

City Planning Updates 2023 (Jan - March)

Citywide

Draft Site Plan Review Amendment for Affordable Housing Now Available:

The Site Plan Review Amendment would amend the City's Site Plan Review Ordinance to exempt deed-restricted affordable housing units from being counted towards the 50 unit dwelling unit threshold. **Public Feedback and comments due by April 3, 2023.** Email public comments to planning.housingpolicy@lacity.org.

- [Virtual Public Hearing on March 14, 2023](#)
- [Draft Ordinance](#)
- [Fact Sheet](#)

Join us on March 11 at Plan Check NC: City Planning will provide updates on the proposed amendments to the Site Plan Review Ordinance at the next Plan Check NC meeting on March 11, 2023. Please visit the [Plan Check NC website](#) for more information.

New Zoning System Overviews: Check out our [animated video series](#) about the new, updated zoning system and its modules (Form, Frontage, Development Standards, Use, and Density).

City Planning Hybrid Meetings: As of March 1, 2023, City Planning's Brown Act bodies (City Planning Commission, Cultural Heritage Commission, and seven Area Planning Commissions), as well as our 21 Historic Preservation Overlay Zone Boards, 12 Design Review Boards, and one Plan Review Board) will resume meeting in person. The department will conduct these meetings in a hybrid format to continue providing remote participation options for the public.

Department Implementation Memo on Assembly Bill 2097: [AB 2097](#) is a California law prohibiting public agencies or cities from imposing a minimum automobile parking requirement on most development projects within a half-mile radius of a major transit stop. More information is now available on our [website](#).

- [Implementation Memo](#)

AI Fresco Ordinance (CF 20-1074): A proposed ordinance to update and expand outdoor dining provisions within the Zoning Code. The proposed ordinance will provide for a permanent program on private property. *The department anticipates releasing a revised Ordinance at the end of March.*

- [Public Hearing](#) was held on Wednesday, 02/08/23
- City Planning hosted a [webinar](#) on 1/18/23, which included a presentation and Q&A segment, along with a presentation at the [Virtual Plan Check NC meeting](#) on 1/14/23
- Results from the [survey](#) conducted Summer of 2022 are also now available
- Next steps: CPC, PLUM Committee, and full City Council
- To sign up for updates or provide feedback, please email AlFresco.Planning@lacity.org
- Materials for public review: [Draft Permanent AI Fresco Ordinance](#), [Fact sheet](#) & [Hoja Informativa](#)

Deemed Approved Ordinance (CF 17-0957): In response to a City Council motion, City Planning is preparing an ordinance that amends the Los Angeles Municipal Code to establish operating standards for existing alcohol-selling businesses citywide that do not have a Conditional Use Permit (CUP). These establishments began operating and selling alcohol before the City began requiring a CUP to sell alcohol in the 1970s and 1980s. Businesses in compliance with these new standards would be considered “deemed to be approved” to continue selling alcohol. Emails were sent to [Business Improvement Districts](#) to make them aware of the ordinance.

- Anticipated release of the draft ordinance: Spring 2023
- [Project Webpage; 11/2/22 Webinar](#)
- Visit the link to sign up for [updates](#)

Wildlife Pilot Study (CF 14-0518): A proposed ordinance to amend the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) and create a Wildlife Ordinance District that establishes regulations restricting location, size, fencing, landscaping, and design requirements of new development within the Wildlife Ordinance District.

- Approved by the City Planning Commission (CPC) on 12/8/22
- Transmitted to the City Council: 1/18/23
- Pending consideration by the Planning and Land Use Management Committee: Anticipated to be considered in Spring 2023
- Materials for public review:
 - [A revised version of the proposed Wildlife Ordinance](#)
 - [Staff Recommendation Report to CPC](#)
 - [A Summary of the Ordinance and Revisions](#)
 - [Updated Fact Sheet](#)

Oil and Gas Drilling Ordinance (CF 17-0447-S2): This adopted ordinance prohibits new oil and gas extraction, makes existing extraction activities a nonconforming use in all zones, and requires phasing out of existing operations after an amortization period. Planning has released guidance documents which include a Zoning Administrator's interpretation defining maintenance and a Zoning Administrator memo outlining procedures to request exceptions from the ordinance's ban on maintenance and other activities in instances where it is necessary to preserve public health, safety, and the environment.

- [ZA Memo 141 on Health and Safety Exception Projects](#)
- [Zoning Administrator's Interpretation on Well Maintenance \(City Planning Case No. ZA-2022-8997-ZAI\)](#)
 - [The ZAI has three \(3\) pending appeals that will be considered by the City Planning Commission](#)
- Ordinance effective date: 1/18/23
- Materials for public review:
 - [Ordinance No. 187709](#)
 - [Fact Sheet](#)
 - [Hoja Informativa](#)

Process and Procedures Ordinance (CF 12-0460-S4): The Ordinance streamlines case processing and reorganizes the rules that govern the steps involved in reviewing projects or adopting land use policy while introducing a more user-friendly format with flowcharts and visual aids. It reduces over 120 different types of planning entitlements in the current Zoning Code down to about 60 unique review paths. It makes the rules for how the department reviews land use and development applications more consistent and accessible.

- Ordinance operative date: 7/22/23
- Materials for public review:
 - [Ordinance No. 187712](#)
 - [Processes Comparison Chart](#)
 - [Fact Sheet](#)

Regional

Ventura Cahuenga Boulevard Corridor Specific Plan (CF 17-1071-S1): On March 2, 2023 the Los Angeles City Council passed a motion to streamline signage and re-allocate Plan Review Board member appointments to be based on community rather than council districts, as well as update the Specific Plan to reflect recently adopted ordinances on a faster timeline. Staff are working to prepare these amendments to bring these changes to a public hearing in May or June of 2023.

East San Fernando Valley: You can now [sign up for updates](#) to the proposed East San Fernando Valley Transit Neighborhood Plan, as outreach events are planned to kick off soon. This Transit Neighborhood Plan (TNP) intersects with the following Neighborhood Councils: Pacoima, Arleta, and Panorama City.

South LA CPIO Amendment (CF 20-1265-S1): [Proposed amendments](#) create a new administrative process to review projects within a new “CPIO Protected Unit Area” whereby residential projects would be subject to existing CPIO Residential Subarea development standards. New, additional provisions would require the replacement of affordable housing and delay demolitions.

- Approved with amendments by Council on 1/25/23
- Next steps: Form and legality review by the City Attorney and final adoption of the ordinance
- Materials for public review:

- [\(New\) 1/17/23 Report from PLUM](#)
- [12/6/22 Report from PLUM](#)
- [Presentation to the PLUM Committee](#)
- [Proposed Zoning Ordinance Map](#)
- [Proposed Text Amendments to the South LA CPIO](#)

Department Publications

- If you are interested in receiving our monthly e-newsletter, please sign up [here](#)

Bi-Weekly Case Reports

- Sign up [here](#) to receive bi-weekly case reports

City Planning Prefixes and Suffixes

- Please click [here](#) for a list of all prefix and suffix codes used by City Planning