

RESOLUTION NO. PC-2024-

A RESOLUTION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF COSTA MESA, CALIFORNIA RECOMMENDING THAT THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COSTA MESA ADOPT GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT PGPA-23-0001 TO AMEND THE CIRCULATION ELEMENT OF THE CITY OF COSTA MESA GENERAL PLAN BY ADDING A REFERENCE TO THE COSTA MESA PEDESRIAN MASTER PLAN AND REVISING POLICIES ASSOCIATED WITH CIRCULATION ELEMENT GOALS C-1 THROUGH C-12.

THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF COSTA MESA, CALIFORNIA FINDS AND DECLARES AS FOLLOWS:

WHEREAS, the City of Costa Mesa's 2015-2035 General Plan was adopted on June 21, 2016;

WHEREAS, the 2015-2035 General Plan includes ten elements, one of which is known as the Circulation Element;

WHEREAS, the Circulation Element includes policies to implement Goals C-1 through C-12;

WHEREAS, the City of Costa Mesa approved the Active Transportation Plan and an amendment (GP-18-01) to the General Plan's Circulation Element on June 5, 2018;

WHEREAS, the City of Costa Mesa, through its consultant, conducted a series of public workshops and meetings from 2020 through 2022 concerning active transportation matters, including opportunities to improve pedestrian circulation;

WHEREAS, these outreach meetings resulted in the preparation of a draft Costa Mesa Pedestrian Master Plan ("PMP");

WHEREAS, the PMP includes policies that require the Circulation Element of the City of Costa Mesa General Plan be amended in order to provide consistency and implement the PMP;

WHEREAS, the PMP policies have been reviewed and recommended by the City Council-appointed Active Transportation Committee to be included as part of the General Plan's Circulation Element;

WHEREAS, General Plan Amendment PGPA-23-0001 includes revisions to the policies contained in Circulation Element Goals C-1 through C-12, which are included as an attachment (Exhibit 1) to this resolution; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission of the City of Costa Mesa considered the staff report and public testimony on General Plan Amendment PGPA-23-0001 at a duly-noticed public hearing held on Monday, March 11, 2024.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COSTA MESA PLANNING COMMISSION RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

1. To recommend that the City Council of the City of Costa Mesa find that General Plan Amendment PGPA-23-0001 is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15262 (Feasibility and Planning Studies), Section 15276 (Transportation Improvement and Congestion Management Program) and Section 15061(b)(3) (Common Sense Exemption). The draft PMP complements the City's 2018 Active Transportation Plan (ATP) by providing pedestrian programs, pedestrian infrastructure toolbox, and policies to improve the pedestrian experience in the City. Section 15262 excludes a project from CEQA if it involves only feasibility or planning studies for possible future actions which the City has not approved, adopted, or funded and does not require the preparation of an environmental impact report or negative declaration but does require consideration of environmental factors. Section 15276 states that CEQA does not apply to the development or adoption of a regional transportation improvement program. Furthermore, the proposed project is exempt from CEQA pursuant to Section 15061 (b)(3), which states that "where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA." While the general plan amendment revises policies to support improved pedestrian circulation in Costa Mesa, it does not include funding or any specific programs to implement these policies at this time. In fact, implementation would occur in conjunction with individual future projects that are, themselves, subject to future review pursuant to CEQA. Therefore, there is no possibility that the General Plan Amendment PGPA-23-0001 will have a significant effect on the environment.

2. To recommend that the City Council adopt General Plan Amendment PGPA-23-0001 amending the Circulation Element to add reference to the Costa Mesa Pedestrian Master Plan and revise the policies of the General Plan Circulation Element for Goals C-1 through C-12, as shown in the attachment entitled Exhibit 1.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the CEQA determination for this project reflects the independent judgement of the City.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if any section, division, sentence, clause, phrase or portion of this resolution, or the documents in the record in support of this resolution, are for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining provisions.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 11th day of March 2024.

Adam Ereth, Chair
Costa Mesa Planning Commission

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF ORANGE)ss
CITY OF COSTA MESA)

I, Scott Drapkin, Secretary to the Planning Commission of the City of Costa Mesa, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution No. PC-2024-___ was passed and adopted at a regular meeting of the City of Costa Mesa Planning Commission held on March 11, 2024 by the following votes:

AYES: COMMISSIONERS

NOES: COMMISSIONERS

ABSENT: COMMISSIONERS

ABSTAIN: COMMISSIONERS

Scott Drapkin, Secretary
Costa Mesa Planning Commission

Resolution No. PC-2024-___

RESOLUTION NO. PC-2024-

**A RESOLUTION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE
CITY OF COSTA MESA RECOMMENDING APPROVAL OF
THE PEDESTRIAN MASTER PLAN**

THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF COSTA MESA, CALIFORNIA FINDS AND DECLARES AS FOLLOWS:

WHEREAS, the City of Costa Mesa's 2015-2035 General Plan was adopted on June 21, 2016;

WHEREAS, the City of Costa Mesa approved the Active Transportation Plan ("ATP") and an amendment to the General Plan Circulation Element (GP-18-01) on June 5, 2018;

WHEREAS, the ATP focused on completion of the bicycle network by identifying existing and absent bikeway segments to improve connectivity and providing recommendations for potential improvements to the system and programs;

WHEREAS, in accordance with the General Plan Circulation Element Goal C-12, *Monitor, Evaluate, and Pursue Funding for Implementation of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan*, the City was secured grant funding from Southern California Association of Governments to develop a Pedestrian Master Plan ("PMP");

WHEREAS, following the initiation of the Pedestrian Master Plan project, the City Council identified the following Strategic Objective: "Present the Pedestrian Master Plan update to City Council for direction" under the City Council Goal to Advance Environmental Sustainability and Climate Resiliency;

WHEREAS, the Community outreach played a central role in the development of the draft PMP;

WHEREAS, following a series of workshops and public meetings in 2020 through 2022, a draft Costa Mesa Pedestrian Master Plan have been reviewed and recommended for approval by the City's Active Transportation Committee;

WHEREAS, the PMP expands upon the pedestrian opportunity zones developed in the ATP with further analysis and provides pedestrian programs, a pedestrian infrastructure treatment toolbox, and specific policy recommendations to improve the pedestrian experience in the City; and

WHEREAS, the PMP is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to pursuant to Section 15262 (Feasibility and Planning Studies), Section 15276 (Transportation Improvement and Congestion Management Program) and Section

15061(b)(3) (Common Sense Exemption). The draft PMP complements the City's 2018 Active Transportation Plan (ATP) by providing pedestrian programs, pedestrian infrastructure toolbox, and policies to improve the pedestrian experience in the City. Section 15262 excludes a project from CEQA if it involves only feasibility or planning studies for possible future actions which the City has not approved, adopted, or funded and does not require the preparation of an environmental impact report or negative declaration but does require consideration of environmental factors. Section 15276 states that CEQA does not apply to the development or adoption of a regional transportation improvement program. Furthermore, the proposed project is exempt from CEQA pursuant to Section 15061 (b)(3), which states that "where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA." While the PMP includes strategies and actions that will be implemented to improve the pedestrian experience in Costa Mesa and recommends revisions to General Plan policies to support improved pedestrian circulation in Costa Mesa, it does not include funding or any specific programs to implement these policies at this time. In fact, implementation would occur in conjunction with individual future projects that are, themselves, subject to future review pursuant to CEQA. Therefore, there is no possibility that the PMP will have a significant effect on the environment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Planning Commission does hereby recommend that the City Council approve the draft Costa Mesa Pedestrian Master Plan included as Exhibit 1.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 11th day of March 2024.

Adam Ereth, Chair
Costa Mesa Planning Commission

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF ORANGE)ss
CITY OF COSTA MESA)

I, Scott Drapkin, Secretary to the Planning Commission of the City of Costa Mesa, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution No. PC-2024-___ was passed and adopted at a regular meeting of the City of Costa Mesa Planning Commission held on March 11, 2024 by the following votes:

AYES: COMMISSIONERS

NOES: COMMISSIONERS

ABSENT: COMMISSIONERS

ABSTAIN: COMMISSIONERS

Scott Drapkin, Secretary
Costa Mesa Planning Commission

Resolution No. PC-2024-___