

General Plan Comments

- Union tribune Saturday November 25 article 'deadly 1956 chaos led to firefighting orders' – pertains to 10 standard fire fighting orders patterned after military '**general orders**'
- 'Some of the orders can be frustratingly vague'
- Order 10 in the list –
'Fight fire aggressively, having provided for safety first.'
 - A fire fighter asked, '**How do you use that?**'

General Plan Comments

California General Plan Requirements

Government Code Section 65300

- A General Plan may
 - **not be a "wish list" or a vague view of the future** but rather must provide a concrete direction⁽¹⁾.
 - In essence, the General Plan is a "constitution for development, ⁽²⁾" the foundation upon which all land use decisions in a city or county are to be based.
 - It expresses community development **goals** and embodies public policy relative to the distribution of future land use, both public and private.

General Plan Comments

California General Plan Requirements

Government Code Section 65300

- No one element may take precedence over another. Page SF-2. SDGP
- Precedence can be identified by the use of strong and weak action words
 - Strong – ‘Require noise attenuation ...’
 - Weak - Support public outreach
- May promote endless discussion on interpretation

Web site for list of action verbs : <http://www.rfp-templates.com/List-of-Action-Verbs.html>

General Plan Comments

San Diego General Plan 2006

Land Use Element Priority

accept	s	1
acknowledge	w	1
affirm	s	1
analyze	w	1
assist	w	1
assure	s	1
balance	s	1
build upon	s	1
comply	s	1
consult	w	1
coordinate	s	1
correct	s	1
develop	s	1
disperse	s	1
eliminate	s	1
expand	s	1
followup	s	1
group	s	1
improve	s	1
incorporate	s	1
initiate	s	1
integrate	s	1
obtain	s	1
plan	s	1
prioritize	s	1

revise	s	1
revitalize	s	1
support	w	1
purchase	s	1
pursue	w	1
recommend	w	1
refine	s	1
treat	w	1
update	s	1
verify	s	1
address	w	2
adopt	s	2
apply	s	2
assess	w	2
consider	s	2
create	s	2
design	s	2
designate	s	2
implement	s	2
include	s	2
maintain	s	2
prepare	s	2
recognize	w	2
review	w	2

subject	s	2
submit	s	2
use	s	2
utilize	w	2
work	s	2
encourage	w	3
establish	s	3
increase	s	3
strive	w	3
determine	s	4
draft	s	4
identify	s	4
require	s	6
provide	s	9
evaluate	w	11
ensure	s	12

75% are strong
action words

General Plan Comments

San Diego General Plan 2006

Recreation Element Priority

1. encourage	w
2. strive	w
3. support	w
4. pursue	w
5. maximize	s
6. limit	s
7. emphasize	w
8. participate	w
9. explore	w
10. review	w
11. continue to participate	w
12. coordinate	s
13. involve	w
14. work	s
15. avoid	s

16. apply	s
17. serve	s
18. continue to encourage	w
19. review plans	w
20. followup	s
21. consider	w
22. promote	w
23. collaborate	w
24. recognize	w
25. promote	w
26. maintain	s
27. publicize	w
28. expand	s
29. promote the use of	w
30. evaluate	w
31. treat	w

37% are **strong**
action words

General Plan Comments

California General Plan Requirements

Government Code Section 65300

Policy - Solid policy is based on solid information.

- The analysis of data collected during the planning process provides local officials with the knowledge about trends, existing conditions, and projections that they need to formulate policy.**
- If projected community conditions are not in line with a general plan's objectives, local legislative bodies may adopt policies that will help bring about a more desirable future.**

General Plan Comments

California General Plan Requirements

Government Code Section 65300

- Policy Examples

- . **The city shall not approve** a parking ordinance variance unless the variance pertains to the rebuilding of an unintentionally destroyed non-conforming use.
- . **The city shall not approve** plans for the downtown shopping center until an independently conducted market study indicates that the center would be economically feasible.
- . **The city shall** give favorable consideration to conditional use permit proposals involving adaptive reuse of buildings that are designated as “architecturally significant” by the cultural resources element.

General Plan Comments

California General Plan Requirements

Government Code Section 65300

Implementation Measure - an action, procedure, program, or technique that carries out general plan policy. **Each policy must have at least one corresponding implementation measure..**

Examples of implementation measures:

- . **The city shall** use tax-increment financing to pay the costs of replacing old sidewalks in the redevelopment area.
- . **The city shall** adopt a specific plan for the industrial park.
- . Areas designated by the land use element for agriculture **shall be** placed in the agricultural zone.

General Plan Comments

Los Angeles General Plan 2002 – Transportation

A Real Example

<http://cityplanning.lacity.org/cwd/gnlpln/transelt/TE/T7almplm.htm#p2>

CHAPTER IV. OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

Goal A Accessibility to work and services

Goal B Well maintained street system

Goal C Pedestrian, bikeways, scenic highways

Programs which implement the policies set forth herein are found in **Chapter VII** and are referenced by **one or more bold-faced "P" numbers noted in parentheses at the conclusion of each policy.**

Note: Goals are Numbered

General Plan Comments

Los Angeles General Plan 2002 – Transportation

A Real Example

Flow - from Goals - to Implementation

Goal A ---> Objective 1 ---> Policies ---> IMPLEMENTATION
PROGRAMS --->

A. Transportation Implementation Programs

Plans & Policies

Ordinances

Development Standards and Guidelines

Studies/Data Collection and Procedural

Economic Development/development Review Process

Interagency/Interjurisdictional Coordination

B. Investment Strategy for Transportation

Infrastructure

Strategic Transportation Investment Program

Transportation Study Districts

Community Plan Updates

Transportation Infrastructure Fees

Note: Goals and objectives are numbered.

General Plan Comments

Los Angeles General Plan 2002 – Transportation A Real Example

Goal A

Adequate accessibility to work opportunities and essential services, and acceptable levels of mobility for all those who live, work, travel, or move goods in Los Angeles. Accessibility to work and services

Objective 4

Preserve the existing character of lower density residential areas and maintain pedestrian-oriented environments where appropriate.

General Plan Comments

Los Angeles General Plan 2002 – Transportation A Real Example

Goal A *Adequate accessibility to work opportunities ...*

Objective 4 *Preserve the existing character ...*

Policies

4.1 Seek to eliminate or minimize the intrusion of traffic generated by new regional or local development into residential neighborhoods while preserving an adequate collector street system. (P2, P12, P18)

4.2 Incorporate traffic management measures to control traffic speeds and volumes on local and collector streets within low density residential neighborhoods to assure safe and orderly traffic flow. Traffic management measures for such local streets may include partial closures and/or traffic diverters. (P12, P18)

General Plan Comments

Los Angeles General Plan 2002 – Transportation A Real Example

P2 As part of the Community Plan Update Program, **develop** Transportation Improvement and Mitigation Plans (TIMPs) for each Community Plan area which (1) set forth recommended measures to mitigate impacts of future traffic growth and (2) define neighborhood traffic management strategies to protect residential areas from the intrusion of traffic from nearby commercial and/or industrial development and of regional traffic. Recommended traffic mitigation measures shall be set forth in the following categories, as appropriate:

- a. Transit
- b. Transportation Demand Management (TDM)
- c. Transportation System Management (TSM)
- d. Street/Highway Infrastructure Parking Management

Schedule: Ongoing

Responsibility: LADOT with assistance from the
Departments of City Planning and Public Works

General Plan Comments

Los Angeles General Plan 2002 – Transportation A Real Example

P11 Amend the City's TDM ordinance (LAMC 12.26-J) to include:

- (a) preferential parking for zero-emission and alternate fuel vehicles; and**
- (b) support facilities for zero-emission vehicles, as appropriate.**

Schedule: *Initiate within five years of Element adoption.*

Responsibility: *City Planning Department with assistance from LADOT.*

General Plan Comments

San Diego General Plan 2006

A Real Example

A. Recreational Opportunities

Goals

- **A City with park and recreation facilities and services that are designed to accommodate the needs of a growing and diverse population and respect the City's natural landforms.**
- **A regional and citywide parks/open space system, including the bays, beaches, rivers, and other attractions that gives our region identity, attracts tourism and enriches the quality of life for residents and visitors.**
- **A City with a diverse range of active and passive recreational opportunities that meet the needs of each neighborhood/ community and reinforce the City's natural beauty and resources.**

Note- Goals are not numbered

General Plan Comments

San Diego General Plan 2006

A Real Example

A. Recreational Opportunities

- RE-A.1. **Provide access** to a diversity of recreation facilities and programs that meet the demographically changing needs of the community.

Missing – Traceability, Responsibility and Schedules (as they apply) to:

A. Recreation Implementation Programs

Plans & Policies

Ordinances

Development Standards and Guidelines

Studies/Data Collection and Procedural

Economic Development/development Review Process

Interagency/ Interjurisdictional Coordination

B. Investment Strategy for Infrastructure

Strategic Investment Program

Recreational Study Districts

Community Plan Updates

Infrastructure Fees

General Plan Comments

San Diego General Plan 2006

Problems

- Does not appear to meet State Requirements
 - Is more of a wish list than a policies doc :
“A General Plan may **not be a "wish list" or a vague view of the future** but rather must provide a concrete direction.”
 - Use the word ‘shall’
 - Add traceability
 - Goals need to be numbered
 - Add who is responsible
 - Add Schedule

Do not send the reader to “outer space” by pointing to **non-connected docs** like the Strategic Framework Element “Action Plan” and Public Facilities Financing Strategy, etc to find how a ‘policy’ is to be implemented.

Fight fire aggressively, having provided for safety first.’

A fire fighter asked ‘How do you use that?’