Date: March 9, 2023

To: General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC) members

From: General Plan Update Team

Subject: March GPAC Meeting

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

We look forward to the GPAC meeting next Thursday, March 16th. This memo is intended to help you prepare for that meeting. The first order of business will be a short presentation from the Small Artwork Commission. They are soliciting ideas on public places to install art in the city. We are sharing their presentation as an attachment (Small Artwork Commission 2023 Presentation for GPAC).

After brief staff updates, the rest of the meeting will be focused on Safety Element goal and policy ideas.

Members of the public in attendance at next week's GPAC meeting 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.

General Plan Policy and Strategy Ideas – Safety Element

This meeting will be the fifth in a series of GPAC meetings focused on 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 input, and best practices related to the topic. The consultant team is using GPAC input to develop a draft policy framework on each of the General Plan topics. Draft GPU policy frameworks will be refined in the coming months before informing broader community engagement activities. Those initial frameworks along with community input will lay the groundwork for the initial Draft General Plan.

As was the case during the November, December, and January meetings, the March GPAC meeting will focus on a single topic – Safety. To initiate the discussion, the team from Rincon Consultants will present key findings from the GPU existing conditions analysis, related community and GPAC input, and initial goal and policy ideas. The presentation will be followed by an opportunity for the GPAC to ask questions and discuss considerations and priorities to inform the development of the Safety Element policy framework.

So that the GPAC has time to review the meeting content in advance of the meeting, we are sharing the presentation as an attachment (PetalumaGPU_GPAC_23_0316). Please pay special attention to the draft policy and strategy ideas that we will discuss in depth on Thursday.

General Plan Meetings – Online or In-Person

In the latter half of January and the first half of February, 2023, the GPAC responded to questions related to member preferences or meeting online or in person. 60% of members preferred to remain online, while 40% would like to meet in person. 6 people would have significant difficulty meeting in person consistently or at all. Members expressed strong preferences for both meeting in person and meeting online. Several members proposed the idea of hybrid meetings, and also pointed out the logistical difficulties of meeting in person. Following GPAC responses to the survey, on February 27,

2023, City Council considered whether or not to enable to GPAC to have the possibility of having online meetings, as well as the option to meet in person or use a hybrid format. The City Council decided to enable to GPAC to continue to meet using online as well as in person or hybrid formats by rescinding resolutions related to the GPAC. This action does not change the role of membership of the GPAC. The City is looking into a range of options for meeting formats, including an option for a hybrid meeting in which members who would like to may meet in person while the audience and the remainder of the GPAC can join online. GPAC input on this topic is welcome.

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

Attachments:

Attachment A: Summary notes from the February 16, 2023 GPAC meeting

Attachment B: March 16, 2023 GPAC Meeting Slide Deck