



**CITY OF**

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# **NEWPORT BEACH**

## **City Council Staff Report**

February 28, 2023  
Agenda Item No. 13

**TO:** HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

**FROM:** Seimone Jurjis, Community Development Director - 949-644-3232, [sjurjis@newportbeachca.gov](mailto:sjurjis@newportbeachca.gov)

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**TITLE:** General Plan Update Steering Committee (GPUSC) Bi-Monthly Update to the City Council

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### **ABSTRACT:**

Since the previous update to the City Council in September 2022, the General Plan Update Steering Committee (GPUSC) has held five public meetings, including two special joint meetings with the newly formed General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC). This report provides an update to the City Council on the discussions and actions taken.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- a) Determine this action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Sections 15060(c)(2) and 15060(c)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines because this action will not result in a physical change to the environment, directly or indirectly; and
- b) Receive and file the report.

### **DISCUSSION:**

The GPUSC is chaired by Nancy Gardner with Phillip Brown and Kimberly Carter as members. Below is a list and recap of each meeting held since the previous, September 2022 update to the City Council.

#### *Recap of September 28, 2022, Meeting*

- The GPUSC received an update on the applications to serve on the GPAC and discussed the selection process. It was reported that 38 applications had been received.
- The GPUSC received status updates on the Housing Element, Circulation and Land Use Elements.

*Recap of October 13, 2022, Meeting*

- The GPUSC put together individual lists of 30 recommended GPAC members and compared notes during the meeting. The GPUSC provided an opportunity for applicants to speak and ultimately narrowed the list down to 30 applicants to be recommended to the City Council for appointment to the GPAC.
- The GPUSC received status updates on the Housing Element, Circulation and Land Use Elements.

*Recap of October 27, 2022, Meeting*

- The GPUSC received a presentation from representatives of the Airport Village Community Plan Group regarding the Newport Beach Airport Area Community Plan. After public comment, the GPUSC unanimously voted (3 – 0) to support the effort and recommended it to the City Council.

On November 15, 2022, the City Council confirmed the GPUSC's 30 recommended GPAC appointments of Dennis Baker, Curtis Black, James Carlson, Jeff Cefalia, Annalisa Clougherty, Corine Doughty, Jeremy Evans, Arlene Greer, David Guder, Lynn Hackman, Laird Hayes, Jared Hill, Charles Klobe, Ruth Kobayashi, Denis LaBonge, Jonathan Langford, Katie Love, Anthony Maniscalchi, Thomas Meng, Jim Mosher, Maxwell Pearson, Robert Rader, Nancy Scarbrough, Amber Snider, Debbie Stevens, Laurel Tippet, Graham Wahlberg, Christine Walker, Paul Watkins, and Lori Williams.

*Recap of January 18, and February 1, 2023, Joint Meetings*

The GPUSC prepared a short recap memo for the City Council (Attachment A).

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no fiscal impact related to this item.

**ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW:**

Staff recommends the City Council find this action is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Sections 15060(c)(2) (the activity will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment) and 15060(c)(3) (the activity is not a project as defined in Section 15378) of the CEQA Guidelines, California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 3, because it has no potential for resulting in physical change to the environment, directly or indirectly.

**NOTICING:**

The agenda item has been noticed according to the Brown Act (72 hours in advance of the meeting at which the City Council considers the item).

**ATTACHMENT:**

Attachment A – GPUSC Memo to the City Council

# **Attachment A**

GPUSC Recap Memo

To: City Council Members  
re: GPAC

The General Plan process with the General Plan Advisory Committee is launched. We have had two joint meetings with GPUSC and GPAC.

At the first meeting, staff presented an overview of the elements of the general plan. Each plan will be developed by a subcommittee. The findings of each committee will then be brought to the entire GPAC for discussion. GPUSC members will visit the committees from time to time to insure things are on track. After the meeting, staff sent out an inquiry as to which subcommittees GPAC members wished to serve on and who might be interested in chairing the committee.

At the second meeting, committee assignments were largely confirmed. There were two members who expressed interest in the chair position, both of whom have experience chairing meetings. GPUSC decided to appoint co-chairs, as was done with the 2006 general plan. They are Jeremy Evans and Arlene Greer.

At this meeting, a GPAC member proposed that a sustainability/resilience element be added to focus attention on upcoming issues and to enhance grant opportunities. There was unanimous approval of this addition. It was then suggested that there should be an economic development element. This will be discussed at the next GPAC meeting.

GPAC will meet the first Wednesday of each month, at 6 pm. After discussion with staff, GPUSC will meet prior to GPAC rather than on a separate evening.

GPAC has a good age and expertise balance, and based on these first two meetings the members are eager to start the process.

General Plan Update Steering Committee  
Nancy Gardner, Chair  
Philip Brown  
Kimberly Carter