

## **RESOLUTION NO. PC 19-1348**

### **A RESOLUTION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD, RECOMMENDING TO THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL OF AN AMENDMENT TO THE GENERAL PLAN TO ADD THE CITY FAULT LOCATION AND PRECAUTION ZONE MAP TO THE SAFETY AND NOISE ELEMENT, WEST HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA.**

The Planning Commission of the City of West Hollywood hereby resolves as follows:

SECTION 1. The State of California requires all local jurisdictions to adopt a Safety Element and to revise this document as appropriate, as one of seven mandated elements required in the General Plan. The West Hollywood General Plan 2035, adopted in 2011, includes a Safety and Noise Element that addresses all State requirements for a Safety Element.

SECTION 2. The State recently updated their Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zones Map, which shows recently revised earthquake fault zones recognized by the California Geologic Survey. The map was completed pursuant to the Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act (AP Act), a law intended to ensure public safety by prohibiting the siting of most structures for human occupancy across traces of active faults that constitute a potential hazard to structures. This law requires the State Geologist to establish regulatory zones (known as Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zones or AP Zone) around the surface traces of active faults and issue maps to all affected municipalities.

SECTION 3. In 2001, the City Council adopted building standards that established two Fault Precaution Zones (FP Zones) in the West Hollywood Municipal Code (WHMC) Section 19.32.020, in order to meet the requirements of the Alquist-Priolo Act. The latest version of this map, called City Fault Location and Precaution Zone Map, is included in the General Plan 2035 EIR Seismic Technical Background Report.

SECTION 4. The City is required to update its map to reflect the State's recent changes to its Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone. General Plan Amendment 19-0003 will both update the City's Fault Location and Precaution Zone Map to be consistent with the State's current Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone Map, and will also bring this map into the main body of the City's General Plan in the Safety and Noise Element, as Figure 10-2A. In addition, the Table of Contents will be modified and a reference to the new map will be added to Chapter 10, Safety and Noise. These amendments are shown in the Attachment A to this resolution.

SECTION 5. A public hearing was duly noticed for the Planning Commission meeting of November 21, 2019 by publication in the Beverly Press newspaper, the West Hollywood Independent Newspaper, mailings sent to neighborhood groups, the City website, required posting locations, and by announcement on City Channel 6 starting November 7, 2019.

SECTION 6. The proposed General Plan Amendment is Categorically Exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15060(c)(2) because the project will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment. In light of the general rule that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment and since it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3).

SECTION 7. The Planning Commission of the City of West Hollywood hereby finds that GPA 19-0003 is consistent with the Goals and Policies of the General Plan, including Goal SN-1 of the Safety and Noise Element, which states that the city should reduce injury and damage from natural hazards, to protect the community from avoidable risk and harm by factoring natural hazards such as seismic hazards, flooding, landslides, subsurface gas, and fires into community planning and outreach, maintenance and upgrades, emergency response and municipal operations.

SECTION 8. Based on the foregoing, the Planning Commission of the City of West Hollywood hereby recommends approval to the City Council of GPA 19-0003, which is attached hereto as Attachment A.

**PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED** by the Planning Commission of the City of West Hollywood at a regular meeting held this 21<sup>st</sup> day of November, 2019 by the following vote:

AYES:           Commissioner:       Erickson, Hoopingarner, Jones, Vice-Chair Bass, Chair Carvalheiro.

NOES:           Commissioner:       None.

ABSENT:        Commissioner:       Altschul, Buckner.

ABSTAIN:       Commissioner:       None.

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ROGERIO CARVALHEIRO, CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:

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BRYAN ECK, ACTING  
LONG RANGE PLANNING MANAGER

*Decisions of the Planning Commission are subject to appeal in accordance with the procedures set forth in West Hollywood Municipal Code Chapter 19.76. Any action to challenge the final decision of the City of West Hollywood made as a result of the public hearing on this application must be filed within the time limits set forth in Code of Civil Procedure Section §1094.6.*

# Attachment A

Additional language shown in underline. Deleted language in ~~strikethrough~~.

The *General Plan 2035* Table of Contents shall be modified as follows:

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**Appendix A: Hazard Mitigation Plan (2018)**

The *General Plan 2035* text shall be modified as follows:

Chapter 10, Safety and Noise:

Earthquakes West Hollywood is located in a seismically active zone. The City is susceptible to the effects of earthquakes within the greater Los Angeles area as well as its own borders. The active Hollywood Fault runs through the City and is capable of producing surface fault rupture during a future earthquake. The City has established a Fault Precaution Zone spanning the mapped trace of the Hollywood Fault within the City. In 2001, West Hollywood was the location of an earthquake of magnitude 4.2, which was felt throughout the Los Angeles Basin and San Fernando Valley. Future earthquakes in the region are virtually inevitable and could be of a magnitude that would compromise buildings and structures. In addition to strong ground shaking and movement, West Hollywood is susceptible to liquefaction during seismic activity due to conditions of loose, granular alluvial soils and locally shallow water table. Liquefaction causes soil to become disturbed in the presence of water, lose strength, and take on the properties of liquid during an earthquake. Liquefaction significantly amplifies the effects of ground shaking, putting structures and individuals at greater risk. This means that existing buildings in liquefaction zones, as mapped by the State of California, are at greater risk during an earthquake. It also means that new development on liquefaction zones should only occur if potential hazards have been addressed based on technical guidelines adopted by the City. Figure 10-2 shows seismically prone areas in the City. Figure 10-2A is the City Fault Location and Precaution Zone Map, showing Fault Precaution Zones 1 and 2 and the approximate surface trace of the known faults within the City.

