# Envision PALMDALE 2045

## General Plan Advisory Committee Meeting #1

June 5, 2019, 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

# Meeting Objectives

- Initiate the General Plan Advisory Committee
- Discuss GPAC roles and responsibilities
- Provide an overview of the General Plan
- Review and discuss the Community Engagement Plan
- Brainstorm key issues and opportunities in the City

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# Introductions

Name, affiliation and an event /story that exemplifies life in Palmdale.

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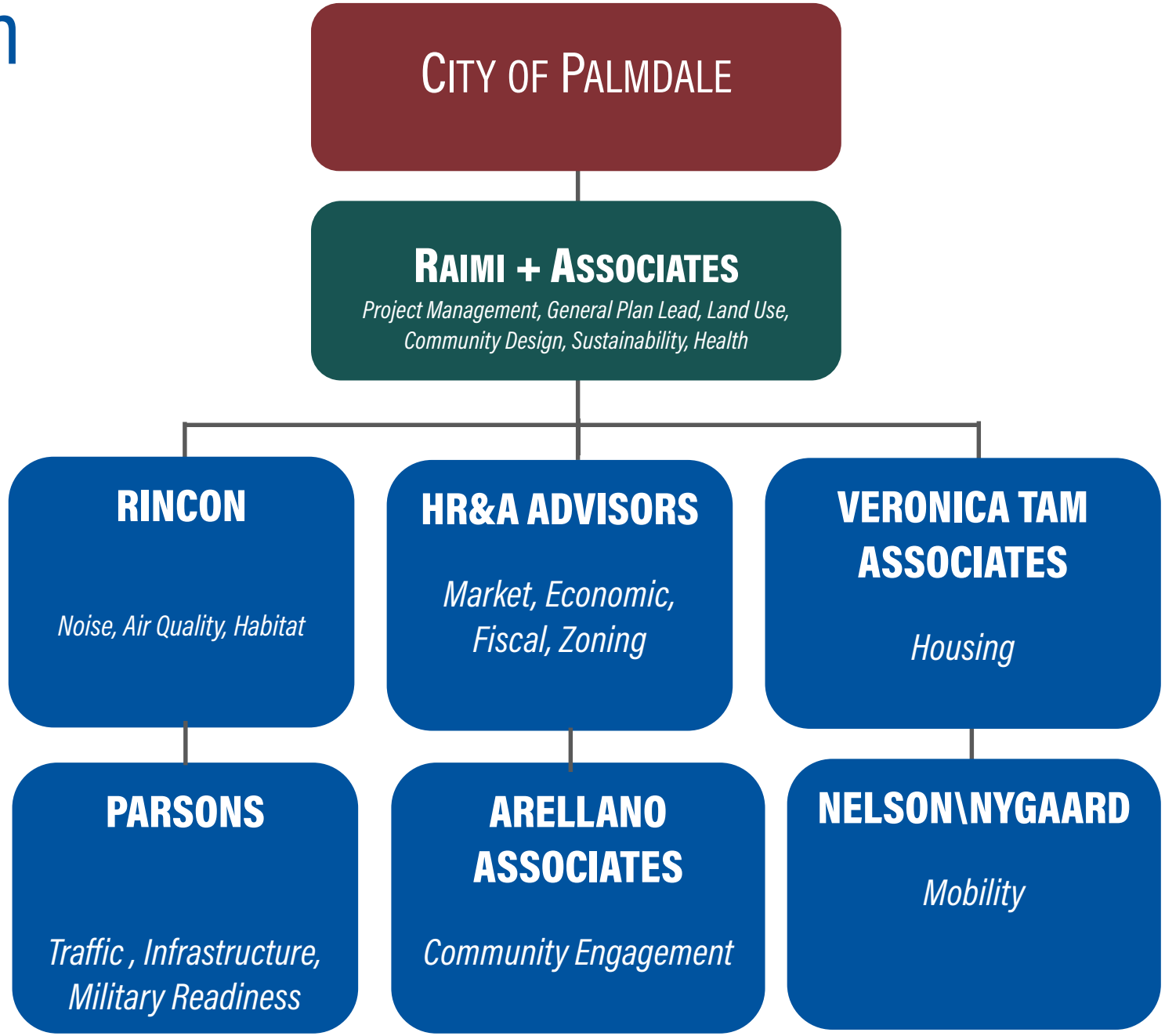
# Our Team

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# OATH & AFFIRMATIONS

# GENERAL PLAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

# General Plan Advisory Committee Purpose

- Guide General Plan process
- Serve as sounding board for ideas
- Help develop vision, goals, and policies
- Represent the community's interests
- Assist with public outreach and participation
- Serve as a champion for the project

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# GPAC Meeting Structure

- Presentation of information and discussion
- Facilitated by City team (consultant and City staff)
- No voting on topics
- No Chair or Vice Chair
- Subject to the Brown Act
- Meetings are open to the public; the public is encouraged to attend

*(Note: Requests for information should be made through City staff.)*

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# GPAC Role and Responsibilities

- Attend GPAC meetings
- Share your ideas – your honest and thoughtful input is critical
- Review materials prior to meetings (sent via email)
- Attend public workshops and meetings (strongly encouraged)
- Talk with neighbors, friends, and constituents to obtain their ideas
- Be a champion for the project

# GPAC Ground Rules

- Participate in good faith
- Respect your fellow members even if you don’t agree
- Allow space for differences of opinion
- Operate in the spirit of consensus
- Be a good listener
  - Share the floor
  - Do not interrupt one-another
- Ask questions for clarification and mutual understanding

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# RALPH M. BROWN ACT TRAINING

- By Noel J. Doran

# Brown Act Preamble

*section 54950*

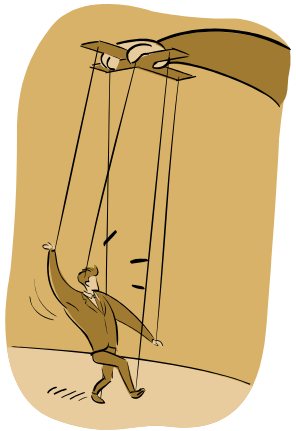
- In enacting this chapter, the Legislature finds and declares that the public commissions, boards and councils and the other public agencies in this State exist to aid in the conduct of the people's business. It is the intent of the law that their actions be taken openly and that their deliberations be conducted openly.
- The people of this State do not yield their sovereignty to the agencies which serve them.
- The people, in delegating authority, do not give their public servants the right to decide what is good for the people to know and what is not good for them to know.
- The people insist on remaining informed so that they may retain control over the instruments they have created.

# Propositions

Two basic proposition that create the framework of the Brown Act are…

1) The open conduct of the people's business

2) Citizen's retain control of their government



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# Who MUST comply

- City Council
- Planning Commission
- Other Boards and Commissions
- **All Standing Committees**

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# Open Conduct of the Public's Business

- Public agencies exist to aid in the conduct of the people's business
- Actions taken openly
- Deliberations conducted in public
- At a public meeting

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# Open Meetings

MEETING…any gathering of a quorum at which business under the Committee's jurisdiction is discussed or transacted.

***For the General Plan Advisory Committee, a quorum = 7***

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# Exceptions

- Individual Contacts
- Conferences
- Community Meetings
- Meetings of Other Government Agencies
- Social or Ceremonial Events

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# What's in a Name?

That which we call a meeting by any other name would not a quorum meet?

***Apologies to William Shakespeare***

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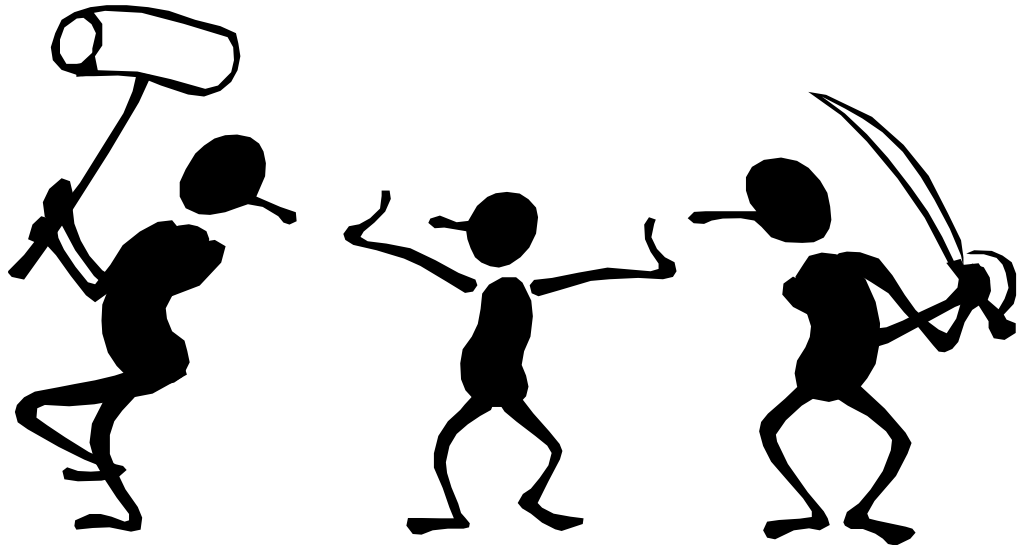
# Tragic Meetings

## a.k.a. Serial Meetings

A meeting that at one time may involve less than a majority but eventually involves a majority.

Examples:

1) Hub & Spoke
2) Daisy Chain



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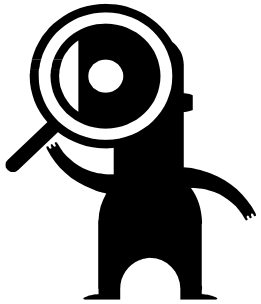
# What to Watch OUT for



- Contact with staff
- Contact with Committee members
- Contact with constituents, developers and lobbyists
- Technology
  a) Emails
  b) Social Media

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# Notices & Agendas

- Agendas for regular meetings must be posted 72 hours in advance
- 24 hours for Special Meetings
- 1 hour for Emergency Meetings

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# Citizens' Control

Purpose of the Brown Act is to ensure the citizens retain control of its government by protecting citizens' rights:

- The right to be informed
  - Agendas
  - Public votes
  - Public records
- The right to meaningful participation
  - Public testimony
  - No conditions to attendance

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# Right to be Informed

- Public has the right to review agendas and other writings distributed to a majority of the Committee

- Documents must be available to public at the meeting if prepared by City staff

- If prepared by some other person, document must be available after the meeting

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# Right to Participate

Public has the right…

- To have prior notice of meetings and items to be discussed
- To attend meetings
- To record meetings, both audio and video
- To speak on a specific item during its consideration

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# Public Participation

- Cannot prohibit public criticism of policies, procedures, programs or services of the City or the acts or omissions of the Committee itself.

- May enforce time limits, restrict repetitious or irrelevant comments and prohibit disruptive comments or behavior

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# Agenda ~ Notice of Items

- Committee may **ONLY** discuss those items listed on the agenda

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# Closed Session

- Executive sessions, closed to the public are permitted in very limited circumstances but these do not generally apply to the General Plan Advisory Committee

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# Remedies

- Action taken in violation may be invalidated

- Violation with improper intent is a criminal misdemeanor by a member of the legislative body

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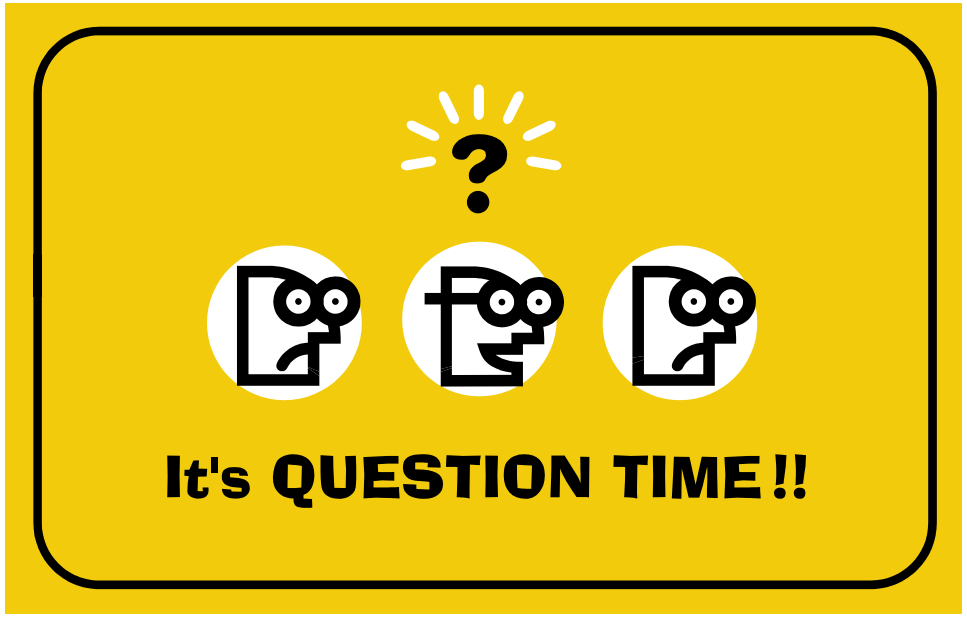
# Questions?

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# PALMDALE TODAY

# Community Snapshot

## DEMOGRAPHIC

### TOTAL POPULATION

**157,356** people in Palmdale

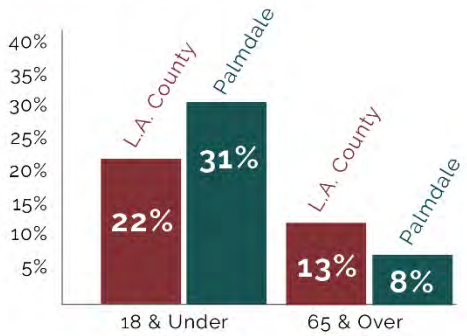
**2%** of L.A. County

### TOTAL LAND

**106** sq miles Palmdale

**2.6%** of L.A. County

### AGE OF POPULATION




### LANGUAGE

**41%**

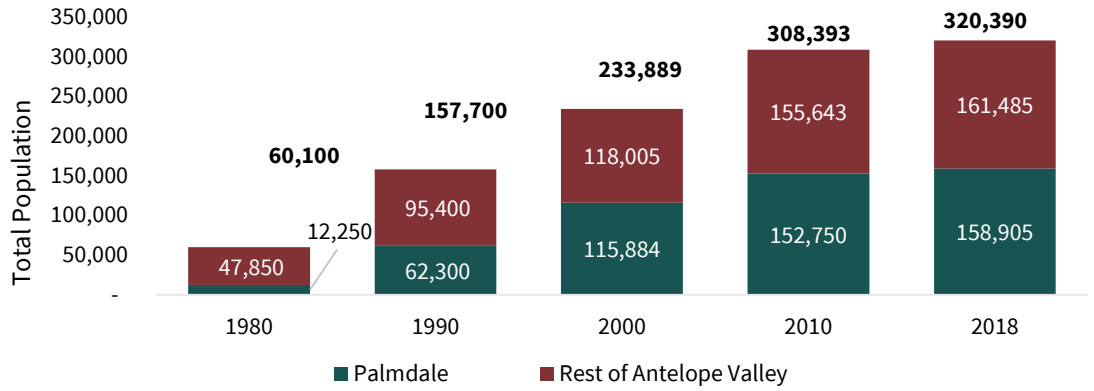
Speak a language other than English at home in Palmdale

### ORIGIN

**35%**

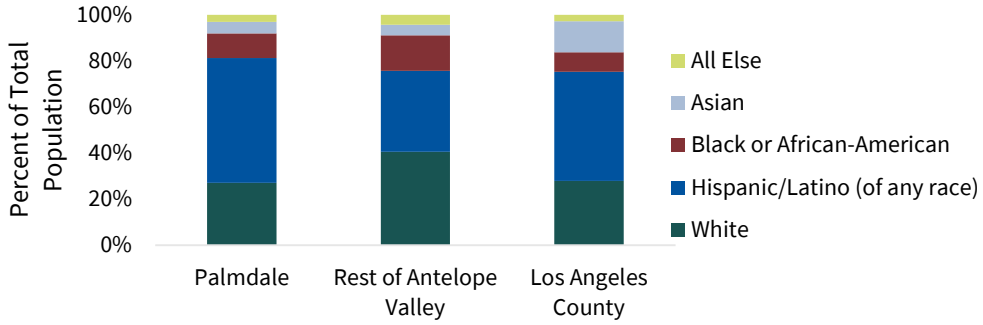
Foreign born living in Palmdale

### HISTORIC POPULATION GROWTH




*Source: California Department of Finance E-4*

### RACIAL DISTRIBUTION




*Source: HR&A, 5-Year ACS 2017, ACS Public Use Microdata Series 2013-2017*

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# Community Snapshot

## INCOME + POVERTY

### MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME

Palmdale
**$52,801**

L.A. County
**$57,952**

### % IN POVERTY

**21%**
Palmdale

**16.3%**
L.A. County

## EDUCATION

### COLLEGE DEGREE

**15%**
Palmdale

**31%**
L.A. County

## EMPLOYMENT

### MEAN TRAVEL TIME TO WORK

**42** mins.
Palmdale

**30** mins.
L.A. County

### INFLOW/OUTFLOW OF JOBS

**86%** Live in Palmdale & work elsewhere

**14%** Live and work in Palmdale

## LAND + HOUSING

### AVAILABLE RECREATIONAL SPACE

**1.62**
acres/1,000 population
in Palmdale

**8.10**
acres/1,000 population
in L.A. County

### RENTER-OCCUPIED HOUSING

Palmdale
**36.6%** rent — **63.4%** own

L.A. County
**54.3%** rent — **45.7%** own

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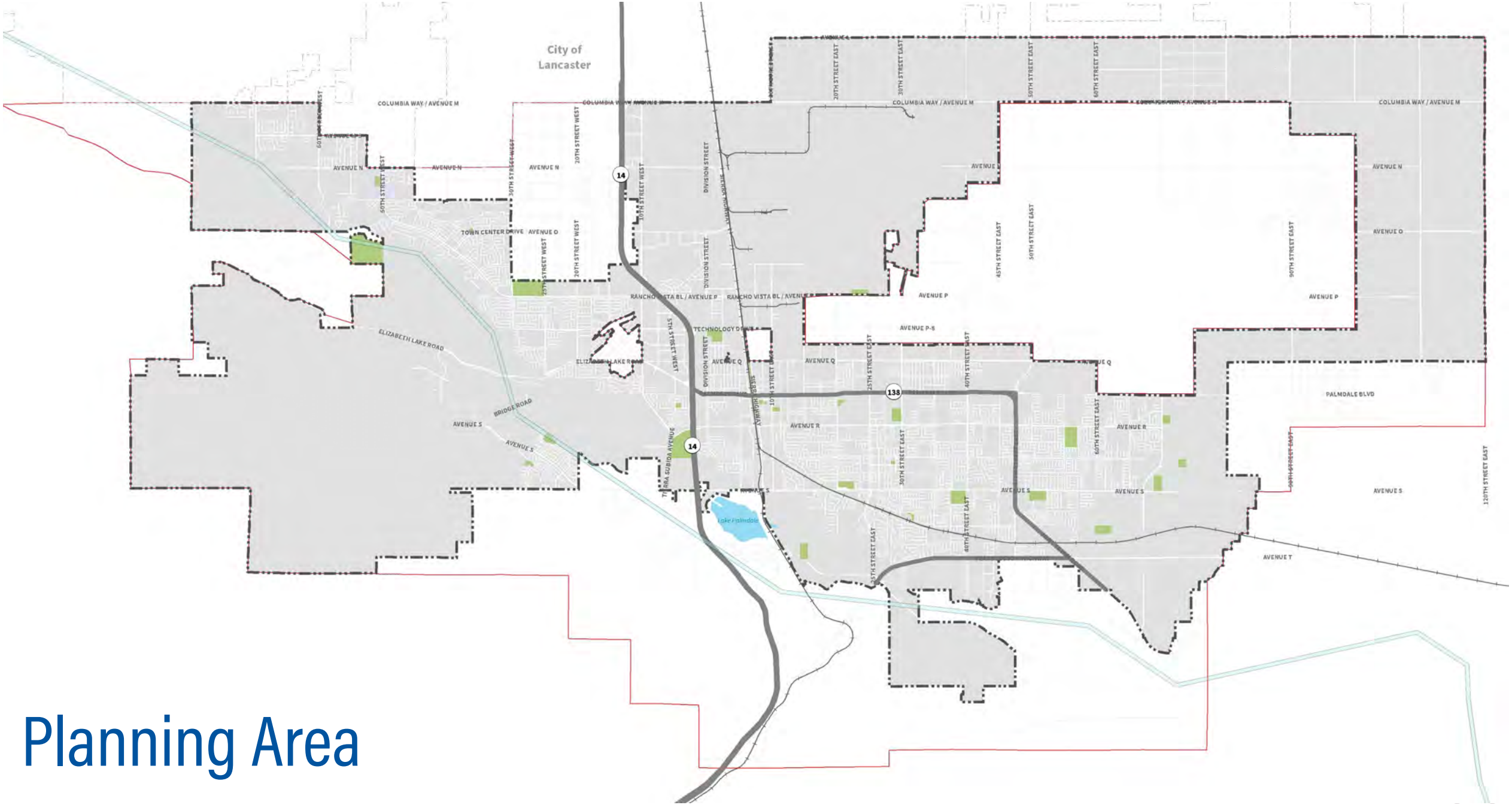
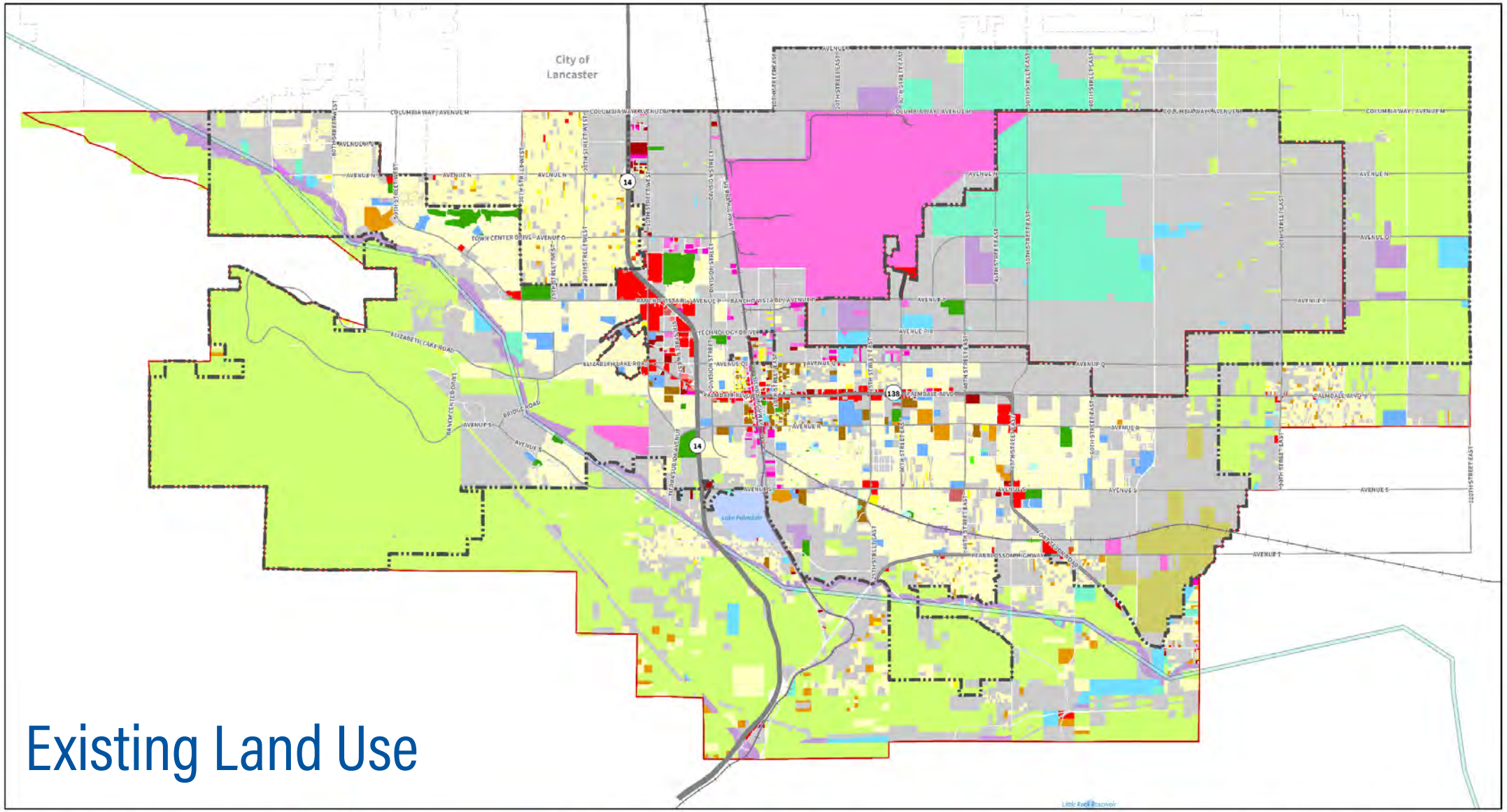



# Planning Area


City of Lancaster
Existing Land Use
Existing Land Use
City Boundary
Sphere of Influence
California Aqueduct
Major Highway/Arterial
Railroad
Water Body
Park
Accommodation
Commercial Recreation
Mixed Use
Office
Retail/Commercial
Single Family Detached
Single Family Attached
Mobile Home
Multifamily
Vacant/Unknown
Natural Resources
Industrial
Wholesale/Warehousing
Transportation
Utilities/Communications
Agriculture
Civic Facilities
Private Institutions
Public Education
Hospitals
Cemeteries
Natural/Conservation
Open Space
Parks and Recreation
Water
0 0.75 1.5 2.25 3 Miles
0 3,000 6,000 Feet
Data Sources: City of Palmdale GIS data; World Terrain Base, 2013 ESRI, USGS, NOAA.
Produced by Raimi + Associates March 2019

# WHAT IS A GENERAL PLAN?

# What is a General Plan?

*"Vision about how a community will grow, reflecting community priorities and values while shaping the future."*

- Long-term policy document to **guide the future actions** (policy choices + development applications) in Palmdale
- Establishes the **City's vision** for the next 25 years
- Preserves and enhances **community strengths**
- Addresses a number of **topics of concern**
- Enables the community to come together to develop a **shared vision for the future**

# General Plan Requirements

**Required Elements**

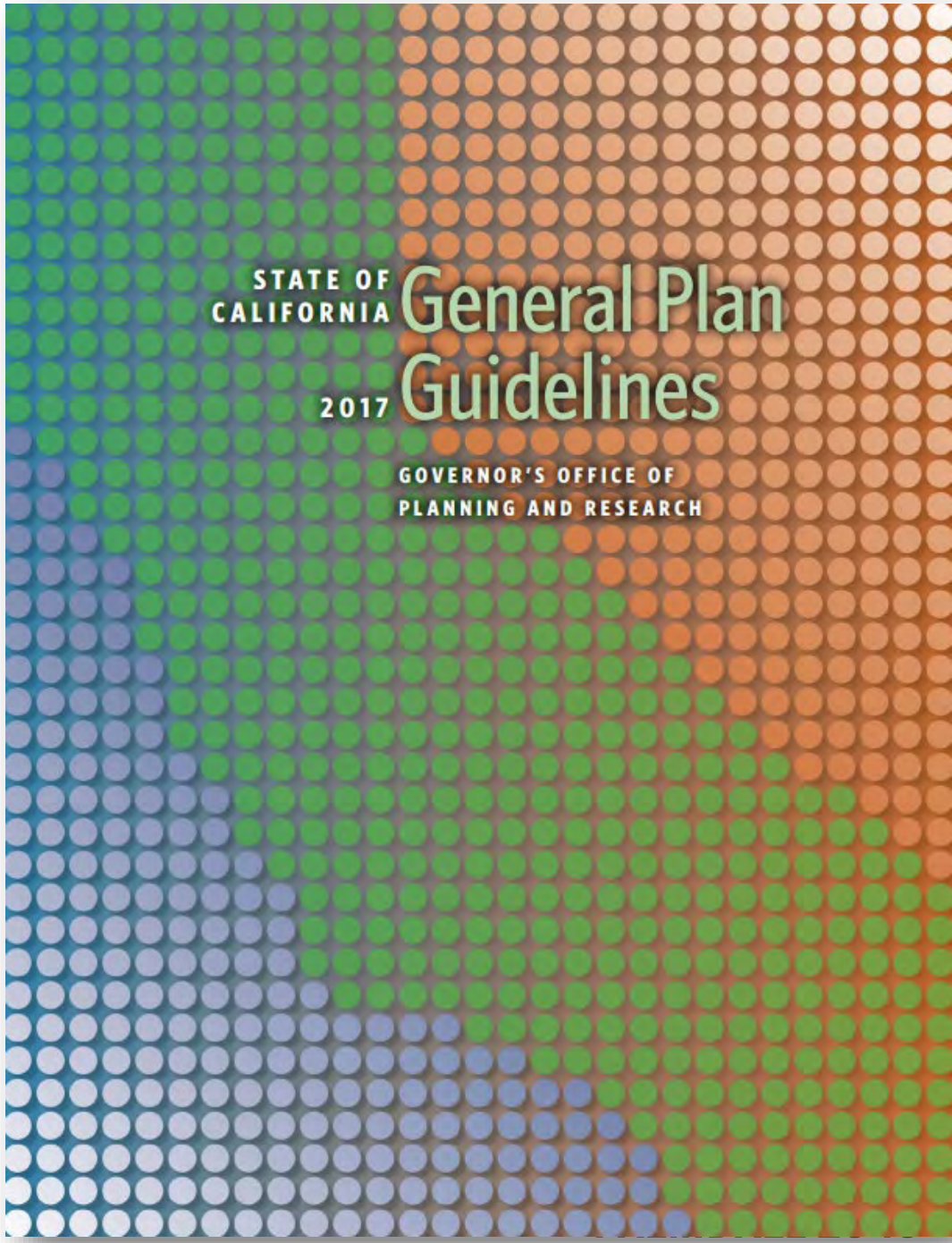
- Land Use
- Circulation
- Housing
- Conservation
- Open Space
- Noise
- Safety
- Air Quality
- Environmental Justice

**Additional Considerations**

- Community Design
- Equitable and Resilient Communities
- Healthy Communities
- Economic Development
- Climate Change
- Military Readiness

**New State laws + 2017 General Plan Guidelines**

**Emerging themes in planning**

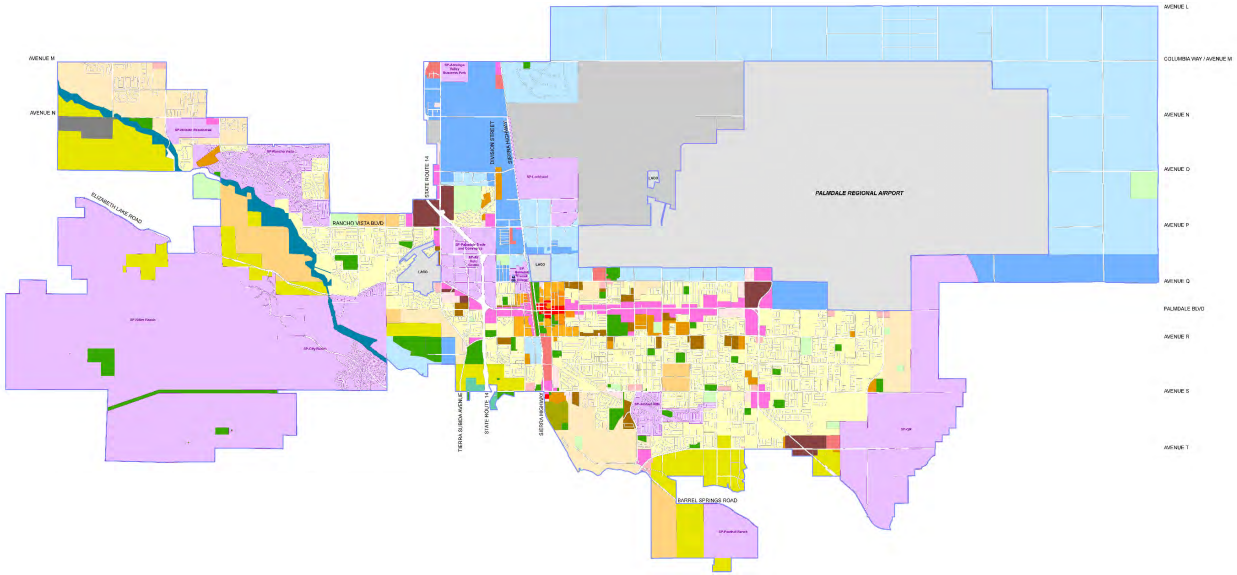


# Current Palmdale General Plan

Last updated in 1993 and 1994

Organized in following Elements:

- Land Use (1993)
- Circulation (1993)
- Environmental Resources (Air Quality, Conservation & Open Space) (1994)
- Public Services (1993)
- Safety (1993)
- Noise (1993)
- Housing (2014)
- Parks, Recreation and Trails (1993)
- Community Design (1994)

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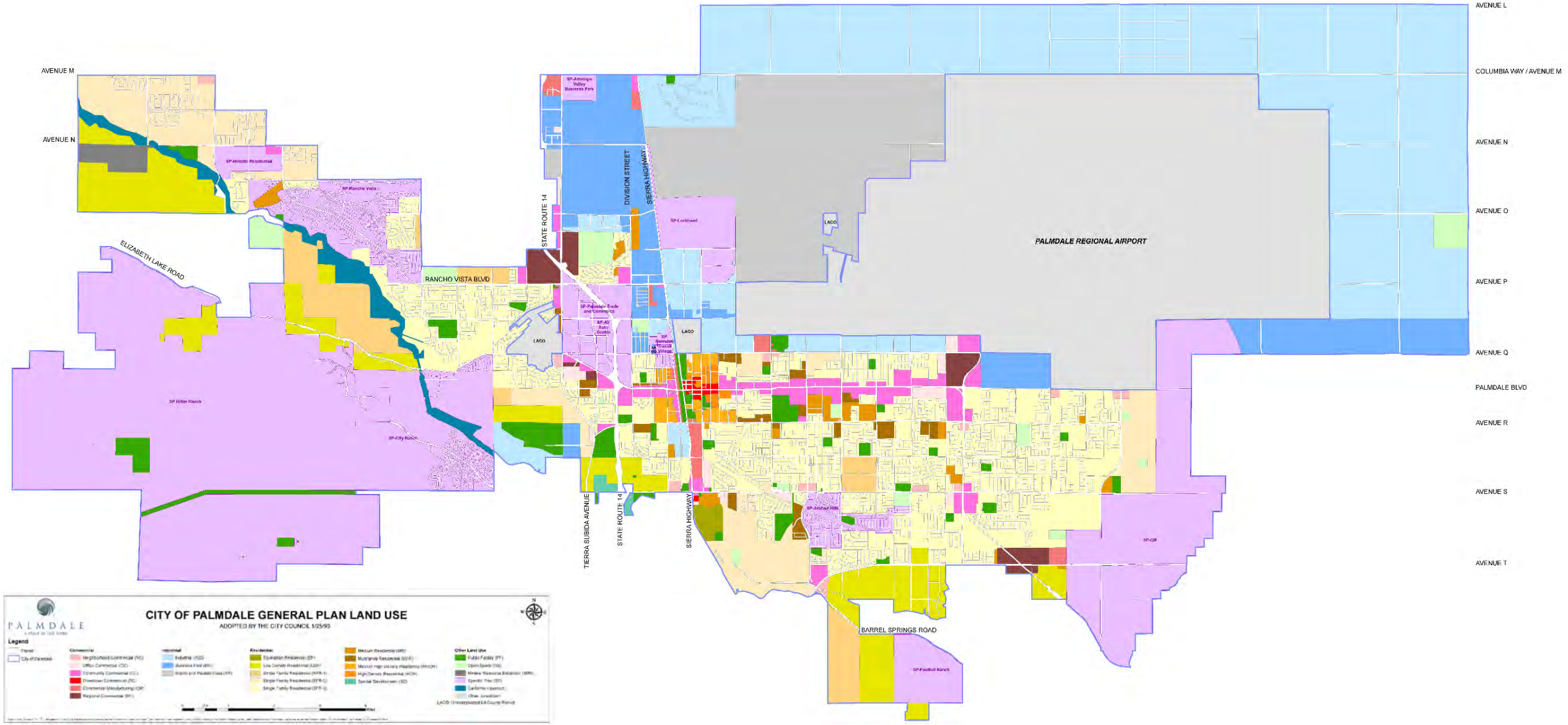
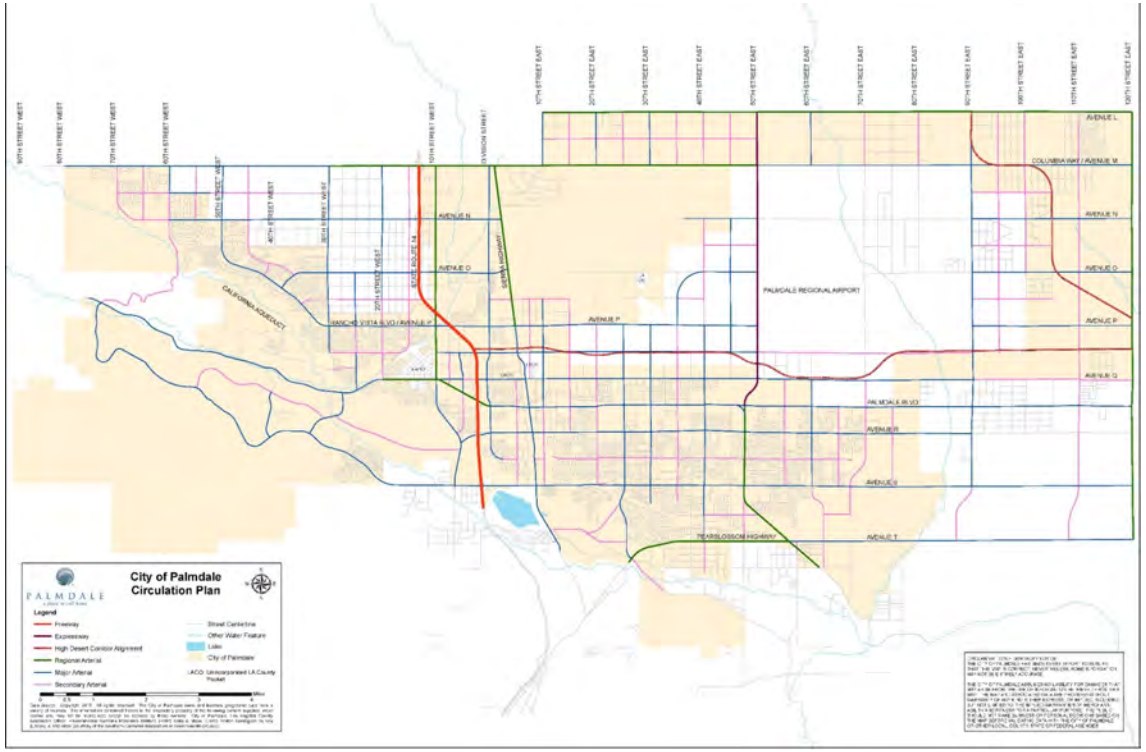
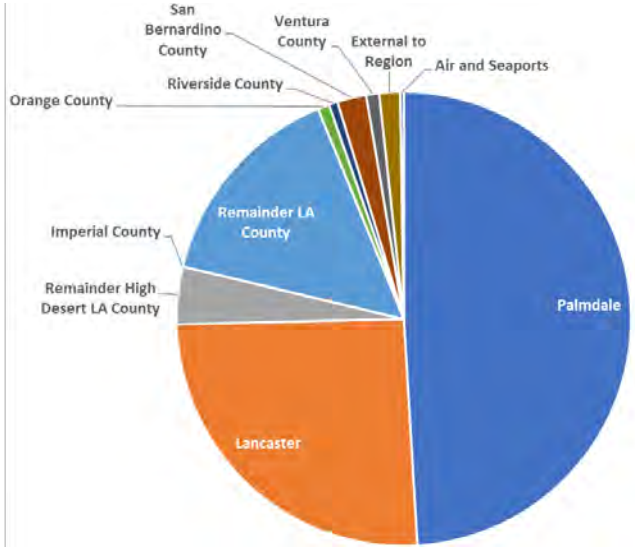
# Land Use


AVENUE L
AVENUE M
COLUMBIA WAY / AVENUE M
AVENUE N
AVENUE N
AVENUE O
AVENUE P
AVENUE Q
PALMDALE BLVD
AVENUE R
AVENUE S
AVENUE T
ELIZABETH LAKE ROAD
RANCHO VISTA BLVD
STATE ROUTE 14
DIVISION STREET
SIERRA HIGHWAY
PALMDALE REGIONAL AIRPORT
TIERRA SUBIDA AVENUE
STATE ROUTE 14
SIERRA HIGHWAY
BARREL SPRINGS ROAD
CITY OF PALMDALE GENERAL PLAN LAND USE
ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL 1/25/93
PALMDALE
Legend

# Transportation

- Street Network, Classification and Operations
- Alternative Transportation Systems and Parking
- Transit and Public Transportation
- Level of Service (LOS) to Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT)
- How to plan for future mobility services?

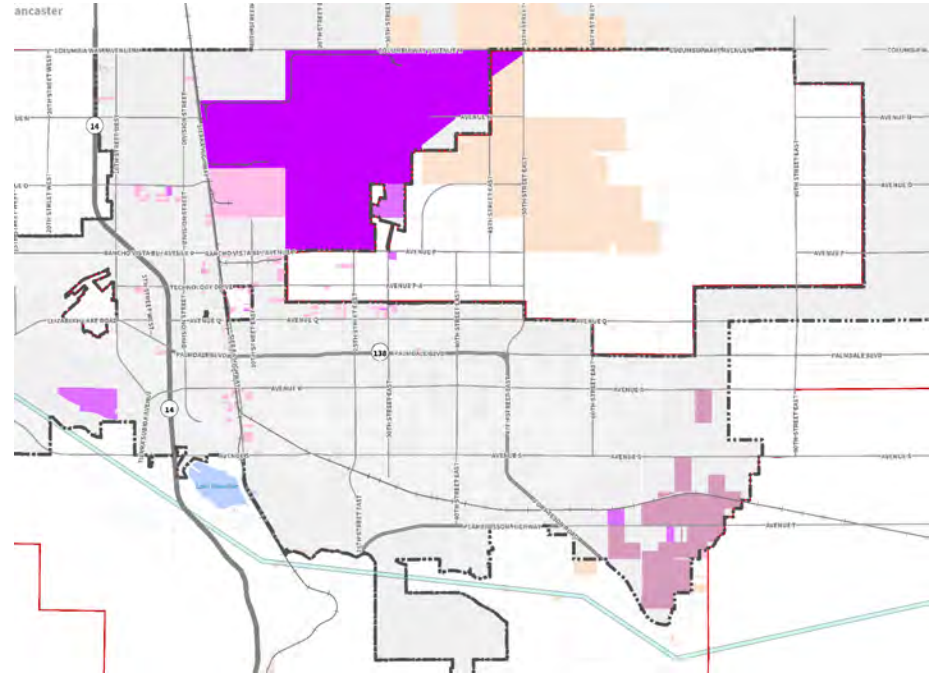


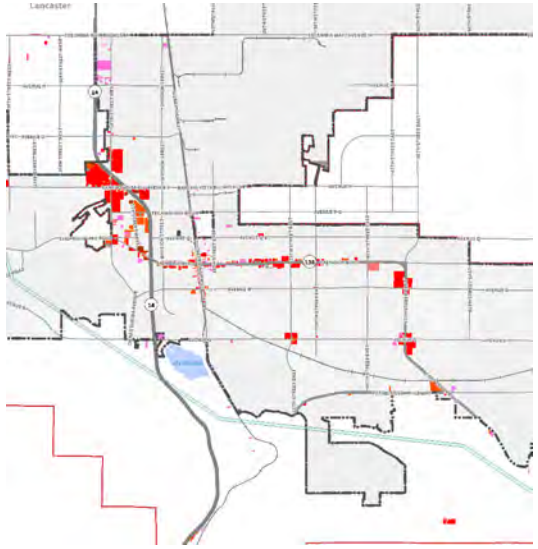




## Vehicle Miles Traveled

# Economic Development

- Economic development and the City's role
- Economic diversity for fiscal stability
- Economic development strategy
- How to ensure existing businesses continue?
- What future businesses should we plan for?





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# Preliminary General Plan Topics

- Create a **vision** for growth and development
- Improve the **overall identity and quality of life** in Palmdale
- Ensure **equitable distribution** of services, goods and amenities in the City
- Capitalize on **major infrastructure investments** such as HSR and the Airport
- Address **transportation challenges**
- **Plan for natural emergencies** including earthquakes and wildfires
- Increase **opportunities for location of parks** and open space areas
- Expand **opportunities for the City to pursue grants** and other funding sources for parks and infrastructure improvements

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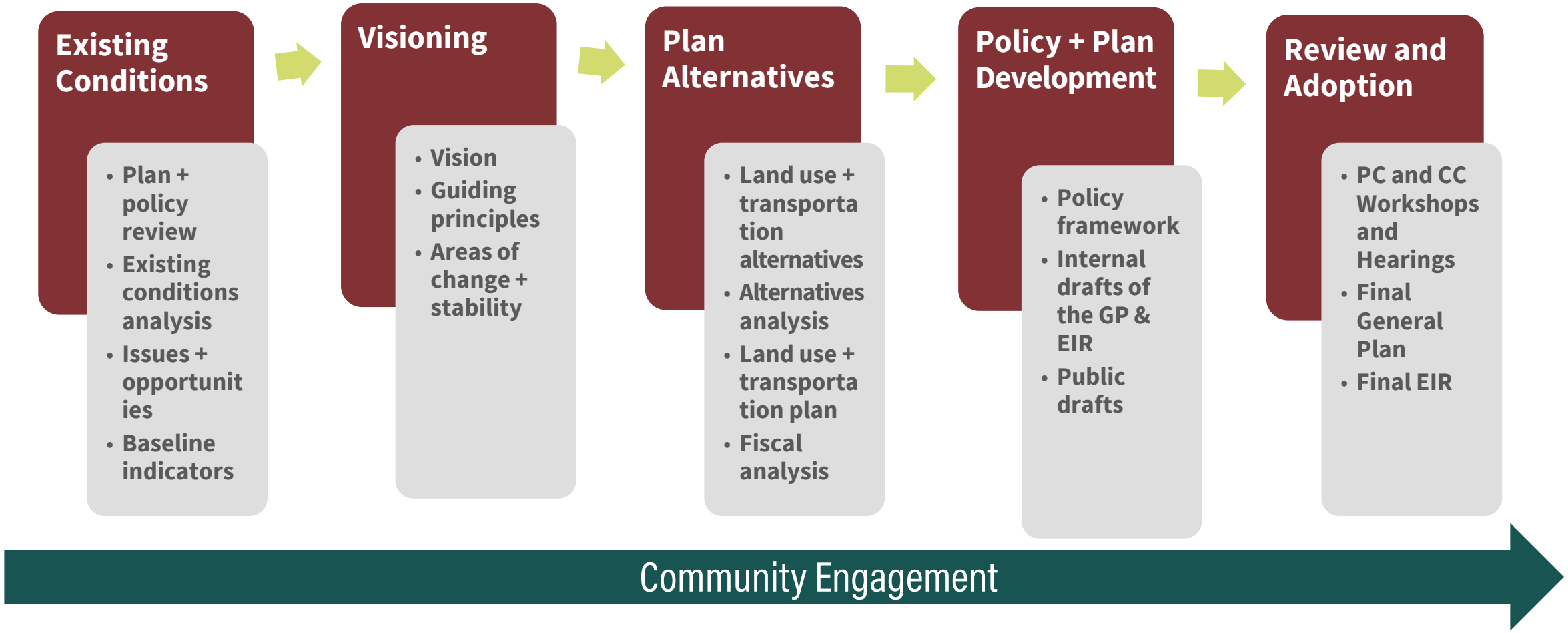
# PROJECT APPROACH

# Approach to the General Plan Process

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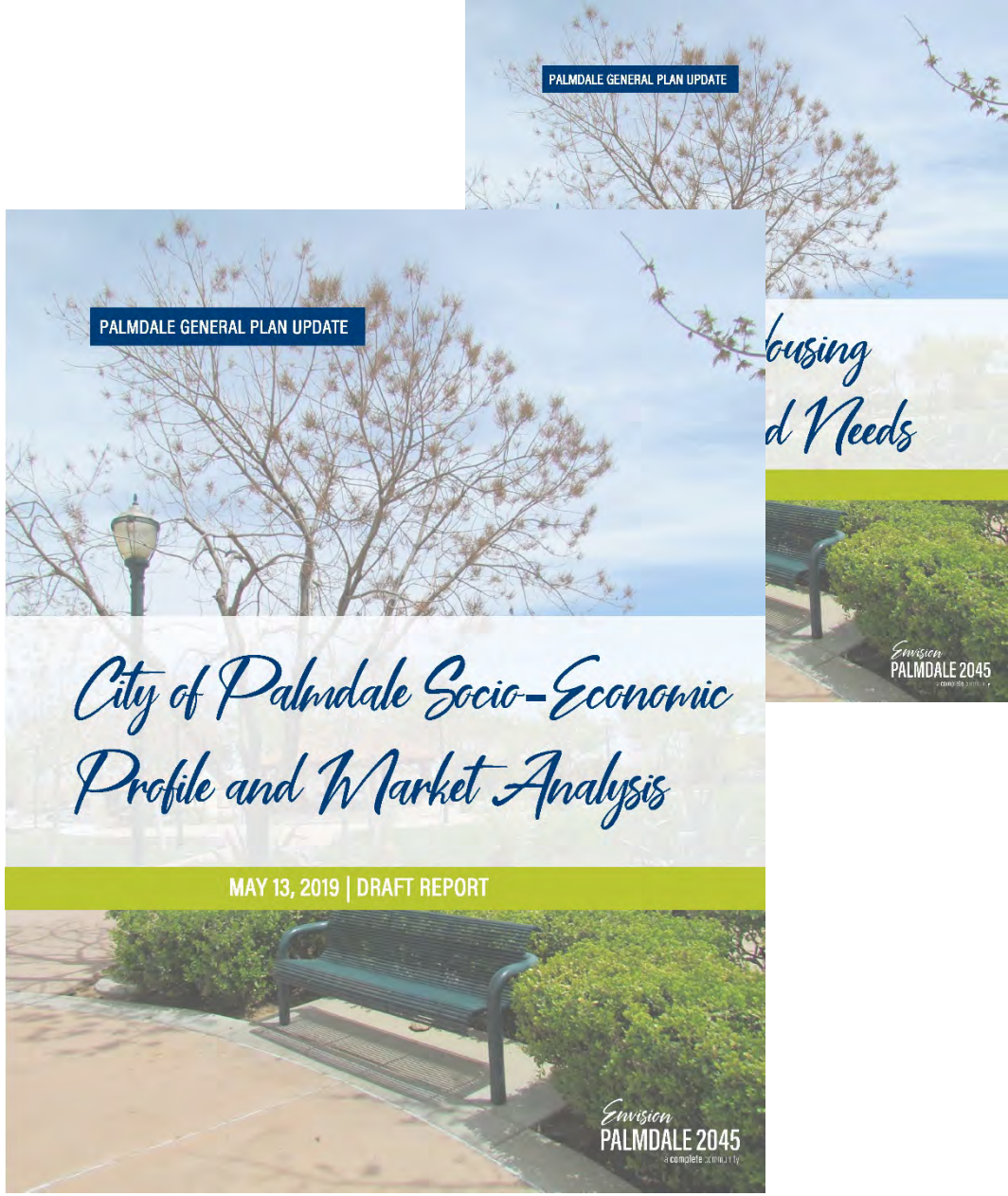
# Key Deliverables

- Existing Conditions Reports
- Vision and Guiding Principles
- Alternatives
- Policy Frameworks
- **General Plan**
- **Environmental Impact Report**
- **Digital General Plan**
- Monitoring Plan

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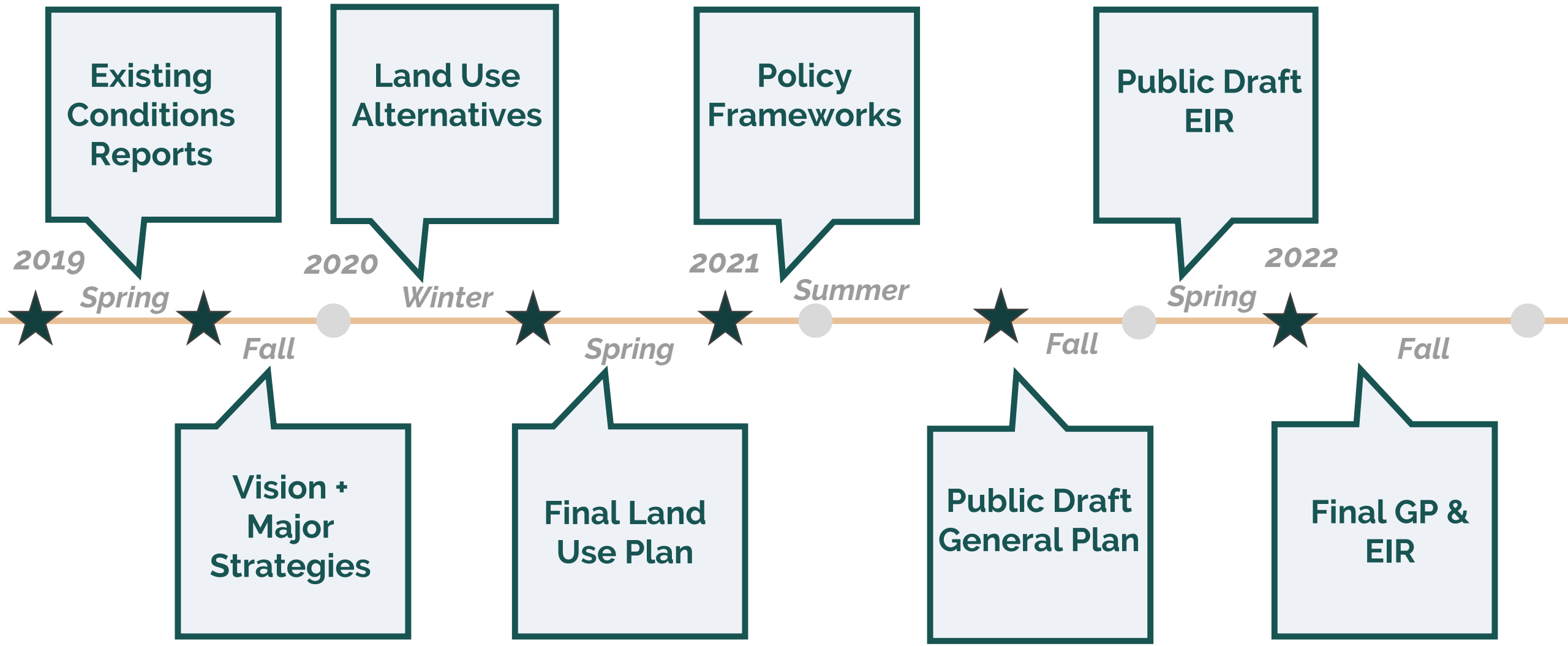
# Work Flow




★ Key Engagement Time

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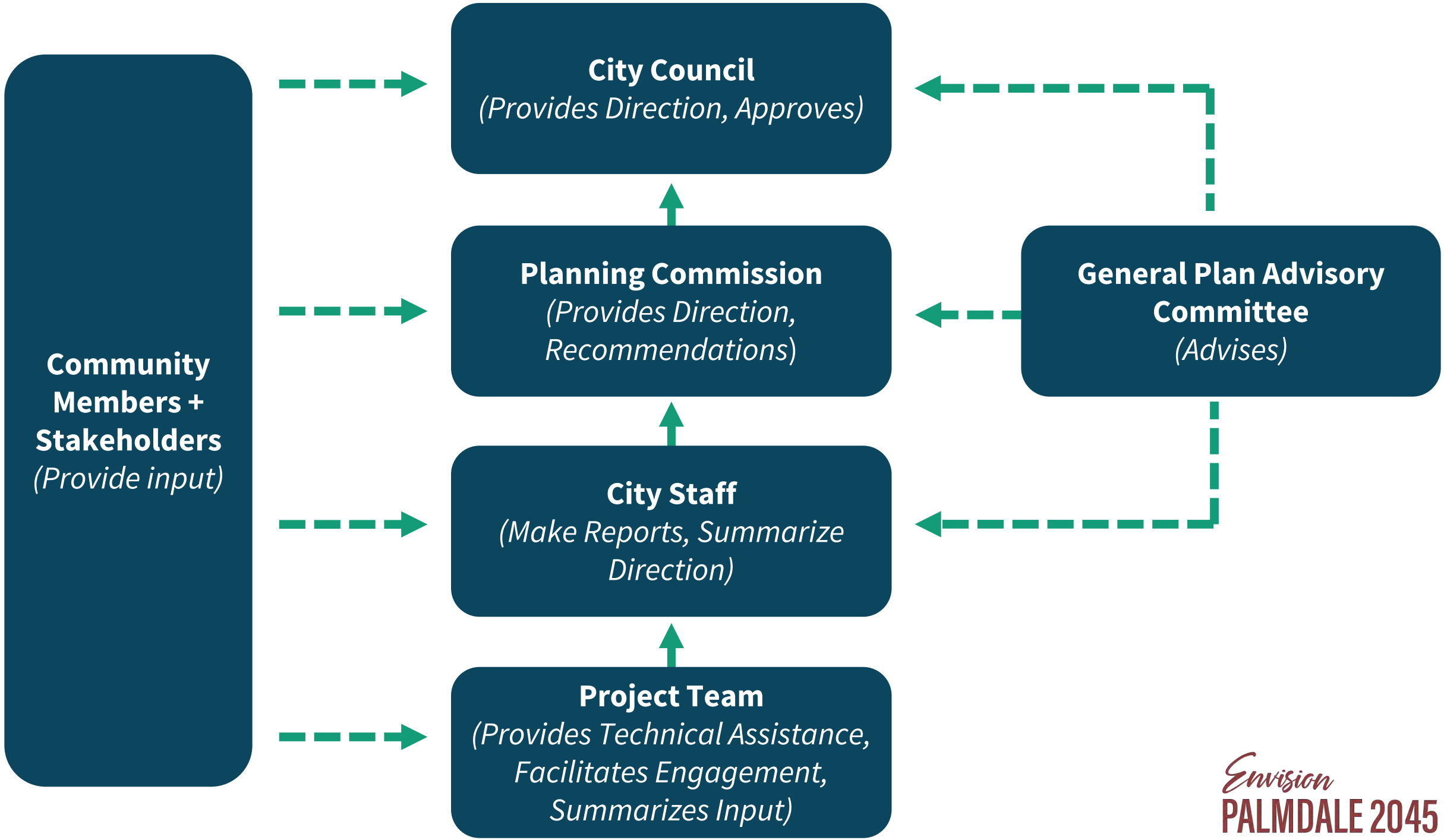


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# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

# Engage the Community

- Empower the community in the planning process
- Achieve broad demographic and geographic representation
- Create an inclusive and responsive process
- Build capacity in the decision-making process
- Create diverse engagement opportunities
- Develop easily understood informational materials
- Make the process fun and engaging

**Listening + Learning** → **Outreach** → **Engagement** → **Input** → **Decision-making**

# Engagement Objectives

- Engage the community **at key points**
- Use a **range of interactive activities**
- Keep the **public informed** throughout the process
- Build community **ownership** of the plan

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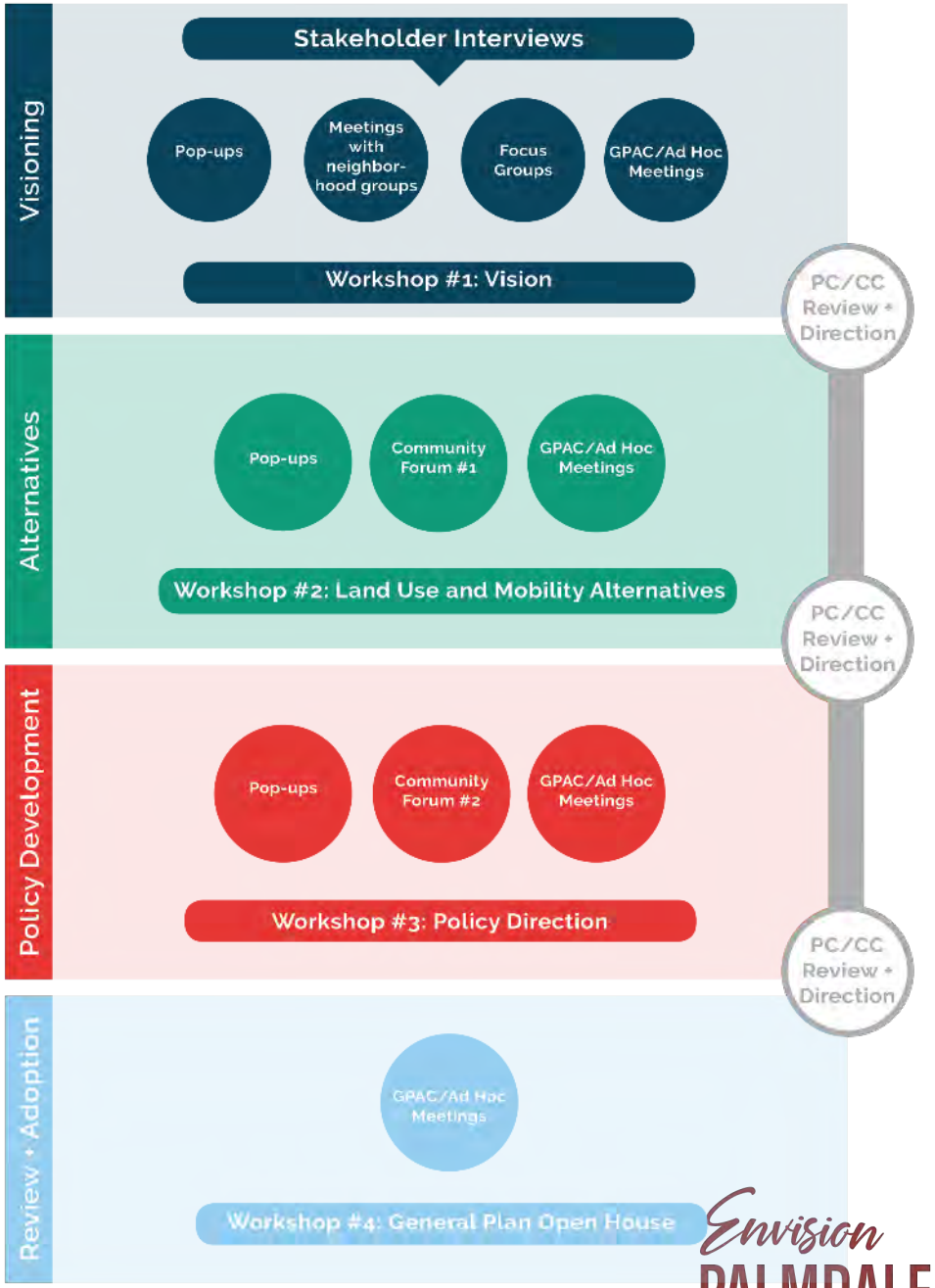
# Engagement Activities

- Logo + branding
- Website + social media updates
- Stakeholder meetings + interviews
- Community survey
- General Plan Advisory Committee (12)
- Focus Groups (6)
- Neighborhood Meetings (6)
- Community forums (4)
- Public Workshops (4)
- Pop-up workshops (6)
- Study Sessions

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# Online Engagement

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# Pop-Up Workshops + Events

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# Meetings & Workshops

# DISCUSSION

# Discussion

- What is special and unique about Palmdale that should be preserved during the General Plan update process?
- What are the key issues that the City is facing now and in the future?
- If you could change one thing about Palmdale, what would it be?

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# GPAC MEETING SCHEDULE

# GPAC Topics / Schedule

Meeting #1: Introduction and Issues - *TODAY*

Meeting #2: Develop Vision, Guiding Principles and Vision Statement; review and prioritize issues

Meeting #3: Review Vision and Guiding Principles; Identify Areas of Potential Land Use Change

Meeting #4: Create Land Use and Community Design Alternatives,

Meeting #5: Transportation and Housing

Meeting #6: Review Alternatives Analysis and Select Preferred Alternative

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# GPAC Topics / Schedule (cont'd)

Meeting #7: Economic Development

Meeting #8: Overall Land Use and Community Design; Sub-Area Specific Direction

Meeting #9: Public Health and Sustainability/Climate Change

Meeting #10: Parks, Conservation, Safety and Public Services/Facilities

Meeting #11: Goals and Policy Framework / Draft General Plan Review

Meeting #12: Pre-Public Draft General Plan Review

# THANK YOU!

City of Palmdale

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Email
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