



# City of Lompoc General Plan Update

## Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report

The City of Lompoc will be the Lead Agency for the preparation of an environmental impact report (EIR) for a proposed update to the Lompoc General Plan Land Use, Circulation, and Housing Elements. The proposed project involves the update of the 1997 General Plan, which currently serves as the blueprint for the development of the City. Each of these General Plan elements will be updated with goals, objectives, and policies that reflect the current needs and preferences of the community. The land use map will also be updated. The draft General Plan includes the following elements:

- Land Use
- Housing
- Circulation
- Safety
- Noise
- Open Space
- Conservation
- Parks and Recreation
- Public Services
- Urban Design

The focus of the Environmental Impact Report will be on the Land Use, Circulation, and Housing Element Updates, as these are the only elements being updated at this time. Physical change within the City would generally occur under the Land Use, Circulation and Housing Elements. The remaining elements (i.e., the Safety, Noise, Conservation, Open Space, Parks and Recreation, Public Services, and Urban Design Elements) typically contain policies and guidelines to implement goals of the Land Use, Circulation and Housing Elements. These remaining elements will be updated in a subsequent phase of the General Plan Update. Although these elements generally serve to reduce impacts associated with development envisioned in the Land Use, Circulation, and Housing Elements, they will nevertheless be subject to additional environmental review.

The City wishes to update the General Plan in a way that builds on the current plan, addresses problems that have been experienced under the current plan, and guides future development in a way that will support the needs of the residents of the City.

At this point, the land inventory in the City is largely built out; therefore the updated Land Use Element focuses on development that would generally occur within annexation areas and specified infill development areas. The updated Element includes policies to address issues of infill development, as well as reexamination of the sphere of influence and fine-tuning of the current General Plan. Most of the property within the City would retain existing land use designations.

The updated Circulation Element outlines the transportation network required to support development proposed under the City's Land Use Element. The draft Circulation Element is substantially similar to the current General Plan. However, the underlying data and information have been updated to reflect current conditions and validate the appropriateness of retaining circulation policies. Transportation facilities and their location and accessibility have been, and will continue to be, a major influence in shaping the

development pattern within Lompoc. The Circulation Element addresses the long-term roadway, bikeway, pedestrian, rail, and air traffic systems to serve the long-term growth anticipated in the City. The draft Housing Element is also similar in intent to the Housing Element of the current General Plan. However, similar to the draft Circulation Element, data and information have been updated to reflect current conditions. In addition, new programs have been identified to implement the City's housing objectives and policies.

The Draft EIR will be a program EIR. Per the *CEQA Guidelines*, a program EIR is an EIR that may be prepared on a series of actions that can be characterized as one large project. The purpose of a program EIR is to allow the lead agency to consider broad policy alternatives and program-wide mitigation measures at an early time when the agency has greater flexibility to deal with basic problems or cumulative impacts.

The EIR will examine each of the issue areas on the City's environmental checklist; therefore, preparation of an initial study was not warranted. Issues to be discussed include:

- Aesthetics
- Agriculture Resources
- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural and Historic Resources
- Hydrology/Water Quality
- Land Use/Planning
- Noise
- Public Services and Utilities
- Safety and Geologic Hazards
- Transportation/Traffic

In addition to the CEQA-required "no project" alternative, the Draft will examine a range of land use scenarios that address one or more potential environmental effects. These will include alternatives that provide different combinations of annexation areas and infill development.

The City of Lompoc would like to know the views of your agency as to the scope and content of the environmental information that is germane to your agency's statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed project. Your agency may need to use the EIR prepared by the City of Lompoc when considering your permit or other approval of certain aspects of the project.

Due to the time limits mandated by State law, your response must be sent at the earliest possible date but not later than 30 days after receipt of this notice.

Please send your response to Lucille Breese, AICP, Planning Manager, at

City of Lompoc  
100 Civic Center Plaza  
Lompoc, CA 93438

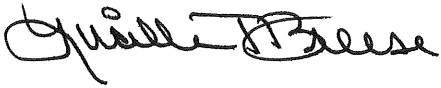
Ms. Breese can be reached at (805) 875-8273. Ms. Breese's email address is [L\\_BREESE@ci.lompoc.ca.us](mailto:L_BREESE@ci.lompoc.ca.us). Please provide the name for a contact person in your agency.

The City will hold an EIR scoping meeting on the General Plan update on August 26, 2008 in the City Council Chambers at Lompoc City Hall, 100 Civic Center Plaza, Lompoc, California. The meeting will begin at 6:30 PM. The purpose of the meeting is to solicit input on the scope and content of the environmental analysis that will be included in the Draft EIR.

Project Title: City of Lompoc General Plan Update

Project Sponsor: City of Lompoc

Date:

Signature: 

Title: Planning Manager, City of Lompoc

Telephone: (805) 875-8273