

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Name of Project: City of Downey 2021-2029 Housing Element Update

Applications: General Plan Amendment Application No. PLN-21-00139

Location: 11111 Brookshire Ave., Downey, California 90241 (City Hall, Planning)

Zoning/Land Use: City of Downey General Plan and Zoning

Project Description: The City of Downey (City) is proposing the sixth cycle (2021-2029) update to its Housing Element. The Housing Element (HE) is a required component of the City's General Plan and must be updated on a regular basis, as set forth in Government Code Section 65588. The HE consists of these four components: 1) housing needs, 2) constraints to housing development, 3) housing resources (available sites and funding sources), and 4) a housing plan. The City has prepared an Initial Study and Negative Declaration for the HE update to comply with CEQA.

The 2021-2029 HE applies to all properties within the City on which existing and proposed General Plan land use designations and zoning districts allow residential and/or mixed-use development. The HE does not specifically authorize the construction of any housing development, nor does it indicate where and when specific housing projects will occur. The HE is a policy document setting forth the City's plan to accommodate its share of regional housing needs, as determined by the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG). For the 2021-2029 planning period, the City's share is 6,525 housing units which is referred to as the Regional Housing Needs Allocation or RHNA. The HE indicates that the City's General Plan currently does not provide the appropriate range of housing densities and does not provide sufficient land use capacity to accommodate SCAG's RHNA allocation at the various income ranges. Thus, changes to the categories and redesignation of properties on the land use map are being undertaken in conjunction with adoption of the Housing Element.

Subsequent to this HE update, the City will be undertaking focused General Plan and zoning ordinance amendments, with separate CEQA review, to ensure sufficient land use capacity is available to accommodate the RHNA. This Initial Study examines the potential environmental impacts at a program level for only the HE since the HE itself does not specifically authorize the construction of any housing development, nor does it indicate where and when specific housing projects will occur. Impacts associated with the General Plan and zoning ordinance amendments will be examined at a more focused level since these actions could increase the level of development at specific sites.

Applicant: City of Downey

Property Owner: NA

Lead Agency: City of Downey

Contact Person(s): Crystal Landavazo, City Planner

(562) 904-7154

Email: HEupdate@downeyca.org

Future Unlimited

Negative Declaration City 2021-2029 Housing Element Update October 29, 2021

Review Period: November 1, 2021 to November 30, 2021

The Initial Study and Negative Declaration will be circulated for a 30-day review period. Written comments must be received by the City of Downey Planning Division prior to 5:30 p.m. on the last date of the public review period.

Purpose of Review: The purpose of this review is to allow public agencies and interested members of the public the opportunity to share expertise, disclose agency analysis, check for accuracy, detect omissions, discover public concerns, and solicit counter-proposals pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15200 (Purpose of Review).

IS/ND Materials Available: www.downeyca.org/heupdate

Send Comments to: City of Downey – Planning Division

Crystal Landavazo, City Planner

11111 Brookshire Avenue

Downey, CA 90241

Email - HEupdate@downeyca.org

Fax - (562) 622-4816

Documents are available for review at:

City of Downey City Hall Planning Division 11111 Brookshire Avenue Downey, CA 90241 www.downeyca.org/heupdate

Downey City Library 11121 Brookshire Avenue Downey, CA 90241 Barbara J. Riley Community & Senior Center 7810 Quill Drive Downey, CA 90242

Public Hearing: At this time, the City of Downey's Planning Commission has **not** scheduled a public hearing to consider the Housing Element Update and its Negative Declaration. Separate notice will be posted at the appropriate time for that hearing. When the hearing is scheduled it will be heard in the Council Chambers of Downey City Hall, located at 11111 Brookshire Avenue, Downey, CA. All interested parties are invited to attend and give testimony on the request when the item is scheduled.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in public hearings, contact the City Clerk's Department at 562-904-7280 or the California Relay Service at 711. Notification at least 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make arrangements to assure accessibility. The City of Downey does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission to, access to, or operations of its programs, services or activities. Questions, concerns, complaints or requests for additional information regarding the Americans with Disabilities Act may be forwarded to the City's ADA/Section 504 Coordinator at 11111 Brookshire Avenue, Downey, CA 90241, ADACoordiantor@downeyca.org, Phone: 562-299-6619, Fax: 562-923-6388, and California Relay 711.

If you challenge the proposed actions in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing, or in written correspondence delivered to the Planning Division at, or prior to, the public hearing.