



CITY OF LA VERNE GENERAL PLAN UPDATE

TO: La Verne General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC)
FROM: Amanda Tropiano, De Novo Planning Group
SUBJECT: General Plan Safety and Noise Policy Discussion
DATE: June 20, 2018

The second GPAC meeting, scheduled for June 27th 2018, will focus on the topics of noise and safety. This meeting packet includes specific reading materials related to noise and safety and raises key issues to consider in preparation for the second GPAC meeting. The Noise and Safety Elements are required elements of the General Plan. The purpose of the Noise Element is to limit the exposure of communities to excessive noise levels. The Noise Element must address noise from roadways, airports, and major stationary sources. It must also identify maximum allowable noise exposure levels to noise-sensitive land uses such as hospitals, schools, churches, residences, and sensitive habitat areas. The Safety Element must address fire hazards, seismic/geologic hazards, flood hazards, landslides, hazardous materials, and emergency management coordination. The Safety Element will also address police protection and fire protection.

Required Reading

Prior to the meeting on June 27th, please read the following items:

- Existing Conditions Report
 - Chapter 3.0 Utilities and Community Services Subsection 3.6 Public Safety
 - Chapter 4.0 Hazards, Safety, and Noise
 - Chapter 5.0 Conservation and Natural Resources Subsection 5.5 Geology, Soils, and Seismicity
 - Chapter 7.0 Regulatory Framework (as relevant)
 - Current General Plan Noise, Community Facilities, and Safety Elements (attached PDF documents)

Work Exercise

After reading the materials identified above, please consider the following questions and be prepared to discuss:

Safety

- In developing a goal and policy framework to address safety, what top three issues or actions should the City prioritize?
- In reviewing the existing General Plan goals, policies, and strategies related to safety:
 - a. Which existing General Plan goals, policies, and strategies best address the concerns you identified?
 - b. Which priorities are not addressed in the existing General Plan?
- What additional input do you have that the GPAC should consider and discuss?

Noise

1. In developing a goal and policy framework to address noise, what top three issues or actions should the City prioritize?
2. In reviewing the existing General Plan goals, policies, and strategies related to noise:
 - a. Which existing General Plan goals, policies, and strategies best address the concerns you identified?
 - b. Which priorities are not addressed in the existing General Plan?
3. What types of measures should the City implement to reduce noise exposure to sensitive receptors?
4. What additional input do you have that the GPAC should consider and discuss?

Potential GPAC Discussion Topics

Safety

- How can the City prepare for climate-related hazards (increased flooding, sea level rise, extreme heat events etc.)?
- Are there opportunities to improve emergency services within the community?
- What opportunities are there within the city to increase community safety, and what measures should be taken (i.e. increased lighting, design considerations etc.)?
- Should the General Plan address emerging technology and potential safety risks?
- Should the General Plan take additional steps to reduce hazardous and toxic substances use within the community?

Noise

- What are the major sources of community noise in La Verne, and what types of policies might address these sources?
- Are some types of community noise nuisances acceptable (i.e. festivals, concerts, community events etc.)?
- Should the City consider natural noise abatement measures (i.e. Vegetation and Natural Treatments) rather than traditional sound walls where applicable?
- Should La Verne pursue “quiet zones” to reduce railroad noise? (Note that “quiet zones” refer to areas that receive special government approval to limit or eliminate the use of train horns.)