



**CITY OF ESCONDIDO
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
201 NORTH BROADWAY
ESCONDIDO, CA 92025-2798
760-839-4617**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Escondido City Council will hold a public hearing, in the City Council Chambers, Escondido City Hall, 201 N. Broadway, Escondido, CA at **5 p.m.** on **Wednesday, October 1, 2025**, to consider the item below:

2022 GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT (PL22-0020):

REQUEST: Adopt Resolution 2025-122 approving a General Plan Amendment to modify the Community Protection chapter; the addition of an Environmental Justice section to the Community Health and Services chapter; and an Addendum to the previously certified 2012 General Plan's Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) (SCH #20100716054) ("Project").

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The overall Project is policy-related and does not involve any construction-related activities. Updates to the City's General Plan, as described below, would occur at a CityWide level, including within the City's sphere of influence.

1) Community Protection Chapter (Safety Element) Update

A safety element is one of nine elements of a general plan required by Government Code section 65302. The update to the Community Protection chapter of the General Plan, which serves as the City of Escondido's Safety Element, is required pursuant to Government Code section 65302(g) and will address topics related to fire hazards, climate adaptation and resiliency strategies, and evacuation routes.

2) Creation of an Environmental Justice Section

This Project would modify the existing Community Health and Services chapter of the City's General Plan, which is an optional element (i.e., it is not a required element pursuant to Government Code section 65302). The chapter would be realigned to address environmental justice policies, goals, and objectives. The creation of an environmental justice section is required pursuant to Government Code section 65302(h) and will include the identification of disadvantaged communities (Gov't Code § 65302(h)(1)) within the City of Escondido, as well as topics including reduction in pollution exposure, the promotion of public facilities, food access, safe and sanitary homes, physical activity, and civic engagement in the public decision-making process.

This Project would utilize the City's Community Health and Services chapter of the General Plan as a basis for incorporation of environmental justice polices, goals, and objectives because the Community Health and Services chapter currently addresses certain topics required of an environmental justice element, pursuant to Government Code section 65302(h). Including all policies, goals, and objectives related to environmental justice within one chapter of the City's General Plan will ensure consistency and simplify implementation. Existing topics within the Community Health and Services chapter that are not explicitly required by Government Code section 65302(h) would remain within this revised element.

PROPERTY SIZE AND LOCATION: Escondido General Plan Area (CityWide)

ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS: The Project relies on a previously adopted addendum to the FEIR for the 2012 General Plan Update ("Addendums 1 – 3 of the FEIR"). The FEIR for the 2012 General Plan Update (SCH #20100716054) was certified on May 23, 2012. A fourth addendum to the previously adopted FEIR and Addendums 1-3 of the FEIR has been prepared for the Project ("Addendum #4"). For the 2022 General Plan Amendment, only minor changes and additions to the FEIR were found to be necessary to address the Project changes and no circumstances existed calling for the preparation of a subsequent or supplemental EIR. Therefore, Addendum #4 to the FEIR has been prepared in accordance with CEQA Guidelines section 15164, and in accordance generally with the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code section 21000 et seq.) ("CEQA"), the regulations promulgated thereunder (14 California Code of Regulations section 15000 et seq.) ("CEQA Guidelines"), and the City's Environmental Review Guidelines (Article 47 of the Escondido Zoning Code)..

If you challenge this item in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City Council at, or prior to, the public hearing.

PLANNING COMMISSION ACTION: On July 22, 2025, the Planning Commission voted 6-0-1 (one absence) to recommend approval of the Project with minor text modifications.

PUBLIC COMMENT: To submit comments in writing, please do so at the following link: <https://escondido-ca.municodemeetings.com/bc-citycouncil/webform/public-comment>. All comments received from the public will be made a part of the record of the meeting.

The City of Escondido remains committed to complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Qualified individuals with disabilities who wish to participate in City programs, services, or activities and who need accommodations are invited to present their requests to the City by filing out a Request for Accommodations Form or an Inclusion Support Request Form for Minors, or by calling 760-839-4643, preferably at least 72 hours in advance of the event or activity. Forms can be found on the City's website at: <https://escondido.gov/820/Americans-with-Disabilities-Act>.

The staff report will be available at the Escondido Planning Division, 201 N. Broadway, Escondido, CA 92025; and on the City's website at <https://escondido-ca.municodemeetings.com/> after Thursday, September 25, 2025.

For additional information, please contact Veronica Morones, City Planner, at 760-839-4548, or via email at Veronica.Morones@Escondido.gov, and refer to Case No. PL22-0010.

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Zack Beck, City Clerk
City of Escondido

Dated: September 18, 2025