



Metro Area Plan

East Los Angeles East Rancho Dominguez Florence-Firestone Walnut Park
West Athens-Westmont West Rancho Dominguez-Victoria Willowbrook

Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Kickoff

October 14, 2021, 5.00 – 6.30pm (via Zoom)

Meeting Summary

CAC Attendees

East Los Angeles

Alberto Caracoza

Ariana Rodriguez

Florence-Firestone

Steve Quinonez

Martha Escobedo

East Rancho Dominguez

Sinetta Farley

West Athens-Westmont

Judy Calvin

Project team Attendees

LA County DRP

Patricia Hachiya, Erica Gutierrez, Christina Tran

Dudek

Gaurav Srivastava, Janet Rodriguez

MEETING SUMMARY

The CAC kickoff meeting provided an overview of the Metro Area Plan effort and placed it in the broader geographic and land use policy context of Los Angeles County (overview slides attached). CAC members offered their initial observations and identified a preliminary set of issues that were important for the MAP team to address.

The main issues and themes highlighted across all communities represented by CAC members present (East Los Angeles, Florence-Firestone, East Rancho Dominguez, and West Athens-Westmont) include:

- 1. Need for safety related to homelessness and lighting.** Members expressed concern regarding increased illegal dumping and related safety concerns for pedestrians due to hazardous trash, such as needles. A common issue across all communities was the lack of enforcement related to homelessness and illegal parking.



2. **Desire to engage other County departments such as Sheriffs and Public Works.** CAC members expressed interest in talking to other County departments regarding issues in their communities.
 3. **Address environmental racism and inequity.** Some CAC members stressed the importance of prioritizing healthy environments especially given the legacy injustices of freeway construction and industrial adjacencies. MAP communities need healthier air, more and better access to green open space, more opportunities for fresh food and grocery stores, stronger commercial areas and entertainment uses.
 4. **Plan for all ages and abilities.** CAC members highlighted the multi-generational and mixed-ability demographic of MAP communities. The plan should study provide amenities and recreational opportunities for everyone: elderly, young professional, youth, children, and the differently-abled. There is a need for safer biking and pedestrian measures (i.e., protected bike lanes, wider sidewalks, jogging tracks, lighting etc.).
 5. **Virtual engagement limits the people who can participate in the public process.** CAC members recognized that uneven internet access and technology gaps (especially in the elderly population) would be a barrier to broader outreach. They suggested approaching advertisement of these events through a more grassroots/on-the-ground effort such as handing out flyers, creating a survey, reaching local organizations and churches, and in-person to the extent possible.
 6. **Engage schools to get youth involved.** CAC members stressed the importance of getting feedback from young, school-going community members. Not only because it would help broaden the input received but also because of the long-term benefits of engaging youth in civic activities at the local government level.
 7. **Use surveys to get additional input.** CAC members suggested creating a survey to supplement input received at virtual visioning workshops. Given the lack of in-person meetings during Round 1 outreach, a survey might help expand outreach significantly.
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ATTACHMENT A: OVERVIEW PRESENTATION SLIDES

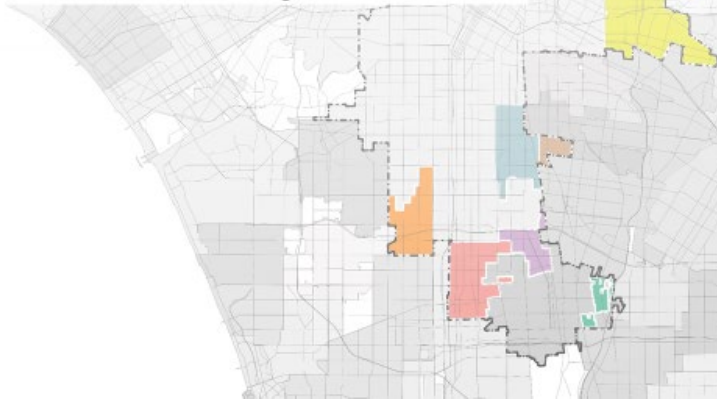


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Community Advisory Committee (CAC)

Kickoff Meeting – Oct 14, 2021

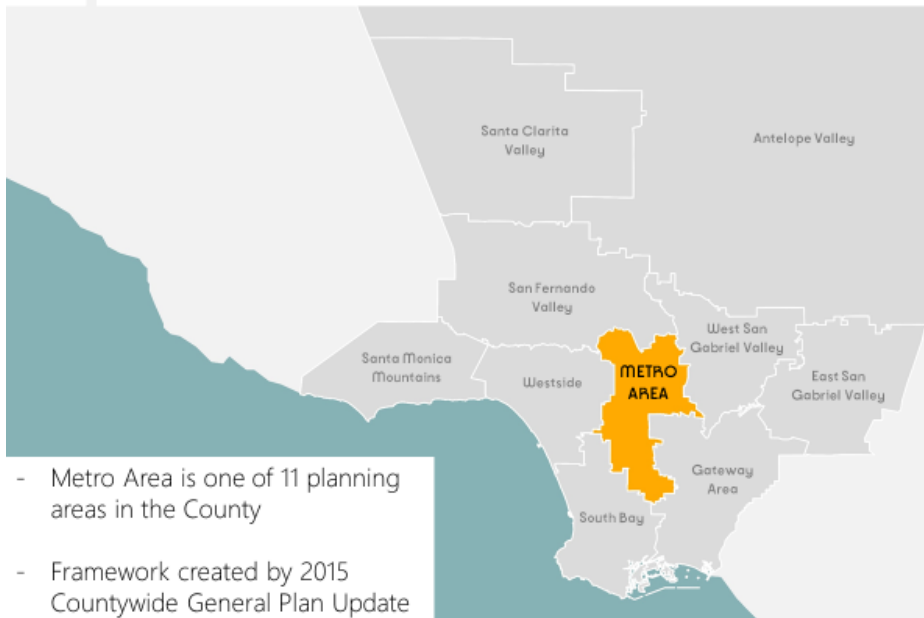


Agenda

1. Introductions
2. Metro Area Plan overview
3. CAC Role
4. CAC initial feedback + Q&A
5. Next Steps



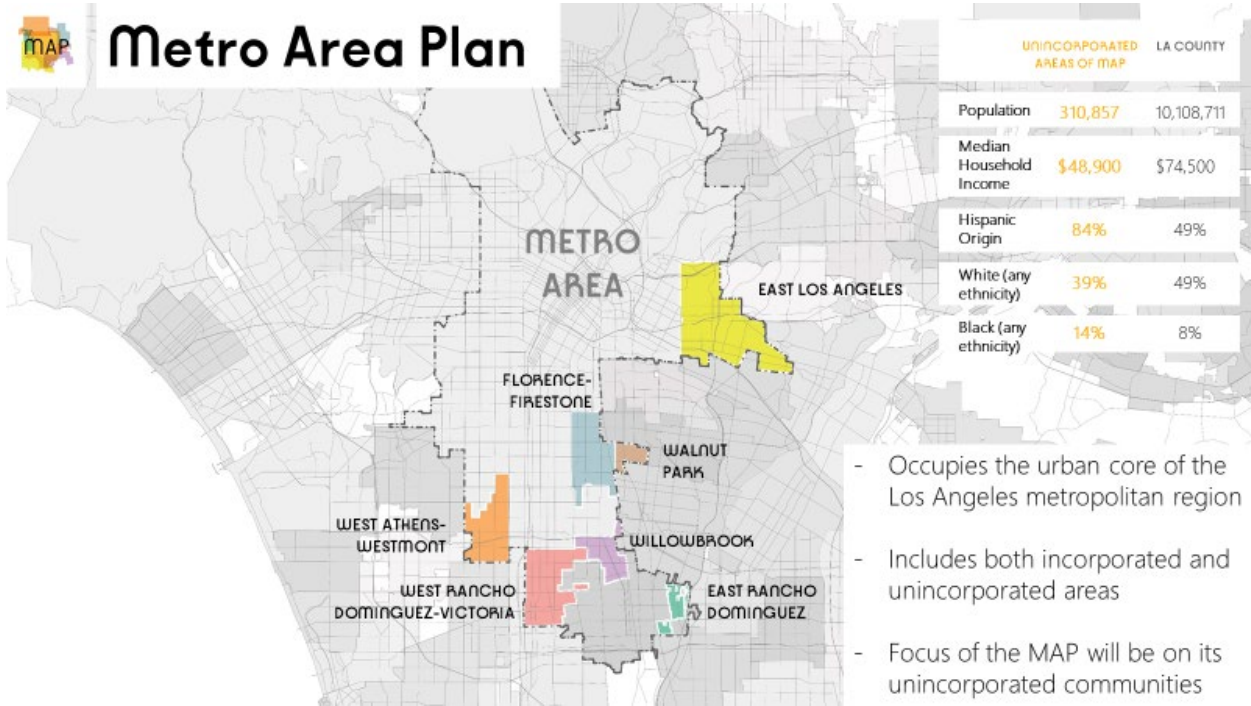
Countywide Planning Framework



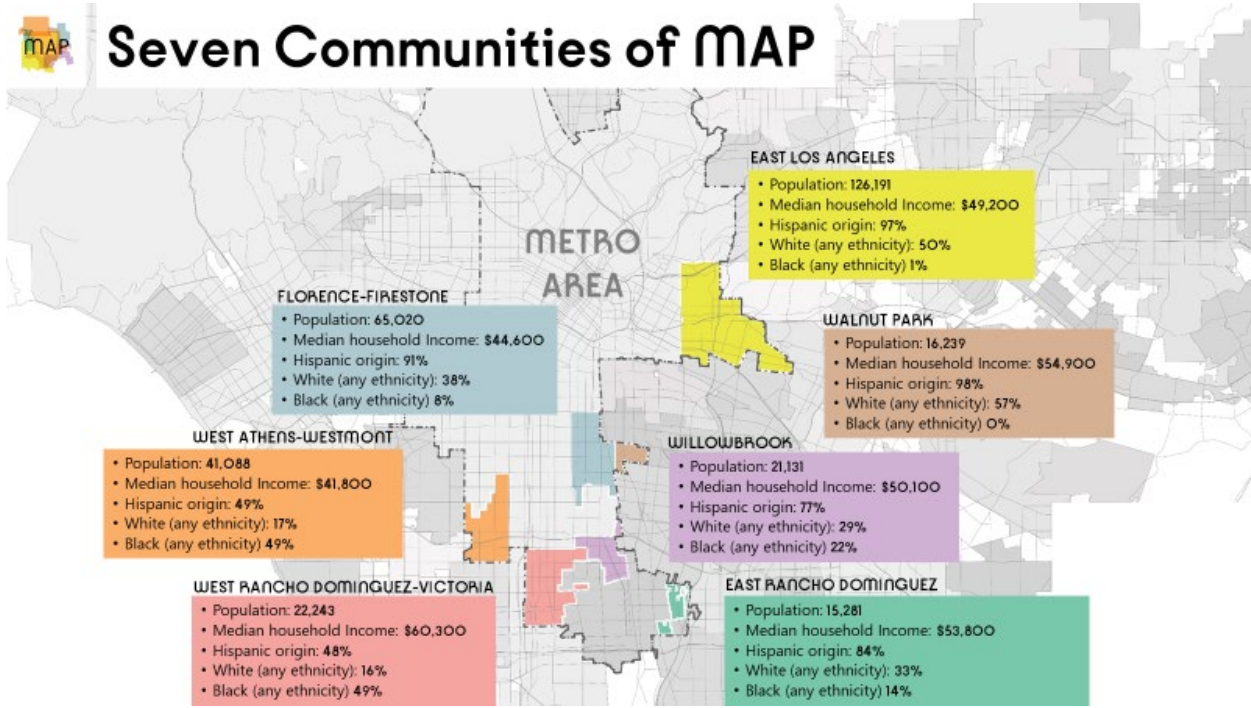
- Metro Area is one of 11 planning areas in the County
- Framework created by 2015 Countywide General Plan Update



Metro Area Plan



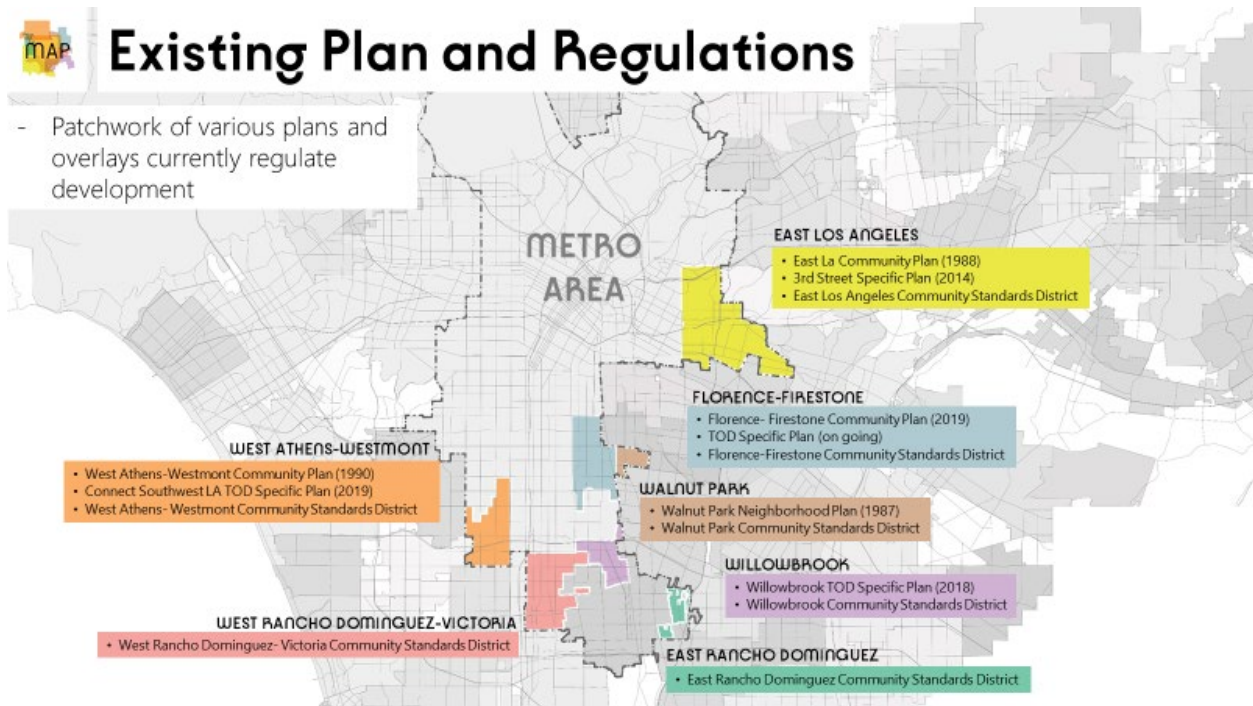
Seven Communities of MAP





Existing Plan and Regulations

- Patchwork of various plans and overlays currently regulate development



Goals of the Metro Area Plan

- Simplify and update various overlapping regulations
- Utilize an environmental justice and equity lens to evaluate all recommendations
- Address need for housing, especially affordable housing
- Increase development around transit stations/centers
- Study potential displacement concerns and homelessness
- Plan for pedestrian/bicyclist safety and more infrastructure
- Address industrial/residential incompatibility
- Address parking needs
- Address needs for parks, open space, and natural areas



Project Schedule



Round 1 Virtual Workshops (Fall 2021)

DATE	COMMUNITY
Tuesday, Oct. 26, 2021	Metro Planning Area-Wide
Thursday, Oct. 28, 2021	Metro Planning Area-Wide
Monday, Nov. 8, 2021	Willowbrook
Tuesday, Nov. 9, 2021	East Rancho Dominguez
Wednesday, Nov. 10, 2021	East Los Angeles
Monday, Nov. 15, 2021	West Rancho Dominguez-Victoria
Wednesday, Nov. 17, 2021	Florence-Firestone + Walnut Park
Thursday, Nov. 18, 2021	West Athens-Westmont



CAC Role & Responsibilities

Represent the viewpoints and interests of the broader community.

Help in identifying opportunities, issues, and challenges to address.

Provide considered and informed feedback on the plan and process

Serve as advocates of the plan and assist with publicizing community involvement opportunities.

Participate in up to eight CAC meetings. Typically, in advance of public workshops to vet and review draft materials.



CAC Feedback + Q&A

From your and your constituents' perspective, what do you think are the most pressing issues for the Metro Area Plan to address?

Who in your community should we also talk to in order to gain a fuller understanding of these issues?

How should our outreach efforts address any virtual or generational divides in these communities?

What would you like to flag as the biggest challenges as we get going on the Plan?

Anything else for us to keep in mind?