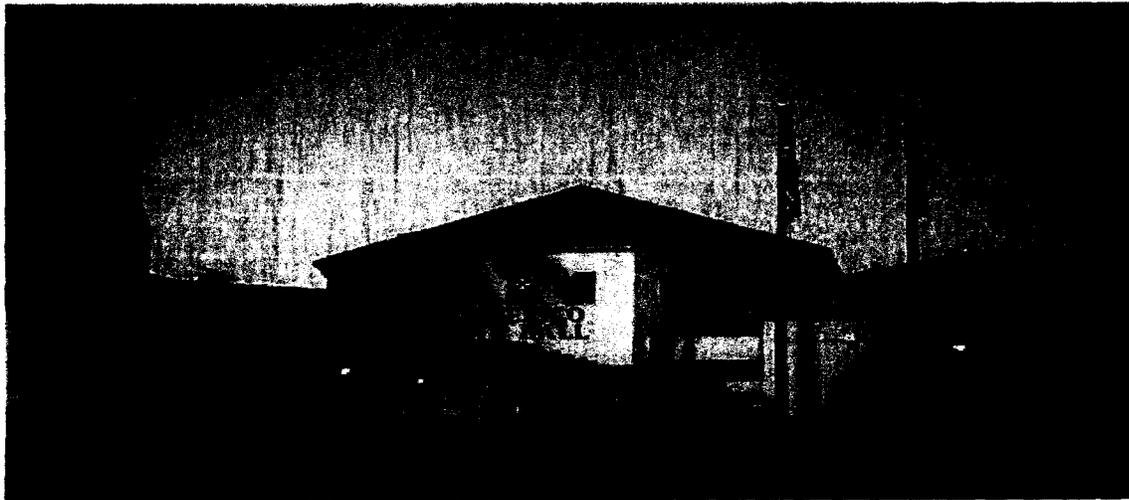


City of Calexico

General Plan Update



February 2007

Prepared By
ALBERT A
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City of Calexico

General Plan

February 2007

Prepared for

City of Calexico
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Adopted by

*City of Calexico City Council
May 1, 2007
Resolution 07-83*

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Lewis Pacheco, Mayor/Chairman
John Renison, Mayor Pro Tem/Vice Chairman
David Ouzan, Council Member
Carmen Durazo, Council Member
Louis Fuentes, Council Member
Ralph Velez, City Manager/Executive Director
Jennifer Lyon, City Attorney
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Armando G. Villa, *Director of Development Services*
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Luis Estrada, *Director of Utility Services*
Mario Sanchez, *Police Chief*
Nick Fenley, *Director of General Services*
Peter Mercado, *Interim Fire Chief*
Rosalind Guerrero, *RDA & Economic Development Director*
Sandra Tauler, *Director of Community Services*

RESOLUTION NO. 07-83

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CALEXICO, CALIFORNIA, ADOPTING A STATEMENT OF OVERRIDING CONSIDERATIONS FOR THE CALEXICO GENERAL PLAN UPDATE PURSUANT TO THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT AND CALEXICO LOCAL GUIDELINES FOR IMPLEMENTING THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT; AND APPROVING THE CALEXICO GENERAL PLAN UPDATE

WHEREAS, the City of Calexico ("City") embarked on a comprehensive update of its General Plan in 2004 to guide decision-making about development, resource management, public safety, community services and programs, and the general quality of life in our City; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") (Public Res. Code §§21000 et seq.), the State CEQA Guidelines (14 CCR §§15000 et seq.), and the City of Calexico Local Guidelines for implementing CEQA ("Local Guidelines"), the City caused an Environmental Impact Report ("EIR") to be prepared for the Calexico General Plan Update ("Project") in order to analyze all potential adverse environmental impacts of Project implementation; and

WHEREAS, on April 9, 2007, the Planning Commission of the City of Calexico recommended certification of the Final EIR and recommended adoption of environmental findings and a mitigation monitoring and reporting program for the Project; and

WHEREAS, the Final EIR identified and discussed significant effects which may occur as a result of the Project. With the implementation of the mitigation measures in the adopted mitigation monitoring program, these effects can be mitigated to below levels of significance except for the unavoidable significant impacts to (1) agricultural resources; (2) air quality; (3) biological resources (cumulative only); (4) noise; (5) population and housing; (6) transportation and traffic; and (7) solid waste; and

WHEREAS, no significant new information has been submitted pursuant to CEQA Guidelines §15088.5, and therefore recirculation of the EIR is not required under CEQA, nor is a subsequent or supplemental EIR required pursuant to Public Resources Code §21166; and

WHEREAS, CEQA §15093 requires that if the Project will cause significant unavoidable adverse impacts, the City must adopt a Statement of Overriding Considerations prior to approving the Project. A Statement of Overriding Considerations states that any significant adverse project effects are accepted if expected project benefits outweigh unavoidable adverse environmental impacts; and

WHEREAS, the City Council, having considered and weighed the benefits of the Project against the Project's unavoidable adverse impacts, has determined that the benefits outweigh the potential unavoidable adverse impacts, and recommends adoption of a Statement of Overriding Considerations and approval of the Project; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission held a duly noticed public hearing on April 9, 2007, to consider the adoption of the General Plan, at which time all persons wishing to testify in connection with the General Plan were heard; and

WHEREAS, the City Council fully studied the proposed General Plan and considered all public comments on the General Plan ("Project");

WHEREAS, the City Council held a duly noticed public hearing on May 1, 2007, to consider the adoption of the General Plan, at which time all persons wishing to testify in connection with the General Plan were heard; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has fully studied the proposed General Plan and considered all public comments on the General Plan ("Project");

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CALEXICO HEREBY FINDS, DECLARES, AND RECOMMENDS AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The City Council hereby finds that the Final EIR has identified and discussed potential significant adverse environmental effects that will occur as a result of the Calexico General Plan Update. With the implementation of the mitigation measures discussed in the Final EIR, these effects can be mitigated to a less than significant level except for the unavoidable significant impacts as discussed in Section III of City Council Resolution No. 07-82, certifying the Final EIR and adopting environmental findings for the Project.

Section 2. The City Council declares that it has made a reasonable and good faith effort to eliminate or substantially mitigate, through adoption of all feasible mitigation measures, all potential impacts that may result from the Project.

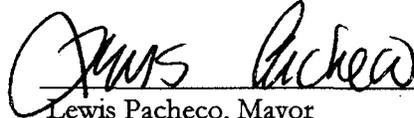
Section 3. The City Council declares that, having reduced the adverse significant environmental effects of the Calexico General Plan Update to the extent feasible by adopting the mitigation measures in the Final EIR, having considered the entire administrative record on the Project, and having weighed the benefits of the Project against its unavoidable adverse impacts after mitigation, the City Council has determined that the environmental, economic, and social benefits of the Project outweigh the potential unavoidable adverse impacts and render those potential adverse environmental impacts acceptable based upon the overriding considerations listed in Exhibit "A" attached hereto.

Section 4. Based on the entire administrative record before the City Council on the Project, including the above findings and all written and oral evidence presented to the Planning Commission and the City Council, the City Council takes the following actions to (i) adopt a Statement of Overriding Considerations for the Calexico General Plan pursuant to the California Quality Act and Calexico Local Guidelines for Implementing the California Environmental Quality Act; and to (ii) approve the Calexico General Plan Update with the alterations specified in Section 5 below and with the mitigation monitoring program, and all mitigation measures, set forth in City Council Resolution No. 07-82, recommending certifying the Final EIR and adopting the environmental findings for the Project.

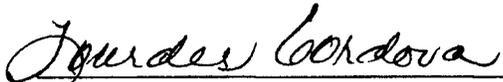
Section 5. The alterations to the General Plan Update identified in Exhibit "B" attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference shall be made to the final version of the General Plan Update.

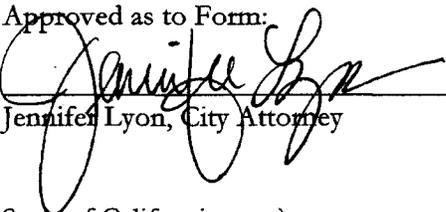
Section 6. The Mayor shall sign this resolution and the City Clerk shall attest to the adoption thereof.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED THIS 1st DAY OF MAY, 2007.


Lewis Pacheco, Mayor

ATTEST:


Lourdes Cordova, City Clerk

Approved as to Form:

Jennifer Lyon, City Attorney

State of California)
County of Imperial) ss
City of Calexico)

I, Lourdes Cordova, City Clerk for the City of Calexico do hereby certify the foregoing Resolution No. 07-83 was adopted by the City Council in a regular meeting held on the 1st day of May, 2007 by the following vote to-wit:

AYES: Renison, Durazo, Fuentes, Pacheco, Ouzan
NOES: None
ABSENT: None

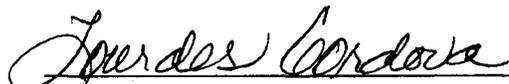

Lourdes Cordova, City Clerk

EXHIBIT "A"
OVERRIDING CONSIDERATIONS

The environmental, economic, and social benefits of the Calexico General Plan Update outweigh the potential unavoidable adverse impacts that may occur as a result the project and render those potential adverse environmental impacts acceptable based upon the following overriding considerations:

1. The goals, objectives, and policies in the Land Use Element of the General Plan Update ("GPU") will promote and retain the highest level of urban/rural-residential character for Calexico by continuing to provide quality urban-level services and uses in the developed areas while providing well planned development direction for the rural areas of the city. (GPU, section 2.1.6 *et. seq.*)
2. The GPU seeks to create mixed-use developments, allowing and encouraging residents to be able to live, work and shop within their community, which was a concern of city residents and staff. (GPU, section 2.1.1)
3. The GPU will lay the foundation to transition the economic and job base in Calexico from agriculture to other jobs, thus sustaining the continuity of the community. (GPU, section 2.1.1)
4. The GPU will guide the development of areas within the city limits and the sphere of influence which is essential to maintaining the resources of the city. (GPU, section 2.1.1)
5. The GPU will promote the commercial, residential, and industrial development in the city to capitalize on the city's location near Mexico. (GPU, section 2.1.1)
6. The GPU will promote the development of quality housing for all segments of the population. (GPU, section 2.1.1)
7. The GPU will help ensure that residents are provided a safe and healthful environment in which to live and work. (GPU, section 2.1.1)
8. The GPU will preserve those amenities that make Calexico an attractive place to live and work. (GPU, section 2.1.1)
9. The goals, objectives, and policies in the Circulation Element will promote the safe, efficient movement of people, goods, and vehicles and protect and enhance the environmental quality of Calexico. (GPU, section 3.6 *et. seq.*)
10. The goals, objectives, and policies in the Public Facilities/Services Element will provide for a full range of the necessary public facilities and services that are convenient to users, economical, and reinforce a quality city identity. (GPU, section 4.4 *et. seq.*)
11. The goals, objectives, and policies in the Conservation/Open Space Element will balance development with the preservation and management of natural and human-built open space resources, thus ensuring the long-term viability of the city. (GPU, section 5.4 *et. seq.*)

12. The goals, objectives, and policies in the Parks and Recreation Element will provide continued investment in existing parks while creating high-quality new facilities that satisfy the underserved and future needs of the community. Park planning will be flexible in nature and therefore be responsive to demographic or other social changes, thus ensuring a high-quality, long-term viable park system. (GPU, section 6.4 *et. seq.*)
13. The goals, objectives, and policies in the Noise Element will maintain the quiet rural residential nature of the community through use of sensitive land use practices and appropriate noise mitigation measures. (GPU, section 7.8 *et. seq.*)
14. The goals, objectives, and policies in the Safety Element will identify and minimize, to the extent possible or feasible, the risks to persons and property caused by natural and human-induced hazards. (GPU, section 8.5 *et. seq.*)
15. The goals, objectives, and policies in the Economic Development Element will promote a healthy and diversified economic base by continuing to welcome Mexico's resources, attracting quality businesses and encouraging existing businesses to expand their sales, facilities, and employment. (GPU, section 9.6 *et. seq.*)
16. Growth pursuant to the General Plan will generate additional City revenues from sales and use taxes, property taxes, and utility user taxes that are important for providing City services and maintaining public infrastructure.
17. Increased retail development that provides a wide range of retail goods and services will help the City maintain its competitiveness and enhance taxable retail sales, which are a major General Fund revenue source.
18. New development in the Redevelopment Project Area will generate property tax increment that can be used for specific revitalization and reinvestment activities that will stimulate additional development and taxable sales citywide, benefiting the City overall.
19. The new residential development will provide for an increased property tax base and increase demand for retail uses.
20. The public revenues generated by new development pursuant to the General Plan will provide a source of funding to maintain the City's public infrastructure as well as provide a continuing high level of public services.
21. Additional revenues generated by new development pursuant to the General Plan will allow the City to achieve economic vitality and enhance the community's quality of life.

The benefits listed above are sufficient justification for the City Council to override the unavoidable environmental impacts that may occur as a result of the project.

EXHIBIT "B"

ALTERATIONS TO THE GENERAL PLAN UPDATE

1. The Economic Development Element, Section 9 in the General Plan, Section 9.1 on page 9-1, shall be amended as follows:

9.1 Economic Development Element

Successful economic development for the City of Calexico can be achieved through maintaining a fiscally healthy and balanced economy that builds upon existing economic development efforts and establishes policies for future economic growth. Economic growth and awareness of regional economic development activities will assist in developing logical strategies to address more intense economic development efforts. A healthy economy not only provides local workers with adequate income to afford a better quality of life, but it also provides local government with adequate public revenues to maintain a better quality of public services. The Economic Development goals and policies should be recognized as a long-term commitment that provides an organizational framework and process that can guide ongoing development efforts. Recognizing that economic development is an ongoing process, the goals and policies should provide direction to guide development activities while at the same time maintaining flexibility to respond to changing economic trends and local market conditions.

Through economic diversification combined with its geographic locations along the United States and Mexico International border, a broader tax base will provide the City with long-term benefits and economic stability. In the short-term, key improvements to the City's economic development should focus on four general areas: 1) the concentration of mixed use development in key locations of the City, 2) the development of commercial and mixed use development along Interstate 111, State Route 98, Jasper Road and Cole Road 3) revitalization of the downtown area, and 4) smart sustainable conversion and development of agricultural land to non-agricultural land. In the long-term, the Silicon Border and Eastern Industrial Corridor projects may provide engines for economic growth in the region closest to Calexico. Through future expansion of its Sphere of Influence, economic incentive programs, and cooperation with the County, the City can realize the benefits of an Eastern Industrial Corridor.

2. The Economic Development Element, Section 9 in the General Plan, Section 9.6.1.5, Policy 5 (d) on page 9-9, shall be amended as follows:

d. The City shall continue to coordinate and cooperate with the county, state and federal governments, as well as Mexico, to support the development of the Eastern Industrial Corridor project and the Silicon Border project.

The word "Possible" shall be eliminated from the following pages and exhibits in the:

General Plan

LU-1 General Plan Land Use Plan	page 2-9
LU-2 Future Land Uses	page 2-10
LU-4 Anticipated Development	page 2-14
Figure PF-2 Schools	page 4-8
Figure P-1 Parks and Recreation Facilities	page 6-3
Figure S-2 Flood Zone	page 8-13

Draft EIR

Figure 2-2 General Plan/Sphere of Influence Boundaries	page 2-6
Figure 3-1 Proposed Land Use Designations	page 3-3
Figure 3-2 Anticipated Development	page 3-4
Figure 5.8-2 Flood Zone Designations	page 5.8-15
Figure 5.12-2 Parks and Recreation Facilities	page 5.12-7