Department of Planning and Building

General Plan Update
Opportunity

The General Plan update serves as an opportunity to advance the City’s critically important mission to “intentionally integrate, on a Citywide basis, the principle of 'fair and just' in all the City does in order to achieve equitable opportunities for all people and communities.”

(Oakland Municipal code 2.29.170.1)

This means working to eliminate the root causes of inequity, resulting in more effective and equitable City policies, processes and services.
We must start here...

Acknowledging the legacy of redlining, and the long-lasting effects of past exclusionary planning practices in creating racial disparities.
Asthma Prevalence Among Adults 18 Years and Older, 2016

Data Source: 500 Cities Project, Center for Disease Control and Prevention
Moving forward…

» Tools from the Department of Race & Equity
  • Race & Equity Impact Analysis
  • Inclusive Community Engagement Guide

» Leverage internal capacity:
  • Race & Equity Teams in City Departments
  • Interdepartmental collaboration with Community Engagement staff

» Local models we’ve learned from:
  • Healthy Development Guidelines (2017)
  • East Oakland Neighborhood Initiative (2019)
  • West Oakland Community Action Plan (2019)
  • 2030 Equitable Climate Action Plan (2020)
  • Capital Improvement Program (2021)
What is the General Plan?

“Constitution” for development and conservation

• Opportunity to look back to identify past challenges and accomplishments
• Establishes citywide vision and supporting goals, policies, and implementation measures
• Provides consistent direction for future development
• Engage our community in the planning and decision-making process
• A new focus on race and equity
How Does the General Plan Affect Oakland?

» Development and use of property
» Location and types of housing
» Number and types of jobs
» How people get around
» Number and quality of parks
» Risks from hazards
» Nurture cultural and natural resources
General Plan Update Schedule

2020 fall:  Listening Sessions

2021 spring and summer:  Approach and Consultant Team Selection

General Plan Update Memo

RFP for Consultant Team (Council – July)

- CBO(s) as part of consultant team
- Phased approach, ongoing community engagement

2021 fall:  Official Kick-off
Major Planning Themes for Oakland

» Equity and Justice
» Sustainability
» Community Health
» Economic Development
» Housing
» Civic Engagement
» Interdepartmental Coordination

What is Environmental Justice?

The fair treatment of people of all races, cultures, and incomes with respect to the development, adoption, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.

CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENT CODE §65040.12(E)
Required Elements of the General Plan

- **Land Use and Transportation Element (LUTE)** – adopted 1998
  - Includes *Estuary Policy Plan* for areas below Interstate 880 – adopted 1999
- **Open Space, Conservation and Recreation (OSCAR)** – adopted 1996
- **Noise** – adopted 2005
- **Housing** – adopted 2014 (*must be adopted by Jan 2023*)
- **Safety** – adopted 2004, last amended 2016 (*must be adopted by Jan 2023*)
  - *Local Hazard Mitigation Plan* – 2016 (*must be adopted by June 2021*)
- **Environmental Justice** (*must be adopted by Jan 2023*)
  - May be stand-alone or interwoven
Optional Elements and Related Documents


» **Scenic Highways Element** (1974)


**Other Citywide Plans** - Oakland 2030 Equitable Climate Action Plan, Resilient Oakland Playbook, Belonging In Oakland (Cultural Plan)
Key Questions to Consider

» What do we need to include in the work program for the General Plan Update, particularly to address the root causes of disparities?

» What data and expertise are needed?

» What type of accountability mechanisms are needed?

» How should we create and prioritize relationships with community stakeholders, particularly those from under-represented communities?

» How can we involve and empower them?