



### What is a General Plan?

The Irvine General Plan is the “master plan” for the development and resource preservation of the City. Specifically, it establishes goals and policy direction to ensure that the high quality of life is preserved and enhanced for Irvine residents, businesses, and visitors. Every city in California is required by state law to have a general plan that serves as a blueprint for the future.



### Why update the General Plan?

Irvine’s General Plan was first adopted in 1972, with the last comprehensive update in 1999. Since that time Irvine has grown and changed. New laws have passed that affect general plans, and new strategies have been developed. These changes require a reevaluation of the Irvine General Plan to ensure quality of life is preserved.

The update to the Irvine General Plan will look ahead to the year 2035. It will contain policies and programs that will position Irvine for a prosperous future for the next 20 years and beyond.

### How is the General Plan used?

Irvine’s General Plan is a “living” document used by residents, businesses, City officials, community organizations, and others interested in the City’s future. Here are a few ways the Irvine General Plan is used by different groups.

- ▶ **City Council, commissions, and staff** regularly use the Irvine General Plan to guide short- and long-term decisions, prioritize services, and plan capital improvements.
- ▶ **Residents, businesses, and developers** use the Irvine General Plan to seek guidance for how and where to develop projects and include amenities to serve the community.
- ▶ **Agencies and community stakeholders** (schools, utilities, community-based organizations) refer to the Irvine General Plan to help understand and plan for services.

### What is in the General Plan?

Under state law, a general plan should address topics important for the planning and functioning of a city. Mandatory topics include land use, circulation, housing, conservation, open space, noise, and safety. General plans may also include, and often do, other topics that are important and valued by a community.

The Irvine General Plan currently covers the topics required by state law and optional topics, such as seismic safety, cultural resources, public facilities, waste management, energy, parks, recreation, growth management, and the Irvine Business Complex.

The update to the Irvine General Plan will also consider additional optional topics, such as neighborhood preservation, transportation, and public services, or may compile related topics into different chapters. This will ensure that the Irvine General Plan is relevant and



### What are the steps for the update?

The update to the Irvine General Plan is a multi-year effort involving several phases. The City has designed the process to offer multiple opportunities and methods to participate along the way.

The update process has three phases.

- ▶ **Phase 1: Establishing the Framework (Winter–Summer 2016).** This phase includes studies, outreach, and visioning to set a foundation for the General Plan.
- ▶ **Phase 2: Developing the Plan (time frame to be determined).** This phase includes preparing the updated General Plan and the environmental impact report (EIR).
- ▶ **Phase 3. Implementing the Plan (following adoption of the General Plan).** Upon adoption of the General Plan, the City will implement programs to achieve the vision.

### Why should I get involved?

General plans are most successful when the community actively participates in their development. The City of Irvine is committed to involving you in helping to update the Irvine General Plan. To that end, the City of Irvine will offer many opportunities and methods for residents and businesses to participate and help shape the future of Irvine.

The update to the Irvine General Plan will reflect the community's vision and priorities, and we believe that your voice and ideas are vital to creating a plan that reflects your vision for the city's future. Please take advantage of the many opportunities that will be available to participate in the process and share your vision of our city's future.

### How do I get involved?

We're taking great care to ensure it's convenient to participate in updating the Irvine General



Plan. We welcome any suggestions to broaden participation and ensure that all of those interested in participating become aware of the update effort and are able to participate. We will be holding various community events throughout the year to highlight these efforts and receive your input.

You can also participate by completing one or more surveys during the process and learning more about the update process at <http://irvine2035.org> or by scanning the QR code to the right. This



site will be updated regularly. Please check back for details on events, surveys, and other information.

### Who do I contact about the Plan?



If you have any questions or suggestions regarding the update to the Irvine General Plan and would like to talk or communicate with City staff, please feel free to contact the City's general plan telephone number at (949)724-6581 or send an e-mail to [GPUdate2035@ci.irvine.ca.us](mailto:GPUdate2035@ci.irvine.ca.us).

