



City of Palmdale General Plan Update General Plan Advisory Committee

Meeting #2: September 11, 2019 | 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm
Chimbole Cultural Center “Manzanita Ballroom”

Meeting Minutes (Final approved November 13, 2019)

Objectives

- Highlight key existing conditions
- Provide an overview of Workshop #1
- Present community priorities voiced through the survey + workshops
- Establish a draft vision and guiding principles for the General Plan Update

Attendees

GPAC Members

Present: Tony Avila, Juan Blanco, Colby Estes (Alternate), Lourdes T. Everett, Laura Gordon (Alternate), Theresa Hambro, Matthew Harris, Aurora Hernandez, Pat Hunt, Sheri Kaneshiro, Joe Parisio

Absent: Dean Henderson, Teresa Lamping, Deborah Rutkowski-Hines, Jason Zink

City Staff

Rob Bruce, Planning Manager - Department of Economic and Community Development
Nardy Lopez, Management Analyst - Department of Economic and Community Development

Consultant Team

Raimi + Associates – Simran Malhotra, Melissa Stark

Public

Four members of the public were present

Meeting Minutes

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence in memory of September 11, 2001.

Approval of GPAC #1 meeting minutes: Approved with one change – add mention of Mayor Steve Hofbauer’s introduction at the GPAC#1 meeting.

Motion made by Laura Gordon; seconded by Juan Blanco.

Existing Conditions Highlights

Simran Malhotra provided an overview of existing conditions and key highlights related to population demographics, education, health, housing, transportation, and employment, among others.

Workshop(s) #1 Overview

Melissa Stark provided an overview of Workshop #1 events, participation, and results. This included an overview of the first online community survey results.

Community Priorities

The consultant team posed four questions to the Committee. A summary of responses are as follows:

1. Which priorities resonate with you? Which ones do you think are missing or would you change?

- Sense of place or downtown
- High crime
- Transportation options
- Diversify industries to weather booms and busts
- Housing diversity
- Higher education opportunities
- Maintain youth population as they age
- Funding for parks
- Palmdale Boulevard

2. What should be preserved in the future?

- Unity and small-town feel
- Peacefulness
- Nature, trees, and night sky
- Good circulation
- Plant 42, Airport and Aerospace
- History
- Outdoor family activities

3. What should change in the future?

- East and West divide
- Job base/industry
- Airport
- Infrastructure
- Perception – promote positively
- Housing stock options

4. If you could prioritize the vision for Palmdale 2045 in one sentence, what would it be?

- Palmdale, A place to be proud to live
- Palmdale, A vibrant, thriving community

- A great place to live, work, and play
- Palmdale, a place of diversity
- We live here, and we love it (+ and work here)
- Palmdale is always bright – where the sun always shines
- Palmdale, state of the art living
- Small town with a big heart
- Youth, small town, tight-knit community
- Sunshine and twinkling lights
- Unity + diversity – everyone is nice here and works together to fix things

Public Comment

Two members of the public shared comments. Their comments are summarized below.

- Planned Town Center near the High-Speed Rail station will result in a great number of people being displaced from their homes. Those people should be given adequate compensation for homes and time lost.
- The Eastside has a concentration of poverty and some of the highest health disparities in the country. This area has high crime rates and concentration of liquor and tobacco outlets. Plan better and don't concentrate alcohol and tobacco in certain areas.
- Beautify Palmdale Boulevard.
- Joshua trees are disappearing on Avenue P.
- Youth are not invited to come to the table and be part of planning for the future.
- Youth are accessing alcohol at Palmdale establishments; strengthen regulations or monitoring.
- Safe Routes to School (SR2S) are needed at Palmdale middle schools and high schools.

Wrap-up and Next Steps

Dean Henderson, a member of the GPAC, has been appointed to the Planning Commission. He will be therefore resigning from the Committee. Laura Gordon (Alternate #1) will take his place.

Next GPAC meeting is scheduled for November 13, 2019.

Adjourn at 8:30 pm