Regional Workshop

September 17, 2025



Overview of LCI's Planning Activities



Guidelines & Technical Advisories

Update General Plan Guidelines

Develop Technical Advisories



Technical Assistance

Respond to Public Inquiries
Help Interpret Planning Laws
Review Proposed Legislation
Review Grants



External Partnerships

Interagency Working Groups
Review State Documents
Collaborative Research with
Academic Institutions



Local Government Reporting

Annual Progress Report
Annual Planning Survey

Planning & Land Use Activities





Agenda

- Welcome
- Presentation Overview of LCI Planning Guidelines Update
- Full Group Discussion (by Region)
- Small Group Discussion (by Community Type)
- Report Back
- Closing and Next Steps





Zoom Technical Logistics

Orient yourself to Zoom meeting controls







- Rename yourself to include your name and organization
 - On the Zoom in-meeting controls, click Participants 🚢 .
 - Hover your mouse over your name, then click the ellipsis *** .
 - Click Rename. A pop-up box will appear.
 - In the pop-up box, enter your display name.
 - · Click Change.
- This meeting will be recorded



Please take our demographic poll!

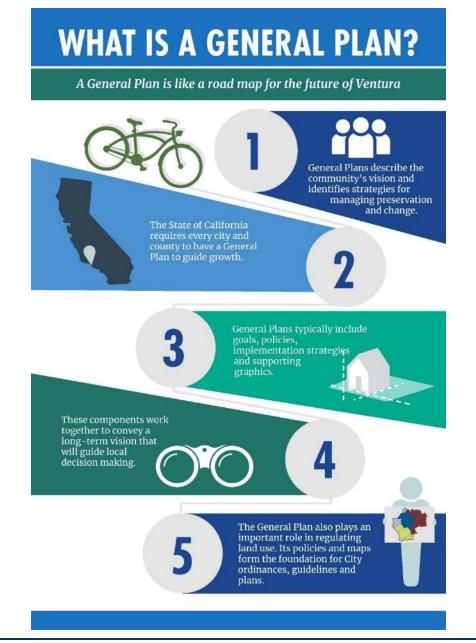


LCI Planning Guidelines Update Overview



General Plan Overview

- Long-term policy document to guide future actions
- Enables the community to come together to develop a shared vision for the next 25-30 years
- Preserves and enhances community strengths
- Addresses topics of concern







General Plan Elements

1. Land Use

6. Safety

2. Circulation

7. Noise

3. Housing

8. Environmental

4. Open Space

Justice *

5. Conservation

9. Air Quality **



Jurisdictions may add "optional" elements. Elements can be combined in any way.





Specific Plan Overview

- A comprehensive planning and zoning tool for a small area
- Establishes the vision and guiding principles
- Defines policy and development standards
- Strong focus on implementation
 - Regulations
 - Infrastructure needs
 - Costs





Tribal Consultation in Planning

- Government-to-government process designed to ensure that Native American tribes have a meaningful role in local land use decisions that affect them
- Helps local governments partner with tribal communities to better understand, avoid, and respectfully develop around tribal cultural resources.
- Required by SB 18 (2004) & AB 52 (2014)



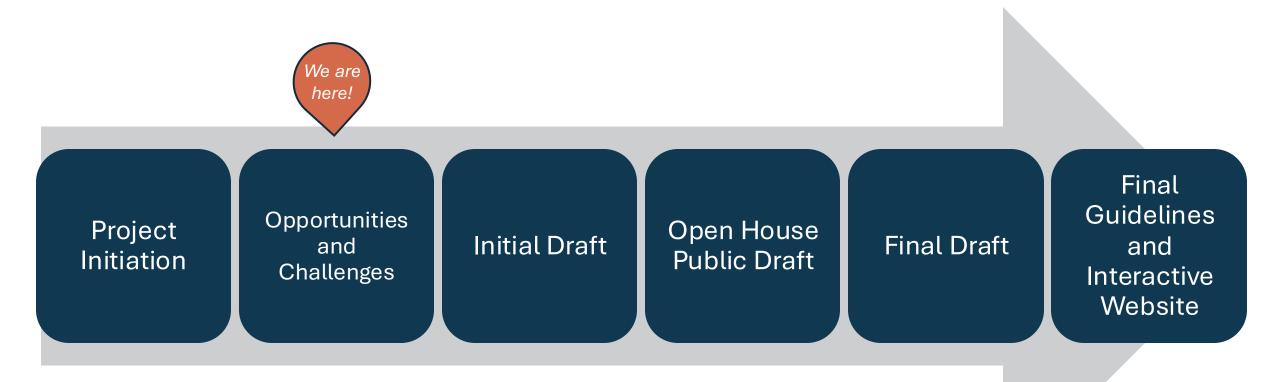


Why is LCI updating the Planning Guidelines?

- Documents are out of date; do not include 250+ new State laws
- Organization, presentation and usability/accessibility can be improved
- Legal requirements are not explicitly identified
- Focused on large jurisdictions and not reflective of California's diversity
- Lack of tools, data, methodologies and other "nuts and bolts" of planning
- Lack of detailed implementation strategies and tools
- Insufficient information on critical themes such as equity, health, and climate change



LCI Planning Guidelines Timeline



Spring 2025

Spring 2027



Planning Guidelines Updates Topics

- 9 Required Elements
- Additional Optional Elements
 - Historic Preservation
 - Water
 - Economic Development
 - Urban Design and Placemaking
 - Agriculture and Working Lands





Planning Guidelines Cross-Cutting Themes

- Community Engagement Position as a foundational principle, consolidate best practices, and tailor strategies for engaging diverse and priority communities.
- Health and Equity Consistently integrate across all elements with clear definitions, data tools, and actionable policies.
- Climate Treat as a cross-cutting issue (instead of a single chapter) with callouts and best practices linking climate to all General Plan elements.
- Tribal Knowledge
 - Elevate Tribal knowledge and stewardship practices in a way that values local tribal communities, honors knowledge, and respects reciprocity.
 - Provide guidance on Tribal consultation and co-stewardship opportunities within land use and climate strategies.



Who are we asking for input?

- Local and county government planners
- Consultants working with local governments
- Tribes
- Government agencies working on planning-related activities (MPOs, State agencies)
- Non-governmental organizations/advocacy groups
- Elected and appointed officials
- Individuals





Engagement Activities

- Project Launch Workshops (complete!)
- Informal Listening Sessions (complete!)
- State Interagency Advisory Group (meeting #1 complete!)
- Topic-specific Advisory Groups (meeting #1 complete!)
- In-person and virtual workshops



- Online surveys and feedback forms
- Tribal engagement
- Priority population engagement
- California APA Conference





Please take our planning background poll!



Full Group Discussion of Regions



Regional Discussion

- As discussion is happening, please add sticky notes to the Zoom whiteboard with your thoughts and ideas
- Try to capture your ideas on the whiteboard rather than chat; use chat if you are unable to capture ideas on the whiteboard







Whiteboard tools

Keyboard

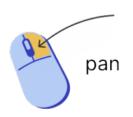
Use + and - as keyboard shortcuts to zoom in and out





Mouse

Use the scroll wheel to zoom Use right click to pan the canvas





Touchscreen or Trackpad

Pinch to zoom in and out Use two fingers to pan the canvas







zoom

pan

Want to add a post it note? Type "N" to add a post it note where your cursor is OR click the post it icon in the left toolbar to add them.

Agree with the content of a post it note? Select the post it note, click add emoji (🚭), and put a thumbs up (🎍).



Discussion Questions

- What is unique about your region from a planning perspective?
- What region-specific challenges do you face when preparing General Plan updates or Specific Plans?
- What gaps in guidance exist for your region when preparing General Plans and Specific Plans?



Breakout Room Discussion of Community Types



Community Type Breakout Rooms

- Choose your breakout room discussion:
 - "Urban-Suburban" OR "Rural-Suburban"
- Facilitators will guide you through the discussion questions
- Feedback should be provided on the Zoom whiteboard
 - Facilitators will share a Zoom whiteboard and provide instructions
 - As discussion is happening, please add sticky notes to the Zoom whiteboard with your thoughts and ideas
 - Try to capture your ideas on the whiteboard rather than chat; use chat if you are unable to capture ideas on the whiteboard



Discussion Questions

- What are the pressing priorities specific to "Urban-suburban" or "Rural-suburban" communities?
- What challenges have you faced and how have you addressed them when updating General Plans or Specific Plans in "Urban-suburban" or "Rural-suburban" communities?
- What type of support/guidance/tools would make long range planning easier in "Urban-suburban" or "Rural-suburban" communities?

Report Back

2-3 minute highlights from breakout room conversations



Next Steps



What's Next?

- Project Updates: Sign up with the QR code to receive project updates
- Tribal Engagement (forthcoming)
- APA Conference Sessions
 - Tuesday, Sept 30



Fill out the interest form to stay up to date on the project!





Questions?

Visit the project website for more information: planningupdate.lci.ca.gov/

Reach out to the LCI Planning Guidelines Update team (planningupdate@lci.ca.gov) with additional comments or any questions about the project!



Fill out the interest form to stay up to date on the project!



Thank you!

