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A. WHAT IS A GENERAL PLAN?

A General Plan is a legal document that serves as the Community's "constitution" for land, use, development and conservation. A General Plan must be comprehensive and long term, outlining proposals for the physical development of the City and any land outside its boundaries that, in the City's judgment, bears relation to its planning. The Trinidad General Plan is a legislative document that sets forth development constraints and preferences, and develops a program for the orderly development of public service facilities and private lands and identifies steps to implement the plan. The City of Trinidad General Plan 2020 is a comprehensive update of the 1978 Plan. This plan makes use of existing and new data, trends, and desires to provide a glimpse of what the community is and will be twenty years in the future.

1. Legislative Requirements

The State of California requires that each municipality to prepare and adopt a General Plan, generally with a 20 year planning horizon (Government Code 65300 et seq). The General Plan should comprise an integrated, internally consistent and compatible statement of policies for the adopting agency. General Plans are required to address at least seven elements: (1) land use; (2) circulation; (3) housing; (4) conservation; (5) open-space; (6) noise; and, (7) safety. The General Plan may include any other elements or address any other subjects, which, in the judgment of the legislative body, relate to the physical development of the county or city.

In addition to establishing requirements for the development of a General Plan, the Government Code stipulates that zoning and subdivision regulations and specific plans must conform to the adopted General Plan. Because Trinidad lies almost exclusively within the Coastal Zone, portions of this General Plan serve as the Land Use Plan (LUP) portion of the Local Coastal Program (LCP) as required by the Coastal Act (see below). The General Plan consists of narrative text and maps, along with goals, principles policies, and programs to be used in making land use decisions. It is organized into the seven elements required by State law, and two optional elements dealing with Community Design and Cultural Historic Preservation.

The nine (**DRAFT**) elements of the Trinidad General Plan are outlined below:

1. *Land Use*: Establishes land use designations with types and intensities of land use, and policies and programs regarding development and redevelopment of land, including priority uses under the Coastal Act. The Land Use Element also discusses the City's relationship to lands outside City limits, including the City's Planning Area, Service Area, and Sphere of Influence.
2. *Conservation, Open Space, and Recreation*: Contains the State-mandated open space and conservation elements. Emphasis is placed on protecting the City's natural resources, protecting and enhancing environmentally sensitive areas, and providing open space and parks to meet the community's recreational needs. This element also includes specific policies and programs to ensure continued public access, preserve and enhance scenic views, protect Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Areas (ESHAs), water quality, the Trinidad Bay Area of Special Biological Significance (ASBS), and other natural resources.
3. *Circulation, Energy and Public Services*: Establishes the public facilities and services essential to ensure that the existing and future population of Trinidad is provided with the highest feasible and efficient level of public services. This element contains policies and standards for the roadway system, as well as policies for public transit, bicycle facilities, parking and transportation for the mobility impaired, taking into account the relationship between land use and transportation needs of the community. This element also addresses energy consumption and conservation.
4. *Noise and Safety*: Contains policies and programs to reduce the risk of injury, loss of life, and property damage resulting from natural disasters and hazardous conditions and materials. The element also contains policies and programs to reduce the community's exposure to excessive noise.
5. *Housing*: Includes policies and programs to meet the housing needs of all economic segments of the community. It evaluates existing and potential development in the context of community demographics and balances the need for housing the considerations of water supply, wastewater, environmental quality and social equality.

6. *Cultural and Historic Preservation*: An optional element that provides a framework for assessing, protecting and interpreting Trinidad's unique cultural and historic heritage.
7. *Community Design*: This optional element establishes policies and programs dealing with the appearance of the community. It includes design guidelines to ensure that development contributes to the community's identity and unique sense of place, and policies to preserve historic sites and buildings.

State law requires that all parts of the General Plan comprise an integrated, internally consistent and compatible statement of policies. This standard, as well as court cases which have interpreted it, implies that all elements of the General Plan have equal status, that all goals and policies must be internally consistent, and that implementation activities must follow logically from the Plan's goals and policies. This General Plan meets these standards.

2. California Coastal Act

The California Coastal Act of 1976 established a comprehensive plan to protect resources and regulate development along California's coast. The Coastal Act requires every city and county located partly or wholly within the designated Coastal Zone to prepare an LCP, which is reviewed and certified by the California Coastal Commission. The Coastal Act defines an LCP as *"a local government's (a) land use plans, (b) zoning ordinances, (c) zoning district maps, and (d) within sensitive coastal resource areas, other implementing actions, which, when taken together, meet the requirements of, and implement the provisions and policies of this division at the local level"* (Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 30108.6). In other words, the purpose of the LCP is to meet the requirements of and implement the Coastal Act at the local level.


The LCP consists of both an LUP and an Implementation Plan (IP). The IP consists of the zoning and other ordinances and regulations that implement the provisions of the certified LUP, and by extension, policies of the Coastal Act. The Coastal Commission will certify an LUP if it finds that the LUP meets the requirements of, and is in conformity with, the policies of Chapter 3 of the Coastal Act. Though developed in 1976, the City's former LUP was the first in the State to be certified by the Coastal Commission in 1978. The implementation ordinances, which include zoning, building, grading and subdivision ordinances, were certified in 1980. The Coastal Act (per PRC Section 30001.5), sets the following goals for LCPs in the Coastal Zone:

- Protect, maintain, and, where feasible, enhance and restore the overall quality of the Coastal Zone environment and its natural and artificial resources.
- Assure orderly, balanced utilization and conservation of Coastal Zone resources taking into account the social and economic needs of the people of the state.

- Maximize public access to and along the coast and maximize public recreational opportunities in the Coastal Zone consistent with sound resource conservation principles and constitutionally protected rights of private property owners.
- Assure priority for coastal-dependent and coastal-related development over other development on the coast.
- Encourage state and local initiatives and cooperation in preparing procedures to implement coordinated planning and development for mutually beneficial uses, including educational uses, in the Coastal Zone.

Portions of this document establish the LUP of the City of Trinidad LCP and have been prepared in accordance with the California Coastal Act. The LUP is defined as *“the relevant portion of a local government’s general plan, or local coastal element which are sufficiently detailed to indicate the kinds, location, and intensity of land uses, the applicable resource protection and development policies, and where necessary, a listing of implementing actions”* (PRC Section 30108.5). Once certified by the Coastal Commission, the portions of this General Plan update constituting the LUP supersedes the City’s 1978 certified LUP.

3. Policies not part of the Certified Local Coastal Program

Because the City of Trinidad is almost entirely within the Coastal Zone, the City has not developed a separate General Plan for outside the Coastal Zone and an LUP for inside the Coastal Zone. However, not every General Plan policy is required as part of the LUP. Because the adoption and amendment of all LUP policies requires certification by the Coastal Commission, it makes sense to identify those policies that do not apply to the LUP. The policies demarcated with the City of Trinidad seal:  are not part of the certified LCP and do not govern the review and approval of Coastal Development Permits (CDPs). These policies are not part of the standard of review for CDP purposes, as they are not relevant to indicate the *“kinds, location, and intensity of land uses”* as required of Coastal LUPs (PRC Section 30108.5). However, the policies demarcated with the City seal are included in the General Plan document as the City will apply these policies under its own separate authority.

The policies and associated programs herein, which are demarcated with the City seal within the General Plan, are not considered part of the City’s certified Local Coastal Program for purposes of the review and approval of CDPs. The policies and associated programs herein, which are not demarcated with the City seal within the General Plan, are considered part of the City’s certified Local Coastal Program and govern the review and approval of CDPs within the City’s jurisdiction.

Note City staff is working with Coastal Commission staff to determine the best way to separate coastal from non-coastal policies in the General Plan. Therefore, these policies have yet to be determined, and so have not yet been listed or demarcated.

4. Purpose

The Trinidad General Plan serves the following functions:

- Expresses the community's vision of the future physical development of the City of Trinidad
- Enables the Planning Commission and the City Council to establish long-range conservation and sustainable development policies in the City.
- Provides the basis for judging whether specific private development proposals and public projects are consistent with these policies in the City.
- Informs the residents, developers, decision makers, and other jurisdictions of the ground rules that will guide development and conservation in the City.
- Provides the framework for ordinances that implement the general plan policies through specific regulations.
- Serves as the standard of review for CDPs in the City's delegated permit jurisdiction

B. PLAN ADMINISTRATION

1. Organization

The Introduction chapter focuses on the legislative requirements and purposes of a general plan. It further describes past planning efforts by the City, the relationship of planning within City limits and those areas adjacent to and outside of the City, and opportunities for public input and future amendment. It also contains the City's vision statement and information on using and interpreting the various General Plan Elements.

The chapters following the Introduction constitute the various (9) elements contained with the General Plan. A Glossary is included as a final section. Figures are located at the end of each element, and a list of figures can be found within the Table of Contents. In addition, there are various background reports that are referenced in the General Plan and that were used to inform and shape the policies of each element. However, these background reports should not be considered part of this General Plan.

2. Plan Interpretation

Much of the background information and analysis that supports the policies in this General Plan is included in several background reports and other supporting documents described below. These documents are available for public review at City Hall. The narrative that precedes the General Plan policies should be considered part of the supporting information and was used in the development of the policies. While it is

intended that the policies be fully respected and achieved, circumstances may occur that result in a change in how a specific policy is to be implemented. Decisions relating to the General Plan need not be entirely consistent with the narrative as long as adherence to the policies occurs.

The Land Use Map and the General Plan Policies are the core of the General Plan. Zoning regulations, subdivision decisions, and other City policy deliberations shall be consistent with these policies. If the General Plan is found to be inconsistent with community preferences, the General Plan should be amended accordingly rather than approving developments or actions inconsistent with the General Plan policies. Many policies apply to more than one element of the General Plan. For ease of use in finding applicable policies, they have been repeated in each appropriate element and cross-referenced.

i. Background Reports (DRAFT)

- *Sphere of Influence*
 - *Master Services Element*
 - *Municipal Service Review*
- Impervious Surfaces Study and LID Recommendations, April 2006
- Background Report: Geologic and Seismic Characteristics of Trinidad, CA, April 2007
- Trinidad-Westhaven Integrated Coastal Watershed Management Plan, May 2008
- Trinidad Walkability Study, May 2008
- Fundamentals of a Circulation Element for the City of Trinidad, May 2009
- Background Report: Biology and Environment of the Trinidad Area, October 2009
- Background Report: Soil Characteristics of Trinidad, CA, October 2009
- Trinidad Architectural Survey (incomplete), November 2009
- Draft Trinidad Climate Action Plan, April 2010
- Coastal Resilience Planning For the City of Trinidad, October 2014
- LCP Update Guide Land Use Plan Policy Compliance Analysis, December 2015
- LCP Update Guide Implementation Plan Needs Assessment, April 2016
- Climate Change Vulnerability Report and Adaption Response, April 2016

ii. Goals, Principles, Policies, Programs, and Other Initiatives

The City's vision statement forms the foundation for the goals and policies included in each element of the General Plan. Goals, principles, policies and programs are the essence of the General Plan and are defined below.

- Goal: A general, overall, ultimate purpose, aim or end toward which the City will direct effort. Goals are a general expression of community values and, therefore, are abstract in nature. Consequently, a goal is not quantifiable, time-dependent, or suggestive of specific actions for its achievement.
- Principle: An assumption, fundamental rule, or doctrine guiding general plan policies, standards and implementation measures (programs). Principles are

based on community values, generally accepted planning doctrine, current technology, and the general plan's goals. Principles underlie the process of developing the general plan policies but are only explicitly stated when they help frame and clarify the policies, generally for more complex topics such as water resources.

- **Policy**: LCP policies are specific mandatory statements binding the City's action and establishing the standard of review to determine whether land use and development decisions, zoning changes or other City actions are consistent with the General Plan. Policies are based on and help implement the City's goals and principles. Policies also govern the review and approval of CDPs, except for those policies demarcated with the Trinidad City seal, which are not part of the certified LUP. Non-LCP policies are specific statements that guide decision-making and indicate a commitment by the City to that particular course of action. However, individual policies are not necessarily binding as long as the decision is consistent with a majority of policies.
- **Program**: An action, activity, or strategy carried out in response to adopted policy to achieve a specific goal related to that policy. Programs under policies that are not part of the LCP (marked with the City symbol), are also not part of the LCP.
- **Other Initiatives**: Nonbinding and/or advisory statements of intent, encouragement, or pledges of support for specific endeavors, programs, or outcomes. Other Initiatives may set guidelines and priorities for City actions, but are not intended for permit governance or to serve as regulatory standards by which development projects or zoning amendments are to be assessed for conformity and consistency, and are not a valid basis for appealing a permit action. Other initiatives are not part of the certified LCP.

3. Administering the Coastal Land Use Plan

All development (as defined by §30106) in the Coastal Zone requires a CDP, unless otherwise exempt. For the purposes of reviewing and processing CDPs, conformity with the standards set forth in Trinidad's certified LCP serves as the standard of review for all proposed development within the City's delegated permit jurisdiction. In authorizing CDPs after LCP certification, the City must make the finding that the development conforms to the certified LCP as well as all other findings required by various sections regulating the issuance of permits of the Trinidad Zoning Ordinance. Any amendments to the certified LUP will require review and approval by the Coastal Commission prior to becoming effective. The following general policies shall provide the framework for the Coastal LUP and the Trinidad General Plan:

Policy 1-1: The policies of the Coastal Act (Coastal Act Sections 30210 through 30264) shall guide the interpretation of the LUP.

Policy 1-2: Where conflicts occur between the policies contained in the certified LUP and those contained in other local plans, policies and regulations, the policies of the LUP shall take precedence in the City's Coastal Zone.

Policy 1-3: Where policies within the General Plan overlap or conflict, the policy which is the most protective of coastal resources shall take precedence.

Policy 1-4: Prior to the approval of any development permit required by this Plan, the City, or the Commission on appeal, shall make the finding that the development meets the standards set forth in all applicable Coastal LUP/General Plan policies.

Policy 1-5: The textual discussion is intended as elaboration of and justification for the Plan policies and map designations. Therefore, the text shall be considered as the findings justifying the specified policies and Land Use Maps.

Policy 1-6: Where a conflict exists between the enumerated policies of the LUP and the maps, the enumerated policies control.

Policy 1-7: When acting on a CDP, the issuing agency, or the Coastal Commission on appeal, may consider environmental justice, or the equitable distribution of environmental benefits throughout the State. In all instances the standard of review for issuance of a CDP shall be the Coastal Act or certified LCP.

Policy 1-8: The City does not have the power to grant or deny a permit in a manner which will cause a physical or regulatory taking of private property, without the payment of just compensation. This policy is not intended to increase or decrease the rights of any owner of property under the Constitution of the State of California or the United States.

In addition, certain types of development, as well as development within certain geographic areas that are acted on by the City after certification of the LCP, are appealable to the Coastal Commission (PRC Section 30603). These include:

- (1) Developments approved by the local government between the sea and the first public road paralleling the sea or within 300 feet of the inland extent of any beach or of the mean high tideline of the sea where there is no beach, whichever is the greater distance.
- (2) Developments approved by the local government not included in paragraph (1) that are located on tidelands, submerged lands, and public trust lands, within 100 feet of any wetland, estuary, or stream, or within 300 feet of the top of the seaward face of any coastal bluff.
- (3) Developments approved by the local government not included with paragraphs (1) or (2) that are located in a sensitive coastal resource area.

- (4) Any development which constitutes a major public works project or a major energy facility (whether approved or denied by the local government).

The grounds for an appeal of an approval of a permit are limited to an allegation that the development does not conform to the standards set forth in the certified LCP or the public access policies of the Coastal Act. In addition, the grounds for appealing of a denial of a permit for a major public works project or major energy facility, referenced in number (4) above, are limited to an allegation that the development conforms to the standards set forth in the certified LCP and the public access policies of the Coastal Act. The Coastal Commission retains coastal development permitting jurisdiction on submerged lands, tidelands, and public trust lands (PRC Section 30519). See Figure 1 for retained jurisdiction and appealable areas.

C. CURRENT GENERAL PLAN

This General Plan includes a revision of the previous General Plan/LUP policies based on numerous background reports and other inputs, as referenced in each element, and is intended, based on current knowledge, to extend forward for a twenty-year period. It updates all the existing General Plan elements, including the 1976 Land Use, Conservation, Open Space and Circulation Elements, the 1975 Public Safety, Noise and Scenic highway Elements, and the 1998 Housing Element. The policies contained within this document govern the use of land and water within the City limits of the City of Trinidad and supersede those previous documents.

1. Plan Highlights

The City of Trinidad General Plan and LUP is intended to implement the community's vision for the future. The Plan is a comprehensive, long-range plan and identifies Trinidad's Land Use, Housing, Conservation, Open Space & Recreation, Circulation, Public Services & Energy, Noise & Public Safety, Community Design and Cultural & Historic Preservation goals and policies related to the conservation and development of land in Trinidad.

Land Use

The Land Use Chapter establishes policies and programs to create the general framework for the future pattern of growth, development and sustainability in Trinidad, CA. The element consists of the following components:

Land Use Designations illustrate the pattern of conservation and development that the General Plan envisions. In this section, land uses are defined as Suburban Residential (SR), Urban Residential (UR), Commercial (C), Visitor Services (VS), Mixed Use (MU), Open Space (OS), Special Environment (SE), Public and Community (PC) and the new Harbor (H) designation. Associated development constraints, maximum densities and land use policies are identified for each land use category and the land use areas are graphically depicted on the *Land Use Designations Map*.

Development Outside the City Limits

This section covers Trinidad's *Sphere of Influence*, the *City Service Area* and the *Planning Area*. It begins with a brief review of the benefits and disadvantages of annexation of surrounding properties into the Trinidad City limits. Trinidad's current Sphere of Influence is defined as the properties to which the City can provide water service connections, those adjacent to the City's trunk line and/or those within the Luffenholtz and Mill Creek watersheds that are not zoned for timber production. The City Service Area refers to areas that receive all, or most, of the urban services (water, police protection, road maintenance, etc.) Finally, the Planning Area includes twelve critical coastal watersheds into the planning framework in support of the Strategic Goal to provide clean and pure water to Trinidad residents.

Conservation, Open Space and Recreation

This chapter focuses on two State required elements -- Conservation and Open Space -- as well as public access and recreational opportunities, which are two key issues for the Coastal LUP. It includes policies and programs that address ESHAs, threatened and endangered species, water quality, and the protection of natural resources, including open space. The principles for *water resource protection* and conservation outlined in this section support the strategic goal to reduce water pollution and ensure safe drinking water and the principles for *biological resource protection* focus on sensitive flora and fauna with limitations placed on development on or near areas where 'special status' species are located. *Open Space guidelines* in this section focus on preservation and management of natural resources, outdoor recreation opportunities, viewshed protection and public health and safety. Finally, *Public Recreation policies* are covered in this section including visitor services information, litter control, Town Hall availability for community events, trail maintenance and the provisioning of public restroom facilities with the overarching goal of providing maximum access to and along the coastline for the public.

Circulation, Public Services and Energy

As the California General Plan Guidelines state: "*The circulation element is not simply a transportation plan, but rather a strategy addressing infrastructure needs for the circulation of people, goods, energy, water, sewage, storm drainage, and communications.*"

This chapter highlights transportation related policies: Traffic and Parking, Public Transportation and other Alternate Modes of Transportation. Also, because CO2 emissions in Trinidad are largely tied to traffic patterns, this chapter includes sections on Energy Policy, Air Quality and Greenhouse Gases. Finally, Public Services such as *water, solid waste* and *utilities* are also included in this substantive chapter. It is important to note that, in support of the City's Strategic Goals, a Climate Action Plan has been developed to provide measures and recommendations for reducing Greenhouse Gas (GHG) to demonstrate progress towards meeting State requirements and the goal of becoming Net Carbon Neutral and Zero Waste.

Noise and Public Safety

The Noise section identifies and evaluates community noise sources and problems, with policies and programs keyed to ensuring that development is compatible with established noise standards, though Trinidad is generally a very quiet community. The Public Safety section focuses on the protection of the community from unreasonable risks associated with the effects of earthquake, ground shaking, tsunamis and seiches, slope instability, landslides, surface rupture, erosion and flooding. Other hazards or potential hazards such as fire hazards and hazardous materials are also covered in this chapter. The City's plans to mitigate the effects of disasters and emergencies begins with assessing and reducing risk. However, should an event occur, the City has adopted a City Emergency Plan. The purpose of this plan is to ensure that the City will be prepared to respond effectively in the event of emergencies to save lives, restore and protect property, repair and restore essential public services, and provide for the storage and distribution of medical, food, water, shelter sites, and other vital supplies to maintain the continuity of government.

Housing

The Housing Chapter is an extension of the Residential section of the Land Use Element of the General Plan and focuses on neighborhood preservation and *provision of housing for all segments of the community*. The State requires communities to provide their fair share of housing based on a Regional Housing Needs Assessment, and the Housing Element is intended to help the State meet its housing goals. This is the one element where there are repercussions for the City if it is not in compliance with State goals and requirements. It is noted here, however, that there are constraints in Trinidad that limit provisioning of housing across segments due to the small city footprint, proximity to open space and areas of environmental and cultural sensitivity, lack of a municipal sewer system and relative high property values. The successful development of an Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) policy as part of the Housing five-year plan is a highlight.

Cultural and Historic Resources

Trinidad has a rich cultural history, and cultural and historic resources abound. This Element discusses the purpose and importance of preserving archeological and historical resources, describes methods for protecting these resources and provides local policies to guide the implementation of cultural resource preservation, beyond the projections afforded by applicable federal, State and local laws. The Cultural & Historic Resources Element identifies important local cultural, archaeological, and historic resources and establishes goals, policies, and actions for the protection and preservation of those resources. Though this is not one of the seven elements required by state planning law, Trinidad has a rich history and contains significant cultural resources deserving of intentional on-going robust protections.

Community Design

The Community Design Element is primarily concerned with the aesthetic quality of the City, and what residents and visitors see. The City's appearance is essential to the quality of life in Trinidad. The Community Design Element establishes goals, policies, and programs to preserve and enhance Trinidad's authentic, small town, coastal character. The community is defined in part by its isolated location on the magnificent coastline of

Humboldt County. As the economy evolves to a more tourism and service-based economy, the community has acknowledged the importance of maintaining the cultural and scenic identity of the town and the integrity of the residential neighborhoods, while enhancing views and access to the coastline and planning for managed growth and development. This element contains sections addressing design review, view protection, lighting, signs and other aspects that contribute to the aesthetic setting of the community.

2. General Plan Update Process and Public Input

The Trinidad General Plan update process has occurred over many years and involved several steps and iterations. As in the 1978 General Plan, steps were taken to ensure that property owners and residents would be involved in the planning process. This update originally started in the late 1990's with a series of Town Hall meetings. The update was suspended in 2002 due to a lack of funds, and was resumed again in 2007. And it has been put on hold several times since then to focus on other priorities. Therefore, this General Plan has been reviewed by several different Planning Commissions, City Councils and members public over those years.

The development of the update to the General Plan included several community "Visioning" meetings to obtain early public input. In October 1997, the Center for Economic Development (CEED) facilitated Town Hall Meeting #1 and created a verbatim record of participants' responses as well as a shared community vision statement. This document was given considerable weight in the efforts to determine appropriate recommendations for amending the General Plan. A second Town Hall meeting in October 1998 discussed a few of the issues of top concern from Meeting #1, including septic systems and community design. A third town hall meeting in November 1998 resulted in an action plan where several small groups were formed to implement the goals developed from the first meeting.

To include more recent community input, ideas, statements and issues from a community meeting sponsored by the City Council in November 2007 as well as from a community goals meeting and survey in spring 2015 were also incorporated into this update. In addition, public input from several other types of community and public meetings, such as those associated with the development of the Trinidad-Westhaven Coastal Watershed Management Plan between 2006 and 2008, was also included. Additional community input was gathered from an information booth at the 2009 Trinidad Fish Festival. The update to this General Plan also included numerous public hearings before the City Planning Commission and the City Council where concerned parties were able to voice their concerns and opinions. Additional opportunities for public input were also provided during the California Coastal Commission's certification process for the City's LUP.

3. Vision Statement

The Vision is a statement of what Trinidad looks and feels like 20 years in the future, and the General Plan is the road map to achieve this Vision. This vision statement, along with

the supporting Strategic Goals, should be considered when interpreting policies contained herein.

Vision

Our community is situated in an area of unique natural beauty among redwood forests, beaches, and sea stacks within the magnificent coastal expanse of the Pacific Ocean and Trinidad Bay. These natural riches, coupled with a quiet village atmosphere, engaged community, safe and family-friendly streets and trails, rich cultural and historical heritage and a sharp focus on environmental protection and sustainability makes Trinidad, California a welcoming, healthy and vibrant place to live.

Strategic Goals

The General Plan was developed through an extensive public participation process including a community survey and several public comment sessions at both Planning Commission and City Council meetings. Early public comments created a foundation for the following strategic goals adopted by the City Council. The goals are as follows:

1. Retain the small-town character of Trinidad through sustainable development and the preservation of valuable cultural and historic assets.
2. Preserve, protect and enhance the natural setting and open spaces throughout the community providing recreational opportunities and clear views of coastline for all to enjoy.
3. Promote a strong sense of community identity and overall quality of life through continued community involvement in city government, Town Hall events and activities and the maintenance of community services including the community park, library, museum.
4. Provide for a variety of housing types to accommodate an economically and socially diverse population, while preserving the character of the community.
5. Develop planning and response strategies that help protect the citizens of Trinidad from natural disaster (including the effects of climate change).
6. Extend resource preservation and conservation to Trinidad's water resources including the Bay and streams and overall watershed with a goal to eliminate water pollution and to ensure adequate community access to clean and pure drinking water.
7. Provide support for a mixed-use small business district (locally made products, bookstores, restaurants, clothing and gift shops) along with a vibrant fishing industry.
8. Maintain clean, quiet and safe streets, trails, residences, beaches and public properties and a welcoming entrance for visitors.
9. Offer safe and accessible transportation options, adequate parking, and sensible traffic rules to ensure public safety and minimize traffic congestion.
10. Embrace the environmental practices and technologies necessary to help offset the negative impact of Climate Change
11. Work toward the goal of becoming a Zero Waste, Net Carbon Neutral community.

4. Planning Outside City Limits

Land use activities outside the City limits affect the City in a variety of ways. Residents and visitors outside City limits may shop, eat, work or send their kids to school in Trinidad. This may affect traffic and City revenues among other things. Development adjacent to the City can affect City services and future annexation potential. Upstream activities also affect downstream resources, such as the coastal creeks that flow through town and the ocean. Development in the Luffenholtz Creek watershed can affect both the quantity and quality of the City's water supply.

There are a variety of mechanisms the City has to affect and plan for land use decisions outside City boundaries. The City has a Sphere of Influence, developed by the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) that represents the probable future annexation areas. The City's Service Area includes those areas where the City is currently providing water service, or may expand service in the future. An Urban Limit Line in Humboldt County's Trinidad Area Plan defines the intensive growth area near the City. Finally, the City's Planning Area is based on watersheds, and represents the area of interest to the City in land use decisions. All four of these areas outside City limits are within the jurisdiction of Humboldt County, with the exception of Trinidad Rancheria and some State-owned lands. Additional information regarding the status and development of these areas can be found in Section C of the Land Use Element.

5. Relationship to County General Plan

Sections of the Planning area that extend beyond the boundaries of the City will overlap areas covered by Humboldt County plans, including the Trinidad Area Plan (of the Humboldt County Local Coastal Program), and the County General Plan, which includes the Trinidad-Westhaven Community Planning Area. County General Plan and zoning designations are to be considered the "real" designations for areas not incorporated into the City. Any designations in City documents that exist for areas outside the City boundaries serve to recommend changes in County zoning designations as well as suggest designations should the City ever annex the area. However, they are not part of the certified LUP and would only go into effect after an area has been annexed and after certification by the Coastal Commission.

The County recently updated its general plan for areas outside the Coastal Zone, which will, to some extent, change how surrounding lands should be managed. Policies have been included herein that should be used in commenting on referrals from the County since development on affected properties could impact the City. These policies are based on existing known information. To the extent that the County develops new data, more appropriate policies that address this information should be developed by the County. The City should be involved in any County General Plan or Zoning update process and shall encourage the County to adopt the policies herein within the City's Planning Area.

6. General Plan Amendment

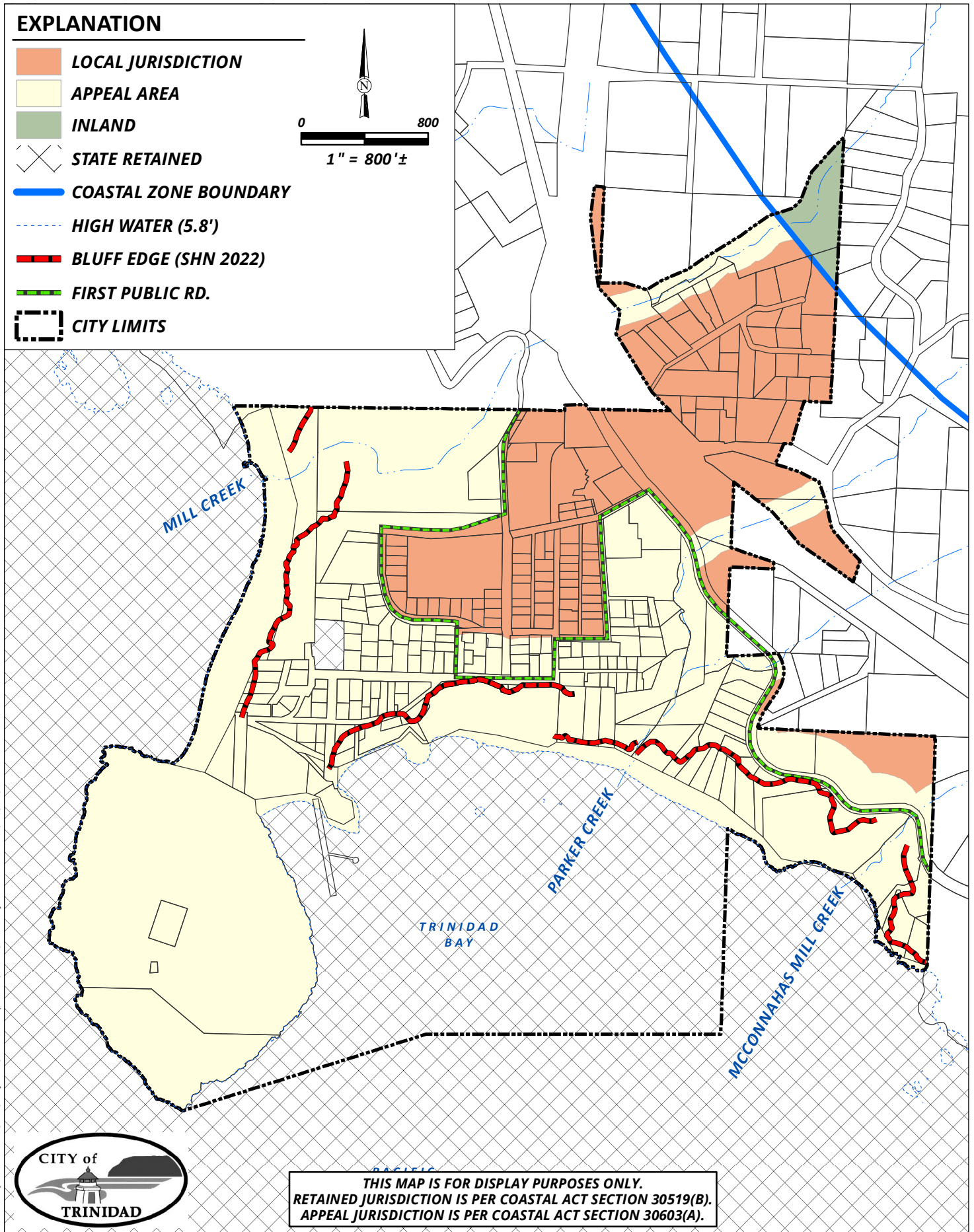
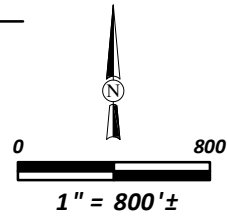
An amendment to this General Plan may be initiated by motion of the City Council on its own initiative. The Planning Commission or individuals may submit requests for amendments to the General Plan specifying why such an amendment is necessary. Generally, local governments may not amend any one of the mandatory elements of the general plan more than four times in one calendar year (Government Code § 65358(b)).

Amendments to the General Plan Land Use Map may be initiated by the owner of the subject property or his authorized agent, or by either the Planning Commission or City Council. The filing of an amendment application, payment of fees, notice of hearing and procedural requirements shall follow the guidelines in the Trinidad Zoning Ordinance for amendments to the General Plan/LUP.

Amendments must follow the noticing and hearing requirements outlined in various sections of the Government Code (e.g. §65091, 65350, 65352) and the Coastal Act and associated regulations (e.g. §30503 and 14 CCR §13515). The County, Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) and other affected agencies must be notified and provided a 45-day comment period. In addition, any amendments must include formal Tribal Consultation in accordance with SB18. Finally, any amendment to the City's Local Coastal Program requires application to and approval from the CA Coastal Commission and shall only become effective following certification by the Coastal Commission.

EXPLANATION

- LOCAL JURISDICTION**
- APPEAL AREA**
- INLAND**
- STATE RETAINED**
- COASTAL ZONE BOUNDARY**
- HIGH WATER (5.8')**
- BLUFF EDGE (SHN 2022)**
- FIRST PUBLIC RD.**
- CITY LIMITS**



**THIS MAP IS FOR DISPLAY PURPOSES ONLY.
RETAINED JURISDICTION IS PER COASTAL ACT SECTION 30519(B).
APPEAL JURISDICTION IS PER COASTAL ACT SECTION 30603(A).**



City of Trinidad
General Plan
Trinidad, California

Jurisdictions
Trinidad General Plan (DRAFT)
SHN 016105.006

October 2022

GP2022_Fig1_CoastalJurisdictions

Figure 1