



STAFF REPORT – CITY COUNCIL MEETING

May 15, 2024

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: David Loya, Director of Community Development

PREPARER: David Loya, Director of Community Development

DATE: May 07, 2024

TITLE: Consider Minor Changes to the General Plan 2045.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the Council consider the changes to the General Plan 2045 update that have been proposed since the draft release on December 12, 2023, and provide direction to staff.

INTRODUCTION:

The General Plan 2045 draft released on December 12, 2023, included the input and recommendations of the community, City Committees, the Planning Commission, and Council collected over years of engagement. Since the December 2023 release, there have been several minor changes recommended by staff, the public, or the Planning Commission. This agenda item provides the Council the opportunity hear about these changes and to decide to accept or reject the changes that have been proposed. City Council will review the changes and direct staff whether to incorporate them or not.

BACKGROUND:

The General Plan 2045 December 12, 2023, version was the first compilation of the entire body of work in one place. It gave the public and the decision makers a clean version of the General Plan to review and make final comments on. There were several changes proposed from a variety of sources between December 2023 and May 2024.

DISCUSSION:

The General Plan 2045, May 14, 2024, version incorporates recommendations of the Planning Commission to modify the December 12, 2023, version. Both versions are available at <https://www.cityofarcata.org/974/General-Plan-Updates>. The changes that were made are tracked and cataloged in Attachment A. While there have been other non-substantive changes that are not tracked, the May 14 version shows the revisions in underline strikeout track changes. In addition to these changes, the Council may wish to weigh in on any other body of policy they wish.

In particular, policy AQ-1b in the Air Quality Element, expands on the City's long-standing policy of prohibiting installation of wood burning appliances in new development to existing development.

The policy now prohibits replacing wood burning appliances. The Council has not seen the policy since this change.

The Council's May 29 special meeting will be the first formal adoption hearing for the General Plan. Staff will incorporate any changes directed by Council before that meeting.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW (CEQA):

The Environmental Impact Report (EIR) developed for the General Plan and Gateway Code covers the proposed changes. No additional impacts or mitigation would be associated with these changes.

BUDGET/FISCAL IMPACT:

The budget allocated for the General Plan and related work is fully expended. Staff anticipates the need to provide a new allocation of less than sixty thousand dollars to complete the work. The budget allocation will come as a separate item when costing is refined.

ATTACHMENTS:

A. General Plan Amends Post Dec 12_2024.03.26 (PDF)