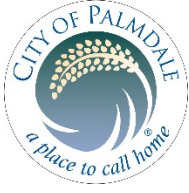




PALMDALE GENERAL PLAN UPDATE

General Plan Advisory Committee

Binder Materials



City of Palmdale General Plan Update General Plan Advisory Committee

Meeting #1: June 5, 2019 | 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm
Chimbole Cultural Center “Lilac Room”

Agenda

Meeting Objectives

- Initiate the General Plan Advisory Committee.
- Discuss the roles and responsibilities of the General Plan Advisory Committee.
- Provide an overview of the General Plan project.
- Brainstorm on the key issues and opportunities in the City of Palmdale.

Meeting Agenda

Introduction and Welcome

Rob Bruce, Planning Manager

Oath and Affirmations

Lynn O’Brien, Administrative Assistant

Ralph M. Brown Act Training

Noel Doran, Assistant City Attorney

GPAC Roles and Responsibilities

Raimi + Associates

Overview of the General Plan Presentation & Discussion

Raimi + Associates

Wrap-up and Next Steps

Adjourn

City of Palmdale General Plan Update

General Plan Advisory Committee

Meeting #1: June 5, 2019

GPAC Overview and Ground Rules

The following ground rules are intended to provide Advisory Committee members with an overview of the purpose and expectations for participation in the group as well as a summary of the decision-making process that will be followed. The ground rules are needed to keep the Committee on schedule, as a key part of the General Plan Update project.

Advisory Committee Purpose

The Palmdale General Plan Advisory Committee will serve as a sounding board for the General Plan team throughout the General Plan update process. Guidance related to goals and objectives for all the topics in the General Plan will be discussed with a focus on land use and transportation decisions. It is the Advisory Committee's charge to represent the community's interests in the development of a plan that reflects the vision for Palmdale's future. The Advisory Committee will serve as a sounding board for ideas presented by the team and will be asked to come up with creative solutions that address the challenges facing Palmdale today and over the next 25 years. Advisory Committee members are also expected to serve as "ambassadors" for the General Plan by promoting the process, talking with other residents and assisting with community engagement activities.

Membership

- The Committee consists of thirteen (13) permanent members and two (2) alternates. Alternates may not participate unless placed as a permanent member on the Advisory Committee.
- Committee members are not allowed to select an alternate if they cannot attend a meeting.
- Committee members are appointed for an initial term of three (3) years. The Council may choose to extend the Committee member terms to coincide with the General Plan Update process. The Committee is considered an ad-hoc committee that will be dissolved upon completion and adoption of the General Plan Update process.
- While not required, the Advisory Committee will have a quorum when seven (7) members are present. Due to the fact that meetings must occur to keep the General Plan update process on schedule, meetings may be held without a quorum.

Level of Commitment and Responsibility

- There will be 12 Advisory Committee meetings during the General Plan update process. The first meeting will be held on June 5, 2019 and meetings will be held on a regular basis over the next two-and-a-half years. (A preliminary schedule of meeting dates and topics can be found on the following pages.) The Advisory Committee will be disbanded once the General Plan is released as a public draft document.
- If an Advisory Committee member is absent from two (2) Steering Committee meetings in a row or misses a total of three (3) meetings, the City may remove that member and an Alternate will be installed as a permanent member.

- Advisory Committee meetings will be held in the evening from approximately 6:30 to 8:30 pm. Meeting times and dates may change depending on circumstances.
- Advisory Committee members are expected to prepare for, attend and participate in every meeting, to the greatest extent feasible. As needed, materials will be provided to the Advisory Committee one week prior to each meeting via email. These materials will be the subject of the discussion, so it is important that each committee member read the materials and come to the meeting prepared to discuss the information.
- Throughout the process, there will be many community engagement activities including public workshops, “pop-up” workshops, surveys, and focus groups. Advisory Committee members are also strongly encouraged to attend and assist with all public workshops and other events as necessary.

Decision-Making Process

- The Advisory Committee will operate in the spirit of consensus. Consensus does not connote 100 percent agreement on every issue, but rather, support for the recommendations taken as a whole. **Where no consensus emerges, varying points of view will be presented to the General Plan consultant team, City staff, and City Manager.**
- The Advisory Committee will play a critical role in guiding the General Plan update process, but it is only one of many forms of input for decision-making. Input will also come from public workshops, stakeholder interviews, pop-up workshops, online surveys, focus groups, Planning Commission meetings and City Council Workshops. Thus, direction provided by the GPAC may not be the ultimate direction for a particular topic or policy.
- Roll call votes will not occur on any topic or specific issue as the purpose of the Advisory Committee is to serve as a sounding board for staff, the consultants and the City Manager.
- Every participant is responsible for communicating his or her position on issues under consideration. Each participant is also encouraged to clearly state their intentions and concerns at the earliest possible time in the course of the discussions.
- At the end of each meeting, City staff and the consultants will summarize the direction and conclusions from that evening’s meeting for review and affirmation. This summary will be included in the meeting minutes that will be reviewed at the following General Plan Advisory Committee meeting. This information will be used to set the broad policy direction of the General Plan.
- Committee members will rely on meeting summaries to the extent possible and will refer questions about the views of others to those Committee members. Participants should not characterize the position of any other party in public statements or in discussions with the press.
- Committee members should not speak with the press about the project, unless approval is provided in writing by the City’s General Plan project manager.
- Relevant information can play an important role in the development of informed consent. At the same time, too much information or information of limited relevance can cause confusion and slow down the process. Where individual members wish to share written or printed information with the larger group, such information should be provided to City Staff approximately 1 week and not less than 72 hours prior to any scheduled meeting to allow for duplication and/or distribution prior to the meeting.
- When members cannot attend a meeting of the Advisory Committee, they should notify Nardy Lopez, Management Analyst at generalplan@cityofpalmdale.org or at (661) 267-5200 as far in advance as possible. Members must be present to participate in consensus decision making.
- The General Plan Advisory Committee is governed by the Ralph M. Brown Act. Discussions regarding the subject matter of the General Plan Advisory Committee should take place during a noticed, public

meeting of the General Plan Advisory Committee. Please refrain from having such conversations outside a public meeting.

Meeting Structure and Basic Conduct

- The Advisory Committee will not have a Chairperson.
- City staff and/or Raimi + Associates (the City’s lead General Plan consultant) will act as the facilitators for the Advisory Committee meetings.
- All members agree to participate in good faith, as well as to respect the concerns of the other members.
- All Advisory Committee meetings are open to the public. Meeting schedules and notes will be published on Palmdale’s General Plan website.
- The following points are offered as examples of behavior consistent with constructive dialogue, mutual respect and a commitment to collaboration:
 - Offer respect of different viewpoints and attention when others speak.
 - Share the responsibility of ensuring the success of the process and the quality of recommendations.
 - Make a best good faith effort to work towards reaching an agreement.
 - Represent the perspectives, concerns, and interests of agencies or constituencies whenever possible to ensure that agreements and recommendations developed by the group are acceptable to the organizations, agencies, or constituents being represented.
 - Ask questions of each other for clarification and mutual understanding.
 - Verify assumptions when necessary and avoid characterizing the motives of others.
 - Acknowledge and try to understand others’ perspectives.
 - Stay focused on the task at hand and share airtime with others.
 - Refrain from side conversations
 - Silence all cell phones during meetings.
 - Concentrate on the content of discussions and allow the facilitator to focus on how to promote productive discussion.

Conflicts of Interest

Committee members must comply with all regulations prohibiting participation by officials with conflicts of interest. If a member has a conflict of interest for a topic or property that is before the Committee, the member must leave the room when the Committee discusses the item and not participate in the review or consideration of an item for which they have a conflict. Members should contact the City Attorney’s office if they are concerned about potential conflicts.

Public Comment Opportunities

Opportunities for public comments will be allowed at the end of each Advisory Committee meeting. These comments can help inform the Advisory Committee about broader public opinion. Public comments will be provided a minimum of two minutes per participant. Time sharing between participants will not be allowed.

Information Requests and Direction to Consultants

Requests for development of significant information or data from committee members must be raised at scheduled Advisory Committee meetings or in writing to City staff.

City of Palmdale General Plan Update General Plan Advisory Committee

Meeting / Topic Schedule

Meeting #1: Introduction, Issues and Vision

Meeting #2: Development of Vision, Guiding Principles and Vision Statement

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

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

Meeting #5: Review of Preferred Alternative

Meeting #6: Transportation and Housing

Meeting #7: Economic Development

Meeting #8: Land Use and Community Design

Meeting #9: Public Health and Sustainability

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

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

Meeting #12: Review of Draft General Plan

Envision

PALMDALE 2045

What is a General Plan?

The General Plan serves as the City’s primary guide for land use and development decisions and is a key tool for influencing and improving the quality of life for residents and businesses. As such, it serves as the “blueprint” for future development and conservation of a community. The General Plan will help the City plan for important community issues such as new growth, housing needs and environmental protection and sets the stage for future social, physical and economic development of the City. It addresses issues that impact the entire City, such as how land is used, where buildings are constructed, and the locations of roads and parks.

Palmdale General Plan Overview

The City of Palmdale is undertaking a comprehensive update to its General Plan for the first time in more than 25 years. Now is the time to look forward to the next several decades and chart a course for the City’s future, including:

- Creating a vision for growth and development and improving the overall identity and quality of life in Palmdale;
- Ensuring equitable distribution of services, goods and amenities in the City;
- Capitalizing on major infrastructure investments such as High-Speed Rail and the Airport;
- Addressing transportation challenges such as traffic congestion, the bicycle network and transit;
- Planning for natural emergencies including earthquakes and wildfires;
- Increasing opportunities for location of parks and open space areas;
- Expanding opportunities for the City to pursue grants and other funding sources for parks and infrastructure improvements.

What topics will the General Plan cover?

State law requires that each city in California adopt and maintain an “up-to-date” General Plan and address specific core topics. The Palmdale General Plan Update will cover these requirements but will also address additional elements that are important to the community. Topics will include land use; community design; mobility; housing; equity, resilient, and healthy communities; economic development; conservation and open space; parks and recreation; historic and cultural resources; public facilities and infrastructure; noise; air quality; sustainability; safety; military readiness; and implementation.

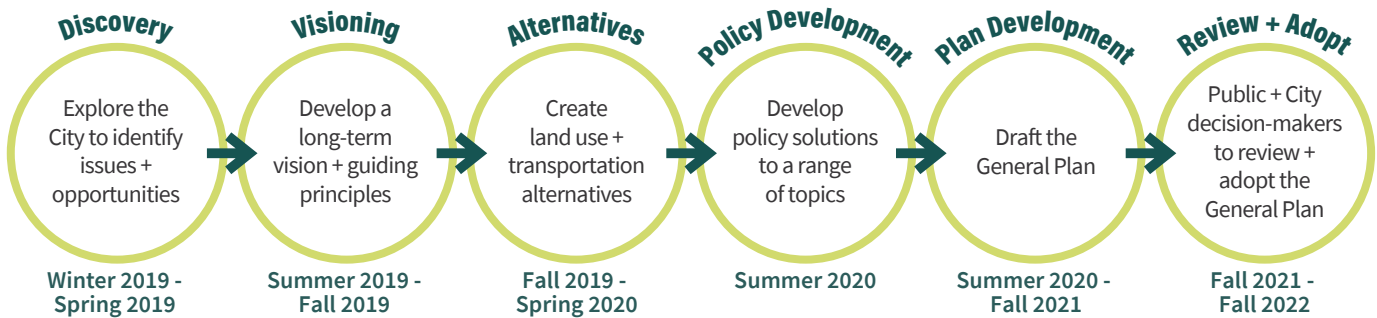
“The general plan is more than the legal underpinning for land use decisions; it is a vision about how a community will grow, reflecting community priorities and values while shaping the future.”

OPR GENERAL PLAN GUIDELINES (2017)



What are the steps in the update process?

The General Plan update process will take approximately three years to complete, starting in Winter 2019 and ending in the Summer 2022. The major steps in the process are as follows:



Community Engagement: Get Involved and Let Your Voice Be Heard

The City of Palmdale is committed to involving the community and ensuring that the content of the Palmdale General Plan will be guided by the residents of the City. The project presents a unique and important opportunity for community members to participate and share their ideas to guide the City's future. As such, engaging a diverse cross section of the community throughout the project will be critical to success. There will be many opportunities for community members to participate in the General Plan update process. These activities include:

- 1 Focus groups
- 2 Meetings with community groups
- 3 Online surveys
- 4 Community workshops
- 5 Community Forums
- 6 A General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC)
- 7 Planning Commission study sessions
- 8 City Council study sessions
- 9 An interactive project website
- 10 Community pop-up events

How do I find out more about the General Plan and stay informed?

- Visit the project website at Palmdale2045.org
- Sign up for the email list on the project website
- Contact the City's project manager, Carlene Saxton, Senior Planner, at generalplan@cityofpalmdale.org

Imagina PALMDALE 2045

¿Qué es un Plan General?

El Plan General actúa como guía principal de la Ciudad para la toma de decisiones sobre uso y desarrollo de terrenos y es una herramienta fundamental para mejorar e influir en la calidad de vida de los residentes y los negocios. Como tal, actúa como “modelo” para el futuro desarrollo y conservación de una comunidad. El Plan General ayudará a la Ciudad a planear problemas importantes de la comunidad, como el nuevo crecimiento, las necesidades de vivienda y la protección del medio ambiente, y sentará las bases para el futuro desarrollo social, físico y económico de la Ciudad. Aborda cuestiones que afectan a toda la Ciudad, como la manera en que se utilizan los terrenos, dónde se construyen edificios y las ubicaciones de carreteras y parques.

Descripción del Plan General de Palmdale

La Ciudad de Palmdale está realizando una actualización integral de su Plan General por primera vez en más de 25 años. Este es el momento de planificar las próximas décadas y trazar un rumbo para el futuro de la Ciudad, lo cual incluye:

- Crear una visión para el crecimiento y el desarrollo, y mejorar la identidad general y la calidad de vida en Palmdale.
- Garantizar una distribución equitativa de servicios, bienes y comodidades en la Ciudad.
- Aprovechar las importantes inversiones en infraestructura, como el tren de alta velocidad y el aeropuerto.
- Abordar problemas del transporte como la congestión del tráfico, la red de bicicletas y el tránsito.
- Establecer planes ante emergencias naturales como terremotos e incendios forestales.
- Aumentar las oportunidades de ubicación de parques y zonas de espacios abiertos.
- Ampliar las oportunidades para que la Ciudad obtenga subsidios y otras fuentes de financiamiento para parques y mejoras en infraestructura.

¿Qué temas cubrirá el Plan General de Palmdale?

Las leyes estatales exigen que cada ciudad de California adopte y mantenga un Plan General “actualizado” y que aborde temas centrales específicos. La Actualización del Plan General de Palmdale abarcará estos requisitos, pero abordará también otros elementos que son importantes para la comunidad. Los temas incluirán el uso de terrenos, el diseño comunitario, la movilidad, la vivienda, la equidad, la resiliencia y la salud de las comunidades, el desarrollo económico, la conservación y los espacios abiertos, los parques y la recreación, los recursos históricos y culturales, las instalaciones e infraestructuras públicas, el ruido, la calidad del aire, la sostenibilidad, la seguridad, la preparación militar y la implementación.

El plan general es más que el fundamento legal para las decisiones de uso de terrenos; es una visión sobre cómo crecerá una comunidad, que refleja las prioridades y los valores de la comunidad y a la vez le da forma al futuro.

OPR GENERAL PLAN GUIDELINES (2017)



¿Cuáles son los pasos del proceso de actualización?

El proceso de actualización del Plan General durará aproximadamente tres años, comenzando en invierno de 2019 y finalizando en verano de 2022. Los pasos principales del proceso son los siguientes:



Participación de la comunidad: involúcrese y haga escuchar su voz

La Ciudad de Palmdale tiene el compromiso de involucrar a la comunidad y de garantizar que el contenido del Plan General de Palmdale sea guiado por los residentes de la Ciudad. El proyecto presenta una oportunidad única e importante para que los miembros de la comunidad participen y compartan sus ideas para guiar el futuro de la Ciudad. Por lo tanto, involucrar a una sección transversal diversa de la comunidad durante todo el proyecto será fundamental para lograr el éxito. Los miembros de la comunidad tendrán numerosas oportunidades de participar en el proceso de actualización del Plan General. Estas actividades incluyen:

- 1 Grupos focales
- 2 Reuniones con grupos comunitarios
- 3 Encuestas en línea
- 4 Talleres comunitarios
- 5 Foros comunitarios
- 6 Un Comité Asesor del Plan General (GPAC)
- 7 Sesiones de estudio de la Comisión de Planificación
- 8 Sesiones de estudio del Ayuntamiento
- 9 Un sitio web interactivo del proyecto
- 10 Eventos informales de la comunidad

¿Cómo puedo saber más sobre el Plan General y mantenerme informado?

- Visite el sitio web del proyecto ingresando en Palmdale2045.org
- Inscríbase en la lista de correo electrónico en el sitio web del proyecto
- Comuníquese con Carlene Saxton, gerente de proyectos de la Ciudad, escribiendo a la dirección generalplan@cityofpalmdale.org

PALMDALE AT-A-GLANCE

DEMOGRAPHIC

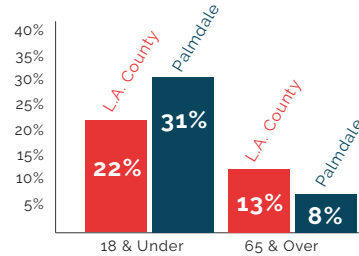
TOTAL POPULATION

 **157,356** people in Palmdale
2% of L.A. County

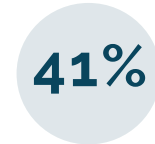
TOTAL LAND

106 sq miles Palmdale
2.6% of L.A. County

AGE OF POPULATION



LANGUAGE



Speak a language other than English at home in Palmdale

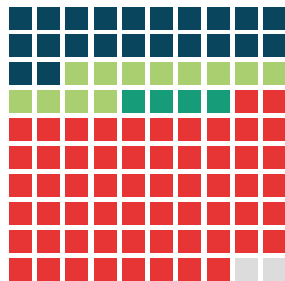
ORIGIN



Foreign born living in Palmdale

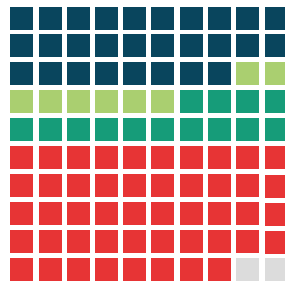
RACE / ETHNICITY

Palmdale



- White (22%)
- Black (12%)
- Asian or Pacific Islander (4%)
- Native American (0.4%)
- Hispanic/Latino (58%)
- Other (2%)

L.A. County



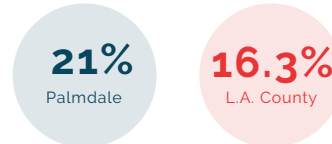
- White (26%)
- Black (8%)
- Asian or Pacific Islander (14%)
- Native American (0.2%)
- Hispanic/Latino (48%)
- Other (2%)

INCOME + POVERTY

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME

Palmdale **\$52,801** L.A. County **\$57,952**

% IN POVERTY



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

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

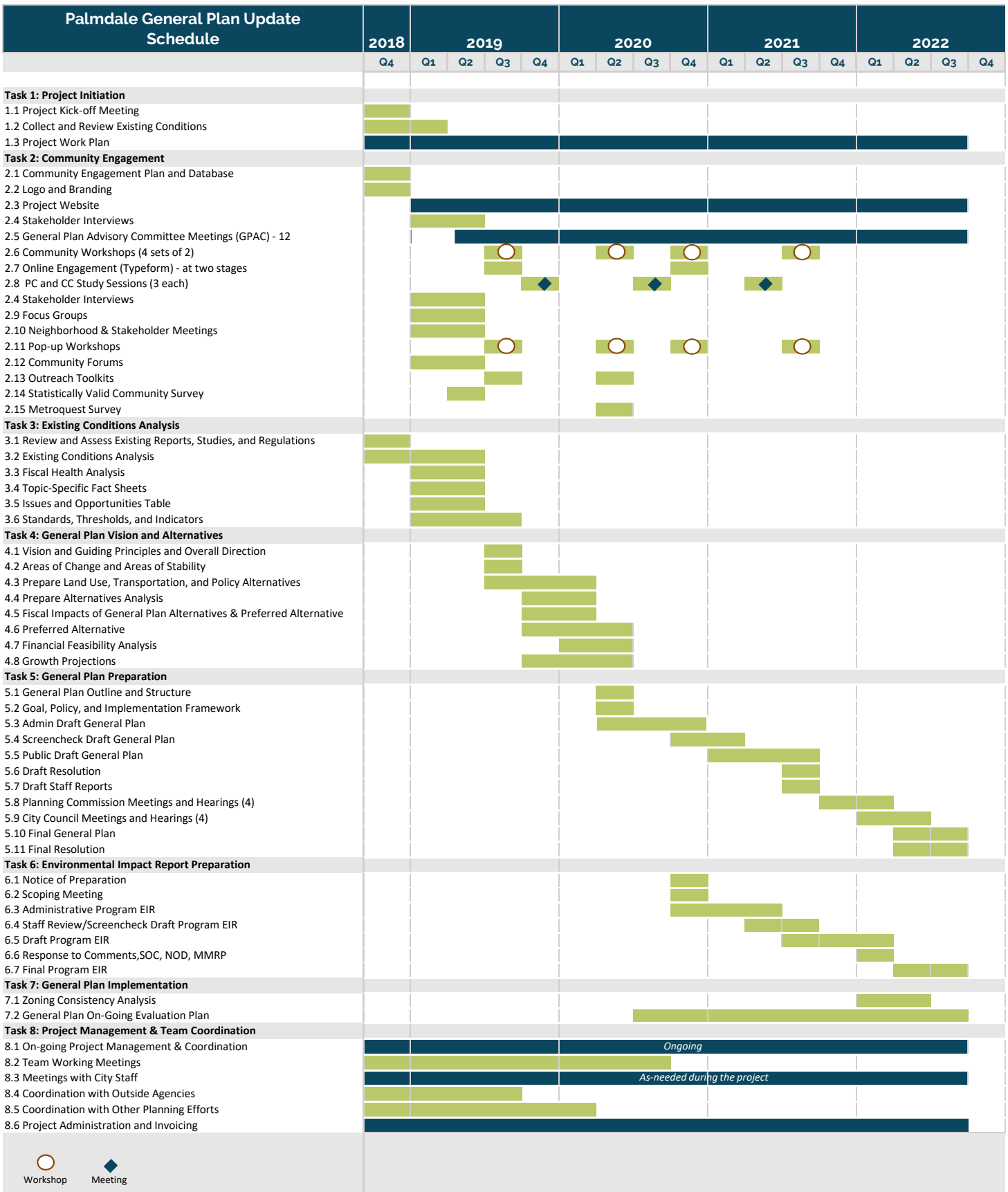
RENTER-OCCUPIED HOUSING



Palmdale
36.6% rent **63.4%** own

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

City of Palmdale General Plan Update and PEIR

Project Schedule



 Workshop
  Meeting

STATE OF
CALIFORNIA

2017

General Plan Guidelines

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF
PLANNING AND RESEARCH

INTRODUCTION



Introduction

Planning Healthy, Equitable, Resilient, and Economically Vibrant Places

“By far the greatest and most admirable form of wisdom is that needed to plan and beautify cities and human communities.”

—Socrates

The general plan is more than the legal underpinning for land use decisions; it is a vision about how a community will grow, reflecting community priorities and values while shaping the future. To assist local governments in preparing general plans and the public in participating in that process, the [Governor’s Office of Planning and Research \(OPR\)](#) periodically revises guidelines for the preparation and content of local general plans ([Gov. Code § 65040.2](#)).

This 2017 edition of the General Plan Guidelines (GPG) contains significant changes to the 2003 General Plan Guidelines. For mandatory and common optional elements of the general plan, the GPG sets out each statutory requirement in detail, provides OPR recommended policy language, and includes online links to city and county general plans that have adopted similar policies. Each chapter contains a sample selection of policies. Users can also click the links provided for more detailed policies and plans. All of the referenced policies as well as additional policies are compiled in [Appendix A](#). For ease of use, the new GPG is text-searchable, and provides sample policy language for local governments to use or adapt. The update contains new resources and templates for cities and counties to use in considering themes, structures, and policies for their general plans, including new compendiums on [infill development](#), [renewable energy](#), and [mitigation for conversion of agricultural land](#). As more resources and data sources become available, they will be added and linked to these General Plan Guidelines. The new online platform will allow OPR to add updated text, links, and information directly to the GPG, and announce any additions through the GPG listserv and on the OPR website. The GPG is a resource to help planners accomplish their respective community’s priorities and vision while meeting larger state goals, increasing community collaboration, and potentially improving competitiveness for funding opportunities.

As of 2015, more than half of local jurisdictions have general plans that are over 15 years old. Often, this is because the process of adopting a general plan has become too time-consuming and costly. In order to streamline the process and reduce costs, this comprehensive update of OPR’s GPG provides free online tools and resources, promotes increased use of online data, and includes templates, sample policies, and links to more information. The [General Plan Mapping Tool](#) draws data sets from multiple sources, allowing users to incorporate local, regional, and statewide data into local general plans. Local jurisdictions may pull from and modify provided policies and templates, analyze consistent data through the tool, and craft general plans at a lower cost and with less uncertainty. These new resources will increase efficiencies in the development of general plan updates

NEW in the 2017 General Plan Guidelines suite of tools:

- Updated and expanded sections on [visioning](#) and [community engagement](#)
- New sections on [healthy communities](#), [equitable and resilient communities](#), [economic development](#), and [climate change](#)
- [GPG Mapping Tool](#), enabling free, easy access to helpful data for cities and counties
- Links to additional online tools and resources
- Recommended policies in cut and paste format, with examples of adopted policy language
- Reformatted sections on the mandatory elements, including a new section on environmental justice
- Expanded equity and environmental justice section
- [Infill compendium](#)
- [Renewable energy compendium](#)
- [Model template for mitigation of agricultural land conversion](#)

for communities of all sizes throughout the state.

The term “element” refers to the topics that California law requires to be covered in a general plan ([Gov. Code § 65302](#)). There is no mandatory structure or maximum number of elements that a general plan must include. Once added into the general plan, each element, regardless of statutory requirement, assumes the same legal standing, and must be consistent with other elements ([Gov. Code § 65300.5](#)). The general plan is the perfect space for innovation, reflecting the unique character of each community. The format and content of general plans can vary between jurisdictions. Planners must address

Figure 1: Examples of General Plan Layout



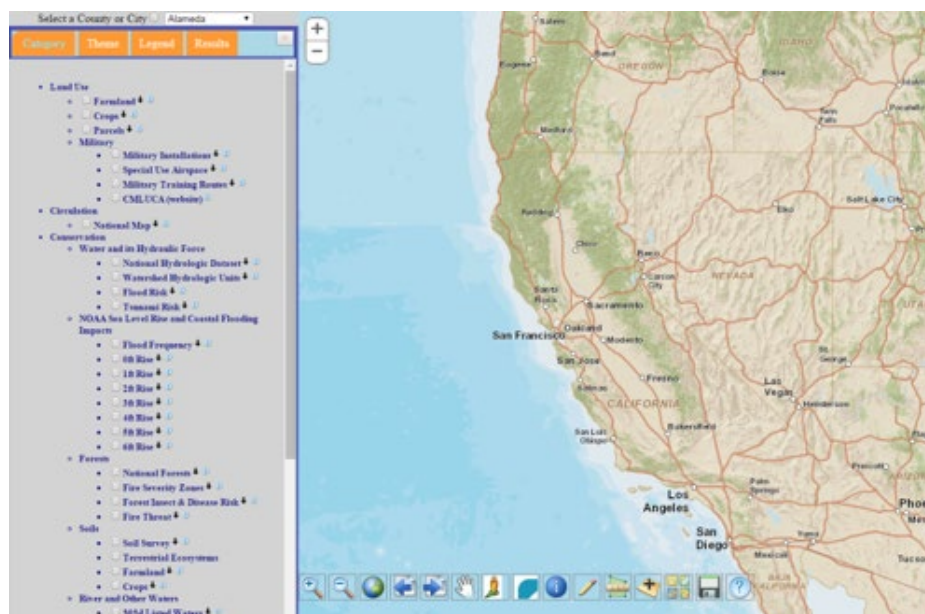
1

mandatory elements, but they have discretion to organize general plans by values (core concepts that the community wants to enhance or uphold), themes (overarching issues identified by the community as important), challenges or goals identified through community engagement, or even by the elements themselves. Cities and counties may create new models of organizing their general plans, based on the needs and priorities identified during public engagement. [Riverside County](#), for example, included a healthy communities element in its general plan update. The [City of Fullerton](#) structured its general plan around four focus areas, identified through community engagement, and addressed all of the elements through those focus areas. The [City of Sacramento](#) framed its general plan around sustainability and livable communities, and focused each of the required elements – as well as additional elements – around those goals. The [County of Marin](#) created a separate, easy to read summary of its 2007 countywide plan, featuring model strategies and metrics related to climate change, social equity, and other themes. OPR designed the GPG to assist every city and county in accordance with its local jurisdiction’s unique vision, using whatever structure best achieves the goals of the community.

The 2017 GPG update includes a free [General Plan Mapping Tool](#). The tool incorporates the requirements for the mandatory elements as well as themes and provides Geographic Information Systems (GIS) resources for city and county planners to use when drafting a general plan.

The tool provides access to data (varying as available from county, city, and parcel–level information) to help inform decision–making processes and enhance public participation. The mapping tool uses a platform specifically designed for general plans.

Figure 2: The General Plan Mapping Tool



Recommendations and Sample Language

OPR has included recommendations and sample policy language to provide cities and counties with information, data, examples, and ideas to consider in their general plan. These recommendations may not fit the needs of every city and county or every circumstance. Rather, these recommendations represent a toolbox of options, allowing jurisdictions to use them as they are, modify them as appropriate within statutory requirements, or consider them as examples to inform their own policies.

According to state law,

“Decisions involving the future growth of the state, most of which are made and will continue to be made at the local level, should be guided by an effective planning process, including the local general plan, and should proceed within the framework of officially approved statewide goals and policies directed to land use, population growth and distribution, development, open space, resource preservation and utilization, air and water quality, and other related physical, social and economic development factors.” ([Gov Code § 65030.1](#))

The following text box describes the statutory state planning priorities of the [Governor’s Office of Planning and Research Environmental Goals and Policy Report](#), as they appear in [Government Code section 65041.1](#). The GPG aims to help achieve goals consistent with both documents by recommending practices and policies for cities and counties to incorporate locally.

STATE PLANNING PRIORITIES

California Government Code section 65041.1

The state planning priorities, which are intended to promote equity, strengthen the economy, protect the environment, and promote public health and safety in the state, including in urban, suburban, and rural communities, shall be as follows:

- (a) To promote infill development and equity by rehabilitating, maintaining, and improving existing infrastructure that supports infill development and appropriate reuse and redevelopment of previously developed, underutilized land that is presently served by transit, streets, water, sewer, and other essential services, particularly in underserved areas, and to preserving cultural and historic resources.
- (b) To protect environmental and agricultural resources by protecting, preserving, and enhancing the state’s most valuable natural resources, including working landscapes such as farm, range, and forest lands, natural lands such as wetlands, watersheds, wildlife habitats, and other wildlands, recreation lands such as parks, trails, greenbelts, and other open space, and landscapes with locally unique features and areas identified by the state as deserving special protection.
- (c) To encourage efficient development patterns by ensuring that any infrastructure associated with development, other than infill development, supports new development that does all of the following:
 - (1) Uses land efficiently.
 - (2) Is built adjacent to existing developed areas to the extent consistent with the priorities specified pursuant to subdivision (b).

-
- (3) Is located in an area appropriately planned for growth.
 - (4) Is served by adequate transportation and other essential utilities and services.
 - (5) Minimizes ongoing costs to taxpayers.

This GPG document is advisory. Nevertheless, courts periodically refer to the GPG to interpret planning law. For this reason, the GPG closely adheres to statute and current case law. It also relies upon commonly accepted principles of contemporary planning practice. The following words are used to indicate whether a particular subject in the GPG is mandatory, advisory, or permissive:

- (a) “Must” or “shall” identifies a mandatory statutory requirement that all public agencies are required to follow.
- (b) “Should” or “suggest(ed)” identifies guidance provided by OPR based on policy considerations contained in California’s planning laws.
- (c) “May” or “can (could)” identifies a permissive recommendation that is left fully to the discretion of the local governments involved.

OPR updated the GPG in coordination with a number of other tool, policy, and program update efforts to ensure references to external tools support the intent of the GPG. Some examples of these concurrent updates include the following:

- [AB 32 Scoping Plan Update](#)
- [Cal–Adapt](#)
- [California Climate Adaptation Planning Guide](#)
- [California Coastal Commission Local Coastal Plan guidance](#)
- [California State Energy Efficiency Collaborative GHG and climate tools](#)
- [General Plan Mapping Tool](#)
- [Safeguarding California Plan](#)
- [State Hazard Mitigation Plan](#)
- [SB 244\(2011\), SB 743\(2013\), SB 379\(2015\), SB 1000\(2016\)](#)
- [California Statewide Housing Assessment](#)
- [California State Wellness Plan](#)

-
- [California Strategic Growth Council](#)
 - [California Water Plan](#)
 - [CEQA Guidelines Update](#)
 - [Cool California and the Funding Wizard](#)
 - [Environmental Goals and Policy Report](#)

The GPG also includes new sections on [environmental justice](#), [healthy communities](#), [equity and resilience](#), [economic development](#), and [climate change](#); as well as compendiums on [infill development](#), [renewable energy](#), and [agricultural land conservation](#).

How to Use These Guidelines

The General Plan Guidelines are intended to be user friendly and practical for planners, decision makers, and the general public. The GPG and the [General Plan Mapping Tool](#) can be used to frame conversations around planning, evaluate data and identify priorities, research formats and policies from similar communities, and enhance capacity for fiscally constrained departments and organizations working to update general plans. Each chapter of the GPG lays out the requirements contained in statute, connections to other requirements, additional considerations, and related data and policies to consider. Each mandatory element also includes a completeness checklist to assist communities in meeting statutory requirements. Recognizing the vast diversity of California's communities in size, demographics, geography, economics, and resources, the GPG present examples in various jurisdictions whenever possible.

Statutory Requirements

This document provides textboxes containing the statutory language that creates a legal obligation to address each of the required elements in a general plan. These textboxes can be found in the chapters corresponding to each of the elements. The information following the statutory language contains OPR's recommendations for meeting the requirement. Each statutory reference is hyperlinked to the full text of the Government Code for easy access.

Requirement Description

This section includes considerations, resources, data, and other information for developing general plan policies. Many elements are interrelated, so tables in each requirement description section note linkages between elements. This section also includes additional information through hyperlinks, which lead to examples and resources.

Recommended Data

Each section also includes recommendations for data that jurisdictions may wish to use to examine and determine specific needs and policies. Tables identify the data according to the potential intent of analysis. Where the recommended data is available, tables provide direct links to the [General Plan Mapping Tool](#). As the GPG is reviewed and updated, additional data links will be added. Because the same data may be useful for multiple analytical purposes, some data link to multiple sections of the guidelines. The recommended data are not exhaustive but can serve as a starting point for considering the specific needs of a community and for identifying further information needed to help inform decisions related to those needs.

Parts of a General Plan

(for more detailed descriptions and examples, see [Appendix E](#))

Development Policy – a general plan statement that guides action, including goals and objectives, principles, policies, standards, and plan proposals.

Diagram – a graphic expression of a general plan’s development policies, particularly its plan proposals, which must be consistent with the general plan text ([Gov Code § 65300.5](#)).

Goal – a general expression of community values and direction, expressed as ends (not actions).

Objective – a specified end, condition, or state that is a measurable intermediate step toward attaining a goal.

Principle – an assumption, fundamental rule, or doctrine guiding general plan policies, proposals, standards, and implementation measures.

Policy – a specific statement that guides decision-making and helps implement a general plan’s vision.

Standards – a rule or measure establishing a level of quality or quantity that must be complied with or satisfied.

Plan Proposal – describes the development intended to take place in an area. Plan proposals are often expressed on the general plan diagram.

Implementation Measure – an action, procedure, program, or technique that carries out general plan policy. Each policy should have at least one corresponding implementation measure.

Recommended Policies

The government code directs OPR to provide land use policy advice. In order to do so, the GPG includes both general plan policy recommendations and links to external resources that provide policy guidance. Where possible, links are provided to the sample policies, case studies, and external reports.

Adopted state programs described in the draft [Environmental Goals and Policy Report](#) – an overview of the state’s environmental goals and the key steps needed to achieve them – provide the basis for many of the policy recommendations. OPR also examined current academic publications and conducted extensive outreach to local governments, community, and advocacy groups in building policy recommendations. Cross-cutting recommendations include consideration of [equity](#), [health](#), and [climate](#) issues within jurisdictions, communities, and regions. With thoughtful planning based on such considerations, California will foster a future that has a strong economy, thriving built and natural environments, and a healthy, prosperous citizenry.

GPG policy recommendations focus on four key themes.

1. [Climate Change](#): In California, climate change has been the subject of multiple Executive Orders and legislation. It is a high priority subject for any general plan update. [EO B-30-15](#) established [interim emissions reduction targets for 2030](#); [EO S-03-05](#) established long-term targets for 2020 and 2050; and [EO S-13-08](#) established climate change adaptation and resilience as

a priority. Further state goals include reduction of petroleum use by up to 50 percent by 2030, and an increase of renewable energy to 50 percent by 2030 through the [Clean Energy and Pollution Reduction Act of 2016](#). California has set greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction requirements in numerous sectors including land use and transportation planning (Assembly Bill 32, the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (Nunez), hereafter referred to as [AB 32](#); Senate Bill 375, the Sustainable Communities and Climate Protection Act of 2008 (Steinberg), hereafter referred to as [SB 375](#); Senate Bill 743, the Transit Oriented Development Act of 2013 (Steinberg), hereafter referred to as [SB 743](#)). The [AB 32 Scoping Plan](#) includes sections on local government and the importance of local action to help achieve statewide climate goals. Additionally, [the Safeguarding California Plan](#), [Cal-Adapt](#), [Climate Change Handbook for Regional Water Planning](#), and [the California Climate Adaptation Planning Guide](#) provide guidance for resilience and adaptation efforts. OPR's GPG recommendations focus on how the general plan can achieve GHG emissions reductions, increase resiliency to climate change impacts, and lead to healthier and more prosperous communities.

2. **Economics:** Policies related to all elements of the general plan greatly affect economic opportunity, development, and stability. Decisions regarding land use and circulation have direct and indirect fiscal implications for local economies, and, in turn, economies of urban and rural centers affect the health, climate, and equity of communities. As with all general plan topics, even if addressed in a separate section, economic development must link and integrate with other elements in order to be successful.
3. **Healthy Communities:** In 2012 the Governor issued [Executive Order B-19-12](#) and created the Governor's [Let's Get Healthy California Task Force](#). Chronic disease, such as obesity, diabetes, cancer, heart disease, and asthma affect quality of life and productivity. In addition, social, economic, and environmental factors where people live, work, and play affect their health and well-being. The Task Force identified the creation and expansion of healthy communities to be one of three major focus areas for the promotion of overall health improvement. Because

A general plan allows a community to envision its future growth and development



Image by Urban Advantage, Ferrell Madden Lewis

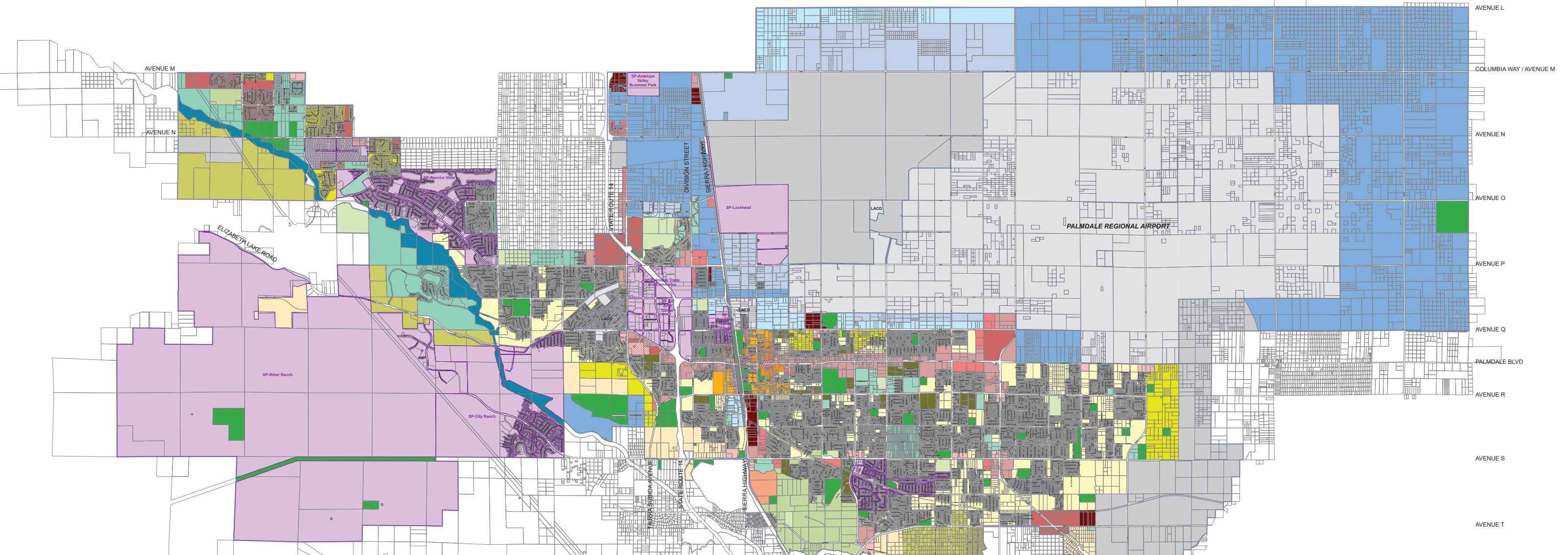
planning offers one important way to improve the community’s health, OPR offers recommendations for jurisdictions interested in incorporating health–supporting policies into their general plan.

4. **Equitable Opportunities:** Planning decisions affect the entire community, and the entire community must be allowed equal access to the public process ([Gov Code § 11135](#)). From determining proximity to localized noise or air pollution, to providing healthy grocery options, to creating access to employment and education opportunity, planning and policy affect everyone. Incorporating equity into all aspects of planning will ensure that residents of a city or county benefit from reduced GHG emissions, climate change adaptation policies, active transportation options, and healthy communities with access to economic opportunity for all. OPR’s recommendations for equity incorporate statutory requirements for environmental justice guidance ([Gov Code § 65040.12\(c\)](#)) into an expanded focus on equity throughout the general plan.

Additionally, based on statewide goals, the update includes model guides and best practices related to [infill development](#), [renewable energy](#), and [mitigation of agricultural land conversion](#).

Readers should note that the recommended policies are simply recommendations, intended to provide a starting point from which local governments can craft unique policies reflecting the priorities and circumstances of their communities. The GPG aims to create a suite of tools for communities to utilize in updating their general plans. By providing information, resources, and data on statutory requirements as well as non–statutory considerations relevant to planning, the GPG can help diverse community members work together towards a shared vision for their future growth.

90TH STREET WEST 80TH STREET WEST 70TH STREET WEST 60TH STREET WEST 50TH STREET WEST 40TH STREET WEST 30TH STREET WEST 20TH STREET WEST 10TH STREET WEST 10TH STREET EAST 20TH STREET EAST 30TH STREET EAST 40TH STREET EAST 50TH STREET EAST 60TH STREET EAST 70TH STREET EAST 80TH STREET EAST 90TH STREET EAST 100TH STREET EAST 110TH STREET EAST 120TH STREET EAST



CITY OF PALMDALE ZONING
ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL 12/14/94

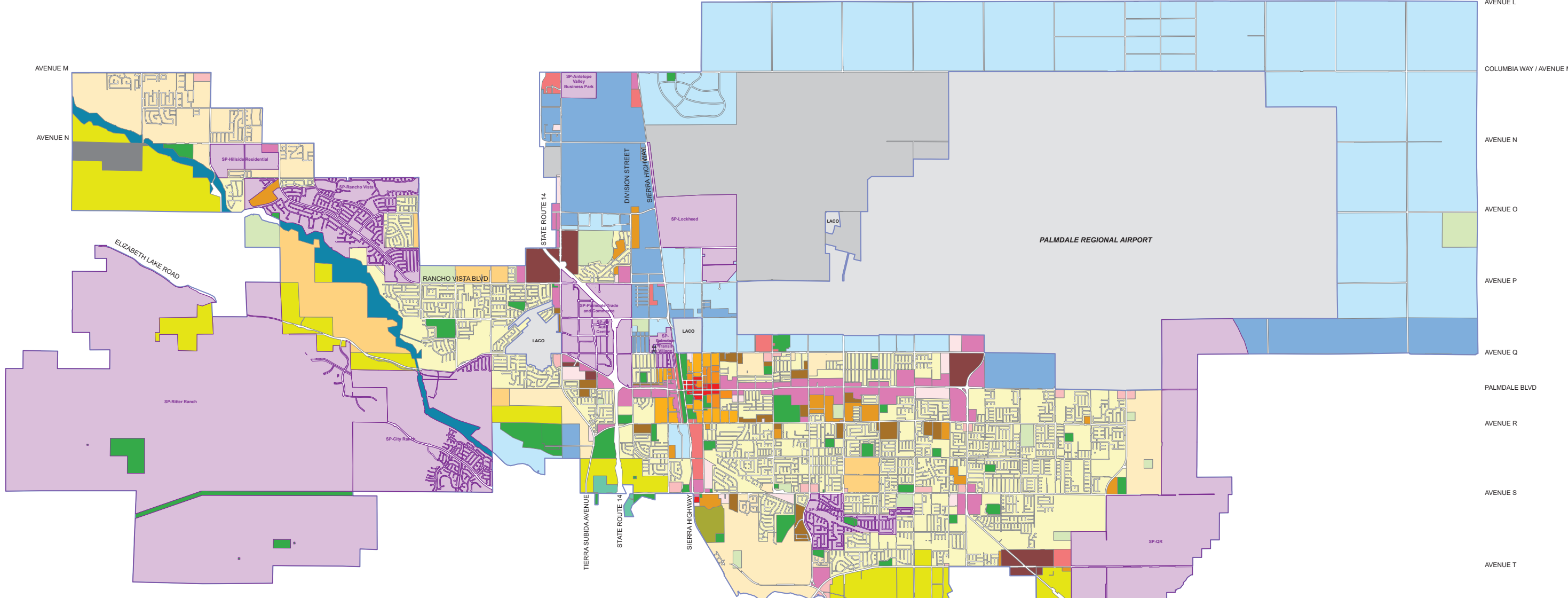
Data Source: Copyright 2016. All rights reserved. The City of Palmdale owns and licenses geographic data from a variety of sources. The information contained herein is the proprietary property of the following owners supplied under license and may not be reproduced except as licensed by those owners. City of Palmdale & Los Angeles County Assessor's Office.

Legend

<p>Commercial</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Light Commercial (C-1) Office Commercial (C-2) Mixed Use Overlay (C-2 MX) General Commercial (C-3) Commercial Center (C-4) Service Commercial (C-5) Downtown Commercial (C-D) Mixed Use Overlay (C-D MX) 	<p>Industrial</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Light Industrial (M-1) General Industrial (M-2) Airport Industrial (M-3) Planned Industrial (M-4) 	<p>Residential</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Single Family Residential (R-1-1) Single Family Residential (R-1-2.5) Single Family Residential (R-1-7,000) Single Family Residential (R-1-10,000) Single Family Residential (R-1-12,000) Single Family Residential (R-1-13,000) Single Family Residential (R-1-15,000) Single Family Residential (R-1-20,000) Medium Residential (R-2) Multiple Residential (R-3) High Density Residential (R-4-30) High Density Residential (R-4-50) Light Agriculture (A-1) 	<p>Other Zoning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open Space and Recreation (OR, OS) Public Facility (PF) Quarry and Reclamation (QR) Specific Plan (SP) California Aqueduct Other Jurisdiction LACO: Unincorporated LA County Pocket
--	---	--	--

DISCLAIMER: CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE
THE CITY OF PALMDALE HAS MADE EVERY EFFORT TO ENSURE THAT THIS MAP IS CORRECT; NEVERTHELESS, SOME INFORMATION MAY NOT BE ENTIRELY ACCURATE.
THE CITY OF PALMDALE ASSUMES NO LIABILITY FOR DAMAGES THAT MAY ARISE FROM THE USE OF INFORMATION RETRIEVED FROM THIS MAP. THE MAP AND ASSOCIATED DATA ARE PROVIDED WITHOUT WARRANTY OF ANY KIND, EITHER EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. THE PUBLIC SHOULD NOT MAKE BUSINESS OR PERSONAL DECISIONS BASED ON THE MAP BEFORE VALIDATING DATA WITH THE CITY OF PALMDALE OR OTHER LOCAL, COUNTY, STATE OR FEDERAL AGENCIES.

90TH STREET WEST 80TH STREET WEST 70TH STREET WEST 60TH STREET WEST 50TH STREET WEST 40TH STREET WEST 30TH STREET WEST 20TH STREET WEST 10TH STREET WEST 10TH STREET EAST 20TH STREET EAST 30TH STREET EAST 40TH STREET EAST 50TH STREET EAST 60TH STREET EAST 70TH STREET EAST 80TH STREET EAST 90TH STREET EAST 100TH STREET EAST 110TH STREET EAST 120TH STREET EAST



CITY OF PALMDALE GENERAL PLAN LAND USE

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL 1/25/93



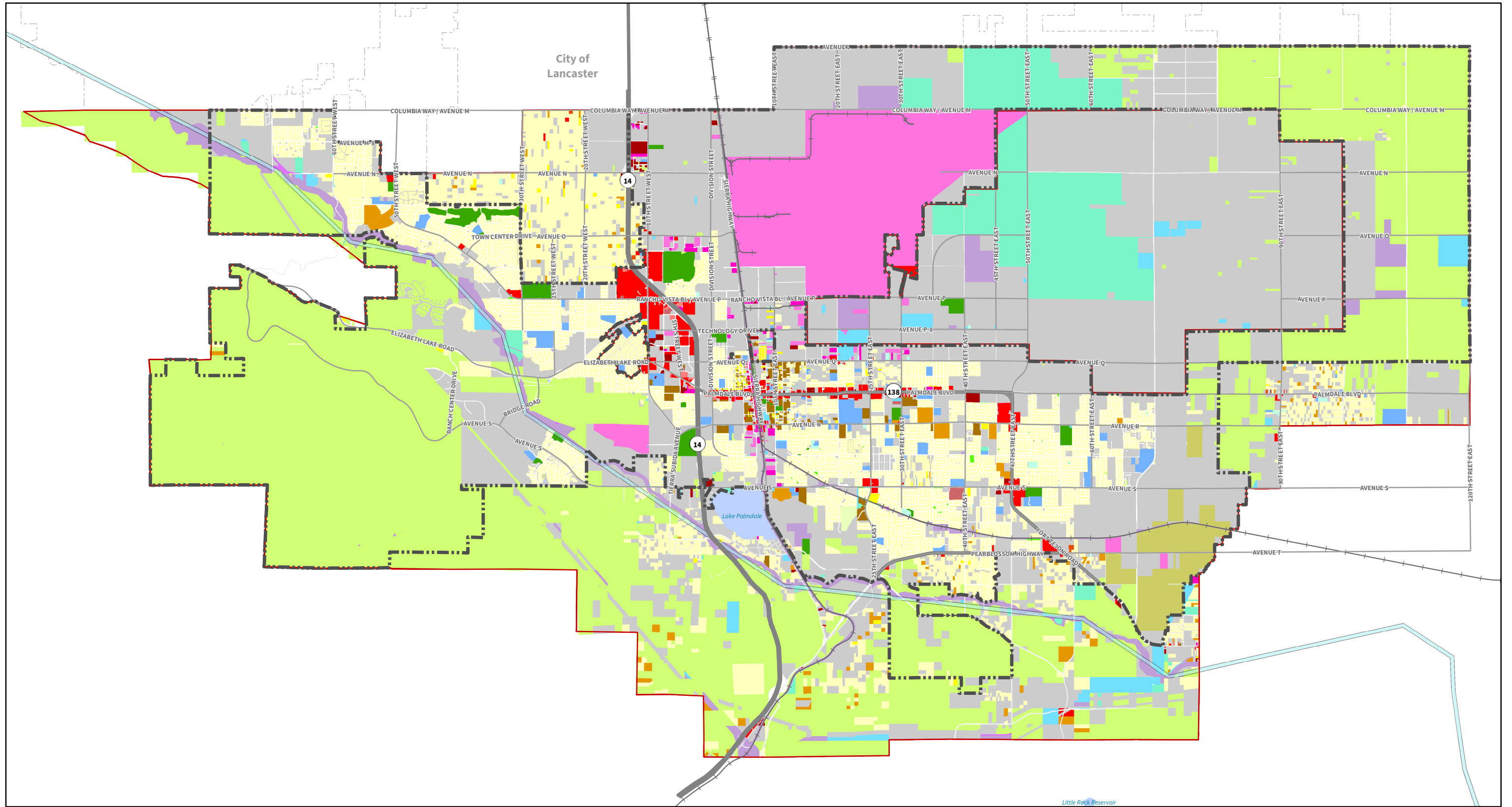
Legend		Commercial		Industrial		Residential		Other Land Use	
	Parcel		Neighborhood Commercial (NC)		Industrial (IND)		Equestrian Residential (ER)		Public Facility (PF)
	City of Palmdale		Office Commercial (OC)		Business Park (BP)		Low Density Residential (LDR)		Open Space (OS)
			Community Commercial (CC)		Airport and Related Uses (AR)		Single Family Residential (SFR-1)		Mineral Resource Extraction (MRE)
			Downtown Commercial (DC)				Single Family Residential (SFR-2)		Specific Plan (SP)
			Commercial Manufacturing (CM)				Single Family Residential (SFR-3)		California Aqueduct
			Regional Commercial (RC)						Other Jurisdiction
					Medium Residential (MR)				
					Multifamily Residential (MFR)				
					Medium High Density Residential (MHDR)				
					High Density Residential (HDR)				
					Special Development (SD)				



LACO: Unincorporated LA County Pocket

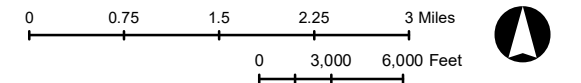
Data Source: Copyright 2012. All rights reserved. The City of Palmdale owns and licenses geographic data from a variety of sources. The information contained herein is the proprietary property of the following owners supplied under license and may not be reproduced except as licensed by those owners. City of Palmdale & Los Angeles County Assessor's Office.

DISCLAIMER: CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE
THE CITY OF PALMDALE HAS MADE EVERY EFFORT TO ENSURE THAT THIS MAP IS CORRECT; NEVERTHELESS, SOME INFORMATION MAY NOT BE ENTIRELY ACCURATE.
THE CITY OF PALMDALE ASSUMES NO LIABILITY FOR DAMAGES THAT MAY ARISE FROM THE USE OF INFORMATION RETRIEVED FROM THIS MAP. THE MAP AND ASSOCIATED DATA ARE PROVIDED WITHOUT WARRANTY OF ANY KIND, EITHER EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. THE PUBLIC SHOULD NOT MAKE BUSINESS OR PERSONAL DECISIONS BASED ON THE MAP BEFORE VALIDATING DATA WITH THE CITY OF PALMDALE OR OTHER LOCAL, COUNTY, STATE OR FEDERAL AGENCIES.



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	Hospitals	Cemeteries	Natural/Conservation	Open Space	Parks and Recreation	Water
---------------	---------------------	---------------------	------------------------	----------	------------	------	---------------	-----------------------	-----------	--------	-------------------	------------------------	------------------------	-------------	-------------	----------------	-------------------	------------	-----------------------	----------------	--------------------------	-------------	------------------	----------------------	-----------	------------	----------------------	------------	----------------------	-------



Data Sources: City of Palmdale GIS data; World Terrain Base, 2015 ESRI, USGS, NOAA.

Produced by Raimi + Associates
March 2019