



GPAC Meeting #5

Lomita City Hall | November 16, 2023

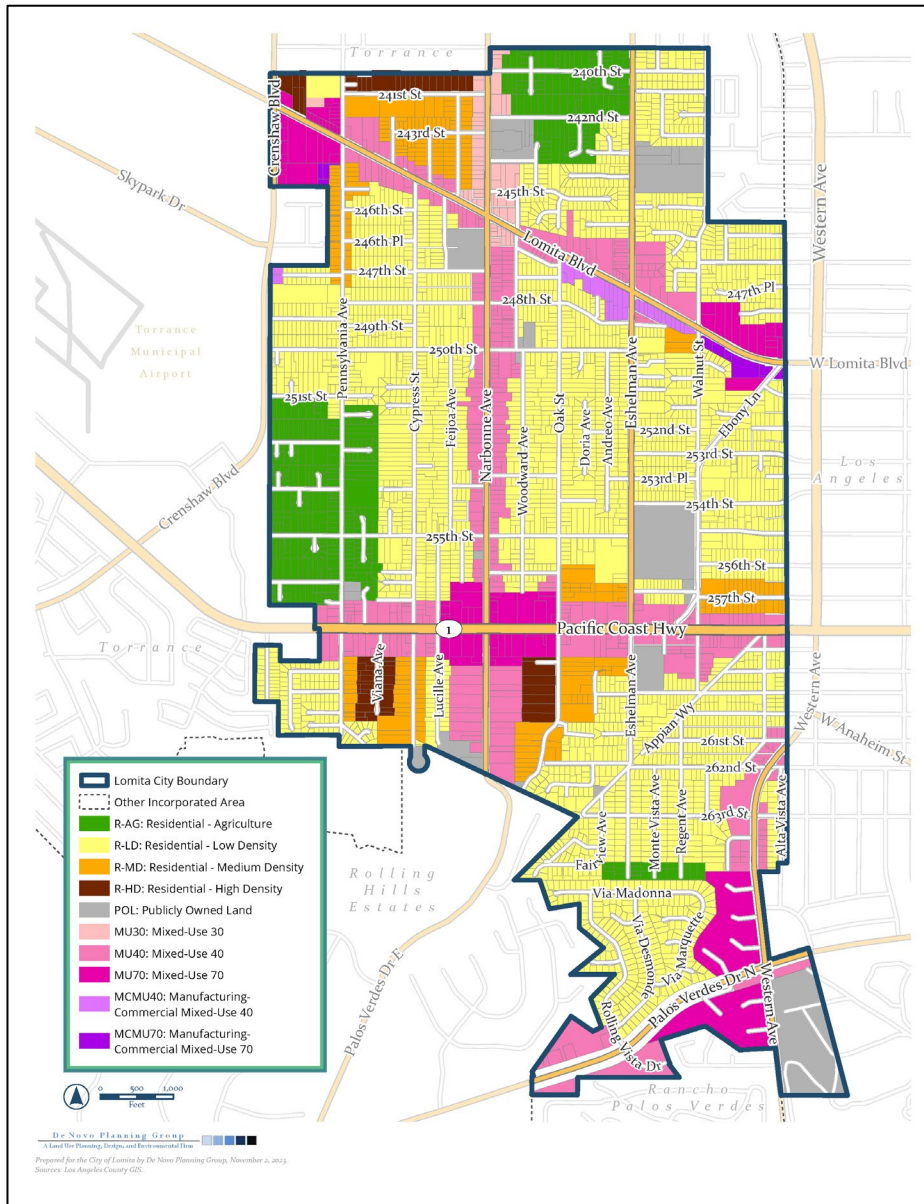


Meeting Overview

- Update on Preferred Land Use Plan
- Noise Element Overview – Background and Discussion
- Public Facilities and Services Overview – Background and Discussion
- Safety Element Overview – Background and Discussion



Preferred Land Use Plan



- City Council approved Plan on November 7, 2023
- Plan is a modified version of Land Use Alternative 3 – Core and Perimeter
- Allows for mixed-use development along major corridors
- Preparation of EIR underway





Noise Element Overview – Background and Discussion



Noise Element Requirements

Purpose: Ensure that the City limits exposure to excessive noise levels in noise-sensitive areas and at noise-sensitive times of day.

It should discuss all of the following noise sources:

- Highways and freeways
- Primary arterials and major local streets
- Passenger and freight railroad operations and ground rapid transit systems
- Commercial, general aviation, heliport, helistop, and military airport operations, jet engine test stands, and all other ground facilities and maintenance functions related to airport operations
- Local industrial plants
- Other ground stationary noise sources (i.e., any building, structure, facility, or installation which emits noise beyond the property line)



Noise and Health

- Excessive noise levels can become personal medical problems
- Exposure to excessive noise can have negative health impacts
- Most common health impact from excessive noise exposure is sleep disturbance
 - Others include: increased levels of hypertension, high blood pressure, and cardiovascular disease



Current General Plan Noise Element

- Addresses existing and future noise abatement issues
- Policies are designed to reduce the effects of human-caused noise and to improve residents' quality of life by regulating and reducing noise, particularly near noise sensitive land uses: parks, residential areas, hospitals, libraries, convalescent homes, and schools
- Provides direction regarding best practices and strategies to protect city residents and businesses from severe noise levels
- Consists of three main sections:
 - Noise Element Policies (and goals)
 - Noise Mitigation Plan
 - Background for Planning (includes noise contour map)



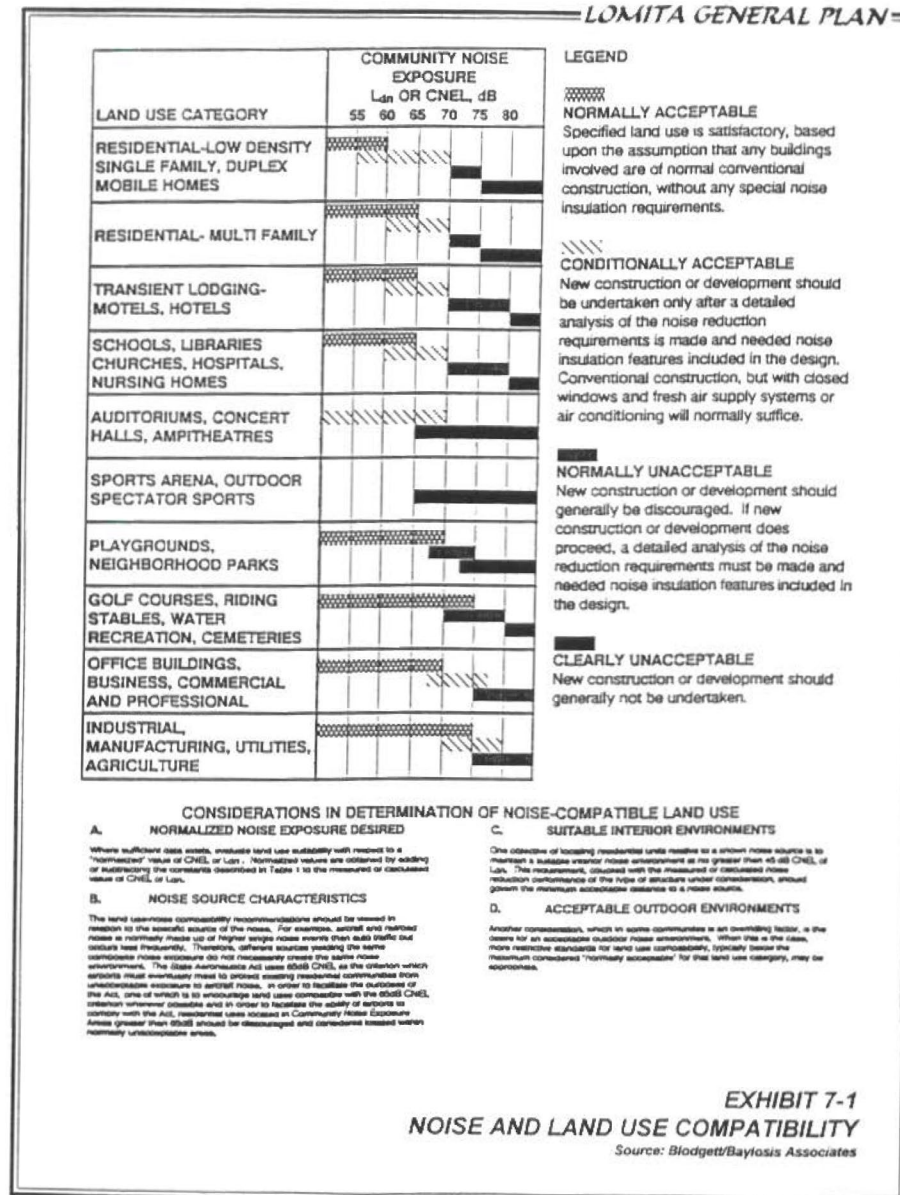
Current General Plan Noise Element

Current Goals:

- To promote development and land use patterns which will be compatible in terms of land use and noise exposure.
- To consider the health effects of long-term exposure to excessive noise levels in the planning and review of future development or activities that typically generate high noise levels.
- To remain vigilant regarding those developments and activities located beyond the City's boundaries which may affect the noise environment in Lomita.
- To continue to implement those noise control standards and regulations which will be effective in reducing “noise pollution.”



Noise Regulations in Lomita



- The General Plan provides acceptable and nonacceptable noise levels for different land uses
- The City Noise Ordinance is established in the Municipal Code



Existing Noise in Lomita – Transportation

- Note: Noise measurements at eight locations are being taken this week
- Major noise sources: Vehicular traffic on PCH, Crenshaw Boulevard, Lomita Boulevard
- Torrance Municipal Airport
- Other transportation-related major noise sources?



Existing Noise in Lomita – Non-Transportation

- Construction projects
- Industrial/manufacturing areas (primarily located along Lomita Blvd)
- Residential and commercial heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems
- Loading docks and parking areas
- Commercial/retail centers
- Other non-transportation-related noise sources?



Noise Element Discussion Questions

- What types of measures should the City implement to reduce noise exposure to sensitive receptors? (e.g., physical sound buffers)?
- What is the loudest or most consistent noise source you hear in your day-to-day life?
- Are some types of community noise nuisances acceptable (e.g., festivals, concerts, community events, etc.)? Should the City continue to endorse and support such events?
- Are there specific areas within Lomita where louder noise sources are more acceptable than others (e.g., bars, event spaces, commercial districts, industrial work spaces, transportation nodes)?
- Should the City focus more on reducing stationary or mobile noise sources?
- Should minimizing noise pollution be prioritized over City design/appearance/aesthetics?
- What are some ways the City can reduce traffic noise, especially at peak traffic noise hours?





Public Facilities and Services Overview – Background and Discussion



Public Facilities & Services

Purpose: To ensure proper accommodation is provided for community services and facilities as the community grows and ages.

- Public facilities, services, and utilities are currently discussed in the Land Use Element and Resource Management Element
- The City provides a variety of services and infrastructure, but also contracts with appropriate service agencies to ensure the adequate provision of services



Public Facilities & Services

- Public facilities and services include:
 - Fire Protection (Los Angeles County Fire Department)
 - Law Enforcement (Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department)
 - Emergency Preparedness
 - Parks and Recreation
 - Schools, Libraries, and Other Public Facilities
- Utilities include:
 - Water Services
 - Wastewater
 - Stormwater and Drainage Facilities
 - Electricity and Natural Gas



Public Facilities & Services

Current Goals:

- To provide for adequate public services and facilities.
- To preserve those resources and amenities that enhance Lomita's living and working environment.
- To promote the conservation of important natural resources to provide a more livable and sustainable community.
- To promote the maintenance and enhancement of recreational opportunities for those living and working in the City.

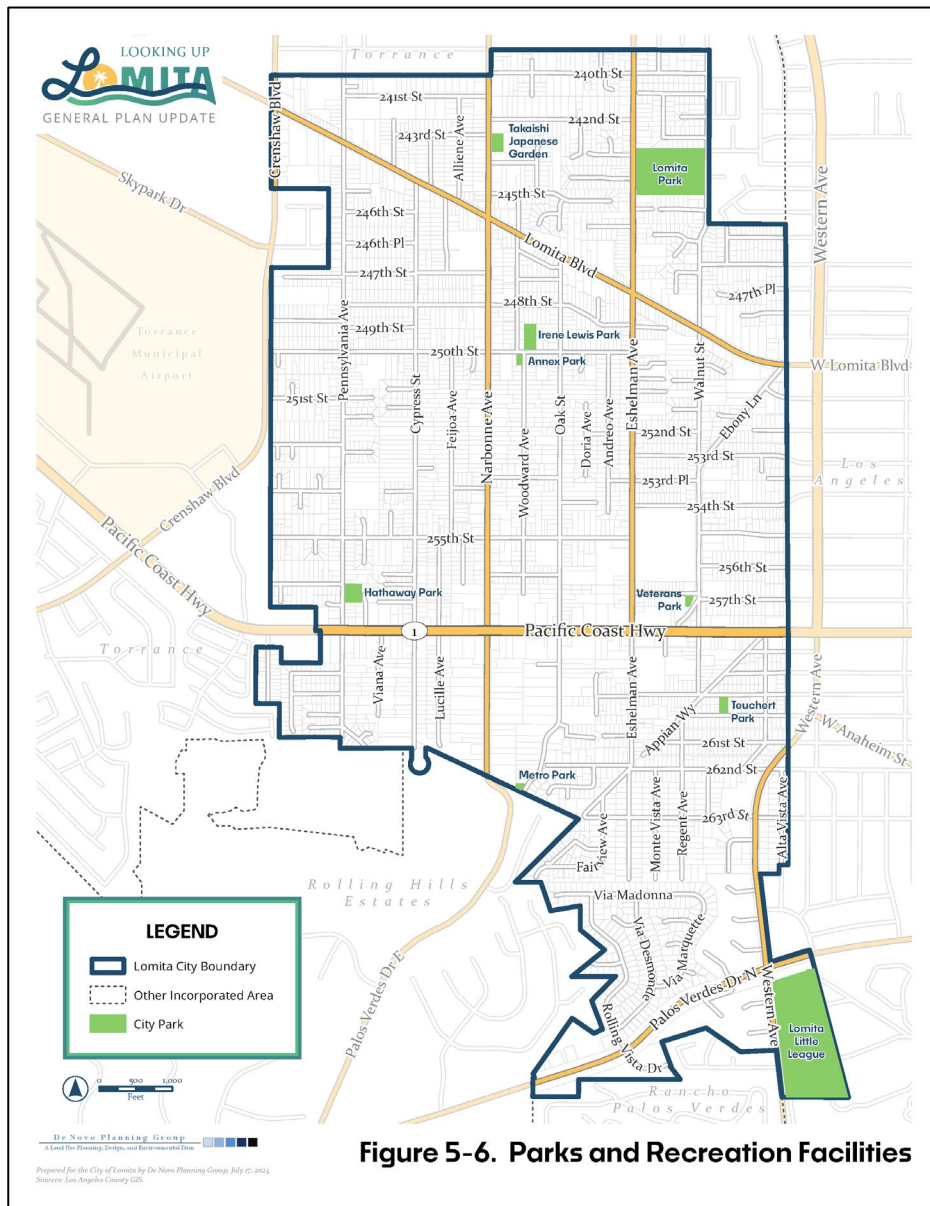


Utilities

- Water Services (potable water):
 - Lomita Water Department maintains the local water infrastructure
 - Includes local water sources (groundwater) and imported water sources (West Basin Municipal Water District)
 - Overall distribution system is in good condition and the Urban Water Master Plan identifies several capital improvement projects and recommendations in order to address any current or projected water system deficiencies
- Wastewater (collection and treatment)
 - Los Angeles County Public Works maintains the local sewer facilities through a Consolidated Sewer Maintenance District (CSDM)
 - Existing sewer infrastructure effectively conveys existing flows, but some deficiencies exist – to be addressed via the CIP
- Stormwater and Drainage
 - Storm drainage is conveyed via local catch basins and storm drain facilities which are managed and maintained by the City
 - Los Angeles Flood Control District (LACFCD) drainage facilities are also located within the city
 - Storm drain infrastructure is generally in good condition

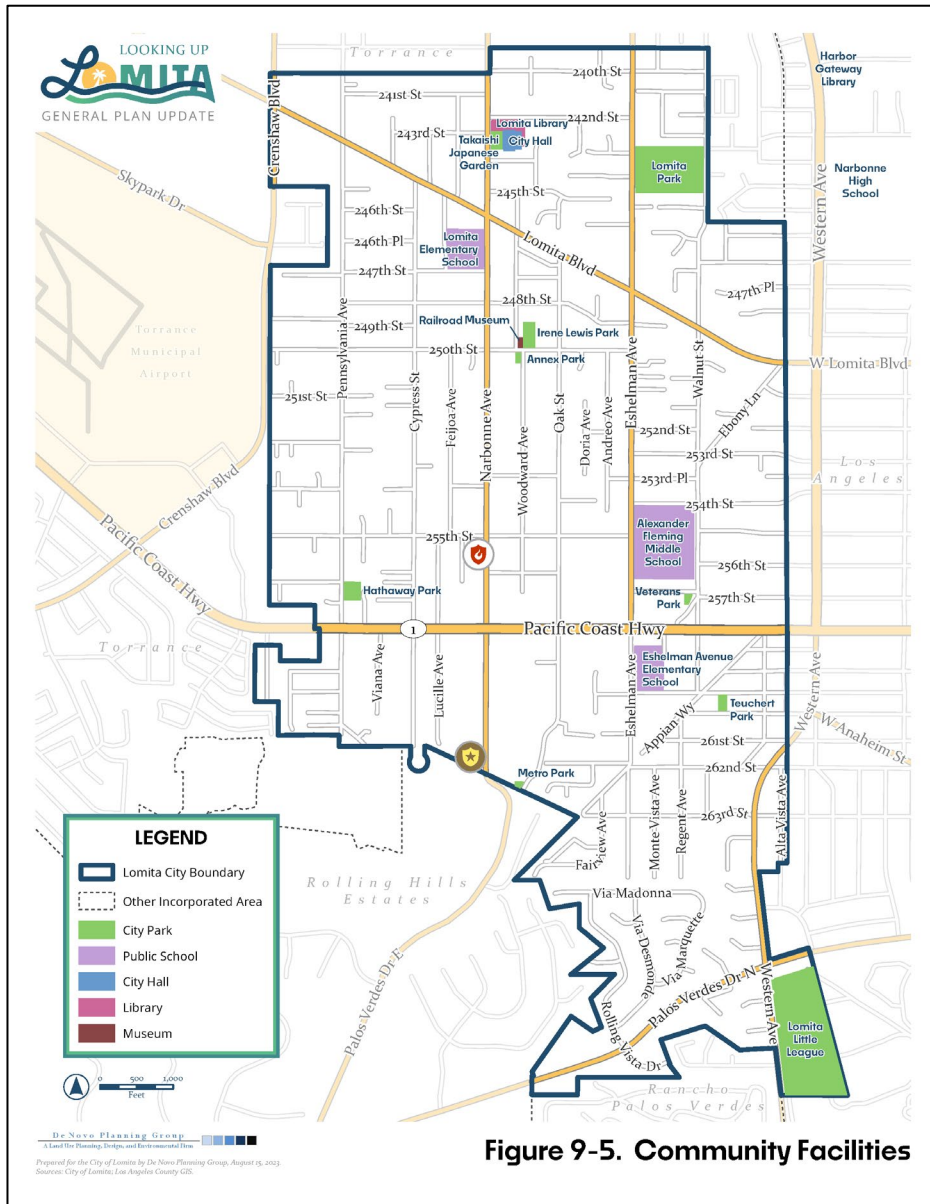


Parks and Recreation



- Existing Park Facilities:
 - Annex Park
 - Hathaway Park
 - Irene Lewis Park
 - Lomita Little League/Navy Field
 - Lomita Park
 - Metro Park
 - Takaishi Japanese Garden
 - Teuchert Park
 - Veterans Park

Schools and Other Facilities



- Public Schools:
 - Lomita Magnet (K-5)
 - Eshelman Avenue Elementary (K-5)
 - Alexander Fleming Middle School
- Other Facilities:
 - Lomita Library
 - Marc Fosnaugh Gymnasium at the Tom Rico Center
 - Lomita Railroad Museum

Public Facilities & Services Discussion Questions

- Are there enough public facilities/services for all community members?
- Are utilities functioning at a level of the price they cost?
- Regarding public services and utilities (e.g., water, sewer, drainage services), are there areas of the city that need focused attention in terms of capital improvement planning?
- Do you think the city (residents and/or infrastructure) is prepared to handle a natural hazard event such as an earthquake or flooding?





Safety Element Overview – Background and Discussion



Safety Element Requirements

The Safety Element must:

- Identify hazards and hazard abatement provisions to guide local decisions related to zoning, subdivisions, and entitlement permits
- Contain general hazard and risk reduction strategies complementary with those of the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP)

The Safety Element must discuss:

- Slope Instability
- Seismic Risks
- Flooding
- Wildland and Urban Fires
- Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience



Safety Element Discussion Questions

- What do you think are the City's most significant public health and safety concerns?
- How can the City better prepare for climate-related hazards (extreme heat events, drought, increased flooding, etc.)?
- How should the City combat over heating?
 - E.g., minimize Urban Heat Islands, incorporate more urban greenery, use heat reflecting building material, create/prioritize public cooling zones (i.e., shaded plazas or air conditioned public buildings), focus on providing public transportation so as to help reduce heat produced from automobiles?
- How are you currently receiving emergency preparedness information and how would you like to receive information in the future?





Next Steps



GPAC Schedule

GPAC Meeting No.	Topic	Month	Day	Year	Status
1	Project Kick-off and Community Vision/Priorities	June	13	2023	Confirmed
2	Economic Development and Fiscal Sustainability	July	13	2023	Confirmed
3	Land Use and Mobility	August	8	2023	Confirmed
4	Land Use Alternatives	September	12	2023	Confirmed
5	Public Facilities and Services, Safety, and Noise	October	10	2023	Confirmed
6	Environmental Justice	December	12	2023	Confirmed
7	Presentation of Draft General Plan Elements	TBD	TBD	2024	Proposed
8	Feedback on Draft General Plan Elements	TBD	TBD	2024	Proposed





GPAC Meeting #5

Lomita City Hall | November 16, 2023

