

FACT SHEET

September 2021

Ventura-Cahuenga Boulevard Corridor Specific Plan Amendment

SUMMARY

In response to a motion by City Council ([Council File No. 17-1071](#)), the Department of City Planning is preparing an amendment to the [Ventura-Cahuenga Boulevard Corridor Specific Plan](#) (Specific Plan). The proposed amendment would update the Specific Plan to modernize regulations and improve efficiencies within the project review process so it may better serve the San Fernando Valley in the future.

BACKGROUND

On February 16, 1991, the Los Angeles City Council adopted [Ordinance No. 166.560](#), establishing the Specific Plan with regulations governing height, parking, landscaping, Project Impact Assessment (PIA) Fees, and the use of collected funds – all to ensure Ventura Boulevard remains viable as the San Fernando Valley’s premier commercial corridor. Since its initial adoption, the Department of City Planning amended the Specific Plan in 1996 and 2001.

The Specific Plan corridor spans over 17 miles in length, includes more than 1,200 acres of land, and regulates over 4,300 individual parcels of land. It comprises parcels that front on Ventura Boulevard as well as adjacent boulevards including Topanga Canyon Boulevard, Reseda Boulevard, Sepulveda Boulevard, and Van Nuys Boulevard. The Specific Plan designates these parcels as Regional Commercial, Community Commercial, and Neighborhood Commercial serving land uses, with some segments of the corridor designated as Pedestrian Oriented Area and the easternmost segment designated as a Regionally Impacted Area.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What would the proposed amendment to the Ventura-Cahuenga Boulevard Corridor Specific Plan do?

The proposed amendment to the Specific Plan is intended to simplify certain approval processes, expand the use of transportation funds, and address internal Specific Plan inconsistencies.

How would the proposed amendment ordinance affect my property?

There would be no immediate change to any one property. The proposed amendment would update the regulations, processes, and procedures that govern future development applications filed with the City.

Will the proposed amendment ordinance increase how much can be built on a property within the Specific Plan area?

This amendment will not affect zoning or capacity in the Specific Plan area. In order to speed the Corridor's post-pandemic recovery, the rezoning originally proposed as part of the amendment's work program has been delegated to the Community Plan Updates underway in the Southeast and Southwest Valleys.

What is the required environmental clearance for the proposed amendment ordinance?

Planning staff will complete the required environmental review in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). An Initial Study will determine the level of environmental clearance required.

How does the proposed amendment to the Specific Plan relate to the ongoing Community Plan Updates in the South Valley?

The proposed amendment ordinance is a separate work program from the Southwest and Southeast Valley Community Plan Updates (CPUs). While the CPUs and the Specific Plan amendment ordinance will work in tandem to ensure any changes are aligned and compatible, the Specific Plan Amendment team has increasingly focused on providing relief to businesses struggling to recover from the economic effects of the pandemic. It prioritizes issues of immediate concern to businesses and stakeholders along the Corridor, such as streamlining signage clearances, expanding transportation funds, and modernizing transportation strategies.



What are the next steps?

The next step includes further research and developing the draft amendment. There will be future public meetings. For updates and to be notified, ensure that the project team has your contact information.

Who can I contact for more information?

For additional information, visit <https://planning.lacity.org/plans-policies/ventura-specific-plan> or email: planning.venturacahuengaspa@lacity.org. Staff contacts: Courtney Schoenwald at (818) 374-9916 | courtney.schoenwald@lacity.org, Delia Arriaga at (818) 374-5035 | delia.arriaga@lacity.org, and Andy Rodriguez (818) 374-5047 | andy.rodriguez@lacity.org.