Health, Equity, and Environmental Justice Policy Framework
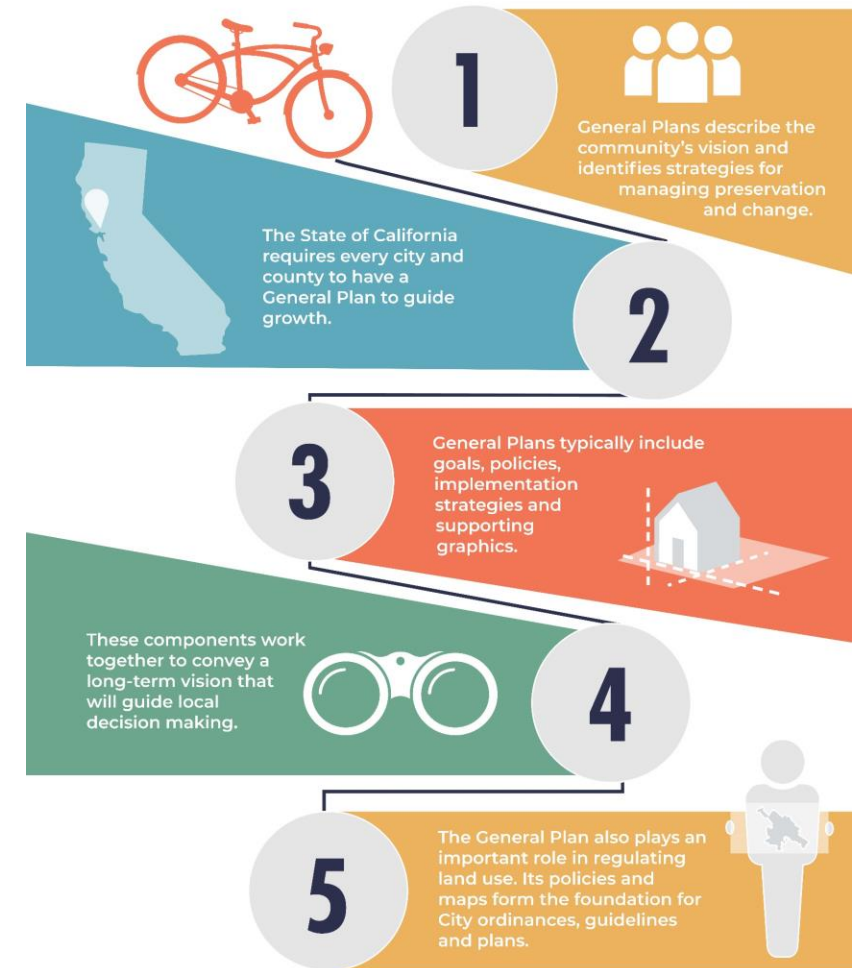
May 9, 2024

CITY OF PETALUMA
GENERAL PLAN UPDATE

raimi+
associates

Purpose of a General Plan

- Enables the community to come together to develop a **shared vision** for the next 20-30 years

- Long-term policy document to **guide future actions**
  - Preserves and enhances **community strengths**
  - Addresses **topics of concern**

- **Capital improvements** and **future land use decisions** must be consistent with the general plan

WHAT IS A GENERAL PLAN?

A General Plan is like a road map for the future of Petaluma

The State of California requires every city and county to have a General Plan to guide growth.

1 General Plans describe the community's vision and identifies strategies for managing preservation and change.

2

3 General Plans typically include goals, policies, implementation strategies and supporting graphics.

These components work together to convey a long-term vision that will guide local decision making.

4

5 The General Plan also plays an important role in regulating land use. Its policies and maps form the foundation for City ordinances, guidelines and plans.

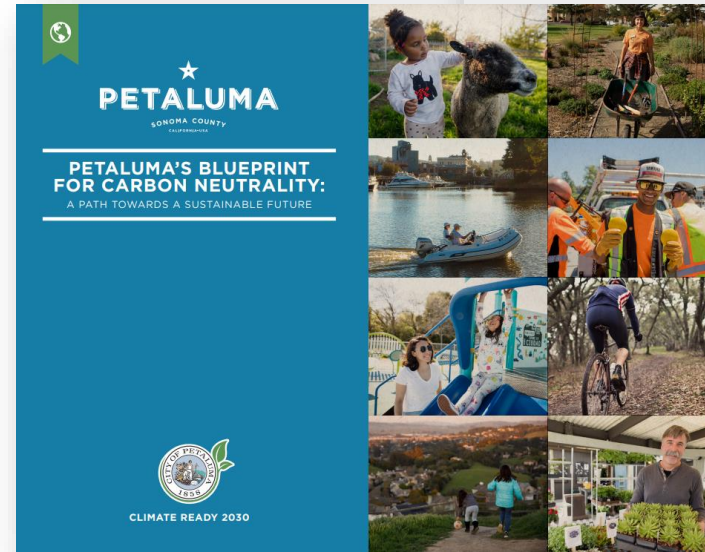# Examples of the General Plan's Everyday Impacts

- **Housing** choices and affordability
- **Jobs** and economic development
- How to **travel** to school, work, and shopping
- **Greenhouse gas** reduction
- Habitat and **open space** preservation
- **Parks** locations and the urban forest
- Mitigation of **hazards** like floods and wildfire
- Equity, health, and **environmental justice**
- **Community character,** local culture, and historic preservation
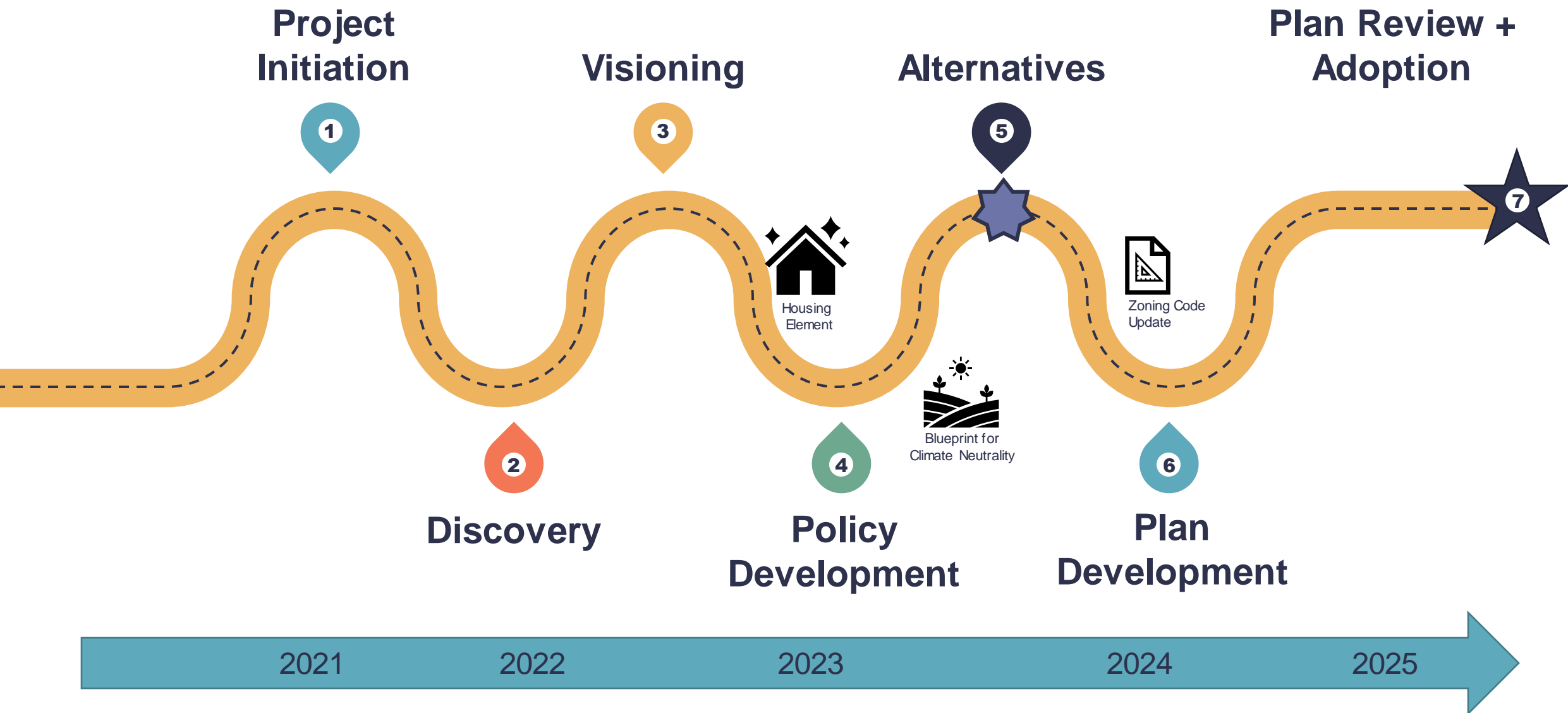- Community **participation** in local government
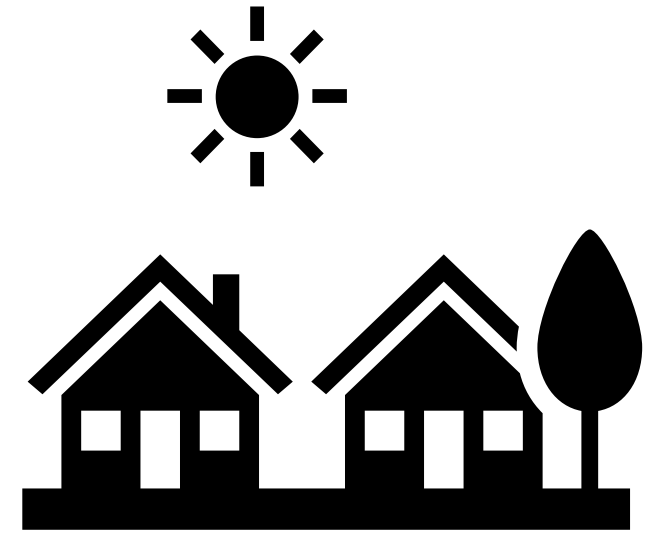
Petaluma's General Plan Update

- Current General Plan horizon is 2025 and was adopted in 2008 and updated in 2012

- City initiated the update internally in 2020, bringing on a consultant team in 2021

- The City is concurrently developing a Climate Action Plan, the "Blueprint for Carbon Neutrality"
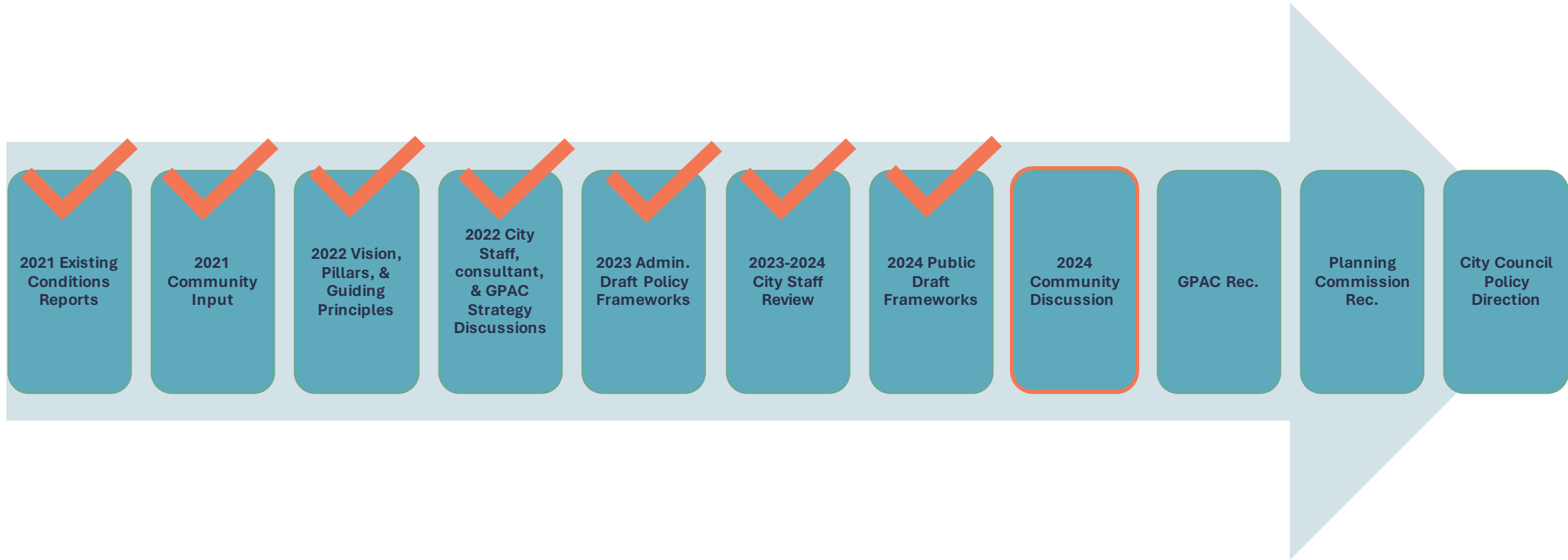
General Plan Update Roadmap

Project Initiation — 1

Discovery — 2

Visioning — 3

Housing Element

Policy Development — 4

Blueprint for Climate Neutrality

Alternatives — 5

Zoning Code Update

Plan Development — 6

Plan Review + Adoption — 7

2021   2022   2023   2024   2025

Policy Framework Purpose & Structure

- **Purpose of the Frameworks**: Outline the proposed General Plan goals, policies, and implementation actions

- **Goals:** A general statement that expresses the outcomes towards which planning efforts are directed; often a topic-specific component of the Vision

- **Policies:** A statement of intent or direction that contributes toward achieving a goal and that guides decision-making

- **Actions:** A specific activity, procedure, program, or project aimed at implementing a policy

Example

- Goal FAC-1: High-Quality Public Facilities

    - Policy FAC-1.1: Update, expand, relocate, or replace public facilities

        - Action FAC-1.1.3: Plan, design, and construct a new centrally located Fire Station and Emergency Operations Center, to include shared meeting spaces and flex space for other public uses.

Policy Framework Evolution

2021 Existing Conditions Reports

2021 Community Input

2022 Vision, Pillars, & Guiding Principles

2022 City Staff, consultant, & GPAC Strategy Discussions

2023 Admin. Draft Policy Frameworks

2023-2024 City Staff Review

2024 Public Draft Frameworks

2024 Community Discussion

GPAC Rec.

Planning Commission Rec.

City Council Policy Direction

Policy Frameworks

ARTS, CREATIVITY, AND CULTURE

PARKS

HISTORIC RESOURCES

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

SAFETY

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

INFRASTRUCTURE AND UTILITIES

MOBILITY AND TRANSPORTATION

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

FLOOD RESILIENCE

PUBLIC FACILITIES

NOISE

GOVERNANCE AND IMPLEMENTATION

LAND USE

View the Frameworks
planpetaluma.org

The General Plan will be different...

- Compelling, holistic, integrated, strategic approach
- Different organization
  - By element
  - By themes
  - By City department
- Digital General Plan: https://shapessf.com/ example
- Implementation Plan
  - Action matrix: action, implementor, priority, timeframe
  - Roles for City, community, State, etc.
- Tracking progress (see the Implementation & Governance framework)
  - Track Implementation Plan progress
  - Monitor Performance Metrics Dashboard

How to Provide Input

CITY OF PETALUMA
GENERAL PLAN UPDATE

Framework Review Form

In light of the **Vision, Pillars, and Guiding Principles** prepared by the GPAC and adopted by the City Council (https://www.planpetaluma.org/documents#gpuvision):

What are the **most important** policies in this framework? We recommend identifying the top 5 (or fewer) policies and ranking them in order of importance.

Policy	Explanation

What **concerns** do you have about the policies in this framework? For example, are they unclear? Should they be softened or strengthened? Do you disagree with the policy direction?

Policy	Explanation

Policy Framework Community Meetings

CCB	Meeting Date	Key Frameworks to be Reviewed
Bike + Ped (PBAC) Transit	May 1, 2024	Transportation
Airport	May 2, 2024	Transportation
Historic & Cultural (HCPC)	May 7, 2024	Historic Resources
Climate Action Commission (CAC)	May 9, 2024	Transportation, Flood Resilience, Natural Environment
Senior	May 9, 2024	Environmental Justice
PlanFest – Public Event	May 11, 2024	All!
Recreation, Music, & Parks Tree Advisory	May 15, 2024	Parks, Natural Environment, Public Facilities
Public Art	May 23, 2024	Arts, Creativity, and Culture
Planning Commission	May 28, 2024 (June 25, July 23, etc.)	Natural Environment, Transportation, Parks, Flood Resilience, Economic Development, Infrastructure and Utilities, Environmental Justice, Noise, Land Use
GPAC	June 20, 2024	Working Group recommendations on all Frameworks

Providing Feedback

Project Website

- Organized by Policy Framework topic

- Links to complete Policy Framework documents

- Embeded Online Feedback Form

Review other Policy Frameworks and provide feedback:

https://www.planpetaluma.org/policy-frameworks

Providing Feedback

Online Feedback Form for each Framework

- Provide goal- and policy-specific feedback

- Provide general feedback

Review other Policy Frameworks and provide feedback:
https://www.planpetaluma.org/policy-frameworks

General Plan Festival on May 11, 2024

- Open House

- From 9:00 am – 2:00 pm at the Petaluma Fairgrounds (Beverly Wilson Hall)

- Learn about the frameworks

- Engage in informal discussion with Consultants and City staff

- Provide Feedback

- Tacos, artwork, & prizes!

Health, Equity & Environmental Justice

CITY OF PETALUMA
GENERAL PLAN UPDATE

Environmental Justice Element

- **The Environmental Justice Element is a new General Plan element to comply with recent state law (the Planning for Healthy Communities Act).**

- Requires identification of "disadvantaged communities" (DACs), which are low-income areas with high pollution and health burden

- Must minimally address five topic areas (see list to the right)

- Requires outreach and engagement with identified DAC's

- Requires goals, policies, and actions that address health, equity, and environmental justice priorities in DACs

Reduce Pollution Exposure: air quality, water quality, soil quality, and land use compatibility

Promote Food Access: grocery stores, farmers' markets, community gardens, etc.

Promote Physical Activity: walkable and bikeable communities, access to transit, safety

Promote Public Facilities: parks, schools, health facilities, etc.

Promote Safe and Sanitary Homes: housing location, quality, and affordability

Foundations: Existing Conditions

Petaluma must address environmental justice.

- The City of Petaluma refers to DACs as "Equity Priority Areas" (EPAs) in order to center equity and equitable investments as part of the General Plan process.

- Multiple areas in the city are considered Equity Priority Areas

- Pollution and health burdens are primarily related to transportation:

  - Highway-related air pollution

  - Low access to transit

  - High diesel particulate matter

Recommended EPAs

EPAs (2024 Update)

City Limit
Urban Growth Boundary / Sphere of Influence
Water
Parks / Open Space
Railway
Freeway
Major Streets

Data Sources: City of Petaluma (2021); County of Sonoma (2021); CalEnviroScreen (2021); ACS 2018-2022 5yr (2023); ESRI (2021)
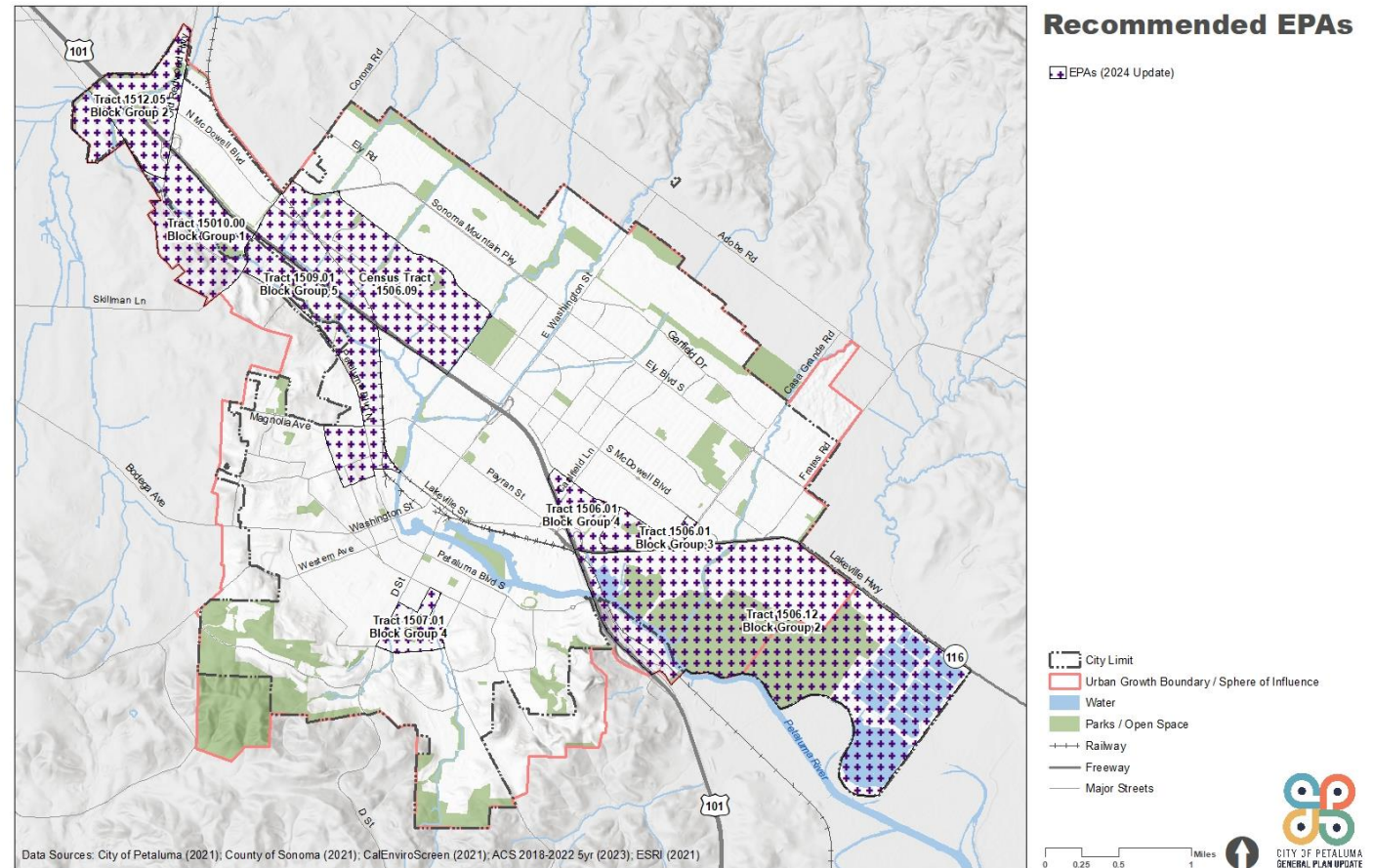
Foundations: Community Priorities

Vision

- **We are caring and connected.** We celebrate our differences by providing inclusive community spaces for the diverse people that form Petaluma and by cultivating a sense of belonging. We welcome newcomers seeking refuge, a place to call home, and new opportunity. Our engaged residents and local government ensure equity, livability, opportunity, and access for all residents. We embrace each other's cultures, lift each other up, and move forward together.

- **We invest in each other.** We are a community where children and youth thrive, families in all forms are supported, and our elders flourish as they age in place. We provide plentiful and varied housing choices, convenient access to healthy local food, and an educational system that builds leaders. We support all residents with accessible city services.

- **We relish our spirited, distinctive neighborhoods where we live, work, and play.** We enjoy active, animated communities throughout our city along with an energetic historic downtown. Our friendly, beautiful, and nature-filled streets, parks, urban forest, and accessible river, bike lanes and trails, and walking paths connect people and help keep residents healthy. It is safe, easy, and enjoyable to travel across and around town and to neighboring communities with human, electric, and hybrid transport.

- **We are forward-thinking leaders.** By achieving carbon neutrality in 2030, we demonstrate that equitable, carbon-neutral, regenerative communities and economies are possible through action and collaboration with other cities, communities, and our region. We have adapted to climate change with a community-driven, whole systems, and nature-based approach to development.

Foundations: Community Priorities

Pillars

- **Equity, Justice and Demographic Changes.** Current demographic trends indicate that Petaluma will have an older, more diverse population well into the future. Petaluma commits to advancing social and economic justice to create an inclusive and equitable city in which all can thrive. The General Plan must prioritize supporting those who have been most affected by injustice and inequity and advances bold action in terms of housing, transportation, public spaces and intergenerational and multi-cultural programs in order to take advantage of opportunities and meet challenges as they arise.

- **Participatory Decision-Making and Government Transparency.** Success in these endeavors will depend on an engaged community that participates in decision making and a government that is open and transparent. The General Plan must reflect the perspectives of Petaluma's diverse population, ensuring that opportunities to engage in public dialogue are accessible to all and setting the stage to address and solve future challenges with integrity, creativity and collaboration.

Guiding Principles

4. Promote social and economic justice to address structural social and economic inequities and racism.

5. Ensure the health and wellness of all residents.

6. Physically and psychologically integrate and connect the East and West sides of town.

7. Create a welcoming, affordable, accessible, and age- and family-friendly city.

12. Prioritize cycling, walking, transit, and other transportation alternatives over automobiles.

Health and Environmental Justice Goals

Goal HEEJ-1: Public Health

Goal HEEJ-2: Leader in Equity

Goal HEEJ-3: Pollution Reduction

Goal HEEJ-4: Equitable Access to Services + Facilities

Goal HEEJ-5: Access to Healthy Food

Goal HEEJ-6: Safe and Sanitary Housing

Goal HEEJ-7: Physical Activity

Goal HEEJ-8: Engaged Community

Goal HEEJ-9: Age Friendly

Goal HEEJ-1: Public Health

- Policy HEEJ-1.1: Advance Health in All Policies

- Policy HEEJ-1.2: Promote Health Services and Programs

- Policy HEEJ-1.3: Advance Regional Health Equity Priorities

- Policy HEEJ-1.4: Support the Healthcare System

- Policy HEEJ-1.5: Limit Firearms and Cannabis Sales

Goal HEEJ-2: Leader in Equity

- Policy HEEJ-2.1: Advance Equity in City Administration

- Policy HEEJ-2.2: Enhance Language Access

- Policy HEEJ-2.3: Distribute Resources Equitably

Goal HEEJ-3: Pollution Reduction

- Policy HEEJ-3.1: Minimize Air Pollution

- Policy HEEJ-3.2: Reduce Vehicle-Related Pollution

- Policy HEEJ-3.3: Expand the Tree Canopy

Goal HEEJ-4: Equitable Access to Services + Facilities

- Policy HEEJ-4.1: Support Climate Adaptation

- Policy HEEJ-4.2: Expand Transit Services

- Policy HEEJ-4.3: Improve Community Safety

- Policy HEEJ-4.4: Support Reentry Services

Goal HEEJ-5: Access to Healthy Food

- Policy HEEJ-5.1: Strengthen the Local Food Economy

- Policy HEEJ-5.2: Reduce Food Insecurity

- Policy HEEJ-5.3: Promote Good Nutrition

Goal HEEJ-6: Safe and Sanitary Housing

- Policy HEEJ-6.1: Improve Housing Quality

- Policy HEEJ-6.2: Reduce Homelessness

- Policy HEEJ-6.3: Increase Housing Resilience

Goal HEEJ-7: Physical Activity

- Policy HEEJ-7.1: Promote Active Transportation

- Policy HEEJ-7.2: Improve Safe Routes to School

Goal HEEJ-8: Engaged Community

- Policy HEEJ-8.1: Enhance Equitable Engagement Practices

- Policy HEEJ-8.2: Advance Youth Civic Engagement

- Policy HEEJ-8.3: Foster Board and Commission Leadership

Goal HEEJ-9: Age Friendly

- Policy HEEJ-9.1: Support Safe Aging in Place

- Policy HEEJ-9.2: Support Social Services for Older Adults

- Policy HEEJ-9.3: Provide Education and Training

Questions & Comments

CITY OF PETALUMA
GENERAL PLAN UPDATE

What feedback to you have?

Considering your technical expertise…

- What are the **most important** policies in this framework?
  - We recommend identifying the top 5 (or fewer) policies and ranking them in order of importance.
- What **concerns** do you have about the policies in this framework?
  - For example, are they unclear? Should they be softened or strengthened? Do you disagree with the policy direction?
- Other than the Equity Priority Areas identified, are there additional low-income areas that are disproportionately affected by environmental pollution and other hazards that can lead to negative health effects, exposure, or environmental degradation?
- Does the framework address the challenges residents face in reducing their exposure to pollution and accessing health, social, and other services through the City?

Thank you!