



ALTADENA TOWN COUNCIL

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730 East Altadena Drive
Altadena, California 91001
www.altadenatowncouncil.org

December 5, 2024

Supervisor Kathryn Barger
Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Room 869
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Sent via email

Dear Supervisor Barger:

On September 25, 2024, the LA County Regional Planning Commission held a public hearing to review the West San Gabriel Valley Area Plan (Plan) and its associated Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The Plan is scheduled for its first reading at the Board of Supervisors meeting on December 10, 2024.

Beginning in July 2023, the Department of Regional Planning (DRP) initiated community outreach to highlight the need for an update to the Plan. Over several months, DRP conducted extensive outreach through both in-person and virtual meetings to solicit input and clarify the Plan's key elements and proposed changes. Additionally, postcards and letters were sent to addresses within the Plan's boundaries.

The Altadena Town Council (Council) has actively engaged with DRP, inviting representatives to present at our meetings, promoting the CEQA public meetings and five open houses, and addressing specific questions raised by Altadena residents. On November 20, 2024, the Council collaborated with Altadena Coalition of Neighborhood Associations (ACONA) to host a presentation by DRP staff aimed at clarifying misinformation shared on social media, followed by a robust and extensive Q&A session.

The Council has heard from both supporters and opponents of the Plan. The prevailing sentiment in Altadena is one of endorsement. Proponents believe the Plan was thoughtfully developed by DRP in consultation with Altadena residents and other affected unincorporated communities. The Plan, along with its proposed zoning and land use changes, will direct development away from the Altadena foothills and other high fire hazard zones, while protecting natural resources, preventing habitat fragmentation, and preserving wildlife corridors. The Plan acknowledges environmental and societal changes in recent decades and offers a forward-thinking vision for the future. Additionally, Altadena residents are concerned with improving general mobility including safe routes for walking and biking. Many residents who raised these issues want to make sure the zoning is compliant with state requirements to remain eligible for future state infrastructure funding.

We also acknowledge that there has been a small but vocal opposition to the Plan. The WSGVAP Planning Team addressed these concerns by releasing a detailed factsheet, which was posted to the DRP website and circulated in mid-October to clarify these misunderstandings.

The Altadena Town Council, in alignment with the broader community, wishes to formally express our support for the West San Gabriel Valley Area Plan. We believe the Plan aligns with the State's goals for sustainable development and thoughtfully considers the needs of our community. We also appreciate the extensive outreach efforts made by DRP since July 2023, which have been instrumental in fostering transparent and informed dialogue with residents.

Thank you for your consideration of our support for the West San Gabriel Valley Area Plan.

Sincerely,



Victoria Knapp
Chair
Altadena Town Council

CC Amy Bodeck (via email)