



## **CITY *of* CALABASAS**

### **PLANNING COMMISSION** **AGENDA REPORT**

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**DATE: JANUARY 12, 2023**

**TO: MEMBERS OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION**

**FROM: MICHAEL KLEIN, AICP, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR**  
**TOM BARTLETT, AICP, CITY PLANNER**

**SUBJECT: GENERAL PLAN UPDATES – SAFETY ELEMENT AND CIRCULATION**  
**ELEMENT**

**MEETING**  
**DATE: JANUARY 19, 2023**

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#### **SUMMARY RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that the Planning Commission approve and adopt Planning Commission Resolution No. 2023 – 746 (Exhibit A), recommending to the City Council approval of proposed updates to the Calabasas 2030 General Plan Circulation Element (Exhibit B), the Calabasas 2030 General Plan Safety Element (Exhibit C), and the Calabasas 2030 General Plan “Implementation” chapter (Exhibit D).

#### **BACKGROUND:**

As required by California Government Code sections 65353 and 65354, and in accordance with chapter 17.76 of the Calabasas Municipal Code, the Planning Commission must review and consider proposed amendments to the General Plan elements, and then forward a recommendation to the City Council. Accordingly, on July 21, 2022 and on October 6, 2022 the Planning Commission conducted a public hearing to consider proposed updates to the General Plan Circulation Element and Safety Element.

The staff reports for the July 21 and October 6, 2022 Planning Commission meetings discussed the reasons behind the General Plan updates, discussed the planning process employed to prepare the proposed updates, summarized key components of the proposed updates, and responses to Commissioners' questions. Red-line mark-ups of both revised General Plan elements as well as a few related updates to the "Implementation" chapter of the General Plan Attached to the July 21st staff report were attached each respective staff report. Neither of the two staff reports nor the attachments to those reports are replicated here; Commission members already have those documents and may refer back to them as necessary. This report focuses on only further revisions, based on input and questions raised by the Planning Commission and by the general public.

As a reminder, California Government Code section 65302.5(b)(1) requires that the final draft Safety Element update (as will be recommended by the Planning Commission to the City Council) be formally submitted to the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection for review and approval, and that City Council adoption of the updated Safety Element shall not occur until after State Board approval. Accordingly, staff will submit the final draft of the updated Safety Element to CalFIRE immediately following Planning Commission action.

#### **DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS:**

To this point, members of the Planning Commission provided input and comments on the draft provided during the July 21, 2022 and October 6, 2022 public hearing, and by e-mail communication to Staff. Additionally, comments and input have been provided by the Las Virgenes Municipal Water District, the Los Angeles County Fire Department, and the City's Public Safety and Public Works Departments. Lastly, comments and input have also been offered from members of the general public.

#### **Draft Updated Circulation Element – Summary of Latest Revisions**

- Added a detailed explanation of how the City intends to continue using LOS, in addition to the new VMT thresholds
- Added that the City plans to prepare a new fee study that could result in new traffic and transportation impacts mitigation fee
- Incorporated examples of how the City can improve operational efficiencies that do not necessitate addition of vehicular lanes

- Directs future updates to the Bicycle Master Plan to consider Class I and Class IV bike lanes

### **Draft Updated Safety Element – Summary of Latest Revisions**

- Clarified the quantity of water that the Las Virgenes Reservoir can hold
- Revised policy directing the City to coordinate with the Las Virgenes Municipal Water District to ensure the maintenance and long-term integrity of water supply and water pressure for firefighting purposes
- Added senior living facilities and Craftsman Corner to single-access residential neighborhoods map
- Acknowledged that the transportation network could be significantly impacted during an emergency evacuation
- Adjusted Cal-Adapt temperature and extreme heat climate projection data to correspond to hottest area of Calabasas (eastern area)
- Incorporated NOAA weather station historic temperature data

### **Emergency Evac. Assessment Appendix – Summary of Latest Revisions**

- Edited to acknowledge the capacity constraints present in the transportation system
- Identified key strategies developed based on the results of the evacuation modeling

### **Wildfire Appendix – Summary of Latest Revisions**

- Clarified that the purpose of the wildfire risk mapping is intended to help prioritize vegetation management

### **Implementation Chapter – Summary of Latest Revisions**

- Removed outdated information regarding the Oak Tree Reforestation Fund

A representative from the California Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) will join the Planning staff and consultants at the Commission meeting, and will be available to respond to Commissioners' questions regarding State laws and policies affecting community safety.

**REVIEW OF POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA):**

Planning staff and Rincon Consultants have prepared an Addendum to the *City of Calabasas General Plan Update Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR)* (State Clearinghouse #2021020150), which was certified by the City of Calabasas City Council on October 13, 2021. The General Plan Update EIR analyzed updates to the Land Use, Housing, Safety, and Circulation Elements. The Addendum analyzes the currently proposed updates to the General Plan Safety Element, Circulation Element, and Implementation Chapters. The analysis in the EIR Addendum demonstrates that the proposed project does not require the preparation of a subsequent EIR. (The EIR Addendum was attached as Exhibit F to the July 21, 2022 staff report, and is hereby incorporated by reference.

**REQUESTED ACTION:**

Staff recommends that the Planning Commission approve and adopt Planning Commission Resolution No. 2023 – 746, recommending to the City Council approval of the proposed updates to the Calabasas 2030 General Plan Safety Element, Circulation Element, and Implementation Chapter, as described in this report and the two preceding reports.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Exhibit A: Planning Commission Resolution No. 2023-746

Exhibit B: Proposed Update of General Plan Circulation Element – 3rd Mark-up Copy

Exhibit C: Proposed Update of General Plan Safety Element – 3rd Mark-up Copy

Exhibit D: Appendices to the Proposed Safety Element Update (REVISED)

Exhibit E: Proposed Update of General Plan Chapter XIII (Implementation)