

CITY OF ALAMEDA PLANNING BOARD
DRAFT RESOLUTION

RECOMMENDING THAT THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVE A GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT TO REPLACE THE AIRPORT ENVIRONS AND HEALTH AND SAFETY ELEMENTS WITH THE UPDATED SAFETY AND NOISE ELEMENT (EXHIBIT 1)

WHEREAS, California law (Government Code Sections 65300-65303.4) requires seven General Plan Elements, including a Safety Element and a Noise Element; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of a Safety Element is to minimize the risks of loss of life, personal injury, serious illness, property damage, and environmental degradation resulting from fires, floods, earthquakes, landslides and other hazards, and the purpose of a Noise Element is to limit the exposure of the community to excessive noise levels; and

WHEREAS, The City of Alameda Safety and Noise Elements were last updated in 1991, and much of the text is outdated; and

WHEREAS, in December of 2015, the City of Alameda submitted for Federal Emergency Management Agency review, a Local Hazard Mitigation Plan for the City of Alameda to address current health, safety and noise risks; and

WHEREAS, staff has prepared an update to the 1991 Safety and Noise Elements to bring the elements into conformance with the December 2015 Draft Local Hazard Mitigation Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Draft Local Hazard Mitigation Plan and federal best practices require the Safety Element update; and

WHEREAS, as required by the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan is required to achieve eligibility and potentially secure mitigation funding through Federal Emergency Management Agency Flood Mitigation Assistance, Pre-Disaster Mitigation, Hazard Mitigation Grant Programs, and additional State recovery funding after disasters; and

WHEREAS, Federal Emergency Management Agency best practices include the review of a city's Safety Element for compliance, consistency and integration with the latest Local Hazard Mitigation Plan; and

WHEREAS, other recently completed Safety Elements were reviewed for incorporation of innovative policies and best practices from around the state; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Board held a Study Session on September 12, 2016, and provided comments to staff; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Board held a Public Hearing on October 10, 2016.

WHEREAS, The purpose of the Safety and Noise Element update is identify objectives and policies to reduce the potential risks associated with various hazards and to limit exposure of the community to excessive noise levels. These objectives and policies would not have the potential to have a significant effect on the environment. Therefore, this project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3), as the project does not have the potential to have a significant effect on the environment.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Planning Board of the City of Alameda recommends that the City Council approve the General Plan Amendment to replace Chapter 7, Airport and Environs, and Chapter 8, Health and Safety, with a new updated, Safety and Noise, as shown in Exhibit A.

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