



City of Salinas

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 19, 2024

TO: City Council

FROM: Lisa Brinton, Director

THROUGH: Grant Leonard, Planning Manager

BY: Jonathan Moore, Senior Planner

SUBJECT: **GENERAL PLAN VISIÓN SALINAS 2040 UPDATE**

In the fourth quarter of 2024, staff revised the administrative draft General Plan, received technical studies needed to prepare the Climate Action Plan, and initiated the procurement process for a Zoning Code Update consultant.

General Plan Visión Salinas 2040

- Completed internal writing of second administrative draft.
- Reviewed second draft with other departments and outside legal counsel supporting update (October-November).
- Revised over 400 comments.

Climate Action Plan (CAP)

- Completed internal review of draft Climate Action Plan (CAP) emission forecast and strategies.
- PlaceWorks completed greenhouse gas emissions forecasts based on draft General Plan buildout numbers and expected reductions from proposed policies. This will allow staff to resume CAP engagement on strategies and scenarios to reach said targets.

Zoning Code Update

- Released a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a comprehensive Zoning Code Update to follow General Plan.
- Goals of the Zoning Code Update include implementing General Plan land use changes, seeking to encourage flexibility and innovation, improving development review processes, and compliance with recent state laws.
- Staff is reviewing the three proposals received by the December 6th deadline.

Engagement

- General Plan engagement continued with presentations to the Historic Resources Board and the Rotary Club of Salinas Downtown in September.

- Community Development staff supported the City Manager’s office in convening economic development stakeholders in November.
- Staff will continue topic-specific outreach on land use, economic development, and the CAP, before moving to engagement for the broader General Plan again in Spring of 2025.

Target Schedule

- The Target Schedule projects the General Plan Update process out to a completion at the end of 2025. Certain components, such as response time to comments, may shorten or lengthen the anticipated schedule.

2025	
January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Plan/Economic Development Element Council Study Session (1/28/25) • Start of Environmental Impact Report (EIR) alternatives • Zoning Code Consultant interviews
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning Commission - Pre-Public Review Draft General Plan Study Session and Annual Progress Report • Zoning Code Consultant selection approval by Council
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City Council – Pre-Public Review Draft General Plan Study Session and Annual Progress Report • General Plan Engagement • CAP Webinar
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Release public review draft General Plan • Edit EIR administrative draft • CAP study session
May-June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Release formal draft EIR and CAP for public review and start 45-day comment period
July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue engagement • Receive Comments • Planning Commission and Council briefings on EIR and adoption process
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revise General Plan, CAP, and EIR according to comments • Start preparing adoption documents
October-November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publish revised General Plan, CAP, and EIR • Start approval process at commission level <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monterey County Airport Land Use Commission (mandatory) • Planning Commission (mandatory) • Traffic and Transportation Commission
December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consideration of EIR certification and General Plan and CAP adoption by City Council