

MINUTES

Meeting Place: In-Person: 320 W. Temple Street, Room 150, Los Angeles, CA 90012 Virtual (Online): <https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/59deba50-ab3d-4873-bdc7-a9b1d9ef6d98@07597248-ea38-451b-8abe-a638eddbac81> or call +1 323-776-6996,577296386# United States, LA

Meeting Date: August 9, 2023 - Wednesday Time: 9:00 a.m.

Present: Commissioners Duarte-White, Louie, O'Connor, Moon, Hastings

Ex Officio Members:

Director of Public Works: Ms. Phoenix Khoury, Senior Civil Engineer

County Counsel: Ms. Elaine Lemke, Assistant County Counsel

Planning Director: Ms. Connie Chung, Deputy Director, Advance Planning Division

Forester and Fire Warden: Mr. Juan Padilla, Supervising Fire Prevention Engineer

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT STATEMENT

1. The Land Acknowledgment Statement was led by Commissioner O' representing the First Supervisorial District.

The County of Los Angeles recognizes that we occupy land originally and still inhabited and cared for by the Tongva, Tataviam, Serrano, Kizh, and Chumash Peoples. We honor and pay respect to their elders and descendants -- past, present, and emerging -- as they continue their stewardship of these lands and waters. We acknowledge that settler colonization resulted in land seizure, disease, subjugation, slavery, relocation, broken promises, genocide, and multigenerational trauma. This acknowledgment demonstrates our responsibility and commitment to truth, healing, and reconciliation and to elevating the stories, culture, and community of the original inhabitants of Los Angeles County. We are grateful to have the opportunity to live and work on these ancestral lands. We are dedicated to growing and sustaining relationships with Native peoples and local tribal governments, including (in no particular order) the: Fernandeno Tataviam Band of Mission Indians, Gabrielino Tongva Indians of California Tribal Council, Gabrielino/Tongva San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians, Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians - Kizh Nation, San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, San Fernando Band of Mission Indians. To learn more about the First Peoples of Los Angeles County, please visit the Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission website at Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission – government organization (lacounty.gov).

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Moon representing the Fourth Supervisorial District.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

3. Motion/seconded by Commissioners Moon/O'Connor – That the agenda for August 9, 2023 be approved.

At the direction of the Chair, the agenda was approved unanimously.

COUNTY COUNSEL REPORT

4. County Counsel stated for the record that while this is an online meeting, it is a public meeting the same as if it were held in person in the Commission's hearing room and rules that allow for an orderly meeting shall apply. As such, when speaking on an agenda item, comments should address the item on the agenda and no other issues.

Similarly, if speaking during public comment, comments should be limited to issues related to the business of the Regional Planning Commission.

If speakers do not remain on topic, they may be reminded by the Chair or myself to do so. Failure to discuss issues not related to the agenda item, may result in the loss of the right to speak on the item or other items, if directed by the Chair. In addition, speakers should refrain from conduct that is disruptive of the meeting. Doing so also could result in the loss of the right to speak on the agenda item or any other items.

Disruptive conduct can include, but is not limited to, threats made against other speakers, the Commission or its members, or any others participating in the meeting, profane comments not related to the agenda item, or disorderly or contemptuous behavior leading to a disruption of the orderly progression and holding of the meeting.

In such cases, the Chair will advise that the behavior is disruptive and direct that the speaker's microphone be disabled. That person may, however, continue to observe the meeting. Further, disruptive behavior communicated to the panelists of the meeting, which include the Commission and County staff, may result in the removal of that person from the meeting by disconnecting them from the online connection.

DIRECTOR/DEPUTY DIRECTOR

5. Ms. Chung reported that the Board adopted County Code, Title 22 Planning and Zoning Amendment Ordinance amending Title 22 Tune Up "Series 002" Ordinance, to make modifications where necessary to correct discrepancies, typographical errors, and outdated and redundant provisions. The Board also adopted the County Code, Title 22 Planning and Zoning, Amendment to correct the Zoned District map errors and find that adoption of the ordinance is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act.

DIRECTOR/DEPUTY DIRECTOR (Cont.)

Mr. Thomas Dearborn, presented the 100th Anniversary, *Did You Know Series*. Catalina Island, originally known as Pimu or Pimugna, boasts a rich history that dates back over 7,000 years, with its first inhabitants being the Gabrielino/Tongva tribe. In 1542, the island came under the claim of Spanish settlers, but it changed hands several times before eventually becoming part of Los Angeles County through the California State Constitution in 1850.

Throughout the centuries, Catalina Island has seen a variety of land uses, each leaving its mark on the island's landscape and culture. One remarkable testament to this history is the presence of various historic landmarks and the thriving bison population that still roam freely. Catalina Island covers approximately 75 square miles, the majority falling under unincorporated Los Angeles County, while a smaller portion belongs to the city of Avalon, which was incorporated in 1913. Catalina remains largely undeveloped, due to the efforts of the Catalina Island Conservancy, founded in 1972. This organization works tirelessly to protect and manage nearly 88% of the island, dedicated to conservation, education, and recreation.

The island's natural wonders continue to captivate visitors, as Catalina is home to unique and rare species. The Catalina Island fox, found nowhere else in the world, thrives in this environment. The surrounding marine life is equally impressive, featuring dolphins, sea lions, and the iconic bright-orange Garibaldi fish. With its clear waters and abundant marine biodiversity, Catalina is a haven for snorkeling, scuba diving, and underwater exploration.

The commitment to conservation is evident once on the island. The island's primary transportation is achieved through golf carts, electric cars, or exploring by foot, ensuring that visitors can experience Catalina's allure while preserving its ecological balance for generations to come. Catalina Island is a true hidden gem, boasting a captivating history, an array of diverse wildlife, and an abundance of recreational opportunities. Catalina Island has something to offer every visitor.

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

6. Motion/seconded by Commissioners Louie/Moon – That the minutes for July 19, 2023 be approved.

At the direction of the Chair, the minutes were approved with Commissioners Louie, Moon, Hastings, O'Connor in favor and Commissioner Duarte-White being recorded as abstaining.

ADMISSION PROCEDURES

Staff announced if you are joining us via telephone and want to provide comment on any of the agenda items, please send an email to comment@planning.lacounty.gov and provide the agenda item number, your first name, your last name, your email address, your phone number, and indicate if you are the applicant or not the applicant.

All participants' microphones will be muted during the meeting unless you have signed up to provide comment. If you have signed up to provide comment, your microphone will be unmuted when it is time for you to speak, and staff will call your name.

PUBLIC HEARINGCommunity Studies East AreaProject Approved

7. **East San Gabriel Valley Area Plan. Project No. 2020-000612-(1, 5). Advance Planning Case No. RPPL2021013047. General Plan Amendment No. RPPL2022003554. Ordinance No. RPPL2022014158. Zone Change No. RPPL2022003557. Environmental Assessment No. RPPL2022003550. State Clearinghouse No. 2022040512. Planner: James Drevno PROJECT LOCATION:** Unincorporated communities of Avocado Heights, Charter Oak, Covina Islands, East Azusa, East Irwindale, East San Dimas, Glendora Islands, Hacienda Heights, North Claremont, North Pomona, North Whittier, Northeast La Verne, Northeast San Dimas, Pellissier Village, Rowland Heights, South Diamond Bar, South El Monte, South San Jose Hills, South Walnut, Valinda, Walnut Islands, West Claremont, West Puente Valley, West San Dimas. **PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** The proposed East San Gabriel Valley Area Plan (Area Plan or Project) is a component of the General Plan focused on the unique needs and characteristics of 24 unincorporated communities within the East San Gabriel Valley Planning Area. The purpose of the Area Plan is to enhance, guide, and support the long-term growth, development, and maintenance of these communities. The Area Plan consists of areawide goals and policies on land use, economic development, community character and design, conservation and natural resources, mobility, and parks and recreation. The Area Plan also includes community specific goals and policies for each community or grouping of communities. Zoning and land use policy map changes are also proposed as part of the Project to bring zoning and land use policy into conformance; to direct growth near major transit stops, along major corridors, and away from hazard areas; to conserve natural resources; and to implement the Housing Element Rezoning Program. In addition, zoning map changes are proposed for designated properties to clarify the applicability of the adopted Green Zones Ordinance. The Project also includes ordinance amendments to implement the goals and policies of the Area Plan and consists of new areawide regulations and updates to existing standards. **ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION:** As the lead agency, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”), the County Regional Planning Commission will consider the certification of the Environmental Impact Report (“EIR”), which includes the Final EIR (“FEIR”) and Draft EIR (“DEIR”). The Commission will also consider the adoption of the County Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (“MMRP”), the CEQA Findings of Fact, and a Statement of Overriding Considerations. The FEIR will be available for review at least 10 days prior to the public hearing date (Cal. Code of Reg. Title 14 Chap. 3 ss 15089(b)).

Staff presented the amendment to the General Plan and Title 22 of the Los Angeles County Code to establish the East San Gabriel Valley Area Plan and the East San Gabriel Valley Planning Area Standards District for the 24 unincorporated communities. The unincorporated communities total about 51.3 square miles, with a diverse population of 242,000. Land uses are mostly residential, with limited industrial and commercial areas. In addition, some residential areas include active equestrian and small-scale agricultural uses. The Project aims to conserve the character of the East San Gabriel Valley communities, while growing sustainably into a dynamic regional hub that provides diverse options for housing, goods and services, recreation, and mobility for its residents, workers, and visitors.

PUBLIC HEARING (Cont.)

For further action and discussion visit:

http://lacdrp.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=1

Motion/seconded by Commissioners Duarte-White/Moon – That the Regional Planning Commission close the public hearing and recommend certification of the Final Environmental Impact Report along with the required findings of fact and statement of overriding considerations and adopt the Mitigation Monitoring and reporting program for the East San Gabriel Valley Area Plan pursuant to state and local CEQA Guidelines.

Motion/seconded by Commissioners Duarte-White/Moon – That the Regional Planning Commission adopt the resolution recommending approval to the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors the East San Gabriel Valley Area Plan, Project No. 2020-000612-(1,5), Advance Planning Case No. RPPL2021013047, General Plan Amendment No. RPPL2022003554, Zone Change No. RPPL2022003557, Ordinance No. RPPL2022014158, Environmental Assessment No. RPPL2022003550 with the revisions as recommended by staff.

At the direction of the Chair, the item passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

8. Public comment pursuant to Section 54954.3 of the Government Code.

There were no requests by members of the public to address the Commission.

CONTINUATION OF REPORTS

9. Possible Call for Review of Decisions by Hearing Officer, pursuant to Section 22.240.010.B of the Los Angeles County Code.

There were no items Called up for Review by the Commission.

10. Commission/Counsel/Director Reports

There were no reports given by Commission/Counsel/Director.

ADJOURNMENT

A recording of the testimony received and the discussions held at this meeting and a copy of all findings and resolutions acted upon by the Commission are on file in the Department of Regional Planning.

The Commission adjourned at 10:44 a.m. to Wednesday, August 16, 2023.



Elida Luna, Commission Secretary

ATTEST



APPROVE



Michael R. Hastings, Chair

Connie Chung, Deputy Director
Advance Planning Division