





GLOSSARY

Find terms used throughout the Plan along with the Elements they can be found in.

A

Term/Phrase	Definition	Element
Accessory	A building, part of a building or structure, or use which is subordinate to, and the use of which is incidental to that of the main building, structure or use on the same lot.	Land Use and Community Design
Acreage	Gross - The land area that exists prior to any dedications for public use, health and safety purposes. Net - The portion of a site that can actually be built upon, which is the land area remaining after dedication of ultimate rights-of-way for: exterior boundary streets, flood ways, public parks and other open space developed to meet minimum standards required by City ordinance, or utility easements and rights-of-way.	Land Use and Community Design
Active recreational use	Recreational uses that require the use of special facilities, courses, fields, or equipment. Examples of active uses include playing basketball, swimming, and using playground equipment.	Parks, Recreation, and Public Facilities
Active transportation	A non-motorized form of transportation, primarily made up of walking and bicycling.	Mobility
Adaptation	An adjustment in natural or human systems to a new or changing environment.	Conservation
Affordability	Affordability refers to a household's ability to pay for housing costs, where housing is commonly understood to be affordable if households are paying less than 30% of their income towards housing costs.	Housing
Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)	The ADA Standards establish design requirements for the construction and alteration of facilities subject to the law. These enforceable standards apply to places of public accommodation, commercial facilities, and state and local government facilities.	Parks, Recreation, and Public Facilities
Amortization	Amortization is a common accounting concept that refers to how a capital account is allocated over time. Loans are often amortized by regularly paying principal and interest over a fixed term. Investments in capital assets are amortized for accounting and tax purposes by allocating the capital investment to specific periods over the life of the asset.	Safety, Infrastructure
Anti-displacement	Strategies to reduce and stop the number of low-income residents who are forced to move out of rental housing units or cannot move into certain neighborhoods due to economic or physical barriers.	Housing
Aquifer	A saturated area below the water table that stores water underground.	Infrastructure
Archaeological resources	Archaeology is the study of artifacts and material culture with the aim of understanding human activities and cultures in the past. Archaeological resources may be associated with prehistoric indigenous cultures as well as historic periods.	Conservation

A

Term/Phrase	Definition	Element
Artist	The title of “Artist” is traditionally applied to a person who engages in an activity deemed to be an art – creating, practicing, and/or demonstrating an artistic practice, typically within a discipline such as visual, performing, or literary arts, music, or dance. Today, the definition of an artist is broader, running the gamut from an individual, traditional artist to the commercially oriented creative worker. Artists are moving across business, industrial, and creative sectors working in collaboration with the commercial world and are significant drivers of economic growth and innovation.	Arts, Culture, and the Creative Economy
Arts	The term arts traditionally meant the fine arts: visual arts, music, theater, dance and literature. The recent shift in the definition of artist affects the current definition of the arts. Choreographer Liz Lerman, a MacArthur Genius Award recipient, describes the shift to a modern definition as a vertical hierarchy becoming a level playing field, with all art forms holding parallel value with a different focus, from the mural artist doing community-engaged work to the classically trained musician on stage.	Arts, Culture, and the Creative Economy

B

Term/Phrase	Definition	Element
Bikeways	Bicycle Path (Class I facility) - A dedicated route, not on a street or roadway, reserved for bicycles and other non-motorized activities. Bicycle paths may parallel roads, but are typically separated by landscaping or other barriers. Bicycle Lane (Class II facility) - A corridor expressly reserved for bicycles, existing on a roadway in addition to lanes for use by motorized vehicles. Bicycle Route (Class III facility) - A roadway shared with motorists and identified by signs or other markings such as sharrows. Separated Bikeway/Cycle Track (Class IV facility) - A bike facility that minimizes interactions with other modes of travel adjacent to a roadway by providing a physical separation or barrier from through traffic and vehicle lanes.	Mobility
Biodiversity	The biological variety of life in an ecosystem.	GHG Reduction
Bioremediation	The use of microorganisms to treat contaminated soil and water.	Infrastructure
Bioswales	Channels designed to receive rainwater runoff and has vegetation to capture water and remove pollutants before releasing to a storm sewer. Bioswales can also be designed for water to infiltrate and recharge groundwater.	Infrastructure
Blackwater	Wastewater from toilets, dishwashers and kitchen drains that must be treated and either discharged or reused as recycled water.	Infrastructure
Burial sites and cemeteries	Burial sites and cemeteries are formal or informal locations where human remains have been interred.	Conservation

C

Term/Phrase	Definition	Element
CalEnviroScreen	A mapping tool developed by the State of California that identifies communities most affected by pollution burden.	Community Health and Environmental Justice
Capacity-building	An investment in the effectiveness and future sustainability of people, organizations, and institutions to meet defined goals and missions. This can refer to a wide range of activities, including updating facilities and organizational infrastructure, improving workplace operations, building skills through professional development and training, or obtaining funding support.	Governance and Leadership
Carbon neutrality	Having a balance between the carbon that is emitted into the atmosphere annually and the carbon that is absorbed in trees and carbon sinks.	GHG Reduction
Carbon sequestration	The process of capturing and storing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.	GHG Reduction
Ceramic scatters	Pottery.	Conservation
Circular economy	A circular economy “aims to redefine growth, focusing on positive, society-wide benefits. It entails gradually decoupling economic activity from consuming finite resources and designing waste out of the system. Underpinned by a transition to renewable energy sources, the circular model builds economic, natural, and social capital.	GHG Reduction
Cistern	An artificial reservoir that stores liquids like rainwater.	Parks, Recreation, and Public Facilities
Climate	The long-term behavior of the atmosphere – typically represented as averages – for a given time of year. This includes average annual temperature, snowpack, or rainfall.	GHG Reduction
Climate change	Climate change refers to changes in the average and/or the variability of temperature, rainfall, and extreme weather that persist for an extended period.	GHG Reduction, Safety
Community benefits program	A project amenity that achieves particular community goals, such as streetscape improvements, parks or open space, metered public parking, and/or other benefits (as approved by City Council) in addition to what may be required as part of a project’s discretionary review and approval.	Economic Development
Community Noise Equivalent Level (CNEL)	A weighted average of noise level over time used to compare the noisiness of neighborhoods.	Noise
Community resilience	The ability of a group to prepare for, withstand, adapt, and recover from disruptions or harmful situations.	Safety
Competitive Market Area (CMA)	The competitive market area includes the employment, residential, retail, and hospitality centers with which Culver City most directly competes, including the Westside “peer” cities of Santa Monica, Beverly Hills, and West Hollywood.	Economic Development

C

Term/Phrase	Definition	Element
Complete neighborhoods	Neighborhoods where residents can reach community amenities (e.g., grocery stores and retail), transit, public facilities (e.g., parks and community centers) and services (e.g., health care and affordable childcare) within a 20-minute walk.	Land Use and Community Design
Complete streets	A transportation strategy where streets are designed and operated to be safe and accessible to all people. This involves infrastructure improvements to public transportation networks, sidewalks and trails, and bicycle networks, while also prioritizing historically disadvantaged communities.	Mobility
Connectivity	The directness and speed of travel between destinations.	Mobility
Cooling and warming center	An air-conditioned or heated public space hosted by the City that serves as a refuge during excessive heat and cold days.	Safety
Creative economy	The creative economy refers to the businesses and individuals involved in producing cultural, artistic and design goods and services. The creative economy also includes organizations that provide a venue for artists to share their work with the public, such as museums, art galleries and theaters. In a broader sense, the creative economy must include a support system that teaches, nurtures and sustains creative activity: arts programs in preK-12 schools, post-secondary arts institutions to develop talent, and philanthropic foundations along with other nonprofit funding organizations to provide financial resources and services to the creative arts.	Arts, Culture, and the Creative Economy
Creative industries	<p>Creative industries are the types of business enterprises – for profit, nonprofit and sole proprietor – comprising the creative economy. Individual urban areas may define their creative sectors to include a different set of industries, although business types commonly included are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fine Arts – Venues for the Arts, Museums, Performing Arts, Music, Visual Arts, Arts Organizations • Design – Engineering, Architecture, Manufacturing Technology, Fashion • Support Services for Creative Industries – R&D Services, Consulting, Post-Secondary Education • Media/Communications – Advertising, Graphic Design, Marketing, Public Relations, Publishing, Broadcasting • Entertainment – Media, Educational and Training Film Development, Post-Production, Recreation, Video Gaming Development • Data Sciences – Communications, Internet, Telecommunications 	Arts, Culture, and the Creative Economy

C

Term/Phrase	Definition	Element
Creative worker	Creative workers are responsible for creative output in the areas of design, media, and the arts whereby the production process is reliant on creativity both as an individual skill and as an organizational source of competitive advantage. The occupation categories typically include writing, design, theater, television, radio, motion pictures, related crafts, advertising, marketing, scientific research and development, product development, digital media, software development, engineering, and more. Individual communities may define creative workers either more broadly or narrowly depending on their specific creative sectors.	Arts, Culture, and the Creative Economy
Cultural resources	Includes prehistoric and historic period archaeological sites, historic structures, buildings, districts, and landscapes, or any other physical evidence associated with human activity considered important to a culture, a subculture, or a community for scientific, traditional, religious or any other reason, including tribal cultural resources.	Conservation
Culture	Historically, the term culture described tending to the earth and fostering growth, or cultivation and nurture, and then evolved to culture as a thing in and of itself. It is most often defined in anthropological terms: "An integrated pattern of human knowledge, belief, and behavior. The outlook, attitudes, values, morals, goals, and customs shared by a society or group..." (Cultural Anthropology, McGraw Hill, 1990). It includes the characteristics and knowledge of a community, encompassing language, religion, cuisine, social habits, music and arts. Culture is understood to be broad and inclusive, although for a specific community, the definition is idiomatic and is defined by the place and the people who live there.	Arts, Culture, and the Creative Economy

D

Term/Phrase	Definition	Element
Decarbonized buildings	New or existing buildings that reduce the amount of greenhouse gas emissions produced through the implementation of efficiency upgrades. This includes eliminating the use of fossil fuels within the building and can go as far as eliminating fossil fuels from the energy used to electrify the building.	GHG Reduction
Decibels A (dBA)	The "A-weighted" scale for measuring sound in decibels, which weighs or reduces the effects of low and high frequencies in order to simulate human hearing. Every increase of 10 dBA doubles the perceived loudness even though the noise is actually ten times more intense.	Noise

D

Term/Phrase	Definition	Element
Dedication	The turning over by an owner or developer of private land for public use, and the acceptance of land for such use by the governmental agency having jurisdiction over the public function for which it will be used. Dedications for roads, parks, school sites or other public uses are often required by a city or county as conditions for approval of a development.	Parks, Recreation, and Public Facilities
Density bonus incentive	This incentive-tool allows qualifying developers to increase their development in allowed dwelling units per acre, floor area ratio, or height, typically in exchange for community benefits in the form of funding or in-kind support.	Land Use and Community Design
Disaster	A natural, technological, or human-caused event that results in deaths, injuries, property damage/loss, and/or destruction resulting in serious disruptions and that exceeds the ability of local authorities to cope without outside assistance.	Safety
Displacement	Displacement is the process through which households and businesses are forced to leave their residence and/or place of business in response to the economic and social pressures of gentrification.	Community Health and Environmental Justice
Distributional equity	Strategies to fairly distribute resources, benefits, and burdens. It prioritizes resources for communities that experience the greatest inequities, disproportionate impacts, and have the greatest unmet needs.	Governance and Leadership
Dry weather runoff	Excess irrigation water that drains from properties, often combined with stormwater runoff.	Infrastructure
Dwelling units per acre (du/ac)	The number of dwelling units allowed on one acre of land. Often used by cities to regulate allowed residential density.	Land Use and Community Design

E

Term/Phrase	Definition	Element
Ecosystem	The collection of organisms and the natural elements with which they interact.	GHG Reduction
E-Governance	The use of information and communication technologies (ICTs), particularly the internet, as tools to achieve better government	Governance and Leadership
Energy Use Intensity (EUI)	EUI is expressed as energy per square foot per year. It's calculated by dividing the total energy consumed by the building in one year (measured in kBtu or GJ) by the total gross floor area of the building (measured in square feet or square meters)	GHG Reduction
Environmental justice	Environmental justice is defined in California's Government Code (Section 65040.12(e)) as "the fair treatment of people of all races, cultures, and incomes with respect to the development, adoption, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies."	Community Health and Environmental Justice

E

Term/Phrase	Definition	Element
Equity	<p>Equity is about ensuring that people have access to the same opportunities to thrive and succeed. Examining decision-making through an equity lens recognizes that people may have different starting points and may need different types and levels of support to flourish. Thus, equity is achieved when socioeconomic and environmental factors, such as race, income, ability, education, or place, can no longer be used to predict health, economic, or other wellbeing outcomes. These outcomes are not decided by an individual alone, but also by characteristics of the physical and natural environment, which are influenced by policies, programs, and plans. They are also influenced by the social and economic relationships that govern the distribution of goods, services, and other amenities in society. There are three dimensions of equity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procedural. Relating to influence in decision-making, such as municipal planning and other processes that distribute benefits and burdens of economic and social policies. • Distributional. Relating to distribution of resources, benefits, and burdens. • Structural. Relating to continued disparate or disproportionate procedural and distributional inequities through the systems that created the inequities in the first place. 	Governance and Leadership
Equity impact analysis	<p>An equity impact analysis is a structured and systematic assessment of how different population groups will likely be impacted by an institution's policy and decision-making process. Incorporating equity impact analysis into daily departmental operations ensures that the City implements policies, programs, budgetary decisions, and procedures which intentionally work to close disparities and inequities in the community.</p>	Governance and Leadership

F

Term/Phrase	Definition	Element
Fault	A fracture in the earth's crust that forms a boundary between rock masses that have shifted.	Safety
First/Last-Mile	The first and last part of the journey that riders walk, bike or roll to/from their nearest station or bus stop.	Mobility
Flooding	Submerging of land with water that is usually dry. A 100-year flood zone shows the magnitude of a flood expected to occur on the average every 100 years, based on historical data. The 100-year flood has a 1/100, or one percent, chance of occurring in any given year.	Safety
Floor area ratio (FAR)	The development intensity of buildings can be measured through floor area ratio (FAR), which divides gross building area by lot area. A higher FAR indicates greater development intensity, or greater building height and/or lot coverage.	Land Use and Community Design

F

Term/Phrase	Definition	Element
Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)/ California Public Records Act	Federal and State legislation which provide the public the right to request access to examine public information from a government agency.	Governance and Leadership

G

Term/Phrase	Definition	Element
Gentrification	The process of change that neighborhoods experience when they begin to attract new private and public investments.	Land Use and Community Design
Geologic Hazard	Extreme natural events in the crust of the earth, such as earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, tsunamis, and landslides.	Safety
Green infrastructure	This type of infrastructure uses permeable surfaces, vegetation, stormwater harvest systems, or landscaping to capture and filter stormwater before releasing water to the sewer system or surface water sources.	Infrastructure
Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions	Gases within the atmosphere that accelerate the warming of the earth and are released from human activities that burn fossil fuels or from historic carbon sinks, such as melting permafrost.	GHG Reduction, Mobility, Conservation, Infrastructure
Greywater	Domestic wastewater generated from baths, sinks and washing machines that does not contain serious contaminants, and can be captured and utilized for irrigation, treatment, or reuse.	Infrastructure
Growth projection	The amount of development likely to be in place in the General Plan horizon year of 2045.	Land Use and Community Design

H

Term/Phrase	Definition	Element
Hazard	Something that is potentially dangerous or harmful.	Safety
Hazard mitigation	Any action taken to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk to human life and property from hazards.	Infrastructure, Safety
Health in All Policies (HiAP)	A collaborative approach to improving the health of all people by incorporating health, equity, and sustainability considerations into decision-making across sectors and policy areas. HiAP recognizes that health is influenced by many factors beyond healthcare and, in many cases, beyond the scope of traditional public health activities.	Community Health and Environmental Justice
Healthy communities	Places that foster positive health outcomes for all who live, work, and play in them. Good nutrition, physical activity, and access to healthcare all influence health. However, health is also influenced by many other factors, including access to economic opportunities, safe and sanitary housing, high-quality education, and low exposure to pollution.	Community Health and Environmental Justice

H

Term/Phrase	Definition	Element
Heat island effect	Refers to urban areas with higher temperatures compared to natural landscapes. These high temperatures result from the infrastructure and materials used in urban areas that absorb and re-emit the sun's heat more than natural landscapes. Heat islands can impact human health, the environment, economy, and other issues.	Safety
Historical Resources	Historic resources are those buildings, structures, features, and landscapes that have reached a sufficient age (generally over 50 years) to be evaluated for their importance to the history of the city and eligibility for inclusion in the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR).	Conservation

I

Term/Phrase	Definition	Element
Impact fee	A fee charged to a developer by the City according to the proposed development project, typically by number of units, square footage or acreage. The fee is often used for City services and infrastructure development such as schools, roads, police and fire services, and parks.	Economic Development
Impervious	An impervious surface does not allow for the infiltration of liquids. Impervious materials include concrete, brick, and stone.	Infrastructure
Inclusive	All people—including but not limited to those who have been historically underrepresented based on race/ethnicity, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, socioeconomic status, geography, citizenship status, or religion.	Arts, Culture, and the Creative Economy
Infill	A pattern of construction that builds on unused or underutilized parcels within an area that has pre-existing development.	Land Use and Community Design
In-lieu fee	Cash payments that may be required of an owner or developer as a substitute for a dedication of land for public use and referred to as in-lieu fees or in-lieu contributions.	Parks, Recreation, and Public Facilities
Invasive plants	These plants are non-native to the ecosystem being examined, can spread quickly, and are likely to cause harm to the ecosystem's native plant species.	Land Use and Community Design

L

Term/Phrase	Definition	Element
Land Use	The occupation or utilization of an area of land for any human activity or any purpose.	Land Use and Community Design
Land use designation	One particular category in a classification series of appropriate use of properties established by the General Plan Land Use Element.	Land Use and Community Design

L

Term/Phrase	Definition	Element
LEED	The Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) green building rating system is used to evaluate the sustainable design strategies of new and retrofitted projects.	GHG Reduction
Lithic scatters	Lithic refuse or debris produced during flaked- or ground-stone tool manufacturing or use	Conservation
Low impact development (LID)	A design approach to manage stormwater runoff as part of green infrastructure, emphasizing conservation and use of on-site natural features to protect water quality.	Infrastructure

M

Term/Phrase	Definition	Element
Microgrid	Localized grids that disconnect from the traditional grid to mitigate grid disturbances	Safety
Micromobility	Micromobility encompasses a variety of shared, lightweight vehicles, such as bicycles, e-bikes, e-skateboards, scooters, and e-scooters, that are considered legally distinct from the regulations governing motor vehicles. Micromobility programs provide on-demand options that allow residents and employees to make quick trips without the cost and hassle of owning a bicycle or other micromobility device.	Mobility
Microtransit	Flexible on-demand transit services that accommodate passengers taking short trips (less than five miles). Transit agencies often integrate microtransit services with the existing fixed-route network where rail or traditional fixed-route service may not be efficient to allow passengers to seamlessly transfer between various mobility services. Riders can use a mobile app or website to schedule and pay for trips.	Mobility
Milling features	Features upon which seed and other plant and animal products are ground or processed.	Conservation
Mineral resources	Any naturally occurring chemical element or compound, or groups of elements and compounds, formed from inorganic processes and organic substances. These can include coal, peat, and bituminous rock, excluding geothermal resources, natural gas, and petroleum.	Conservation
Mobility	The movement from one place to another through one or more modes of transportation.	Mobility

M

Term/Phrase	Definition	Element
Mobility as a Service (MaaS)	Mobility as a Service includes digital platforms that support end-to-end trip planning, electronic ticketing, and payment services across all modes of public and private transportation. A MaaS user-centric app integrates the process of locating, booking, and paying for all the necessary transportation elements of a trip. It determines the best way to transport individuals based on real-time conditions. MaaS platforms consider all transportation options and user preferences, such as preferred mode of transportation, distance, cost, time, comfort, and convenience to improve and optimize the overall user experience.	Mobility
Mobility hubs	Places where different travel networks (including walking, biking, transit, and shared mobility) meet and provide convenient connections to destinations.	Mobility
Modal splits	A measurement of how many travelers use different modes of transportation (car, bus, train, etc.).	Mobility
Mode	Refers to a particular method of travel such as walking, bicycle, transit (bus or train), or automobile.	Mobility
Multi-layered cluster planting	This landscape design technique involves planting in layered groupings so that tree canopy, shrubs, and groundcover overlap and interconnect.	Land Use and Community Design
Multimodal	Having different types of travel options within a transportation network.	Mobility
Multimodal street	Multimodal streets are designed to serve different modes and provide multiple mobility options for its users, including pedestrians, cyclists, transit riders, and drivers.	Mobility

N

Term/Phrase	Definition	Element
Native plants	These plants have adapted to their ecosystem or region over hundreds of years and have a symbiotic relationship with other native wildlife.	Conservation
Naturally-Occurring Affordable Housing (NOAH)	Existing residential units that have maintained affordable costs for middle to lower income households.	Land Use and Community Design, Housing
Noise contour	A line connecting points of equal noise level as measured on the same scale. Noise levels greater than the 60 Ldn contour (measured in dBA) require noise attenuation in residential development.	Noise
Non-potable water	Water that is not of quality suitable for drinking but that may be used for irrigation and non-potable interior water demands. Non-potable water sources may include captured rainwater, greywater, and recycled water.	Infrastructure



Term/Phrase	Definition	Element
Open data	The concept that some data should be freely available and accessible to the public to use and republish. To make Open Data easier to find, most organizations, including the City of Culver City, create and manage Open Data catalogs.	Governance and Leadership

P

Term/Phrase	Definition	Element
Paleontological resources	Paleontological resources include fossilized remains or traces of multi-cellular invertebrate and vertebrate animals and multi-cellular plants that are greater than 5,000 years in age.	Conservation
Park service ratio	The park service ratio, or ratio of number of acres of parks per 1,000 residents, is a metric used by the City of Culver City to measure park service and calculate park dedication requirements from new development. A higher service ratio indicates greater park service.	Parks, Recreation, and Public Facilities
Participatory budgeting	A process in which community members decide how to spend part of a public budget. It is an annual cycle of engagement that is integrated into the regular budgeting process.	Governance and Leadership
Passive recreational use	Recreational activities that do not require specialized park equipment and management, such as walking, biking, and picnicking.	Parks, Recreation, and Public Facilities
Permanent supportive housing	A housing strategy that pairs affordable housing assistance with health and social services for households experiencing homelessness.	Land Use and Community Design, Housing
Placemaking	Transforming public spaces through a collaborative, people-centered process to strengthen the connections between people and places.	Land Use and Community Design; Mobility; Economic Development; Arts, Culture, and Creative Economy
Planning Area	The Planning Area includes land within the City of Culver City's Sphere of Influence (SOI), the "probable physical boundaries and service area" of the city. The SOI includes land within City limits and unincorporated portions of Los Angeles County. The unincorporated portion of the SOI is on the eastern side of the Planning Area to the west of La Cienega Boulevard.	Introduction
Potable water	Water that is safe to drink and use for food preparation. Non-potable water, or water that is not of quality suitable for drinking, may be used for irrigation and non-potable interior water demands. Non-potable water sources may include captured rainwater, greywater and recycled water.	Infrastructure
Procedural equity	Processes that are transparent, fair, and inclusive in developing and implementing any program, plan, or policy. They ensure that all people are treated openly and fairly.	Governance and Leadership

P

Term/Phrase	Definition	Element
Produced water	Water trapped underground that surfaces during oil and gas exploration and production. It may include any chemicals added during the oil and gas drilling, production, and treatment processes.	Safety
Protected bicycle network	Bicycle network consisting of Class I (trails) or Class IV (protected) bikeways.	Mobility
Public Safety Power Shutoffs	A preventative strategy used by utility companies when extreme weather conditions could lead to their utility system to ignite a fire.	Safety

R

Term/Phrase	Definition	Element
Rainwater harvesting	The collection and storage of rain, where it is then stored in a tank, cistern, or reservoir. This water can be used to recharge ground-water supply, treated and used in buildings, or used for irrigation.	Infrastructure
Reach code	A local building energy code that sets targets beyond State requirements for energy use or energy efficiency.	GHG Reduction
Redlining	Redlining began in 1934, when the Federal Government-sponsored Home Owners Loan Corporation (HOLC) produced maps of cities nationwide that rated neighborhoods from “A,” which represented the “best” areas for banks to invest and distribute loans, to “D,” areas considered “hazardous.” Areas graded as “A” were depicted in green and areas graded as “D” were depicted in red—thus the origin of the term “redlining.”	Introduction
Regional Housing Need Allocations (RHNA)	A projection of the total amount of housing units needed over time to accommodate households at different income levels within a city, county, or region.	Housing
Resilience	Resilience is the ability of an individual, a community, an organization, or a natural system to prepare for disruptions, to adapt to changing conditions, withstand and rapidly recover from shocks and stresses, and to adapt and grow from a disruptive experience.	Safety
Retrocommissioning	Improving existing buildings and systems to make them more efficient and operate optimally.	Parks, Recreation, and Public Facilities
Retrofitting	Involves changing or repairing the structure system of a building after its construction and occupation, resulting in increased safety and durability of the structure.	Safety
Risk	The potential for an adverse outcome assessed as a function of hazards/threats, assets and their vulnerabilities, and consequences.	Safety
Runoff	Surface water that flows into the storm drain during dry weather. For example, urban runoff can flow from overwatering landscaping, draining pools, or hosing down sidewalks.	Conservation

S

Term/Phrase	Definition	Element
Safe Routes to School	A strategy to promote walking and bicycling to school for students and families. This program is supported by infrastructure improvements, education, and incentives.	Mobility
SB 1000 Priority Neighborhoods	According to California’s Health and Safety Code (Section 39711), a disadvantaged community is defined as “a low-income area that is disproportionately affected by environmental pollution and other hazards that can lead to negative health effects, exposure, or environmental degradation.” For the purposes of the General Plan, “disadvantaged communities” are referred to as “SB 1000 Priority Neighborhoods.” The California Communities Environmental Health Screening Tool (CalEnviroScreen or CES) is a screening methodology that can be used to identify SB 1000 Priority Neighborhoods burdened by multiple sources of pollution. These neighborhoods are defined as: (1) census tracts that score in the top quartile of the CES 4.0 tool; or, (2) census tracts or block groups that are low-income and disproportionately affected by environmental pollution and other hazards that can lead to negative health effects, exposure, or environmental degradation. Low-income areas are defined as census tracts or block groups where the median household income falls below \$65,760, which represents 80% of the state median income for fiscal year 2019.	Community Health and Environmental Justice
Seismic hazard	Hazards associated with potential earthquakes in a particular area.	Safety
Senate Bill 1000 (Environmental Justice)	This bill requires cities and counties with “disadvantaged communities” to develop an Environmental Justice element, or related environmental justice goals and policies, as part of their general plans. The goal of SB 1000 is to help identify and reduce risks in communities disproportionately affected by environmental pollution and other hazards that can lead to negative health effects, exposure, or environmental degradation.	Community Health and Environmental Justice
Sensitive Receptors	Locations where occupants are more sensitive to noise such as residential areas, hospitals, convalescent homes and facilities, and schools.	Noise
Slow streets	Certain residential streets that limit through traffic and allow them to be used as a shared space for people traveling by foot and by bicycle.	Mobility
Smart city	Smart cities use data and technology to tackle problems ranging from reducing carbon emissions to improving traffic flow. Various technologies support smart cities, including information and communications technology (ICT) that transmit data and information, as well as sensors embedded within City infrastructure that can collect and share data. As cities become denser, applying smart solutions becomes more critical in increasing opportunities to thrive and live safely, efficiently, and inclusively.	Governance and Leadership

S

Term/Phrase	Definition	Element
Social equity	Social equity is when socioeconomic and environmental factors (race, gender, income, place, education) can no longer be used to predict life outcomes and outcomes for all groups are improved. These factors are not decided by an individual alone, but by policies and laws that negatively impact certain communities. In the United States, race, income, and wealth are connected, but when we hold income constant, we still see inequalities across races. These inequalities are apparent in education, jobs, incarceration, health, and housing.	Community Health and Environmental Justice
Soft story	Buildings with soft or weak stories and is considered to have one of the highest risk of significant damage during a large earthquake. This deficiency often occurs in wood buildings with soft, weak, or open front (SWOF) walls.	Safety
Sphere of Influence (SOI)	The planning boundary and service area of a city, as determined by the Local Agency Formation Commission.	Introduction
Stormwater management	The effort to reduce stormwater runoff, which often carries debris, chemicals, bacteria, eroded soil, and other pollutants into watersheds.	Infrastructure
Structural equity	Structural equity strategies make a commitment to correct past harms and prevent future unintended consequences. They also address the underlying structural and institutional systems that are the root causes of social and racial inequities.	Governance and Leadership
Sustainability co-benefits	Co-benefits are the added benefits we get when we act to control climate change, beyond the direct benefits of a more stable climate. This includes cleaner air, a stronger economy, and a healthier population.	GHG Reduction

T

Term/Phrase	Definition	Element
Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)	A regulatory term to identify the maximum amount of a pollutant that a body of water can receive while still meeting water quality standards.	Infrastructure
Transportation Demand Management (TDM)	Strategies and policies implemented to reduce the amount of traffic and improve the efficiency and use of transportation services and options.	Mobility
Transportation network company	These companies use mobile apps or online platforms to connect drivers using their personal vehicles with passengers. This includes ridehailing apps like Uber and Lyft.	Mobility
Tribal cultural resources	Tribal cultural resources include sites, features, places, or objects that are of cultural value to one or more California Native American Tribes.	Conservation
Trip cap	A limit on the number of vehicles that can enter a specific area.	Mobility

U

Term/Phrase	Definition	Element
Urban ecology	The study of humans in cities, of wildlife & nature in cities, and the relationship between humans & wildlife in an urban context.	Land Use and Community Design
Urban forest	The collection of trees and vegetation within a city, town, or suburb.	GHG Reduction, Conservation
Urban heat island effect	Heat islands are urbanized areas that experience higher temperatures than outlying areas due to a higher concentration of pavement, buildings, and other surfaces that absorb and retain heat.	Safety

V

Term/Phrase	Definition	Element
Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT)	A measure of total vehicular travel that accounts for the number of vehicle trips and the length of those trips.	Mobility
Vulnerability	A qualitative or quantitative expression of the level to which an entity is susceptible to harm when it experiences a hazard.	Safety

W

Term/Phrase	Definition	Element
Walkability	The ability of a built environment - including sidewalks, spaces between buildings, and crosswalks - to encourage pedestrian use and connectivity.	Mobility
Watershed	An area of land that channels rainfall and snowmelt through stream and rivers into a larger body of water or waterway.	Conservation
Wayfinding	Correctly navigating from a person's present location to their desired destination.	Land Use and Community Design
Web accessibility	Designing and developing websites, tools, and technologies so that all users, including those with auditory, cognitive, physical, speech or visual disabilities can perceive, understand, navigate, interact with, and contribute. Web accessibility also benefits people without disabilities, including people using devices with small screens, older individuals with lower digital literacy, and those with a slow Internet connection.	Governance and Leadership
Wildland-urban interface (WUI)	Areas where structures and other human development meet or intermingle with wildlands or vegetative fuels	Safety
Woonerf	A Dutch term for "living yard," and refers to a street that is used as a social space, prioritizing pedestrians and bicyclists over vehicles.	Parks, Recreation, and Public Facilities

X

Term/Phrase	Definition	Element
Xeriscaping	A form of landscaping that requires little or no irrigation.	Land Use and Community Design

Z

Term/Phrase	Definition	Element
Zero waste	A closed loop system where the production, consumption, reuse, and recovery of materials does not impact natural resources or human health.	GHG Reduction
Zoning	The division of a city by ordinance or other legislative regulation into districts or zones, which specify allowable uses for real property and size restrictions for buildings constructed in these areas; a program that implements the land use policies of the General Plan	Land Use and Community Design
Zoning district	A designated area of the city for which prescribed land use requirements and building and development standards are or will be established.	Land Use and Community Design

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**City of Culver City, California
Final General Plan**