

#### 5005 Long Beach Boulevard Conditional Use Permit Appeal

City Council Hearing - August 16, 2022



# Background

#### **Project Site**

- Area: 1.48 acres
- Zoning: CCA
- General Plan PlaceType: NSC -L
- Existing: gas station with mini mart and restaurant

#### Conditional Use Permit (CUP)

- CUP: Car wash
- 2,000 SF car wash tunnel
- 1,058 SF equipment room and office
- Hours: 7:30 am 7:00 pm daily





# Background

- October 2020 Planning Commission hearing continued at applicant's request
- July 2021 Planning Commission hearing at applicant's request
- March 2022 Planning Commission
  denied (5-1 vote) the CUP for the car
  wash
- Applicant filed an appeal within the 10days of Planning Commission's action





# Appeal

- Appellant contends the Planning Commission erred in its interpretation/application of the General Plan Goals and Policies including:
  - $_{\circ}$  Its determination of an over concentration of car washes in the area
  - Projects' potential conflict with environmental justice policies
  - Projects' potential for noise, air quality, and traffic related impacts to the adjacent elementary school
  - Planning Commission erred in determining residential use was a potential



## Conditional Use Permit (CUP) Overview

#### What is the purpose?

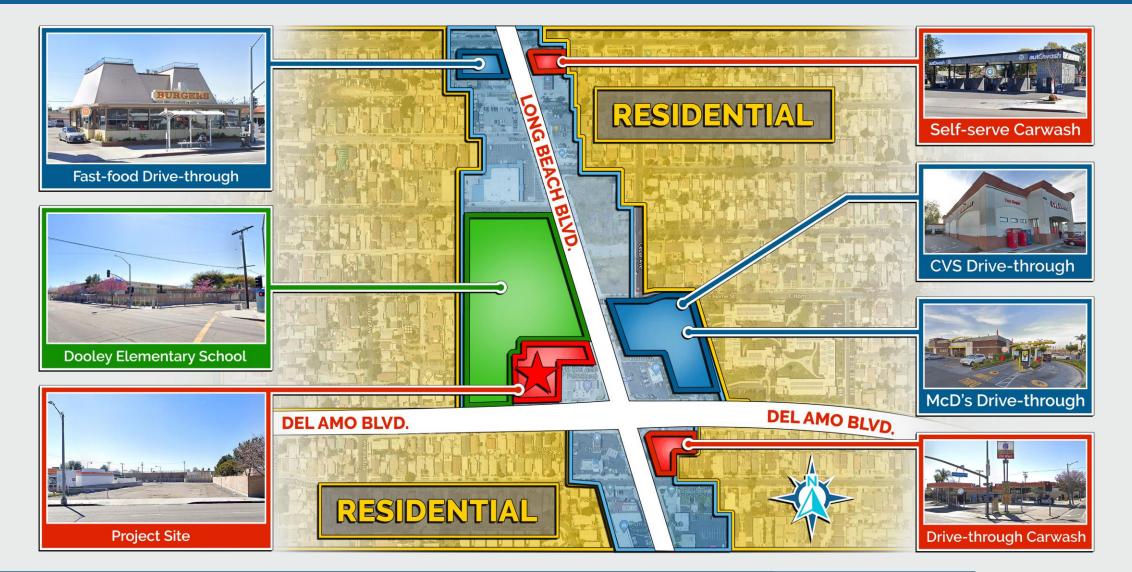
 Individual review of certain uses that would be appropriate in some but not all locations within a zone

#### **CUP Findings:**

- 1. Consistency with General Plan and Zoning District
- 2. Use must not be detrimental to surrounding community including:
  - Public Health
  - Safety
  - General welfare
  - Environmental quality
  - Quality of Life
- 3. Comply with Special Zoning Conditions
- 4. Comply with Green Building Standards



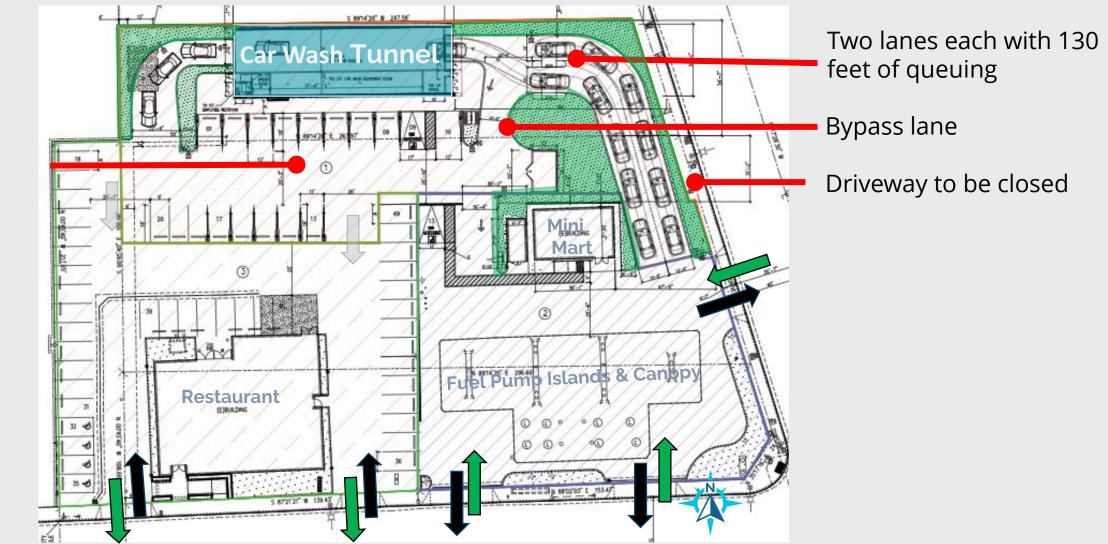
## **Project Vicinity**





### **Project Plans**

15 stalls for vacuuming





## **Building Elevations**





# **Planning Commission's Decision**

Planning Commission could not affirmatively make all required CUP findings in support of the CUP.

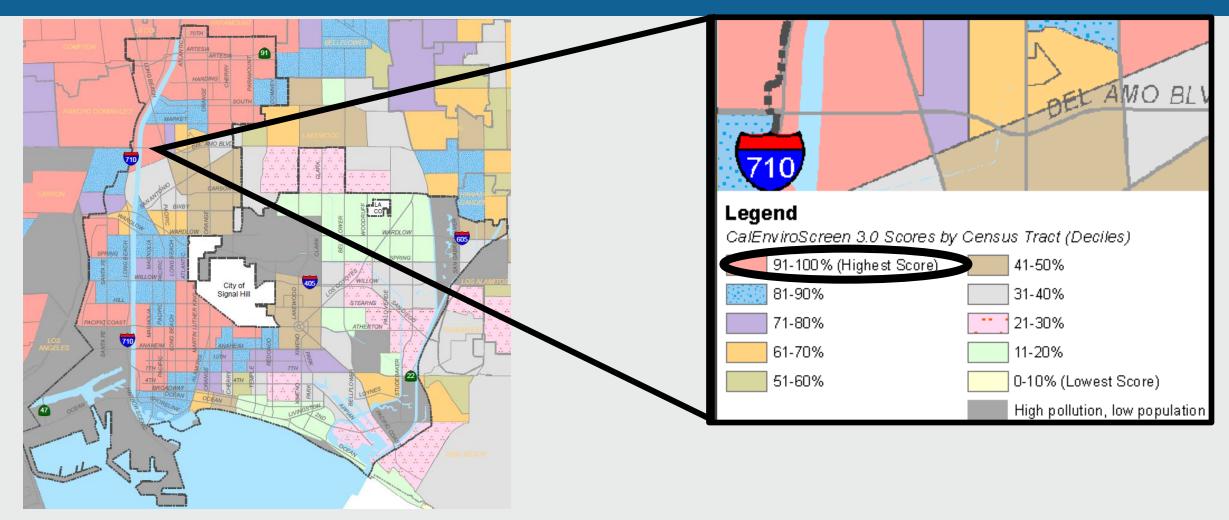
- 1. Project is inconsistent with General Plan policies including protecting sensitive receptors and impacted communities.
- 2. Area was found to be disproportionately impacted by pollution.
- 3. Area has a sufficient number of automobile-oriented uses, especially car washes.

These are **policy issues and not California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) concerns**, as 2 of the required findings to be made for a CUP require :

- 1. That the proposed use be consistent with and carry out the policies of the General Plan.
- 2. That the proposed use would not be a detriment to the surrounding community including public health, safety, general welfare, environmental quality or quality of life.



### **Impacted Communities Map**

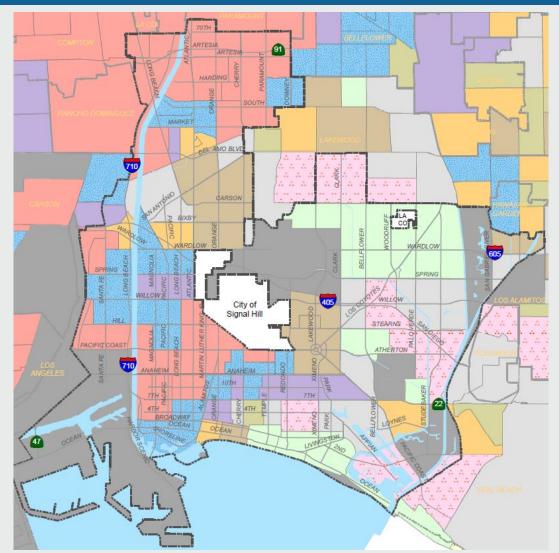


Land Use (LU) Policy 16-1 to "identify areas and populations of the City that are exposed to unsafe levels of environmental pollutants," which are identified through Impacted Communities Map LU-6 in the Land use Element



## **General Plan**

- Land Use (LU) Strategy 14: "promote the equitable distribution of services, amenities and investments throughout the City"
- LU Strategy 16: "prevent and reduce disproportionate environmental burdens affecting low-income and minority populations"
- LU Policy 16-7: which guides decision makers to "evaluate new land uses in a manner that is conscious of the cumulative impacts of pollutants and history of pollutant burden and public under investment in disadvantaged communities."





#### **Dooley Elementary School**





# **Project Vicinity**

**General Plan LU Policy -** 14-3 "[a]void concentrating undesirable uses, service facilities and infrastructure projects in any manner that results in an inequitable environmental burden on low-income or minority neighborhoods."



Approximately 1,100 feet north/east from project site

Approximately 75 feet to south/east of project site



### Recommendation

Receive supporting documentation into the record and conclude the public hearing; consider an appeal; and, uphold the Planning Commission's decision to deny a Conditional Use Permit; or provide alternative direction to approve or approve with conditions.





#### Thank you

#### **Christopher Koontz**

Acting Director of Development Services Development Services Department <u>Christopher.Koontz@longbeach.gov</u>

