

MEMORANDUM

DATE May 28, 2015

TO City of Westminster

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FROM Amanda Tropiano, Senior Associate
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SUBJECT Proposed Element Structure

PROJECT NUMBER CWE-11

General Element Structure

Through this General Plan Update, one of the City's objectives was to refine the organization of the General Plan structure and topics to be more streamlined and user friendly. As a result, we have made recommendations for new element titles, order, and content (listed below) that are consistent with the requirements of State Law. Moving forward, the General Plan will follow this structure (and therefore the existing goals, policies and implementation actions will need to be reorganized accordingly to match these topic areas).

The issues/topics listed below are intended to provide high-level guidance on the kinds of topics we anticipate addressing in each element (note: existing City "issues" are shown in standard font and new topics that could be covered in each element are shown in **BOLD**). When we begin developing policies, it is likely that some new topics will emerge and some topics we've identified might go away or get consolidated. We might not end up with a specific goal or policy for each topic we've identified; rather, these topics represent the range of ideas that will most likely be addressed in the proposed element. Before reviewing the existing elements' goals and policies, staff should become familiar with the proposed reorganization so that they can make informed recommendations on which element a goal or policy could be moved to.

In addition, the Office of Planning and Research, in collaboration with the California Planning Roundtable, is in the process of updating its General Plan Guidelines. These revised Guidelines may influence the required/recommended content of GP elements. A public review draft of the Guidelines is expected to be released sometime around summer 2015.

PROPOSED ELEMENTS

1. Land Use (required: Land Use)
2. Community Design
3. Economic Development
4. Housing (required: Housing)
5. Mobility (required: Circulation)
6. Parks and Recreation (required: Open Space)
7. Public Facilities, Services, and Natural Resources (required: Conservation)
8. Public Health and Safety (required: Safety and Noise)

1. Land Use

- + Land Use Designations
- + **Land Use Compatibility**
- + **Distribution of Land Uses**
- + Community Plan Areas (if still relevant)
- + **Nodes/Activity Centers**
- + **Focus Areas/Opportunity Areas/Strategic Areas (exact name TBD)**
- + **Revitalization**
- + **Mixed-Use (if created)**
- + **Unincorporated County Islands**

2. Community Design

- + Image and Identity
- + **Placemaking**
- + **Design Quality**
- + **Community Design Features (lighting, paving, signage, landscaping)**
- + **Gateways**
- + **Distinct and Identifiable Places**
- + **Streetscapes**
- + **Neighborhoods**
- + **Historic Resources**
- + Cultural Resources

3. Economic Development

- + Economic Vitality of the Community
- + Business Development Opportunities
- + Retail Sector Growth and Competitiveness
- + Employment Opportunities and Related Development
- + Fiscal Solvency and Growth
- + Jobs-Housing Balance
- + **Institutional Capacity**
- + **Regional Destinations**
- + **Local Destinations**

4. Housing (no change)

- + Development of Housing
- + Conservation of Housing Resources
- + Presentation of Existing Affordable Housing Stock
- + Improvement of Housing Opportunities and Accessibility

5. Mobility

- + **Local Roadway Network**
- + **Regional Connections**

- + Pedestrian Facilities
- + Bicycle Facilities
- + Public Transit
- + Parking
- + **Goods Movement (i.e., truck routes)**
- + Congestion Management
- + Inter-jurisdictional Consistency
- + Traffic Generation in Neighboring Jurisdictions
- + Freeway Crossings and Access
- + **Land Use and Transportation Planning**

6. Parks and Recreation

- + Provision (Quimby Requirement)
- + Location and Distribution
- + Design
- + Joint-Use
- + Safety, Maintenance, and Condition
- + Funding
- + Multiuse Paths
- + Recreation Programs
- + Community Events
- + Other Types of Open Space

7. Public Services, Facilities and Natural Resources

- + Education (schools, library, advanced education, adult education)
- + Police and Fire Services
- + Public Facilities Improvement Fees
- + Water and Wastewater
- + Sewer Facilities
- + **Solid Waste and Recycling**
- + **Biological Resources**
- + **Conservation (water, energy, natural resources)**

8. Public Health and Safety

- + Noise (mobile, stationary, and neighborhood noise sources and sensitive receptors)
- + Air Quality
- + **Climate Change**
- + Soils, Faulting, and Seismicity
- + **Fire Hazards**
- + Flooding and Inundation
- + **Hazardous Materials**
- + Emergency Preparedness