

Part III: General Plan Implementation

Chapter 15: General Plan Maintenance

I. General Plan Annual Progress Report

Section 65400 of the Government Code requires that the County prepare a general plan annual progress report (annual report) on the status of General Plan implementation. The annual report is prepared by the Department of Regional Planning (DRP), presented to the Los Angeles County Regional Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors, and submitted to the California Office of Planning and Research and the California Department of Housing and Community Development by April 1 of each year.

The annual report is the County's mechanism for comprehensively reporting on the following: 1) program implementation; 2) effectiveness of major policies; 3) updates to datasets; and 4) map maintenance.

1. Program Implementation

The annual report shall outline the County's progress toward implementing the General Plan implementation programs. A description of milestones, accomplishments, as well as any impediments will be included for each program.

2. Effectiveness of Major Policies

The annual report shall include information on the effectiveness of major policies. The table below outlines the monitoring strategy:

Policy Area	Monitoring Method
Transit Oriented Districts (TODs)	<p>Report annually on the status of the TODs. Include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A summary of new development within the TODs approved by DRP, including mixed-use projects; and • A summary of infrastructure improvements, including but not limited to pedestrian, bicycling, and streetscape improvements.
Significant Ecological Areas (SEAs)	<p>Report biennially on the status of the County's SEAs. Include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A summary of new development within SEAs approved by DRP; • A public comment process for accepting suggestions on improving the SEA Program, and its components. • The overall status of biological functions within each SEA, if known; • Identification of any new techniques or methods of conservation planning which are, or could, be utilized to enhance the SEA Program • Assessment of the necessity for new SEA studies and any resulting scientific studies undertaken on SEAs; • Recommendations for any modifications to the SEA Program, including General Plan goals and policies, SEA boundaries and the SEA Ordinance;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of lands within individual SEAs as priority habitats or areas for protection; • A description of any ongoing partnerships with conservation agencies and other stakeholders; • A current map of SEA lands that are protected in perpetuity through deed-restrictions, conservation easements, etc.; and • The Director’s conclusion as to the overall successes and challenges of the SEA Program in implementing General Plan goals and policies.
Employment Protection Districts (EPDs)	<p>Report annually on the status of the EPDs. Include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A summary of new development within the EPDs approved by DRP, including new industrial uses, as well as an analysis on the conversion of any industrial lands to non-industrial uses.
Agricultural Resource Areas (ARAs)	<p>Report annually on the status of the ARAs. Include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A summary of new development within the ARAs approved by DRP, including an analysis on the reduction or expansion of agricultural uses in the ARAs; • A comparison of the agricultural land uses countywide based on data from the California Department of Conservation and the Los Angeles County Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures; and • Recommendations for any modifications to the ARA boundaries.
Oak Tree Preservation	<p>Report annually on the status of the loss of oak trees.</p>

3. Dataset Updates

The General Plan includes various maps and figures that rely on datasets that are continually updated. The annual report shall outline information on new data that impacts General Plan maps and figures. As new datasets become available, the following maps will be updated administratively:

- Mineral Resource Zones, as programs such as the State’s mineral land use classification project are updated with new and expanded information over time. The County is required to recognize data transmitted by the State Mining and Geology Board in the General Plan within 12 months of receipt, per the Public Resources Code.
- Seismic and Geotechnical Hazard Zones
- Flood Hazard Zones
- Tsunami Hazard Areas
- Sea Level Rise Impact Areas
- Fire Hazard Severity Zones

The Special Management Areas Policy Map and the Hazard, Environmental, and Resource Constraints Map may also be updated administratively, if the changes are a result of new datasets that are applied to the aforementioned maps.

4. Map Maintenance

Lastly, certain policy maps may need to be amended annually to reflect new public lands and open space acquisitions. These changes will require a plan amendment. The annual report will outline plan amendment recommendations to be initiated by the DRP after the completion of the annual report.

The following policy maps will be reviewed annually and updated as needed:

- Land Use Policy Maps: Update based on changes to Public and Semi-Public (P) and Natural Resources (OS-C, OS-PR, OS-NF, OS-BLM, and W) land use categories.
- Open Space Resources Policy Map: Update to reflect new lands that have been dedicated permanently for open space conservation purposes, as well as land acquired for parks and recreation.

II. General Plan Updates

The County shall undergo a comprehensive General Plan Update every 10 years. The General Plan Update shall include a concurrent update to the zoning ordinance and zoning map, as needed, to ensure consistency with the General Plan. Individual elements shall be updated in accordance with the statutory deadlines specified in the Government Code. Updating a General Plan is a comprehensive process that ensures consistency with other countywide agency plans, and should include stakeholder input.