



STAFF REPORT

October 26, 2022
File Number 0830-07

SUBJECT

ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GENERAL PLAN (PL22-0503)

DEPARTMENT

Development Services – Planning Division

RECOMMENDATION

Request the City Council review and receive the General Plan Annual Progress Report ("APR"), documenting the City of Escondido's ("City") progress on implementing the General Plan, and authorize submittal of the report to the State Office of Planning and Research ("OPR"), the State Department of Housing and Community Development ("HCD"), and the San Diego Association of Governments ("SANDAG").

Staff Recommendation: Authorize (Development Services: Andrew Firestine, Director of Development Services)

Presenter: Veronica Morones, Senior Planner

FISCAL ANALYSIS

There are no direct fiscal implications associated with this progress report.

PREVIOUS ACTION

None.

BACKGROUND

The City Council adopted a comprehensive update to the General Plan, as well as the 5th cycle Housing Element for the 2013-2020 reporting cycle, on December 12, 2012. Subsequently, the City Council adopted the 6th cycle Housing Element for the 2021-2029 reporting cycle on August 11, 2021. The General Plan states the community's goals, objectives, policies, and implementation measures (i.e., ways to achieve the goals and objectives). As an informational document, the General Plan describes existing conditions, makes projections, and establishes a vision for the community's future. As a policy document, the General Plan establishes a policy framework for decision-makers. Using this framework, the City Council and Planning Commission take incremental steps toward achieving the larger goals of the City.

Government Code section 65400 and 65700 mandate that cities and counties submit annual reports on the status of their General Plan and progress in its implementation by April 1st of each year. This annual



CITY of ESCONDIDO

STAFF REPORT

reporting is divided into two (2) documents: The General Plan APR and the Housing Element APR. The General Plan APR consists of information contained within the Housing Element APR, such as the progress in meeting the jurisdiction’s share of regional housing needs determined pursuant to Government Code section 65584 and local efforts to remove governmental constraints to the maintenance, improvement, and development of housing pursuant to Government Code section 65583(c)(3). The General Plan APR also contains information not required within the Housing Element APR, such as updated information on the other General Plan chapters (i.e., land use, community protection, resource conservation, etc.). On March 30, 2022, City Council reviewed and received the 2021 calendar year annual progress report for Housing Element, and staff submitted the report to the required state agencies on April 1, 2022. Due to prioritization of work on other long-range planning efforts including the Housing Element update and the 2022 General Plan Amendment (consisting of an update to the Community Protection chapter and creation of an Environmental Justice chapter), this year’s General Plan APR will be submitted late. However, there are no repercussions outlined in the statute for submitting a tardy General Plan APR.

This staff report documents the annual review of the 2012 General Plan for the 2021 calendar year. The annual progress report provides information for City Council to assess how the Escondido General Plan was implemented during the previous twelve (12) month reporting period. The annual progress report could help identify necessary "course adjustments" or modifications to the General Plan and means to improve local implementation. Once City Council has received and filed the progress report, the City will submit a copy to the Office of Planning and Research (“OPR”) and the Department of Housing and Community Development (“HCD”). The progress report gives state agencies the opportunity to identify statewide trends in land use decision-making and how local planning and development activities relating to statewide planning goals and policies.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW:

The General Plan Annual Progress Report is a reporting document and does not create or alter policy. The content is provided for informational purposes only and is exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) per Guidelines Section 15378(b)(5), which exempts organizational or administrative activities of governments that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment. This informational item provides a means to monitor the success of implementing the General Plan and review what was implemented during the twelve-month reporting period. All counties and cities in the State are required to submit the annual report per Government Code Section 65400.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Attachment “1” – General Plan Annual Progress Report

Escondido

Your Choice For Success

General Plan Annual Report 2021



2021

City of Escondido

Awards Received

Collection System of the Year Award (San Diego Section)
Wastewater Division, Utilities Dept

CPRS District 12 MVPP (Part-Time) Award,
Vanessa Arguellas

CPRS Award of Excellence for Print Media
(Escondido Recreation Guide)

El Norte Parkway Improvements Project
Project Achievement Award from the Construction Management Association of America, San Diego Chapter

FY 2019-20 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report
Government Finance Officers Association's Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting

FY 2021-22 Annual Operating Budget Document
California Society of Municipal Finance Officers Operating Budget Excellence Award
Government Finance Officers Association Distinguished Budget Presentation Award

National Fitness Campaign
National Fitness Campaign for Innovation

Outstanding Professionalism in Procurement and Project Administration
- Engineering
AGC Build San Diego 2021: Public Owner Merit Award

Spruce Street Drainage Improvements Project
American Public Works Association - Project of the Year

Wastewater Treatment Plant of the Year Award
(Statewide) - Wastewater Division, Utilities Dept
California Water Environment Association (CWEA)

Senior Nutrition Program Video
Telly Award



City of Escondido General Plan Annual Progress Report (2021)

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I. Introduction

This report has been prepared pursuant to the requirements of Government Code Section 65400 (Appendix A). A report on the Housing Element was prepared and submitted to the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR), California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD), and the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) on April 1, 2022. The Housing Element Annual Report was received by the City Council on March 30, 2022. Guidance for preparation of the report is provided by OPR. The report discusses what was implemented during the 12-month reporting period and provides a means to determine if changes are needed in the plan or its implementation programs. The General Plan Annual Progress Report was received by the City Council at its meeting on October 12, 2022.

II. Purpose of the General Plan

The General Plan is mandated by California Government Code Section 65300, which requires each city and county to adopt a comprehensive plan for the physical development of the jurisdiction. It addresses land use, transportation routes, population growth, open space, resource preservation and utilization, air and water quality, noise, safety issues and other related physical, social and economic development factors. Through the identification of goals, objectives, and policies, a General Plan creates a strategic framework for implementation. In addition to serving as a basis for local decision making, the General Plan establishes a clear set of development rules for citizens, developers, decision-makers, neighboring cities and counties, and provides the community with an opportunity to participate in the planning and decision-making process.

III. Status of the Adopted Elements

State law requires that general plans include seven (7) basic elements, which must cover the following topics: Land Use, Circulation, Housing, Safety, Noise, Conservation, and Open Space. In addition to the seven (7) required elements, two (2) additional elements may be required under certain circumstances, creating a potential nine (9) total mandated general plan elements.

The Senate Bill (SB) 1000 Statutes of 2016 added to the required elements of the general plan an environmental justice element, or related goals, policies, and objectives integrated in other elements, if the city, county, or city and county has a disadvantaged community or meets certain criteria as designated by the law. As of this writing, the City of Escondido has triggered the requirements to prepare an environmental justice element, which is underway as part of the 2022 General Plan Amendment work effort.

Government Code section 65302.1(c) requires adoption of an air quality element for cities and counties located within the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District. This requirement does not apply to the City of Escondido.

Mandatory or voluntary elements may be combined or renamed, but basic requirements must be included. The City of Escondido General Plan has ten (10) chapters. The relationship between the seven (7) elements and the chapters provided in the City of Escondido General Plan is described in more detail in Appendix B.

State law does not provide a mandatory minimum timeframe for revisions of elements, except for a Housing Element. State requirements for Housing Elements are more detailed and specific than for the other portions of a General Plan, and Housing Elements are updated every eight (8) years according to a schedule set by the State. State law also dictates that upon the next revision of the housing element, a jurisdiction must update their Safety Element as necessary to comply with state requirements. Other elements may be updated less frequently and typically have a 15 to 20-year horizon. The City's Housing Element was updated in 2021 to accommodate the Sixth Cycle Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA), along with associated amendments to the Community Health and Services Chapter of the General Plan. The City's Downtown Specific Plan and East Valley Parkway Specific Plan were amended in 2021 to modify the requirements for ground floor commercial, and to clarify requirements in Table 4.1 for drive-through uses, respectively.

No other updates to the General Plan occurred in 2021. However, pending work efforts will result in future amendments to the General Plan. Specifically, the pending East Valley Specific Plan (EVSP) will entail an amendment to the Land Use and Community Form chapter of the General Plan at the time of approval (expected 2022/2023) to ensure land use consistency. Additionally, the 2022 General Plan Amendment project will result in the creation of a new environmental justice element (in the form of a restructure of the Community Health and Services chapter), an amendment to the Community Protection chapter to ensure policy consistency. Current efforts are also underway to update the roadway classifications of the City's Mobility and Infrastructure portion of the General Plan and ensure alignment with the Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy.

General Plan Update Work Program

Escondido's General Plan was comprehensively updated in 2012. The adopted General Plan continues to serve as a relevant and useful document to guide the use of public and private lands within the community.

The California Supreme Court has stated that local governments have an implied duty to keep their plans current (*DeVita v. County of Napa*, 9 Cal.4th 763 (1995)), so there is a need to systematically look ahead and consider how the City will keep the General Plan document up to date. The General Plan will need to adequately address and respond to emerging land use activities, use of space, multi-modal trends, regulations, and other matters that affect the City's desirability to live, work, and play. Most of the General Plan elements typically have a 15 to 20-year horizon, excepting the Housing Element. Absent any direction to prepare a comprehensive update, the following schedule proposes when the next suggested update would occur, ensuring continuous improvement to the City's land use and regulatory framework. The timing of certain

elements may change; otherwise, certain elements have been grouped together or sequenced in a logical manner to ensure that the City's policy framework is updated in a timely manner to continue to guide growth and development in a beneficial direction, while satisfying all state mandates.

Figure 1 - General Plan Update Work Program

General Plan Element	Last Update	Next Suggested Update
Mobility and Infrastructure	2012	Underway
Housing*	2012	Underway
Land Use and Community Form*	2012	2022/2023
Community Protection*	2012	Underway
Resource and Conservation*	2012	2022-2023
Economic Prosperity	2012	2023-2025
Growth Management	2012	2026-2027
Community Health and Services	2012	Underway
Vision and Purpose	2012	---as needed---
Implementation Program	2012	---as needed---

**State law requires certain information be included in General Plan elements at the time a jurisdiction next revises a Housing Element. Specifically, Government Code Section 65302(g) requires all cities and counties to amend the safety element of their General Plan to include analysis and policies regarding hazard information upon the next revision of the Housing Element, which covers the 2021-2029 planning period. For this reason, certain consistency amendments to the Land Use and Community Form, and the Resource and Conservation Chapters may occur as a result of updates to the Community Protection Chapter (also known as the Safety Element).*

IV. Progress in the General Plan's Implementation

Generally, all of the existing parcels of land that have been developed have been purposed with land uses consistent with the General Plan. Residential land use currently accounts for approximately 70.8 percent of all land area in the City, more than any other land use. Commercial, office, and industrial uses account for approximately 5.7 percent of total land area in the City. Public lands and open spaces account for 15.1 percent of the total land area in the City, which are generally dispersed throughout the City. Most of the streets and highways described in the General Plan are developed to their planned capacity, or have capacity to be fully implemented in time. Some of the roadways could be downgraded and repurposed to achieve other General Plan objectives. The entire infrastructure needed to serve the planned land uses is in place, with sufficient capacity to accommodate the planned land uses and population, except for localized drainage and/or outfall-related issues.

A. *Land Use and Community Form*

The Land Use Element is one (1) of seven (7) elements required by state law to be included in California General Plans. The Element guides the desired pattern of growth, development, and change in the community. The purpose is to ensure that a balance of residential, employment, commercial, recreational, civic/cultural and open space land uses are provided at appropriate intensities, locations and combinations to enhance community sustainability. Goals identified in the Land Use / Community Form Element foster Escondido's role as an urban center. The Plan emphasizes the revitalization of the downtown area and established neighborhoods, promotes economic development in the form of attractive, sustainable, economically viable industrial and commercial areas, and concentrates high intensity activities in the urban core. Topics or policy issue areas covered in the Land Use and Community Form Element include the following:

- Community Character
- Land Use Zoning
- Residential Development
- Residential Clustering
- Planned Development
- Mixed Use Overlay Zones
- Commercial Land Uses
- Office Land Use
- Industrial Land Use
- Specific Plan Area Land Use
- Open Space/Park Land Use
- Public Facility Overlay
- Tribal Area Land Use
- Development Agreements
- Annexation
- General Plan Review and Amendments
- Environmental Review

Indicators and General Plan Implementation (2021)

- Major Pipeline Projects (initiated, in progress, or completed during the reporting period)
 - Number of units issued zoning permits: 826
 - Number of units denied zoning permits: 0
 - Number of building permits issued: 433
 - Number of units issued certificates of occupancy: 209
 - In 2021, the City of Escondido and the development community added more than 200 housing units (through “finaled” building permits) to our City, and we have approximately 1,500 more in the pipeline (planned, permitted, or under construction).
- 4,171 total building permits issued in 2021, compared to 3,433 issued in 2020:
 - 281 new single-family homes (206 homes were issued in 2020, 11 in 2019, and 22 in 2018).
 - 57 Accessory Dwelling Units (33 in 2020, 25 in 2019, and 15 in 2018).
 - 15 new commercial structures (8 new commercial structures in 2020, and 6 new in 2019).
 - 3 new industrial buildings (1 new industrial building in 2020, and 0 in 2019).
- Approved and/or processed planning projects or administrative activities in 2021:
 - 2 Administrative Adjustments
 - 62 Accessory Dwelling Units
 - 6 Temporary Banner Signs
 - 83 Certificates of Appropriateness
 - 14 Conditional Use Permits
 - Includes 4 small wireless facility permits
 - 1 Condominium Permit
 - 0 Daley Ranch Credit Purchases
 - 28 Design Review Permits
 - 1 Grading Exemption
 - 3 General Plan Amendments – adoption of the Sixth Cycle Housing Element and associated update to the Community Health and Services Chapter; a change in land use designation as part of a development application, and a minor amendment to roadway classifications;
 - 2 Lot-Tie and other Agreements (except Development Agreements)
 - 0 Mills Act Contracts
 - 1 Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) Addendum
 - 1 Non-emergency demolition permit
 - 1 Planned Development Permit
 - 28 Plot Plans
 - 3 small wireless facility permits

- 77 Signs
- 3 Specific Plan Amendments
- 32 Temporary Use Permits
 - Includes 5 Business Recovery Special TUPs
- 4 Tentative Parcel Maps
- 4 Tentative Subdivision Maps
- 2 Zoning Code Amendments
- 45 Zoning Verification Letters
- In 2020, the novel coronavirus pandemic (“COVID” or “COVID-19”) spread to many countries. The torrent of disruption to daily life over 2020 was inescapable. While they eased through 2021, impacts of COVID-19 remained prevalent. The [COVID-19 Business Recovery Strategy](#), which was adopted by the City on May 13, 2020, remained in effect throughout 2021.
- Code Compliance
 - In 2021, the Code Enforcement Division was renamed the Code Compliance Division in tandem with a change in philosophy. The goal of the Code Compliance Division is to work with the community and encourage compliance for the betterment of everyone.
 - 1,779 Code Compliance cases received in 2021, and 2,666 in 2020.
 - There were 3,503 total Code Compliance inspections performed. This was a decrease of 25.6% from the total of 4,711 Code Compliance inspections in 2020.
 - Of the 1,779 total Code Compliance cases in 2021, 1,640 (92%) of cases were closed in 2021.
 - Only 1 case was referred to the City Attorney’s Office for further efforts on obtaining compliance.
 - There were 71 Code Compliance parking citations in 2021, more than double the number in 2020 (35), but an overall decrease from a high of 93 in 2019.
 - In 2020, Code Compliance joined forces with Public Works, the Escondido Police Department, Escondido Park Rangers, the City Manager’s and City Attorney’s Offices, and the Housing and Neighborhood Services Division, to form the Quality of Life team. In 2021, this partnership continued to flourish and many successes can be attributed to the synergy of this group. In particular, people experiencing homelessness have been at the forefront of issues in the City. Working together, the Quality of Life group tackles the issue with a multipronged approach utilizing all resources, not just within the City but outside as well. The number of unsafe and unsightly encampments removed from the City increased fourfold in 2021 over previous years.
 - Code Compliance enhanced its relationship with the Community Oriented Policing Division of the Police Department to work on complex issues involving not only municipal code violations, but all areas of law enforcement impacting the community involving people experiencing

homelessness. Multiple projects were started and are continuing. These projects focus on permanent solutions, not just temporary fixes.

- Adopted the Climate Action Plan update in March 2021.
- Adopted an omnibus code clean-up to address recent changes in State laws, to correct errors, and improve existing regulations through Ordinance No. 2021-10 on October 13, 2021. The primary purpose of Ordinance No. 2021-10 was to address recent housing bills and ensure our local Accessory Dwelling Unit, Growth Management, and Density Bonus laws (Articles 70, 68 and 67, respectively) were up to date. Additional zoning code articles updated as a part of the 2021 omnibus update were Article 34 (Communication Antennas), Article 35 (Outdoor Lighting), Article 47 (Environmental Quality), Article 55 (Grading and Erosion Control), Article 56 (Miscellaneous Development Standards), Article 61 (Administration and Enforcement), Article 64 (Design Review), Article 65 (Old Escondido Neighborhood), and Article 66 (Sign Ordinance).
- Grants:
 - Continued work on projects which were funded through a Senate Bill 2 Planning grant. This included preparation of a residential sector feasibility study (completed June 2021) updating the Housing Element portion of the General Plan (adopted by City Council in August 2021; additional work by City staff continues in order to obtain certification of the Element from the California Department of Housing and Community Development), and preparation of a specific plan to accommodate new housing in the City (called the East Valley Specific Plan; work continues on this project). The grant award was for \$310,000.
 - Continued implementation of a \$500,000 LEAP (Local Early Action Planning) grant to help accelerate housing production. The \$500,000 grant funds: 1) The preparation of the Environmental Impact Report (in-process) to support the Housing and Community Investment Study, 2) Creation of pre-approved plans for Accessory Dwelling Units (pending), 3) A parking study for the downtown area and revisions to parking standards (pending), and 4) A study of open space standards for multi-family development and revisions to said standards (pending).

Anticipated Implementation Activities (0-3 Years):

1. Complete the Housing and Community Investment Study work program (underway).
2. Complete the 2022 General Plan Amendment work effort (underway).
3. Amend Article 47 to include appropriate features, thresholds, and objectives that reduce environmental impacts when considering pedestrian or transit-oriented development.
4. Prepare a mobile home park study.
5. Continue Climate Action Plan implementation (underway).

6. Prepare a Building and Planning Permit Processing Guide (underway).
7. Update the Sign Ordinance.
8. Evaluate the City's regulatory business relief measures and determine if any measures should be made permanent.
9. Create objective development standards for multi-family development.

B. Mobility and Infrastructure

The Circulation Element is one of seven (7) mandated elements that each local government must maintain in its General Plan. The Circulation Element must include the general location and extent of existing and proposed major thoroughfares, transportation routes, terminals, and other local public utilities and facilities. Circulation and utility improvements must also correlate with the land use-related policies. The purpose is to identify the types, locations, and extent of existing and proposed transportation and utility facilities, and to establish goals and guiding policies for implementing improvements necessary to serve existing and future residents. The element introduces planning tools essential for achieving the community's transportation and utility goals and policies with the intent of providing a sustainable system to serve residents and businesses. Topics or policy issue areas covered in the Mobility and Infrastructure Element include the following:

- Regional Transportation
- Planning
- Complete Streets
- Pedestrian Network
- Bicycle Network
- Transit System
- Transportation Demand Management
- Street Network
- Parking
- Traffic Calming
- Goods and Services Transport
- Aviation
- Water System
- Wastewater System
- Storm Drainage
- Solid Waste and Recycling
- Energy
- Telecommunication

Indicators and General Plan Implementation (2021)

- Mean travel time to work¹ – 27.9 minutes. This is a year-over decrease of 1.7 minutes from 2020 (29.6 minutes), and an increase of 0.4 minutes from 2019 (27.5 minutes).
- 0 lane miles of streets resurfaced in 2021. There were 74 lane miles of streets resurfaced in 2020, 98.3 lane miles of streets resurfaced in 2019, and 98 lane miles resurfaced in 2018.
- 97 street trees placed in 2021. There were also 97 street trees placed in 2020, 75 street trees placed in 2019, and 42 in 2018.
- 1,010 total lights converted to LED in 2021. There were 1,669 total lights converted to LED in 2020, and 763 total lights in 2019.
- 0.96 miles of sidewalks replaced in 2021. There were 0.65 miles of sidewalks replaced in 2020, and 0.74 miles of sidewalks replaced in 2019.
- 11.9 miles of bike lanes added or improved in 2021. There were 2.5 miles of bike lanes added or improved in 2020, 16 miles of bike lanes added or improved in 2019, and 6.5 miles in 2018.
- 51 pedestrian ramps installed in 2021. There were 48 pedestrian ramps installed in 2020, 60 pedestrian ramps installed in 2019, and 36 in 2018.
- Completed construction of Spruce Street Channel Improvements and Pedestrian Bridge.
- Rehabilitated 2,769 linear feet of corrugated metal pipe.
- Completed design of Grand Avenue Vision Plan – Phase I.
- Grants:
 - Active Transportation Funding:
 - Juniper Safe Routes to School - \$1.336-million (Design)
 - Escondido Creek Trail Crossings - \$1.632-million (Design)
 - Quince and Tulip Pedestrian Signals - \$747,000 (Design)
 - Local Partnership Program Funding:
 - Citracado Parkway Extension Project - \$12.5-million (Design)
 - Highway Safety Improvement Program Funding:
 - Local Roadway Safety Plan - \$72,000 (Study)
 - Traffic Signal Communications \$1.268-million (Design)
 - Smart Growth Incentive Program Funding:
 - Grand Avenue Vision Plan – Phase I - \$1.443-million (Design)
 - Cal Recycle Funding:
 - Rubberized Pavement Grant \$350,000 (Construction)
- Recycle water-related:
 - 2,817.75 acre feet produced and 2,652.61-acre feet sold to Escondido, Rincon, and Palomar Energy Plant

¹ US Census Population Estimates, (V2021)

- Wastewater-related: For Calendar Year 2021
 - Influent – 4354.4 MG
 - Effluent – 3852.74 MG
 - Outfall capacity – 20.15
 - Plant capacity – 18 MGD
 - We are at 52.4 percent of our outfall capacity. This is a decrease from 54.3 percent in 2020.
- Wastewater-related infrastructure:
 - Gravity main repair – Staff have repaired 10 feet of failing VCP and concrete sewer gravity main throughout the City with SDR-35 PVC pipe.
 - Gravity main rehabilitation projects – Approximately 926 feet of sewer gravity main was rehabilitated using UV cured, glass-reinforced pipe.
 - Sewer Manhole rehabilitation and lining project – 22 Sewer manholes were rehabilitated, then lined using Raven 405 spray-applied epoxy liner.
 - Trunk sewer replacement project – Currently in the 90% design phase to replace the remaining sections of RCP trunk line. A total of approximately 5,300 feet of reinforced concrete pipe is to be replaced with C-905 PVC pipe.
 - Recycled water – Construction of the recycled water pipeline from Citrus Avenue and Escondido Creek to the agricultural area of Cloverdale and Mountain View is complete; as well as conversion of the existing Hogback Reservoir to recycled water and constructing a new potable water reservoir. Currently in construction are pipelines to distribute recycled water to agricultural users.
 - Membrane Filtration Reverse Osmosis Facility (MFRO) – A progressive Design-Build process is underway for the construction of the MFRO Facility and pump station to improve recycled water quality for agricultural uses. The estimated completion for the construction of the MFRO Facility is mid-2023.

Anticipated Implementation Activities (0-3 Years):

1. Update and integrate our existing Bikeway Master Plan and Trails Master Plan with a Pedestrian Master Plan, prepared as a Complete Active Transportation Strategy for the City.
2. Update the Circulation Element portion of the General Plan, with a focus on roadway classifications and alignment with the Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy (underway).
3. Develop and implement a Transportation Demand Management Program.

C. Housing

The Housing Element assesses the housing needs of all economic segments of the City of Escondido. In addition, the Housing Element defines the goals and policies that will guide the City's approach to resolving those needs and recommends a set of programs that would implement policies over the next few years. Topics or issue areas covered in the Housing Element include the following:

- Plan for quality, managed, and sustainable growth
- Provide a range of housing opportunities
- Enhance the quality of housing and preserve character

Indicators and General Plan Implementation (2021)

- The City awarded Habitat for Humanity \$1,000,000 in HOME Funds in 2020 for the construction of 10 new affordable housing for-sale units for low-income households. The property is located at 245 E. El Norte Parkway. Construction is currently underway. The units are expected to be complete in April 2024 and sold by December 2024.
- The City allocated \$4,000,000 in Successor Housing Agency (SHA) funds to National CORE to construct permanent supportive housing for seniors age 62+. The project, Valley Senior Village, will have 49 studio units, of which 25 units will be reserved for people who are at-risk of experiencing homelessness with a mental illness. Individuals will be matched through a regional homeless database and prioritized based on their needs including length of homelessness, disabling conditions, and other risk factors. The other 24 affordable housing units will have a waitlist for seniors who are considered very low and low income. The waitlist will be managed by a third-party company. The project is expected to be completed in the Fall of 2023.
- The City continues to facilitate a quarterly Homelessness & Housing Community Advisory Group for the general public. The group discuss topics that range from service providers to the City's homelessness efforts, programs and funding sources, to impact on businesses, to policing.
- The City of Escondido continues to participate in the North County Homeless Ad-Hoc Committee with elected city representatives and staff. The Committee conducted a needs assessment and requested the County Board of Supervisors to fund 10 full-time social workers to conduct regional outreach. The program was approved in May 2021 and implemented in Fall 2021. The City of Escondido received two additional homeless outreach workers through this new program.
- The City received an annual allocation of \$155,124 in Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds to serve people at-risk and experiencing homelessness. In 2021, the City awarded Escondido Education COMPACT to provide financial literacy, case management, and rental and utility assistance to 100 families at risk of

experiencing homelessness in Escondido. Most of the program referrals come from the Escondido Union School District and/or self-referrals from previous program participants.

- In Fiscal Year 2020-21, the City allocated \$45,000 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to Interfaith Community Services to provide emergency shelter for 79 individuals.
- The Housing & Neighborhood Services Division is on year three (3) of its five (5) - year Consolidated Plan. This plan was written after significant public engagement to create new priorities for community development, affordable housing, and homeless activities to address needs affecting Escondido's low-to-moderate income neighborhoods and households.
- The City of Escondido has 3,171 people on the County's waiting list for the Housing Choice Voucher Program (Section 8). The majority of applicants are large families with five (5) or more people, individuals with a disabling condition, small families, and seniors.
- The number of applicants on the Section 8 waitlist has increased by 36% from 2,032 households in 2020 to 3,171 in 2022.
- As of 2022, 981 households in Escondido had a Housing Choice Voucher of which 848 households are considered extremely low-income (0-30% of Area Median Income), 104 households are very low income (31-50% of Area Median Income), 28 households are low income (51-80% of Area Median Income), and 1 household is above moderate income.
- The City assisted 27 very-low income seniors and disabled households living in mobile homes and apartments with a monthly rental subsidy while waiting for Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Housing Choice Vouchers (Section 8).
- The City conducted four mobile home, short-form rent control hearings.
- In 2021, 17 neighborhood groups were supported and conducted 71 neighborhood clean-ups, 61 NEAT sweeps, and 2 neighborhood leadership forum meetings.
- In Fiscal Year 2021-2022, the City received \$1,716,516 in CDBG funds (which is a 6% decrease from \$1,818,942 in Fiscal Year 2020-2021). For this cycle, \$257,468 supported public service and fair housing activities serving the five local CDBG priorities: Homeless Services, Basic Needs, Health and Human Development, Neighborhood Revitalization, and Economic Development.
- The City was awarded close to \$2.3 million in HOME-ARP funding to create permanent housing for people experiencing homelessness.
- In 2020, the City received CARES Act funding from HUD in order to address the community development and homeless needs in Escondido in relation to the coronavirus pandemic. The City received \$2,394,882 in CDBG-CV funds. These funds were allocated to food security for seniors, eviction prevention, rental and utility assistance, and neighborhood improvements. The City received \$4,487,427 in ESG-CV funds, which were allocated for emergency shelter, street outreach, rapid rehousing, and homeless prevention (rental assistance). The expenditure deadline for ESG-CV was extended by one year to September 2023.

Anticipated Implementation Activities (0-3 Years):

1. Prepare and implement Fiscal Year 2022-23 Annual Action Plans in concert with the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan.
2. Release an RFP for HOME-ARP, Successor Housing Agency, and HOME funds in 2022.
3. Adopt and receive certification by HCD for the 2021-2029 Housing Element (underway as part of the Housing and Community Investment Study).
4. Apply for Permanent Local Housing Allocation (PLHA) funds from HCD pending the Sixth Cycle General Plan Housing Element certification by HCD.

D. Community Health and Services

The Community Health and Services Element establishes policies that influence good land use planning in order to enhance community health and welfare. Policies supporting access to healthy foods, availability of parks, recreational opportunities, libraries, and cultural services, as well as promoting educational advancement and civic engagement all aimed to improve economic, physical, and social conditions. The Community Health and Services Element promotes a community-based and private sector approach for establishing a sustainable and healthy community. Topics or issue areas covered in the Community Health and Services Element include the following:

- Health and Wellness
- Parks and Recreation
- Library Services
- Cultural Enrichment
- Schools and Education
- Civic Engagement
- Childcare
- Older Adult, Disabled, and Disadvantaged

Indicators and General Plan Implementation (2021)

- The City's first four-year university, John Paul the Great Catholic University, completed its eighth full year of operation.
- 3 new upgraded City parks or facilities in 2021:
 - Installed a 7,000 square foot skate park in Washington Park
 - LED retrofit of ball field lighting on all three fields in Jesmond Dene Park
 - Park Avenue Community Center (PACC) - Installed new flooring in the Nutrition Building, new technology in one of the meeting rooms and auditorium, and updated furniture and décor throughout the facility. The Fire suppression and alarm system was also upgraded.
- 640 recreational programs in 2021. 350 recreational programs in 2020, 609 recreational programs in 2019, and 625 in 2018. The significant change was attributed to circumstances related to the COVID pandemic.
 - 787 participants in the youth soccer program in 2021, compared to 290 in 2020.
 - 9 youth soccer, pop warner, and baseball leagues with 3,583 participants, compared to 5 leagues and 1,031 participants in 2020.
 - 190 adult softball teams with 2,470 participants in 2021. There were 0 adult softball teams with 0 participants in 2020.
 - 7 soccer tournaments (youth and adult) with 9,000 participants in 2021, compared to 3 tournaments with 5,000 participants in 2020.
 - 9 softball tournaments with 12,000 participants in 2021, compared to 3 tournaments with 1,500 participants in 2020.
 - 7,361 participants/visits at the skate park in 2021, compared to 6,727 in 2020.

- 79 adult hockey teams with 948 participants in 2021, compared to 30 teams with 360 participants in 2020.

The increase in 2021 programming is attributed to circumstances related to the COVID pandemic. In the previous year, traditional recreation programming had to be adapted to meet very specific health guidelines and many programs had to be canceled.

- No new miles of public trails in 2021.
- Won the Telly Award for the production of the Senior Nutrition Video.
- Transitioned citywide Volunteer Escondido program to the Community Services Department and hired Community Engagement Liaison to oversee and expand the program.
- Created position and hired Fitness Specialist to launch fitness programming at NFC courts.
- Reinstated after school programming at North Broadway and Quantum Academy.
- Implemented an online internal reservation request system and online park reservations for the public.
- Childcare programs in 2021:
 - Number of day camp programs conducted – 5
 - Pre-school programs – 56
 - After school programs (City) – 2
 - After School Education and Safety (ASES), EUSD programs – 0
- Elderly/disabled/disadvantaged programs in 2021:
 - 13 programs for seniors.
 - 29,058 meals served to seniors.
 - 4,575 rides provided to seniors from home to the Park Avenue Community Center (PACC) to eat and participate in the programs.
 - The Park Avenue Community Center was awarded a \$35,478.51 grant from the San Diego Seniors Community Foundation to beautify and update the facility. New flooring was installed in the Nutrition Building and vibrant art and décor was purchased to bring a fresh new feel to the facility.
 - Upgraded the technology and audio system in the PACC auditorium.
- New improvements to libraries in 2021:
 - Artist Julia Anthony was commissioned by the Escondido Library Foundation to paint a mural on the west wall of the Library entitled *Escondido's Vision* to capture the beauty of Escondido and highlight the importance of the Library to the community it serves.
 - To further enhance the aesthetics in front of the mural, Escondido City Council approved funding to create a lovely mini park that was designed and planted by the City's Public Works crew. It is a colorful, transitional space that allows visitors to move from the sidewalk or parking lot through the garden while admiring the mural. The plant palette is filled with California-friendly, drought-tolerant, and pollinator-attracting species in shades of colors chosen to complement the mural.

- In addition to these exterior improvements, we also accomplished another step towards eliminating barriers to access by going library fine free.
- Library technology:
 - In 2021, there were 49,571 wireless internet sessions in the library.
 - There were 203,174 website hits in 2021. Return to in-person service in February 2021 accounts for the increase in Wi-Fi users and decrease in website users (more people started coming back into the building instead of using our website services.)
- Library circulation:
 - 467,590 items circulated in 2021. There were 305,027 items circulated in 2020, 493,546 in 2019, and 422,939 items in 2018. The library was closed for the entire month of January 2021, accounting for the difference between 2019 and 2021. The significant change in 2020 was attributed to circumstances related to the COVID pandemic.
 - 71,761 check outs of digital media (eBooks, eAudiobooks, etc.). There were 68,575 check outs of digital media in 2020, 45,613 in 2019, and 31,159 in 2018. The increase from 2020 to 2021 is due to the inclusion of Hoopla, Biblioboard, and ComicsPlus digital streaming, in addition to CloudLibrary and OverDrive eBooks offered in 2020.
- Library programs:
 - 209 children's programs and 6,242 in attendance. There were 195 children's programs and 6,603 in attendance in 2020, and 294 children's programs and 10,706 in attendance in 2019. In 2018, there was 118 children's programs, with 4,818 attending.
 - 217 adult programs with 4,523 in attendance. There were 160 adult programs in 2020, 116 adult programs in 2019, and 96 adult programs in 2018 (includes Pioneer Room and Literacy).
 - 21 teen programs with 935 in attendance in 2021. 26 teen programs and 214 attending in 2020. 56 teen programs and 541 attending in 2019. 20 teen programs and 220 attending in 2018.
- Grant funding:
 - The City adopted Resolution 2022-32, which authorized the application for a \$10 million state-funded library critical infrastructure grant.

Anticipated Implementation Activities (0-3 Years):

1. Design and construct a new Westside Park Skate Spot.
2. Complete John Masson Memorial Bike Park in Jesmond Dene Park.
3. Install three (3) additional National Fitness Campaign Fitness Courts.
4. Design and construct an event space at Queen Calafia's Magical Circle Garden.
5. Install a new ball field at Mountain View Park.
6. Install four (4) dedicated pickle ball courts at Mountain View Park.

7. Install two (2) futsal courts at Washington Park.
8. Escondido Creek Trail Expansion and Renovation Project - one of only nine (9) projects funded at the maximum \$8.5 million level through the Prop 68 Statewide Park Program and only one of three projects funded in San Diego County.

E. Community Protection

Escondido's Community Protection Element addresses such issues as flood and fire hazards, geologic and seismic activity, and hazardous materials. Sections regarding Emergency Preparedness, Police and Fire service are also included. The Element also includes a section addressing Noise, which is a required component for General Plans. The purpose of the Community Protection Element is to identify and address the most relevant public safety issues affecting the community. In addition, the Element offers possible solutions and establishes standards and policies for proactively addressing threats to life and property. Topics or issue areas covered in the Community Protection Element include the following:

- Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Response
- Fire Protection
- Police Services
- Code Compliance Policies
- Noise
- Flood Protection
- Solis and Seismicity
- Hazardous Materials

Indicators and General Plan Implementation (2021)

- Number of calls for service in 2021:
 - 49,639. There were 48,332 calls for service in 2020, a year-over increase of 2.7 percent.
 - 64,211 9-1-1 calls. There were 58,118 in 2020, a year-over increase of 10.4 percent.
 - 98,506 total police calls for service (which includes all calls for service, traffic stops, extra patrols, and other police related activities). There were 104,072 total police calls in 2020. This is a year-over decrease of 5.3 percent.
- Number of parking citations in 2021 – 6,907. In 2020 there were 4,449, a year-over increase of 55.2 percent. This significant change was attributed to circumstances related to the COVID pandemic.
- Number of reported accidents (by type):
 - 1,018 collisions. 927 collisions in 2020.
 - 13 fatal collisions. 7 fatal collisions in 2020.
- Number of noise complaints received/closed in 2021 – 1,798. In 2020 there were 1,505, which is a year-over increase of 19.4 percent.
- Number of arrests (felony, misdemeanor) in 2021 – 4,573. In 2020 there were 4,751, which is a year-over decrease of 3.7 percent.
 - 1,672 felony arrests
 - 2,901 misdemeanor arrests
 - 111 other detentions
- Number of police officers – 156 (includes 2 grant-funded positions)

- In 2021, the Police Department was awarded 22 grants for a total of \$1,945,877.
- The Escondido Police Department collaborated with regional partners to address issues of community and police relations. Former Chief Varso attended meetings with community groups and answered questions, listened to concerns, and explained policies.
- Number of fire stations – 7
- Number of Fire Department personnel in 2021:
 - 90 Firefighters (24 Fire Captains, 24 Fire Engineers, and 42 Firefighter Paramedics)
 - 15 Non-Safety Paramedics or EMTs
 - 6 Chief Officers
 - 1 Fire Marshal or Deputy Fire Marshal
 - 5 Prevention Inspectors/Investigators (full-time) and 1 part-time Prevention Specialist
 - 1 Emergency Preparedness Manager
 - 4 Administrative Staff
- Number of Fire Apparatus:
 - 7 Type 1 Frontline Fire Engines
 - 3 Type 1 Reserve Engines
 - 4 Type 3 Brush Engines (1 from OES)
 - 2 Type 6 Brush Engine (1 from OES)
 - 1 Frontline Truck
 - 1 Reserve Truck
 - 5 Frontline Ambulances
 - 4 Reserve Ambulances
- Average response time of Fire Department for Quality of Life calls:
 - 5 minutes and 28 seconds in 2021.
 - The average response time was 5 minutes and 25 seconds in 2020.
 - The average response time was 5 minutes and 11 seconds in 2019.
 - The average response time was 5 minutes and 14 seconds in 2018.
 - Met Quality of Life Standard Goal 88 percent of the time.
- Escondido Fire was a member and leader with Operation Collaboration providing Firefighter Paramedics and Chief Officers to work with all other fire departments throughout the county to provide COVID-19 vaccination to first responders, essential workers, residents of elderly and care facilities, farm workers and other at-risk populations for nearly four (4) months.
- Federal Assistance to Firefighters regional grant application in partnership with San Marcos Fire Department submitted and funded. The federal award paid for half of the \$750,000 cost to replace all of the cardiac monitors used by Paramedics on fire engines and ambulances.
- Fire Station 7 water wise landscape was completed resulting in savings of water, cost, and maintenance time with an aesthetic improvement of the facility.

- Regional VHF radio repeater (federal grant funded) installed at Hubbard Hill.
- Residential Knox Box program established for elderly or special needs populations. Funding obtained from Rincon Water, Escondido Assistance League and CDBG. Nearly 100 installed.
- Migrated the Fire Department's record management system and electronic patient care reporting to San Diego County's Image Trend platform.
- Established a defensible space inspection request and clearance process in compliance with AB 38 for property transfer.
- Developed specifications and placed orders for three (3) new fire engines, one (1) new brush engine and three (3) new ambulances.

Anticipated Implementation Activities (0-3 Years):

1. Complete a Standards of Cover Study for the City
2. Strategic Plan Development
3. Amend Community Protection chapter of the Escondido General Plan
4. Tier Dispatch Implementation
5. Additional Emergency Response Capability to Mitigate Increasing Demand for Services
6. Escondido Dispatch fully integrated into the Regional Communication Interoperability Project (CAD-to-CAD)
7. EMS Program Study and Fee Analysis
8. Purchase One (1) New Type III Brush Engine
9. Purchase Two (2) Replacement Type I Fire Engines
10. Purchase Two (2) Replacement Ambulances

F. Resource Conservation

Escondido's Resource Conservation Element satisfies state requirements for the Open Space and Conservation Elements as stated in the Government Code. Community Goals and Objectives call for creating an aesthetically pleasing environment, as well as conserving Escondido's natural and scenic resources. The Element's purpose is to identify areas for conserving open space as well as other important resources including air and water quality, cultural, agricultural, and mineral and energy resources, as well as protecting hillside and ridgeline view corridors with particular emphasis on ridgelines, unique landforms, and visual gateways. Topics or issue areas covered in the Resource Conservation Element include the following:

- Biological and Open Space
- Trails
- Visual Resources
- Agricultural Resources
- Historical Resources
- Water Resources and Quality
- Air Quality and Climate Protection

Indicators and General Plan Implementation (2021)

- 1,555 new solar PV units installed in 2021. 1,263 new solar PV units installed in 2020, 1,504 new solar PV units installed in 2019, and 1,342 in 2018.
- 24.6 percent of waste streams diverted through organic and/or recycling in 2021.
- The Spruce Street Channel Improvement Project began construction in July 2019. Major construction work was completed in Fiscal Year 2020-21, including maintenance access ramps and flood control walls. The headwall for the culvert under Spruce Street was modified to improve flow. Plant installation was substantially completed in 2021. Plant establishment and erosion control measures will continue to be monitored for two (2) years post-installation, per requirements of wetland permits.
- City staff presented an update about the project to City Council on June 9, 2021. The presentation was posted to the City's website. Environmental Programs worked with other Departments to track the implementation of pollution prevention programs including the following activities:
 - Investigated 476 non-storm water discharges, public complaints, or spills.
 - Reviewed, approved, and inspected projects with structural Best Management Practices (BMPs) to treat runoff from development or redevelopment permits. In Fiscal Year 2020-21 there were 22 Priority Development Projects (PDP) in active review with 4 PDPs approved. The City's inventory of PDP projects was

144 projects, and 59 project site BMP maintenance inspections were conducted.

- Completed storm water program inspections and follow-up actions, sometimes issuing escalated enforcement to achieve compliance. In Fiscal Year 2020-21, the City performed 306 construction inspections, 57 municipal facility inspections, 1,956 commercial inspections, 194 industrial inspections, and 31 residential area inspections.
- City staff recorded visual water quality observations at 118 major storm drain outfalls and analyzed water quality at 6 sites, twice in 2021.
- Swept 8,657 miles of streets, removing 3,003 cubic yards of material before it reached storm drains. City Council approved the purchase of two (2) new street sweepers in September 2020. Due to delays with Air Pollution Control District permitting, the street sweepers were not staffed and in use until June 2021.
- Inspected 2,146 storm drain catch basins for accumulated debris and trash. Performed 757 cleanouts of storm drains, removing 132 tons of debris from the MS4.
- Cleaned 11 miles of open channel, removing 1,192 tons of invasive plants, trash and debris, and mobilized sediment prior to discharge to natural areas. The Wastewater Division implemented the sewer system maintenance program and achieved the following improvements in Fiscal Year 2020-21 resulting in reduced risk of exfiltration or sewer spills: 15.5 miles of pipeline, 1,150 feet of gravity main pipes lined, replaced, or repaired, and 276 miles of sewer lines cleaned.
- The City of Escondido implemented the existing development retrofits on private and public property, in accordance with the JRMP. Activities are focused on trash enclosures and landscape improvements, and are implemented in response to complaints, inspections, or enforcement, in addition to permit application review and site-specific conditions of approval.
- The City continued efforts to improve riparian habitat in the lowest earthen section of Reidy Creek just north of SR-78, before it becomes channelized and joins with Escondido Creek. The City supported the Escondido Creek Conservancy in implementing a \$380,873 California Department of Fish and Wildlife Proposition 1 grant to remove over 600 non-native trees, including Mexican Fan Palms. Awarded in early 2019, the grant activities will be completed by 2022. The project includes the development of a long-term management plan as part of the City's Landscape Maintenance District program, as well as a commitment by the City to prioritize the installation of trash capture devices upstream of the project area.
- The City removed 2 tons of trash retained by two floating trash booms across Escondido and Reidy Creek flood control channels.
- The Country Club golf course in the City of Escondido is being redeveloped into a residential community, Country Club Redevelopment Project - "The Villages". The Villages project site encompasses an area of 97.5 acres and will have structural biofiltration BMPs to treat runoff. The City's development

agreement requires the developer to treat storm water from over 100 acres of neighborhoods outside of the Villages project site as an improvement for water quality in the Upper San Marcos Creek and Lake San Marcos.

- In Fiscal Year 2020-21, the Utilities Department completed 64 virtual classroom presentations to approximately 1,017 elementary school students throughout Escondido to educate them about water conservation and pollution prevention.
- The City's Utilities Department/Recycling Division implemented several programs to support educational efforts for storm water pollution prevention, including household hazardous waste and used oil recycling events, compost workshops, and volunteer litter cleanups. The Division's outreach efforts were impacted by the COVID-19 stay-at-home order, and the staff has been working to shift to online-based or print outreach to students and the public. In Fiscal Year 2020-21, the Division continued efforts to reach as many residents as was feasible. The City sponsored electronic and household hazardous waste events twice a month, reaching approximately 200 people a month prior to March 2020. One e-waste/shred event was held in November 2020 where about 75 participants properly disposed of recyclable or hazardous material. No Compost workshops or Earth Day classroom presentations were held in Fiscal Year 2020-21. Two (2) lake cleanups were organized. The We Clean Escondido program, which normally supports approximately 10 neighborhood cleanup groups, was put on hold in March 2020 due to the pandemic, and then rebranded as part of the City's Volunteer Hub in April 2021.

Anticipated Implementation Activities (0-3 Years):

1. Prepare a Master Plan or design standards that identify gateways and visual quality guidelines.
2. Conduct a study to determine the feasibility of expanding the City's recycling program.

G. Growth Management

The purpose of the Growth Management Element is to establish policies for balancing the timing of infrastructure improvements with current and anticipated demands for service through the adoption of specific implementation techniques. A goal of growth management is to phase capital facility improvements concurrent with population growth so that new development does not compound existing service shortfalls, or result in critical infrastructure deficiencies. Effective growth management also establishes parameters for periodically monitoring the impacts that growth has on the community and defines the methods by which impacts are addressed, allowing decision makers to efficiently prioritize capital improvements. Topics or issue areas covered in the Growth Management Element include the following:

- Quality of Life Thresholds
- Public Facility Master Plans
- Public Facility Financing
- Public Facility Phasing
- Public Facility Deficiencies
- Growth Management Monitoring

Indicators and General Plan Implementation (2021)

- Total population – 151,038
- Total fees collected through building permits in 2021:
 - Parkland fees – \$1,327,492
 - Traffic fees – \$1,628,281
 - Sewer fees – \$2,902,032
 - Water fees – \$1,067,620
- Monitored and reported annually on the performance of development activity.
- Working with LAFCO to complete a Sphere of Influence Update and MSR to confirm properties appropriate to re-zone.

Anticipated Implementation Activities (0-3 Years):

1. Participate in LAFCO's island annexation program and contribute to orderly and fiscally solvent annexations into the incorporated City.
2. Pursue various revenue measures and/or close extraneous expenditures, as established by the City Council.

H. Economic Prosperity

The purpose of the Economic Prosperity Element is to establish policies that promote the long-term vitality of Escondido's local economy by developing and guiding employment and business opportunities and encouraging appropriate economic and business development in the City. Policies in this element promote a sustainable local economy to benefit current and future generations without compromising resources, and are intended to favorably influence the balance between employment and housing. Topics or issue areas covered in the Economic Prosperity Element include the following:

- Employment Acreage
- Wages and Jobs
- Small Business
- Twenty-First Century Industries
- Tourism and Recreation
- Existing Economic Districts
- Marketing and Image
- Long-Term Economic Sustainability and Growth
- Minimizing Infrastructure Impediments
- Strengthening Workforce Development
- Economic Development Monitoring

Indicators and General Plan Implementation (2021)

- Labor force² - 76,561
- Employed population – 53,683
 - Health Care and Social Assistance 11,718 (17%)
 - Government 9,737 (14%)
 - Construction 8,893 (13%)
 - Retail Trade 8,613 (12%)
 - Administrative Support, Waste Management, and Remediation Services 5,765 (8%)
- 11,087 total active business licenses, an increase of 6% (10,444 total licenses in 2020). This number includes Business Licenses that are active, in renewal status, and in process.
- Grand total receipts for all business license accounts – \$1,868,822. \$1,826,663 total receipts in 2020, \$1,907,274 receipts in 2019, \$2,013,116, in 2018, and \$1,913,790 in 2017.
- Continued to build on the momentum of the Innovate78 regional economic development initiative focused on business retention, expansion, and attraction along the 78-Corridor and strategies to expedite permit processing and improve overall customer service.
- Continued to communicate with all property owners on the north and south sides of Grand Avenue from Maple Street to Broadway to gather feedback and

² San Diego North Economic Development Council, City of Escondido - 2022 Economic Dashboard

provide an update on the Grand Avenue Vision Project Phase 2, as well as monitoring the Temporary Use Permit (TUP) program for on-street dining ending in January 2023.

- Participated in regional events to identify and promote the City as a great place to live, work, and play.

Anticipated Implementation Activities (0-3 Years):

1. Update the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) document and continue to implement tactics listed in the CEDS.
2. Continuation of the Innovate78 initiative with new focus on the 78-Corridor's startup ecosystem, entrepreneurship, and talent pipeline development.
3. Partnership with the San Diego North Economic Development Council on a regional strategy for economic inclusion.
4. Explore opportunities for activation of City-owned properties in the Spruce Street and Quince Street area.
5. Explore tools to improve historic downtown core, including but not limited to, new housing developments, retail redevelopment, and parking availability.
6. Implement a communications strategy to promote business and industry news.
7. Explore new City revenue sources to fund government services through a Hotel Feasibility Study and a potential Downtown Escondido Community Benefit District.
8. Solidify industry cluster programs with key industries listed in the CEDS including agriculture and ag-tech as well as healthcare.
9. Explore ways to increase tourism through Visit Escondido.
10. Promote available career training and career growth resources with partner organizations.

V. Degree to which the General Plan complies with the Adopted OPR Guidelines

The Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) is responsible for updating the resources for drafting and amending a general plan. OPR also monitors general plan implementation with annual progress reports from cities and counties, and grants general plan extensions for qualified cities and counties. OPR adopted General Plan Guidelines (GPG) in 2003 for use by local jurisdictions in the preparation of their general plans. Also, a December 2010 GPG update to the guidelines provided guidance on how to address the Complete Streets Act and modify the Circulation Element to plan for a balanced, multimodal transportation network. It is important to note that the Guidelines are permissive, not mandatory.

Staff has prepared an analysis of the Escondido General Plan compared to the general criteria included in State law, along with an evaluation of the degree to which the Escondido General Plan complies with the OPR Guidelines.

The GPG contain ten (10) chapters and three (3) appendices of requirements and references, in the following basic areas:

1. General Plan Basics: The General Plan generally complies with the basic requirements in that it is comprehensive, internally consistent, and has a long-term perspective.
2. Sustainable Development and Environmental Justice: The General Plan complies with guidelines for sustainable development. General plan policies and programs generally discuss inclusive public participation, social and economic well-being, jobs/housing balance, managed and balanced growth, livable communities and quality of life, and responsible resource conservation. However, the City's update to the Housing Element and Community Protection chapter triggers the requirement to assess whether the City requires an environmental justice element compliant with Government Code section 65302(h). Based on the scores for pollution burden in the City and household median income, there are environmental justice communities within the City and preparation of an environmental justice element is underway.
3. Preparing and Amending the General Plan: The City complied with the Guidelines in the preparation and adoption of the General Plan (2012) and continues to comply with the Guidelines, the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and the Government Code in the processing of any General Plan amendments.
4. Required Elements: The General Plan contains all of the required elements (Appendix B).

5. Format and Element Integration: The format of the General Plan complies with the Guidelines in that all of the required elements are present and no one element takes precedence over any other (equal legal status). The document is posted on the City's website and available for public review at City Hall and the Library.
6. Optional Elements: The General Plan includes optional elements that are either individual sections or are consolidated with other elements.
7. CEQA and the General Plan: The General Plan preparation, adoption, and amendments comply with all requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act.
8. Public Participation: The preparation, adoption, and administration of the General Plan all include public participation, to the extent required by the General Plan Guidelines, CEQA, and the Government Code.
9. Implementing the General Plan: To date, the implementation of the General Plan has complied with all applicable Guideline requirements, including consistency with zoning, subdivisions, redevelopment, building code administration, financing mechanisms, and the preparation of this Annual Progress Report.

Special General Plan Considerations: The General Plan preparation and administration comply with the applicable Acts.

VI. Plans, Projects, and Accomplishments

The Planning and Building Divisions processed a variety of Planning permits during 2021, including Conditional Use Permits (CUPs), Subdivision Map requests, and associated Environmental Reviews. The breakdown in applications received is reported in the Land Use portion of the General Plan indicators.

Progress in meeting the City's Share of Regional Housing Needs

Government Code Section 65400(a)(2)(B) provides: "*The Housing Element portion of the Annual Progress Report shall be prepared through the use of forms and definitions adopted by the Department of Housing and Community Development.*" The tables provided in Appendix D demonstrate the progress made in meeting the City's share of regional housing needs. HCD requires a report format that consists of 10 Excel spreadsheets. Appendix D also addresses the progress in meeting housing goals and objectives specified in the Housing Element, adopted in 2012 since the Sixth Cycle Housing Element is not yet certified by HCD.

VII. Conclusion

The General Plan is the City's guiding vision. Upkeep and maintenance of the General Plan is a continuous process. As noted in this Annual Progress Report, the City implements the General Plan's vision in its many Planning projects on a day-to-day basis, and strives to include the public in the decision-making process.

APPENDIX A: GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 65400

Government Code Section 65400

a) After the legislative body has adopted all or part of a general plan, the planning agency shall do both of the following:

1) Investigate and make recommendations to the legislative body regarding reasonable and practical means for implementing the general plan or element of the general plan, so that it will serve as an effective guide for orderly growth and development, preservation and conservation of open- space land and natural resources, and the efficient expenditure of public funds relating to the subjects addressed in the general plan.

2) Provide by April 1 of each year an annual report to the legislative body, the Office of Planning and Research, and the Department of Housing and Community Development that includes all of the following:

A) The status of the plan and progress in its implementation.

B) The progress in meeting its share of regional housing needs determined pursuant to Section 65584 and local efforts to remove governmental constraints to the maintenance, improvement, and development of housing pursuant to paragraph (3) of subdivision (c) of Section 65583. The housing element portion of the annual report, as required by this paragraph, shall be prepared through the use of forms and definitions adopted by the Department of Housing and Community Development pursuant to the rulemaking provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act (Chapter 3. 5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2). Prior to and after adoption of the forms, the housing element portion of the annual report shall include a section that describes the actions taken by the local government towards completion of the programs and status of the local government's compliance with the deadlines in its housing element. That report shall be considered at an annual public meeting before the legislative body where members of the public shall be allowed to provide oral testimony and written comments. The report may include the number of units that have been completed pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 65583.1. For purposes of this paragraph, committed assistance may be executed throughout the planning period, and the program under paragraph (1) of subdivision (c) of Section 65583.1 shall not be required. The report shall document how the units meet the standards set forth in that subdivision. The planning agency shall include the number of units in a student housing development for lower income students for which the developer of the student housing development was granted a density bonus pursuant to subparagraph (F) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (b) of Section 65915.

C) The number of housing development applications received in the prior year.

D) The number of units included in all development applications in the prior year.

- E) The number of units approved and disapproved in the prior year.
- F) The degree to which its approved general plan complies with the guidelines developed and adopted pursuant to Section 65040.2 and the date of the last revision to the general plan.
- G) A listing of sites rezoned to accommodate that portion of the city's or county's share of the regional housing need for each income level that could not be accommodated on sites identified in the inventory required by paragraph (1) of subdivision (c) of Section 65583 and Section 65584.09. The listing of sites shall also include any additional sites that may have been required to be identified by Section 65863.
- H) The number of applications submitted pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 65913.4, the location and the total number of developments approved pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 65913.4, the total number of building permits issued pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 65913.4, the total number of units including both rental housing and for-sale housing by area median income category constructed using the process provided for in subdivision (c) of Section 65913.4.
- I) If the city or county has received funding pursuant to the Local Government Planning Support Grants Program (Chapter 3.1 (commencing with Section 50515) of Part 2 of Division 31 of the Health and Safety Code), the information required pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 50515.04 of the Health and Safety Code.
- J) The progress of the city or county in adopting or amending its general plan or local open-space element in compliance with its obligations to consult with California Native American tribes, and to identify and protect, preserve, and mitigate impacts to places, features, and objects described in Sections 5097.9 and 5097.993 of the Public Resources Code, pursuant to Chapter 905 of the Statutes of 2004.
- K) The following information with respect to density bonuses granted in accordance with Section 65915: The number of density bonus applications received by the city or county. The number of density bonus applications approved by the city or county. Data from a sample of projects, selected by the planning agency, approved to receive a density bonus from the city or county, including, but not limited to, the percentage of density bonus received, the percentage of affordable units in the project, the number of other incentives or concessions granted to the project, and any waiver or reduction of parking standards for the project.
- b) If a court finds, upon a motion to that effect, that a city, county, or city and county failed to submit, within 60 days of the deadline established in this section, the housing element portion of the report required pursuant to subparagraph (B) of paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) that substantially complies with the requirements of this section, the court shall issue an order or judgment compelling compliance with this section within 60 days. If the city, county, or city and county fails to comply with the court's order within 60 days, the plaintiff or petitioner may move for sanctions, and the court may, upon that motion, grant appropriate sanctions. The court shall

retain jurisdiction to ensure that its order or judgment is carried out. If the court determines that its order or judgment is not carried out within 60 days, the court may issue further orders as provided by law to ensure that the purposes and policies of this section is fulfilled. This subdivision applies to proceedings initiated on or after the first day of October following the adoption of forms and definitions by the Department of Housing and Community Development pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (a), but no sooner than six (6) months following that adoption.

APPENDIX B: GENERAL PLAN RELATIONSHIP TO STATE LAW REQUIREMENTS

State law requires that general plans include seven (7) elements. The elements may be combined or renamed, but basic requirements must be included. Elements for other topics of local concern may also be included. The relationship between State mandated elements and the Escondido General Plan are illustrated below.

Mandatory Element	Escondido General Plan	Element Description
Land Use	Land Use and Community Form	Designates the proposed distribution and location of the uses of land for housing, business, industry, open space, and other categories of public and private land use activities.
Circulation	Mobility and Infrastructure	Specifies the general location of existing and proposed major thoroughfares, transportation routes, and other local public utilities and facilities.
Conservation	Resource and Conservation	Addresses the conservation, development, and utilization of natural resources including water and its hydraulic force, soils, rivers and other waters, wildlife, minerals, and other natural resources.
Open Space	Resource and Conservation	Addresses the preservation of natural resources including, but not limited to, areas required for the preservation of plant and animal life.
Safety	Community Protection	Identifies a variety of risks and hazards. This includes any unreasonable risks associated with the effects of seismically induced surface rupture and tsunami, slope instabilities, flooding, and fire hazards.

Noise	Community Protection	Identifies noise problems and analyzes current and projected noise levels for highways, roadways, transit systems, and ground stationary noise sources.
Housing	Housing	Develops a plan to meet the current and future housing needs of all people within the community, regardless of socio-economic status.
Optional Element	Community Health and Services	Develops a policy framework for recreational services, library services, schools and education, cultural enrichment, and public health and wellbeing.
Optional Element	Growth Management	Develops quality of life standards and establishes public facility planning strategies.
Optional Element	Economic Prosperity	Provides a policy framework to promote the City's long-term viability and advances the City's position as a "economic hub" with employment and business opportunities.

APPENDIX C: PIPELINE PROJECTS

Development Activity Map:

<https://cityofescondido.maps.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/3df9dd5f830a4db4a6dce61747906ae8>

APPENDIX D: 2021 HOUSING ELEMENT ANNUAL REPORT

The Escondido City Council received the 2021 Housing Element Annual Report (2021 APR) on March 30, 2022. The 2021 APR was submitted to the State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD), the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR), and the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) on April 1, 2022.

2021 APR:

https://www.escondido.org/Data/Sites/1/media/Housing/2021CY_HEAPR.pdf