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October 25, 2018

Los Angeles City Council
c/o Office of the City Clerk
City Hall, Room 395
Los Angeles, California 90012

Attention: PLUM Committee

Dear Honorable Members:

**STATUS UPDATE ON COMMUNITY PLAN PROGRAM AND EIR CONSULTANT PRACTICES;
CF 16-0422**

The following is an update on the status of the Department of City Planning's Community Plan program. As part of the Department's 2018-19 Budget, the Office of the Mayor and the City Council have funded a program to ensure that each of the City's 35 Community Plans are brought up-to-date by the year 2024. Additionally, this report provides an update on the status of the Department's efforts to create and implement a list of professional environmental consultants to prepare environmental impact reports (EIRs) and other environmental studies related to private development applications.

This report serves as a status update to the Department's prior reports issued in April 2018, February 2017, August 2016, and May 2016.

Community Plans

Following the adoption of the 2018-19 budget, the Department has filled numerous newly-created positions to staff the Community Plan teams. At this time Community Plan update efforts are now underway across three regions of the City: Valley, Central/East, and South/West Harbor. Of note, the Department has begun updates for nine Community Plans in addition to the seven Community Plan updates already underway and six Community Plan updates recently adopted. Below is a summary of Community Plan efforts by region.

Central/East

The Central/East region consists of eight Community Plan areas. Currently updates are underway for four Community Plans: Hollywood, Boyle Heights, Central City, and Central City North. It is anticipated that a Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the Hollywood Community Plan will be released prior to the end of 2018, and that DEIRs for the remaining Community Plans will

be released within the first half of the 2019 calendar year. All four Community Plans are anticipated to be brought forward for adoption during the 2019 calendar year. Following adoption of the Hollywood Community Plan, the program will shift to update the Wilshire and Westlake Community Plans will commence in early 2020. Following the adoption of the Boyle Heights and Central City/Central City North Community Plans, a program to update the Northeast Los Angeles and Silver Lake-Echo Park-Elysian Valley Community Plans will commence in mid 2020.

Valley

The Valley Region consists of 14 Community Plan areas. Two of the region's Community Plans have been updated: Sylmar and Granada Hills-Knollwood. During the 2017 calendar year, updates to three Community Plans were initiated: Canoga Park-Winnetka-West Hills-Woodland Hills, Reseda-West Van Nuys, and Encino-Tarzana. Department staff have completed initial outreach and are beginning to share initial new plan concepts with the public at workshops. Staff will begin required environmental studies in 2019.

During October 2018 Department staff have commenced updates to three additional Community Plans: Sherman Oaks-Studio City-Toluca Lake-Cahuenga Pass, Van Nuys-North Sherman Oaks, and North Hollywood-Valley Village. Following completion of both Community Plan programs in 2020 and 2021 respectively, updates to the remaining eight Community Plans in the North Valley will commence.

South/West/Harbor

The South/West/Harbor region consists of 12 Community Plan areas. Four of the region's Community Plans have been updated: San Pedro, West Adams-Baldwin Hills-Leimert, South Los Angeles, and Southeast Los Angeles. During August 2018, the Department commenced updates to four Community Plans in the Westside area and two Community Plans in the Harbor area. These include West Los Angeles, Palms-Mar Vista-Del Rey, Venice, and Westchester-Playa del Rey; and Harbor Gateway, and Wilmington-Harbor City respectively. Initial outreach efforts have included meetings with all involved neighborhood councils, educational "Planning 101" events, and large-scale "Community Plan Kick Off" events in each of the respective plan areas. Following completion of the six aforementioned Community Plans in 2021, updates for the three remaining Community Plans on the westside, Westwood, Bel Air-Beverly Crest, and Brentwood-Pacific Palisades will commence.

Summary

The Department's Community Plan program is fully staffed and all Community Plan teams have launched. Work is on track to complete the update of all 35 plans by the end of 2024.

Environmental Impact Reports

At the same time that the Council provided direction to proceed with its six-year Community Plan schedule, the Council also directed revisions to the Department's process to receive consultant-produced environmental studies that would inform the completion of Environmental Impact Reports (EIRs) for private development applications. The Council endorsed an approach whereby the City would vet and create a standard list of consultants from which private applicants would be required to hire when preparing EIR content for a particular development application.

The Department has completed evaluations of Statements of Qualifications (SOQs) received in response to the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for Environmental Consultants for Development Projects and the RFQ for Environmental Consultants for Community Plans and Policy Planning released on June 22, 2017. Both lists of consultants were developed through the City's standard contracting procedures to ensure that consultants adhered to City contracting requirements and

that good faith efforts were made to provide equal opportunities to participate in the performance of City contracts.

Prior to the two RFQ releases, advertisements were sent to over 100 professional associations and chambers of commerce in support of efforts to diversify the prospective consultant pool. Advertisements were also sent to organizations representing recognized categories under the City's Business Inclusion Program (BIP): Minority-owned Business Enterprises (MBEs), Woman-owned Business Enterprises (WBEs), Small Business Enterprises (SBEs), Emerging Business Enterprises (EBEs), Disabled Veteran-Business Enterprises (DVBES), and Other Business Enterprises (OBEs). The advertisements not only informed organizations of the two upcoming RFQs, but provided links to information on how to register on the Los Angeles Business Assistance Virtual Network (LABAVN) and how to obtain certification in the aforementioned BIP categories.

Following the RFQ release, the Department held a Pre-Qualifications conference on July 21, 2017 where Department staff further explained the statement of work, evaluation criteria, and the City's BIP process which requires primary consultants to conduct outreach to sub-consultants certified in each of the recognized categories in order for their SOQs to be deemed responsive.

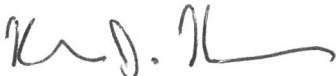
By the September 7, 2017 RFQ deadline, the Department received 33 SOQs in response to the Development Projects Environmental Consultants RFQ and 26 SOQs for the Community Plans and Policy Planning Environmental Consultants RFQ. Contract awards and non-selection notifications for the Community Plans and Policy Planning environmental consultant list for Department use are estimated to be issued before the end of October 2018. Contract awards and non-selection notifications for the Development Projects environmental consultant list for applicant use are estimated to be issued in November 2018. Following contract awards and City Attorney review, contracts for both environmental lists will be submitted through the Office of the City Administrative Officer, the Mayor's Office, and Council before final execution, which is anticipated in early 2019.

The next RFQ for Environmental Consultants for Development Projects will take place in 18 months and will afford non-selected consultants and consultants who did not submit qualifications the opportunity to be added to the consulting list.

For questions regarding this transmittal, please contact Tiffany Butler (EIR Contracts) at (213) 978-1283 or Craig Weber (Community Plans) at (213) 978-1311.

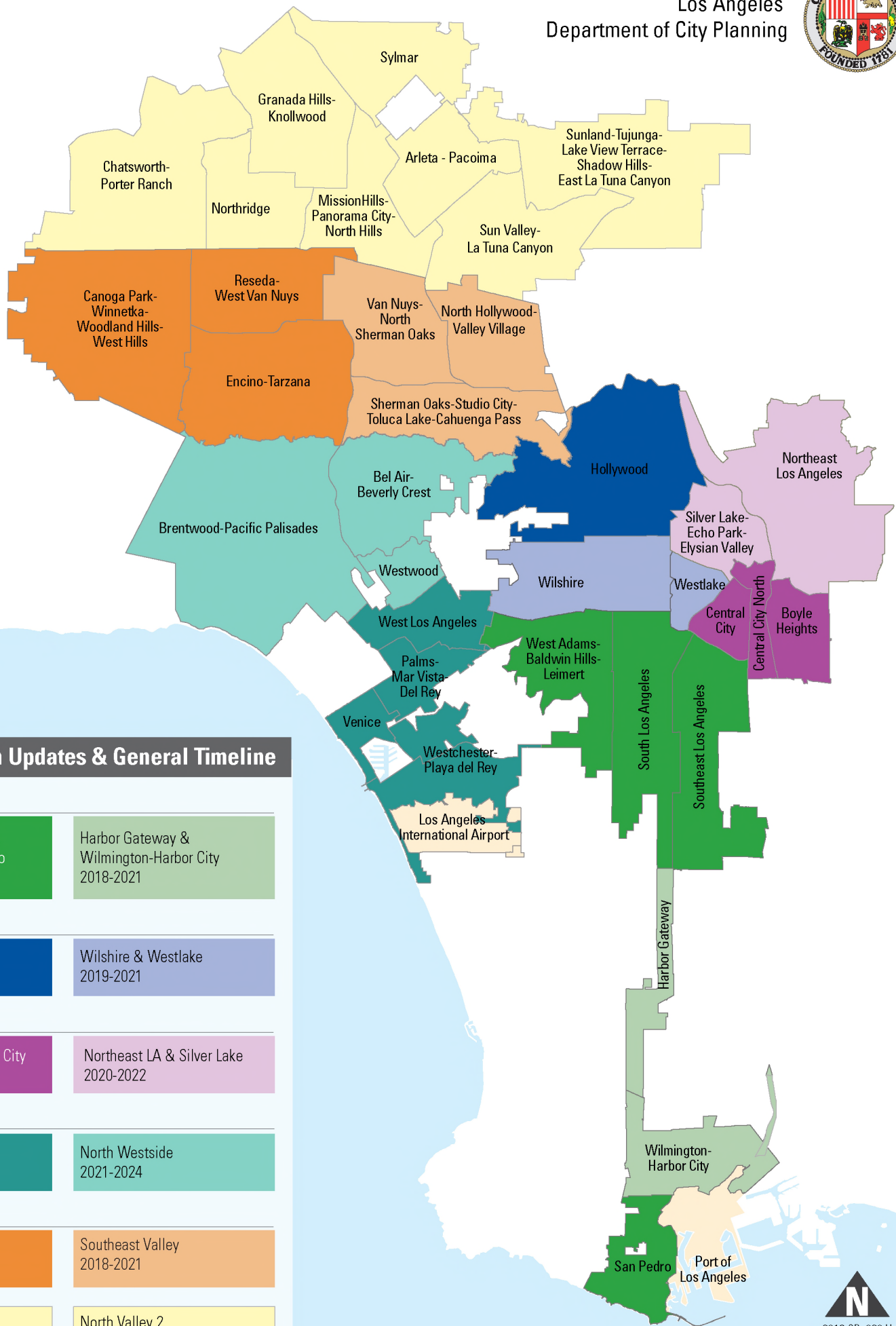
Sincerely,

VINCENT P. BERTONI, AICP
Director of Planning



Kevin J. Keller, AICP
Executive Officer

VPB:KJK:crw



Community Plan Updates & General Timeline

South LA & Harbor

West Adams, South LA, Southeast LA, San Pedro Completed in 2017	Harbor Gateway & Wilmington-Harbor City 2018-2021
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Central

Hollywood Completed in 2019	Wilshire & Westlake 2019-2021
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East / Central

Boyle Heights & Central City Completed in 2019	Northeast LA & Silver Lake 2020-2022
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Westside

South Westside 2018-2021	North Westside 2021-2024
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Valley

Southwest Valley 2017-2020	Southeast Valley 2018-2021
North Valley 1 2020-2023	North Valley 2 2021-2024