

April 2, 2020

**CHAIR AND PLANNING COMMISSIONERS**

City of Long Beach  
California

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Find that this action is exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act; and

Receive and file the 2019 Mobility Element Implementation Report and instruct the Director of Development Services to submit the Implementation Report to the City Council and State Office of Planning and Research. (Citywide)

**APPLICANT:** City of Long Beach  
Department of Development Services  
411 W. Ocean Boulevard  
Long Beach, CA 90802

**DISCUSSION**

On October 15, 2013, the City Council adopted the 2013-2035 Mobility Element, one of the seven State-mandated elements of the General Plan. Cities and counties in California are required to prepare and adopt a general plan as a comprehensive guide for long-term development. The general plan analyzes existing conditions and projects needs into the future, as a basis for determining policies, programs, and objectives. It also establishes the long-term policy framework for day-to-day decision-making based upon these objectives. The Mobility Element of the general plan focuses on how people and goods get around and through the city.

The Mobility Element establishes a vision, goals, strategies, policies, and implementation measures necessary to achieve a balanced mobility system that services the needs of all users of the public rights-of-way by recommending complete streets and context-sensitive design principles. In addition, the Mobility Element serves as a guide for a wide range of City planning documents and programming activities, such as the Capital Improvement Program (CIP), transportation-related plans, project entitlement applications and regional planning documents. Since the Mobility Element was adopted, the Downtown/Pedestrian TOD Master Plan, the Bicycle Master Plan and the CX3 Pedestrian Plan have all been developed and adopted as technical appendices of the Mobility Element.



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California law [Government Code §65400] mandates that all cities and counties submit to their legislative bodies and the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) an annual report on the status of their general plan and the progress toward its implementation, with specific reporting requirements for the housing element portion of the annual report. The intent of this statute is to ensure that the General Plan directs all land use decisions and remains an effective guide for future development. The purpose of this report, then, is to provide enough information to allow local legislative bodies to assess how the general plan is being implemented in accordance with adopted goals, policies, and implementation measures (General Plan Guidelines, 2017, p. 259)<sup>1</sup>. Specifically, the report has been produced to satisfy this requirement for the recently adopted Mobility Element and to highlight the implementation achievements since its adoption in 2013 with an emphasis on progress in 2019. The most recent Implementation Report came before the Planning Commission in March 2019.

The Implementation Report was prepared by Development Services with input from other departments, including the Department of Public Works and the Department of Health & Human Services. As indicated in the 2019 Mobility Element Implementation Report (Exhibit A), the City has made significant progress in implementing the programs outlined in the Mobility Element as well as the three technical appendices. This report provides a summary of the most important updates on programs, projects, initiatives and strategies for implementation. The City has been recognized for these pioneering and successful efforts. In 2017, the CX3 Pedestrian Plan received an Award of Excellence in Transportation Planning from the American Planning Association (APA) California Chapter (APACA) and the Los Angeles (LA) section of the APA. The Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) awarded Long Beach with their Outstanding Achievement in Sustainability, the highest honor awarded by SCAG, in recognition of the City's exemplary planning efforts that enhance the mobility, livability, and sustainability of the Southern California region. As the City continues to develop plans, policies and projects that seek to make all modes of transportation accessible through land use patterns and efforts to reduce greenhouse gases while preparing for the impacts of climate change, the Mobility Element is important now more so than ever in achieving this cohesive vision and direction.

### **PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

This item is not a public hearing; therefore, no public hearing notice is required. However, this item appeared on the Planning Commission meeting agenda that was provided in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Code. No public comments have been received as of the preparation of this report.

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<sup>1</sup> [http://opr.ca.gov/docs/OPR\\_C9\\_final.pdf](http://opr.ca.gov/docs/OPR_C9_final.pdf)

**ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW**

This annual report is exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15378 as this action is not defined as a project. The annual report is an administrative activity and does not authorize new development. Furthermore, Negative Declaration 01-11 was prepared in accordance with the CEQA Guidelines for the adoption of the 2013-2035 Mobility Element. The Mobility Element helps the City achieve its vision and goals for creating a more sustainable community in which increased use of transit, walking and biking leads to fewer vehicle miles traveled.

Respectfully submitted,



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PROJECT PLANNER



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DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

LFT:CK:PAD:asr

Attachments:            Exhibit A - 2019 Mobility Element Implementation Report