



Scenic Pacifica
Incorporated Nov. 22, 1957

CITY OF PACIFICA

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PRESS RELEASE

July 13, 2022

City of Pacifica Adopts Comprehensive General Plan Update – the First in Over 40 Years

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (Pacifica, CA) 13 July 2022 – On Monday evening, the City of Pacifica adopted a comprehensive General Plan Update (GPU), an important step more than a decade in the making to help shape the future of Pacifica. The adoption included certification of a Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) that evaluated the GPU and Sharp Park Specific Plan (SPSP).

The City Council's adoption of the GPU is the product of numerous years of work and multiple opportunities for public input including more than 25 community, City Council, and commission/committee meetings, with input from more than 1,000 members of the public throughout an extensive public engagement process and responses to more than 1,200 individual comments submitted during the extended 60-day public comment period on the Draft EIR. The 2040 General Plan replaces the 1980 General Plan to reflect contemporary community goals; changes in State laws related to planning and development; and updated policies related to public safety, such as fire hazards and others.

Years of work to develop the draft GPU culminated in release of the GPU and EIR for public review and comment in January 2022. The Planning Commission considered the documents at public hearings on June 6 and June 11, receiving more than four hours of public comment and deliberating for six hours before recommending numerous revisions and forwarding to the City Council for consideration.

The City Council considered the GPU and Final EIR at public hearings on June 25 and July 11. The Council considered the Planning Commission recommendations and made additional edits to 9 of the 10 chapters of the GPU. The five Councilmembers unanimously approved the GPU on July 11. Mayor Mary Bier said, "I want to thank the community members, Planning Commissioners, and my City Council colleagues who provided their time, dedication and insightful review and comments during this process, and the City staff and consultant team for their years of work to achieve this important and improved new General Plan."

The GPU is a comprehensive planning document that will shape the future of Pacifica through policies addressing development, conservation, transportation, utilities, land use, recreation, public safety, and more. The Final EIR provides an analysis of potential environmental impacts associated with the policies contained in the GPU and SPSP. "A comprehensive General Plan Update is an extremely difficult, and often controversial, undertaking for cities," said City

Manager Kevin Woodhouse, continuing “But it is an essential undertaking to address evolving needs and challenges that have emerged in the past 40+ years since adoption of the old General Plan, and will help guide the City through the next 20 years, providing guidance on important City activities to achieve environmental, fiscal, and social sustainability for Pacifica.” Acting Planning Director Christian Murdock added, “This newly adopted General Plan is a vast improvement over the old one, with updated and contemporary data and policies that will encourage in-fill development, support affordable housing production, and continue preservation of open space.”

The City staff is incorporating the City Council’s final revisions to the GPU and will publish the final document once that work is finished at <https://www.planpacific.org>. The Planning Commission is scheduled to continue its consideration of the SPSP on Monday, July 18.

Questions regarding the General Plan Update, Sharp Park Specific Plan, and Environmental Impact Report can be directed to Acting Planning Director Christian Murdock, at (650) 738-7341 or cmurdock@pacificagov.

Distribution: City Council, City staff, Pacifica Tribune, media outlets