

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

# CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES (CNR) ELEMENT UPDATE

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### What is the Conservation and Natural Resources (CNR) Element?

The Conservation and Natural Resources (CNR) Element, also known as the Open Space Element, is part of the Los Angeles County 2035 General Plan and guides the long-term conservation of natural resources and preservation of available open space areas.

The Department of Regional Planning (DRP) will be updating the CNR Element to provide a current, comprehensive policy guide that balances conservation with development and promotes a sustainable and resilient environment for all LA County residents.

The County acts as a steward for local natural resources and open spaces, and the CNR Element update will help strengthen current and future efforts to conserve and protect these resources while guiding development to be compatible with the resources.

### Why is the CNR Element being updated?

Most of the natural resources and open space areas in Los Angeles County are located within the unincorporated area, so the County's role in the protection, conservation, and preservation of natural resources and open space areas is vital for the region.

The Open Space Element was last updated in 2015 and is required to be updated by January 1, 2026, by recent State laws SB 1425 and AB 1889.

SB 1425 requires local governments to revise their open-space plans by January 1, 2026, to enhance equitable access to open spaces, promote climate resilience, and explore rewilding opportunities, ensuring these elements are integrated with environmental justice policies.

AB 1889, also known as the Room to Roam Act, focuses on enhancing wildlife connectivity, supporting biodiversity, and mitigating the impact of human activities on natural habitats.

### How will the CNR Element be updated?

The County will work with communities and stakeholders to revise current policies and develop new policy measures that incorporate current best practices into the CNR Element. The County will also develop implementation programs that align with the County's General

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

### Conservation and Natural Resources (CNR) Element Update

Plan objectives for the continued conservation, sustainability, and resilience of our local open space and environments.

The Open Space Element update will cover County resources including open space, biological resources, local water resources, agriculture, minerals and energy, scenic resources, and historic, cultural and paleontological resources.

Given State legislative updates and recent County efforts touch upon climate change and its effects on Significant Ecological Areas (SEAs), the department will also be updating the SEA studies. The SEAs are officially designated areas within LA County with irreplaceable biological resources.

#### **When will the CNR Element Update take place?**

The County will conduct initial project scoping to determine project needs and will engage with communities and stakeholders through 2025 to solicit feedback on the CNR Element's priorities and policies in compliance with State legislation.

Public participation is crucial to this process, and we invite stakeholders to contribute to shaping the future of LA County's natural resources and open spaces.

#### **How can I learn more about the CNR Element Update?**

More information on the project can be found at the project website here:  
<https://planning.lacounty.gov/long-range-planning/conservation-and-natural-resources-element/>.

Please sign up for our mailing list on the project website so that we can send you important project updates, news, and information.

## Contact Us

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