

City of Lomita  
Community Development Department



2012  
General Plan  
Annual Report

## Annual Progress Report on the Lomita General Plan and Housing Element Compliance

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Reporting Period: Year 2012  
(January 1, 2012 – December 31, 2012)

Government Code Section 65400(b) requires planning agencies to provide an annual report to their legislative body, the Office of Planning and Research (OPR) and the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) on the status of their General Plan and their progress in its implementation. The report must detail the progress in meeting the jurisdiction's share of regional housing needs and addresses efforts by the local agency to removing governmental constraints to the maintenance, improvement, and development of housing.

The purpose for the Annual Progress Report is to assess how the General Plan is being implemented in accordance with adopted goals, policies and implementation measures; identify any necessary adjustments or modifications to the General Plan as a means to improve local implementation; provide a clear correlation between land use decisions that have been made during the 12-month reporting period and the goals, policies and implementation measures contained in the General Plan; and, to provide information regarding local agency progress in meeting its share of regional housing needs.

The current Lomita General Plan was adopted by the Lomita City Council on May 4, 1998. The Lomita General Plan contains the seven state-required elements which are land use, circulation, housing, conservation, open space, safety and noise. The State allows the combining of elements or the addition of new elements as long as the required seven elements are present in some fashion. Lomita's General Plan contains the following elements:

<b>Element</b>	<b>Date of Last Comprehensive Revision</b>
Land Use: Land Use Element	May 4, 1998
Circulation: Circulation Element	May 4, 1998
Housing: Housing Element	January 18, 2011
Conservation: Resource Management Element	May 4, 1998
Safety: Safety Element	May 4, 1998
Noise: Noise Element	May 4, 1998
Open Space: Resource Management Element	May 4, 1998
Optional: Economic Development Element	May 4, 1998
Optional: Implementation Element	May 4, 1998

Local governments are required to keep their General Plans current and internally consistent. There is no specific requirement that a local government update its General Plan on a particular timeline, with the exception of the Housing Element, which is required to be updated every eight years as long as it receives certification from the State and is submitted within 120 of the planning cycle. If the City does not submit and certify its housing element on time then they are subject to a four year housing element cycle. On January 18, 2011, the City Council approved the 2008-2014 Housing Element which was subsequently certified by the State Housing and Community Development Department on March 23, 2011. The City has begun preparing the

2013-2021 Housing Element for submittal to the State Department of Housing and Community Development by October 2013.

The following represents the progress the City has made towards implementing the goals and guiding policies of the General Plan during the reporting period. The list is organized to correspond with the elements of the Lomita General Plan.

## **LAND USE: LAND USE ELEMENT**

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### **LAND USE GOALS AND POLICIES**

The following goals will be realized through the implementation of the policies and programs contained in the Land Use Element:

- To promote an orderly pattern of development in the City;
- To provide for a variety of housing opportunities;
- To promote the development of a wide range of commercial activities;
- To ensure a strong employment and commercial base to finance public improvements and services; and
- To provide for adequate public services and facilities.

To underscore the aforementioned objectives the following policies have been included in the Land Use Element:

- The City will promote the use of buffers and other development standards between more intensive land uses to protect established residential neighborhoods from noise, light and glare, and other adverse impacts typically associated with non-residential development.
- The City will strive to promote the provision of schools, parks and recreation areas to serve the residential neighborhoods.
- The City will promote the development of convenient and complete shopping facilities to serve the residential neighborhoods consistent with the City's economic development policy.
- The City will promote a healthy and congenial environment for shopping by striving to provide adequate parking, safe and efficient circulation and shopping district recognition.
- The City will promote the maintenance of a circulation system that protects the established residential neighborhoods.

- The City will strive to see that adequate public utilities and services are provided to protect the established residential neighborhoods.
- Commercial development and employment opportunities will be promoted to maintain a sound economic base and to stimulate investment in the City.
- The City will coordinate capital improvement projects to maintain a sound economic base and stimulate investment in the City.
- The City will work to protect and promote property values by promoting the more efficient use of underutilized properties and structures consistent with the City's economic development.
- The City will promote the improvement of aesthetic and visual qualities of the community by landscaping and beautifying streets and highways and by implementing development standards for private improvements.
- The City will promote the maintenance and expansion of cultural activities within the community, the library, the local museum, and special events, and by sponsoring various social events.
- To plan for the orderly future growth and development, the City will maintain the planning studies and surveys of the General Plan undertaken as part of its preparation and review and periodically update the General Plan, and other related plans and ordinances critical to the Land Use Element's implementation.
- The City will work to manage growth and development in the City consistent with historic development trends in the City.
- The City will promote a healthy and congenial environment for business, where properly zoned.
- The City may allow the opportunity for new mixed use development within key commercial districts.
- The City will promote the maintenance and preservation of activities that contribute to the City's economic and employment base.
- The City will strive to develop a pedestrian downtown that is economically viable and promotes a wide range of activities.

### *Amendments*

The Land Use Element can be amended a maximum of four times per calendar year. The Land Use Element of the Lomita General Plan was not amended during the reporting period.

**ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS**

During the last reporting period, there were three ordinance amendments listed below:

<b>Case Number</b>	<b>Request</b>	<b>Date Adopted</b>
ZTA 2012-01	Permitting a recorded covenant of easement	April 2, 2012
ZTA 2012-03	A ZTA modifying Article 56 (alcoholic beverages) to replace a condition of approval within the CUP.	November 19, 2012

**RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

The following are policies and objectives from the City’s Land Use Element:

- To provide for a variety of housing opportunities.
- To promote the development of a wide range of commercial activities.
- The City will promote a healthy and congenial environment for shopping by striving to provide adequate parking, safe and efficient circulation and shopping district recognition.

**RESIDENTIAL PROJECTS APPROVED/IN PROGRESS/FINALED DURING 2012**

<b>Case Number</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dwelling Unit(s)</b>	<b>Action</b>
Tentative Tract Map No: 71769	26035 Cypress St.	New single-family residences	16	PC Approved; in Map Review with LA County
Tentative Parcel Map No: 71504	2067 W. 240 <sup>th</sup> St	New single-family residences	2	Finaled 10/23/12
Tentative Tract Map No. 53874	25829-25837 Eshelman Avenue	Condo town home units (eight buildings, 2 units each)	16	10 Units Finaled 6 Active Building Permits
Site Plan No. 1136	2477 251st Street	New single family residence	1	Building Permits Issued
Admin Approval 2011-74	1948 257th	New single family residence	1	Finaled 6/5/12
Admin Approval 2011-160	2034 262 <sup>nd</sup> St.	New single family residence	1	Building Permits Issued
Second Unit No: 17	2078 240th St	New single family residence and a second unit	2	Finaled 8/21/12
Second Unit No: 18	1940 257th	New second unit	1	Finaled 6/5/12
Second Unit No: 19	2071 240th	New single family residence and a second unit	2	In Plan Check
Second Unit No: 20	2249 248 <sup>th</sup> St.	New second unit	1	In Plan Check
Second Unit No: 21	2316 246 <sup>th</sup> Place	New second unit	1	Building Permits Issued
Second Unit No: 22	2022 262 <sup>nd</sup> St.	New second unit	1	In Plan Check

**COMMERCIAL PROJECTS APPROVED/UNDER CONSTRUCTION/FINALED DURING 2012**

<b>Case Number</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Action</b>
Site Plan 1049	2244 Pacific Coast Highway	17,000 square foot, 2 story commercial building	Under Construction
Site Plan 1144	1879 Lomita Blvd.	576 sq. ft. detached garage for hotel manager	Under Construction

## **LAND USE: HOUSING ELEMENT**

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### **HOUSING ELEMENT**

On March 23, 2011, the 2008-2014 Housing Element was certified by the State Housing and Community Development Department (HCD). Having a certified element is beneficial because the City is eligible to apply for certain state housing grants/programs that require applicants to have certified and adopted housing elements in order to qualify. Having a certified Housing Element also provides legal protection against housing-related lawsuits when the City approves development projects.

#### Purpose of the Housing Element

The primary purpose of this Housing Element is to identify local housing needs and to identify measures necessary to mitigate and alleviate these needs and problems for all economic segments of the community. Another key objective of the Housing Element is to underscore the City's commitment to the State housing goal, as stated below:

- "The availability of housing is of vital statewide importance, and the early attainment of decent housing and a suitable living environment for every California family is a priority of the highest order." (Government Code, Section 65581)

The Government Code further articulates the Legislature's intent in enacting the most recent revisions to the housing element law:

- Local governments must prepare and implement housing elements that, along with Federal and State programs, will assist in the attainment of the State's housing goal;
- The individual locality is best capable of determining what efforts are required to contribute to the attainment of the state housing goal, provided that such a determination is compatible with the State's housing goals and regional housing needs; and,
- Any programs that focus on the improvement and development of housing must be designed for the housing needs of all economic segments of the community.

### **HOUSING ELEMENT GOALS AND POLICIES**

The following goals will be realized through the implementation of the policies and programs contained in the Housing Element:

Issue Area No. 1 - Housing Conservation. The City of Lomita will remain committed to those efforts designed to preserve and maintain the existing housing resources in the City, including affordable housing, with the implementation of the following policies.

Policy 1.1: The City will strive to promote the development and maintenance of an inventory of housing stock that provides a healthy and safe environment for all citizens of Lomita.

Policy 1.2: The City will work to protect the quality of the sound housing stock and rehabilitate

substandard dwelling units in the City.

Policy 1.3: The City will strive to correct blighted neighborhood conditions and encourage the upgrading of substandard housing units.

Issue Area No. 2 - Development of New Housing. The following Housing Element policies underscore the City's commitment in continuing assistance in the development of new housing for all income groups.

Policy 2.1: The City will strive to meet the needs of a socially and economically diverse population.

Policy 2.2: The City will encourage diversity of housing types, sizes, location, and costs in accordance with the City's land use policies and ordinances.

Policy 2.3: In compliance with State law, the City will provide priority for allocation of water and sewer services to affordable housing development proposals should such services become scarce in the future.

Issue Area No. 3 - Identification of Adequate Sites. The City of Lomita will remain committed to the identification of prospective development sites for a continued variety and diversity of new housing, as indicated by the following Housing Element policies.

Policy 3.1: The City will promote and encourage the use of flexible and innovative techniques of site and housing design within the framework of the Zoning Ordinance and Building Code.

Issue Area No. 4 - Equal Housing. The following policies indicate the City's desire to continue to promote equal housing opportunities in the City.

Policy 4.1: The City will continue to promote equal housing opportunity for all persons regardless of age, race, sex, marital status, ethnic background, and income levels.

Policy 4.2: The City will vigorously oppose prejudices, practices, and market behavior that results in housing discrimination.

Policy 4.3: The City will cooperate with other public agencies involved in the enforcement of laws aimed at promoting access to housing (fair housing laws) and non-discrimination.

Policy 4.4: The City will strive to make sure that the new residential development pays its own way in terms of infrastructure costs.

#### Annual Report on the Housing Element

Local governments are required to annually report on the progress of implementation of their general plans. Pursuant to Government Code Section 65400, local governments are required to submit copies of the progress report relating to the housing element to HCD and the Office of Planning and Research (OPR). HCD has adopted forms and definitions for local governments to



use when preparing the housing element portion of the annual general plan progress report. The full summary of the annual progress report on the housing element is contained in Attachment 1.

## **HOUSING PROGRAMS**

Table C lists 13 housing programs and their implementation status. The various housing programs are summarized below:

### Density Bonus Ordinance

On February 19, 2008, the City Council adopted an ordinance establishing provisions for density bonus. The State of California has a mandatory requirement that all Cities and Counties must adopt an ordinance that specifies developer incentives to construct affordable housing. In addition, it is the intent of the City of Lomita to match the needs of the City's current and projected workforce by providing a diverse mix of housing types to accommodate a broad range of life styles and all income segments of the community. With the passage of this Ordinance, and in accordance with Government Code Section 65915, qualified affordable housing projects will be granted a density bonus of at least 20 percent over the base density otherwise allowed, plus additional incentives, for the overall project. The density bonus percentage and number of additional incentives is determined by the targeted income group and the number of affordable units.

### Housing Rehabilitation Grant Program

The City's Housing Rehabilitation Grant Program is restricted to low income homeowners who meet the current HUD income guidelines. The units proposed for rehabilitation must be owner occupied. The maximum grant is \$4,000 to eligible low income mobilehome owners and \$7,000 to eligible low income homeowners. The funds are primarily used for the correction of building safety and health code violations and correction of hazardous structural conditions.

### Single Family Rehabilitation Loan Program

Lomita residents have access to the Single Family Rehabilitation Loan Program offered by the Los Angeles County Community Development Commission. This program assists low-income (80% AMI) owner-occupants of single-family or two-unit structures in need of rehabilitation. The CDBG program, pursuant to Federal regulations, can only benefit households with incomes not exceeding 80% of the County median. While the CDBG program calls these households "moderate" income, they are considered "low" income under the State Housing Element law. For purposes of this Housing Element, these households are called low income in this document. The maximum loan amount is \$25,000, at 3% simple interest rate, for one-unit properties and \$50,000 for two-unit properties. Two types of financing are available to borrowers: A deferred loan, which has a 10-year term with no monthly payments. Loans will be due and payable upon the sale, transfer, or refinancing of the property. The other loan option is an amortized loan which has a 15-year term with monthly payments.

### Code Enforcement

For a number of years, the City has implemented a code enforcement program that involves both building and zoning code violations. This program is implemented by responding to complaints and through field observations. On a continuing basis, the City conducts windshield surveys to

obtain information concerning the physical condition of individual units. The most common violations are generally zoning code violations involving property maintenance violations, converted garages, and inoperable vehicles. Violations involving structural features are not as common as zoning code violations.

#### Mobile Home Park Conservation Program

The City shall coordinate activities for possible purchase of mobile home parks by park residents. The City has assisted one mobile home park previously and will continue to offer this service to other interested mobile home parks in the City. The City will cooperate and provide administrative support to any mobile home park wishing to incorporate and purchase their park under the state regulations.

#### Low Income Housing Preservation

The City shall continue to work with local non-profit agencies and other entities to ensure the continued availability of affordable housing projects in the City. These include the preservation of the Harbor Hills Housing project, Lomita Manor, Lomita Kiwanis Gardens, and Grand View Mobile Home Park. The City shall work towards maintaining the rent restrictions in these projects by monitoring any changes in ownership and management.

#### General Plan and Zoning Provisions

In accordance with State law, the Lomita Housing Element is directed at accomplishing the following: "identify adequate sites which will be made available through appropriate zoning and development standards and with public services and facilities needed to facilitate and encourage the development of a variety of types of housing for all income groups..." Implementation of the Land Use Element and the City's Zoning Ordinance helps to assure a variety of housing types. The implementation of zoning and other land use controls ensure the compatibility of residential areas with surrounding uses. The City utilizes environmental and developmental review procedures to ensure that all new residential developments are provided with adequate open space, livable space, public facilities, and services. A number of programs in the Land Use Element promote recycling, redevelopment, and new development in the City.

Periodically, the City reviews the zoning and other ordinances to insure that the regulations reflect the Housing Element's goals and programs while maintaining desirable development standards. The City has also created a Mixed-Use Overlay on the commercial areas at the western portion of Lomita Boulevard and on Narbonne Avenue, from Pacific Coast Highway to the north. This Housing Element overlay will allow multi-family residential developments with commercial uses in the area via a conditional use permit process. To facilitate residential and mixed-use development in the Mixed Use Overlay, the City amended the Zoning Ordinance in September 2006 to establish specific development standards and procedures. The adopted ordinance offers the following incentives:

- A density of 22 units per acre, up from the previously permitted 17.4 units per acre;
- Shared/reduced parking; and
- Height increase to beyond 35 feet and two stories.

Further in 2011 the Council approved an Ordinance amendment which created these additional incentives:

- Permitted studio units no smaller than 500 square feet;
- Eliminated the two-story maximum height requirement while keeping the overall 35 foot maximum; and
- Reduced guest parking to 1 space for every 4 units and permitted 1 space for studio units.

To facilitate mixed use development, the City will promote the Mixed Use Overlay to developers locally and in the region by sending information on the ordinance and incentives to a list of developers including those who develop housing affordable to moderate and lower income households, and posting the Mixed Use ordinance on the web. In addition, the City will maintain an inventory of vacant and underutilized sites and offer the sites information to interested developers. For projects involving housing affordable to moderate and lower income households, the City will offer additional incentives such as waiver of the housing tax, expedited processing, and flexible development standards such as shared parking as appropriate. The City will monitor the effectiveness of this program on an annual basis and make modifications to the ordinance based upon this analysis.

#### Second Units/Granny Flats Program

Consistent with State law, the City allows second units in single-family residential zones. Such units must meet certain development criteria. The implementation of the second unit ordinance will also increase the number of units on the City's over 4,000 single-family residential lots.

#### Zoning and Other Incentives

The City shall continue to provide incentives to zoning regulations to promote and encourage the provision of a variety of affordable housing types. The City shall provide density bonuses for low-income housing projects, in accordance with the State's Density Bonus Law. As part of the density bonus incentives, the City will consider the following:

- Height variance;
- Waiver of construction tax for affordable units;
- Shared parking if constructed in the Mixed Use Overlay district; and
- Use of State-established parking standards and other regulatory concessions pursuant to the Density Bonus law.

In addition, the City will offer the following assistance to facilitate affordable housing development:

- Identification of potential sites;
- Pre-application consultation and technical assistance;
- Waiver of the Housing Tax;
- Expedited processing; and
- Letter of support for funding applications if proposed project is consistent with the City's General Plan

#### First Time Homebuyers Programs

Residents of Lomita can obtain first-time homebuyer assistance through the Los Angeles County Community Development Commission. Three programs are offered by the County:

#### Home Ownership Program

The Home Ownership Program (HOP) provides loans up to \$60,000 or 20% of the purchase

price, which ever is less. This program will provide a 2nd Trust Deed loan at 0% interest with all payments deferred until sale, transfer, refinancing, no longer owner-occupied, or full repayment of the first mortgage. As of January 2011, eligible properties are single-family homes, attached/detached condominium units, or townhomes with a maximum purchase price of \$362,790. The borrower must contribute a minimum of 1% of the down payment. Also, the borrower must be a first-time homebuyer, must not exceed 80% of the median household income for Los Angeles County, and complete an eight-hour education course in homeownership by a HUD-approved counseling agency.

#### Mortgage Credit Certificate Program

This program offers the first-time homebuyer a federal income tax credit by reducing the amount of federal taxes to be paid. It also helps a first-time homebuyer qualify for a loan by allowing a lender to reduce the housing expense ratio by the amount of tax savings. Qualified buyers get a tax credit of up to 15% with the remaining 85% taken as a deduction from the income in the usual manner. To be eligible, the first-time homebuyer must have a household income of less than \$95,160 for a household of two or less, or \$111,020 for a household of three or more.

#### Fair Housing Program

The City, in cooperation with the Fair Housing Foundation, promotes equal housing opportunities. More specifically, the following State and Federal laws are enforced by the City through Fair Housing Foundation (provided through participation in the CDBG program):

- Fair Employment and Housing Act. Government Code Section 12900 prohibits discrimination based on race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, sex, or marital status in all housing. Discrimination includes failure to rent/sell/show a property equally, making inquiries or statements of preference about a group that is protected, and offering unequal terms, conditions, or privileges in occupancy or financing.
- Unruh Civil Rights Act, Civil Code Section 51 and 52. This law guarantees the right of all persons to full and equal accommodations, advantages, facilities, privileges, or services in all businesses of every kind whatsoever, regardless of sex, race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, or other arbitrary basis, including families with children.
- Ralph Civil Rights Act, Civil Code Section 51.7. This law provides that all persons have the right to be free from violence, or intimidation by threat of violence, committed against their persons or property because of their race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, political affiliation, sex, or position in a labor dispute.
- Civil Code Section 54. The law guarantees the rights of blind or visually handicapped, deaf or otherwise physically handicapped persons to full and equal access to all housing accommodations. The right of a blind or deaf person to be accompanied by a guide dog or signal is also guaranteed.
- Health and Safety Code 19901. Elderly persons (over 60) may not be barred from keeping pets by any public agency providing housing. This does not apply to privately-owned housing Section 8 units. The number of pets is limited to two, but includes dogs, cats, birds, aquariums, etc.
- Civil Rights Act of 1968, Fair Housing Section, 42 U.S. Code, Sections 3601- 3619. This law prohibits discrimination on the sale or rental of residential property containing five units or more; buildings with four units or less if the owner does not live in the building;

one-family houses sold or rented by the owner of more than three such houses; and all residential sales or rentals involving services of a real estate broker, agent, or sales persons, mortgage or lending institution. This law also prohibits "blockbusting" and "steering."

- Civil Rights Act of 1966, U.S. Code Section 1982. This law prohibits any racial discrimination in any kind of housing, regardless of whether the housing is covered under any other law.

#### Energy Conservation Program

Under this program, the City will review the City's Zoning Code and subdivision requirements, as well as other applicable codes, to promote energy conservation in housing rehabilitation and in the construction of new housing. This program will supplement existing City efforts in the enforcement of the State's construction codes requiring energy efficiency in new construction.

## **CIRCULATION: CIRCULATION ELEMENT**

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### **CIRCULATION GOALS AND POLICIES**

The following are goals and policies are from the City's Circulation Element:

- To promote the maintenance and improvement of roadway systems in the City which will accommodate future traffic;
- To promote the use of innovative circulation strategies designed to create a transportation system that is sensitive to the City's aims for economic development;
- To support the development of a roadway and circulation network that promotes pedestrian activity in selected districts within the City;
- To promote a more efficient use of alternative forms of transportation that serve the City; and
- To ensure that roadway improvements are sensitive to the community's long-range goals for a livable and sustainable community.

To accomplish the aforementioned goals, the following policies have been incorporated into this Element:

- The City will encourage the development of an increasingly safe and efficient regional transportation system in the area and discourage the use of local streets in the City for non-local and regional through traffic except in emergency situations.
- The City will strive to provide a system of signalization which will augment and assist in the safe and efficient movement of traffic through the City. The City will investigate the feasibility of participating in a regional signalization program (such as the ATSAC program) with neighboring jurisdictions.
- The City will develop and maintain a logical local circulation system based on a hierarchy of streets which serve the existing and future needs of the City. The City will evaluate the need to "reopen" roads now closed to through traffic.
- The City will be proactive in assessing the impact of future land uses and development on the local circulation system.
- The City will continue to promote the use of public transit and other alternative forms of transit to reduce travel expense, energy use, environmental impact, and congestion.
- The City will encourage the development, maintenance, and improvement of pedestrian-oriented facilities, where appropriate, to ensure the safety and use of pedestrian

movement throughout the City and as a means to reduce traffic. The City will also encourage the maintenance and improvement of bicycle oriented facilities, where appropriate, to ensure the safety and use of bicycle movement throughout the City.

- The City will evaluate parking restrictions/regulations to increase the availability of parking whenever possible without jeopardizing safety.
- The City will strive to establish a beautification program for major roadways in Lomita.
- The use of alternative fueled vehicles for local and ways to more efficiently use the existing Dial-A-Ride services will be investigated.

### ***Amendments***

The Circulation Element was not amended during the reporting period for 2012.

### ***Progress towards meetings goals and policies of the Circulation Element***

The following activities are either on-going or took place during the reporting period:

- The City continues to review the traffic impacts of new development projects on a case-by-case basis. In some cases, traffic studies are required and appropriate mitigation measures are incorporated into development approvals.
- The City's Community Services Department responds to concerns regarding traffic and circulation and various improvements are implemented throughout the reporting period.
- The City continues to fund the dial-a-ride program.

## **OPEN SPACE: RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ELEMENT**

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### **RESOURCE MANAGEMENT GOALS AND POLICIES**

The following are goals and policies are from the City's Resource Management Element:

- To preserve those resources and amenities that enhance Lomita's living and working environment;
- To promote the conservation of important natural resources to provide a more livable and sustainable community;
- To promote the maintenance and enhancement of recreational opportunities for those living and working in the City; and
- To foster a better understanding of the City's history and heritage.

To accomplish the aforementioned goals, the following policies have been incorporated into this Element:

- Lomita will work to expand recreational open space areas and facilities to meet current and projected needs of Lomita residents.
- Lomita will strive to increase the size, acreage, and accessibility of local parks and school playgrounds.
- Lomita will continue to seek available funding (State, Federal, etc.) for the expansion of school playground areas in Lomita and the City will investigate strategies for the shared use of facilities. The City will also investigate the feasibility of development of these facilities as part of an independent school district.
- Lomita will encourage the use of innovative site planning techniques in the planning of new residential development in order to free inaccessible vacant land for use as passive and active open space.
- Lomita will strive to protect and enhance the lower density character of development in the community and preserve those environmental amenities found in Lomita.
- Lomita will promote the use of open space buffer areas to separate incompatible land uses which may also be designed to provide open space for recreational use.
- Lomita will continue to provide for large lots and keeping of animals in the City's agriculturally zoned residential areas, pursuant to the requirements of the City of Lomita General Plan.



- Lomita will promote the use of open space to conserve and enhance the health and safety of Lomita residents.

### ***Amendments***

The Resource Management Element was not amended during the reporting period for 2012.

### ***Progress towards meetings goals and policies of the Resource Management Element***

The following activities are either on-going or took place during the reporting period:

- The City planned and organized numerous special events throughout the year including, Movies Under the Stars, an Easter egg hunt, a Halloween carnival and parade, an Arbor Day tree planting, Winter Teen Program, the Spring Break Teen program, a museum speaker series, and the Christmas Tree Lighting.
- Grant funding was received to renovate the gymnasium at Lomita Park.

- **NOISE: NOISE ELEMENT**

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## **NOISE GOALS AND POLICIES**

The following are goals and policies are from the City's Noise Element:

- To promote development and land use patterns which will be compatible in terms of land use and noise exposure;
- To consider the health effects of long-term exposure to excessive noise levels in the planning and review of future development or activities that typically generate high noise levels;
- To remain vigilant regarding those developments and activities located beyond the City's boundaries which may affect the noise environment in Lomita; and
- To continue to implement those noise control standards and regulations which will be effective in reducing "noise pollution."

To accomplish the aforementioned goals, the following policies have been incorporated into this Element:

- Lomita, through implementation of the General Plan, will seek to locate noise sensitive land uses in areas subject to noise levels consistent with City established noise standards.
- Lomita will adhere to planning guidelines which include noise control for the interior space of new residential, commercial and industrial developments in areas of the City subject to high ambient noise levels. Noise levels for all residential units should be attenuated to a maximum interior noise level of 45 dB.
- In planning future development, the City will adhere to planning guidelines and regulations concerning noise control and mitigation of outdoor noise in residential developments.
- Noise control requirements will be considered in all new City equipment purchases.
- Lomita will continue to work with other agencies to enforce the state and federal occupational health and safety regulations concerning exposure to noise.
- Lomita will seek to reduce or eliminate unnecessary noise near noise sensitive areas, such as parks, residential areas, hospitals, libraries, convalescent homes, etc.
- Lomita will continue to monitor noise throughout Lomita and enforce the standards and regulations of the City's Noise Control Ordinance.

- Lomita will continue to review its policies and regulations regarding noise control and abatement.
- Lomita will continue to encourage the enforcement of noise control regulations such as the State Vehicle Code Noise Standards for automobiles, trucks, and motorcycles operating within the City, as well as any contractual agreements pertaining to noise control.
- Lomita will continue to support implementation and enforcement of noise control procedures for the Torrance Airport, including supporting those actions which minimize noise exposure associated with aircraft flyovers within the City.
- Lomita will work to ensure that noise attenuation standards set forth in the Airport Environs Land Use Plan for residential, commercial, and industrial development, within the planning boundaries for the Torrance Airport are adhered to.
- Lomita will work with surrounding cities to control noise created by current and/or future development along the City's boundaries.

#### ***Amendments***

The Noise Element was not amended during the reporting period for 2012.

#### ***Progress towards meetings goals and policies of the Noise Element***

The following activities are either on-going or took place during the reporting period:

- The City continues to enforce the provisions of the noise ordinance.

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ELEMENT**

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### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GOALS AND POLICIES**

The mission statement for the City's economic development effort is as follows:

The mission of the economic development effort is to actively support the development and expansion of existing businesses, and to proactively recruit quality revenue-generating uses that diversify and expand the City's economic base, offer a variety of products and services, increase employment opportunities, enhance fiscal resources, preserve and enhance Lomita's unique historic appeal, and contribute to the quality of life for Lomita residents.

The City's "Mission" will be realized through the implementation of the policies and programs contained in the Economic Development Element.

The following policies related to economic development were developed to support the aforementioned objectives:

- The City will promote and support revitalization within the City's commercial districts.
- The City will continue to encourage the development of prosperous tourist, commercial and entertainment uses along Pacific Coast Highway.
- The City will promote the improvement and revitalization of existing commercial areas and neighborhood shopping centers.
- The City will encourage a balance of land uses within Lomita to meet the needs of residents and visitors.
- The City will encourage a diversity of land uses and businesses within the City's commercial districts.

### ***Amendments***

The Economic Development Element was not amended during the reporting period for 2012.

### ***Progress towards meetings goals and policies of the Economic Development Element***

The following activities are either on-going or took place during the reporting period:

- Contract with "Tools for Business Success" to link City information with the state, county and local clearinghouse of information related to businesses.
- Continue to work with the Lomita Chamber of Commerce to hold business related forums.

- Continue working with the South Bay Economic Development Partnership and the South Bay Council of Governments on regional issues related to economic development.
- Continue to promote the City to developers as opportunities arise.
- Continued recruitment and assistance to several new & existing businesses through the permit process with L.A. County Building & Safety, the Health Dept. and Southern California Edison.

## **SAFETY: SAFETY ELEMENT**

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### **SAFETY GOALS AND POLICIES**

The City of Lomita seeks to accomplish the following goals with the implementation of the policies and programs that follow:

- To be prepared to assist in the provision of aid and comfort to those displaced or otherwise affected following a disaster.
- To increase public awareness regarding emergency preparedness and what to do in the event of a major earthquake.
- To assist in the reduction of property damage, injury or loss of life in the event of a major disaster.

The City of Lomita seeks to accomplish the following goals with the implementation of the policies and programs contained herein:

- The City will assist in providing aid and in the restoration of services and business to a level that enables residents and businesses to return to normal activities as soon as possible following a natural or man-made disaster.
- The City will develop and support a realistic emergency preparedness plan which would quickly become operational should the area be affected by a disaster.
- The City will cooperate with public service providers to inform property owners regarding the potential fire and safety hazards that could affect buildings and structures.
- The City will cooperate with public service providers to establish procedures and plans to minimize injuries and the possible loss of life, disruption of public services, and damage to or destruction of property, associated with major disasters.
- The City will work with qualified geologists and engineers to develop a base of information concerning geologic hazards which must be considered at the earliest possible point in the review of future development proposals.
- The City will cooperate in the conduct of public safety education information programs, focusing on natural and manmade hazards-, the prevention of and safety programs', and the appropriate preparation for, and reaction to, local or regional disasters.
- The City will strive to minimize the number of existing structures and conditions that represent seismic, fire, and safety hazards through the enforcement of building codes.
- The City will require geologic reports as a prerequisite to the issuance of building permits

for major structures for those areas where known or suspected geologic hazards are present.

- The City will consider geologic and seismic data to guide in the placement and development of essential public structures such as schools, police and fire facilities, hospitals, and other types of critical installations.
- The City will support the ongoing efforts of the Safety Commission, including, but not limited to, the Neighborhood Watch, Bird Dog Program, etc.
- The City will keep abreast of current law enforcement issues and work with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department to identify appropriate solutions.
- The City will continue to support the enforcement of regulations concerning safe vehicle operation (drunk driving, unregistered vehicle, etc.).
- The City will, through planning and code enforcement, strive to ensure that pedestrian walkways are unobstructed and maintained.
- The City of Lomita will continue to support and foster a dialog with the four hill cities to consider the formation of cooperative agreements in areas of public safety, emergency response, and public services (Community Service Officer, Neighborhood Watch, etc.).
- The City will seek to avoid or minimize the seismic risk to existing developed areas and new and redeveloping areas of the City by carefully designating land uses and requiring special building design (in accordance with the latest adopted Uniform Building Code) in identified fault zones and in areas subject to geologic hazards and risk.
- The City will require developers to provide appropriate measures to mitigate potential problems and risk relative to terrain, soils, slope stability and erosion in order to reduce hazards.
- The City will strive to identify structures and land uses which are located in areas prone to flooding and identify appropriate mitigation.
- The City will provide public safety education and information, focusing on potential hazards in the City, the prevention of life or property-threatening events, and the appropriate preparation and reaction in the event of an emergency.
- The City will evaluate and consider strategies to provide cost-effective levels of emergency services for City residents, businesses, and visitors.
- The City will strive to provide a five minute or less response time in at least 80 percent of the calls for service.
- The City will work to reduce the potential for loss of life and property in Lomita due to

natural, technical, and civil disasters by maintaining an optimum state of preparedness in the event of a community-wide disaster.

- The City will review future development and redevelopment for compliance with City codes for adequate protection of public health and safety.
- Coordination among City officials, and between City officials and other agencies that provide disaster response or relief services, will be promoted.
- The City will cooperate and coordinate with those agencies responsible for overseeing and/or regulating the transport of flammable gas/liquid distribution systems to ensure that adequate emergency plans are operational.

### ***Amendments***

The Safety Element was not amended during the reporting period for 2012.

### ***Progress towards meetings goals and policies of the Safety Element***

The following activities are either on-going or took place during the reporting period:

- The City continues to adhere to the provisions of the Safety Element.

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