the General Plan, which included the project schedule and an introduction to the policy frameworks.

The presentation was led by Simran who reviewed the background military compatibility information and proposed draft policies. Amitabh Barthakur provided an overview of the economic development background including existing plans, programs, feedback from the community, and proposed draft policies.

During the presentation, the group stopped for questions and to answer interactive polls. All poll questions—except for the meeting minute approval poll—were available to members of the public and GPAC, but please note that not all participants responded to all polls.

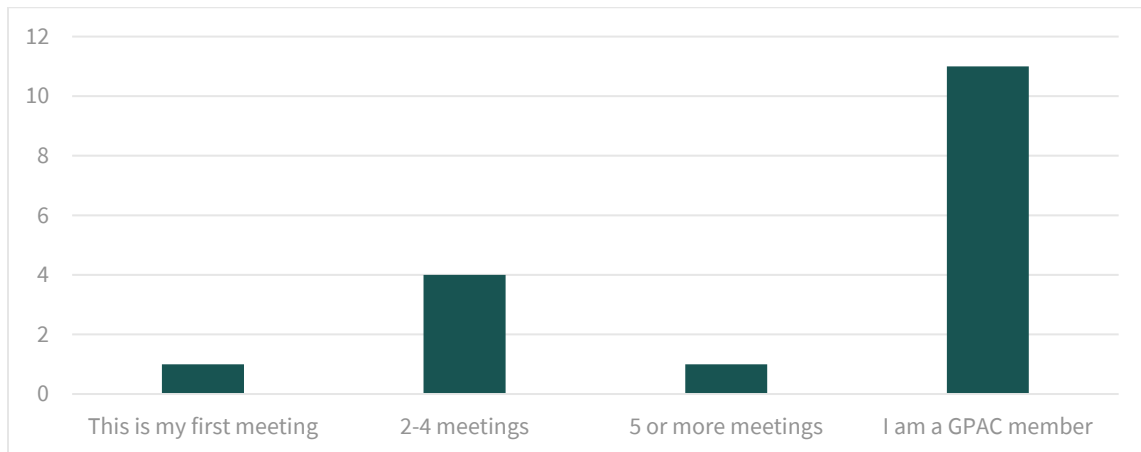
In advance of the meeting, the project website was updated with background materials including the economic development policy framework and military compatibility background report. In addition, GPAC members were emailed these materials to review as context for the meeting.

Below are descriptions of each presentation section and summaries of responses to each poll question. Poll responses are combined for GPAC members and members of the public.

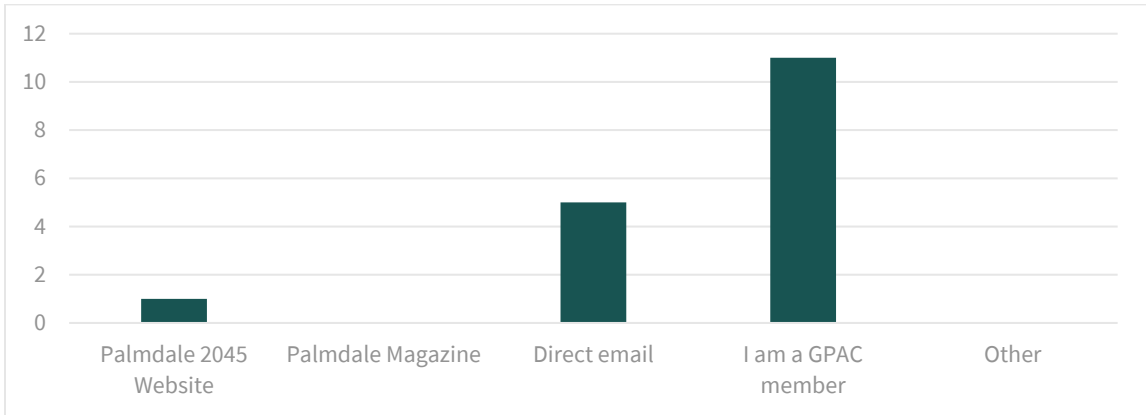
#### General Plan Overview

The background component of the presentation began with an overview of the General Plan process, how it is defined, the Palmdale 2045 schedule, summary of community engagement activities to date, major General Plan vision themes, and an introduction to the policy frameworks.

#### How many General Plan related meetings have you attended?



**How did you hear about this meeting? (Select all that apply)**



**Existing Setting**

As a precursor to the draft goals and policies, Simran and Amitabh provided background on economic development and military compatibility conditions in Palmdale, including defining both general plan elements and key requirements.

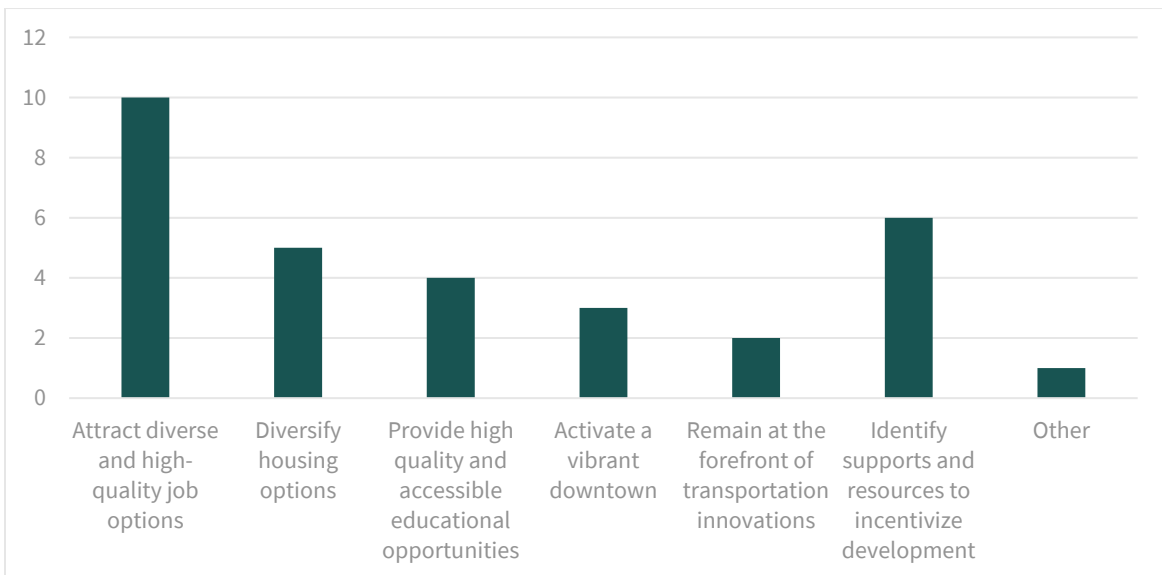
**Existing Plans/Policies and Feedback from Community Engagement**

Simran and Amitabh reviewed existing plans and programs in Palmdale and highlighted community feedback related to both topics.

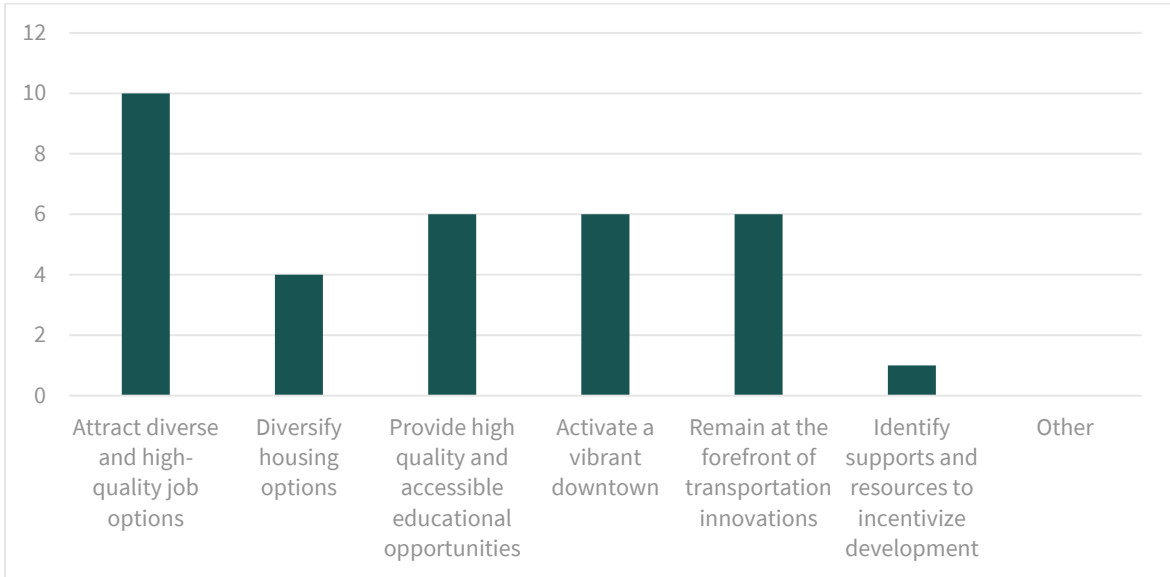
**Policy Framework**

Proposed goals and policies were introduced in this section of the presentation. Simran and Amitabh provided an overview of the framework structure, followed by review of desired outcomes, performance metrics, and draft goals and policies for economic development and military compatibility.

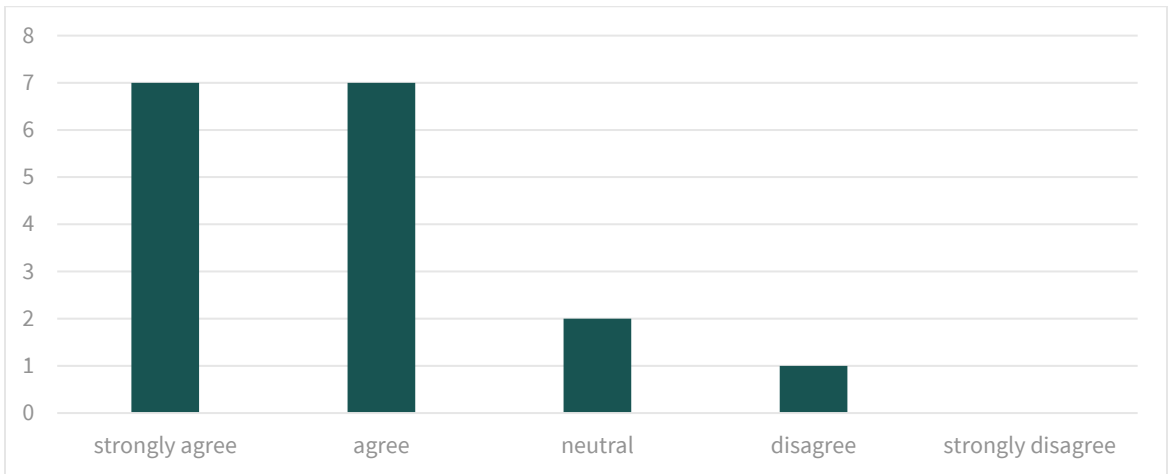
**Which of the following should be the short-term priorities for Palmdale's economy? (Please select top 2 only)**



**Which of the following should be the long-term priorities for Palmdale’s economy? (Please select top 2 only)**



**Do you feel the goals and policies presented support the community priority of preserving Plant 42’s mission in Palmdale?**



Comments from those who selected neutral or disagree

- My interest rests in monitoring of the environment - in the past, military and aerospace industries have contributed to pollution.
- Will Plant 42 dictate growth and/or our plans for the future?
  - *The General Plan Land Use map was developed to support Plant 42 in a way that future growth will not hinder the Plant’s operations or limit economic prosperity.*

## Other Questions and Comments

Dr. David Smith, Director of US Air Force Base Plant 42 joined the GPAC discussion and answered several GPAC member questions directly. Dr. Smith and General Plan Team’s responses are shown in italics.

- In response to an earlier remark:
  - *Dr. Smith - Environmental restoration is in place to counteract past practices. At the time, we didn’t realize the long-term impacts of certain actions. Plant 42 tracks everything from wastewater to production chemicals to be good stewards and partners with the community.*
- What is something Plant 42 would oppose in terms of new economic opportunities in the City of Palmdale? And does the southwest runway get used?
  - *Dr. Smith - Both runways are used regularly. Runway closures are expensive, so our hope is to keep both in use. Related to compatibility with other developments, we need to maintain a sensitive environment. I personally am a strong proponent of a regional airport in Palmdale. With any airport (commercial or military) certain uses are prohibited. Many of the listed economic industries related to renewable energy can be managed, or certain types wouldn’t interfere with Plant operations. Wind and reflective solar are problematic while photovoltaic solar is okay.*
- How do crews prepare for an emergency at Plant 42?
  - *Dr. Smith - Emergency responders train every day. We’ve shifted our training considering the persistence of PFAS and PFOS—manmade chemicals that don’t breakdown in the environment or the body<sup>1</sup>—present from firefighting foam, to be more environmentally friendly.*
  - *Dr. Smith - Restoration advisory board meetings will resume shortly and are open to the public.*
- Can the City survey Plant 42 employees to learn what type of housing they’re looking for in Palmdale?
  - *Dr. Smith - We would welcome a survey like that. Housing is a key issue and a major barrier to recruitment. Rental homes and apartments are not available, and homes for sale go very quickly.*
  - *GP team - The City has conducted a survey of employees related to housing needs, which has informed much of the General Plan progress to date.*

### 3. Small Group Discussions and Report Out

Following the presentation, the GPAC and members of the public separated into two small groups for further discussion. Once completed, a member of each group shared highlights to all attendees of the meeting. More detailed notes from each small group discussion are attached to these minutes.

#### Public Group Report Out

- Pursue environmental tourism as an economic opportunity
- Continue environmental protection for natural habitat and Joshua Trees
- Expand educational opportunities, and improve existing schools in Palmdale

---

<sup>1</sup> Environmental Protection Agency. (n.d.). *Basic Information on PFAS*. EPA. <https://www.epa.gov/pfas/basic-information-pfas>.

- Diversify housing options
- Create a true downtown
- Work on all economic goals simultaneously
- Allow for flexibility in land use and zoning to promote mixed developments and placemaking
- Tie medical uses to educational opportunities and economic development
- Attract manufacturing and industrial uses near Plant 42

#### **GPAC Group Report Out**

- Provision of affordable housing and greater housing options
- Desire for diversification of the economic base
- Expand job industries to include drone technology, film, private aerospace, and aerospace start-ups
- Expansion of regional and state opportunity zones to incentivize new businesses
- Provide land assembly in the Downtown area
- Promote alternative transportation modes connecting key employment centers and neighborhoods
- Promote and train local workforce

#### **4. Public Comment**

Members of the public who joined the meeting were invited to share public comments, though none provided public comment.

#### **5. Policy Framework Comments**

Melissa shared how to comment and review the policy framework document, by visiting the Palmdale2045.org website and clicking on “Policy.” All policy framework documents will be uploaded to the website and will remain open for review and comment through August 2021.

#### **6. Next Steps and Wrap Up**

Simran shared upcoming meetings and next steps at the close of the meeting. The last policy framework meeting will take place on Wednesday, August 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm and will cover health, equity, parks, and recreation.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.

*Attached: Facilitator notes from the small group discussions.*

*A recording of this meeting is available on the [Palmdale 2045 YouTube Channel](#)*

# Facilitator Worksheet

Meeting: Joint GPAC and Public Workshop

Policy Framework Series: Military Compatibility and Economic Development | August 5, 2021

GPAC Discussion

## Questions, Notes, and Report Out:

### 1. Are there any outcomes we should consider?

#### Notes

- Palmdale needs more low-income housing options
- Palmdale should be identified as a federal, state, and local opportunity area
- Transportation connections from the Anaverde and Ritter Ranch areas to Plant 42
- Junior College in east Palmdale
- Electric monorail connecting Palmdale to Plant 42
- Attract private aerospace companies
- Greater access to vocational and trade schools
- Attract innovative job industries like cyber security
- Pursue greater entertainment opportunities

### 2. Are there any policy ideas that we should consider?

#### Notes

- N/A

### 3. Of the policy ideas, which resonate the most?

#### Notes

- Diversification of the local economy, peaks and valleys of aerospace contracts affect the entire community
- Film industry is a great opportunity area
- Land assembly support s needed in the Downtown area

### 4. Is there anything else you'd like to share about these topics?

#### Notes

- N/A



# Facilitator Worksheet

Meeting: Joint GPAC and Public Workshop

Policy Framework Series: Military Compatibility and Economic Development | August 5, 2021

Public Breakout Group

## Questions, Notes, and Report Out:

### 1. Are there any outcomes we should consider?

#### Notes

- Approach all economic goals simultaneously

### 2. Are there any policy ideas that we should consider?

#### Notes

- More flexibility in zoning
- More streamlined development process and incentives
- More opportunities in healthcare industry
  - Connecting local teachers to healthcare industry
  - Connections to hotels
- Leverage industries adjacent to the airport, support other manufacturing and industry uses not related to the airport
- Eco-development: Nature museum, leverage the natural assets such as Joshua trees to attract tourism

### 3. Of the policy ideas, which resonate the most?

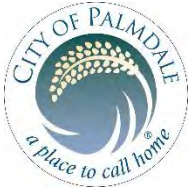
#### Notes

- Diverse and high-quality jobs tie into educational opportunities – talent doesn't stay due to school ratings
- Diversify housing options also helps retain local talent

### 4. Is there anything else you'd like to share about these topics?

#### Notes

- The airport is vital and is the focal point of all things for economic development and growth in AV. Without it, the aerospace industry will maintain but not thrive.
- While the Film TMZ is a nice to have, remember that Aerospace is bigger than film and agriculture combined to the State's economy.



# City of Palmdale General Plan Update Joint General Plan Advisory Committee #17 and Public Workshop: Health, Equity, Parks and Recreation

August 11, 2021 | 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

*Virtual Meeting via Zoom livestreamed to YouTube*

## Special Meeting Minutes (Approved July 28, 2022)

### Meeting Objectives

- Review existing setting related to health, equity, parks, and recreation topics
- Review and refine preliminary health, equity, parks, and recreation recommendations for the General Plan Update

### Attendees

#### GPAC Members

##### Present:

Tony Avila, Juan Blanco, Colby Estes, Lourdes T. Everett, Laura Gordon, Theresa Hambro, Matthew Harris, Aurora Hernandez, Pat Hunt, Teresa Lamping and Jason Zink

**Absent:** Deborah Rutkowski-Hines and Sheri Kaneshiro

#### City Staff

Carlene Saxton, Director of Economic and Community Development; Megan Taggart, Planning Manager; Ben Fiss, Senior Planner; Drew Pletcher, Deputy City Attorney; Ruben Hovanesian, Associate Engineer; Steven Montenegro, Landscape Superintendent; Keri Smith, Director of Parks and Recreation, and Eric Dombrowski, Deputy Director of Parks and Recreation

#### Consultant Team

Raimi + Associates: Simran Malhotra and Melissa Stark

#### Public

Thirteen members of the community joined the Zoom meeting, though no public sign-in is available.

# Meeting Summary

## 1. Introduction

The virtual meeting began with a review of the joint meeting agenda, roll call of GPAC Members, introductions of City staff and the consultant team, and recital of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Pat Hunt made a motion to approve GPAC #16 special meeting minutes (August 5, 2021) and Juan Blanco seconded the motion. None opposed so the motion passed.

## 2. Presentation & Feedback

Simran Malhotra provided an overview of the General Plan, which included the project schedule and an introduction to the policy frameworks.

The presentation was led by Simran who reviewed the background health and equity information and proposed draft policies. Melissa Stark provided an overview of the parks and recreation background including existing plans, programs, feedback from the community, and proposed draft policies.

During the presentation, the group stopped for questions and to answer interactive polls. All poll questions—except for the meeting minute approval poll—were available to members of the public and GPAC, but please note that not all participants responded to all polls.

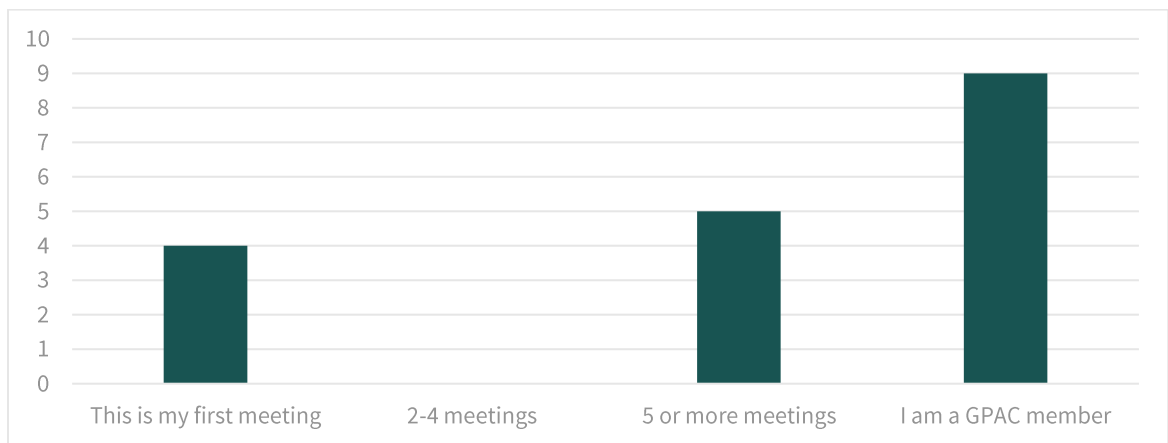
In advance of the meeting, the project website was updated with background materials, which were also emailed to GPAC members to review as context for the meeting.

Below are descriptions of each presentation section and summaries of responses to each poll question. Poll responses are combined for GPAC members and members of the public.

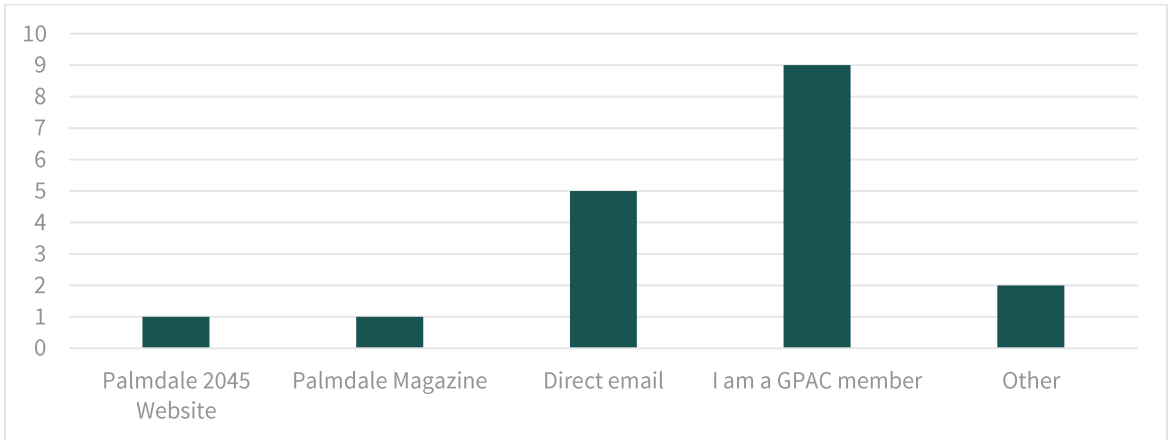
### General Plan Overview

The background component of the presentation began with an overview of the General Plan process, how it is defined, the Palmdale 2045 schedule, and an introduction to the policy frameworks.

### How many General Plan related meetings have you attended?



**How did you hear about this meeting? (Select all that apply)**



**Existing Setting**

As a precursor to the draft goals and policies, Simran and Melissa provided background on health, equity, parks, and recreation conditions in Palmdale, including defining both general plan elements and key requirements.

**Existing Plans/Policies and Feedback from Community Engagement**

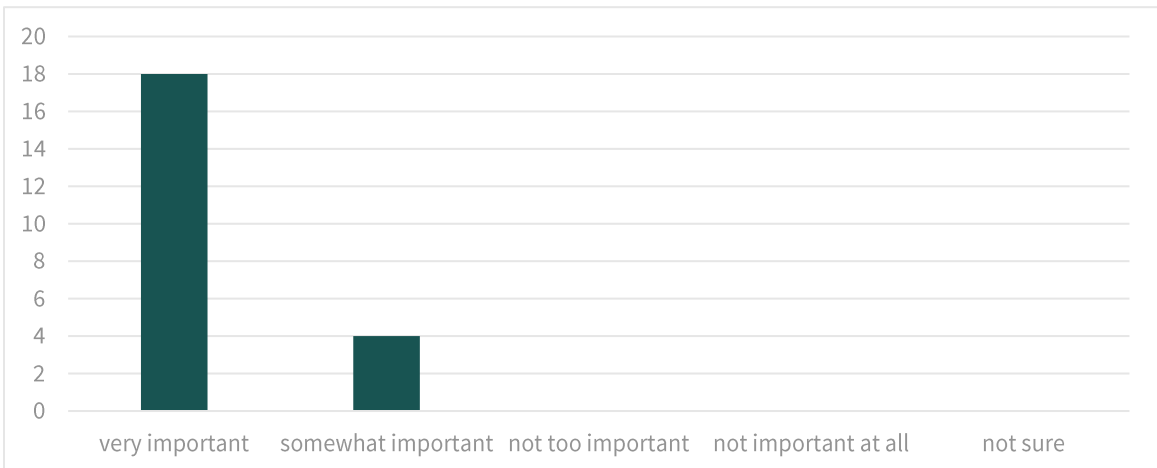
Simran and Melissa reviewed existing plans and programs in Palmdale and highlighted community feedback related to both topics.

**Policy Framework**

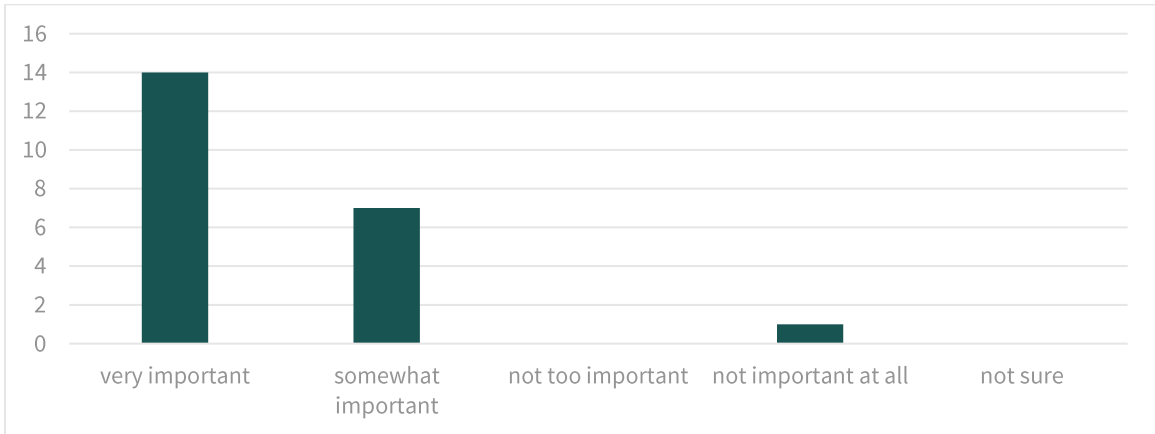
Proposed goals and policies were introduced in this section of the presentation. Simran and Melissa provided an overview of the framework structure, followed by review of desired outcomes, performance metrics, and draft goals and policies for health, equity, parks, and recreation.

**How important are the following health and equity outcomes for the future of Palmdale?**

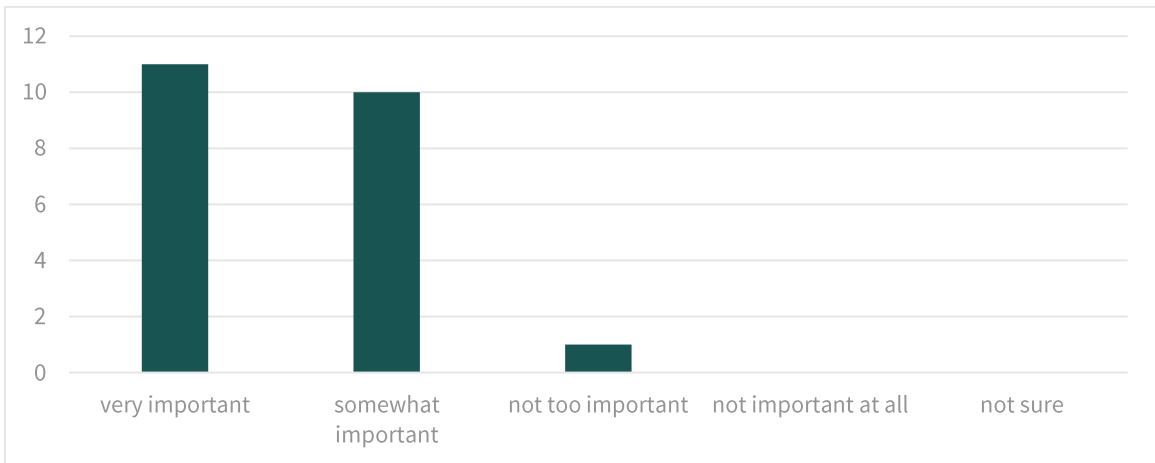
*Expanded economic opportunity for residents*



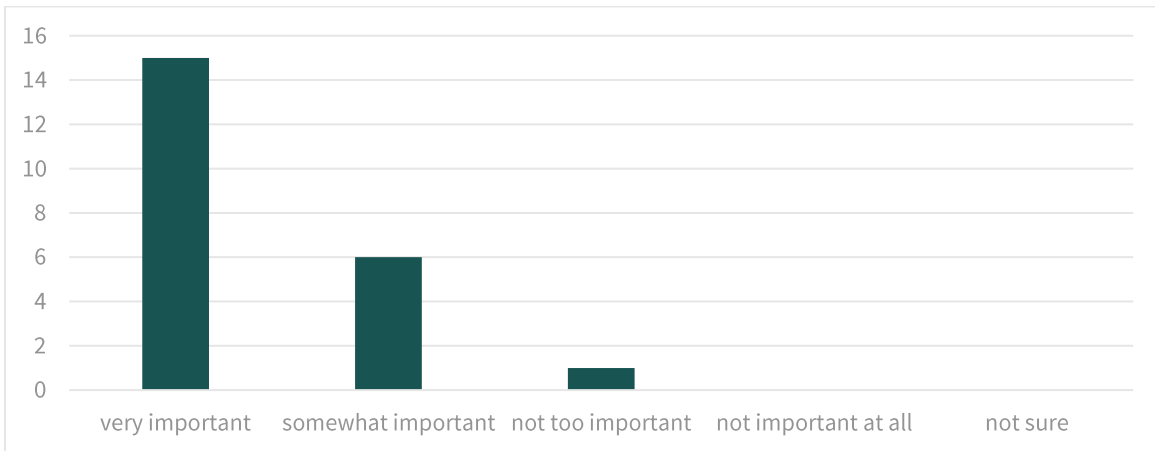
*Increased number of multifamily housing units*



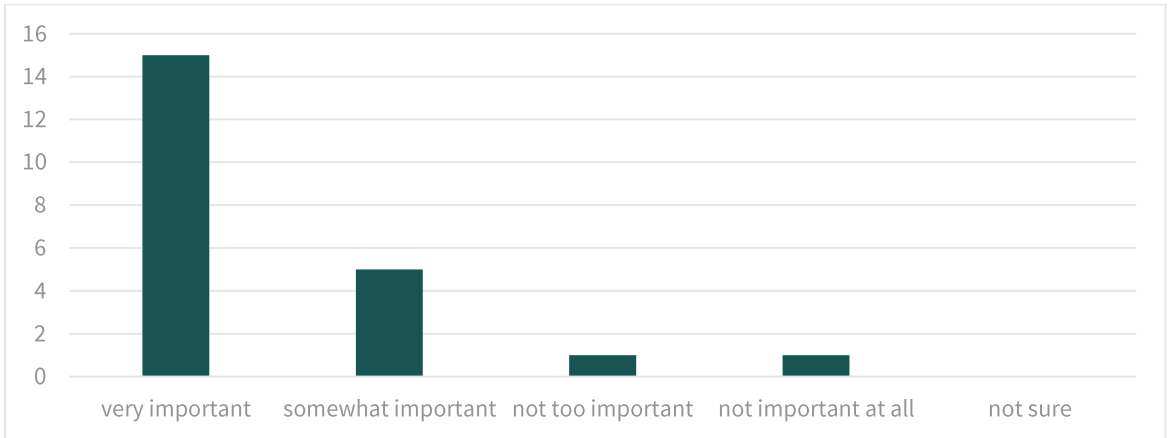
*Improved opportunities for physical activity*



*Improved air quality*

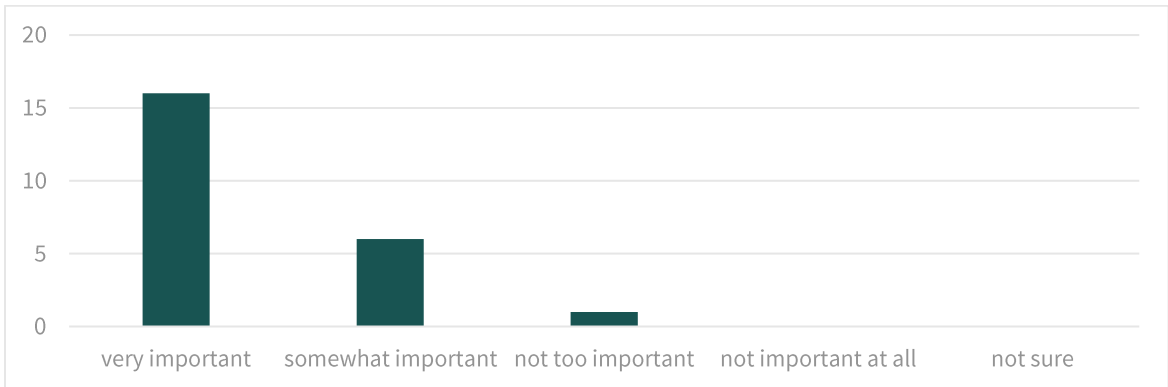


*Strengthened access to healthy food*

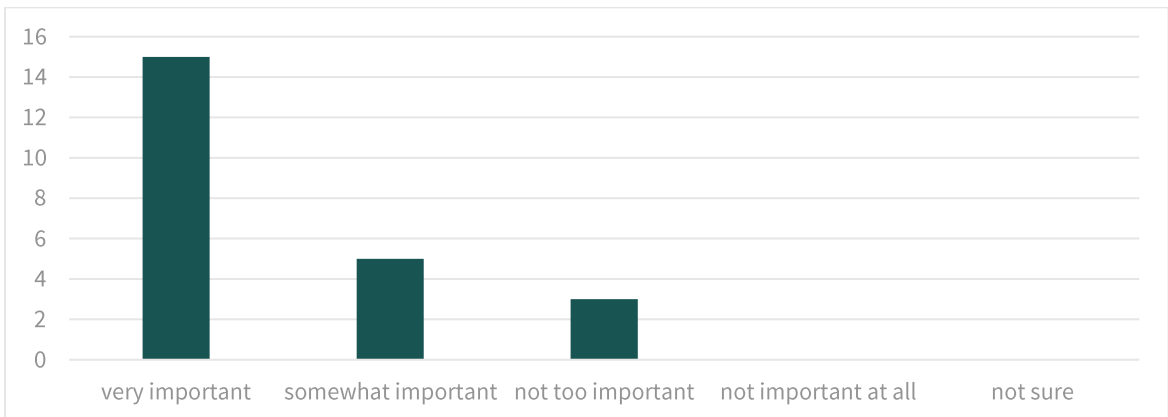


**How important are the following parks and recreation outcomes for the future of Palmdale?**

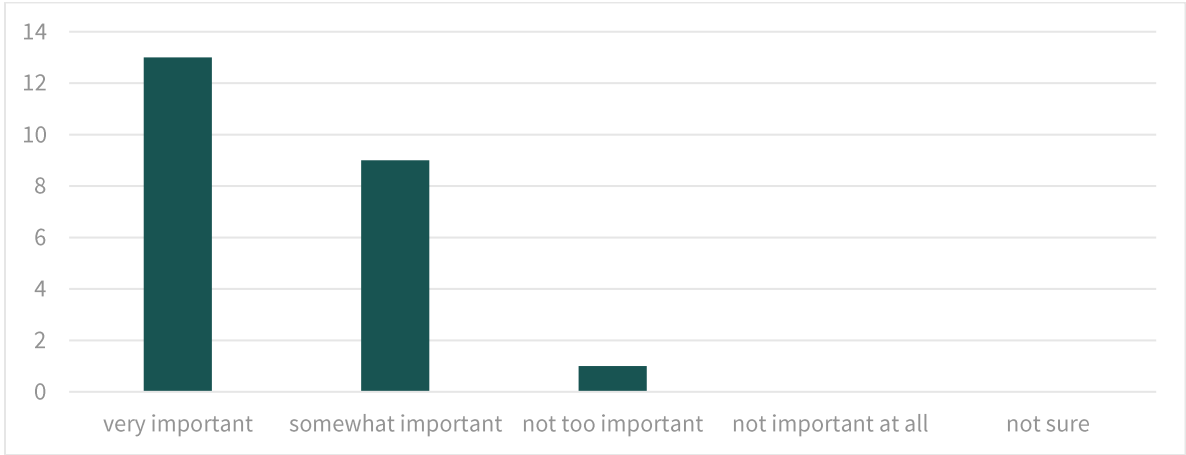
*Connectivity*



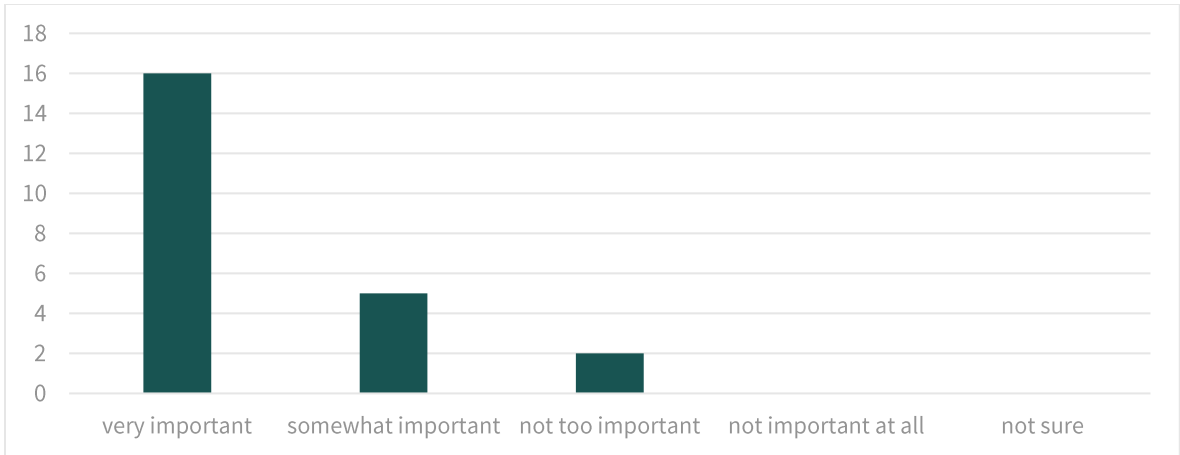
*New Parkland*



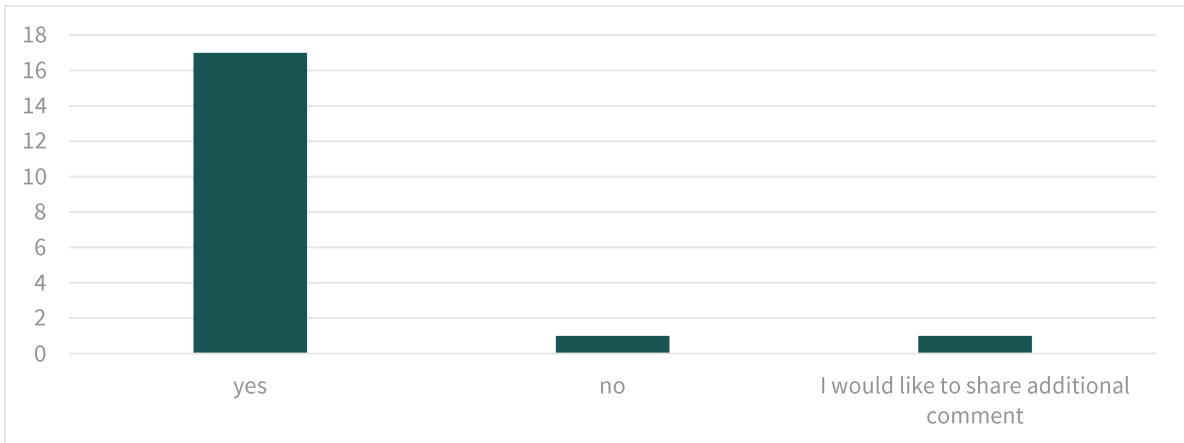
*Partnerships*



*Upgrades to Existing Facilities*



**Do these goals address the vision themes and outcomes identified for parks and recreation for the General Plan Update?**



## Other Questions and Comments

During the presentation GPAC members asked various questions. These questions and the General Plan Team's responses are below.

- Why do we have higher levels of Ozone pollution? And is it contributing to our lower life expectancy? If so, what are we doing to mitigate it in the General Plan?
  - *Ozone levels are largely due to the geography of the Antelope Valley and how pollution moves across the Los Angeles basin. There are limitations to what the City can do to offset this pollution, but one specific thing we can do is plant trees, which is being addressed in the General Plan.*
- Is the lower life expectancy only due to Ozone pollution?
  - *No, there are several other factors called social determinants of health. There is no one specific cause for the lower life expectancy.*
- Shocked at the poverty level citywide. Interested in what the levels would be if you looked at poverty for the east and west sides of Palmdale.
  - *The Health and Equity Existing Conditions Report has greater detail about poverty and other issues in Palmdale.*
- The parks access map has some areas that are shaded in dark purple, but there are no parks in that area.
- The future parks map should have priority areas on the far west side and between 40<sup>th</sup> and 47<sup>th</sup> Street East on Palmdale Boulevard.
- How are disadvantaged communities determined?
  - *We are required to use the State established methodology to establish census tracts that are disadvantaged. We covered this in detailed at the October 2020 meeting (GPAC #8). We can explain this in further detail after the meeting or point you to the materials from that meeting for reference.*
- The disadvantaged maps include industrial areas that have no homes, how can we better pinpoint the areas that are disadvantaged?
  - *Unfortunately, we are required to use the State methodology, which is determined at the census tract level. We were able to isolate areas that are not populated, but are required to follow the census tracts per the methodology. We will share that caveat with the Planning Commission and City Council workshops.*
- What types of trees are we proposing to plant as part of the General Plan policies?
  - *Identifying tree species is too detailed for the General Plan. The General Plan will establish criteria, like drought-tolerant, shade, pest, and disease resistant, among others. The City has an approved plant palette and maintains an inventory of all trees to track their health and performance in the desert climate.*
- I have seen grocery stores in Palmdale close because neighbors don't patronize the store. Specifically, a grocer with a lot of fresh produce declined and eventually went out of business due to low sales from the neighboring residents. I think education is needed around fresh produce and the importance of eating healthy. Palmdale has a lot of fast-food restaurants, which detracts from purchasing fresh produce.
  - *You raise a great point; education is extremely important. This could be accomplished by partnering with local schools to educate students about healthy food choices.*
- One suggested policy limiting concentration of alcohol stores. What role does the GPAC play in pushing for those kinds of policies?
  - *All final decisions will be made by the City Council. Regarding location of liquor stores, the City already has distance requirements established to limit the*



*proliferation of liquor and tobacco stores and established sensitive uses that have further restrictions for separation.*

- In my experience I've seen exemptions made to allow liquor and/or tobacco stores to locate within the restrictions, hoping we can push for policy changes moving forward.
- Regarding mental health and collaborations with Los Angeles County, maybe we can collaborate with local schools to educate students about identifying and coping with different mental illnesses.
- I think there should be more areas identified on the map for parks. The railroad owns land that could be considered for pocket parks.
- The City should consider starting a conservancy district and job corps to open up opportunities for grants, jobs for youth and foster youth.
- The City should also consider a youth commission, parks and recreation commission, and senior commission.
- Regarding walk access to parks, I think our target should be 10-minutes instead of 20-minutes.
- We should aim to plant 1,000 trees through our policies instead of only 600.
- We need double the jobs training, instead of 5,000 we should offer 10,000, based on the number of students who graduate annually.
- In the Antelope Valley, 50% of future residential development should be affordable.

### 3. Small Group Discussions and Report Out

Following the presentation, the GPAC and members of the public separated into two small groups for further discussion. Once completed, a member of each group shared highlights to all attendees of the meeting. More detailed notes from each small group discussion are attached to these minutes.

#### Public Group Report Out

- Ensure new affordable multifamily housing is available for existing Palmdale residents, rather than people who relocate to Palmdale
- Strengthen access to healthy foods by reducing liquor and tobacco stores and limiting fast food retailers, especially in disadvantaged neighborhoods. Resident benefits may offer double credit for healthy food purchases
- Healthy food program education for youth in schools

#### GPAC Group Report Out

- Consider our parks standard moving forward
- Provide new senior centers across town
- School parks and recreation areas should be accessible to the public
- Certain areas of Palmdale lack access to grocery stores
- Other recreation amenities like a public zoo or pond
- Disparities in investment across Palmdale
- Tree types and parks should consider desert climate
- Policy to work with school districts to educate students about mental health
- Programs to celebrate Palmdale pride and helping community groups reach their desired constituents
- Data sources and further analysis on resident health in Palmdale

#### 4. Public Comment

Members of the public who joined the meeting were invited to share public comments. Three elected to participate, a summary of their comments is below with one General Plan Team response in italics.

- To have health equity in Palmdale, new apartment buildings should not be placed in one area, it burdens schools among other things. New restaurants should be healthy food options, no more junk foods. Build a bridge from the eastside to access the Palmdale Regional Medical Center.
- To preserve the desert atmosphere in Palmdale we should have spaces with wild Joshua Trees and increase equitable access to nature – it can improve mental and physical health. I think it is a good idea for schools to share their park and recreation facilities with the rest of the community. The City has done a good job of planning and growing over the years.
- Community members don't always feel that same way about adding bike lanes or multifamily housing, but even if it is zoned for multifamily, it doesn't mean that will get developed. Investors are required, and it must be profitable for them to develop. Does the City have plans to attract inventors to build? What happens when some community members come forward against multifamily developments?
  - *State law requires cities to allow housing by-right in areas where they are designated. Therefore, there is limited opportunity for neighbors to request that a project is denied.*

#### 5. Policy Framework Comments

Melissa shared how to comment and review the policy framework document, by visiting the Palmdale2045.org website and clicking on "Policy." All policy framework documents will be uploaded to the website and will remain open for review and comment through August 2021.

#### 6. Next Steps and Wrap Up

Simran shared upcoming meetings and next steps at the close of the meeting. Presentations to Planning Commission will take place on Thursday, August 12<sup>th</sup>, and City Council will take place on Tuesday, August 17<sup>th</sup>.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

*Attached: Facilitator notes from the small group discussions.*

*A recording of this meeting is available on the [Palmdale 2045 YouTube Channel](#)*

# Facilitator Worksheet

Meeting: Joint GPAC and Public Workshop

Policy Framework Series: Health, Equity, Parks and Recreation | August 11, 2021

*GPAC Breakout Group*

## Questions, Notes, and Report Out:

### 1. Are there any outcomes we should consider?

#### Notes

- Civic pride

### 2. Are there any policy ideas that we should consider?

#### Notes

- Promote commissions in Palmdale for youth, parks and recreation, and senior citizens
- Provide more senior centers with community rooms near public parks
- New schools should plan their parks and recreation areas to allow for public access
- Emphasize manufacturing in Palmdale

### 3. Of the policy ideas, which resonate the most?

N/A

### 4. Is there anything else you'd like to share about these topics?

#### Notes

- Future park acreage targets, is 5 acres a good standard?
- The Courson Park area of Palmdale needs a grocery store
- The City should provide a public zoo
- More parks could be prioritized near existing ponds
- There are health disparities between the east and west sides of Palmdale
- Need senior centers on both the east and west side of Palmdale
- Health data available from Healthy Places Index
- Trees and parks must consider the extreme climate in Palmdale
- The City must prioritize what it can do with limited funds

# Facilitator Worksheet

Meeting: Joint GPAC and Public Workshop

Policy Framework Series: Health, Equity, Parks and Recreation | August 11, 2021

*Public Breakout Group*

## Questions, Notes, and Report Out:

### 1. Are there any outcomes we should consider?

Notes

- 

### 2. Are there any policy ideas that we should consider?

Notes

- Affordable housing should be distributed throughout the City
- Multiple family housing that is affordable should be dedicated to existing residents, rather than for those relocating from the Valley or DTLA
- 

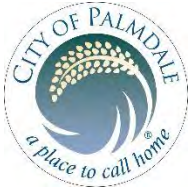
### 3. Of the policy ideas, which resonate the most?

Notes

- Strengthen access to healthy foods, limiting fast food and liquor stores in disadvantaged communities and in areas that have the highest crime rates and the lowest health rates; not only concerned about sensitive sites
- Preserve the desert atmosphere including preserving Joshua tree wildlands
- Better food for the community; residents on benefits – offering a program where you get more funds if they are spent on healthy items like produce
- Educating children on healthy eating habits/lifestyles
- Programs to get healthier foods into schools

### 4. Is there anything else you'd like to share about these topics?

Notes



# City of Palmdale General Plan Update General Plan Advisory Committee #18

July 28, 2022 | 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

*In Person Meeting – Chimbole Cultural Center Joshua Room*

The General Plan Advisory Committee has been disbanded following their final meeting on July 28, 2022. Meeting minutes from July 28, 2022 will not be approved.

Verified by: \_\_\_\_\_

City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
GPAC member representative

## Meeting Minutes

### Meeting Objectives

- Review and discuss key components of the Public Draft General Plan document
- Receive GPAC member feedback on the Public Draft General Plan

### Attendees

#### GPAC Members

##### Present:

Juan Blanco, Lourdes T. Everett, Laura Gordon, Matthew Harris, Pat Hunt, and Deborah Rutkowski-Hines and Sheri Kaneshiro

**Absent:** Colby Estes, Theresa Hambro, Aurora Hernandez, Teresa Lamping, and Jason Zink

#### City Staff

Luis Garibay, Director of Economic and Community Development; Megan Taggart, Planning Manager; Brenda Magana, Senior Planner; Jasmine Alvarado, Associate Planner; and Jay Nelson, Traffic Engineer

#### Consultant Team

Raimi + Associates: Simran Malhotra and Melissa Stark

Rincon Consultants: Lexi Journey

Nelson\Nygaard: Zachary Zabel

HR&A Advisors: Garrett Rapsilber

#### Public

Four members of the public joined the meeting.

## Meeting Summary

### 1. Introduction

The meeting began with a review of the agenda, roll call of GPAC Members, introductions of City staff and the consultant team, and recital of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Laura Gordon made a motion to approve GPAC #17 special meeting minutes (August 11, 2021) and Deborah Rutkowski-Hines seconded the motion. None opposed so the motion passed.

### 2. Presentation & Feedback

Simran Malhotra introduced the General Plan and structure, which included the project schedule, summary of community engagement and activities to date, major vision themes, and structure of the General Plan document.

The remainder of the presentation included an overview of each of the General Plan elements. The presentation was led by Simran who reviewed the land use and housing elements. Zachary Zabel provided an overview of the circulation and mobility element, which was followed by an overview of the economic development element provided by Garrett Rapsilber. Melissa Stark reviewed the military compatibility; equitable and healthy communities; parks, recreation, and open space; and sustainability, climate action, and resilience elements. The remaining technical elements – safety, public services, facilities, and infrastructure, conservation, air quality, and noise were reviewed by Lexi Journey.

During the presentation, the group stopped for questions and discussion regarding the various elements. Two members of the public also provided feedback during the GPAC discussion, which are provided below separate of GPAC input. High level descriptions of these discussion are provided with General Plan Team responses italicized below:

#### GPAC Member Questions and Discussion

##### - Housing Element

- What changes were made to the Plan in this revised version compared to the version approved by City Council?
  - *The revisions are related to programs – the Housing Element has a very specific list of programs offered by the City and the HCD reviewer asked the City to confirm that state requirements are clearly explained and demonstrate that the programs are successful.*
- What is the average household size?
  - *Approximately 2.75 persons per household.*

##### - Land Use Element

- The population growth mentioned at 2,000 per year seems conservative.
  - *Looking to past growth, RHNA, SCAG projections, and our analysis of feasible development and population growth, we estimate an average growth of around 2,000 persons per year. Though we can't accurately predict the future economy, looking to past growth provides a reasonable assumption that the GPU and EIR can work with.*
- Can we discuss evacuation? This wasn't previously covered in our GPAC meetings.
  - *Evacuation will be discussed in the Safety Element overview. A new State law went into effect in January 2022 – while the Team was in the process of*

*preparing the Draft Plan. We had to meet those requirements quickly as we prepared the draft plan, which is why we were not able to cover it previously with the group.*

- **Mobility and Circulation**

- What does a buffered bike land mean?
  - *A buffered bike lane could be either a painted or physical barrier to separate bicycles from other modes of travel*
- What time period does the City have to implement these roadway changes?
  - *These apply to new streets or streets that are reconfigured, there is not necessarily a plan to redesign all City streets.*
- AVTA buses move east to west, we don't have north and south connections.
  - *Residents have notified the City of the AVTA deficiency related to north and south connections. Ridership numbers keep reducing and the service area keeps increasing – making it challenging for AVTA to meet all ridership needs. The City can explore on-demand transit options and micro service in those areas to meet the market where it might not have the demand for bus frequency every 30 minutes.*
- With the push toward electric vehicles, Palmdale needs more charging stations and needs to think about the future now.
  - *The Climate Action Plan (Sustainability, Resilience and Climate Action Element) has an action item to increase EV chargers throughout the City.*

**Comments and Questions from Public**

- Will the land up to Avenue M west of SR-14 be annexed into the City?
  - *That area is part of the County, though part of the City's Sphere of Influence. The City is required by LAFCO to plan for that area if it gets annexed in the future. The General Plan lays out what the City thinks should happen there if it is annexed.*
- If someone wants to develop on property that has a land use change, when do you have to wait to submit your proposal?
  - *The General Plan is expected be adopted this fall. Zoning will be adopted separately, likely by the end of the year.*
- Regarding AVTA, only the Rancho Vista line runs on the east side, it would be nice to have a bus stop on 30<sup>th</sup>.
  - *AVTA has a board that helps establish routes if there is enough demand to modify the route. Since the City has little control over AVTA routes, this concern should be presented to the AVTA board.*
- Has the City thought about mobility hubs like those in Europe that provide information, EV charging, etc.?
  - *In multiple places we talk about offering wayfinding and signage and perhaps this can be included within village centers.*

In advance of the meeting, the GPAC and public were alerted to the release of the public draft General Plan document. The project website was updated to include PDF versions of the GPU document, draft EIR and revised housing element, though this meeting only covered the GPU, including the stand-alone housing element.

**3. Public Comment**

Members of the public who joined the meeting were invited to share public comments. Two members of the public spoke at length during the meeting discussion and presentation. Those

comments are provided in the section above, as no separate public comment took place at this meeting.

#### **4. Next Steps and Wrap Up**

In closing, Simran shared information about the upcoming workshop and open house that will take place on August 10<sup>th</sup>, as well as the Planning Commission and City Council review of the Public Draft General Plan, which will take place on September 8<sup>th</sup> and September 21<sup>st</sup> respectively.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.