
Date: December 8, 2022
To: General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC) members
From: General Plan Update Team
Subject: December GPAC Meeting

We look forward to the GPAC meeting next Thursday, December 15. This memo is intended to help you prepare for that meeting. After brief staff updates, the meeting will be devoted to a discussion of health equity and environmental justice policy and strategy ideas with the General Plan Update consultant team.

Zoom Link for the meeting: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/91211018537>

General Plan Policy and Strategy Ideas – Health Equity and Environmental Justice

The December GPAC meeting will be the third in a series of meetings during which members of the consultant team are facilitating discussions with the GPAC about emerging policy and strategy concepts. These concepts are developed from GPAC Working Group recommendations, findings from the existing conditions analysis, the vision and guiding principles, City staff insights, and best practices related to the topic. The consultant team is finding these GPAC discussions immensely valuable and is using GPAC input to develop a draft policy framework on each of the topics and refine draft policies and strategies .

As was the case during the November meeting, the December GPAC meeting will focus on a single topic – health equity and environmental justice. To initiate the discussion, Juan Reynoso from Raimi + Associates will provide an overview of SB 1000 requirements for General Plans, key findings from the environmental justice analysis completed as part of the GPU existing conditions analysis, recommendations from the Equity and Intersectional Justice Working Group, related community and GPAC input, and initial policy and strategy ideas for complying with and exceeding the requirements of SB 1000. The presentation will be followed by an opportunity to ask questions and a GPAC member discussion on considerations and priorities.

In response to GPAC’s request for more time to review content prior to meetings, we are sharing the presentation (Attachment B: December GPAC Slide Deck) as an attachment. Please pay special attention to the recommendations articulated by the Equity and Intersectional Justice Working Group and the draft policy and strategy ideas that we will discuss in depth on Thursday.

We anticipate that topic-focused discussions will continue to be agendized for upcoming GPAC meetings, with a focus on historic resources, hazard mitigation/climate adaptation, and land use. This series of GPAC discussions will inform initial drafts of GPU policy frameworks. Those drafts will be refined in consultation with the GPAC, GPAC working groups relevant to each topic and City staff in the coming months before informing broader community engagement activities to be held in 2023. Those initial frameworks along with community input will lay the groundwork for the initial Draft General Plan.

As always, community members who are not on the GPAC will be invited to provide comments during General Public Comment as well as public comment on agenda items. Community members are also welcome to email comments for distribution to the GPAC. All written comments should be emailed to Christina Paul, the staff liaison to the GPAC.

GPAC Membership Update

As we near the end of 2022, Staff would like to thank you for nearly two years of service to the community as a GPAC member! We have accomplished so much thanks to your contributions and work with community members and look forward to collaborating closely as we continue to develop the plan and move through the adoption process.

In acknowledgement of the original two-year commitment that each of you made when appointed to the GPAC in early 2021 we also want to acknowledge that there is much work still ahead. We anticipate that the General Plan process will run through 2023 and want to take this time to check in about the additional commitment to see the General Plan Update through to adoption. We value your insights and input into the General Plan while wanting to make sure serving on the GPAC continues to work for you. If you have any concern about continuing to serve on the GPAC please reach out to staff to discuss. As you make this decision, please keep in mind that meetings will continue to be virtual (unless we all determine the need and desire for an in-person workshop on a specific topic in the coming months).

With the recent election of GPAC members Janice Cader-Thompson and John Shribbs to the City Council in addition to three appointed GPAC members' resignation due to relocation out of city limits (Committee Members Bartholomy, Brown, and Diaz) we will be looking at filling the five vacant seats in early 2023. New GPAC appointments will ensure that we continue to represent the community in terms of geography and interest areas. Applications for new membership will be posted soon.

As always, if you have any questions, please contact Christina Paul (cpaul@cityofpetaluma.org). Thank you!

Attachments:

Attachment A: Summary notes from the November 17, 2022 GPAC meeting

Attachment B: GPAC 12/15/2022 Slide Deck