

City of Garden Grove

INTER-DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM

To: Matthew Fertal
Dept: City Manager
Subject: THE GENERAL PLAN UPDATE

From: Susan Emery
Dept: Community Development
Date: May 13, 2008

OBJECTIVE

The purpose of this memo is to provide information to the City Council on the Garden Grove General Plan Update.

DISCUSSION

Planning staff and the General Plan consultant have recently concluded the last of four scheduled study sessions with the Planning Commission. The final presentation on April 3, 2008, gave an overview of the General Plan and EIR process. These two documents work together: The General Plan identifies future land uses and growth, along with setting goals and policy directions; the Program EIR reviews the existing conditions of the City, establishes the environmental setting, and then analyzes the impact of the proposed future described in the General Plan.

The Planning Commission study sessions began on February 21, 2008 with a discussion of the Land Use Element, the proposed "Focus Areas", and the goals for future development. The following two meetings provided a discussion of four General Plan elements:

- On March 6, 2008, the topic was the Community Design Element, the Open Space/Conservation Element, Parks/Recreation/Cultural Activities Element, and the Economic Development Element. Economic Development staff gave a power point presentation on the Economic Status report prepared by Dr. John Husing.
- On March 20, 2008, the study session was on the Safety Element, the Noise Element, the Air Quality Element and the Traffic/Circulation/Infrastructure Element. The traffic consultant from Iteris presented level of service counts for 63 intersections within the City and discussed the Traffic Element.

The consultant has updated the schedule for the completion of the General Plan Update. Currently, the consultant is in the process of preparing the Administrative Draft of the General Plan through the drafting of nine elements and an introduction. The release date for the public review of the Draft General Plan is May 28, 2008.

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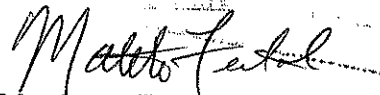
The Draft EIR will be released on the same date. Staff will forward a copy of the drafts to Planning Commissioners and City Council members at this time. The third community workshop is scheduled for Thursday, May 29, 2008.

Other upcoming dates include the Planning Commission hearings on June 19 and July 17, and the City Council hearing on August 12.



SUSAN EMERY
Community Development Director

Approved for Agenda Listing



Matthew Fertal
City Manager