



MEMORANDUM

TO: General Plan Project File
FROM: Maia McCurley, Associate Planner
DATE: June 29, 2022
SUBJECT: **GENERAL PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE POLICIES**

The following Environmental Justice policies of the Duarte General Plan were adopted by the City Council on January 11, 2022.

Environmental Justice Policies and Implementation for the Safety Element

<i>New Policy or Revisions</i> <i>(new text underlined)</i>	<i>Implementation</i>
<i><u>Safe 1.1.3</u> Expand and intensify precautionary measures in high-risk areas, including <u>disadvantaged communities</u>, to reduce loss from natural or man-made <u>disasters</u> and investigate ways of reducing the likelihood of their occurrence.</i>	<u>Safe 1.1.3.1</u> Prepare and <u>implement</u> programs which will help <u>mitigate risk</u> and minimize losses to the most <u>sensitive communities and assets identified in the Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment</u> .
<i><u>Safe 1.1.8</u> Establish designated emergency response and evacuation routes throughout the City, for each climate hazard (e.g., wildfire, storm flooding, etc.), <u>prioritizing the most high-risk and disadvantaged populations</u>.</i>	<u>Safe 1.1.8.2</u> Produce evacuation route maps that <u>incorporate potential road closures and highest-risk areas for each climate hazard (e.g. wildfire, storm flooding)</u>
<i><u>Safe 1.1.9</u> Update emergency and disaster response measures to account for increased heat days, with a focus on reducing health risks for the highest-risk individuals and disadvantaged communities.</i>	<u>Safe 1.1.9.1</u> Develop heat hazard response in next EOP update and heat hazard mitigation measures in next LHMP update. Designate community cooling centers for extreme heat days that are accessible to those living in <u>identified disadvantaged communities within the city</u> .
	<u>Safe 2.1.1.1</u> Prepare communication materials and support education programs <u>that familiarize the citizens of Duarte with emergency preparedness and procedures to follow in the event of a major disaster</u> . Post these materials on the <u>City website in multiple languages as needed to be accessible to both English-speaking and non-English speaking residents</u> .

<p><u>Safe 2.1.4 Coordinate emergency planning efforts with building managers of high-occupancy facilities, dependent care centers (nursing homes, day care centers, etc.) and critical facilities located in the City to facilitate effective emergency response.</u></p> <p><u>Safe 2.1.5 Increase public awareness of City emergency response plans, evacuation routes and emergency shelters, with a focus on populations at greatest risk and disadvantaged communities.</u></p> <p><u>Safe 2.1.6 Maintain a citizens notification system regarding natural, man-made, or climate change hazards that reaches all populations in the City, with a focus on reaching disadvantaged communities.</u></p> <p><u>Safe 2.1.7 Incorporate information for potential health threats due to climate change hazards, such as heat-illness, illnesses complicated by low air quality, and risks during heavy precipitation events, into early warning systems.</u></p>	<p><u>Safe 2.1.4.1 Provide communication materials outlining emergency and evacuation procedures to high-occupancy facilities, dependent care centers, and critical facilities managers.</u></p> <p><u>Safe 2.1.5.1 Partner with community groups and neighborhood organizations already engaged with populations at greatest risk to hazards to increase awareness of evacuation routes, emergency shelters, and City emergency response plans as well as resources that are available to residents.</u></p> <p><u>Safe 2.1.6.1 Review the early warning system and determine its effectiveness in reaching all populations within Duarte, such as non-English speaking individuals.</u></p> <p><u>Safe 2.1.7.1 Partner with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health to develop and enhance disaster and emergency early warning systems to incorporate objective data and information for potential health threats, such as heat-illness and illnesses complicated by poor air quality and precipitation events.</u></p> <p><u>Safe 3.1.1.1 Establish a minimum level of emergency service. Ensure that these services are responsive to the community's needs by periodically evaluating these services through the use of surveys and questionnaires.</u></p>
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Environmental Justice Policies in the Open Space and Conservation, Noise, Land Use, Housing, Economic Development, and Circulation Elements

Chapter & Section	Existing and Proposed Policies (new text <u>underlined</u>)
<p><i>Open Space and Conservation (2007) - Conservation</i></p>	<p>Con 2.1.5 Reduce the amount of impervious surfaces through the use of porous ground cover materials. <u>As appropriate, focus efforts in disadvantaged communities.</u></p> <p>Con 3.1.2 Analyze all projects as defined in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for potential impacts on the community and utilize the proper mitigation measures to mitigate any potential adverse impacts on the community, <u>focusing on discouraging generators of pollution, including toxic air contaminants, that would further harm disadvantaged communities.</u></p> <p>Con 5.1.1 Encourage the planned unit development or specific plan approach to land use, which will minimize streets and provide more <u>community needs-driven</u> open space, <u>green belts, green alleys, pocket parks, or community gardens, especially in disadvantaged communities.</u></p> <p>Con 5.1.3 Maintain open space areas around noise generators to buffer the noise impacts on noise sensitive uses including schools and residential areas, <u>including disadvantaged communities.</u></p>
<p><i>Open Space and Conservation (2007) - Open Space</i></p>	<p>OS 1.1.1 Work with conservation groups to identify and conserve open space and protect lands accessible to public use, with special attention to <u>preserving open spaces used by disadvantaged communities.</u></p> <p>OS 2.1.1 Continue to cooperate with the Duarte Unified School District in providing open space amenities for Duarte residents and students, <u>especially in disadvantaged communities.</u></p> <p>OS 2.1.2 Require new development to mitigate the burden it creates on existing parks through <u>equitable parkland dedication, recreational space development and/or mitigation fees. As appropriate, focus park development and expansions in under-resourced communities.</u></p> <p>OS 2.1.3 Provide for the future expansion of existing parks in a way that does not adversely affect adjacent areas, <u>including disadvantaged communities.</u></p>

<p><i>Open Space and Conservation (2007) - Air Quality</i></p>	<p>OS 2.1.5 Provide recreation programs for all age groups, utilizing first those facilities now existing and developing new facilities as the need arises, <u>with consideration of the needs of non-English speakers, community members with disabilities, and those without cars. Ensure that programming is aimed at all areas of the City, including disadvantaged communities.</u></p>
	<p>OS 2.1.6 Establish neighborhood parks <u>and multi-purpose green spaces such as community gardens,</u> designed and located to conveniently serve the needs of various segments of the community, <u>with an emphasis on underserved segments of the community.</u></p>
	<p>OS 3.1.1 Multiple recreation uses for open space areas should be encouraged. For example, horseback trails entwined with pedestrian paths can be enjoyable for both parties. Trail markers can be used to point out interesting views and directions (e.g., the direction to the waterfall in Fish Canyon). <u>Updates of trail markers and signage will include designs that meet the needs of both English and non-English speakers.</u></p>
	<p>OS 3.1.2 Develop new city parks when and where this is possible to meet the future recreational needs of the community <u>equitably. As appropriate, focus development in underserved and disadvantaged communities.</u></p>
	<p>OS 3.1.3 Expand and improve recreational facilities at existing parks within the City <u>equitably. As appropriate, focus improvements in disadvantaged communities.</u></p>
	<p>OS 3.1.4 Promote the development of new neighborhood and recreation facilities, as appropriate, including parks of 4 acres or more to be used as satellite parks. <u>Such developments shall be pursued equitably throughout the City.</u></p>
	<p>AQ 1.1.1 Facilitate communication among residents, businesses and the Southern California Air Quality Management District (AQMD) to quickly resolve air pollution nuisance complaints. Distribute information to advise residents on how to register a complaint with the AQMD (cut smog program). <u>Ensure that communications are accessible to non-English speakers and disadvantaged communities most affected by air pollution burdens.</u></p>
	<p>AQ 1.1.2 Promote and support mixed-use land patterns that allow the integration of retail, office, institutional and <u>mixed-income residential uses.</u></p>
	<p>AQ 1.2.1 Establish a Mixed-Use Zoning District that offers incentives for mixed-use developments that <u>include affordable housing and are weatherized for increased average temperatures and extreme heat events. Avoid displacement of residents and local businesses, and provide support for relocation when displacement is unavoidable, especially in disadvantaged communities.</u></p>
	<p>AQ 2.1.1 Collaborate with local transit agencies to: • Develop programs and educate employers about employee rideshare and transit. • Establish mass transit mechanisms for the reduction of work-related and non-work-related vehicle trips. • Promote mass transit ridership <u>by all segments of the community</u> through careful planning of routes, headways, origins and destination, types of vehicles, <u>and accessibility for community members of all ages, abilities, and incomes.</u></p>
	<p>AQ 2.1.2 Provide merchants with fliers/posters that publicize mass transit schedules <u>multiple languages,</u> to encourage their customers to use mass transit.</p>
	<p>AQ 3.1.1 Where fugitive dust is causing a chronic public nuisance or the air quality is in exceedance of PM 10 standards, consider adopting a dust control policy that requires preparation and approval of a dust control plan, <u>emphasizing disadvantaged communities and areas with highest-risk populations that are most affected by air pollution.</u></p>
	<p>AQ 3.1.2 Cooperate with local, regional, state and federal jurisdictions to better control fugitive dust from stationary, mobile and area sources. <u>Pursue such efforts equitably throughout the City.</u></p>
	<p>AQ 3.1.4 Consider rerouting the Duarte fixed route bus system to help minimize vehicle trips, <u>while continuing to adequately serve the needs of community members without cars.</u></p>
<p><i>Noise (2007)</i></p>	<p>Noise 1.1.1 Ensure noise mitigation measures are included in the design of new developments, <u>including those in, and adjacent to, disadvantaged communities.</u></p>
<p>Noise 1.1.3 Continue the City’s beautification program along arterials to help reduce noise levels. <u>Such improvements shall be pursued equitably throughout the City.</u></p>	
<p>Noise 1.1.4 Encourage acoustical materials in all new residential and commercial developments, <u>including those in disadvantaged communities,</u> where noise levels exceed the compatibility standards outlined in the Noise Element.</p>	

	<p>Noise 1.1.5 Limit construction, delivery, and through truck traffic to designated routes <u>that avoid residential neighborhoods and disadvantaged communities.</u></p> <p>Noise 1.1.6 Ensure that Community Noise Equivalent Levels (CNEL) for noise sensitive land uses, <u>and residential neighborhoods in disadvantaged communities,</u> meet or exceed normally acceptable levels, as defined by State of California standards.</p> <p>Noise 1.1.7 The City should encourage, support, and enforce all State and Federal legislation designed to abate and control noise pollution <u>equitably across the City.</u></p> <p>Noise 2.1.2 Strive to resolve existing and potential conflicts between noise generating uses and human activities <u>and disadvantaged communities.</u></p> <p>Noise 2.1.4 Prohibit significant noise generating activities from locating adjacent to residential neighborhoods, <u>including disadvantaged communities,</u> and near schools.</p> <p>Noise 2.1.5 Evaluate the noise impacts from projects and existing uses in adjacent cities and work cooperatively with these cities to develop mitigation measures that will improve ambient noise conditions in Duarte. <u>Focus implementation of coordinated noise-mitigation efforts in disadvantaged communities most burdened by high levels of ambient noise.</u></p> <p>Noise 3.1.3 Ensure that construction noise does not cause an adverse impact to the residents of the City, <u>including those in disadvantaged communities.</u></p> <p>Noise 3.1.4 Minimize noise and light spillage onto other residential properties, <u>including those in disadvantaged communities.</u></p>
<i>Land Use (2018 Update)</i>	<p>LU 1.1.2 Encourage the development of a mix of housing types and densities to ensure a variety of housing to accommodate a range of tastes and incomes.</p> <p>LU 2.1.7 Make every effort to ensure that industry and residences, where located in close proximity, will be compatible neighbors with non-industrial uses located nearby, and with neighboring cities as well. <u>This policy shall be pursued with special attention to residences located near industrial uses in disadvantaged communities and neighborhoods with populations most affected by pollution burdens.</u></p> <p>LU 3.1.6 Promote the use of mixed land use techniques and construction methods to provide more housing and minimize housing costs without compromising basic health, safety and aesthetic qualities.</p>
<i>Draft Housing Element (2021-2029)</i>	<p>Policy 1.1.1 Neighborhood Character Enhance the quality of existing residential neighborhoods, including those identified as low resource and/or disadvantaged, through responsible development and investment.</p> <p>Policy 1.1.2 Property and Housing Conditions Support the long-term maintenance and improvement of existing housing through code enforcement, inspections and housing rehabilitation <u>and extreme-heat weatherization</u> programs.</p> <p>Policy 1.1.3 Improvements to Deteriorated Housing Strengthen Duarte neighborhoods through partnerships with housing providers in the acquisition, rehabilitation, <u>and extreme-heat weatherization</u> of deteriorated multi-family properties and provision as long-term affordable housing.</p> <p>Policy 1.1.4 Protection of Existing Affordable Housing Work with property owners, tenants and non-profit purchasers to preserve assisted rental housing, and implement a strong affordable housing monitoring program.</p> <p>Policy 1.1.5 Tenant Protections Support the implementation of State laws to protect existing tenants from displacement through requirements for just cause evictions, limitations on rent increases, and replacement housing requirements if any existing residential units would be removed.</p> <p>Policy 1.1.6 Conservation of Mobile Home Parks Encourage retention of Duarte's mobile home parks as a relatively affordable form of housing, unless replaced by housing affordable to lower income households and with priority occupancy by existing mobile home park tenants.</p> <p>Policy 1.1.7 Maintenance of Infrastructure and Improvements</p>

	<p>Maintain and enhance the quality of life within neighborhoods, including those identified as low resource and/or disadvantaged, by providing adequate maintenance to streets, sidewalks, alleys, parks and other community facilities.</p> <p>Policy 2.1.2 Regulatory Incentives for Affordable Housing Support the use of regulatory incentives, such as density bonuses, fee deferrals and parking reductions, to offset or reduce the cost of developing affordable housing while ensuring potential impacts are addressed.</p> <p>Policy 3.1.1 Fair Housing Support the provision of fair housing services and tenant/landlord mediation to Duarte residents.</p> <p>Policy 3.1.3 Housing for Persons with Disabilities Address the special needs of persons with disabilities, including developmental disabilities, through provision of supportive and accessible housing that allows persons with disabilities to live independent lives.</p> <p>Policy 3.1.4 Homeless Housing and Services Implement the City’s Homelessness Plan and work cooperatively with local agencies to provide a continuum of care for the homeless, including interim/emergency housing, permanent supportive affordable housing, and access to services.</p> <p>Policy 4.1.1 Affordable Housing Incentives Provide regulatory incentives and/or available financial assistance to facilitate the development of affordable housing throughout the City. Prioritize local funding resources for projects near high quality transit and which include a portion of units affordable to extremely low income households.</p> <p>Policy 4.1.2 Public/Private Partnerships Support collaborative partnerships among non-profit organizations, affordable housing builders, and for-profit developers to provide greater access to affordable housing funds.</p> <p>Policy 4.1.3 Housing for Families Seek to address household overcrowding by supporting the provision of affordable family units with three or more bedrooms, and encouraging bedroom additions in existing housing.</p> <p>Policy 4.1.4 First-time Homebuyers Encourage the provision of financial assistance to low and moderate income first-time homebuyers through County and State programs.</p> <p>Policy 4.1.5 Rental Assistance Support and publicize available rental assistance programs provided through the L.A. County Housing Authority for very low income and special needs households.</p> <p>Policy 4.1.6 Green Building Encourage use of sustainable and green building design in new and existing housing, <u>including in disadvantaged communities</u>.</p> <p>Policy 5.1.1 Variety of Housing Choices Provide site opportunities for development of housing that responds to diverse community needs in terms of housing type, cost and location, emphasizing locations near services and transit that promote walkability.</p> <p>Policy 5.1.3 Affordable Housing Overlay Designate sites in geographically dispersed locations with an Affordable Housing Overlay to provide incentives for development with affordable units.</p> <p>Policy 5.1.4 Residential Mixed-Use Promote the efficient use of land by encouraging commercial and residential uses on the same property in both horizontal and vertical mixed-use configurations.</p> <p>Policy 5.1.5 Accessory Dwelling Units Encourage and facilitate the provision of accessory and junior accessory dwelling units in existing and new development as a form of multi-generational housing.</p>
<i>Historic Preservation (2007)</i>	<p>HP 1.1.1 Establish and support all appropriate media for reaching all segments of the community to educate residents and decision-makers concerning the protection of historical resources.</p>

	<p>HP 1.1.2 Encourage public outreach and access to historical information.</p> <p>HP 2.1.1 Encourage on-going research regarding the City’s history and built environment, <u>including any history of discrimination and/or social justice concerns in the development of the built environment.</u></p> <p>HP 3.1.2 Promote the preservation of historic and cultural resources by providing incentives and technical assistance. <u>Promote the preservation of historic and cultural resources equitably across the City.</u></p>
<i>Economic Development Element (2007)</i>	<p>Econ. 4.1.4 Continue to partner with Duarte Unified School District to prepare (K-12) for college and/or local workforce, <u>including students from disadvantaged communities.</u></p> <p>Econ. 4.1.5 Collaborate with Citrus and other colleges, California State University Los Angeles, California Polytechnic University, Chamber of Commerce and other higher education providers to encourage educational, and job reentry training opportunities for Duarte residents.</p> <p>Econ. 4.1.6 Perform a jobs/housing balance study and set goals to achieve and maintain a jobs/housing balance.</p> <p>Econ. 4.1.7 Collaborate with local employers on Succession Planning and Workforce Development Efforts.</p>
<i>Economic Development Strategy (2011-2015) - Prepare an Educated Workforce</i>	<p>Maintain and strengthen relationship with Duarte schools. Promote local schools through city website and other marketing materials. (Consistent with Economic Development Element of Duarte General Plan 2005-2020, Econ. 4.1.4)</p> <p>Connect schools to communities by linking local community organizations, nonprofits, businesses and corporate leaders with schools through formal partnerships.</p> <p>Conduct research on workforce shortages, skill gaps and required proficiencies and share the information with local providers of job training.</p> <p>Help workforce intermediaries address existing and projected future workforce gaps by facilitating more opportunities for public-private collaboration between individual businesses, community colleges and universities, and promoting industry-driven curricula and technical education based on employer-recognized certification.</p> <p>Improve connections between firms and job seekers.</p> <p>Support programs that expand the workforce by reconnecting at-risk youth to education and training opportunities.</p> <p>Develop, expand and upgrade the skills of the existing workforce, <u>including workers from disadvantaged communities.</u></p> <p>Support career awareness programs in middle school, <u>including schools located in disadvantaged communities.</u></p>
<i>Economic Development Strategy (2011-2015)- Create a Business-Friendly Environment</i>	<p>Adopt clear, reasonable, <u>equitable</u>, and predictable processes for the development of land to facilitate job creation.</p> <p>Increase proactive outreach to help retain and expand businesses of all sizes, with emphasis on those that are at risk of leaving or being wooed away, <u>and those employing workers from disadvantaged communities.</u></p> <p>Align local tax incentive policies with local and regional economic development priorities, <u>including creating opportunity for disadvantaged communities (such as donating a percentage of tax-based revenue to local non-governmental groups).</u></p> <p>Consider pursuing assisted care facilities. These facilities offer a mix of skilled and unskilled positions; increase population density in a politically acceptable manner; and should be comparatively easy for the city to attract based on proximity to the City of Hope.</p>
<i>Economic Development Strategy (2011-2015)- Enhance Duarte’s Quality of Life</i>	<p>Improve mobility and reduce traffic congestion and its environmental impacts by employing technology and traffic management strategies to reduce demand and optimize system efficiency; making transit easier and more desirable to use <u>for all segments of the community</u>; improving walkability and bicycling <u>especially for community members without cars</u>; encouraging transit-oriented development and densification where appropriate; offering incentives for carpooling and transit; and improving the jobs/housing balance.</p>

<p><i>Economic Development Strategy (2011-2015)- Implement Smart Land Use</i></p>	Remove obstacles and create incentives to encourage the construction of a large quantity and wide range of housing of all types (i.e., condos, apartments, townhouses, single-family homes, etc.), with a particular emphasis on adding affordable and workforce housing
	Promote healthy living by maintaining parks and expanding recreational activities, and encouraging healthy living through active lifestyles, wellness programs and locally-sourced nutritious food supplies (e.g. community gardens and farmers markets).
	Encourage and expand cultural and artistic amenities available to the public (e.g. public art, cultural events and etc.). <u>Ensure that amenities are provided for, and aimed at, all areas of the city, including disadvantaged communities.</u>
	Create healthy, vibrant and strong communities by balancing land use, transportation, economic development, housing and environmental improvement objectives, <u>including in disadvantaged communities.</u>
	Increase community participation <u>and engagement, especially by members of disadvantaged communities,</u> in the planning and job creation process.
	Use smart growth principles to economically integrate communities, maximize the creation of new affordable and workforce housing units and create more open space for residents
<p><i>Economic Development Strategy (2011-2015)- Build 21st Century Infrastructure</i></p>	Implement an employment land preservation policy that restricts rezoning of industrially-zoned land to other uses without formal consideration and recognition of: the need for adequate buffering between industrial land and incompatible uses, <u>including impacts on the levels of noise, air quality, and pollution burden in disadvantaged communities;</u> how and where the industrial land will be replaced elsewhere in the city; whether the proposed change-of-use development will increase land values of surrounding industrial land and/or encroach on nearby viable industries; and whether the new use will produce more high-value jobs than alternative industrial uses
	Develop zoning documents that address the future economic development needs of the community, <u>including disadvantaged communities,</u> with particular emphasis on recycling land from one use to another.
<p><i>Circulation (2007)</i></p>	Support important infrastructure investments including modernization of LAX; green growth at the ports; the creation of a world-class ground transportation network; measures to ensure a reliable supply of clean and affordable energy and water; <u>affordable housing; improved telecommunications;</u> and improved waste-handling capabilities that will position the City of Duarte (and the region) to be competitive, prosperous and healthy.
	Circ 1.1.2 Implement the roadway plan provided in the Circulation Element to meet the transportation needs of <u>all citizens, including community members of all ages, abilities, incomes, and those from disadvantaged communities.</u>
	Circ 1.1.3 Widen substandard streets and alleys to meet the city standards where feasible, <u>including in disadvantaged communities.</u>
	Circ 1.1.4 Evaluate the traffic impacts of new development and require developers to employ appropriate mitigation measures to reduce traffic or improve roadway and traffic conditions <u>Enforce this policy equitably throughout the city.</u>
	Circ 2.1.1 Discourage through traffic on local streets that are located in residential neighborhoods, <u>including neighborhoods in disadvantaged communities.</u>
	Circ 2.1.3 Continue the practice of responding to resident complaints and requests regarding residential street traffic problems. <u>Respond to complaints in an equitable and timely manner.</u>
	Circ 2.1.4 Discourage non-resident motorists from traveling through residential neighborhoods, <u>including neighborhoods in disadvantaged communities.</u>
	Circ 3.1.3 Promote the linking of local public transit routes with that of adjacent jurisdictions and other transit agencies. <u>Ensure that transportation is available for, and connects to, disadvantaged communities.</u>
	Circ 3.1.4 Ensure that new developments incorporate both local and regional transit measures into the project design that promote the use of alternate modes of transportation <u>and, as appropriate, that improve transportation systems serving disadvantaged communities.</u>
	Circ 3.1.5 Provide incentives for appropriate pedestrian and bicycle facilities throughout Duarte, <u>including in disadvantaged communities,</u> particularly for bike lanes to the Gold Line Station.