

FINDINGS

General Plan Findings

The update to the Transportation Section of the Los Angeles CEQA Thresholds Guide, pursuant to SB 743, is not an ordinance update, and will not amend any portion of the City's General Plan. As such, adoption does not require findings to ensure consistency with the General Plan, pursuant to City Charter Sections 556 and 558. Regardless, as general practice, the Department recognizes the importance of ensuring that updates are in conformance with the goals, objectives, and policies of the City's General Plan.

A. General Plan Framework Element

SB 743 tasked OPR with selecting an alternative criteria for evaluating transportation impacts that "promote the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, the development of multimodal transportation networks, and a diversity of land uses". The update to the Transportation Section of the Los Angeles CEQA Thresholds Guide is in substantial conformance with the purpose, intent, and provisions of the General Plan, as outlined in the specific topic areas below:

Development of Multi-Modal Transportation Networks

Goal 3L - Districts that promote pedestrian activity and provide a quality experience for the City's residents.

Policy 3.10.2 - Accommodate and encourage the development of multi-modal transportation centers, where appropriate.

Diversity of Land Uses

Goal 4A - An equitable distribution of housing opportunities by type and cost accessible to allow residents in the City.

Goal 7B - A City with a balance of land uses that provides for commercial and industrial development which meets the needs of local residents, sustains economic growth, and assures maximum feasible environmental quality.

Goal 7D - A City able to attract and maintain new land uses and businesses.

Goal 7G - A range of housing opportunities in the City.

Objective 7.9 - Ensure that the available range of housing opportunities is sufficient, in terms of location, concentration, type, size, price/rent range, access to local services and access to transportation, to accommodate future population growth and to enable a reasonable portion of the City's workforce to both live and work in the City.

B. Transportation Element

SB 743 tasked OPR with selecting an alternative criteria for evaluating transportation impacts that "promote the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, the development of multimodal transportation networks, and a diversity of land uses". The update to the Transportation Section of the Los Angeles CEQA Thresholds Guide is in substantial conformance with the purpose, intent, and provisions of the General Plan, in that they would further accomplish the goals,

objectives, and policies of the Transportation Element, Mobility Plan 2035, as outlined in the specific topic areas below:

Reduction of Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Key Policy Initiative - Target greenhouse gas reductions through a more sustainable transportation system.

Objective - Meet a 9% per capita GHG reduction for 2020 and 16% per capita reduction for 2035 (SCAG RTP).

Development of Multi-Modal Transportation Networks

Policy 1.1 - Design, plan, and operate streets to prioritize the safety of the most vulnerable roadway user.

Policy 3.1 - Recognize all modes of travel, including pedestrian, bicycle, transit, and vehicular modes - including goods movement - as integral components of the City's transportation system.

Diversity of Land Uses

Policy 3.3 - Promote equitable land use decisions that result in fewer vehicle trips by providing greater proximity and access to jobs, destinations, and other neighborhood services.

Analysis of Transportation Impacts with a VMT Metric

Objective - Decrease VMT per capita by 5% every five years, to 20% by 2035.

Policy 4.8 - Encourage greater utilization of Transportation Demand Management strategies to reduce dependence on single-occupancy vehicles.

Policy 5.2 - Support ways to reduce VMT per capita.

Policy 5.3 - Support a range of transportation metrics to evaluate the multiple purposes that streets serve.

CEQA Findings

The adoption of the proposed update to the Transportation Section of the Los Angeles CEQA Thresholds Guide pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15064.7, is not a "project" pursuant to CEQA as defined in CEQA Guidelines section 15378, and is therefore not subject to CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines sections 15060(c)(3). Separately and independently, the proposal is also exempt pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15061(b)(3), as it will not result directly or indirectly in significant environmental impacts; and/or Public Resources Code section 21080(b)(1), as the proposal is ministerial, because the City is mandated to adopt the proposal. As such, the new thresholds are categorically exempt pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15308 and none of the exceptions in 15300.2 apply.