Los Angeles County Green Zones Program Environmental Impact Report and Health Impact Assessment

CEQA Scoping Meeting

Welcome and Virtual Meeting Tips

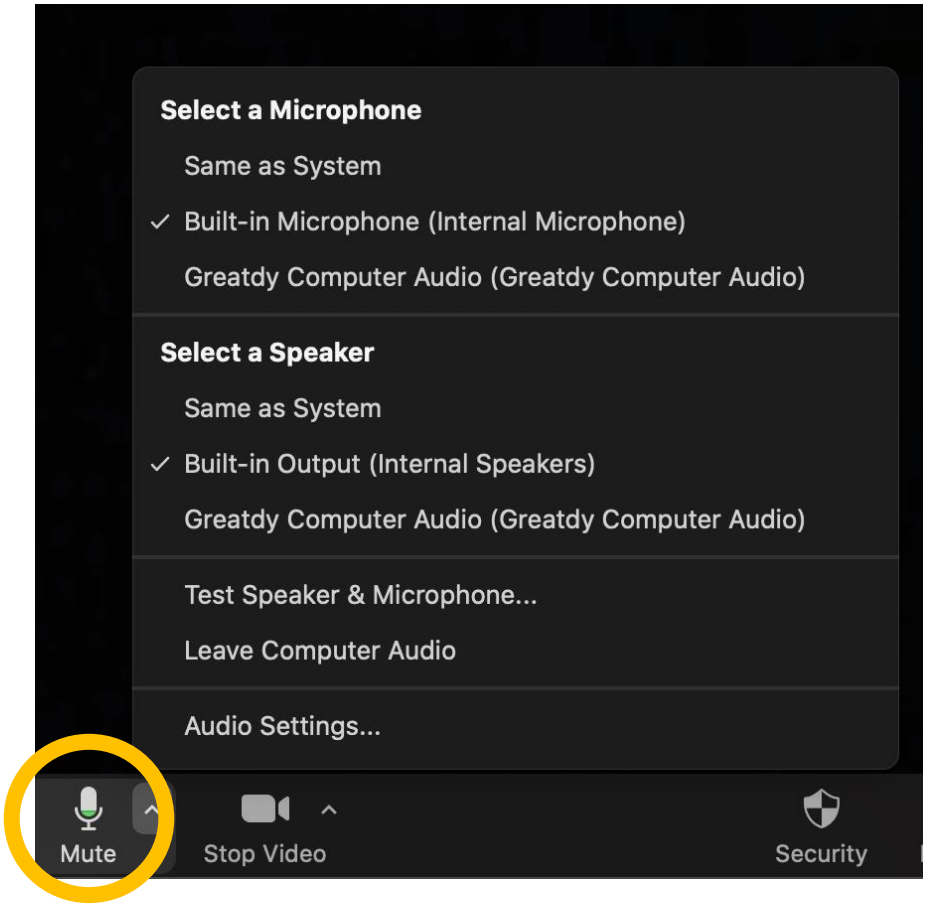
Before we begin the presentation, we would like to go over some tips for using the Zoom software for this virtual public meeting.

- **Best Practices and Technical Difficulties**
  - Ask questions that are on topic and as concise as possible.
  - Provide feedback and insights to inform the EIR.
  - Follow the displays in the webinar.
  - Share in mutual respect and courtesy to all participants.
- **Review of Virtual Software Tools**

Virtual Meeting Tips

Control Panel

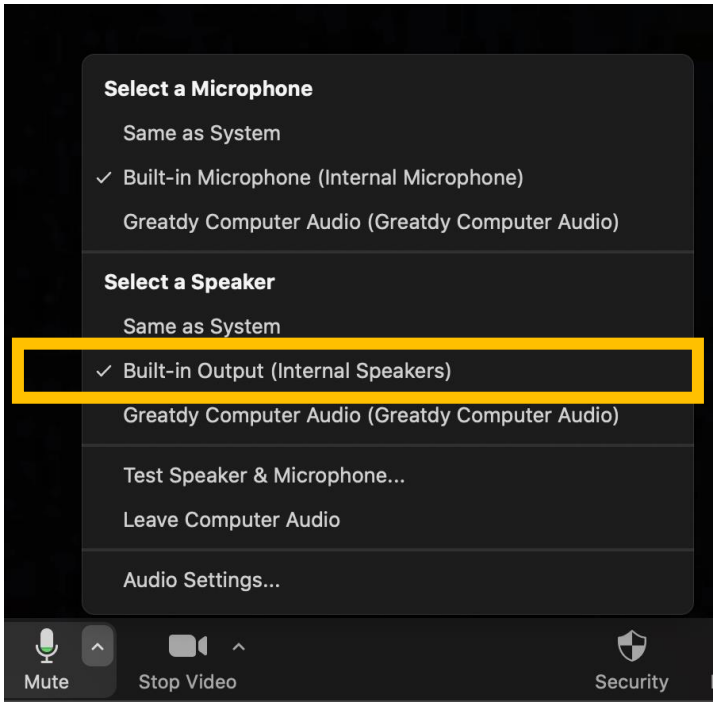
1. Click the arrow next to **Mute** Icon to open the Control Panel



Virtual Meeting Tips

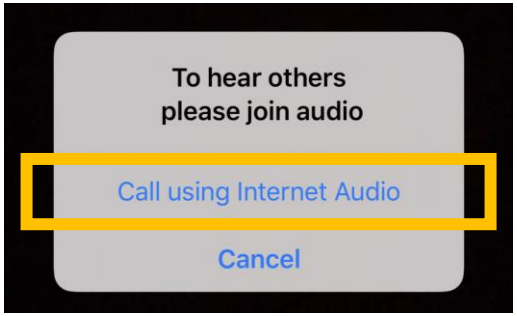
Can't Hear?

1. For best results, make sure to select your **Computer Audio**:
   - **Internal Speakers** *(may vary on different computers)*
2. If you have a Bluetooth device:
   - Confirm device is connected and selected



On a Mobile Device:

- Select **Call using Internet Audio**



Virtual Meeting Tips

Have a Question?

- **<u>Chat</u>** – At the bottom of your screen select the **Chat** icon and type in your question or comment to the right

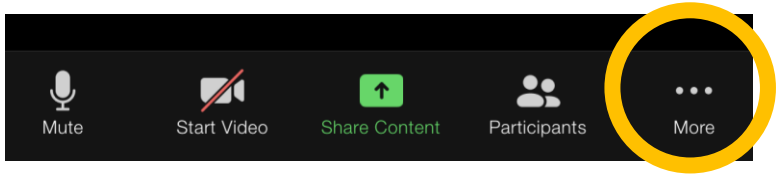
- **<u>Raise Hand</u>** – If unable to type in a question, virtually raise your hand
  - Select **Participants** icon: a window will pop out, and you will have the option to **Raise Hand**

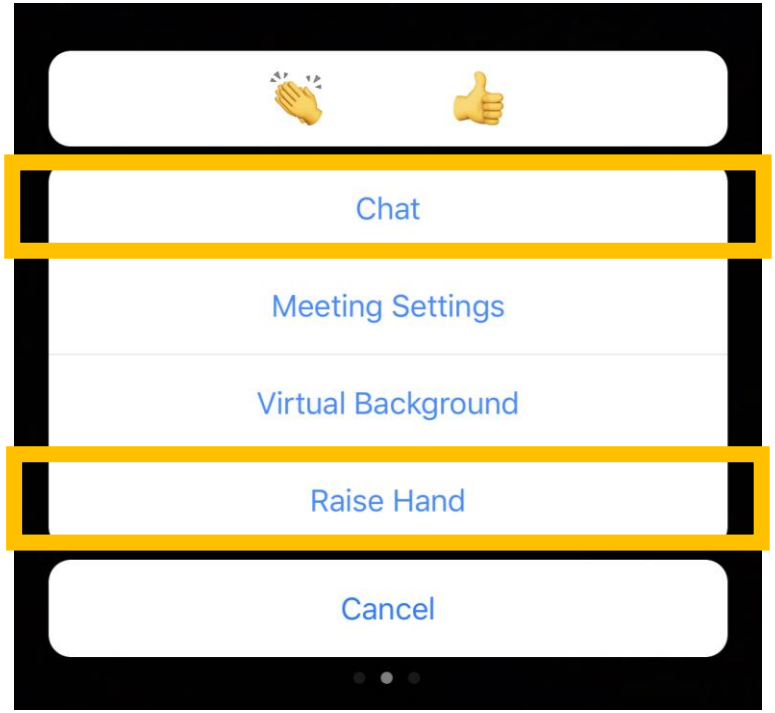
Virtual Meeting Tips

On a Mobile Device?

- At the bottom of your screen, select the **More** (**...**) icon
- **Chat** and **Raise Hand** options will appear

**Appearance may vary depending on mobile device*





Agenda

- Introductions
- Purpose of the Meeting
- Green Zones Program Overview
- California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Process Overview
- Health Impact Assessment
- Public Comments Process
- Project Schedule
- Initial Study Document Locations and Contact Information
- Q&A / Public Comments

Introductions

Tahirah Farris
Los Angeles County DRP
Project Manager

Pat Hachiya
DRP Supervising
Regional Planner

Norman Ornelas, Jr.
DRP Regional Planner

Diana Gonzalez
DRP, Spanish translator

Eric Charlton
Sapphos Environmental, Inc.
CEQA Project Manager

Laura Male
Sapphos Environmental, Inc.
CEQA Assistant Project Manager

Purpose of the Meeting

- Facilitate public review of Initial Study
- Describe the proposed project
- Provide an overview of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process
- Present Initial Study findings
- Ask for input on the scope of the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (PEIR)

Green Zones Program Overview

Existing Conditions

- A Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) is needed to consider any environmental impacts that may result from the County's proposed changes to Title 22 (Zoning Ordinance) as part of the Green Zones Program.
- The Green Zones Program has been designed to address incompatible land uses in proximity to sensitive uses by changing regulatory requirements for specific industrial land uses, in addition to revisions to goals, policies, and guiding principles of the County General Plan.

Green Zones Program Overview

Goals and Objectives

- The intent of the Green Zones Program is to develop targeted land use policies that can be used to improve the health and quality of life for residents near or adjacent to major sources of pollution, aligned with the State's environmental justice initiatives, such as:
  - Planning for Healthy Communities Act (Senate Bill 1000)
  - California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (Assembly Bill 32 and Senate Bill 535).

Green Zones Program Overview

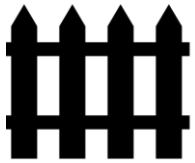
Five Major Elements:

- **Element 1:** Green Zone Districts
- **Element 2:** New Sensitive Uses
- **Element 3:** Recycling and Waste Management Revisions
- **Element 4:** Storage Enclosures for Recycling and Solid Waste Revisions
- **Element 5:** Addition of New Uses and Re-Defining/Categorizing Uses in Title 22

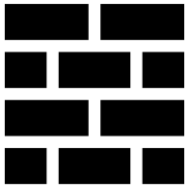
Element 1

Green Zone Districts

- New development standards for specific industrial, recycling, or vehicle-related uses
- Industrial uses within 500 feet of existing sensitive uses on other properties
- Current zoning and land uses for 11 districts allow certain industrial uses
- New development standards would require a Conditional Use Permit for specific uses
- The program would require that nonconforming uses be brought into compliance within 3 to 10 years of adoption of the Ordinance
- Element No. 1 applies to areas shown on the following map



Fencing

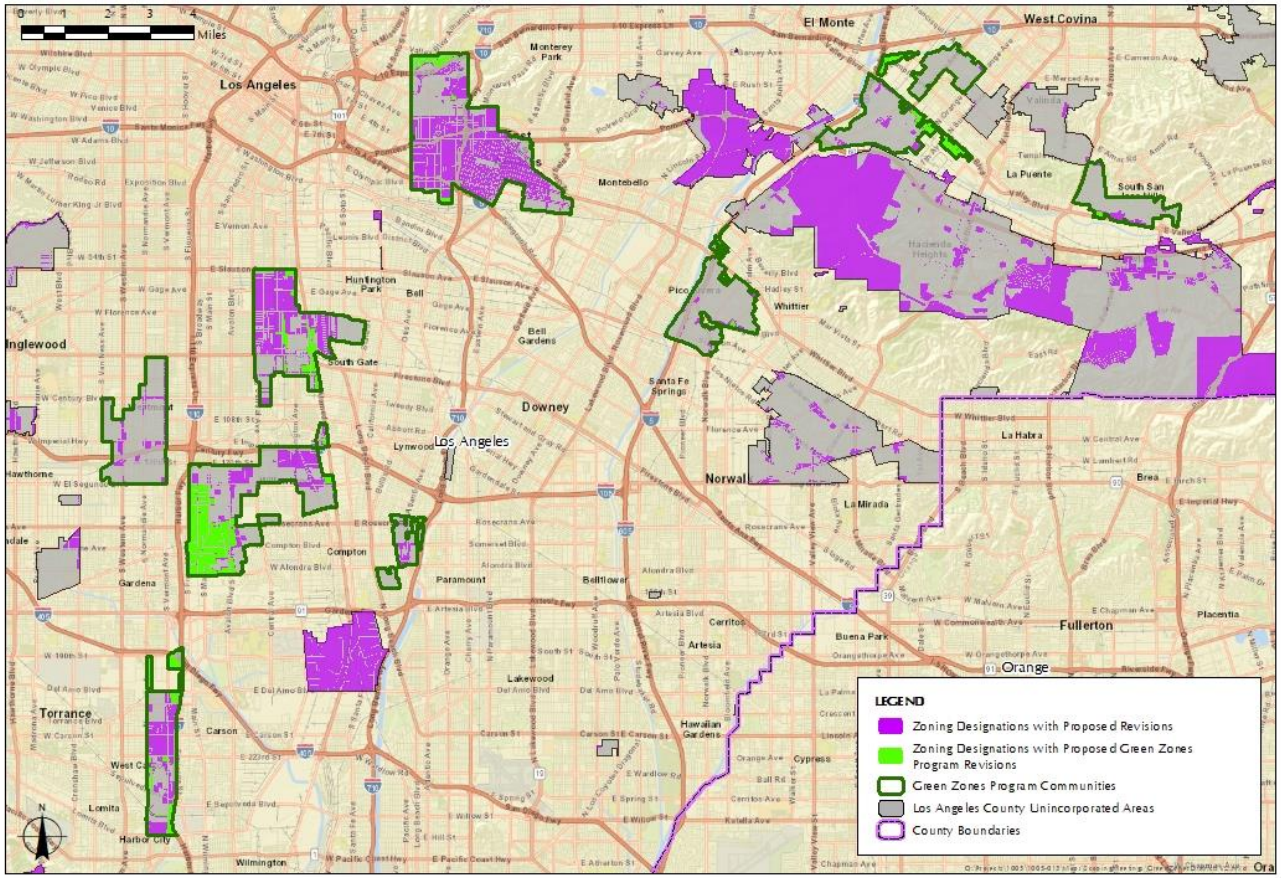


Solid Wall Screen

Landscape Buffer

Element 1

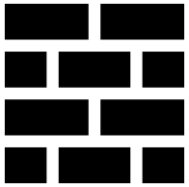
Green Zone Districts



Element 2

New Sensitive Uses

- New development standards for Sensitive Uses
- Located adjacent to or adjoining existing industrial, recycling and solid waste, or vehicle-related uses
- Current zoning and land use designations that permit sensitive uses do not have requirements for remediating the effects of incompatible adjacent industrial uses
- The Ordinance would define specific sensitive uses within close proximity to existing industrial uses, and expand development standards for new sensitive uses
- Element No. 2 applies to the areas shown on the following map



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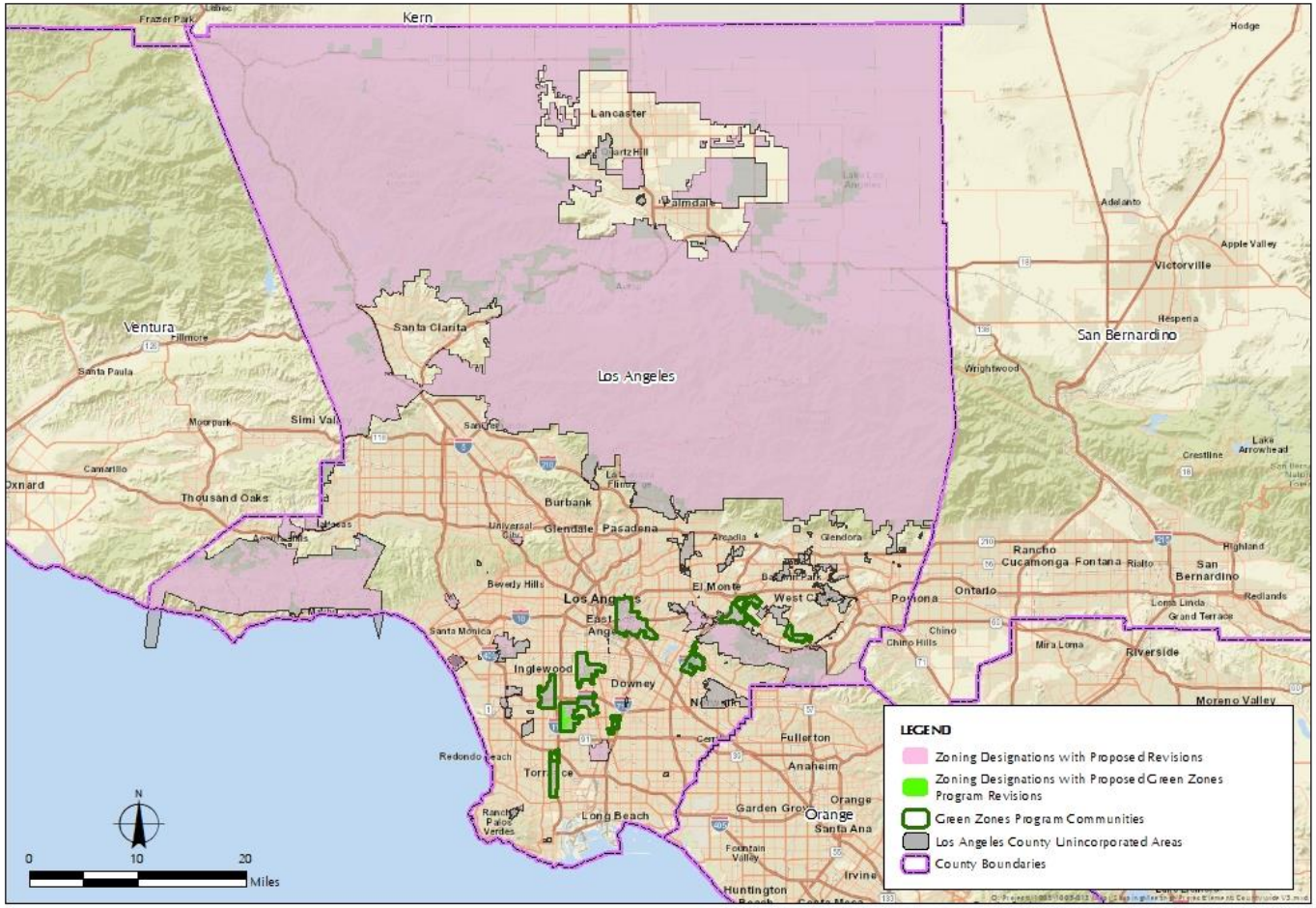
Landscape Buffer

Element 2

Green Zones Program



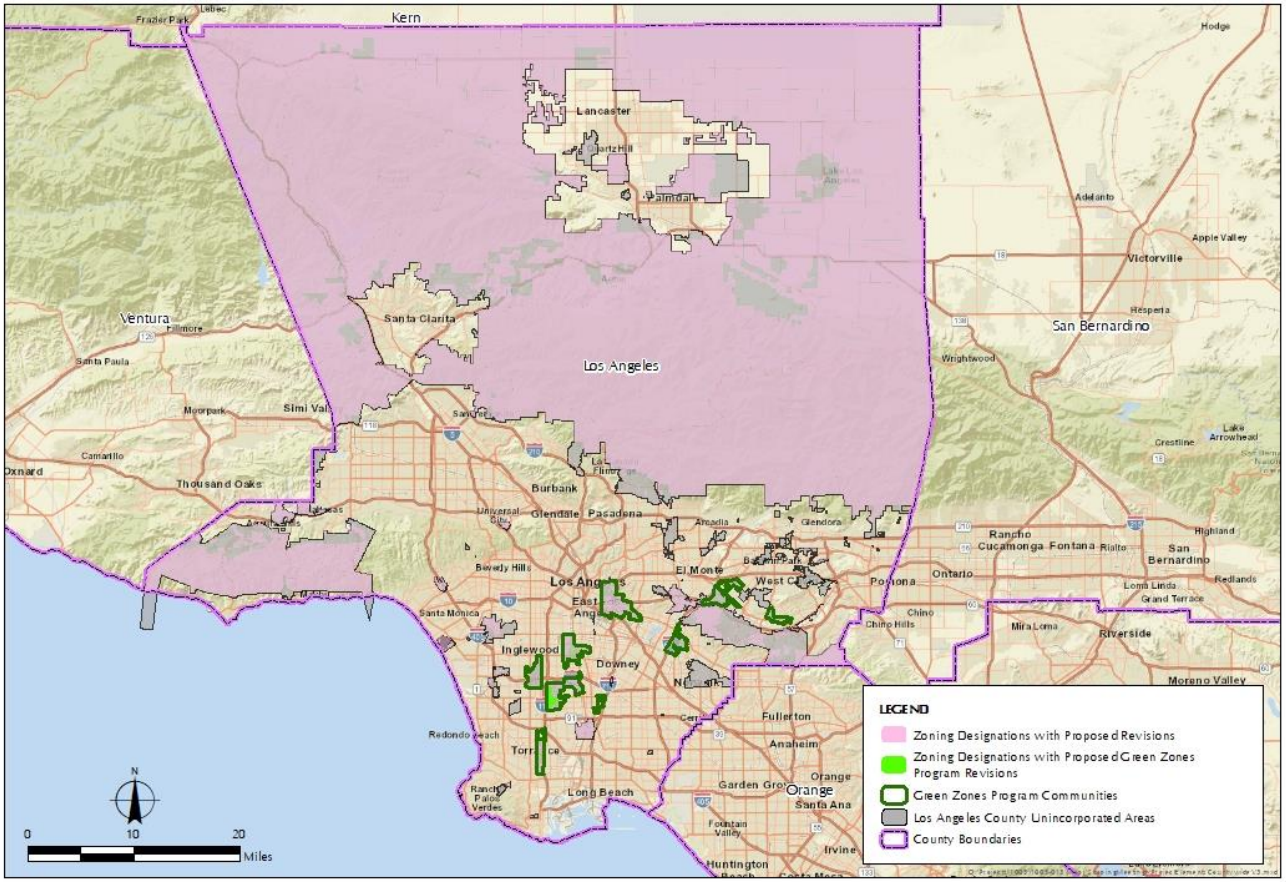
Element 3

Recycling and Waste Management Revisions

- Standards and regulatory revisions for recycling and waste management uses including automobile dismantling yards, pallet yards, recycling collection facilities, recycling processing facilities, organic waste, solid waste facilities, supermarket accessory recycling collection centers
- Current regulations for allowable recycling facilities are within M-2 and M-2.5 designated zones
- More stringent entitlement process and standards for new development subject to a CUP for future facilities
- Proposed revisions would prohibit specific facilities from Hillside Management Areas (HMAs), Significant Ecological Areas (SEAs), and Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones (VHFHSZs)
- Element No. 3 applies to the areas shown on the following map

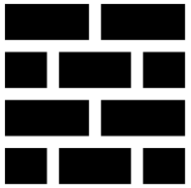
Element 3

Green Zones Program - All Elements



Element 4

Storage Enclosures for Recycling and Solid Waste Revisions



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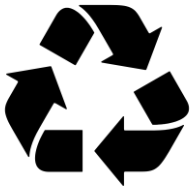

Recycling

- Add additional requirements to current development requirements for solid waste and recycling storage enclosures
- The revisions to the Ordinance would apply to new non-residential development or multifamily residential development of four or more units, and to expansion of existing development by 50% of more of the existing floor area. The revisions would not apply to residential development less than 4 units.

Element 5

Addition of New Uses and Re-Defining/ Categorizing Uses in Title 22

- Addition of specific uses defined in Title 22 (Zoning Ordinance) to countywide regulations
- Recategorize specific uses under recycling facilities
- Changes to sections of Chapter 22.172, various Community Standards, and various chapters in Division 3 to be consistent with new use and development standards in ordinance
- All proposed changes for this element were determined to not have the potential to result in a physical change to the environment. As a result, an evaluation of this element of the Green Zones Program is not included in the environmental document.

General Plan Amendment Revisions

- Title 22 (Zoning Ordinance) revisions and General Plan Amendment to ensure consistency
- General Plan Amendment changes in Chapters 3, 6, 14, and Appendix C
- Edits and additions support the Green Zones Program framework into the General Plan, goals of Senate Bill 1000, and existing environmental justice language in the General Plan
- Proposed designation changes to 15 parcels within Green Zone Districts and zone changes to 28 parcels within same geographic locations
- The purpose of the General Plan Amendment and Zone change is to ensure consistency with proposed with Title 22, Green Zone Districts revisions

CEQA Process Overview - Purposes

- Maintain a high-quality physical environment for the people of California
- Inform government decision makers and the public about the potential significant environmental impacts of proposed activities (projects)
- Identify ways that environmental impact(s) can be avoided or significantly reduced
- Prevent significant avoidable damage to the environment by requiring changes in the project through alternatives and mitigation measures
- Disclose to the public the reason that an agency approved a project notwithstanding its environmental impacts
- Improve interagency coordination
- Enhance public participation in the environmental review process through scoping meetings, public notice, public review, hearings, and the judicial process.

CEQA Process Overview - Impact Levels

- **No impact:** no adverse changes in the environment are expected. No mitigation is required.
- A **less than significant impact** would not exceed thresholds of significance. No mitigation is required.
- A **potentially significant impact** would have the potential for a substantial adverse effect on the environment that exceeds CEQA-established thresholds of significance after application of available best management practices and project design features. Mitigation would be required to determine if the impact could be reduced to a less than significant level after incorporation of mitigation.

CEQA Process - Initial Study Findings

9 of 20 CEQA environmental issue areas will be evaluated in the PEIR:

1. Air Quality
2. Biological Resources
3. Cultural Resources
4. Hazards & Hazardous Materials
5. Hydrology / Water Quality
6. Land Use / Planning
7. Noise
8. Tribal Cultural Resources
9. Utilities and Service Systems

Health Impact Assessment

A Health Impact Assessment (HIA) is being prepared to evaluate potential impacts of the program in relation to:

- Exposure to air pollutants and toxins
- The use of green space to buffer incompatible uses
- Impacts on accessibility and mobility
- Economic vibrance of the community

The elements of the program will be broadly analyzed to characterize existing baseline conditions and to increase the understanding of how environmental, social, and living conditions all interact and have impacts on human health.

Public Comments Process

Opportunities to Participate in CEQA Process

1. **70-day Scoping Period (June 16, 2020-August 24, 2020)**
   - Scoping meetings to inform public / agencies about proposed project and solicit oral / written comments regarding appropriate scope and content of PEIR
2. Public Review of Draft PEIR (45 days)
3. Regional Planning Commission (RPC) Hearing
4. Los Angeles County Consideration of Final EIR

- Next scoping meeting: **Wednesday July 22, 2020,** 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Please visit: http://planning.lacounty.gov/greenzones/meetings.
- Translation into languages other than Spanish may be made available at the meeting upon prior request. Please submit translation requests at least 5 business days in advance of the July 22 meeting to zoningldcc@planning.lacounty.gov.

Project Schedule

Jan - March 2020	April - July 2020	Aug - Sep 2020	Oct - Dec 2020	Jan-March 2021
Complete Public Discussion Draft of GZ Ordinance and begin environmental impact review. **7/30/20**	Public Discusion Draft for public review: **5/22/20**	Public Outreach Meetings: **7/27/20, 7/30/20 and 8/12/20**	Draft EIR Released: **October 2020**	RPC Hearing
	Notice of Preparation (NOP) release for public review: **6/16/20**	Public Discussion Draft and NOP public comment deadline: **8/24/20**	RPC Draft Ordinance Relase: **Nov 2020**	BOS Hearing
	NOP Public Scoping Meetings: **7/13/20** and **7/22/20**	Prepare and review Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR).		

- **2020:** NOP Public Scoping Meetings, Public Outreach Meetings, and Draft PEIR Public Review
- **Early 2021:** Regional Planning Commission (RPC) Hearing and County Board of Supervisors Hearing

Initial Study Document Locations and Contact Information

The Initial Study is available online at:

http://planning.lacounty.gov/greenzones/documents

Written comments are due by **5:00 p.m. August 24, 2020**

- Responses may be emailed to GreenZones@planning.lacounty.gov or mailed to:

Tahirah Farris
Regional Planner
Department of Regional Planning
320 West Temple Street, 13th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Q & A / Public Comments

Green Zones Program

Five Major Elements:

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Q & A / Public Comments

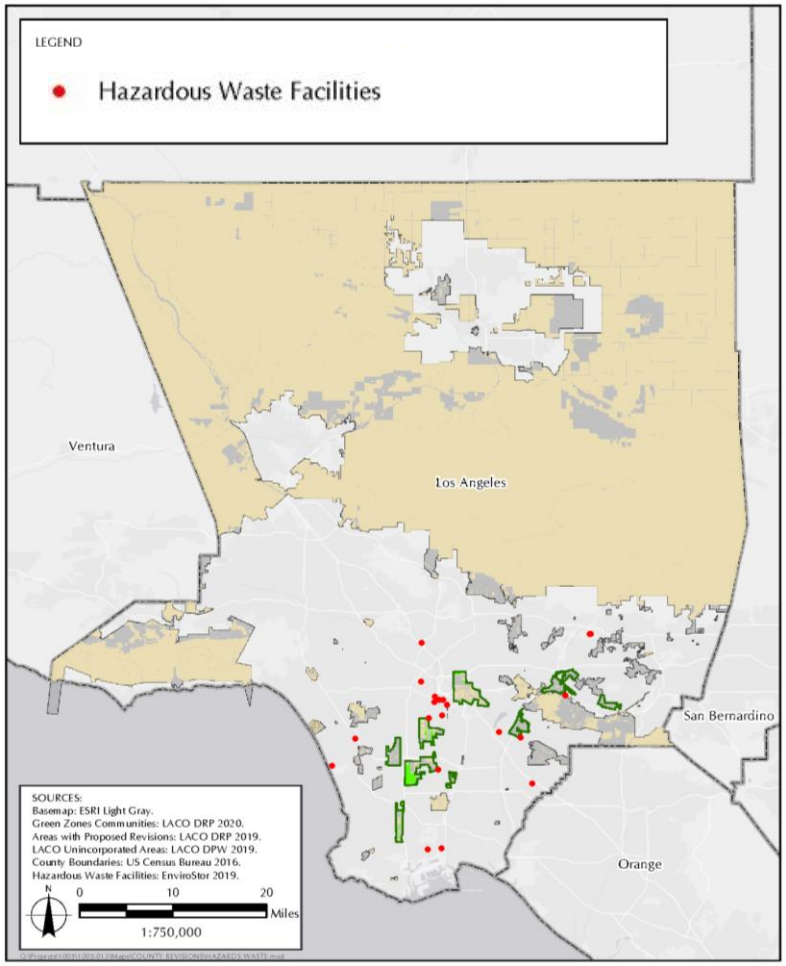
Air Quality

Hazards & Hazardous Materials

Land Use / Planning

Noise

Utilities/Service Systems



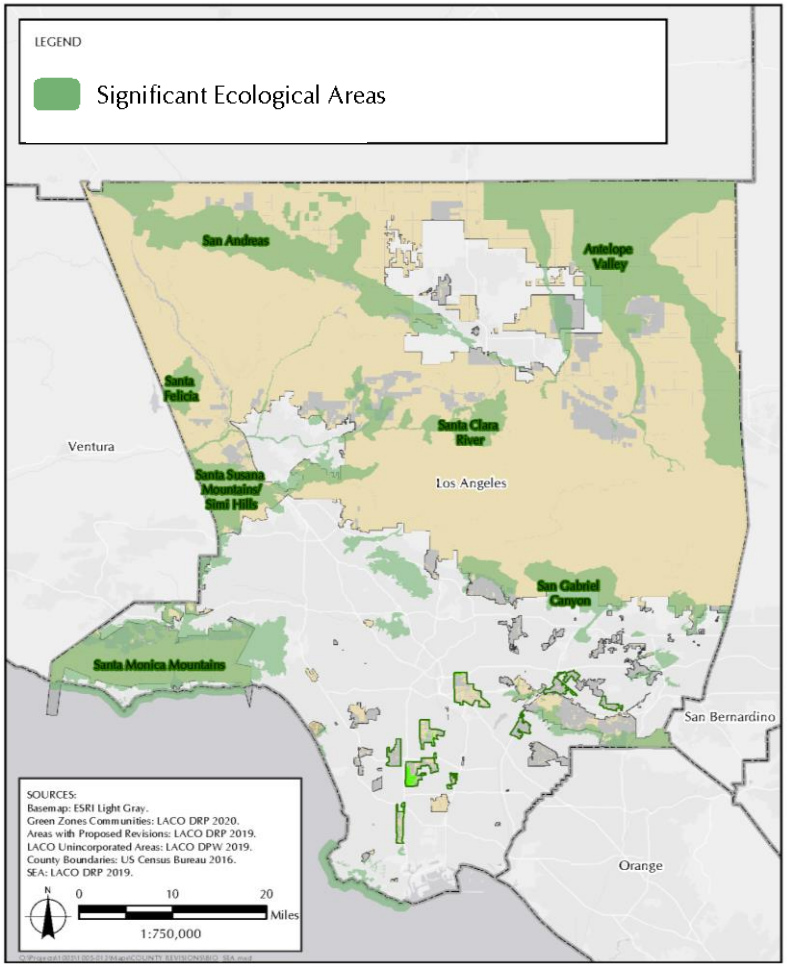
Q & A / Public Comments

Biological Resources

Hydrology / Water Quality

Cultural Resources

Tribal Cultural Resources



Q & A / Public Comments

Aesthetics

Agriculture / Forestry Resources

Energy

Geology / Soils

GHG Emissions

Mineral Resources

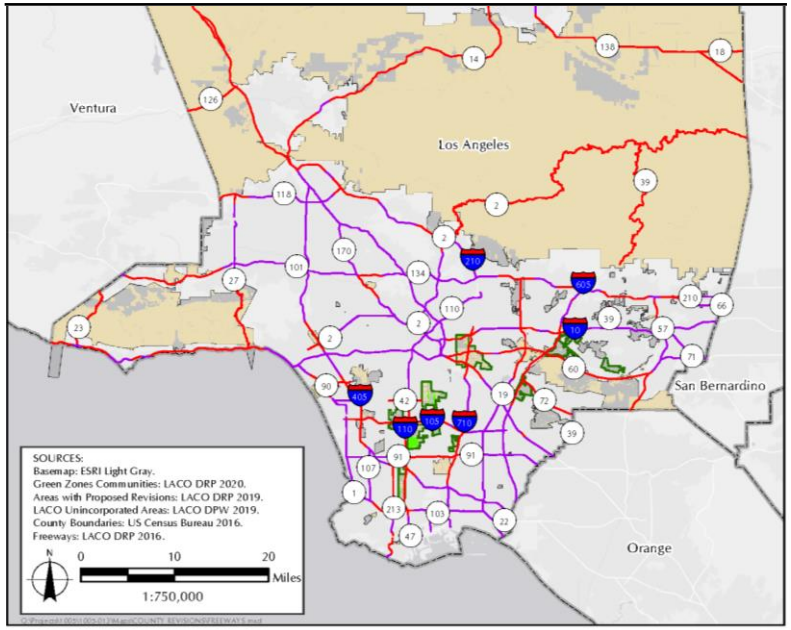
Population / Housing

Public Services

Recreation

Transportation

Wildfire



Initial Study Location and Written Public Comments

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