

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-06-PCR-**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF
THE CITY OF REDONDO BEACH, CALIFORNIA,
RECOMMENDING THAT THE CITY COUNCIL ADOPT AN
ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 10, CHAPTER 5,
COASTAL LAND USE PLAN IMPLEMENTING
ORDINANCE OF THE REDONDO BEACH MUNICIPAL
CODE PERTAINING TO TRAFFIC ENVIRONMENTAL
IMPACTS**

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 743 (Steinberg, 2013), which was codified in California Public Resources Code section 21099, required changes to the guidelines implementing California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Cal. Code Regs., Title 14, Div. 6, Ch. 3, § 15000 et seq.) regarding the analysis of transportation impacts;

WHEREAS, pursuant to California Public Resources Code Section 21099, the criteria for determining the significance of transportation impacts must “promote the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, the development of multimodal transportation networks, and a diversity of land uses.” (Id., subd. (b)(1); see generally, adopted CEQA Guidelines, § 15064.3, subd. (b) [Criteria for Analyzing Transportation Impacts].), thus changing the focus of transportation impact analysis in CEQA from measuring impacts to drivers to measuring the environmental impact of driving;

WHEREAS, the State Office of Planning and Research (OPR) selected vehicle miles traveled (VMT) as a replacement measure of transportation impacts not only because it satisfies the explicit goals of SB 743, but also because OPR considered that agencies should be familiar with this metric with VMT already used in CEQA to study other potential impacts such as greenhouse gas, air quality, and energy impacts, and is used in planning for regional sustainable communities’ strategies;

WHEREAS, beginning on July 1, 2020, the provisions of §15064.3 of the CEQA Guidelines requiring calculations of VMT instead of level of service (LOS) will apply statewide regardless of whether local methodologies are in place;

WHEREAS, a lead agency has discretion to choose the most appropriate methodology to evaluate a project’s VMT, including which metrics and models to be utilized to estimate a project’s VMT, and may revise those estimates to reflect professional judgment based on substantial evidence, so long as any assumptions used to estimate VMT and any revisions to model outputs should be documented and explained in the environmental document prepared for the project;

WHEREAS, at their April 21, 2021 meeting, the Redondo Beach City Council approved a contract with the consultant Fehr and Peers to ensure that Redondo Beach develops the best VMT methodology to match the City’s circumstances;

WHEREAS, Fehr and Peers proposed a VMT methodology to the Redondo Beach City Council at their November 10, 2020 meeting, and the City Council agreed to move forward with the metrics and methodology proposed;

WHEREAS, draft revisions to the Redondo Beach Municipal Code were prepared to represent the agreed to methodology, as represented in a draft ordinance;

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission held a duly noticed public hearing, took public testimony, and considered the ordinance amendments on the 17th day of June, 2021.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF REDONDO BEACH, CALIFORNIA, DOES HEREBY FIND AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. FINDINGS.

- A. The amendments to the Redondo Beach Municipal Code Title 10, Chapter 5 have been assessed in accordance with the authority and criteria contained in the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code Sections 21000 et seq.), the State CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Sections 15000 et seq.), and the environmental regulations of the City. The project qualifies for a Class 8 categorical exemption (Actions by a Regulatory Agency for Protection of the Environment) in accordance with the requirements of Section 15308 of the State CEQA Guidelines. The revised CEQA thresholds will be compliant with a State mandate (Senate Bill 743) and will be used in a regulatory process that involves procedures for the protection of the environment. Therefore, the City Council finds the amendments exempt from further review under CEQA.
- B. The amendments to the Coastal Land Use Plan Implementing Ordinance are consistent with the General Plan.
- C. The amendments to the Coastal Land Use Plan Implementing Ordinance are consistent with the City's Local Coastal Plan (LCP).
- D. These amendments do not require a vote of the people under Article XXVII of the City Charter.

SECTION 2. The above recitals are true and correct, and the recitals are incorporated herein by reference as if set forth in full.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF REDONDO BEACH, CALIFORNIA, DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The Planning Commission recommends that the City Council adopt the amendments to the Local Coastal Land Use Plan Implementing Ordinance pertaining to traffic environmental impacts.

SECTION 2. AMENDMENT OF CODE. Title 10, Chapter 5, Section 10-5.2400 regarding Article 11. Transportation Demand Management recommended to read as follows:

10-5.2400 Purpose. The specific purposes of this article are to set forth requirements for new applicable developments to provide facilities and/or programs that encourage and accommodate the use of ridesharing, transit, pedestrian and bicycle commuting as alternatives to single-occupant motor vehicle trips. A reduction in vehicle miles traveled can be expected to assist in mitigating transportation impacts and reducing traffic congestion, air pollution and energy consumption impacts related to employment growth generated by new development.

SECTION 3. AMENDMENT OF CODE. Title 10, Chapter 5, Section 10-5.2402 Subsection (p) is recommended to be added to read as follows:

(p) "Vehicle Miles Traveled" means the amount and distance of automobile travel attributed to a project (California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines Section 15064.3).

SECTION 4. Any provisions of the Redondo Beach Municipal Code, or appendices thereto, or any other ordinances of the City inconsistent herewith, to the extent of such inconsistencies and no further, are hereby repealed.

SECTION 5. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by the decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of the ordinance. The City Council shall declare that it would have passed this ordinance and each section, subsection, sentence, clause, and phrase thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses, or phrases be declared invalid or unconstitutional.

SECTION 6. The Planning Commission recommends that the City Council adopt a resolution authorizing submittal to and requesting certification by the California Coastal Commission of these amendments as compliant with the Coastal Act and the City's Local Coastal Program.

FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Planning Commission forward a copy of this resolution to the City Council so the Council will be informed of the action of the Planning Commission.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 17th day of June, 2021.

Chair
Planning Commission
City of Redondo Beach

ATTEST:

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES) SS
CITY OF REDONDO BEACH)

I, Brandy Forbes, Community Development Director of the City of Redondo Beach, California, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution No. 2021-06-PCR-** was duly passed, approved and adopted by the Planning Commission of the City of Redondo Beach, California, at a regular meeting of said Planning Commission held on the 17th day of June, 2021 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

Brandy Forbes, AICP
Community Development Director

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Attorney's Office