City of Palmdale General Plan Update
General Plan Advisory Committee
Meeting #4: December 11, 2019 | 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm
Chimbole Cultural Center "Lilac Room"

Agenda

Meeting Objectives
- Refine General Plan Vision and Guiding Principles
- Present overview of housing existing conditions
- Discuss potential areas of change and stability in Palmdale

Meeting Agenda

6:30 pm　　　**Call to Order**

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Approval of GPAC #3 Meeting minutes

6:35 pm　　　**Refine Draft Guiding Principles and Vision Statement**

6:50 pm　　　**Housing Existing Conditions**

- State of housing in Palmdale today
- High-level overview of recent housing related legislation
- High-level overview of Housing Element
- Understanding density/intensity

7:20 pm　　　**Housing Discussion**

- *How do these conditions relate to quality of life, prosperity, etc.?*

7:50 pm　　　**Areas of Growth and Stability**

- *What areas of the City should be preserved?*
- *Where should new development go?*
- *Are there any areas that should be reserved for future development?*

8:25 pm　　　**Public Comment (maximum of 2 minutes per person)**

8:30 pm　　　**Wrap-up + Adjourn**

Attachment:
Draft meeting minutes from GPAC #3 Meeting, November 13, 2019

Envision PALMDALE 2045 *a complete community*

Draft Meeting Minutes

Objectives

- Provide an overview of Phase One community engagement
- Provide Planning 101 background
- Finalize vision and prioritize guiding principles for the General Plan Update

Attendees

GPAC Members
Present: Tony Avila, Juan Blanco, Colby Estes (Alternate), Laura Gordon, Theresa Hambro, Matthew Harris, Pat Hunt, Joe Parisio, Teresa Lamping, Deborah Rutkowski-Hines, Jason Zink

Absent: Lourdes T. Everett, Aurora Hernandez, Sheri Kaneshiro

City Staff
Rob Bruce, Planning Manager - Department of Economic and Community Development
Carlene Saxton, Senior Planner - Department of Economic and Community Development

Consultant Team
Raimi + Associates –Simran Malhotra, Melissa Stark

Public
Four members of the public attended

Meeting Minutes

Call to Order

- Pledge of Allegiance.
- Approval of GPAC #2 Meeting minutes. Motion made by Juan Blanco, seconded by Matthew Harris.

Planning 101 (City Staff-led)

- Carlene Saxton provided an overview of a General Plan, land use approvals, zoning, specific plans, and Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA).

Pop-up Workshops Overview

- Melissa Stark gave an overview of Phase One community engagement including stakeholder interviews, workshop #1, community survey #1, five pop-up workshops, and results from previous GPAC meetings. Next, Simran Malhotra provided a composite summary of the vision, priorities and

opportunities from all meetings and how they relate to the General Plan guiding principles and vision themes.

Vision + Guiding Principles Discussion and Prioritization

- Simran Malhotra introduced draft vision themes and guiding principles crafted from public input and provided context for how they are implemented through the General Plan. Then, participants were divided into three groups each with one General Plan Team facilitator to further discuss and edit the draft vision and guiding principles memo. Groups worked for 45-minutes, then reported back to the larger group for further discussion. A summary of edits is provided below. Detailed changes made to the draft vision and guiding principles memo is attached.

  o Homelessness needs to be addressed
  o Entry or mid-level jobs should be added
  o Diversity needs to be addressed
  o Maintain semi or semi-rural environment
  o Include pride, unity, outward expression of a positive community
  o High quality businesses
  o Better connected trails, open space, neighborhoods and parks
  o Access to healthcare
  o Beautify/improve Palmdale Boulevard
  o Sustainable businesses including private aerospace
  o Smart city – technologically advanced
  o Neighborhood services within walking distance from housing
  o Maintain high quality air

Additional Discussion

- 1993 General Plan applicability
- General Plan examples from cities of Lancaster and Santa Clarita
- Existing and future city utilities including septic tanks

Public Comment

- Four members of the public were present. One shared feedback, which is below.
  o Additional medical services and facilities are needed in Palmdale. Many Palmdale residents go into the Los Angeles basin to receive medical care.

Wrap-up and Next Steps

- Upcoming Meetings:
  o Next GPAC meeting - December 11, 2019
  o Planning Commission Update – December 12, 2019
  o City Council Update – December 17, 2019

8:30 pm   **Adjourn**

Attachment: Redlined Vision and Guiding Principles document

City of Palmdale General Plan Update
Draft General Plan Vision and Guiding Principles
December 5, 2019

Overview

Through stakeholder focus groups, community workshops, pop-up events, the first online community survey, and meetings with the General Plan Advisory Committee, we explored how individuals envision the future of Palmdale, what makes it unique and special, and what things residents and businesses would like to change. Building off that community input, this document summarizes a series of high-level visioning themes (green) and a list of guiding principles or community values organized under each of those themes. These visioning themes paint a picture of what Palmdale will be like in the future and capture key values and aspirations. These also provide direction on the development of the Draft Vision Statement. The guiding principles provide a framework to guide future decision-making and serve as a reference point when considering policy trade-offs. *After receiving input during GPAC meetings #3 and 4, Planning Commission and City Council study sessions, the vision statement, themes and guiding principles will be finalized. This redlined version reflects input received at GPAC#3.*

Draft Vision Statement

"Palmdale is a thriving, safe, socially and economically diverse community where people of all ages live and work in harmony. Palmdale offers affordable living, high quality jobs and educational opportunities in a beautiful desert setting."

Vision Themes

Vision Theme 1.   A unified and welcoming community *that we're proud to live in*

 a) Respect and promote diversity within Palmdale
 b) ~~Improve~~ Promote ~~City's~~ Palmdale's positive reputation in the region
 c) Boost community beautification
 d) Offer opportunities for youth to stay in Palmdale – jobs, housing, education
 e) ~~Form~~ Enhance partnerships with surrounding communities in the Antelope Valley

Vision Theme 2.   Active and vibrant downtown

 a) Create a vibrant and active downtown environment
 b) ~~Revitalize~~ Improve the appearance of Palmdale Boulevard
 c) Encourage and foster local businesses
 d) Provide space for community gathering and events
 e) Increase opportunities for entertainment and/or shopping
 f) Consider displacement issues

Vision Theme 3.   Safe, healthy place to live and work

a)   Improve neighborhood safety
b)   Address crime and safety concerns
c)   Improve access to quality healthcare services in Palmdale
d)   Improve access to parks and open space
c)e) Support local foster youth and those experiencing homelessness
d)f) Foster active living with improvements to pedestrian environment
e)g) Prioritize walking, biking, and access to local and regional transit
f)h) Promote living and working in Palmdale and reducing commute times

Vision Theme 4.   Diverse and high-quality job options

a)   Provide job training for Palmdale residents in key industries
b)   Match Connect residents with job opportunities in aerospace and other emerging sectors
c)   Encourage telecommuting within Palmdale
c)d) Promote diverse entry-level and mid-level jobs in Palmdale

Vision Theme 5.   Diverse and resilient local economy

a)   Retain and support aerospace industry presence in Palmdale
b)   Attract new sustainable employers and industries to Palmdale
c)   Maintain and enhance wireless technology and infrastructure in smart city technology in Palmdale to support local businesses and telecommuting
d)   Support local small businesses

Vision Theme 6.   Housing options for residents at different stages of life and ability

a)   Create and preserve affordable housing for residents of Palmdale
b)   Increase supply and diversity of housing to support different types of households including seniors, young adults, families, empty nesters, individuals or families with special needs, and multigenerational families
c)   Maintain city's quiet and safe neighborhoods
c)d) Maintain rural and semi-rural neighborhoods in Palmdale
d)e) Connect new development to public transit and open space or public parks

Vision Theme 7.   High quality and accessible educational opportunities

a)   Promote and expand higher educational opportunities in Palmdale
b)   Develop additional trade school training and apprentice programs
c)   Promote opportunities for high-quality childcare and early education
d)   Expand partnerships and programs with public schools, local government and major employers within Palmdale

Vision Theme 8.   Palmdale's beautiful natural setting

a)   Maintain safe and convenient access to open space and trails
a)b) Improve connectivity and beautify trails and open space
b)c) Expand and improve public parks and to meet the needs of current and future residents
c)d) Preserve existing mountain views
d)e) Preserve access to a dark night sky
e)f) Improve Maintain high air quality

Vision Theme 9.   Forefront of transportation innovations

a) Leverage transportation investments in Palmdale
b) Build on High Speed Rail opportunities
c) Bring air service to Palmdale Regional Airport
d) Improve local transit