

## access to healthy foods

The U.S. Department of Agriculture defines food insecurity as a lack of consistent access to enough food for an active, healthy life. Although hunger and food insecurity are closely related, they are distinct concepts. Hunger refers to a personal, physical sensation of discomfort, while food insecurity refers to a lack of available financial resources for food at the household level. Food insecurities occur in households with incomes less than 300 percent of the federal poverty level.

Limited access to supermarkets, supercenters, grocery stores, and other sources of healthy and affordable food may make it harder for some residents to eat a healthy diet. Expanding the availability of nutritious and affordable food by encouraging grocery stores, small retailers, corner markets, and farmers' markets in communities with limited access is an important part of creating a healthy community. Food deserts are areas in which residents find it difficult to buy affordable or good quality, fresh food.

## healthy homes

Well-maintained housing demonstrates pride of ownership, stabilizes property values, attracts residents to a community, contributes to neighborhood quality, and creates safe places for people to live. As the majority of homes in Whittier are over 50 years old, programs focused on maintaining the physical condition of all housing types will remain an ongoing priority.

Generally, Whittier has a predominantly older housing stock, with only 11 percent built since the 1970s. Most of the housing (63 percent) was built in the 1950s or earlier. Homes generally begin to show age after 30 years and require some level of maintenance. This typically includes roof repair, painting, landscaping, and exterior finishes. Homes between 30 and 50 years typically require more significant maintenance and even renovation. Generally, houses and apartments built 50 or more years ago (unless well maintained) are more likely to require substantial repairs or need renovation to meet current building codes.

Other concerns related to the age of housing are lead-based paint and asbestos. Homes built prior to 1978 typically contain lead-based paint, and older homes may also contain asbestos, which formerly was a popular insulation and acoustic material (before experts recognized the dangers it poses to our respiratory tract). Lead-based paint can cause a number of hazardous health conditions for children—specifically developmental delays. Health hazards occur when the paint chips and is inhaled or ingested. Since 1978, the federal government has banned the use of lead-based paint. Still, older homes may need to paint over lead-based paint or remove peeling paint. Similarly, asbestos becomes a hazard largely when disturbed as part of reconstruction activities. To protect human health, federal agencies have put strict protocols in place for the removal of these materials.

## health care access

When people visit a doctor regularly for check-ups, they can prevent more serious health issues, thus enjoying good health and reducing their health care costs. Access to quality health care requires nearby services and the means to pay for the services. In Whittier, the presence of PIH Health Hospital, Whittier Hospital Medical Center, Barlow Respiratory Hospital, and a multitude of medical clinics provides residents ready access to quality medical care. Paying for care is the more challenging issue for people of lower income. Health care funding programs such as Medicaid and the Affordable Care Act are managed by federal and State agencies, with the City having no involvement. Opportunities for Whittier to better connect residents to affordable and reliable health care services include public service announcements, links on the City's website, partnerships with local hospitals for community health fairs, and even wellness checks by City staff on elderly or house-bound individuals.

## civic engagement

Residents can best advocate for their own needs when they feel connected to and have confidence in local decision makers. The first step: ensuring residents know how to engage in civic life and are encouraged to do so. Social media—when used productively—has extended the reach of policy makers, allowing for more extensive community education and information. Social media platforms have also eased residents' abilities to let their concerns and ideas known.

Expanded engagement, to be most successful, also needs to be equitable. Equitable engagement means having community conversations in languages in which people feel most comfortable and using media and conducting in-person meetings that are accessible to people of all income levels at convenient times of day.

Whittier prides itself in the transparency and accessibility of its public processes. The City affirms its commitment to adjusting over time to include new ways to extend its reach and involve everyone in the community who is interested in participating in civic policy- and decision-making at all levels and by diverse means.

# goals and policies

## environmental justice



**Goal 9:** Residential neighborhoods not burdened by pollution exposure and where all residents have equal access to community services and amenities, healthy foods, well-maintained homes, and recreational facilities and programming that support healthy lifestyles

## pollution exposure

- PSNH-9.1: Review the operating characteristics of proposed new industrial businesses near Disadvantaged Communities to minimize impacts on the population, especially children and the senior community. Encourage any existing sources of emissions to use feasible measures to minimize emissions that could impact air quality.
- PSNH-9.2: Support legislation that will reduce automobile and truck emissions, the predominant source of pollutants emanating from I-605 and Whittier Boulevard (SR-72).
- PSNH-9.3: Encourage building design, construction safeguards, and technological improvements that mitigate the negative impacts of hazardous materials and/or air pollution on indoor air quality and residential and sensitive uses sited near businesses that handle toxic materials.
- PSNH-9.4: Designate acceptable and unacceptable areas for freight trucking and truck idling to limit impacts to all residents and Disadvantaged Communities in particular.
- PSNH-9.5: Use landscaping and other buffers to separate sensitive uses from trucking uses, warehousing, manufacturing facilities, and other emissions sources.
- PSNH-9.6: Encourage non-polluting industry and clean green technology companies to locate in the City.
- PSNH-9.7: Work vigorously with appropriate federal and other agencies to speed the cleanup of the local Superfund site, former oil field operations, and other sources of soil and groundwater contamination.

## public improvement priorities, services, and amenities

- PSNH-9.8: Prioritize the spending of general funds in Disadvantaged Communities for recreation, air quality, and other environmental improvements; recreation programming; and public infrastructure improvements.
- PSNH-9.9: Improve access to public facilities, services, and recreation and health programming that can be used for open space and/or recreation activities, with prioritization within Disadvantaged Communities.
- PSNH-9.10: Encourage cultural programs and activities of local interest that are inclusive and affordable to all.
- PSNH-9.11: Identify areas in need of a public realm improvements and develop public spaces that provide safe, convenient, and pleasant gathering places for neighbors to meet and congregate.

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- PSNH-9.12: Provide support and consider joint opportunities with organizations engaged in public health events such as health fairs, community gardens, youth fitness programs, wellness competitions, and public health speakers and workshops.
- PSNH-9.13: Assess existing parks and gathering spaces around Uptown and within Disadvantaged Communities to ensure parks amenities are tailored to meet the evolving needs of the community, as well being responsive to unique cultural, historic, social, and demographic needs.
- PSNH-9.14: Expand park and recreation opportunities in all neighborhoods, especially within Disadvantaged Communities, and ensure that opportunities are offered within comfortable walking distance of homes, schools, and businesses to encourage more physically and socially active lifestyles.
- PSNH-9.15: Deter criminal activity in neighborhoods, streets, and public areas through the design and monitoring of play areas, parks, greenway trails, plazas, and urban pocket parks.

## healthy food access

- PSNH-9.16: Strive to ensure that all residents are within walking distance of sources of fresh and healthy foods (e.g., grocery stores, healthy corner stores, farmers' markets, and community gardens).
- PSNH-9.17: Expand the potential of community garden and urban farm sites on public properties (including parks, public easements, rights-of-way, and schoolyards) and private properties.
- PSNH-9.18: Utilize incentives or other programs to encourage existing small grocery or convenience stores to offer and promote healthy food options, with a focus on underserved areas and areas near schools.
- PSNH-9.19: Discourage new liquor stores, fast-food restaurants, and gas stations selling alcohol from locating near schools and in areas with an existing high concentration of such stores.
- PSNH-9.20: Support initiatives to have year-round farmers' markets.

## well-maintained homes

- PSNH-9.21: Promote the repair, improvement, and rehabilitation of single-family housing, multiple-family housing, and mobile homes to enhance quality of life, improve value, and create safe and sanitary housing conditions.
- PSNH-9.22: Maintain, improve, and create healthy neighborhoods through improving the built environment, enforcing housing and property maintenance standards, and sponsoring public education programs.

## promoting civic engagement

- PSNH-9.23: Partner with and support the efforts of any non-profits that focus on programs and activities within Disadvantaged Communities.
- PSNH-9.24: Consider installing signage at key focal points in Disadvantaged Communities to promote and advertise City meetings and other public announcements. Use social media that particularly targets residents who ordinarily do not participate in civic life.
- PSNH-9.25: Strive to translate notices and commission materials in Spanish or other languages with which community members feel most comfortable.

## best practices for improving health

- PSNH-9.26: Support policies, projects, and programs that demonstrate best practices related to promoting wellness in City facilities and at City-sponsored events, such as serving healthy foods at community events.
- PSNH-9.27: Form partnerships with school districts and other educational institutions, non-profit organizations, healthcare organizations, and regional governmental agencies to foster and participate in efforts promoting healthy lifestyles, physical activity, and positive health outcomes.
- PSNH-9.28: Promote, sponsor, and support a variety of community events focused on health and wellness, fitness, weight-loss programs, and similar activities.

## physical activity

- PSNH-9.29: Expand connectivity to the Whittier Greenway Trail. Consult with regional agencies and surrounding jurisdictions to expand connectivity of the Greenway Trail to trails outside of Whittier.

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- PSNH-9.30: Seek to accentuate, daylight, and green drainages, culverts, and underground drainage infrastructure for the purpose of having this infrastructure provide pathways and trails.
- PSNH-9.31: Encourage the provision of recreational activities for all people, consistent with the changing demographic composition of Whittier.
- PSNH-9.32: Expand health and exercise stations within parks, trails, public right-of-way, and other public spaces.
- PSNH-9.33: Partner with community organizations and local businesses to pursue funding opportunities to expand recreational facilities and programming to increase physical activity.
- PSNH-9.34: Consider unique neighborhood needs in developing facilities and programs for indoor and outdoor activities within Disadvantaged Communities.

# noise

- **noise setting and background**
- **effects of noise on people**
- **baseline and future noise environments**
- **managing the noise environment**

Noise generally is defined as unwanted sound. Noise can impact essential parts of life such as work, rest, sleep, and communication and can result in negative impacts to people's quality of life. Consideration of noise-generating sources and ambient noise conditions in land use planning and decision-making activities helps guard against deterioration of health and well-being. This noise plan establishes the framework for identifying noise sources and conditions that affect land use.

Every city in California is required to identify noise-sensitive land uses and noise sources, quantify areas of noise impact, and establish goals, policies, and programs so that residents will be protected from excessive noise. Section 65302(f) of the Government Code identifies the specific noise analysis and policy direction that must be included in a General Plan, with attention paid as well to Section 46050.1 of the Health and Safety Code.

## noise setting and background

While noise is an inherent part of urban living, people who live in suburban environments expect moderate noise conditions, such as limited vehicle and aircraft noise and business activity. Many factors impact how people perceive and react to noise, such as the time of day, the noise source, and their expectations for the noise environment. In Whittier, the most significant and constant noise source is roadway/freeway traffic noise. At a more localized level, activities such as landscape maintenance and construction activities can interfere with enjoyment of outdoor neighborhood life. Controlling roadway noise can be difficult since State and federal laws control motor vehicle noise. However, the location of noise-sensitive land uses relative to significant noise sources can help address roadway noise concerns. For more localized impacts, City ordinances can help.

## measurement and perception

Sound intensity is measured and expressed in decibels (dB), with an adjustment referred to as the A-weighted measure to correct for the relative frequency response of the human ear. Of the various scale available for measuring noise, the A-weighted sound pressure level (dBA) is the scale of measurement that is most effective in measuring noise at a community level. The A-scale approximates the frequency response of the average ear when listening to most ordinary everyday sounds.

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The limit to using decibels as the basic measurement of sound is that decibels represent a rough connection between the physical intensity of sound and its perceived loudness to the human ear. For example, a 10-decibel increase in sound level is perceived by the human ear as only doubling of the loudness of the sound. Ambient sounds in the urban environment generally range from 30 dBA (very quiet) to 100 dBA (very loud).

The time of day can also play a significant role in how people perceive noise. Noise typically is more bothersome at night than during the daytime because the ambient noise level is generally lower at night.

The duration of a sound also affects how someone perceives noise, or how much of a nuisance it may be to them. A certain level of noise may be acceptable depending on the duration experienced by someone. For example, a truck passing by may be more tolerable than the noise made by a long train. Measures of noise exposure have been developed to consider not just the A-level variation of noise but also the duration of the disturbance. That is where the Community Equivalent Noise Level, or CNEL, comes into play.

### community noise equivalent level (CNEL)

The CNEL measurement weights the average noise levels for the evening hours (7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.) by increasing them by 5 dB and weights the average noise levels for the nighttime hours (10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.) by increasing them by 10 dB. The daytime noise levels are combined with these weighted levels and are averaged to obtain a CNEL value.

### effects of noise on people

In general, noise may affect the average individual through hearing loss, obstruction with oral communication, and by interfering with sleep. The ability to understand speech is increasingly difficult when sound exceeds 60 dBA. Sound levels exceeding 40 to 45 dBA can impact sleeping habits within a residence.

Prolonged sound exceeding 85 dBA may result in temporary or even permanent hearing loss. State and federal safety and health regulations protect workers at levels of exposure that exceed 90 dBA for an eight-hour workday.

### noise/land use compatibility standards

In California and Whittier specifically, a CNEL of 65 dBA is used as a standard for maximum outdoor noise levels in residential areas.

Particularly sensitive land uses—also called sensitive receptors—include residences, schools, libraries, religious buildings, hospitals, and nursing homes. In addition, parks, golf courses, and

other outdoor activity areas can be sensitive to noise disturbances. Commercial and industrial uses, conventional hotels and motels, playgrounds and neighborhood ballparks, and other outdoor spectator sport arenas are less sensitive to noise. Least sensitive to noise are heavy commercial and industrial uses, transportation, communication, and utility land uses.

Land use decisions and the development review process are ways to minimize noise impacts on sensitive land uses. Noise compatibility may be achieved by not locating conflicting land uses adjacent to one another and by incorporating buffers and noise control techniques in the overall site design process. This can be achieved by integrating increased setbacks, dense landscaping, building transitions, walls, and building construction techniques. Table PSNH-5 (Noise and Land Use Compatibility Guidelines) illustrates the ranges of allowable exterior noise levels for various land uses in Whittier. To supplement adopted and future adopted noise regulations, this table should be applied to individual projects and their noise analyses to determine specific land use compatibility and to establish significance thresholds.

**Table PSNH-5: Noise and Land Use Compatibility Guidelines**

Land Use Category	Community Noise Exposure Limit (CNEL or DNL, dBA)			
	Normally Acceptable	Conditionally Acceptable	Normally Unacceptable	Clearly Unacceptable
Residential - Low-Density Single-Family, Duplex, Mobile Homes	60	70	75	75+
Residential - Multi-Family	65	70	75	75+
Transient Lodging - Motels, Hotels	65	70	80	80+
Schools, Libraries, Religious Buildings, Hospitals, Nursing Homes	70	70	80	80+
Auditoriums, Concert Halls, Amphitheaters	N/A	70	N/A	70+
Sports Arenas, Outdoor Spectator Sports	N/A	N/A	75	75+
Playgrounds, Neighborhood Parks	70	70	75	75+
Golf Courses, Riding Stables, Water Recreation, Cemeteries	75	N/A	80	80+
Office Buildings, Business Commercial and Professional	70	77.5	77.5+	N/A
Industrial, Manufacturing, Utilities, Agriculture	75	80	80+	N/A

Source: OPR, 2017, Appendix D

## baseline and future noise environments

As noted above, I-605 freeway and Whittier Boulevard represent the dominant community noise sources, along with the arterial roadways. Within residential neighborhoods, residents have cited loud party noises as a recurring issue.

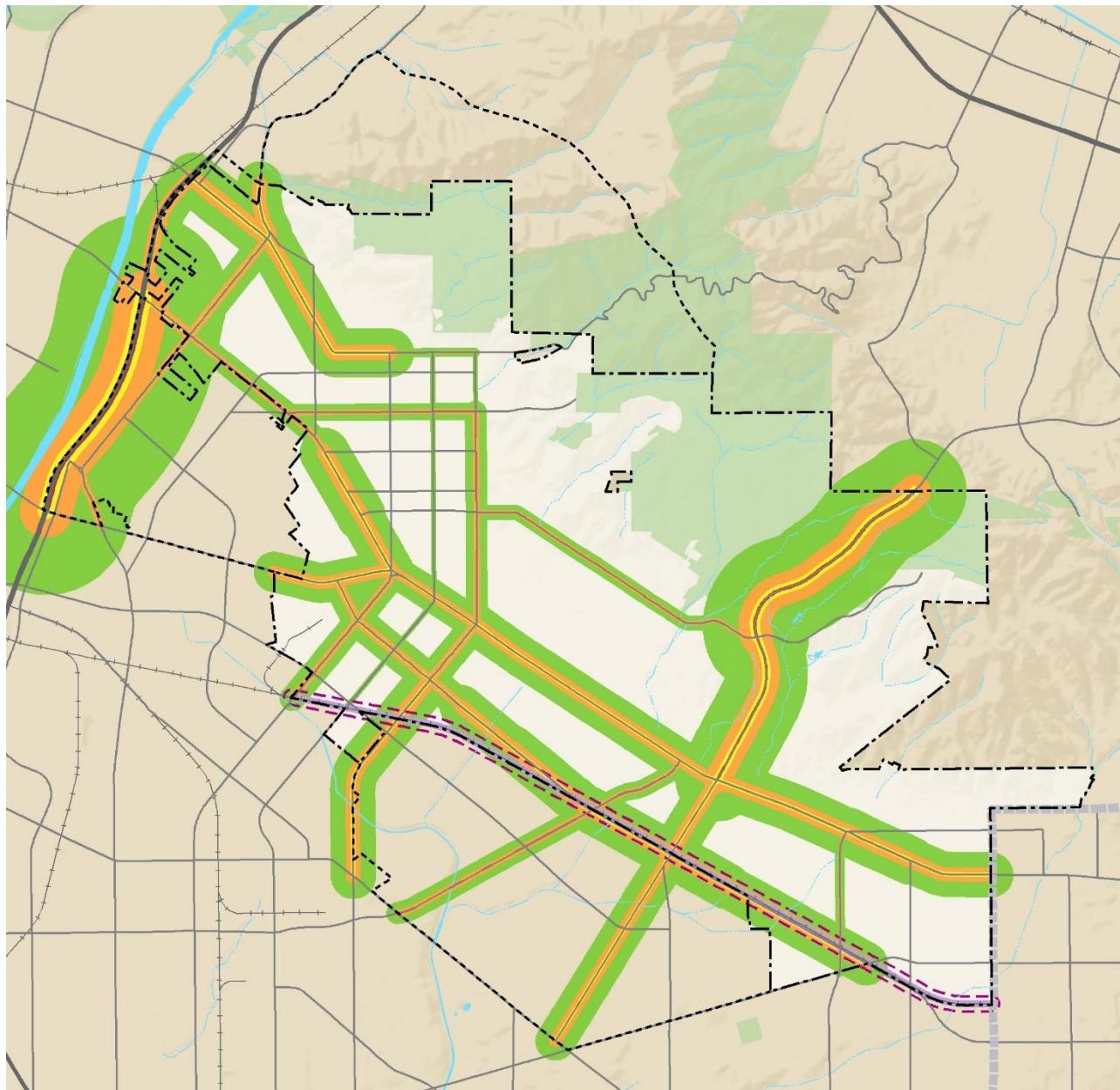
Since the primary contributor to noise is traffic, noise contours for baseline (2020) and projected future conditions were developed based on the traffic volumes included in the General Plan traffic study and utilized the Traffic Noise Model lookup tables developed by the Federal Highway Administration.

## managing the noise environment

Whittier will address noise issues by making wise land use decisions. Site development plans and proposed land uses will consider how roadway and localize noise impacts properties. Reviewing each project at the time it is proposed will help assure impacts can be minimized. Project design mitigation, simple and sophisticated technical fixes, and acoustical barriers will be applied to each project to address noise.

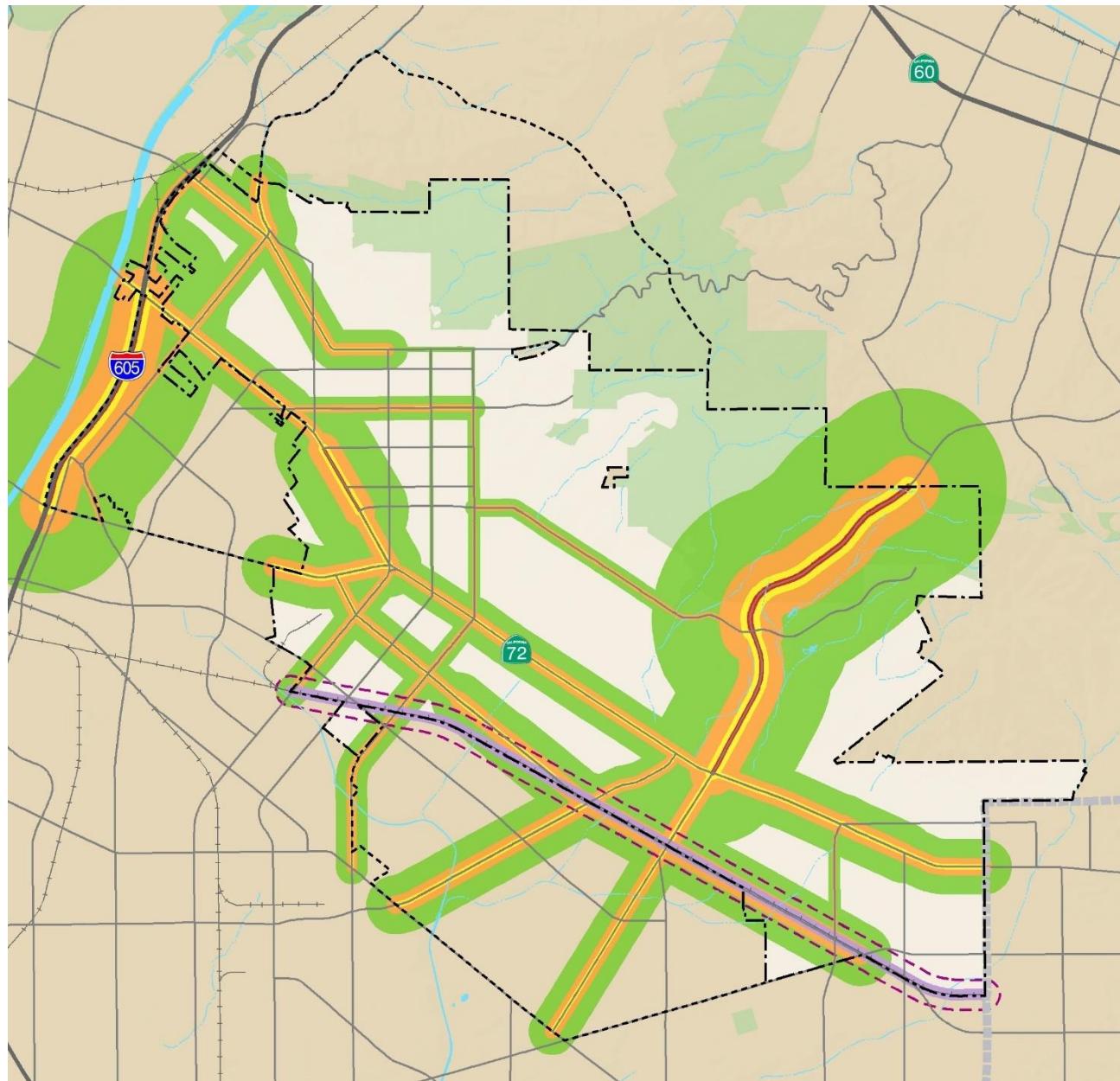
In areas near arterials, site planning and design standards provide direct and integrated noise impact mitigation. Applied mitigation measures include the use of buffer zones consisting of earthen berms, walls, and landscaping between sensitive land uses and roadways and other noise sources. In addition, site planning and building orientation can provide shielding of outdoor living spaces, and orient operable window away from roadways. Effective acoustical materials can also be incorporated into building windows and walls, which adequately reduce outdoor noise.

The City's Noise Ordinance identifies 13 different kinds of noise and prohibits them if you can hear the noise 100 feet away from the source of the disturbance. Such noises include pets, unusual motor vehicle noises, household power tools, use of car horns for an unreasonable time, public address systems, and late-night disturbances. Construction noise from heavy equipment is prohibited from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. during weekdays, 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. on Saturdays and Federal holidays, and Sunday at all times.



**Figure PSNH-11:**  
**Existing Transportation**  
**Noise Contours**  
**(Year 2019)**

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**Figure PSNH-12:**  
Future Transportation  
Noise Contours  
(Year 2040)

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**Future Noise Contours**  
Community Noise Equivalent Levels (CNEL)

75 CNEL
70 CNEL
65 CNEL
60 CNEL

**Future Rail Noise Contours**  
Community Noise Equivalent Levels (CNEL)

65 CNEL
60 CNEL

**Base Map Features**

- Whittier City Boundary
- Whittier Sphere of Influence
- County Boundary
- Local Streets
- Major Streets
- Freeways
- Railroads
- River and Creeks
- Open Space
- Waterbodies

Source: City of Whittier, 2017; MIG, 2021.  
Prepared by MIG, May 2021.



# goals and policies

## noise

**Goal 10:** Noise levels community-wide that allow residents to enjoy quiet neighborhoods and outdoor activities

- PSNH-10.1: Work toward the separation and buffering of major roadways from noise-sensitive land uses such as residences, care facilities, schools, and hospitals.
- PSNH-10.2: Consider steps to correct existing noise problems. Avoid future problems through design measures such as buffers and barriers or through abatement procedures.
- PSNH-10.3: Control, at their sources, any sounds that exceed accepted community noise levels.
- PSNH-10.4: Consider noise impacts as part of the development review process, particularly the location of parking, recreational activities, crowd noises, ingress/egress/loading, and refuse collection areas relative to surrounding residential development and other noise-sensitive land uses.
- PSNH-10.5: Use the provisions in the City's noise ordinance to abate unlawful noise.
- PSNH-10.6: Enforce Municipal Code noise controls for construction projects.
- PSNH-10.7: Minimize new residential or other noise-sensitive land use development in noise-impacted areas unless effective mitigation measures are incorporated into the project design to reduce outdoor activity area noise levels to a "normally acceptable" community noise equivalent level (CNEL).
- PSNH-10.8: Require industrial uses and trucking-related uses to incorporate buffers that maintain acceptable noise levels for surrounding uses and areas.
- PSNH-10.9: Regulate the use of sound-amplifying equipment to prevent impacts on sensitive receptors.

## PUBLIC SAFETY, NOISE AND HEALTH ELEMENT

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# implementation plan

## **in this section**

**introduction**

procedures, permits, agreements, and ordinances

plans and studies

physical improvements

interagency and other organization consultation

education and outreach

# introduction

This Implementation Plan will guide the City Council; Commissions and Committees; and staff in their efforts to put the Envision Whittier General Plan goals and policies into action. The purpose of the Implementation Plan is to translate the overall direction set forth in the Envision Whittier General Plan from general terms to specific actions, in a clear and traceable manner.

The City Council, by relating each program in the Implementation Plan to the policies of the Envision Whittier General Plan, recognizes the importance of linking long-range planning considerations, budgeting, and day-to-day activities. Each implementation program is a procedure, plan, or study that requires City action, either alone or in collaboration with non-City organizations and/or State and federal agencies. Some of the implementation programs are processes or procedures that the City currently administers on a day-to-day basis, while others identify new programs, procedures, or projects.

The Implementation Programs are individually listed with detailed information, including the recommended time frame of completion, the responsible City departments, and likely funding source. Completion of the identified programs will be subject to funding constraints. Programs may be implemented prior to the timeframes, as appropriate and desired. Timeframes for completion are generalized as follows:

- Ongoing
- Immediate (0 – 2 years upon General Plan adoption)
- Short-term (2 – 5 years upon General Plan adoption)
- Mid-term (5 – 10 years upon General Plan adoption)
- Long-term (10+ years upon General Plan adoption)

This Implementation Plan also provides an Implementation Matrix. The matrix is a series of five tables, one for each element. Each table lists the policies for that element and links the policies with related implementing programs.

This Implementation Plan should be updated annually with the budget process and whenever the Envision Whittier General Plan is amended or updated to ensure continued consistency and usefulness. Updates to the Implementation Plan to reflect progress do not necessarily constitute amendments to the General Plan.

## procedures, permits, agreements, and ordinances

### Program 1: Municipal Code and Subdivision Ordinance Revision

Review and revise the Municipal Code and Subdivision Ordinance as necessary to:



- Create new zones to implement all land use designations. Envision Whittier General Plan's land use designations are correlated to the City of Whittier zones as shown in Table IP-1.
- Allow specific plans in the MU3 designation.
- Implement key design objectives for all land use designations.
- Provide flexibility in zoning accommodating emerging new uses, markets, and business practices over time.
- Limit development in Puente Hills Preserve.
- Create buffer zones between facilities known to emit harmful contaminants, such as industrial uses, and sensitive receptors such as schools, childcare, and senior centers. Buffers may include increased setbacks and solid barrier walls.
- Require a buffer between residential or urban development and oil production uses or petroleum storage facilities and identify ways to improve the quality of this interface and minimize undesirable impacts.
- Accommodate transit-oriented development around future (planned and proposed) Metro stations.
- Create transition area standards to soften changes in scale and intensity, such as, ground level façade treatments, setbacks, upper level stepbacks, and landscaped buffers to accommodate privacy, noise, etc.
- Incentivize adaptive reuse of historic buildings.
- Allow urban agriculture and community gardens in all land use categories, including residential properties (front and side yards) and nonresidential properties' setbacks.
- Require new trees to be planted on sites designated as sensitive receptors (schools, hospitals, homeless shelters) in the Disadvantaged Communities and in areas outside of a 10-minute walk to a park or open space.
- Require large nonresidential development on Whittier Boulevard, Lambert Road, Washington Boulevard, and Greenleaf Avenue to incorporate publicly accessible plazas, paseos, and seating areas.



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- Incentivize the inclusion of arts and local culture, such as sculpture gardens, local art installations, and outdoor amphitheaters, as part of the Zoning Code and community benefit structure of development.
- In catalyst areas, such as Whittwood Town Center, L Line (formerly Gold Line) transit center, and along Whittier Boulevard, develop private property and public right-of-way design and site standards and guidelines that encourage pedestrian activity, creates public destinations, incorporates urban recreation and community gathering spaces, and provides for ride-share loading.
- Incorporate Whittier Boulevard's desired design standards and streetscape design standards.
- Incorporate Whittwood Town Center's desired siting and design standards and streetscape standards.
- Consider requiring all multifamily residential developments to provide on-site publicly usable park or green space as part of a community benefit program.
- Eliminate barriers to providing pervious pavement treatments.
- Accommodate shared parking in mixed use developments, districts, and where otherwise appropriate, where uses have peak/off-peak parking demands.
- Require large employers to provide transportation demand measures such as telecommuting, employer provided carpooling programs, and financial incentives for participants who do not drive, and transit pass subsidies.
- Minimize vehicular access for new developments on local residential streets, in locations with high pedestrian and bicycle activity; design access and egress to avoid traffic intrusion on local streets to the maximum extent possible.
- Require new and substantially remodeled retail, commercial, industrial, mixed use, and multiple family residential developments to provide pedestrian and bicycle paths and routes, and supportive amenities including benches, trash receptacles, pedestrian oriented push-controls on nearby signals, etc.
- Require new and substantially remodeled retail, commercial, industrial, mixed use, and multiple family residential developments adjacent to the Greenway Trail to provide pedestrian and bicycle linkages to the Greenway Trail.
- Require bicycle facilities, such as bicycle lockers and secure parking, to be provided as part of all new development projects and major remodels of existing development.
- Require developers to light alleys behind or adjacent to their property;

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- Require measures such as increased indoor air filtration to increase the protection of sensitive receptors near major emission sources.
- Require water-efficient landscaping standards beyond State requirements to make Whittier a leader in reduced water use.
- Require the integration of water quality protection/improvement techniques (e.g., use of vegetated swales or landscaping).
- Establish exterior lighting thresholds for different land uses.
- Protect mineral resources from encroaching development.
- Require projects, homes, or uses accommodating sensitive receptors that are proposed within 500 feet of freeways or railroads, or within a Disadvantaged Community to include an analysis of potential health risks. Require such proposed uses to mitigate health risks.
- Locate essential public facilities out of high-risk wildfire prone areas.
- Minimize the expansion of oil production-related activity. Make provisions for emerging technologies and alternative energy sources. Eliminate barriers to providing pervious pavement surfaces.
- Minimize new residential development in the Very High Fire Severity Zone.
- Update the noise ordinance for changes in construction, mixed use development, METRO L Line, and other noise generators.
- Include development standards for residential and commercial solar, geothermal, and wind energy uses.
- Update the list of permitted, conditionally permitted, and prohibited uses in accordance with General Plan land use designations' purpose, intent, and character.
- Update the Zoning Map to insure correspondence with General Plan land use designations, including the open space designations.

**Time Frame:** Short-term

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

Table IP-1: Envision Whittier Land Use Category and Corresponding City of Whittier Zones

GENERAL PLAN LAND USE CATEGORY	CORRESPONDING ZONE
Hillside Residential	H-R
Low Density Residential	R-E and R-1
Medium Density Residential	R-2
Medium High Density Residential	R-3
High Density Residential	R-4
Very High Density Residential	New zone
Mixed Use 1	New zone
Mixed Use 2	New zone
Mixed Use 3	New zone
Neighborhood Commercial	C-1
General Commercial	C-2
General Commercial with Housing Overlay	C-2 with new overlay zone
Office	C-O
Medical	New zone
Innovation	New zone
General Industrial	C-3 and M
Parks and Urban Trails	New zone
Open Space	New zone
Golf Course	New zone
Public and Quasi-Public	New zone

Notes:

- 1) Overlay and transitional zones may be applied to any base zone.
- 2) Planned Development Districts may only be applied to residential zones unless otherwise stated in the Whittier Municipal Code.

#### Program 2: Rescind Whittier Boulevard Specific Plan

Rescind the Whittier Boulevard Specific Plan.

**Time Frame:** Short-term

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

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### Program 3: Examine Plan Review, Permitting, and Design Review Processes

Examine the current plan review, permitting, and design review processes to ensure:

- Development in areas designated for mixed use and nonresidential use are consistent with the character outlined in this General Plan.
- Dependable, transparent, and on-schedule processing of all applications

**Time Frame:** Short-term

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

### Program 4: Review and Update Uptown Specific Plan

Review the Uptown Specific Plan to ensure the following and update as appropriate:

- Additional housing and office use opportunities;
- Balance of uses;
- Distinct sense of place with a pedestrian orientation;
- Stronger sense of place within the community than all others of Whittier while providing for lower density and intensity than what is found along Whittier Boulevard; and
- Reduced parking ratios for affordable and/or inclusionary housing.

**Time Frame:** Mid-term

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

### Program 5: Urban Recreation Opportunities

Work with developers, landowners, financial institutions, and others as part of the design review process to provide unique opportunities for urban recreation, such as multi-story structures (parking, office, etc.) with rooftop theaters, fields, green roofs, gardens, etc.

**Time Frame:** Mid-term

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Developer Fees

### Program 6: Preferential Parking District and Permit Program

Review the number of preferential parking districts and how the permit program is working to determine how changes can better serve residential, recreational, and business parking demands.

**Time Frame:** By 2023

**Responsibility:** Public Works, Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Development and Building Fees

### Program 7: Sewer and Water Systems Improvements

Through the regular CIP preparation and implementation process, prioritize and allocate funding to carry out the water system improvements identified in the most current Water

System Master Plan and sewer system improvement in the most current Sewer System Master Plan. Ensure that all underground lines are protected and maintained in accordance with federal and State laws.

Ensure that user fees allow for planned improvements.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Public Works; City Manager

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, User Fees



#### Program 8: City Franchise Agreements Review

On a regular basis, review City franchise agreements with communications service providers. Ensure communication services are provided to the Disadvantaged Communities at a rate equal to or surpassing the Whittier community at large. As possible and practical, provide for local users to have choices regarding service providers through multiple agreements. As technologies change, continue to identify service options that benefit all users in Whittier. Expand services to include free technology (WiFi or similar) provision in all public areas to the greatest extent possible.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Public Works; City Manager

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Franchise Fees

#### Program 9: Secretary of the Interior's Standards

Consider adopting the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties as the City's official tool for reviewing alterations and changes to historic resources.

**Time Frame:** Long-term

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

#### Program 10: CEQA Compliance

Explore updating Chapter 18.84 of the Whittier Municipal Code, the historic resources ordinance, to ensure consistency and compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act.

**Time Frame:** Long-term

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

#### Program 11: Historic Resources Ordinance Update

As appropriate and with City Council direction, evaluate the historic resources ordinance and engage the community to explore ideas about how to best update the ordinance and identify sections that may need to be updated and cleared of inconsistencies.

**Time Frame:** Long-term

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

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### Program 12: Certificate of Appropriateness Evaluation

With City Council direction, evaluate and modify, as appropriate, the Certificate of Appropriateness Application required for all buildings. Evaluation should include the process, fees, permits, and regulations. Assess both the success and drawbacks of this policy's implementation.

**Time Frame:** Long-term

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

### Program 13: Historic Rehabilitation Permit Fees

Consider waiving Historic Resources Planning Fees for historic rehabilitation projects to encourage preservation and to encourage following the City's procedures for obtaining building permits.

**Time Frame:** Long-term

**Responsibility:** City Council

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

### Program 14: Developer Fees for Historic Preservation

Explore developer fees, to be assessed when historic resources are impacted, to be used for historic preservation efforts or applied to other sites or projects.

**Time Frame:** Long-term

**Responsibility:** City Council, Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

### Program 15: CEQA Required Archaeologist and Mitigation

Require project sponsors to retain a qualified archaeologist to oversee the handling of resources in coordination with appropriate local and State agencies and organizations and local Native American representatives, as appropriate. Adopt standard mitigation measures for archaeological resources impacted under the California Environmental Quality Act.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

### Program 16: Historic Resource Adjacency Standards

As directed by the City Council, consider updating the zoning code to include historic resource adjacency standards, as appropriate.

**Time Frame:** Mid-term

**Responsibility:** City Council; Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

**Program 17: Building Code Update**

Update the building code in accordance with best practices to address structure degradation due to climate change.

**Time Frame:** Long-term

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

**Program 18: Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan**

Continue to implement and update, as necessary, the Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan in response to emerging information about natural hazards associated with earthquakes, flooding, wildfire, and droughts.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Fire Department; City Manager

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Grants

**Program 19: Development Application Review**

Continue to conduct development applications review, which includes Planning, Engineering, Public Works, Police, and Fire reviews.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Community Development, Public Works, Police, Fire

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

**Program 20: Emergency Services Equipment and Facilities Needs**

In conjunction with State-required annual review of capital improvement projects for consistency with the General Plan, evaluate the need for increases in fire and police equipment and/or facilities.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** City Manager

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

**Program 21: Geotechnical Review**

Incorporate geotechnical review procedures into ministerial and discretionary project review processes.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** Development Application Fees

**Program 22: Fire Hazard Severity Zones Review**

Within Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones determine appropriate design or mitigation, which may include the following plans:

- Fire Protection Plan that addresses landscape/fuel modification installation, incorporates open areas and fuel breaks to complement defensible spaces, recognizes possible refuge

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areas, identifies multiple ingress and egress routes, and standards for signs identifying streets, roads, and buildings.

- Adherence to Los Angeles County Fire Department Fuel Modification Plan Guidelines, including roadside fuel reduction plan to prevent fires caused by vehicles along new roads as required to serve new developments.
- Pre-plans for fire risk areas that address resident evacuation and to effectively communicate those plans, including identifying the location and direction of evacuation routes.
- Minimum private water supply reserves for emergency fire use.
- Road and driveway standards for emergency fire equipment access and public evacuation.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** Development Application Fees

### Program 23: New Construction in Flood Zones

Continue to implement federal, State, and regional requirements related to new construction in floodplain areas to ensure that future flood risks to life and property are minimized.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Grants

### Program 24: Storm Drainage Master Plan

Prepare and maintain the Storm Drainage Master Plan to continually assess surface water, which considers past and future drainage problems and published floodplain maps.

**Time Frame:** Mid-term; Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Public Works

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Grants

### Program 25: Flood Insurance Program

Continue to promote and adhere to the standards associated with the National Flood Insurance Program.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Public Works

**Funding Source(s):** General Funds

### Program 26: Urban Forestry Management

Adopt a tree preservation ordinance.

**Time Frame:** Tree preservation ordinance – Short-term

**Responsibility:** Parks, Recreation, and Community Services

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

**Program 27: Noise Level Standards**

Review and, as appropriate, modify noise level standards in the Whittier Municipal Code and Ordinances for all land uses.

**Time Frame:** Short-term

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

**Program 28: Acoustical Analysis Reports**

Require development projects subject to discretionary approval to assess potential construction noise impacts and noise associated with on-going operations on nearby sensitive uses and to minimize impacts on those uses.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** Development Impact Fees

**Program 29: Disadvantaged Communities Prioritization**

Require each City department prioritize the needs of residents in Disadvantaged Communities when developing their workplans and/or capital improvement plans. The departments will come together during budget discussions to ensure consistency and reduce duplication of programs and services for the Disadvantaged Communities. Workplans should have specific, measurable goals, with achievable deadlines. An annual analysis of spending in Disadvantaged Communities versus the City at-large would help the City understand where it may want to seek grants or focus spending.

**Time Frame:** Annually

**Responsibility:** All City Departments

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

**Program 30: Retrofit Plumbing Systems and Landscaping Incentives**

Consider providing incentives such as a one-time reduction in water bill to property owners to retrofit plumbing systems and landscaping to reduce water use.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Community Development; Public Works

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund and Development Fees

**Program 31: National Pollutant Discharge and Elimination System (NPDES) Permit Compliance**

Continue to comply with all provisions of the National Pollutant Discharge and Elimination System (NPDES) permit.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Public Works; Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Development and Building Fees

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### Program 32: Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) Update

Update the Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) to maintain consistency with federal requirements.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Public Works; Fire Department

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Grants



### Program 33: Recycled Water System/Program Expansion

Expand the recycled water system/program.

**Time Frame:** Mid-term

**Responsibility:** Public Works

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Development Fees, Grants



### Program 34: CALGreen Building Practices Regulations

Continue to implement CALGreen regulations regarding building practices that reduce energy demand/use, minimize urban heat island effects, conserve water, and support active transportation.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Development Fees



### Program 35: Resource Management Plan Update

Update the Resources Management Plan, as necessary.

- Conserve SEAs, endangered or threatened wildlife species and their native habitats and vegetation communities;
- Support endangered wildlife by preserving movement corridors and natural habitats;
- Maintain scenic corridors; and
- Manage and limit, when necessary, human degradation of the natural environment.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Community Development in coordination with Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Grants



### Program 36: Energy Savings Technologies

Invest in new technologies citywide that reduce energy consumption such as efficient and cost-effective lighting that reduces glare and light pollution.

**Time Frame:** Short-term

**Responsibility:** Public Works

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Grants



### Program 37: Energy Efficient City Vehicle Fleet

Continue to use energy-efficient automobiles, equipment, and other vehicles, including hybrid or zero-emission vehicles, for the City's equipment and automotive fleet.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** City Manager

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Grants



#### Program 38: Greenhouse Gas Preconstruction Permits

Require pre-construction permits to identify how greenhouse gas emissions will be minimized consistent with SCAQMD requirements.

**Time Frame:** Immediate and Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** Building Permit Fees



#### Program 39: On-Site Alternative Energy Sources

Promote the use of on-site alternative energy sources such as solar panel arrays, photovoltaic cells, cogeneration, and wind generation for new residential and office developments, as well as existing buildings.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** New Development and Tax Credits



#### Program 40: Ridesharing Programs

Support programs that increase ridesharing.

**Time Frame:** Immediate and Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Public Works

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Grants

#### Program 41: Oil Production Operational and Drilling Standards

Periodically review and update operational and drilling standards for oil production.

**Time Frame:** Short-term and Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund



#### Program 42: Negative Air Quality Impacts on Sensitive Receptors

Require any development project in Disadvantaged Communities or any development project that will house sensitive receptors include design features and equipment, as necessary, to guard against any negative air quality impact on occupants. Features may include high-performance air filters, building and window orientation, and increased landscape coverage.

**Time Frame:** Immediate and Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Development Fees



#### Program 43: Public Recreation Space in Multi-Story Structures

Consider innovative and alternative strategies to allow multi-story structures to incorporate public recreation space such as rooftop theaters, fields, and gardens on the top level of parking structures or accessible roofs.

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**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Public Works; Parks, Recreation, and Community Services

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

### Program 44: Flexible Park Space and Facilities Design

Incorporate flexible design into the improvements of park spaces and community facilities. For example, design multipurpose fields that allow for both baseball and soccer activities or install walls that serve as racquetball/handball courts on one side and a space for local art installations/ murals on the other side.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Public Works; Parks, Recreation, and Community Services

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Park Impact Fees



### Program 45: Land Use Acquisition for Parks

Prioritize acquisition of land for parks in areas where parkland is deficient and residents live more than a 10-minute walk from a park, such as the East Whittier, Friendly Hills, Colima, and Leffingwell neighborhoods. Use a range of acquisition strategies, including easements, land purchases, parkland dedication, and in-lieu fees for development projects. Bolster these strategies by applicable agency agreements, development agreements, conditions of approval, CC&R's, and dedicated deposits, etc. Additional strategies include:

- Building an inventory of underutilized or unfavorable commercial sites and focusing efforts on acquiring these parcels as opportunities arise.
- Collaborating with developers, landowners, and business owners to integrate small transit-oriented pocket parks or plazas into redevelopment projects on commercial corridors such as Whittier Boulevard, and in employment centers such as PIH Health Whittier Hospital.
- Prioritizing park development along corridors where pedestrian and bicycle improvements are planned in the Whittier Bicycle Transportation Plan.
- Acquiring substandard parcels in residential areas as land becomes available to develop compact parks.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Parks, Recreation, and Community Services; Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Special Revenue Fund, and Developer Fees

### Program 46: Park Impact Fees

Require park impact fees to be established at a level that allows the City to attain parkland resources consistent with goals.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Parks, Recreation, and Community Services

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund and Park Impact Fees

**Program 47: Parkland Property Dedication**

Prioritize parkland or similar property dedication over impact fees within the park dedication ordinance, Parks Master Plan, or other parks planning programs. Perform a nexus studies regularly to update the criteria and fees. Include provisions that prevent a net loss of park space in the city and require at least a 1:1 replacement if there is any loss of public open space or park space due to redevelopment.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Parks, Recreation, and Community Services

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

**Program 48: Park and Recreation Facilities Incentives**

Develop an incentives program encouraging private development and public agencies to provide park and recreation facilities beyond the minimum requirements (Quimby requirements).

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Development Fees

**Program 49: Parks and Recreation Facilities Funding**

Apply for grants through programs such as the Natural Resources Agency's Urban Greening Grant Program to create and improve pedestrian and bike paths. Apply for and use Metro's Active Transportation Strategic Plan (ATSP) funding, as well as others, to create and enhance pedestrian and bicycle paths near the future L Line (formerly Gold Line) station and adjacent to I-605 and Whittier Boulevard, which could include enhancements to the Whittier Greenway Trail. Enhancements may include bicycle repair stations, fitness equipment, or meditation spaces.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Community Development; Public Works; Parks, Recreation, and Community Services

**Funding Source(s):** Grants

**Program 50: Parks and Recreation Facilities Management Plan**

Adopt a facility management plan to provide adequate maintenance, rehabilitation, and modernization of parks and recreation facilities to ensure their long-term utility.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Parks, Recreation, and Community Services

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

**Program 51: Tree Ordinance**

Revise the Tree Ordinance (Chapter 12.40 in Municipal Code) to establish categories of trees indicating priorities for maintenance. Categories (i.e., established, mature, landmark, indigenous) would provide a framework for tree permits and various levels of required mitigation measures. The ordinance should consider the relationship of street tree planting to



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other General Plan goals and policies, including pedestrian orientation, neighborhood character, complete streets, and Disadvantaged Communities environmental quality.

**Time Frame:** Immediate

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

### Program 52: Trained Arborists

Ensure the City has ready access to trained arborists or other experts who can implement Whittier's urban forestry strategies and programs.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund



### Program 53: Public Plazas and Urban Spaces

Incentivize the creation of public plazas and public urban spaces near larger residential and mixed use developments and in underutilized parking areas within existing commercial centers. Use the community benefit structure for mixed use areas along Whittier Boulevard to create these public plazas, which can provide opportunities for social gathering and passive recreation in a built-out urban area. These open spaces can include hardscaped and landscaped areas, seating, and landmarks. Public plazas can be programmed with "pop up" recreation programs and regularly scheduled events such as farmers' markets and festivals.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Community Development; Parks, Recreation, and Community Services

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

## plans and studies

### Program 54: Community Benefits Program

Institute a Community Benefits Program to allow developers to achieve higher development densities and intensities in exchange for providing defined community amenities beyond those otherwise required.

**Time Frame:** Mid-term

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund



### Program 55: Rules and Regulations Inhibiting Affordable Housing Development

Conduct a comprehensive review of current rules and regulations to identify those which inhibit affordable housing development.

**Time Frame:** Short-term

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund



### Program 56: Mobility Programs

Develop a series of plans and programs to address mobility goals, including a Complete Streets program, Safe Routes to School, Neighborhood Traffic Management Program, First/Last Mile Plan, Comprehensive Operational Analysis & Long-Range Transit Plans, Curb Management Strategies, Smart Mobility and Autonomous Vehicle Master Readiness Plan, parking management strategies, repurposing abundant and unnecessary roadway width, and development standards. As part of each initiative, as applicable:

- Identify issues and needs for mobility through review of data and engagement with local stakeholders;
- Identify appropriate infrastructure such as sidewalk connections and widening, establishing bicycle lanes, well-designed public transportation stops, and appropriate roadway crossing treatments;
- Establish the purpose and needs of projects and then pursue regional, state, and federal funding for implementation;
- Require the integration of multi-modal infrastructure for new development;
- Mitigate neighborhood intrusion by commuter traffic and improve conditions for pedestrians and bicyclists;
- Ensure the provision of adequate parking/loading space for temporary vehicle parking, loading, and delivery services that can easily accommodate a box truck to a non-commercial vehicle and/or creating flexible curb zones that can accommodate multiple curb uses during different times of day; and
- Regularly monitor the performance of each program and system, and update on a regular basis (roughly every five years).

**Timeframe:** Mid-term and Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Public Works

**Funding Source:** General Fund, Transportation Funding from Measure R and Measure M local return, and grants from Metro and Caltrans

### Program 57: Traffic Mitigation Impact Fee

Develop a traffic mitigation impact fee that provides a mechanism for the City to fund improvements in lieu of physical mitigations that were typically associated with Level of Service impacts' mitigation, which is no longer a CEQA metric.

**Time Frame:** By 2022

**Responsibility:** Public Works

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Development and Building Fees

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### Program 58: Mobility Element Performance Metrics

Establish performance metrics and a regular schedule for updating the Mobility Element's standards to monitor implementation progress, whether outcomes are helping achieve desired goals, and modify programs accordingly.

**Time Frame:** By 2025

**Responsibility:** Public Works; Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Development and Building Fees

### Program 59: Stormwater Reduction Activities

Reduce the volume of stormwater entering the local stormwater collection system by such actions as:

- Developing and implementing a stormwater Best Management Practices (BMP) educational outreach program;
- Creating a rain barrel program that offers residents and businesses access to affordable rain barrels and education about rainwater harvesting; and
- Requiring LID approaches to runoff control as part of new development projects.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Public Works

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Grants, Development Fees



### Program 60: Local Circulator (Shuttle) Study

Conduct a local circulator (shuttle) study to confirm appropriateness, the route, hours of operation, number of stops, departmental responsibilities, and funding strategies. Ensure Disadvantaged Communities are serviced by the local circulator. Implement recommendations as funding and need permits.

**Time Frame:** By 2030

**Responsibility:** Public Works; Community Development; Parks Recreation and Community Services

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Development and Building Fees, Grants, Impact Fees

### Program 61: Smart Cities Strategic Plan

Develop a smart cities strategic plan. Use a process to develop the plan that includes:

- Input from residents, businesses, and local institutions, particularly residents and business owners located in the Disadvantaged Communities;
- Investigation of technologies and applications that would provide the most benefit to the City in terms of cost savings and improved City services;
- Equal provision of technologies and access citywide; and
- Provisions allowing for technological advancements.

**Time Frame:** Mid-range

**Responsibility:** Public Works; Community Development; City Manager

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

#### **Program 62: Historic Resources Survey**

With City Council direction, consider supplementing previously prepared historic resources surveys to address post World War II residential neighborhoods.

**Time Frame:** Long-term

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

#### **Program 63: Context Statements**

With City Council direction, prepare context statements related to various themes of Whittier's development to ensure a broader understanding of the city's historic resources. Identify local resources that fulfill the context statements.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

#### **Program 64: Uptown Specific Plan**

With City Council direction, complete the work prepared for the Uptown Specific Plan; use credentialed historical specialists to evaluate whether the Uptown commercial buildings have the potential to be considered a historic district.

**Time Frame:** Mid-term

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

#### **Program 65: Contributing and Non-Contributing Historic District Factors**

As appropriate, identify contributing and non-contributing factors in the Hadley-Greenleaf Historic District and the Central Park Historic District. Consider refining the contributors and non-contributing factors for the College Hills Historic District and Earlham Historic District.

**Time Frame:** Mid-term

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

#### **Program 66: Post Disaster Policies and Plans**

Develop post-disaster policies and plans for designated historic resources to encourage preservation of resources if damaged in an event.

**Time Frame:** Mid-term

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

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### Program 67: Certified Local Government Status

Apply for Certified Local Government (CLG) Status through the California Office of Historic Preservation. Participation in this federal and state partnership program would allow the City opportunities to apply for grants to fund focused preservation activities.

**Time Frame:** Short-term

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

### Program 68: California Main Street Program

Consider participating in the California Main Street Program through the California Office of Historic Preservation. This would allow the City to promote Uptown Whittier through the Main Street program and benefit from the California Main Street Alliance.

**Time Frame:** Long-term

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

### Program 69: Increased Protections for Sensitive Receptors



Increase protection of sensitive receptors (facilities where individuals are highly susceptible to the adverse effects of air pollutants and noise, such as housing, childcare centers, retirement homes, schools, and hospitals) near high-volume roadways, dry cleaners using perchloroethylene, large gas stations, railroads/yards, and in Disadvantaged Communities. Identify measures to reduce odors/toxics in compliance with SCAQMD's adopted standards to reduce these risks to acceptable levels.

**Time Frame:** Mid-term and Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

### Program 70: At Risk Occupants' Evacuation Plans

Survey and identify properties within the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones to determine at-risk occupants located within elderly care facilities, convalescence facilities, schools or similar that would pose a significant concern for evacuation and/or shelter-in-place during a wildfire event. Develop a plan to accommodate these target occupants.

**Time Frame:** Short-term

**Responsibility:** City Manager, Police Department, Fire Department

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

### Program 71: Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment



Incorporate a climate change vulnerability assessment when updating the Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan and other plans to evaluate potential impacts related to extreme heat events, severe storm and precipitation events, and extended drought events. Consider incorporating a Heat Response Plan in the Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan or preparing a separate document.

**Time Frame:** Mid-term

**Responsibility:** City Manager; Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Grants



#### Program 72: Health Strategy Plan

Identify strategies, programs, and practices that prioritize the overall health of Whittier residents and employees. Partner with local health officials, nonprofit organizations, businesses, schools, hospitals, local health clinics, and community groups to conduct the study. Based on the study's findings, recommend ways the City can prioritize community health and remove barriers to healthy living.

**Time Frame:** Mid-term and Ongoing

**Responsibility:** City Manager

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Grants

#### Program 73: Water Demand Tracking System

Develop a standardized method to track and analyze water demand for new developments.

Consider expanding the City's application of SB610 and SB211 planning requirements to a broader range of projects for monitoring ability. Review Whittier's total water demand and supply annually to ensure the water supply is available for new development allowed by the Land Use Element.

**Time Frame:** Short-term and Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Public Works; Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Grants

#### Program 74: Drought Tolerant Landscaping Funding

Identify funding sources to provide incentives to local property owners to remove lawn/turf areas and replace them with drought-tolerant landscaping or other approved materials.

**Time Frame:** Immediate

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

#### Program 75: Water Conservation Programs

Develop and implement water conservation programs in response to community input and to keep pace with changing technology.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Community Development; Public Works

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Grants

#### Program 76: City Conservation Policies

Establish policies that increase conservation efforts such as:

- Prohibit the purchase of water in plastic bottles or disposable containers in City facilities; and

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- Consider the energy and water efficiency of products as an integral part of the purchasing process for City goods and supplies. Prioritize locally available products that conserve energy and water.

**Time Frame:** Immediate

**Responsibility:** City Manager

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Grants

### Program 77: Energy Generation on City Properties

Explore, research, and analyze opportunities to generate energy on City properties, including installation of solar panels.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Community Development; Public Works

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Grants

### Program 78: Existing Building's Alternative Energy Use

Identify and use incentives and financing mechanisms to encourage alternative energy use for existing residential and commercial buildings. For example:

- Evaluate whether the City can purchase large quantities of solar panels at a lower cost and resell them to existing residents and businesses; and
- Work with insurance and solar panel installation companies to ensure roof warranties do not nullify with the addition of residential solar equipment.

**Time Frame:** Short-term

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund and Grants

### Program 79: Alternative Energy Development Policy

Identify and remove disincentives to domestic and commercial alternative energy development.

Critically analyze all processes related to development (i.e., capital improvement plans, development, and design review, etc.).

Develop a strategy for the provision of alternative fuels throughout Whittier.

**Time Frame:** Short-term

**Responsibility:** Community Development, Public Works

**Funding Source(s):** General Plan

### Program 80: Strategic Energy Plan

Develop a strategic energy plan addressing how existing and future energy needs will be met by both petroleum and alternative energy sources. This plan should identify a citywide renewable energy goal by 2040.

**Time Frame:** Short-term

**Responsibility:** Community Development; City Manager

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund and Grants

**Program 81: Alternative Energy Production Funding**

Tap into available resources to incentivize alternative energy production, such as the Los Angeles County Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) program.

**Time Frame:** Short-term and Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Plan

**Program 82: Land Use Restoration Criteria and Standards**

Define criteria and standards for the restoration and reuse of land no longer necessary or economical for oil production activities in collaboration with oil industry.

**Time Frame:** Immediate and Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

**Program 83: Hazardous Waste Management Plan**

Develop and implement a Hazardous Waste Management Plan.

**Time Frame:** Short-term

**Responsibility:** Community Development and Public Works

**Funding Source(s):** General Plan

**Program 84: Property Donation Legacy Program**

Establish a property donation legacy program whereby property owners can donate their land to the City for usage as parks or open space.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Parks, Recreation, and Community Services

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund; Foundations; Grants

**Program 85: Parks Master Plan**

Develop and implement a comprehensive long-range Parks Master Plan to address changing recreation interests, trends, and priorities. Use the Parks Master Plan to strategize how existing and future residential development can be within a 10-minute walk to a park. The Parks Master Plan should:

- Include a community needs assessment that looks at all types of park and recreation programs offered in the community including those that relate to arts and culture, education enrichment, and human services;
- Identify long-term goals for the Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Department and the community;
- Describe current and future needs, interests, and community preferences for improving new parks and community facilities;
- Present a long-range plan for physical park and community facility improvements;

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- Refine performance standards and further develop park design guidelines and criteria;
- Prioritize projects in areas that are underserved, deficient in parks, in need of facility improvements, and in Disadvantaged Communities; and
- Outline funding mechanisms and strategies for managing the City's commitments so that new requests and initiatives are considered considering existing commitments.

**Time Frame:** Long-term

**Responsibility:** Parks, Recreation, and Community Services

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

## physical improvements

### Program 86: New Open Space

Given the limited opportunities to create new open space, focused creative solutions to meet demands of new and existing residents include:

- Focus efforts in areas designated Disadvantaged Communities to provide equitable access to parks and recreation facilities;
- Create new urban recreation spaces in conjunction with roadway enhancements, street reconfigurations, and streetscape improvements;
- Prioritize and incentivize urban recreation as a community benefit;
- Support urban agriculture and community gardens;
- Transform underutilized public right-of way and infrastructure into park space; and
- Partner with Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority to assess access points and trailheads.

**Time Frame:** Mid-term

**Responsibility:** Community Development; Public Works

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Grants

### Program 87: Greenway Trail

Complete the Whittier Greenway Trail extension to the Orange County border. Partner with the cities of Pico Rivera and La Habra to further extend the trail to promote a regional trail system.

Enhance the Greenway Trail to:

- Increase connectivity between employment centers and residential land uses. For example, construct a signalized crosswalk across Whittier Boulevard/Pacific Place intersection to allow Greenway Trail users and residents east of Whittier Boulevard to access PIH Health Whittier Hospital; and

- Create additional green spaces and pocket parks interconnected with and near the Greenway Trail. Opportunities occur within the rail right-of-way south of the Lambert Road/Gunn Avenue intersection and on vacant land on Lambert Road between Parise Drive and Valley View Avenue.

**Time Frame:** Long-term

**Responsibility:** Public Works; Parks, Recreation, and Community Services

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Grants

#### Program 88: Improve Building Exteriors and Storefronts

Identify incentives (such as expedited processing, rebates, featuring business in Whittier publications, etc.) to encourage property and business owners to improve buildings exteriors and storefronts.

**Time Frame:** Mid-term

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Developer Fees

#### Program 89: Streetscape Improvement Plans

Develop and implement streetscape improvement plans for key streets leading into Uptown: Philadelphia Street, South Greenleaf, and Hadley Street.

Develop streetscape standards for Whittier Boulevard, Greenleaf Avenue, and other major arterials. Ensure streetscape standards support walkability while creating sense of places.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Community Development; Public Works

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Grants

#### Program 90: Bike Hubs

Establish bike hubs (centralized locations with convenient bike parking for trip destinations or transfer to other transportation modes), at key transit nodes or commercial nodes.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Public Works; Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Grants

#### Program 91: Historical Walking Program

Consider collaborating with the Whittier Museum and/or Conservancy to create historical walking programs using historical markers, plaques, and maps for public benefit.

**Time Frame:** Mid-term

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

#### Program 92: Plaque and Public Art

Consider encouraging non-profit organizations to memorialize people, places, cultural traditions, and events significant in the history of Whittier through a Conservancy-sponsored plaque and public art programs.

## IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

**Time Frame:** Long-term

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

### Program 93: Temporary Park Spaces and Recreation Facilities



Install temporary park features and organize pop-up events as ways to provide temporary park space and recreation. Consider adding temporary features such as seating areas with planters, ping pong tables, fitness zones, and demarcated areas for nature play and outdoor learning.



Explore equipment rental programs and offer pop-up/mobile programming with temporary play props, interactive games, and local art installations. Temporary park features and pop-up events may occur on private commercial development, City-owned lots, underutilized parking lots, vacant lots, vacant commercial properties, neighborhood blocks (e.g., block party), within existing parks, and within Disadvantaged Communities. Coordinate with private landowners and local businesses to install temporary park features or organize pop-up events as a way to generate local economic activity. Additionally, consider having a "Ciclovía" or bike rodeo event along Greenleaf Avenue, Painter Avenue, Whittier Greenway Trail, or other streets/paths to support walking and biking in the community.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Parks, Recreation, and Community Services

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

### Program 94: Repurpose Public Rights-of-Way for Parks and Green Spaces



Create new park, open, and/or green spaces through repurposing or modifying underutilized and inefficient public rights-of-way:

- Create a pocket park at the Beverly Drive/Davidson Drive intersection (near Workman Mill Road and Beverly Boulevard);
- Create a pocket park at the Central Avenue/Jackson Street intersection;
- Create a pocket park on Magnolia Avenue between Floral Drive and Beverly Boulevard;
- Extend green space and create parklets or bulb-outs at the corners of La Bajada Avenue and Mar Vista Street. Enhance the new parklets or bulb-outs with landscaping and seating areas screened from Mar Vista Street; and
- Consider creating pocket parks in Disadvantaged Communities.

If the repurposing of the identified locations is not feasible, create a program to regularly re-evaluate the repurposing and to identify other opportunities for repurposing as transit and other vehicular needs change over time.

**Time Frame:** Long-term

**Responsibility:** Public Works; Parks, Recreation, and Community Services

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund



### Program 95: New Pedestrian and Bicycle Routes

Create new pedestrian and bicycle routes between residential areas, employment centers, and the future Metro L Line (formerly Gold Line) Station to create new recreation and commuter options. The City may:

- Partner with PIH Health—Whittier Hospital to create a multimodal path through the center of its campus extending south across Washington Boulevard and Lambert Road through the vacant rail right-of-way. This vacant rail right-of-way extends further south to Slauson Avenue between industrial and residential land uses; and
- Create a new trail or greenway through the Laurel Park neighborhood running behind the houses parallel to Coachman Avenue in a vacant drainage channel. This trail would also connect to Laurel Park and the Whittier Greenway Trail.

**Time Frame:** Long-term

**Responsibility:** Public Works; Parks, Recreation, and Community Services

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund



### Program 96: Update Recreation Amenities

Diversify and maintain recreation amenities within parks and community centers to reflect multigenerational interests and changes in trends. The City may:

- Improve Parnell Park, including playground resurfacing, repurposing the unused equestrian ring, and providing lights at the sports field;
- Retrofit and upgrade park paths and equipment to comply with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) regulations. For example, reconstruct the fitness equipment at Michigan Park to be ADA accessible;
- Repair amenities in poor condition or consider replacing the amenities to meet changing recreation demands. For example, repurpose Broadway Park's shuffleboard and tennis courts as a soccer field to meet changes in interests, as identified in the 2016 Los Angeles Countywide Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment; and
- Construct a new indoor gymnasium as part of an existing community center's renovation.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Parks, Recreation, and Community Services

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Grants

### Program 97: City-Owned Turf Area Improvements

Improve the City-owned turf areas located at the Norwalk Boulevard/Whittier Boulevard intersection to include recreation equipment, picnic tables, and shade structures.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Parks, Recreation, and Community Services

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Grants

## interagency and other organization consultation

### Program 98: Event Programming

Continue to work with the Chamber of Commerce, Business Improvement Districts, and similar entities to promote event programming and fund public and capital improvement projects.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Developer Fees

### Program 99: L Line (Formerly Gold Line) Transit and Station Consultation

Initiate consultation with METRO, neighboring jurisdictions, and other regional agencies to coordinate the development and opening of the L Line (formerly Gold Line) in Whittier with the provision of high-quality infrastructure—such as protected bike lanes and frequent transit service—that connect residences and employment with high-quality transit. METRO requires local cities match three percent of investments in public transit projects. This requirement includes construction permits and first-last mile improvements.

**Time Frame:** Mid-term

**Responsibility:** Public Works; Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Development and Building Fees

### Program 100: Transportation Network Companies Partnerships

Explore a partnership framework to incorporate Transportation Network Companies as gap fillers within the local transit network.

**Time Frame:** Short-term

**Responsibility:** Public Works; Parks, Recreation, and Community Services

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

### Program 101: Public Transportation Collaboration

Collaborate with State, regional, and local agencies to improve public transportation, including:

- Adjacent cities to provide a more reliable public transportation system in the area;
- METRO to enhance regional transit connections including additional routes and increased service frequency, and explore expansion of Rapid Bus Service;
- METRO to provide attractive and convenient bus stops, including shade/weather protection, seats, transit information, and trash receptacles, particularly in the Disadvantaged Communities;
- School districts and private schools to improve pedestrian and bicycle routing and safety around schools. Focus pedestrian access to the elementary schools and bicycle and pedestrian access to the middle and high schools; and
- Caltrans to install appropriate directional signage for trucks on I-605 directing truck traffic to designated truck routes and minimize impacts of trucks traveling on other city streets.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Public Works; Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

#### **Program 102: Water Recycling Cooperation**

Actively monitor the efforts of the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts to establish broad-based water recycling programs, particularly at the Whittier Narrows Water Reclamation Plant. Cooperate in pilot programs to use reclaimed/recycled water for local groundwater recharge and approved surface applications.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Public Works

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Grants

#### **Program 103: Clean Energy and Climate Change Coordination**

Continue to improve Whittier's ability to meet its clean energy and climate change goals by partnering with the Clean Power Alliance or similar organization to provide local users with a tiered system for purchasing renewable energy. Coordinate closely with Southern California Edison and the Gas Company in their efforts to upgrade local energy distribution facilities, including their participation in the review of development applications.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Public Works

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Grants, Use Fees

#### **Program 104: South Central Coastal Information Center Coordination**

Coordinate with the South Central Coastal Information Center of the California Historical Resources Information System at California State University Fullerton to understand archaeological resources that have been identified within the City's boundaries and maintain access to a map of areas of sensitivity by qualified professionals within the City so that the impact of potential projects may be fully understood.

**Time Frame:** Short-term

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

#### **Program 105: California Office of Historic Preservation Collaboration**

Consider collaborating with the California Office of Historic Preservation to develop a training program tailored to Whittier's needs.

**Time Frame:** Long-term

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

#### **Program 106: Interest-Free Rehabilitation Loan Program**

As funding is available, work with local banks and financial institutions to develop an interest-free rehabilitation loan program that promotes the sustainable upgrade and reuse of older

## IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

homes and apartment buildings, commercial buildings, and industrial buildings in Whittier, rather than full-scale replacement.

**Time Frame:** Long-term

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

### Program 107: Resources Business Promotions

Consider working with local and regional business and professional groups to incorporate cultural resources such as local arts, "Whittier" oriented materials and themes into their business promotions.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Economic Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

### Program 108: Uptown Character Toolkit

Collaborate with the Whittier Uptown Association to develop a menu of tools business owners can use toward maintaining the character of Uptown.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Economic Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

### Program 109: California State Parks Collaboration

Collaborate with California State Parks at the Pio Pico State Historic Park.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

### Program 110: California Historic Tax Credit (SB451 (2019))

Promote the California Historic Tax Credit, SB451(2019), as appropriate. Collaborate with the State Historic Preservation Office to understand how this new legislation can benefit Whittier property owners investing in the rehabilitation of qualified historic properties.

**Time Frame:** Long-term

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

### Program 111: Mutual Aid

Continue to engage with the City of Santa Fe Springs, Los Angeles County, and other emergency response agencies to provide for mutual aid.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** City Manager

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

**Program 112: Storm Drainage System**

Consult with Los Angeles County Public Works to ensure that existing and future storm drain facilities are designed, constructed, operated, and maintained to accommodate projected drainage needs with major storm events.

Protect and maintain all facilities in accordance with federal and State laws.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Public Works; Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Grants

**Program 113: Fire Prevention/Fuel Modification Plan**

Consult with Los Angeles County Fire Department and Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority to coordinate mitigation activities for fire prevention utilizing the Fuel Modification Plan for implementation. Consider preparing a Wildfire Management Plan with the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority.

**Time Frame:** Mid-term

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Grants

**Program 114: County Storm Drain Standards**

Ensure that City-owned storm drains are designed, constructed, operated, and maintained per Los Angeles County Public Works' standards to allow for maximum capacity of the system.

Protect and maintain all facilities to State and federal standards.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Public Works; Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Grants

**Program 115: Contamination Remediation**

Consult with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and responsible State agencies on the ongoing remediation and cleanup of contaminated properties and groundwater.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** City Manager; Community Development; Fire Department

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Grants

**Program 116: Hazardous Materials**

Consult with State, federal, and Los Angeles County agencies to develop and promote best practices related to the use, storage, transportation, and disposal of hazardous materials.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** City Manager; Community Development; Fire Department

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

## IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

### Program 117: Transportation-Related Noise

Consult with responsible federal and State agencies to minimize the impact of transportation-related noise, including noise associated with freeways, major arterials, and public transportation.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

### Program 118: Water Quality and Supply

Cooperate with State, regional, and federal agencies to monitor water quality and provide adequate supply and high-quality water for local and regional needs. Protect and maintain all facilities to comply with State and federal standards.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Public Works

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Grants

### Program 119: Regional Water Supply

Continue to participate in the institutional dialogue regarding regional water supply.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Public Works

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Grants

### Program 120: Regional Water Agencies Consultation

Consult with California Department of Water Resources and other regional water agencies to use the latest water science practices to anticipate demand over time.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

### Program 121: Urban Farms, Community Gardens, and Park Space Acquisition



Work with community members, non-profits, and government agencies to identify and acquire available land (or acquire use of the land) for urban farms, community gardens, and/or additional park space (civic spaces, parking lots, vacant plots, rights-of-ways, school sites, etc.).



Special consideration should be given to properties located in Disadvantaged Communities.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Grants



### Program 122: Green Projects Funding

Coordinate with State and federal agencies to apply for funding to support more "green projects" and initiatives outlined in the Gateway Cities Climate Action Tracking Tool (CATT) including developing and implementing a Climate Action Plan.

**Time Frame:** Mid-term

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

#### **Program 123: Energy Use Reductions**

Consult with Southern California Edison and community partners to provide information and educational programs to residents, employees, and businesses on means to reduce energy use.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Public Works

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Grants

#### **Program 124: Energy Audits**

Partner with Southern California Edison to provide energy audits and public education about energy efficiency, conservation methods, and the financial benefits of conservation.

**Time Frame:** Immediate and Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Public Works

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Grants

#### **Program 125: Truck Traffic Tracking and Older Vehicle Replacement**

Work with the SCAQMD to track truck traffic movement and encourage replacement of older vehicles. Adopt ordinances that limit truck idling.

**Time Frame:** Immediate and Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Public Works

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Grants

#### **Program 126: Oil Production Guidelines**

Coordinate and comply with guidelines stipulated by the federal Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the State Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources (DOGGR) to ensure consistency:

- Foster sound siting, construction, operating, and maintenance measures for the provision of new oil sites;
- Provide for the proper placement of oil production-related and waste disposal facilities;
- Maintain safe operations of existing oil industry sites; and
- Require appropriate site cleanup, stabilization, and restoration where degradation has occurred.

**Time Frame:** Immediate and Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Community Development and Public Works

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

#### **Program 127: Oil Extraction**

Maintain communication with oil extraction interests in the City regarding market trends and projections for continued pumping.

## IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

**Time Frame:** Immediate and Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Community Development; City Manager

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

### Program 128: Hazardous Waste Disposal Regional Studies

Cooperate and participate in regional studies and investigations dealing with hazardous waste disposal. Implement programs that are clearly within the City's sphere of responsibility and fiscal ability.

**Time Frame:** Immediate and Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

### Program 129: Joint Use Agreements

Continue to pursue joint-use agreements between school districts serving Whittier, such as Lowell Joint School District and South Whittier School District. Expand the use of facilities within the Whittier City School District joint-use agreement. Focus agreements to use team sports fields and facilities and indoor gymnasiums, since such City facilities do not meet demand.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Parks, Recreation, and Community Services

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, User Fees

### Program 130: Recreation Facility Partnerships

Consider partnering with private organizations, such as faith-based groups and service clubs, to jointly use private recreation facilities.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Parks, Recreation, and Community Services

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

## education and outreach

### Program 131: Local Planning and Decision-Making Diversity

Encourage diverse participation in local planning and decision-making processes by:

- Targeting outreach events to accommodate populations that are typically underserved and underrepresented, including the Disadvantaged Communities;
- Publishing outreach and meeting materials in English, Spanish, and other languages, as appropriate; and
- Engaging the public early and often throughout the planning and design processes.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Community Development; City Manager

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

**Program 132: Bicycling and Pedestrian Information**

Develop and distribute bicycling and pedestrian public information materials. Materials should address:

- Comprehensive maps and resource materials; and
- Informational links and programs.

**Time Frame:** Short-term

**Responsibility:** Public Works

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Grants

**Program 133: Water Service Information and Referrals**

Ensure local water providers provide residents and businesses information and referral resources regarding water service issues.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Public Works; City Manager

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

**Program 134: Oral History, Photographs, and Shades of Whittier Donations and Loans**

Promote and enhance programs that encourage residents to donate, share or loan historic memorabilia such as the Whittier Public Library's Oral History Program, Historic Photograph Collection and Shades of Whittier Collection.

**Time Frame:** Long-term

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

**Program 135: Historic Preservation Outreach**

Work collaboratively with area organizations to formulate stronger historic preservation outreach programs that will inform community members about the types of programs, like the Mills Act Tax Reduction and application of California Historical Building Code (CHBC), that can benefit property owners financially, while preserving historic resources appreciated throughout the community.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

**Program 136: Preparedness Toolkit**

Develop an educational toolkit through new multimedia platforms or through local partners that informs the public on preparedness directions and access to resources for making the community safer, resilient, and prepared.

**Time Frame:** Short-term and Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Fire Department; City Manager

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Grants

## IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

### Program 137: Community Emergency Response Team

Work with the Los Angeles County Fire Department to maintain the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program that educates volunteers about disaster preparedness for the hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Fire Department; City Manager

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Grants

### Program 138: Crime Prevention Training

Provide training in crime prevention, reporting for private property building managers, and cultural competency.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

### Program 139: Community Policing Initiative

Continue the Community Policing Initiative and promote the program within the community.

Continue to promote and expand neighborhood watch programs, presence in schools, and sponsorship of community watch and citizens' patrol programs.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Police Department

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Grants

### Program 140: Code Enforcement Information

Conduct and fund code enforcement activities that focus on proactive, information outreach to property owners and tenants.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

### Program 141: Brush Clearance Education

Continue proactive programs to educate property owners about brush clearance and perimeter protection requirements and to ensure compliance.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** City Manager; Fire Department

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

### Program 142: Seismic Hazards Preparedness

Develop a continuing education program to provide residents and businesses with seismic hazard preparation and response. Encourage ongoing seismic retrofitting. Identify a plan of action and coordinate with other cities, County of Los Angeles, and State agencies to respond to and recover from major earthquake.

**Time Frame:** Short-term and Ongoing

**Responsibility:** City Manager; Fire Department; Police Department

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Grants

#### **Program 143: Freeway Air Quality Risks Information**



Conduct a public information campaign to inform residents living within 1,000 feet of a freeway of the risks and mitigation measures they can take. These include installing high-efficiency air filters, keeping windows closed in the early morning, refraining from outdoor exercise in the mornings, and installing dense landscaping to trap particulates.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Grants

#### **Program 144: Public Engagement Strategy**



To increase and promote civic engagement, prepare and implement a public engagement strategy that defines approaches the City will use to reach out to local stakeholders.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** City Manager

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Grants



#### **Program 145: Hillside and Native Habitat Protection**

Engage and encourage public and private property owners, especially owners of large hillside properties, to enhance, preserve, and protect hillside areas to support native habitat. Each property should be evaluated for its resources and to determine best course of action.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Community Development; Fire Department

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund



#### **Program 146: Water, Air Quality, and Heat Issues and Information**

Provide periodic information through City websites and local newspapers about water, air quality, and heat issues, concerns, and programs.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Public Works; Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund



#### **Program 147: Water Conserving Technologies Information**

Provide educational information on the use of, and as appropriate, the hardware for water-conserving technologies such as low-flush toilets, waterless urinals, low-flow showerheads and faucets, and water-wise irrigation, landscaping, and gardening methods.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Public Works

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Grants

## IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

### Program 148: Alternative Energy Technologies Information

Provide residents information about the values of alternative energy technologies.



**Time Frame:** Short-term and Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

### Program 149: Energy Use Education

Create a program that educates the public about inefficient energy use from over-illumination.

Consult with developers to use methods and equipment to reduce unnecessary lighting and remove over-illumination in new development and redevelopment projects.

**Time Frame:** Short-term

**Responsibility:** Community Development

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund, Grants



### Program 150: Community Gardens, Tree Planting, and Maintenance Education

Provide a coordinated program of education, outreach, and advocacy for community gardens, tree planting, maintenance, and community engagement.

**Time Frame:** Short-term and Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Parks, Recreation and Community Services and Public Works

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

### Program 151: At-Risk Structures for Fire

Conduct a survey of residential structures in the Very High Fire Severity Hazard zone to identify nonconforming structures related to fire standards. Consult with the property owners to bring structures into compliance.

**Time Frame:** Short-term and Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Community Development, Fire Department

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

### Program 152: Code Enforcement and Inspection

Continue to conduct code enforcement and inspections.

**Time Frame:** Ongoing

**Responsibility:** Community Development, Fire Department, Public Works

**Funding Source(s):** General Fund

## **land use and community character implementing actions**

## **land use and community character implementing actions**

## **mobility and infrastructure implementing actions**

## **mobility and infrastructure implementing actions**

## mobility and infrastructure implementing actions

PROGRAM NUMBER	114	118	123	124	132	133	148
POLICY NUMBER	County Storm Drain Standards	Water Quality and Supply	Energy Use Reductions	Energy Audits	Bicycle and Pedestrian Information	Water Service Information and Referrals	Alternative Energy Technologies Information
1.1				X			
1.2				X			
1.3							
1.4				X			
2.1							
2.2							
2.3							
2.4							
3.1							
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9.1							
10.1							
10.2							
10.3		X					
10.4		X					
10.5		X				X	
10.6							
10.7							
11.1							
11.2							
11.3							
11.4							
11.5							

## mobility and infrastructure implementing actions

PROGRAM NUMBER	114	118	123	124	132	133	148
POLICY NUMBER	County Storm Drain Standards	Water Quality and Supply	Energy Use Reductions	Energy Audits	Bicycle and Pedestrian Information	Water Service Information and Referrals	Alternative Energy Technologies Information
12.1							
12.2	X						
12.3							
13.1			X	X			
13.2							
13.3							X
13.4	X						
13.5							
14.1							
14.2							
14.3							
14.4							
14.5							
15.1							
15.2							

# historic resources implementing actions

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## **resources management implementing actions**

## resources management implementing actions

PROGRAM NUMBER		125	126	127	129	130	131	132	133	144	145	146	147	148	149	150	152
POLICY NUMBER																	
1.1																	
1.2																	
1.3																	x
1.4																	
1.5																	
1.6																	
1.7																	
2.1									x			x	x				
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7.2																	
8.1	x	x															
8.2																	
8.3													x				

# **resources management implementing actions**

## **public safety, noise, health implementing actions**

# public safety, noise, health implementing actions

PROGRAM NUMBER	1	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	34	39	41	42	48	49	50	53	56	59	69	70	71	72	77	78	79	83
POLICY NUMBER	Municipal Code and Subdivision Ordinance Revision	Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan	Development Application Review	Emergency Service Equipment and Facilities Needs	Geotechnical Review	Fire Hazard Severity Zones Review	New Construction in Flood Zone	Storm Drainage Master Plan	Flood Insurance Program	Urban Forestry Management	Noise Level Standards	Acoustical Analysis Reports	Disadvantaged Communities Prioritization	Retrofit Plumbing Systems and Landscaping Incentives	CALGreen Building Practice Regulations	On-Site Alternative Energy Sources	Oil Production Operational and Drilling Standards	Negative Air Quality Impacts on Sensitive Receptors	Park and Recreation Facilities Incentives	Parks and Recreation Facilities Funding	Parks and Recreation Facilities Management Plan	Public Plazas and Urban Spaces	Mobility Programs	Stormwater Reduction Activities	Increased Protections for Sensitive Receptors	At Risk Occupants' Evacuation Plans	Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment	Health Strategy Plan	Energy Generation on City Properties	Existing Building's Alternative Energy Use	Alternative Energy Development Policy	Hazardous Waste Management Plan
5.8			x																													
5.9																																
5.10																																
5.11		x				x																										
5.12	x																															
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## **public safety, noise, health implementing actions**



# glossary



# Glossary

**Access:** A way of approaching or entering a property, including ingress (the right to enter) and egress (the right to leave).

**Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU):** Formerly known as a second(ary) unit or “granny flat,” is an attached or detached residential dwelling unit that provides complete independent living facilities for one or more persons and is located on a lot with a proposed or existing primary dwelling.

**Acreage, Gross:** The total land area in acres within a defined boundary, including any area for rights-of-way, public streets, and dedications of land for public use.

**Acreage, Net:** That portion of gross acreage exclusive of public streets, rights-of-way, and dedications of land for public uses.

**Adaptive Use/Reuse:** The process of converting a building to a use other than that for which it was originally designed and/or built. Such a conversion may be accomplished with varying alterations to the building.

**Affordability Covenant:** A property title agreement that places resale or rental restrictions based on income levels on a housing unit(s).

**Affordable Housing:** Under State and federal statutes, generally housing that costs no more than 30 percent of gross household income. Housing costs include rent or mortgage payments, utilities, taxes, insurance, homeowner association fees, and other related costs.

**Air Basin:** A geographical area in California defined as a distinct air basin for the purpose of managing the air resources of the State on a regional basis. An air basin generally has similar meteorological and geographic conditions throughout.

**Air Pollutants:** Amounts of foreign and/or natural substances occurring in the atmosphere that may result in adverse effects on humans, animals, vegetation, and/or materials.

**Air Quality Standards:** The prescribed (by the Environmental Protection Agency and the California Air Resources Board) level of pollutants in the outside air that cannot be exceeded legally during a specified time in a specified geographical area.

**Alternative Fuels:** Fuels such as methanol, ethanol, natural gas, and liquid propane gases that are cleaner burning and help to meet the Air Resources Board’s mobile and stationary emission standards.

## GLOSSARY

**Ambient Air:** The air occurring at a particular time and place outside of structures. Often used interchangeably with "outdoor air."

**Ambient Air Quality Standards:** Health- and welfare-based standards for clean outdoor air that identify the maximum acceptable average concentrations of air pollutants during a specified period of time.

**Ambient Noise Level:** The level of noise that is all-encompassing within a given environment for which a single source cannot be determined. It is usually a composite of sounds from many and varied sources near to and far from the receiver.

**Annexation:** The incorporation of a land area into an existing city with a resulting change in the boundaries of that city.

**AQMP (Air Quality Management Plan):** A plan prepared by an air pollution control district or air quality management district, for a county or region designated as a "nonattainment" area, for the purpose of bringing the area into compliance with the requirements of the national and/or California Ambient Air Quality Standards. AQMPs are incorporated into the State Implementation Plan (SIP).

**Archaeological:** Relating to the material remains of past human life, culture, or activities.

**Arterial:** A major street carrying the traffic of local and collector streets to and from freeways and other major streets, with controlled intersections and generally providing direct access to nonresidential properties.

**Assisted Living Facility:** A special combination of housing, supportive services, personalized assistance, and healthcare designed to assist individuals who need help with activities of daily living. A facility with a central or private kitchen, dining, recreational, and other facilities with separate bedrooms or living quarters, where the emphasis of the facility remains residential.

**Assisted Housing:** Housing that has been subsidized by federal, State, or local housing programs.

**At-Risk Housing:** Rental housing that is at risk of losing its status as housing affordable for low- and moderate-income tenants due to the expiration of federal, State, or local agreements.

**Average Daily Trips (ADT):** Average daily trips made by vehicles in a 24-hour period.

**A-Weighted Decibel (dBA):** A numerical method of rating human judgment of loudness. The A-weighted scale reduces the effects of low and high frequencies in order to simulate human hearing.

**Backflow:** The reverse flow of water from individual water systems that could affect the City's potable (drinking) water system.

## GLOSSARY

**Bike Lane:** A corridor expressly reserved by markings for bicycles, existing on a street or roadway in addition to any lanes for use by motorized vehicles (Class II Bikeway).

**Bike Path:** A paved route not on a street or roadway and expressly reserved for bicycles. Bike paths may parallel roads but typically are separated from them (Class I Bikeway).

**Bike Route:** A bicycle facility shared with motorists and identified by signs or pavement marking symbols. A bike route does not have lane stripes (Class III Bikeway).

**Biomass:** Living and recently dead biological material that can be used as fuel or for industrial/commercial production.

**Buffer:** Land and/or improvement designated to protect one type of land use from another where there could be compatibility issues. Where a commercial district or agricultural use abuts a residential district, for example, additional use, yard, or height restrictions may be imposed to protect residential properties. The term may also be used to describe any zone that separates two unlike zones such as a designated transitional zone. As an example, a multi-unit housing development may serve as a buffer between single-unit housing and commercial uses.

**Bulbout:** A curb extension intended to slow the speed of traffic and increase driver awareness, particularly in residential neighborhoods. They also allow pedestrians and vehicle drivers to see each other when vehicles parked in a parking lane would otherwise block visibility.

**California Building Code:** A standard building code that sets for minimum standards for construction. The California Building Code is outlined in Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations and includes the Uniform Plumbing Code, Uniform Mechanical Code, National Electric Code, California Fire Code, and the California Energy Code.

**California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD):** The State department responsible for administering State-sponsored housing programs and for reviewing housing elements to determine compliance with State housing law.

**California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA):** A State law enacted in 1971 that requires governmental agencies at all levels to consider the impact proposed projects have on the environment, including cultural resource impacts.

**California Register of Historical Resources:** A listing of archaeological and historic resources that meet the criteria for designation on the State register.

**California Department of Transportation (Caltrans):** California department whose mission is to improve mobility across the State. It manages the State highway system and is actively involved with public transportation systems within the State.

## GLOSSARY

**Capital Improvement Program (CIP):** A proposed timetable or schedule of future capital improvements (i.e., government acquisition of real property, major construction project, or acquisition of long lasting, expensive equipment) to be carried out during a specific period, together with cost estimates and the anticipated means of financing each project. Capital improvement programs are usually projected five years in advance and are updated every two years in Whittier as part of the City's two-year budget process.

**Carbon Footprint:** A measure of the impact human activities have on the environment in terms of the amount of greenhouse gases produced, measured in units of carbon dioxide.

**Census:** An official enumeration of the population, with details as to age, sex, occupation, etc. conducted by the federal government.

**Centers:** Nodes of activity that generally encompass areas with a predominant single use or mix of land uses.

**Child Care:** Care, control, supervision, or maintenance of a child provided for compensation by an individual, other than a parent, for less than twenty-four (24) hours in a day.

**City:** City, with a capital "C," generally refers to the government or administration of the City of Whittier. City, with a lower case "c" may mean any city or the general boundaries of Whittier.

**Climate Change (see also Global Warming):** Climate change refers to any significant change in measures of climate (such as temperature, precipitation or wind) lasting for an extended period (decades or longer). Climate change may result from:

- Natural factors, such as changes in the sun's intensity or slow changes in the Earth's orbit around the sun
- Natural processes within the climate system (e.g., changes in ocean circulation)
- Human activities that change the atmosphere's composition (e.g., through burning fossil fuels) and the land surface (e.g., deforestation, reforestation, urbanization, and desertification)

**Collector:** A street for traffic moving between arterial and local streets, generally providing direct access to properties.

**Community Benefits:** Programs or activities that provide treatment and/or promote health and healing as a response to community needs.

**Community Development Block Grant (CDBG):** A grant program administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). This grant allots money to cities and counties for housing rehabilitation and community development activities, including public facilities and economic development.

**Community Noise Equivalent Level (CNEL):** The noise metric adopted by the State of California for evaluating airport noise. It represents the average daytime noise level during a 24-hour day, adjusted to an equivalent level to account for the lower tolerance of people to noise during evening and nighttime periods relative to the daytime period. See also "A-Weighted Decibel."

**Compatibility, Architecture or Design:** The characteristics of different buildings or landscape that contribute to an overall quality. This includes building heights and scale, orientation, architectural or landscaping elements, building materials, and roof lines. In general, buildings with similar but not identical heights give a streetscape a consistency of scale without sacrificing the identities of individual buildings.

**Compatibility, Land Use:** The characteristics of different uses or activities that permit them to be located near each other in harmony and without conflict. The designation of permitted and conditionally permitted uses in zoning districts is intended to achieve compatibility within the district. Some elements affecting compatibility include: intensity of occupancy as measured by dwelling units per acre; pedestrian or vehicular traffic generated; volume of goods handled; and such environmental effects as noise, vibration, glare, air pollution, or the presence of hazardous materials. On the other hand, many aspects of compatibility are based on personal preference and are much harder to measure quantitatively, at least for regulatory purposes.

**Complete Streets:** A comprehensive approach to the practice and related policies of mobility planning. The complete street concept recognizes that transportation corridors have multiple users with different abilities and mode preferences (e.g., pedestrians, bicyclists, transit riders, and drivers) that need to be accounted for.

**Composting:** The controlled microbial decomposition of organic matter (such as food scraps and yard trimmings) in the presence of oxygen into a humus- or soil-like material.

**Condominium:** An estate in real property consisting of an undivided interest in common in a portion of a parcel in real property, together with a separate interest in the space in a residential, industrial, or commercial building on such real property such as an apartment, office, or store. The Whittier Municipal Code defines "condominium" as meaning the same as "dwelling, multiple".

**Conservation:** The management of natural resources to prevent waste, destruction, or neglect.

**Consistent:** Free from contradiction.

**Corridor:** Major commercial or mix-use streets that connect centers and neighborhoods and have their own identity.

**Coverage:** The proportion of the area of the footprint of a building in relation to the area of the lot on which its stands.

## GLOSSARY

**Curbside Collection:** A method of collecting recyclable materials at individual homes or places of business by municipal or private parties for transfer to a designated collection site or recycling facility.

**Decibel (dB):** A unit measuring the magnitude of a sound, equal to the logarithm of the ratio of the intensity of the sound to the intensity of an arbitrarily chosen standard sound, specifically a sound just barely audible to an unimpaired human ear. For environmental noise from aircraft and other transportation sources, an A-weighted sound level (abbreviated dBA) is normally used. The A-weighting scale adjusts the values of different sound frequencies to approximate the auditory sensitivity of the human ear.

**Density:** The number of dwelling units per unit of land. The Whittier General Plan refers to density in terms of dwelling units per acre (du/ac).

**Density Bonus:** The allocation of development rights as required by State law that allows a parcel to be developed at a higher residential density than the maximum for which the parcel is designated in exchange for the provision of a certain percentage of those units as affordable.

**Density Bonus Regulatory Concessions:** As specified in California Government Code §65915 to include, but not be limited to, the reduction of site development standards or Zoning Ordinance requirements, direct financial assistance, approval of mixed-use zoning in conjunction with the housing development, or any other regulatory incentive which would result in identifiable cost avoidance or reductions that are offered in addition to a density bonus.

**Density Transfer:** A way of retaining open space by concentrating densities—usually in compact areas adjacent to existing urbanization and utilities—while leaving unchanged historic, sensitive, or hazardous areas.

**Developer:** An individual or business that prepares raw land for the construction of buildings or causes to be built physical building space for use primarily by others, and in which the preparation of the land or the creation of the building space is in itself a business and is not incidental to another business or activity.

**Development:** Development has the meaning of §65927 (California Government Code) and is also any human-caused change to improved or unimproved real estate that requires a permit or approval from any agency of the city or county, including but not limited to, buildings or other structures, mining, dredging, filling, grading, paving, excavation or drilling operations, and storage of materials. “Development” means, on land, in or under water, the placement or erection of any solid material or structure; discharge or disposal of any dredged material or of any gaseous, liquid, solid, or thermal waste; grading, removing, dredging, mining, or extraction of any materials; change in the density or intensity of use of land, including, but not limited to, subdivision pursuant to the Subdivision Map Act) and any other division of land except where the

land division is brought about in connection with the purchase of such land by a public agency for public recreational use; change in the intensity of use of water, or of access thereto; construction, reconstruction, demolition, or alteration of the size of any structure, including any facility of any private, public, or municipal utility; and the removal or harvesting of major vegetation other than for agricultural purposes, and timber operations which are in accordance with a timber harvesting plan submitted pursuant to the provisions of the Z'berg-Nejedly Forest Practice Act of 1973 (commencing with §4511 of the Public Resources Code). As used in this section, "structure" includes, but is not limited to, any building, road, pipe, flume conduit, siphon, aqueduct, telephone line, and electrical power transmission and distribution line. "Development" does not mean a "change of organization," as defined in Government Code §56021 or a "reorganization," as defined in Government Code §56073.

**Development Agreement:** A contractual agreement between a developer and the City that clearly establishes the developer's responsibility to provide a certain type of development, streets, and sewer improvements, and any other mutually agreed to terms and responsibilities as a precondition for securing approval of a project.

**Development Impact Fee:** A fee or charge imposed on developers to pay for a jurisdiction's costs of providing services to new development.

**Diversity:** The variation among a particular group of things or people; for example, various social and cultural identities among people existing together.

**Domestic Water, Potable:** Water that has undergone adequate treatment and is considered suitable for human drinking and cooking uses.

**Drought:** An extended period of months or years when a region notes a deficiency in its water supply. Generally, this occurs when a region receives consistently below average precipitation.

**Dwelling, Multi-unit:** A building, or portion thereof, designed for occupancy by two or more households living independently of each other and containing two or more dwelling units.

**Dwelling, Single-unit Attached:** Two dwelling units, each owned in fee and located on individual lots but joined along a single lot line, each of which is totally separated from the other by an unpierced wall extending from ground to roof. Except as allowed by the Whittier Municipal Code Section 18.10.020 for attached Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs).

**Dwelling, Single-unit Detached:** A dwelling unit owned in fee and located on an individual lot that is not attached to any other dwelling unit other than an ADU.

**Dwelling Unit:** A structure or portion of a structure used exclusively for human habitation.

**Dwelling Unit per Acre (du/ac):** Number of dwelling units per one acre of land; denotes residential density.

## GLOSSARY

**Easement:** A recorded right or interest in the land that belongs to someone else, which entitles the holder to some use, privilege, or benefit out of or over said land.

**Ecosystem:** A naturally occurring assemblage of organisms (plant, animal, and other living organisms) living together with their environment, functioning as a loose unit; also referred to as a biotic community.

**Efficiency Unit:** A small dwelling unit, often consisting of a single room, within a multi-unit structure, as defined by the Building Code.

**Electronic Waste (e-waste):** Secondary computers, entertainment device electronics, mobile phones, and other items such as television sets and refrigerators, whether sold, donated, or discarded by their original owners.

**Element:** A division of the General Plan referring to a topic area for which goals, policies, and programs are defined (e.g., Land Use and Community Character, Housing, etc.).

**Emergency Shelter:** A facility that provides temporary overnight shelter for persons with no permanent housing. Such facilities may offer services to meet basic needs such as food, clothing, and limited medical care.

**Endangered Species:** A species of animal or plant is considered to be endangered when its prospects for survival and reproduction are in immediate jeopardy from one or more causes.

**Energy Conservation:** Reduction or elimination of unnecessary energy use and waste.

**Energy Harvesting (i.e., power harvesting or energy scavenging):** Is the process by which energy is derived from external sources (e.g., solar power, thermal energy, wind energy, salinity gradients and kinetic energy), captured, and stored.

**Entitlement:** A permit granted to a landowner or other authorized party giving it the right to improve a property. Such right is usually expressed in terms of a use and intensity allowed under a development agreement, subdivision or tract map, use permit, variance, building permit, or other similar permit. For example, an entitlement may specify the maximum number of residential dwelling units permitted on a site or the maximum square footage of non-residential development permitted on a site.

**Environment:** The sum of all external conditions and influences affecting the life, development, and ultimately, the survival of an organism.

**Environmental Justice:** The fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income, with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.

**Environmental Protection Agency (EPA):** The United States agency charged with setting policy and guidelines and carrying out legal mandates for the protection of national interests in environmental resources.

**Erosion:** 1) The loosening and transportation of rock and soil debris by wind, rain, or running water; 2) The gradual wearing away of the upper layers of the Earth.

**Ethanol:** A clear, colorless, flammable oxygenated hydrocarbon. Ethanol is typically produced chemically from ethylene, or biologically from fermentation of various sugars from carbohydrates found in agricultural crops and cellulosic residues from crops or wood. It is used in the United States as a gasoline octane enhancer and oxygenate (blended up to 10 percent concentration). Ethanol can also be used in high concentrations (E85) in vehicles designed for its use.

**Fair Market Rent (FMR):** Freely set rental rates defined by U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), as the median gross rents charged for available standard units in a county or Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area (SMSA). Fair Market Rents are used for the Section 8 Rental Program and many other U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) programs and are published annually by HUD.

**Fault:** A fracture in the Earth's crust forming a boundary between rock masses that have shifted.

**FEMA:** Federal Emergency Management Agency.

**Fire Flow:** A rate of water flow required to halt and reverse the spread of a fire.

**First-Time Homebuyer:** Defined by U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) as an individual or family who has not owned a home during the three-year period preceding the HUD-assisted purchase of a home. Jurisdictions may adopt local definitions for first-time homebuyer programs which differ from non-federally funded programs.

**Flood Plain:** A lowland or relatively flat area adjoining the banks of a river or stream which is subject to a one percent or greater chance or flooding in any given year (i.e., 100-year flood).

**Floor-Area Ratio (FAR), NET:** Net floor area ratio means the total horizontal floor area of all floors of a building included within the surrounding walls, exclusive of vents, shafts, courts, elevators, stairways, and similar features.

**Fugitive Dust:** Dust particles which are introduced into the air through certain activities such as soil cultivation, off-road vehicles, or any vehicles operating on open fields or dirt roadways.

**Gateway:** A point along a roadway entering a city, neighborhood, or district county at which a visitor, resident, or local worker gains a sense of having left the previous environs and of having entered a new place.

## GLOSSARY

**General Plan:** A legal document which takes the form of a map and accompanying text adopted by the local legislative body. The plan is a compendium of policies regarding the long-term development of a jurisdiction. The State requires the preparation of seven elements or divisions as part of the plan: land use, housing, circulation, conservation, open space, noise, and safety. Additional elements pertaining to the unique needs of an agency are permitted. In the Envision Whittier General Plan, the elements have been combined: the Envision Whittier elements are: Land Use and Community Character; Mobility and Infrastructure; Historic Resources; Public Safety, Noise, and Health; and Resource Management.

**Geothermal Heating:** The direct use of geothermal power (power extracted from heat stored in the earth) for heating applications.

**Global Warming (see also Climate Change):** An increase in the average temperature of the atmosphere near the Earth's surface and in the troposphere, which can contribute to changes in global climate patterns. Global warming can occur from a variety of causes, both natural and human-induced. In common usage, "global warming" often refers to the warming that can occur as a result of increased emissions of greenhouse gases from human activities. Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

**Goal:** The ultimate purpose of an effort stated in a way that is general in nature and immeasurable; a broad statement of intended direction and purpose. (For example, "Provide a diverse mix of land uses to meet the future needs of all residents and the business community.")

**Governance:** The persons, boards, commissions, committees, councils, and/or departments who make up a body for the purpose of administering city government.

**Grade:** The vertical location of the ground surface.

**Grading:** Any excavating, filling of land, or combination thereof.

**Green Building:** The practice of increasing the efficiency with which buildings and their sites use and harvest energy, water, and materials, and reducing building impacts on human health and the environment through better siting, design, construction, operation, maintenance, and removal—the complete building life cycle.

**Greenhouse Gases:** Gases in the Earth's atmosphere that produce the greenhouse effect. Changes in the concentration of certain greenhouse gases, due to human activity such as fossil fuel burning, increase the risk of global climate change. Greenhouse gases include carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, halogenated fluorocarbons, ozone, perfluorinated carbons, and hydro fluorocarbons.

**Green Streets:** A street that uses vegetated facilities to manage stormwater, improve water quality, and enhance watershed health.

## GLOSSARY

**Ground Failure:** Mudslide, landslide, liquefaction, or the compaction of soils due to ground shaking from an earthquake.

**Ground Shaking:** Ground movement resulting from the transmission of seismic waves during an earthquake.

**Groundwater:** The supply of fresh water under the ground surface in an aquifer or soil that forms a natural reservoir.

**Group Housing:** Any living situation, that accommodates more than six unrelated individuals and may include, but not be limited to, the following types of facilities: (1) licensed alcohol and drug treatment facilities; (2) licensed board and care homes for the elderly including convalescent or rest homes and nursing homes; (3) licensed homes for minor children; (4) licensed homes from mental patients; (5) licensed homes for the developmentally disabled; and (6) single-room occupancy projects. Group housing would typically involve a living arrangement where either support services are provided to the occupants, where cooking, living, or support sanitary facilities are shared in common between the occupants, or where there is a formal program establishing rules of conduct and purpose of the facility.

**Habitat:** The physical location or type of environment in which an organism or biological population lives or occurs.

**Hazardous Materials:** An injurious substance, including pesticides, herbicides, toxic metals and chemicals, liquefied natural gas, explosives, volatile chemicals, and nuclear fuels.

**Healthy Communities:** Communities which are improving their physical and social environments and expanding and/or improving those community resources that enable people to mutually support each other in performing all the functions of life and in developing to their maximum potential.

**Home Mortgage Disclosure Act (HMDA):** The Home Mortgage Disclosure Act requires larger lending institutions making home mortgage loans to publicly disclose the location and disposition of home purchase, refinance, and improvement loans. Institutions subject to HMDA must also disclose the gender, race, and income of loan applicants.

**Homeless:** Unsheltered homeless are families and individuals whose primary nighttime residence is a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings (e.g., the street, sidewalks, cars, vacant and abandoned buildings). Sheltered homeless are families and persons whose primary nighttime residence is a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter (e.g., emergency, transitional, battered women, and homeless youth shelters; and commercial hotels or motels used to house the homeless).

## GLOSSARY

**Household:** According to the U.S. Census Bureau, a household is all persons living in a dwelling unit, whether or not they are related. Both a single person living in an apartment and a family living in a house are considered households.

**Household Income:** The total income of all the people living in a household. Households are usually described as very low-income, low-income, moderate-income, and above moderate-income for that household size, based on their position relative to the county median income.

**Housing Problems:** Defined by U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) as a household that: 1) occupies a unit with physical defects (lacks complete kitchen or bathroom); 2) meets the definition of overcrowded; or 3) spends more than 30 percent of income on housing cost.

**Housing Unit:** A room or group of rooms used by one or more individuals living separately from others in the structure, with direct access to the outside or to a public hall and containing separate toilet and kitchen facilities.

**Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD):** The United States federal department that administers federal programs dealing with better housing and urban renewal.

**Impervious Surfaces:** Artificial structures—such as pavements (roads, sidewalks, driveways, and parking lots) that are covered by impenetrable materials such as asphalt, concrete, brick, and stone—and rooftops.

**Implementation:** An action, procedure, program, or technique that carries out General Plan policy.

**Improvement:** As defined the Whittier Municipal Code, is any building, structure, place, parking facility, fence, gate, wall, work of art, or other object constituting a physical betterment of real property, or any part of such betterment.

**Income Category:** Four categories are used to classify a household according to income based on the median income for the county. Under State housing statutes, these categories are defined as follows: Very Low (0-50% of county median); Low (51-80% of county median); Moderate (81-120% of county median); and Above Moderate (over 120% of county median).

**Indirect Source:** Any facility, building, structure, or installation, or combination thereof, which generates or attracts mobile source activity that results in emissions of any pollutant (or precursor) for which there is a State ambient air quality standard. Examples include employment sites, shopping centers, sports facilities, housing developments, airports, commercial and industrial development, and parking lots and garages.

## GLOSSARY

**Infill Development:** Development that occurs on vacant land (usually individual lots or previously passed - over properties); or land that has been previously developed within areas that are already largely developed.

**Infrastructure:** The physical systems and services which support development and population, such as roadways, railroads, water, sewer, natural gas, electrical generation and transmission, telephone, cable television, storm drainage, and others.

**Intensity:** A measure of the amount or level of development often expressed as the ratio of building floor area to lot area (floor area ratio) for commercial, business, and industrial development, or dwelling units per acre of land for residential development (also called "density"). For the purposes of this General Plan, the intensity of non-residential development is described through the use of floor-area-ratio (FAR).

**Inter-agency:** Indicates consultation between or among two or more discrete agencies in regard to a specific program.

**Intersection:** Where two or more roads cross at grade.

**Issue:** A problem, constraint, or opportunity which becomes the basis for community action.

**Junior Accessory Dwelling Unit:** A specific type of conversion of existing space that is contained entirely within an existing or proposed single-family residence.

**Landmark (general descriptive term):** an object or feature of a landscape or town that is easily seen and recognized from a distance, especially one that enables someone to establish their location.

**Landmark (historic, per WMC):** any singular historic resource that has been designated as such pursuant to WMC 18.84.

**Landscaping:** Planting, including but not limited to, natural and/or artificial trees, shrubs, vines, ground cover, flowers, and lawn. Landscaping may include natural features such as rock, stone, and structural features including but not limited to, fountains, reflecting pools, art works, screens, walls, fences, and benches.

**Land Use:** A description of how land is occupied or used.

**Land Use Plan:** A plan showing the allowed location, extent, and intensity of development of land to be used in the future for varying types of residential, commercial, industrial, agricultural, recreational, and other public and private purposes or combination of purposes.

**Landslide:** A general term for a falling or sliding mass of soil or rocks.

**Large Household:** A household with five or more members.

## GLOSSARY

**Lateral Spread:** Refers to landslides that commonly form on gentle slopes and that have rapid fluid-like flow movement, like water.

**Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED):** A rating system developed by the U.S. Green Building Council to certify buildings with sustainable features.

**Light pollution:** Excessive or obtrusive artificial light.

**Liquefaction:** A process by which water saturated granular soils transform from a solid to a liquid state due to ground shaking. This phenomenon usually results from shaking from energy waves released in an earthquake.

**Live/Work:** A single unit (e.g., studio, loft, or one/multi-bedroom) that combines workspace with living quarters. The workspace is typically a commercial, office, or light industrial use. Often the live and workspaces are occupied by the same person/family.

**Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO):** A five- or seven- member commission within each county that reviews and evaluates all proposals for formation of special districts, incorporation of cities, annexation to special districts or cities, consolidation of districts, and merger of districts with cities. Each county's LAFCO is empowered to approve, disapprove, or conditionally approve such proposals.

**Local Street:** A street providing direct access to individual parcels and generally provide one travel lane in each direction, with on-street parking permitted on both sides of the street.

**Lot:** A legally recognized parcel of land abutting on one or more public or City-approved private streets.

**Lot Coverage:** The total square footage of all structures covering a lot from a bird's eye view.

**Manufactured Housing:** Housing that is constructed of manufactured components, assembled partly at the site rather than totally at the site. Also referred to as modular housing.

**Market-Rate Housing:** Housing that is available on the open market without any subsidy. The price for housing is determined by the market forces of supply and demand and varies by location.

**Median Income:** The annual income for each household size within a region is defined annually by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Generally, half of the households in the region have incomes above the median and half have incomes below the median.

**Mineral Resource:** A mineral resource is a concentration (or occurrence) of material of economic interest in or on the Earth's crust in such form, quality, and quantity that there are reasonable and realistic prospects for eventual economic extraction.

**Mitigate:** To ameliorate, alleviate, or avoid to the extent reasonably feasible.

**Mixed Use:** Different types of complementary land uses located in close proximity within one or more buildings and/or developments within the same district, planned and constructed to complement each other. Such uses may include, but are not limited to, residential, office, retail, public, or entertainment uses. “Mixed use development,” per §65089 of the California Government Code, means development which integrates compatible commercial or retail uses, or both, with residential uses, and which, due to the proximity of job locations, shopping opportunities, and residences, will discourage new trip generation.

**Mobile Home:** A State-licensed moveable or transportable vehicle, other than a motor vehicle, designed as a permanent structure of not less than two hundred fifty square feet in area intended for occupancy by one family, and having no foundation other than jacks, piers, wheels, or skirtings.

**Mobile Sources:** Sources of air pollution such as automobiles, motorcycles, trucks, off-road vehicles, boats, and airplanes. (Contrast with stationary sources.)

**Modified Mercalli Intensity Scale:** A scale used for measuring the intensity of an earthquake. The scale quantifies the effects of an earthquake on the Earth's surface, humans, objects of nature, and man-made structures on a scale of I through XII; with “I” denoting effect not felt, and XII indicating effect that causes almost complete destruction. The values will differ based on the distance to the earthquake, with the highest intensities being around the epicenter.

**Multi-Generational:** Of or relating to several generations (as of a family).

**Multi-Modal:** The utilization of all available modes of travel that enhance the movement of people and goods, including, but not limited to, highway, transit, non-motorized, and transportation demand management (TDM) strategies including, but not limited to, telecommuting. The availability and practicality of specific multimodal systems, projects, and strategies may vary by county and region in accordance with the size and complexity of different urbanized areas. (Government Code §65088).

**National Flood Insurance Program:** A federal program which authorizes the sale of federally subsidized flood insurance in communities where such flood insurance is not available privately.

**National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES):** As authorized by the Clean Water Act, the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit program controls water pollution by regulating point sources that discharge pollutants into waters of the United States. The State Water Resources Control Board issues permits to jurisdictions with the objectives to attain and protect the beneficial uses of water bodies in the State; reduce pollutants in stormwater to the maximum extent practicable; and to evaluate compliance with the objectives and requirements contained in the permit.

## GLOSSARY

**Neighborhood:** A geographically localized community within Whittier. The General Plan also identifies neighborhood typologies, whereby neighborhoods that have similar characteristics, regardless of geography, are organized.

**Neighborhood Associations:** Community-based voluntary groups of residents in a particular neighborhood or area that meet periodically to discuss and work with the City on neighborhood and community issues.

**Neighborhood Context:** The background and surrounding information that enhances understanding of a particular neighborhood.

**NIMBYism:** The “Not in My Backyard” syndrome, is sometimes used to describe opposition to a new development and/or land use by residents in its vicinity.

**Noise:** Sound that is discernible to the human ear. Excessive noise is any sound which exceeds the appropriate actual or presumed ambient noise level which annoys or tends to disturb humans, or which causes or tends to cause an adverse psychological or physiological effect on humans.

**Noise Contours:** Continuous lines of equal noise level usually drawn around a noise source, such as an airport or highway. The lines are generally drawn in five-decibel increments so that they resemble elevation contours in topographic maps.

**Nonconforming Use:** The use of any lot, structure, or any combination thereof, which the use conformed to the zoning regulations in effect at the time use was established, but which does not comply with current zoning regulations. Nonconforming uses shall also include uses established prior to the establishment of zoning on such lots or uses that were granted as expectations to applicable zoning regulations in effect at such time as said exception was granted, regardless of whether or not the use was previously deemed a conforming use.

**open space (general descriptive term and used with lowercase letters in the General Plan):** Land without buildings. This is a general, descriptive term that places no restrictions on the use of the land.

**Open Space:** An area, other than a required yard area, driveway or off-street parking facility, which has no building or structure located therein except for those used exclusively for recreational purposes. To meet the requirement of open space, such area, referred to as usable open space.

**Open Space, Common:** Undeveloped land or recreation land within a residential development that has been designated, dedicated, reserved, or restricted from further development and is set aside for the use and enjoyment by residents of the development.

**Open Space, (State of California definition):** Any parcel or area of land or water that is essentially unimproved and devoted to an open-space use as defined in this section and that is designated

on a local, regional, or state open-space plan as any of the following (1) Open space for the preservation of natural resources including but not limited to, areas required for the preservation of plant and animal life, including habitat for fish and wildlife species; areas required for ecological and other scientific study purposes; rivers, streams, bays and estuaries; and coastal beaches, lakeshore, banks of rivers and streams, and watershed lands; (2) Open space used for the managed production of resources, including but not limited to, forest lands, range land, agricultural lands and areas of economic importance for the production of food or fiber; areas required for recharge of ground water basins; bays, estuaries, marshes, rivers and stream which are important for the management of commercial fisheries; and areas containing major mineral deposits including those in short supply; (3) Open space for outdoor recreation, including but not limited to, areas of outstanding scenic, historic and cultural value; areas particularly suited for park and recreation purposes, including access to lakeshores, beaches, and rivers and streams; park and areas which serve as links between major recreation and open space reservations, including utility easements, banks of rivers and streams, trails, and scenic highway corridors; (4) Open space for public health and safety, including but not limited to areas which require special management or regulation because of hazardous or special conditions such as earthquake fault zones, unstable soil areas, floodplains, water sheds, areas presenting high fire risks, areas required for the protection of water quality and water reservoirs and areas required for the protection and enhancement of air quality; (5) Open space in support of the mission of military installations that comprise areas adjacent to military installations, military training routes, and underlying restricted airspace that can provide additional buffer zones to military activities and complement the resource values of military lands; (6) Open space for the protection of places, features, and objects described in Sections 5097.9 and 5097.993 of the Public Resources Code.

**Open Space, (City of Whittier definition):** An area, other than a required yard area, driveway or off-street parking facility, which has no building or structure located therein except for those used exclusively for recreational purposes.

**Open Space Preservation:** The Open Space - Preservation category applies to natural and other areas set aside to allow for (1) The protection and preservation of unique resources in Whittier, including wildlife habitat, creeks, tidal marsh lands, protected hillsides, and geological formations; (2) Opportunities for resource enhancement, including restoration of tidal and other wetlands and creeks; (3) The preservation and management of locally available natural resources, including but not limited to timber, marine, wind, solar, and other types of resources.

**Open Space, Private:** Open space on a residential lot which is enclosed by a fence or wall, or consists of a balcony which is designed and intended for the exclusive use of the occupant of the immediately adjacent dwelling unit, located on the lot, having direct access to such area.

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**Ordinance:** A law or regulation set forth and adopted by a governmental authority, usually a city or county.

**Overcrowding:** As defined by the U.S. Census Bureau, a household with greater than 1.01 persons per room, excluding bathrooms, kitchens, hallways, and porches.

**Overlay:** A land use designation or a zoning designation that modifies the basic underlying designation in some specific manner.

**Overpayment:** The extent to which gross housing costs, including utility costs, exceed 30 percent of gross household income, based on data published by the U.S. Census Bureau. Severe overpayment, or cost burden, exists if gross housing costs exceed 50 percent of gross income.

**Paratransit:** An alternative mode of passenger transportation that does not follow fixed routes or schedules; consists typically of vans or mini-buses. Paratransit services are operated by public transit agencies, community groups or not-for-profit corporations, and for-profit private companies or operators.

**Parcel:** A parcel of real property which is shown as a single lot in a lawfully recorded subdivision, approved pursuant to the provisions of the Subdivision Map Act.

**Particulate Matter (PM<sub>10</sub>):** Particulate Matter less than 10 microns. A major air pollutant consisting of tiny solid or liquid particles of soot, dust, smoke, fumes, and aerosols. The size of the particles (10 microns or smaller, about 0.0004 inches or less) allows them to easily enter the air sacs in the lungs where they may be deposited, resulting in adverse health effects. PM<sub>10</sub> also causes visibility reduction and is a criteria air pollutant.

**Planning Area:** The Planning Area is the land areas addressed by the General Plan. For a city, the Planning Area boundary typically coincides with the Sphere of Influence and encompasses land both within the City limits and potentially annexable land.

**Photovoltaic cells (i.e., solar cells):** A device that converts sunlight directly into electricity by the photovoltaic effect.

**Policy:** Statement guiding action and implying clear commitment found within each Element of the General Plan (e.g., "Maintain a balance or surplus between the generation of public revenues and the cost of providing public facilities and services.")

**Pollution:** The presence of matter or energy whose nature, location, or quantity produces undesired environmental effects.

**Potable Water:** Water that is of sufficiently high quality so that it can be consumed or used without risk of immediate or long-term harm.

**Private:** Of or concerning a particular person or group; not owned by a government body.

**Program:** A coordinated set of specific measures and actions (e.g., zoning, subdivision procedures, and capital expenditures) the local government intends to use in carrying out the policies of the General Plan.

**Public:** Of the people as a whole, or for the use and benefit of all.

**Public Space:** Land or structures that are open to anyone without restrictions; may include public or private property; also referred to as "public realm."

**Recycling:** The act of processing used or abandoned materials for use in creating new product.

**Recycled Water:** Former wastewater (sewage) that has been treated to remove solids and certain impurities, and then allowed to recharge the aquifer rather than being discharged to surface water. This recharging is often done by using the treated wastewater for irrigation.

**Redevelopment:** Redevelopment, under the California Community Redevelopment Law, is a process with the authority, scope, and financing mechanisms necessary to provide stimulus to reverse current negative business trends, remedy blight, provide job development incentives, and create a new image for a community. It provides for the planning, development, redesign, clearance, reconstruction, or rehabilitation, or any combination of these, and the provision of public and private improvements as may be appropriate or necessary in the interest of the general welfare. In a more general sense, redevelopment is a process in which existing development and use of land is replaced with newer development and/or use.

**Regional:** Pertaining to activities or economies at a scale greater than that of a single jurisdiction and affecting a broad homogeneous area.

**Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA):** The Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) is based on State of California projections of population growth and housing unit demand and assigns a share of the region's future housing need to each jurisdiction in the State. These housing need numbers serve as the basis for the update of the Housing Element in each California city and county.

**Regulation:** A rule or order prescribed for managing government.

**Rehabilitation:** The upgrading of a building in previously dilapidated or substandard condition for human habitation or use. Note: this definition does not pertain to historic resources.

**Renewable Energy:** The term renewable energy generally refers to electricity supplied from renewable energy sources, such as wind and solar power, geothermal, hydropower and various forms of biomass. These energy sources are considered renewable sources because their fuel sources are continuously replenished.

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**Retrofit:** To add materials and/or devices to an existing building or system to improve its operation or efficiency.

**Right-of-Way:** Any place which is dedicated to use by the public for pedestrian and vehicular travel. A right-of-way may include, but is not limited to, a street, sidewalk, curb, and gutter. A right-of-way may be a crossing, intersection, parkway, median, highway, alley, lane, mall, court, way, avenue, boulevard, road, roadway, railway, viaduct, subway, tunnel, bridge, thoroughfare, park square, or other similar public way.

**Pedestrian Enhanced Design (PED):** The reduction in the number and/or width of travel lanes on a roadway. Potential benefits of a PED include lower vehicle speeds, more space available for bike lanes, sidewalks, and/or landscaping, and improved safety for all users. PEDs often reduce the capacity of the roadway and may increase vehicle delay, including transit vehicles.

**Sanitary Sewer:** A system of subterranean conduits that carries refuse liquids or waste matter to a plant where the sewage is treated, as contrasted with storm drainage systems (that carry surface water) and septic tanks or leach fields (that hold refuse liquids and waste matter on site).

**Section 8:** A tenant-based rental assistance program that subsidizes a household's rent in a privately owned house or apartment. The program is administered by local public housing authorities. Assistance payments are based on 30 percent of household annual income. Households with incomes of 50 percent or below the area median income are eligible to participate in the program.

**Seismic:** Caused by or subject to earthquakes or Earth vibrations.

**Sensitive Species:** Includes those plant and animal species considered threatened or endangered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and/or the California Department of Fish and Game, according to Section 3 of the Federal Endangered Species Act. Endangered - any species in danger of extinction throughout all, or a significant portion of, its range. Threatened - a species likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout all, or a portion of, its range. These species are periodically listed in the Federal Register and are therefore referred to as "federally listed" species.

**Setback:** The area which defines the depth of the required yard. Said setbacks are to be measured from the ultimate right-of-way of a street or a distance perpendicular from the property line for the required yard.

**Sewer:** Any pipe or conduit used to collect and carry away wastewater from the generating source to a treatment plant or discharge outfall.

**Single-Room Occupancy Development:** A multiple tenant building that house private rooms (studio-style apartments) for individuals, often without private kitchen facilities.

**Site:** A parcel of real property, the dimensions and boundaries of which are designated as a single lot by a lawfully recorded record of survey map.

**Smart growth:** Smart growth is a compact, efficient, and environmentally sensitive pattern of development that provides people with additional travel, housing, and employment choices by focusing future growth away from suburban areas and closer to existing and planned job centers and public facilities.

**Smog:** A combination of smoke, ozone, hydrocarbons, nitrogen oxides, and other chemically reactive compounds which, under certain conditions of weather and sunlight, may result in a murky brown haze that causes adverse health effects. The primary source of smog in California is motor vehicles.

**Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG):** A regional planning agency incorporating various local governments in Los Angeles, Orange, Ventura, and Inland Empire areas of California SCAG develops long-range regional transportation plans including sustainable communities strategy and growth forecast components, regional transportation improvement programs, regional housing needs allocations and a portion of the South Coast Air Quality management plans.

**Specific Plan:** A tool authorized by Government Code §65450 et. seq. for the systematic implementation of the General Plan for a defined portion of a community's planning area. A specific plan must specify in detail the land uses, public and private facilities needed to support the land uses, phasing of development and use of natural resources, and a program of implementation measures, including financing measures. A specific plan's land use designations, standards, and guidelines will supersede zoning on the associated parcels.

**Soil:** Naturally occurring superficial deposits overlying bedrock.

**Solar Energy:** Energy from the sun that is converted into thermal or electrical energy.

**Solar Ovens:** An oven that uses sunlight as its energy source.

**Solid Waste:** All solid, semi-solid, and liquid wastes, including garbage, trash, refuse, paper, rubbish, ashes, industrial wastes, demolition and construction wastes, abandoned vehicles and parts thereof, discarded home and industrial appliances, dewatered, treated, or chemically fixed sewage sludge which is not hazardous waste, manure, vegetable or animal solid and semi-solid wastes, and other discarded solid and semi-solid waste.

**Special Needs Groups:** Those segments of the population which have a more difficult time finding decent affordable housing due to special circumstances. Under State planning law, these special needs groups consist of seniors, disabled, large households, female-headed households with children, farmworkers, homeless, and students.

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**Sphere of Influence:** The probable physical boundaries and service area of a local government agency as determined by the Local Agency Formation Commission.

**Standards:** (1) A rule or measure establishing a level of quality or quantity that must be complied with or satisfied. The California Government Code (§65302) requires that General Plans describe "standards." Examples of standards might include the number of acres of parkland per 1,000 population that the community will attempt to acquire and improve. (2) Requirements in a Zoning Ordinance that govern building and development as distinguished from use restrictions; for example, site design regulations such as lot area, height limit, frontage, landscaping, and floor area ratio.

**Stationary Sources:** Non-mobile sources such as power plants, refineries, and manufacturing facilities which emit air pollutants.

**Street Typology:** A method of classifying streets by relating them to the adjacent land use and their function for pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit. The design of a street, its intersections, sidewalks, and transit stops should reflect the adjacent land uses since the type and intensity of the adjacent land use directly influences the level of use by other modes. The street typology attempts to strike a balance between functional classification, adjacent land use, and the competing travel needs.

**Structure:** Anything constructed or erected that requires location on the ground or attachment to something having location on the ground, including swimming pools, but excluding driveways, sidewalks, patios, or parking spaces.

**Subdivision:** The division of any improved or unimproved land, shown on the latest equalized county assessment roll as a unit or as contiguous units, for the purpose of sale, lease, or financing, whether immediate or future. Property shall be considered as contiguous units even if it is separated by roads, streets, utility easements, or railroad rights-of-way. "Subdivision" includes a condominium project, as defined in Section 1350 of the California Civil Code, or a community apartment project, as defined in Section 11004 of the California Business and Professions Code. Any conveyance of land to a governmental agency, public entity, or public utility shall not be considered a division of land for purposes of computing the number of parcels. "Subdivision" shall not include the financing or leasing of apartments, offices, stores, or similar space within apartment buildings, industrial buildings, commercial buildings, mobile home parks or trailer parks; mineral, oil or gas leases; or land dedicated for cemetery purposes under the Health and Safety Code of the State.

**Subsidence:** The sinking or downward settling and compaction of soil and other surface material with little or no horizontal motion. Subsidence may be caused by a variety of human and natural activity, including earthquakes.

**Subsidy (Housing):** To assist by payment of a sum of money or by the granting of terms or favors that reduce the need for monetary expenditures. Housing subsidies may take the forms of mortgage interest deductions or tax credits from federal and/or State income taxes, sale, or lease at less than market value of land to be used for the construction of housing, payments to supplement a minimum affordable rent, and the like.

**Substandard Housing:** Residential dwellings that, because of their physical condition, do not provide safe and sanitary housing (i.e., does not provide shelter, endangers the health, safety, or well-being of occupants). Jurisdictions may adopt more stringent local definitions of substandard housing.

**Substantial Rehabilitation:** Rehabilitation, the value of which constitutes a significant, and program specific portion, of the after rehabilitation value of the dwelling, inclusive of the land value.

**Supportive Services:** Services provided to residents of supportive housing for the purpose of facilitating the independence of residents. Some examples are case management, medical or psychological counseling and supervision, childcare, transportation, and job training.

**Sustainability:** The ability for the City and residents of Whittier to meet the needs of the present economy, society, and environment while preserving the ability of future generations to meet their needs.

**Sustainable Building:** A building approach which integrates building materials and methods that promote environmental quality, economic vitality, and social benefit through the design, construction, and operation of the built environment. Sustainable building merges sound, environmentally responsible practices into one discipline that looks at the environmental, economic, and social effects of a building or built project as a whole. Sustainable building design encompasses the following broad topics: efficient management of energy and water resources, management of material resources and waste, protection of environmental quality, protection of health and indoor environmental quality, reinforcement of natural systems, and the integration of the design approach.

**Tenure:** Refers to the distinction between owner-occupied and renter-occupied housing units.

**Topography:** Configuration of a surface, including its relief and the position of natural and human-made features.

**Townhouse:** A dwelling unit occupying its own lot, but which is physically attached to at least one other dwelling unit.

**Traffic Calming:** The combination of policies and measures that reduce the negative effects of motorized vehicle use by improving livability in the surrounding neighborhood. With traffic

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calming, accessibility and mobility are not reduced, they are modified to fit needs of neighborhood. Traffic calming achieves this by modifying the design of streets to serve a broad range of transportation, social, and environmental purposes.

**Transit-Oriented Development (TOD):** Moderate- to higher-density development, located within an easy walk of a major transit stop (Gold Line or L Line station, shuttle or bus stops), generally with a mix of residential, employment, and shopping opportunities designed for pedestrians without excluding the auto. TOD can be new construction or redevelopment of one or more buildings whose design and orientation facilitate transit use.

**Transmission Line:** An interconnected group of electric lines located on poles or underground which transfer energy, in bulk, between points of supply and points of delivery.

**Transportation Demand Management (TDM):** A strategy for reducing demand on the road system by reducing the number of vehicles using the roadways and/or increasing the number of persons per vehicle. TDM attempts to reduce the number of persons who drive alone on the roadway during the commute period and to increase the number in carpools, vanpools, buses and trains, walking, and biking. TDM can be an element of TSM (see below).

**Transportation Systems Management (TSM):** Individual actions or comprehensive plans to reduce the number of vehicular trips generated by or attracted to new or existing development. TSM measures attempt to reduce the number of vehicle trips by increasing bicycle or pedestrian trips or by expanding the use of bus, transit, carpool, vanpool, or other high occupancy vehicles.

**Transit:** The conveyance of persons or goods from one place to another by means of a local public transportation system (e.g., Metro and L Line).

**Transitional Housing:** Residential accommodations for two or more persons unrelated by blood, marriage, or legal adoption, including support/counseling services for homeless individuals and/or families. The intent of this type of facility is to provide a stable environment for the formerly homeless and to facilitate self-sufficiency. This type of facility typically involves a situation wherein the resident is accountable to the owner/operator for his location and conduct among other factors.

**Trip:** A one-way journey that proceeds from an origin to a destination via a single mode of transportation; the smallest unit of movement considered in transportation studies. Each trip has one "production end" (or origin) and one "attraction end" (destination).

**Unimproved Land:** Land in its natural state with no man-made changes in its appearance. "Essentially unimproved" means minor changes such as benches or a small number of access roads, or some brush clearance for safety.

**Units At-Risk of Conversion:** Housing units that are currently restricted to low-income housing use and will become unrestricted and possibly be lost as low-income housing.

**Urban Design:** The attempt to give form, in terms of both beauty and function, to selected urban areas or to whole cities. Urban design is concerned with the location, mass, and design of various urban components and combines elements of urban planning, architecture, and landscape architecture.

**Urban Forest:** The community forest includes tree-lined streets, open green spaces, undeveloped natural open spaces, and parks along with other public and private spaces within urban areas.

**Urban Form:** Urban form addresses the relationship between building facades and the public realm, the form and mass of buildings in relation to one another, and the scale and types of streets and blocks. Urban form guidelines endeavor to create a predictable public realm primarily by controlling physical form, with a lesser focus on land use.

**Urban Runoff:** Stormwater from city streets and adjacent domestic or commercial properties that carries pollutants of various kinds into the sewer systems and receiving waters.

**U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD):** The cabinet-level department of the federal government responsible for housing, housing assistance, and urban development at the national level. Housing programs administered through HUD include Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME, and Section 8, among others.

**Use:** The purpose for which land or a building is designed, arranged, or intended, or for which the land or building may be occupied or maintained.

**Vacant:** any property which is either undeveloped or has an existing on-site building/structure that is either abandoned, vacant and/or is un-leased by the property owner for more than thirty days.

**Vegetative Communities:** Unique groupings of plants determined primarily on elevation and climate.

**Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT):** The total distance traveled in miles by all motor vehicles of a specific group in a given area. VMT is used to determine and mitigate CEQA transportation impacts. VMT's application in 2021 new. As such, City of Whittier anticipates identifying VMT policy.

**Walkability:** A measure of how friendly an area is to walk. Factors affecting walkability include, but are not limited to: land use mix; street connectivity; residential density (residential units per area of residential use); "transparency" which includes amount of glass in windows and doors, as well as orientation and proximity of homes and buildings to watch over the street; plenty of places

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to go to near the majority of homes; placemaking, street designs that work for people, not just cars; and nonresidential floor area ratio. Major infrastructural factors include access to mass transit, presence and quality walkways, buffers to moving traffic (planter strips, on-street parking, or bike lanes) and pedestrian crossings, aesthetics, nearby local destinations, shade or sun in appropriate seasons, street furniture, and traffic volume and speed.

**Walking Shed:** The walkable area around a particular point of interest (also known as a ped shed).

**Water Conservation:** Using water wisely and efficiently so that it is not wasted.

**Water-wheels:** A machine for converting the energy of flowing or falling water into more useful forms of power, a process otherwise known as hydropower.

**Water Quality:** The physical, chemical, and biological characteristics of water. It is most frequently used by reference to a set of standards against which compliance can be assessed. The most common standards used to assess water quality relate to drinking water, safety of human contact, and for health of ecosystems.

**Watershed:** The total area above a given point on a watercourse that contributes water to its flow; the entire region drained by a waterway or watercourse that drains into a lake, or reservoir.

**Wayfinding:** All of the ways in which people orient themselves in physical space and navigate from place to place, including signage and other graphic communication.

**Wetlands:** An area of land whose soil is saturated with moisture either permanently or seasonally.

**Williamson Act:** California law that provides relief of property tax to owners of farmland and open-space land in exchange for a ten-year agreement that the land will not be developed or otherwise converted to another use. The motivation for the Williamson Act is to promote voluntary land conservation, particularly farmland conservation.

**Wind Turbines:** A rotating machine which converts the kinetic energy in wind into mechanical energy. If the mechanical energy is used directly by machinery, such as a pump or grinding stones, the machine is usually called a windmill. If the mechanical energy is then converted to electricity, the machine is called a wind generator or wind turbine.

**Zoning:** A police power measure, enacted primarily by units of local government, in which the community is divided into districts or zones within which permitted and special uses are established as are regulations governing lot size, building bulk, placement and other development standards. Requirements vary from district to district, but they must be uniform within the same district. The Zoning Ordinance consists of a map and text.

**Zoning Map:** The officially adopted zoning map of a city specifying the location of zoning districts and/or specific plan districts within all geographic areas of the city.