



COUNCIL AGENDA: 04-05-05
ITEM: 12.1f

Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND
CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Stephen M. Haase

SUBJECT: SEE BELOW

DATE: March 16, 2005

COUNCIL DISTRICT: Citywide

SUBJECT: GP05-T-01. GENERAL PLAN TEXT AMENDMENT REQUEST TO REVISE AND UPDATE LEVEL OF SERVICE GOALS AND POLICIES FOR LIBRARY AND SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT SERVICES TO ALIGN WITH THE CITY BUDGET AND CITY SERVICE AREA PLANS.

TRANSMITTAL MEMO

The Planning Commission will hear this project on March 23, 2005. The staff report to Planning Commission and Planning Commission recommendations will be submitted under different cover. We hope the submittal of this report is of assistance in your review of this project.


for STEPHEN M. HAASE, SECRETARY
Planning Commission



Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND
CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Stephen M. Haase

SUBJECT: GP05-T-01

DATE: March 24, 2005

COUNCIL DISTRICT: CITYWIDE
SNI: NONE

RECOMMENDATION

The Planning Commission voted 7-0-0 to recommend to the City Council approval of the proposed General Plan text amendment to revise and update Level of Service Goals and Policies for Library and Solid Waste Management services to align with the City Budget and City Service Area plans.

BACKGROUND

On March 23, 2005, the Planning Commission held a public hearing to consider a staff-initiated General Plan text amendment to revise and update Level of Service Goals and Policies for Library and Solid Waste Management services to align with the City Budget and City Service Area plans.

ANALYSIS

This item was on the Planning Commission Agenda Consent Calendar. There was no public testimony and no discussion by Planning Commission on the item.

OUTCOMES

The Commission voted 7-0-0 to recommend to the City Council approval of the proposed text amendment.

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

March 24, 2005

Subject: GP05-T-01

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PUBLIC OUTREACH

Notice of the proposed text amendment was published in the San Jose Post Record. In addition, the amendment was presented at the two General Plan Community Meetings on February 16 and 24, 2005. There were no comments from the public regarding this proposal. The Department web site contains information regarding the General Plan process, amendments, staff reports, and hearing schedules. This web site is available to any member of the public and contains the most current information regarding the status of the amendments.

COORDINATION

Review of this General Plan amendment was coordinated with the Department of Environmental Services, the Library Department, the City Manager's Office and the City Attorney's Office.

CEQA

Reuse of the San Jose 2020 General Plan Final Environmental Impact Report, certified by the City Council on August 16, 1994, Resolution # 65459.


to STEPHEN M. HAASE
Secretary, Planning Commission



Department of Planning, Building and Code Enforcement
801 North First Street, Room 400
San José, California 95110-1795

Hearing Date/Agenda Number:
P.C. 3/23/05 Item: **bc**
C.C. 4/5/05 Item: 12.1f

File Number:
GP05-T-01

Council District and SNI Area:
Citywide

Major Thoroughfares Map Number:
N/A

Assessor's Parcel Number(s):
N/A

Project Manager:
Stan Ketchum

GENERAL PLAN REPORT 2005 Winter Hearing

TEXT REFERENCE:

Description

General Plan text amendment

Amend Chapter IV. Goals and Policies, Services and Facilities, Level of Service, pages 87-91 as described below.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Amend the *San Jose 2020 General Plan* text to revise and update Level of Service Goals and Policies for Library and Solid Waste Management services to align with the City Budget and City Service Area plans.

LOCATION:
Citywide

ACREAGE: N/A

APPLICANT/OWNER:

Staff

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW STATUS:

Reuse of the San Jose 2020 General Plan Final Environmental Impact Report, certified by the City Council on August 16, 1994, Resolution # 65459.

PLANNING STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt the proposed text Amendment

Approved by: 

Date: 3/16/05

PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION:

CITY COUNCIL ACTION:

CITY DEPARTMENT AND PUBLIC AGENCY COMMENTS RECEIVED:

- Staff from the Library and Environmental Services departments provided input to the preparation of this amendment.
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GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE:

- None received.
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ANALYSIS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

This is a staff initiated text amendment to revise and update Level of Service Goals and Policies for Library and Solid Waste Management services to align with the City Budget and City Service Area plans.

BACKGROUND

The Mayor's June Budget Message included the following:

“General Plan and Business Plan Alignment: Direct the (City) Manager to begin an effort to align the service level goals contained in the *San Jose 2020 General Plan* with the performance measures and business plans contained in the FY04/05 Operating Budget. The General Plan sets forth the vision for our community's growth and development including services level goals to support a high quality of life for all San Jose residents and businesses. It is critical that the General Plan and the budget document reflect the same service delivery approaches to achieve our long-term goals and achieve our vision. Appropriate changes to the General Plan should be brought forward for City Council consideration beginning in early 2005.

In late 2004, Planning Staff met with each City Service Area (CSA) Team, with the exception of Strategic Support, to discuss any necessary revisions to the goals and policies of the General Plan to better align with the service level goals, policies and measures contained in the Operating Budget document and CSA Five-Year Business Plans. The present Winter, 2005 General Plan hearings are the first opportunity for proposed revisions to the General Plan to be presented to the Planning Commission and City Council for consideration. This amendment presents proposed changes from the Library Department (Recreation and Cultural CSA), and the Environmental Services Department (Environment and Utilities CSA). Discussion with the other CSA's will continue in anticipation of identifying other potential updates to General Plan Service Level Goals and Policies for consideration in the Spring General Plan hearings in May and June.

ANALYSIS

The following is an analysis of each of the proposed changes.

1. Revise the Level of Service Goal (page 87) as follows:

1. Provide a full range of City Services to the community at service levels consistent with a safe, convenient, sustainable and pleasant place to live, work, learn and play.

This revised wording is reflective of the City's emphasis on sustainability to promote the management and conservation of resources for present and future generations and the importance of recreation and education as City priorities for an enhanced quality of life for the City's residents.

2. Library Level of Service Policy (page 90)

The current Level of Service policy for Library service is as follows:

For libraries, 10,000 square feet of library space per 36,000 population, 18.3 weekly service hours per 10,000 population, and an annual acquisition rate of 1 volume per 6 people for the first 500,000 population and 1 volume per 8 people over 500,000 population.

The proposed change is to replace the above language, as follows:

For libraries, 2.75 volumes (items) held in the San Jose Public Library system per capita, and .59 square feet of library space per capita.

The present Library service goals have been in the General Plan since at least the early 1980's. The proposed goals were developed as a part of the approval of the Branch Library Master Plan, approved by the City Council in 1999. The new goals are intended to be more easily understood, reflect current national standards for library service and more accurately describe the future service level goals of the San Jose Library system.

Annual acquisition of materials is not a commonly compared performance goal or measurement statistic in the library field. In addition, the current goal is difficult to calculate and use as a measure of future performance of the library system. Measures of circulation and holdings of materials are more common measures compared in library systems nationwide. As a result, the Library Master Plan incorporates a goal for "holdings" or total number of items of all kinds (books, videos, CD's etc.) available. . San José currently has 1.9 million volumes, which equals 2.05 volumes per capita. However, since the City has entered into a unique relationship with San José State University, the public may now access the circulating collection of SJSU, which is an additional 800,0000 volumes. This brings the customer service to 2.92 volumes per capita.

The square footage service goal is a restatement of the Council-adopted goal in the Library Branch Facilities Master Plan, adopted in 1999. Upon completion of the full Library bond

program buildout at the end of this decade, the City will meet the goal of .59 square feet of library space per capita.

3. Solid Waste Management (page 91)

This new policy is proposed to be added to the list of Citywide level of service measures. The General Plan states that these performance measures may change over time to reflect increasing diversity, new methods of service delivery or to reflect changing needs and priorities that are determined in the budgetary process. The proposed new language is as follows:

20. For solid waste management, to exceed 50% diversion of waste from disposal, maintain 20 years of landfill capacity, and provide for storage and collection of recyclables from every location where solid waste is generated.

The City was required by State law (AB 939, the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989) to achieve 50% diversion of waste from disposal by the year 2000, and then to maintain or increase that diversion. The City has adopted this goal in other policy documents such as the Waste Reduction Strategies, the Source Reduction and Recycling Element, and the County Integrated Waste Management Plan. The City achieved this goal, reaching levels of between 62% - 64% diversion each year since 2000.

The County of Santa Clara Integrated Waste Management Plan, approved by the City Council in 1995, includes goals to provide a minimum of 30 years of disposal capacity, and explore means to develop up to 50 years of capacity within Santa Clara County. The County has not proceeded with efforts to expand disposal capacity or provide documentation of remaining disposal capacity. Staff from the Integrated Waste Management Division of the Environmental Services Department have indicated they believe that Countywide permitted capacity does exceed 30 years, but probably not 50 years. San Jose is currently providing most of the capacity for the entire County with the exception of Gilroy and Morgan Hill, and will continue to do so for the near term. Establishing a 20-year goal in the City's General Plan is considered appropriate at this time. As the City begins to evaluate remaining disposal capacity more thoroughly in the future, it is expected that the goal would increase to at least 30 years of capacity through a combination of sites within San Jose's jurisdiction or under contract elsewhere, with plans for the development of additional capacity as required.

The City Council-adopted Solid Waste Program Goals and Principles for San Jose contain the following policies:

- To divert as much municipal solid waste from landfills as is technically and economically feasible. [with] a waste diversion goal of 50 percent for the year 2000..."
- The City will endeavor to make recycling services accessible to all City residents and businesses.
- The City will demonstrate its commitment to achieving its solid waste diversion goals by instituting waste reduction, recycling, and buy-recycled practices at all City facilities and public areas within its jurisdiction.

Additionally, the City is required by State law to ensure that all "development projects" have adequate storage space for recycling. The proposed language integrates these policies into the General Plan, as well.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

Notice of the proposed text amendment was published in the San Jose Post Record. In addition, the amendment was presented at the two General Plan Community Meetings on February 16 and 24, 2005. There were no comments from the public regarding this proposal.

The Branch Library Master Plan was developed through a two year-long collaborative effort involving the input of thousands of people. A survey of library users received over 6,000 responses. Fifteen public workshops were held across the City and booths were set up in the libraries where over 800 residents contributed their opinions and ideas. An Advisory Committee and the Library Commission provided on-going community oversight and guidance that shaped this Plan.

As noted previously, the proposed Solid Waste Management policy is based on policies contained in several plans already approved by the City Council. The various planning documents I mentioned were all approved by Council following mandatory public hearings noticed in a local paper of general circulation. The process for review and approval of these documents included public hearings before multiple groups, including the Technical Advisory Committee of the Santa Clara County Recycling and Waste Reduction Commission (formerly the Solid Waste Commission), whose membership includes all local cities, the County, local waste haulers, and environmental groups. The plans also went to public hearings before the Santa Clara County Recycling and Waste Reduction Commission and the City Council. Public hearings were also held by the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors and the California Integrated Waste Management Board.

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt the proposed text amendment.

Attachment

PBCE002/GP_Team/005/GP05-T-01/staff report.doc

PROPOSED TEXT AMENDMENT

GP05-T-01

Description

General Plan text amendment to revise and update Level of Service Goals and Policies for Library and Solid Waste Management services to align with the City Budget and City Service Area plans.

Amend Chapter IV. Goals and Policies, Services and Facilities, Level of Service, page 87, as follows:

Level of Service Goals:

1. Provide a full range of City Services to the community at service levels consistent with a safe, convenient, sustainable and pleasant place to live, and-work, learn, and play.
2. Achieve the following level of service for these City services:
 - For transportation, level of service “D”.
 - For sanitary sewers, level of service “D”
 - For sewage treatment, to remain within the capacity of the Water Pollution Control Plant.
 - For storm drainage, to minimize flooding on public streets and to minimize property damage from storm water.

Amend Chapter IV. Goals and Policies, Services and Facilities, Level of Service, page 90-91, as follows:

Level of Service Policies

Other Services

16. Utilize the following Citywide level of service measures as benchmarks to be used to evaluate major General Plan land use and policy changes, such as expansions of the Urban Service Area or land use changes from non-residential to residential:

- For libraries, 2.75 volumes (items) held in the San Jose Public Library system per capita, and .59 square feet of library space per capita. 10,000-square feet of library space per 36,000 population, 18.3 weekly service hours per 10,000

~~population, and an annual acquisition rate of 1 volume per 6 people for the first 500,000 population and 1 volume per 8 people over 500,000 population.~~

The City recognizes that these performance measures are limited reflections of all City services and may change overtime to reflect increasing diversity, new methods of service delivery or to reflect changing needs and priorities that are determined in the budgetary process. The detail of these performance measures may also be addressed in the new or existing service planning documents of the relevant departments that provide these services.

17. In reviewing major land use or policy changes, the City should consider the availability of police and fire protection, parks and recreation and library services to the affected area as well as the potential impacts of the project on existing service levels.
18. Fire service facilities should be located so that essential services can be most efficiently provided.
19. The City should consider providing child care uses in future community centers recognizing that child care is an important community support service.

Insert the following new policy after Policy No. 19 and renumber accordingly.

20. For solid waste management, the City should seek to exceed 50% diversion of waste from disposal, maintain 20 years of landfill capacity, and provide for storage and collection of recyclables from every location where solid waste is generated.