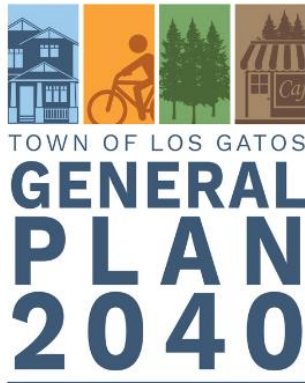


The following images were presented as a series of social media posts published across the Town's social media accounts between July 30, 2021, and March 11, 2022, and then posted as a collection on the 2040 General Plan Update website to share information about the Draft 2040 General Plan, the update process, and respond to specific comments and questions received.



General Plan Update

Let's break it down!

An Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is written to inform you about potential significant environmental effects.

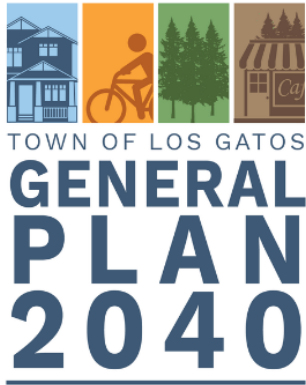
- Available online now at: www.LosGatos2040.com
- Comments are due by September 13, 2021

What is examined?

Aesthetics, Agriculture, Air Quality, Biological, Cultural, Energy, Geology, Greenhouse Gases, Hazards, Water, Land Use, Noise, Population, Public Services, Transportation, Utilities, and Wildfire

More at www.LosGatos2040.com





General Plan Update

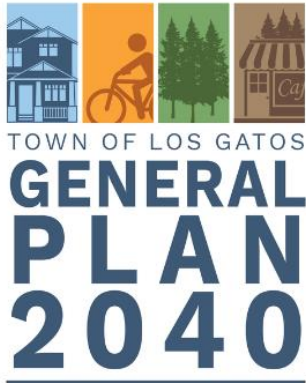
Let's break it down!

What are the key proposed changes in this General Plan Update?

- New Racial, Social, and Environmental Justice Element;
- Increased housing opportunities for mixed-use developments in commercial areas and missing middle housing in neighborhoods with design requirements;
- New Community Place Districts to provide more objective design standards and focus on community form for all development;
- Shift in focus of transportation policies to street design, connectivity, and mobility for all users (bicycles, pedestrians, vehicles, etc.) to reduce Vehicle Miles Traveled;
- New goals in the Environment and Sustainability Element; and
- Expanded policies to prepare for wildfire, climate change, and community health threats.



More at www.LosGatos2040.com



General Plan Update

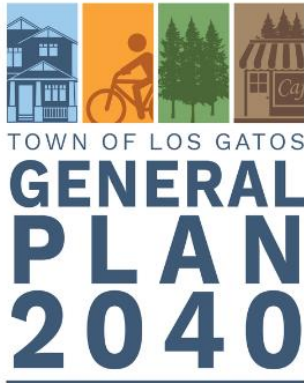
Let's break it down!

Why does the Draft 2040 General Plan allow more housing density?

- Encourage more variety in types of housing to support the Town's commitment to inclusivity.
- Support mixed-use redevelopment for more housing around existing services and commercial areas.
- Incorporate housing for all, including teachers, firefighters, service workers, youth who want to move back, and seniors who want to downsize.
- Provide room in plan for future Regional Housing Needs Allocations (RHNA).



More at www.LosGatos2040.com



General Plan Update

Let's break it down!

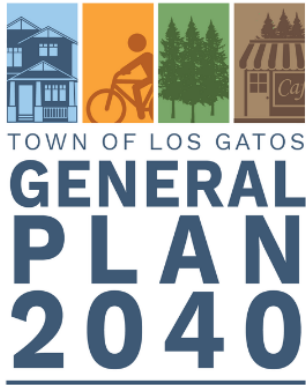
The Draft 2040 General Plan supports inclusivity with a new chapter on Racial, Social, and Environmental Justice.

Goals and Policies include (but are not limited to):

- Goal RSEJ-1: Support equity, inclusion, and access to opportunities for all community members, employees, businesses, visitors, and local organizations.
- Goal RSEJ-2: Respect, protect, and promote the civil and human rights of all members of the community.
- Goal RSEJ-6: Engage the public, in particular, socially disadvantaged individuals and groups, in Town decision-making and facilitate public involvement in civic life.



More at www.LosGatos2040.com



General Plan Update

Let's break it down!

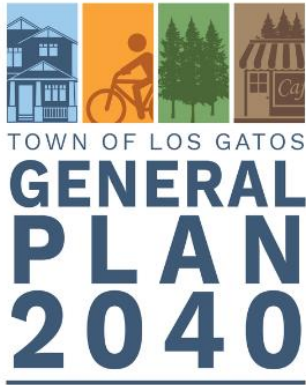
Is the Town building 3,738 more housing units?

No. This plan is not proposing any new construction. The General Plan looks at the Town as a whole, and sets limits on development, like height and density, and sets goals and policies, like design guidelines.

The Draft 2040 General Plan limits are different and would allow more housing than the 2020 General Plan, focusing most of the potential new housing in mixed-use and commercial districts. While more housing would be possible, it is planned for 20 years, and it is unlikely to all be built.



More at www.LosGatos2040.com



General Plan Update

Let's break it down!

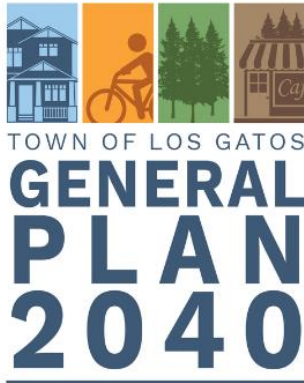
Why are we talking about housing if the Housing Element of the General Plan hasn't been updated yet?

The General Plan includes chapters, called Elements, on nine interrelated topics. State law requires that we update our Housing Element every eight years, in contrast to the whole General Plan which is updated every 10 to 20 years.

The General Plan update considers the whole Town, and includes draft changes, after careful consideration of where best to allow additional housing, that will be needed in the Housing Element to satisfy the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA), and to do so with policies to guide it under sections like Land Use, Community Design, and Sustainability.



More at www.LosGatos2040.com



General Plan Update

Let's break it down!

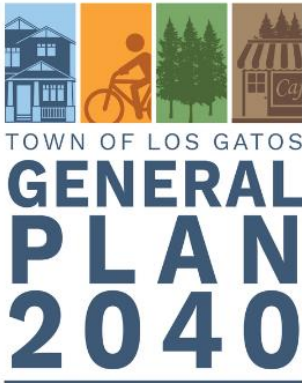
Why didn't the Town appeal the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) allocation?

Many jurisdictions have appealed their RHNA allocations. The Town did not choose to file an appeal. Appeals are nearly always unsuccessful absent unique extenuating circumstances. For example, the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) has already concluded their appeals process which resulted in only 2 jurisdictions receiving reductions in their RHNA of the 47 jurisdictions that filed appeals.

Appeals also often provide false hope to residents that there will be a significant reduction in their RHNA, which is unlikely as evidenced by the SCAG appeal process.



More at www.LosGatos2040.com



General Plan Update

Let's break it down!

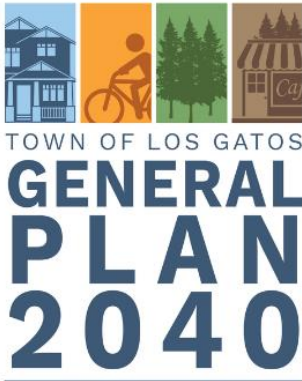
The Draft 2040 General Plan protects our hillsides from wildfires and climate change.

Goals and Policies include (but are not limited to):

- Goal ENV-9: Support local and regional efforts in the Town's response to climate change.
- Policy ENV-9.2 Require all planning documents to incorporate newly identified and revised adaptation measures consistently, including measures in the Hazards and Safety Element, the Sustainability Plan, and the Emergency Operation Plan.
- Goal HAZ-2: Incorporate fire safety precautions as an integral consideration in planning development.
- Policy HAZ-2.1 Require new development, including additions to existing structures, located in or adjacent to fire hazard areas to minimize hazards to life and property, by using fire preventive site design, access, fire-safe landscaping, building materials, and incorporating defensible space and other fire suppression techniques.



More at www.LosGatos2040.com



General Plan Update

Let's break it down!

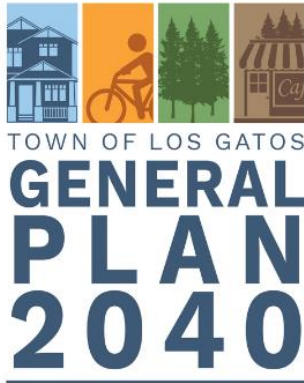
The Draft 2040 General Plan increases sustainability efforts in Town. Look for the Green **SUS** logo throughout the document.

Goals and Policies include (but are not limited to):

- Policy CD-2.41: Encourage the use of environmentally friendly building materials and products for all development.
- Goal PFS-6: Encourage development that reduces the use of non-renewable energy resources and expands the use of renewable resources and alternative fuels.
- Goal ENV-9: Support local and regional efforts in the Town's response to climate change.
- Goal ENV-10: Become a zero-waste Town through encouraging sustainable procurement, extended producer responsibility, and innovative strategies.
- ENV Implementation Program W: Establish and maintain a "sustainability information center" at Town Hall to inform the public and distribute brochures and provide information.

More at www.LosGatos2040.com





General Plan Update

Let's break it down!

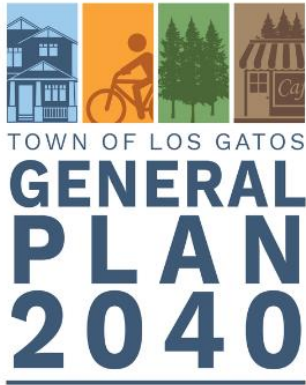
The Draft 2040 General Plan protects our trees and supports planting more.

Goals and Policies include (but are not limited to):

- Policy CD-2.12: If feasible, require street trees to be installed for all new developments, to enhance neighborhood character and to maximize shade coverage when mature.
- CD-2.13: Preserve and protect trees designated under the Town's Tree Preservation Ordinance, and existing native/heritage trees as a part of any development proposal.
- CD-6.4: Hillside landscaping shall be designed to minimize formal landscaping and hardscapes and site them close to the residence, follow the natural topography, and preserve native trees, native plant and wildlife habitats, and migration corridors.
- Goal ENV-2: Maintain/enhance trees and significant natural features.
- Policy ENV-2.1: Ensure tree removal and replacement during development is consistent with the latest in tree conservation standards to support the Town's Arbor Day Foundation status as a Tree City USA.



More at www.LosGatos2040.com



General Plan Update

Let's break it down!

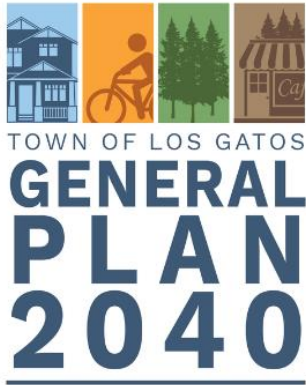
The Draft 2040 General Plan protects our historic neighborhoods.

Goals and Policies include (but are not limited to):

- Policy LU-9.4: Ensure that any new Downtown development compliments the existing identity, from both a historical and a design perspective.
- Goal LU-15: Provide for the protection of Los Gatos' cultural heritage through the protection and maintenance of historic resources.
- Goal CD-3: Preserve historic and architectural features within the Town.

More at www.LosGatos2040.com





General Plan Update

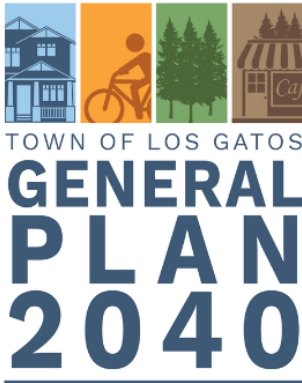
Let's break it down!

Why is it important to have a General Plan?

Preparing a comprehensive plan allows us to choose how we grow in a thoughtful and Town-wide manner, rather than in a reactive way one proposed development at a time.

More at www.LosGatos2040.com





General Plan Update

Let's break it down!

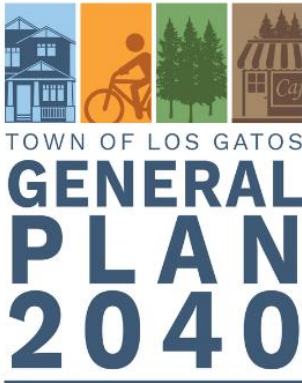
The Draft 2040 General Plan encourages missing middle housing to keep the character of our neighborhoods.

What is missing middle housing? This housing lies between the low-density single-family housing and the medium/high-density multi-family apartment/condominium housing.

Examples include duplexes, triplexes, fourplexes, cottage courts/clusters, and townhomes which would be built to comply with the existing maximum height and maximum floor area.



More at www.LosGatos2040.com



General Plan Update

Let's break it down!

Can we still change the Draft 2040 General Plan?

Yes.

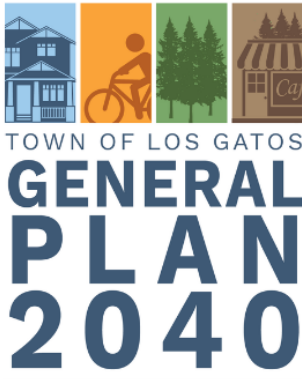
We are still welcoming comments and suggestions via email at GP2040@LosGatosCA.gov and via the website comment tab at www.LosGatos2040.com.

If you have questions please email them or come by and visit us at our table at the Farmers' Market on October 31st, November 21st, or December 19th.

Your comments will be shared with Planning Commission and Town Council. Planning Commission will have a chance to recommend changes to the Draft 2040 General Plan, and Town Council will consider public comments along with the recommendation from Planning Commission when they make the final decision.

More at www.LosGatos2040.com





General Plan Update

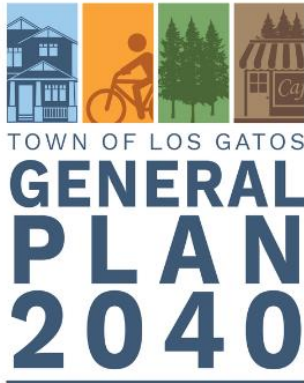
Let's break it down!

What is the process for updating the General Plan?

- Town Council established the General Plan Update Advisory Committee (GPAC) and selected a consultant.
- Background Report and Issues, Opportunities & Constraints Report in consultation with GPAC and input from community meetings.
- Vision & Guiding Principles, reviewed/approved by GPAC, Planning Commission & Council.
- Alternatives Report and selection of Preferred Land Use Alternative Framework by Council.
- Council review Land Use Element implementation of the Preferred Land Use Alternative Framework.
- Update each Element of the General Plan with revisions directed by the GPAC.
- Public Review of Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) & GPAC recommended Draft 2040 General Plan. ← **We Are Here**
- Final EIR including response to comments.
- Planning Commission review and recommendation to Council of Final EIR and Draft 2040 General Plan.
- Town Council review of Final EIR and Draft 2040 General Plan with determination on final revisions.
- Creation of online interactive and accessible 2040 General Plan.



More at www.LosGatos2040.com



General Plan Update

Let's break it down!

Is the Town of Los Gatos trying to push out auto shops?

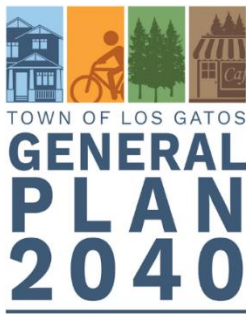
No. The Draft 2040 General Plan is keeping the existing Service Commercial land use designation which allows businesses such as automobile repair shops.

One change that is considered in the Draft 2040 General Plan (available at www.losgatos2040.com) is to allow residential uses within the Service Commercial land use designation, as long as they are developed using a mixed-use format.

If you have thoughts or suggestions on this proposed change, please email GP2040@losgatosca.gov.



More at www.LosGatos2040.com



General Plan Update

Let's break it down!

The Town is reopening the public comment period on the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the 2040 General Plan Update.

Q: What does this mean?

A: The public may submit comments on the Draft EIR for an additional 45-day period until 5:00 p.m. on Friday, January 7, 2022.

Q: Why is this happening?

A: A draft Traffic Analysis was appended to the Draft EIR rather than the final Traffic Analysis. The final Traffic Analysis removes a draft water mark and highlighting, and makes slight text changes. To avoid confusion, the Town is recirculating the final Traffic Analysis along with the associated section of the Draft EIR (Chapter 4.15, Transportation) with the revisions to provide additional clarification and to include new and revised traffic impacts. No other sections of the Draft EIR have been updated.

Q: Are public comments limited to the section with the revisions?

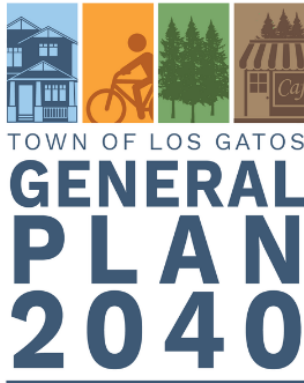
A: No, the Town will accept comments on the entire Draft EIR.

Q: Where can I find the Draft EIR and submit comments?

A: Please visit www.LosGatos2040.com. Comments may also be emailed to GP2040@losgatosca.gov.

More at www.LosGatos2040.com





General Plan Update

Let's break it down!

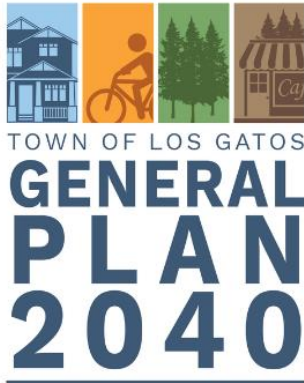
What does the Draft 2040 General Plan do to preserve what we love about Los Gatos?

Goals and Policies include (but are not limited to):

- Policy RSEJ-1.6: Promote Los Gatos as a welcoming, safe, and inclusive community regardless of age, ability status, and socio-economic status.
- Policy LU-5.2: Promote livability, enjoyment, and safety for all residents through quality neighborhoods.
- Goal LU-9: Enhance Downtown Los Gatos as the historic center of the Town, with goods and services for residents, while maintaining the existing Town identity, environment, and commercial viability.
- Policy CD-2.13: Preserve and protect trees designated under the Town's Tree Preservation Ordinance, as well as existing native and heritage trees as a part of any development proposal.
- Policy OSPR-2.1: Preserve the natural open space character of hillside lands, including natural topography, natural vegetation, wildlife habitats and migration corridors, and viewsheds.



More at www.LosGatos2040.com



General Plan Update

Let's break it down!

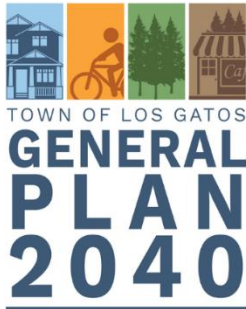
Is the 2040 General Plan going to fix our traffic?

There is no one thing that will get rid of traffic, but the Draft 2040 General Plan contains many policies to reduce its impacts including (but not limited to):

- Policy LU-11.2: Enhance the working environment and reduce traffic impacts by promoting small retail areas and restaurants to serve employees in Office Professional, Service Commercial, or Light Industrial designations.
- Policy MOB-7.3: Make effective use of the traffic-carrying ability of Los Gatos's arterials and collectors while providing multimodal support for users of all ages and abilities.
- Goal MOB-9: Mitigate the impact of cut-through traffic, with the objective of making it easy for residents to move throughout Town while ensuring Los Gatos remains a welcoming place for visitors.
- Policy MOB-9.5: Support efforts to keep regional traffic on regional roadways, such as SR 85 and SR 17, prioritizing opportunities for increased transit and greater roadway efficiency, over expanding roadway capacity.
- Goal MOB-10: Prevent and mitigate transportation impacts from new development.



More at www.LosGatos2040.com



General Plan Update

Let's break it down!

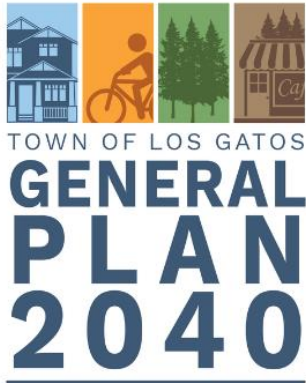
What does the 2040 General Plan do to make sure housing is safe?

Goals and Policies include (but are not limited to):

- Goal RSEJ-5: Develop, implement, and enforce policies to ensure access to safe and sanitary housing throughout the community.
- Policy RSEJ-5.1: Develop and adopt policies, regulations, and Ordinances which reflect up-to-date construction and safety measures for all residential structures, while continuing to take enforcement actions for violations of any municipal or State building and safety codes.
- Implementation Measure RSEJ-O: Create a program to ensure that all rental multifamily housing is inspected on a three to five-year cycle to ensure compliance with all building, housing, and other codes for safe and sanitary housing.
- Policy LU-5.2: Promote livability, enjoyment, and safety for all residents through quality neighborhoods.
- Implementation Measure LU-C: The Town shall actively enforce the State Housing Code to ensure that unsafe, dilapidated residential structures are rehabilitated or demolished.
- Policy CD-2.20: To increase safety for residents, new development with a street frontage shall incorporate a street oriented front entrance and windows facing the frontage. Units not facing the street shall be oriented to provide visual access to entryways, pedestrian pathways, recreation areas, and public spaces.



More at www.LosGatos2040.com



General Plan Update

Let's break it down!

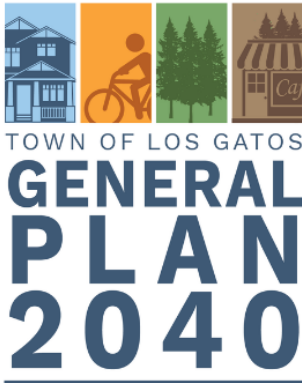
Does the Draft 2040 General Plan discuss our Library and Senior Services?

Yes, these are both in the Public Facilities, Services, and Infrastructure Element, which also includes Goals and Policies on all of the following:

- Water
- Wastewater
- Storm Drainage and Flood Protection
- Solid Waste Disposal and
- Utilities and Alternative Energy
- Public Facilities and Services
- Law Enforcement
- Fire Protection
- Emergency and Medical Services
- Schools and Lifelong Learning
- Libraries
- Town Arts
- Healthy Community



More at www.LosGatos2040.com



General Plan Update

Let's break it down!

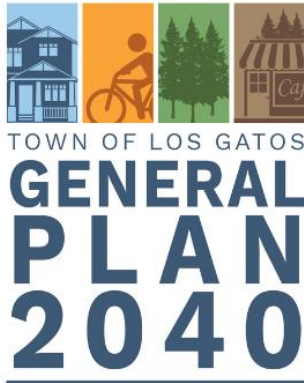
Does the 2040 General Plan protect and expand access to parks?

Yes. Goals and Policies in the Open Space, Parks, and Recreation Element include (but are not limited to):

- Goal OSPR-1: Expand open space areas within the Town of Los Gatos, particularly lands which provide recreational uses.
- Goal OSPR-3: Make open space areas within the Town accessible to all residents and visitors to the Town.
- Policy OSPR-6.1: Acquire and develop more publicly accessible active and passive community recreation spaces and/or facilities, with priority given to locations not currently within ½ mile of an existing park.
- Policy OSPR-7.3: Encourage the development of informal gathering spaces for local residents and visitors in appropriate locations throughout the Town.



More at www.LosGatos2040.com



General Plan Update

Let's break it down!

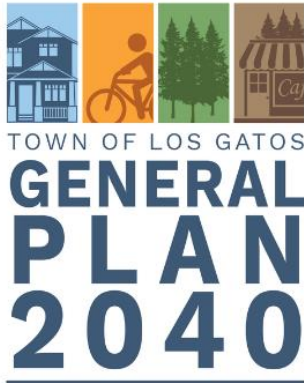
How does the 2040 General Plan change our other guidelines and regulations?

Policies and Implementation Programs include updates to current documents for consistency with the General Plan, as well as new ideas, including but not limited to:

- Update Zoning Regulations and other applicable plans and programs to implement the 2040 General Plan.
- Update Historic Resource Inventory (HRI) survey, review Historic District and neighborhood boundaries, and reconsider the construction date for presumptive historic resources.
- Update the Commercial Design Guidelines, the Hillside Development Standards and Guidelines, the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan, the Sustainability Plan, and the Town's Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance for consistency with the General Plan and to reflect the Town's priorities.
- Update the Town's street lighting policy, landscape conservation programs, emergency management plans, and EV charging station ratio requirements for parking.



More at www.LosGatos2040.com



General Plan Update

Let's break it down!

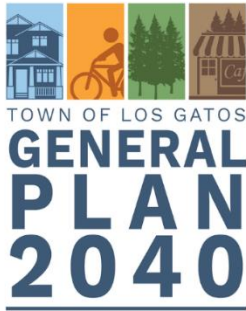
Who was involved in preparing the Draft 2040 General Plan?

In addition to all the ideas and feedback received from the public, Section 11: Acknowledgements includes those whose efforts we particularly want to acknowledge, including the members of the:

- Town Council;
- Planning Commission;
- General Plan Update Advisory Committee;
- Arts and Culture Commission;
- Community Health and Senior Services Commission;
- Complete Streets and Transportation Commission;
- Historic Preservation Committee;
- Library Board;
- Parks Commission; and
- Youth Commission.

More at www.LosGatos2040.com





General Plan Update

Let's break it down!

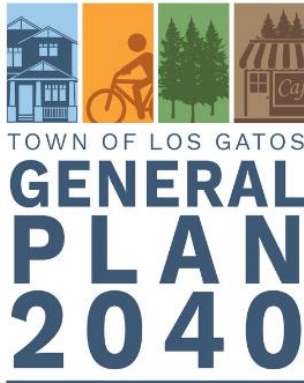
How does the Draft 2040 General Plan improve the Town's operations to be more Environmentally Sustainable?

Goals and Policies in the Environment and Sustainability Element include (but are not limited to):

- Policy ENV-7.6: Consider alternative methods prior to utilizing herbicides and pesticides on Town property to minimize potential damage to native plants, birds, and other wildlife.
- Policy ENV-9.1: Take action to achieve target reductions in GHG emission levels from operation of Town facilities and services to 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030.
- Goal EN-10: Become a zero-waste Town through encouraging sustainable procurement, extended producer responsibility, and innovative strategies.
- Policy ENV-10.6: Incorporate a "life-cycle costing" approach into Town purchasing considerations that takes into account long-term cost savings from energy efficient products.
- Policy ENV-11.2: Invest in cost-effective energy efficiency and energy conservation programs in municipal facilities.



More at www.LosGatos2040.com



General Plan Update

Let's break it down!

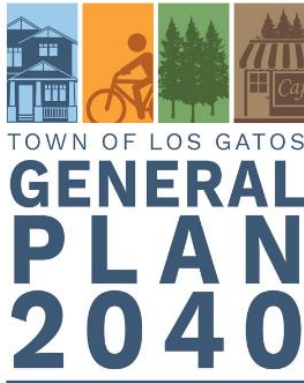
How does the Draft 2040 General Plan prepare the community for emergencies?

Goals and Policies include (but are not limited to):

- Policy HAZ-1.3: Provide community awareness information and education about potential health, natural, and human-caused hazards in Los Gatos and how to responsibly prepare for or mitigate them.
- Policy HAZ-6.3 Partner with organizations responsible for essential health care and human services to ensure those services are provided as early as possible to respond during and recover after a public health emergency or event.
- Hazards and Safety Element Implementation Measure D: Conduct Emergency hazard drills with key stakeholder organizations, community groups and organizations, outside agencies, and local and County officials across the community to improve preparedness for known threats and hazards.



More at www.LosGatos2040.com



General Plan Update

Let's break it down!

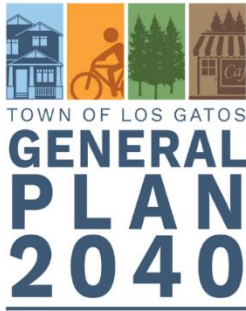
How does the Draft 2040 General Plan make sure we can get around Town?

The Mobility Element includes Goals and Policies on all of the following topic areas to improve and maintain mobility throughout Town:

- Reduce Vehicle Miles Traveled;
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities;
- Multimodal System/Complete Streets;
- Transit Services and Facilities;
- Transportation Systems;
- Roadways;
- Parking; and
- Goods Movement.



More at www.LosGatos2040.com



General Plan Update

Let's break it down!

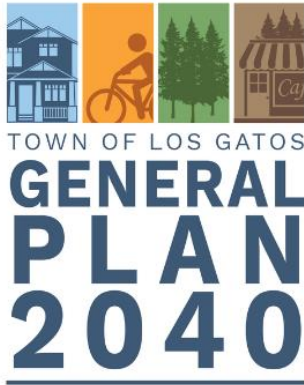
Why hasn't the Town made changes to the Draft 2040 General Plan yet?
Have the comments been heard?

Yes, we have received and heard your comments. Thank you for sharing your thoughts. This is a big Plan and we are moving through the process.

- Since the final General Plan Update Advisory Committee meeting on May 6, 2021, the Town has been and is continuing to receive comments on the Plan itself.
- In September, the Town Council and Planning Commission held a joint Study Session and received all comments submitted to that point.
- Comments on the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) were received in mid-September and again in early January 2022 after the recirculation of the EIR.
- By State law, the EIR comments must have responses. The comments and the responses will be available with the Final EIR.
- The Final EIR and all comments received since the September Study Session will be provided to the Planning Commission and Town Council as part of their public hearings and deliberations on the Draft 2040 General Plan. Dates have not yet been scheduled.
- Comments are welcome and can be sent to:
GP2040@losgatosca.gov.



More at www.LosGatos2040.com



General Plan Update

Let's break it down!

Does the Draft 2040 General Plan address our seniors and senior services?

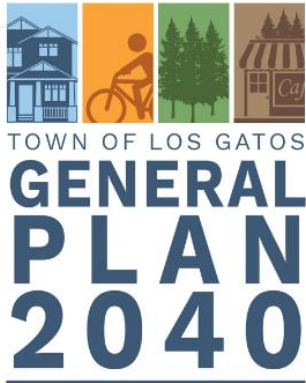
Goals and Policies include (but are not limited to):

- Policy MOB-4.5: Plan for the needs of people with disabilities, seniors, and children when designing trail facilities and bicycle and pedestrian facilities.
- Policy HAZ-1.5: Require the identification of isolated seniors who may need assistance in natural disasters such as fires, earthquakes, or floods.

And the Public Facilities, Services, and Infrastructure Element includes a set of four Goals and nine Policies focused on Senior Services (pages 6-19 and 6-20).



More at www.LosGatos2040.com



General Plan Update

Let's break it down!

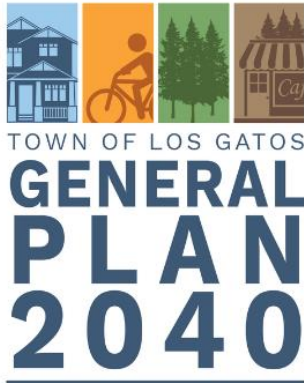
What are Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) and why do we want to reduce them?

VMT measures the total amount of vehicular travel (the length of all trips) and is used to analyze potential air quality and greenhouse gas impacts. VMT is also the required method used for the evaluation of environmental impacts as required under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

Take a look at the Mobility Element to see how the Draft 2040 General Plan endeavors to reduce VMT:
losgatos2040.com/documents



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General Plan Update

Let's break it down!

How does the Draft 2040 General Plan encourage our youth to actively participate in our community?

The Public Facilities, Services, and Infrastructure Element includes a description of Youth Services in Town on page 6-13 and numerous Goals and Policies including (but not limited to):

- Goal PFS-10: Offer a wide range of youth programs and services within the Town.
- Goal PFS-11: Encourage civic involvement of all youth in the community.
- Goal PFS-12: Ensure that bicycling and walking are safe for youth throughout the Town.
- Implementation Program T: Town staff shall meet with agencies as needed to identify the needs of youth in the community.



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