

Strategic Planning Workshop

Monday, March 24, 2025

Agenda for Today

March 4, 2024 | 6pm

Strategic Planning Overview

Discuss Goals for Consideration


Next Steps



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Strategic Planning Overview

What is strategic planning?

A decorative background consisting of a grid of lightbulb icons in various shades of green and yellow, some of which are lit, set against a white background.

A process where the City Council sets shared goals and objectives to help direct City staff on how to focus their efforts and City resources.

Terminology

Goals: Broad, overarching outcomes/achievements the community will experience.

Objectives: The steps we take to make each goal happen.

Strategic Planning Process



Step in the Process	Date
Kick-off call with City Manager	December
Community workshop #1 (in-person)	February 26
Community workshop #2 (virtual)	March 3
City Council one-on-one interviews	March 13-14
Strategic planning workshop with City Council	March 24
Meeting with City staff to discuss programmatic objectives	Late March/April
City Council meeting to adopt Strategic Plan	April/May

Community Engagement

- In-Person Community Workshop (65 attendees)
- Virtual Community Workshop (30 attendees)
- Online Community Feedback Form (68 responses)



**All community input received is available in the community feedback report provided on 3/18.*

City of La Cañada Flintridge Strategic Planning
Prepared by TRIPEPI SMITH

Community Feedback Form

In the coming months, the La Cañada Flintridge City Council will develop a strategic plan outlining goals and priorities for the next two years. As this plan is created, your City leaders want to hear from you.

What should the City prioritize? Which programs, services, spaces, and issues should the City focus on over the next two years? Fill out this questionnaire to share your thoughts. Your feedback will be shared as part of the planning process and will help inform the City Council.

We also invite you to attend one of our community workshops, where we'll gather additional feedback and answer any questions you have about the process:

Workshop #1
Wednesday, February 26, 6-7:30 p.m.
La Cañada Flintridge Council Chambers, One Civic Center Dr.

Workshop #2
Monday, March 3, 6-7:30 p.m.
Virtual via Zoom | <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85757381413>

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Question #1 - What are some things you enjoy about living in La Cañada Flintridge?

Your answer

Question #2 - What do you think the City is doing well?

Your answer

Question #3 - What could the City improve to better meet your needs or those of your family?

Your answer



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Prior Adopted Goals

Prior Adopted Goals

1	To have a friendly, efficient, responsive city government.
2	To maintain a healthy financial condition.
3	To maintain the character of the community: a safe, family-friendly residential community.
4	To participate with the local schools on issues of mutual concern.
5	To improve the commercial sector and major thoroughfares of the City.
6	To provide a safe, healthy environment for the residents of our community.
7	To facilitate the appreciation of the diversity of our residents.



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Goals for Consideration

Goals for Consideration

1	Deliver Extensive Public Safety Services Addressing Crime and Natural Disaster Risks
2	Continue Responsible Fiscal Management
3	Enhance City Operations, Organizational Capacity and Council Governance
4	Strengthen Community Engagement and City Hall Leadership Accessibility
5	Enhance Environmental Health, Parks, Recreation Facilities and Open Space
6	Drive Economic Development and Support Local Businesses

Goal 1: Deliver Extensive Public Safety Services Addressing Crime and Natural Disaster Risk

- A. Explore traffic safety concerns, devise policies to address them and implement policies (i.e. speeding, sidewalks).
- B. Complete an after-action report on the Eaton Fire to identify key opportunities to expand emergency preparations, communications and response measures.
- C. Explore policies devised to support the hardening of homes to wildfire risks.
- D. Explore policy options that further enhance crime mitigation in the City and implement policy recommendations. Such options may include, but not be limited to: more sheriff deputies, private patrols, more camera systems, improved neighborhood watch programming, and residential crime deterrence consulting).
- E. Collaborate with SoCal Edison on infrastructure improvements and hold them responsible for failure to address ongoing outage issues.
- F. *Explore Angeles Crest Highway safety risks and devise strategies to work with or around CalTrans on those concerns.*
- G. *Strengthen mutual aid agreements with neighboring cities.*

Goal 2: Continue Responsible Fiscal Management

- A. Determine allocation of new sales tax funds in a sustainable manner that delivers on promises made during the adoption process.
- B. Adhere to the City's reserve policy.*
- C. Adopt budgets that do not deficit spend on operational activities or obligate City finances in a way that creates outyear deficits.*
- D. Identify revenue options to support significant capital investments such as a new community center or expanded park facilities.*
- E. Provide strong and insightful oversight on the City's investment portfolio.*
- F. Create a long term financial model for the City's finances over a five year period.*

Goal 3: Enhance City Operations, Organizational Capacity and Council Governance

- A. Receive City Manager guidance on staffing priorities, particularly around supporting policy analysis, commission support, and general resident customer service experience.
- B. Provide structure and training for commissions and commissioners to improve their effectiveness.
- C. Evaluate consolidating the Design Commission into the Planning Commission.
- D. Expand staff development and training programs with an emphasis on skill specific needs.*
- E. Establish a routine timeline for strategic planning processes and review status on progress on the strategic plan every six months in a public format.*
- F. Revisit and update mission, vision and values statements well in advance of next strategic planning effort.*
- G. Review and codify Council governance, including code of ethics, mayor responsibilities, agendizing priorities.*
- H. Implement strategies to enhance customer service at City Hall with a particular focus on the construction permit process.*
- I. Devise a flag policy for how and when and what flags will fly on City property.*

Goal 4: Strengthen Community Engagement and City Hall Leadership Accessibility

- A. Expand communication channels to reach different pockets of the community.
- B. Continue to push for a higher saturation of residents signed up for emergency alerts from the City.
- C. *Explore options to improve resident accessibility to Council and staff (i.e. updating website contact information, devise office hours, host simple meet up opportunities)*
- D. *Conduct a regular (annual or bi-annual), statistically valid community satisfaction survey to assess the priorities of the community and satisfaction with city services.*
- E. *Review searchability and usability of City website and advise on strategies to make discovery more effective for residents.*
- F. *Perform more frequent town hall meetings and collaboration workshops to involve public feedback in the policy development process.*

Goal 5: Enhance Environmental Health, Parks, Recreation Facilities and Open Space

- A. Sustain existing parks & recreation services with a focus on covering services for all ages in the community.
- B. Complete updated joint-use agreement with the school district.
- C. Assess long-term property utilization and open space planning.
- D. Adopt a plan and timeline to shift to a single waste hauler provider to reduce truck trips.*
- E. Review options and costs for General Plan amendment process to update the General Plan to better prioritize open space and parks options.*
- F. Explore opportunities to collaborate with private schools.*
- G. Engage with a consulting firm for feasibility study and master planning of a community center campus.*
- H. Provide cost structure and feasibility analysis for a City-managed Parks & Recreation department.*
- I. Implement the Aging Master Plan.*
- J. Implement the CAAP (Climate Action & Adaptation Plan).*

Goal 6: Drive Economic Development and Support Local Businesses

- A. Implement efforts to attract diverse businesses to the community.
- B. Enhance efforts to promote small businesses in LCF.
- C. *Take advantage of specialized and world-class resources near or in the City for awareness, cultural standing, economic development benefits (JPL, Mount Wilson, Arts Center).*
- D. *Devise a resource plan to implement & execute on economic development efforts.*
- E. *Sustain existing partnership with the Chamber of Commerce to supplement local business support.*



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Discussion

(transition to working document)

Next Steps

Next Steps	Timeline
City staff and Tripepi Smith will meet to review the goals affirmed by the City Council and discuss programmatic objectives and metrics.	Late March / April
Tripepi Smith will assemble a report that includes goals, objectives and metrics.	April
City Council will review and consider adoption of a final report affirming goals, objectives and metrics.	April / May