

# *Culver* CITY

S U S T A I N A B I L I T Y

R E P O R T

C I T Y   O F   C U L V E R   C I T Y

F A L L   2 0 1 8

*"Sustainability touches on all facets of life in Culver City. Community wellbeing, built and natural environment resilience, and economic vitality are essential. The City of Culver City aims to design policies and programs that uplift the community to reach these goals. Ensuring social equity, providing access to services, conserving limited resources, lowering greenhouse gas emissions, and encouraging local business growth raise the tide for everyone. These measures are a reflection of the City's priorities and its vision as Culver City grows into the future."*

- Thomas Small, Culver City Mayor





This presentation provides an introduction to the policies and programs that have been introduced and/or implemented in the City of Culver City in pursuit of its sustainability goals.





# City Council

## Sustainability Subcommittee



Guiding policy decisions regarding sustainability issues while considering long-term impacts to the natural environment and the economic and physical well-being of Culver City residents and community.





# Culver City

## Addressing climate change

- In 2007, the City signed onto the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement.
- In 2017, the City joined the Mayors National Climate Action Agenda.



# Culver City

## SDAT Report 2007

The sustainable community plan's goals:

- Community education and participation
- Waste management and recycling
- Environmental pollution and public health protection
- Resource conservation
- Sustainable transportation
- Sustainable land use and open space



SDAT = Sustainable Design and Assessment Team





# Culver City

Providing guidance toward a more sustainable future

**THINK  
ABOUT  
TOMORROW  
TODAY**

## General Plan Update

The GPU will provide a path to improving outcomes on a range of environmental measures through:

- leveraging land use and mobility mechanisms to generate more **efficient use of existing resources**
- identifying integrated policy and program solutions to **improve air quality, water quality** and urban heat island impacts
- pursuing policies that **increase energy independence** and a shift toward renewables



# Ballona Creek

## Revitalization Project



Source: Ballona Creek Greenway Plan, The Bay Foundation



*Council's Strategic Plan Goal:  
Enhance the restoration and  
utilization of Ballona Creek*

Make the creek a recreational attraction,  
with increased bikeable and walkable  
connections to the city and beyond





# Ballona Creek

- Earth Day cleanup in partnership with Ballona Creek Renaissance
- Coastal Cleanup Day in partnership with Heal the Bay

## Coastal Cleanup Day





# Public Works

Culver City is working to improve the Ballona Creek watershed with the Enhanced Watershed Management Plan

## Improving regional water quality

### Culver Blvd. Stormwater Median Project

- A subsurface retention and filtration project
- Will divert stormwater run-off from approx. 300 + acres of drainage area
- Provides irrigation for local landscaping

### Washington Blvd. Stormwater Diversion Project

- A subsurface diversion project
- Will capture and divert stormwater and urban runoff from approx. 42 acres of drainage area and convey it to the sanitary sewer system

### Green Streets Master Plan

- The City is preparing a Green Streets Master Plan that will develop future storm water projects citywide.





# Culver City

## Low-impact development (LID)

### What is low-impact development (LID)?

- Capture, infiltrate, store and use and/or treat runoff at the parcel
- Bio-retention, permeable pavement and other infiltration practices that prevent runoff from leaving a parcel

Culver City passed the LID Ordinance in 2014, requiring developers to take greater action on storm water pollution.

*Nearly 70% of runoff from the developed portion of the watershed comes from impervious areas on parcels.*





# Public Works

Rain gardens capture, filter, and infiltrate urban runoff, while replenishing groundwater supply



# Rain gardens

Ballona Creek at  
Overland Ave. &  
Culver High



Transfer  
Station

Public Services  
Building



Baldwin Ave. &  
Farragut Dr.

Lindblade St. &  
Sepulveda Blvd.





# Culver City

A structured framework of five action areas and related strategies

Evaluate

- Periodic evaluations of urban forest

Manage

- Systematic maintenance and resource management

Enhance

- Maximum benefits through a strengthened urban forest

Engage

- Ongoing dialogue to promote stewardship

Fund

- Funding options/budget structure to maximize efficiency



# Urban Forest Master Plan

*A green infrastructure of urban forest, park land, sustainable transportation network, and pedestrian areas.*





# Culver City



**TREE CITY USA®**

In recognition of the City's excellent urban forest management practices, Culver City was designated Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation.

# Recognized as Tree City USA





# Culver City

**PROUD  
PARTICIPANT**



**Local Leadership Toward  
Solving Climate Change**

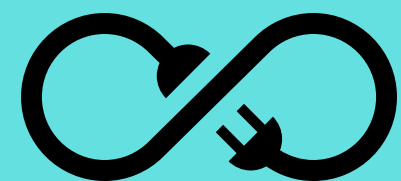
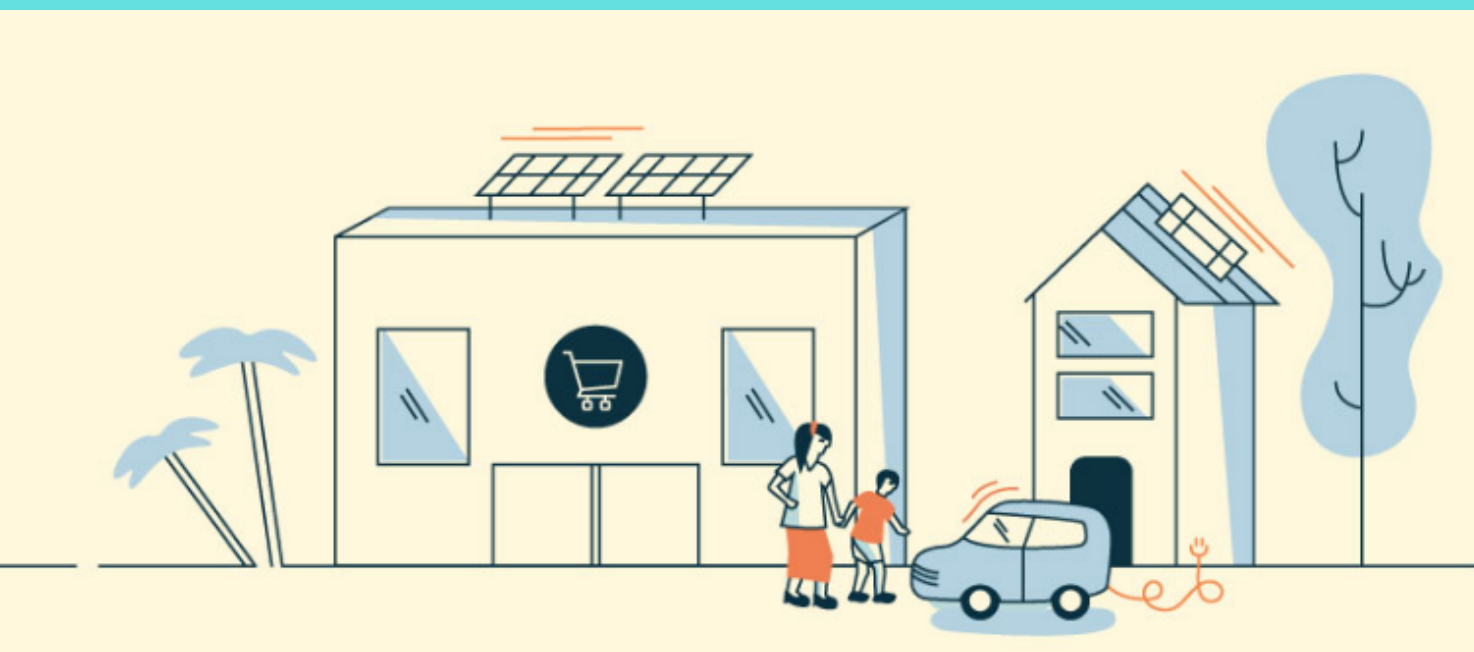
## Platinum Beacon Award

Culver City received a Platinum Level Beacon Award from the Institute of Local Government in their “Sustainable Best Practices” category, up from “Gold” level in 2017. In addition, the City continues to maintain its Platinum Level Beacon Award in their “Energy Savings” category.





# Culver City



## Clean, renewable power

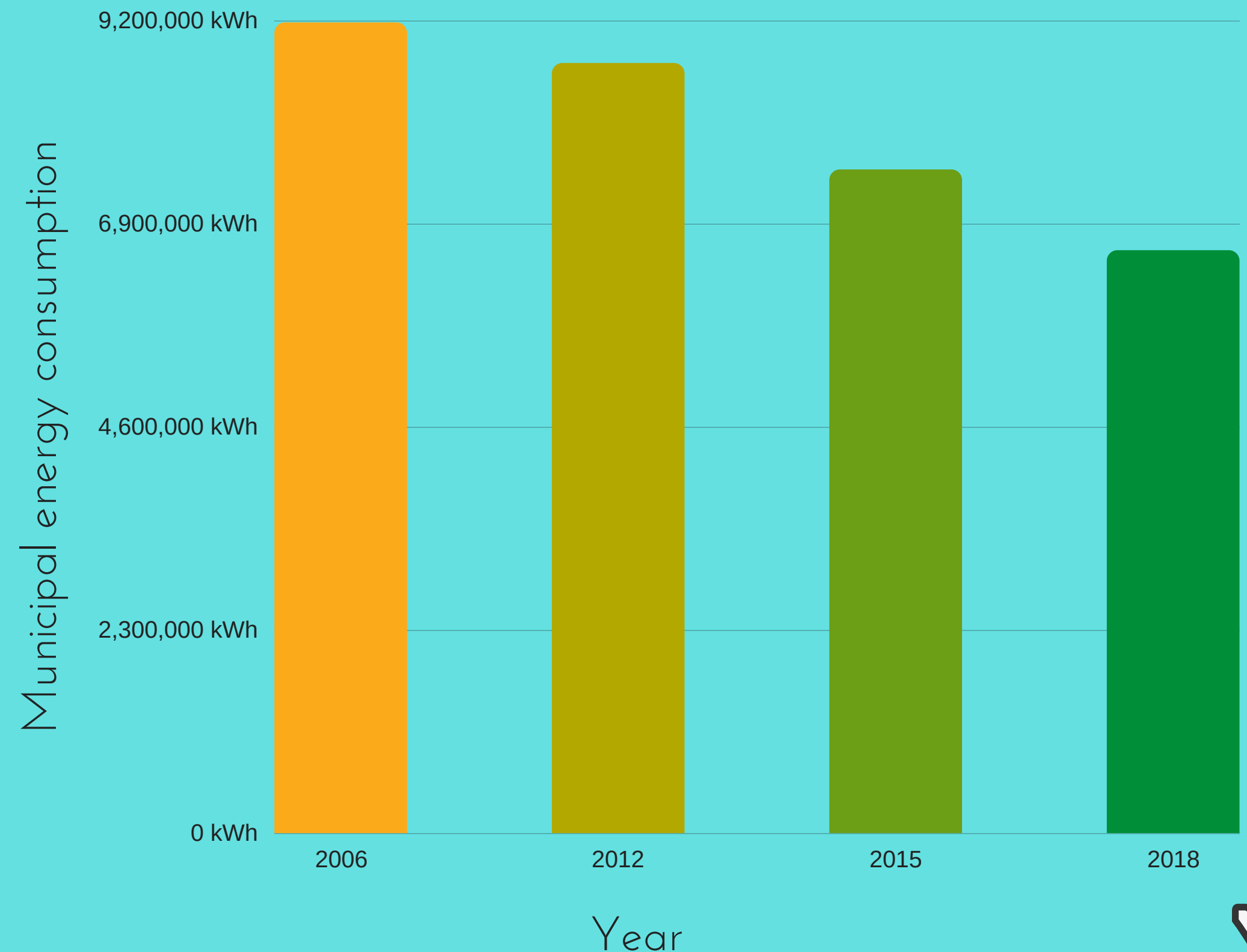
Culver City has joined the **Clean Power Alliance;** a community choice aggregation organization formed to deliver power generated by renewable sources by February 2019, and chooses 100% renewable power for the community.



# Public Works

Energy efficiency projects play a critical role in reducing energy consumption & lowering GHG emissions

# Energy efficiency



# Public Works

Culver City maintains a **Platinum level** leadership in SCE's Energy Leader Partnership Model, reducing energy consumption by over 28% since 2006



# Energy efficiency



228 cars off  
the road



1,164 metric tons of  
CO<sub>2</sub> avoided





# City Hall

## Water conservation plan

Culver City is committed to **conserving water** and creating a sustainable community that is currently observing level 1 water use restrictions

**The City  
reduced its  
water use by  
35%...**

...by modifying or replacing nearly 300 water fixtures in City buildings



# Businesses



*Culver* CITY  
**SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS**  
CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

In 2017, twelve businesses collectively saved 10,310 kWh of electricity annually and 1,598,593 gallons of water (an average savings of 53%).

# Sustainable certification



**POPSUGAR.**

technicolor  
Experience Center



BLANK  
SPACES  
work for yourself  
not by yourself

SOLE / SOCIETY

**NOVECENTO®**

**A.P.D.**  
APPLIANCES • PLUMBING • DESIGN INC.

**criteo.**



**HI=LO**





# Building Safety



**Culver CITY**  
BUILDING SAFETY DIVISION

9770 CULVER BOULEVARD  
CULVER CITY, CA 90232  
PHONE (310) 253-5800  
[SOLAR.PERMITS@CULVERCITY.ORG](mailto:SOLAR.PERMITS@CULVERCITY.ORG)

## ELIGIBILITY CHECKLIST FOR EXPEDITED PERMITTING:

SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC INSTALLATIONS  
UP TO 10kw IN ONE AND TWO FAMILY DWELLINGS

# Expedited solar permitting

- **Expedited electronic submittal process** for solar PV installations up to 10 kW in 1- and 2- family dwellings
- City Council adopted a resolution that **extends the waiver of plan check and permit fees** for solar PV installations to May 23, 2028



# Building Safety

Reduces the use of natural resources, creates **healthier living environments**, and minimizes the negative impacts of development



Adopted in 2009

# Green building program

- New construction and major renovations projects up to 49,999 sf must comply with 80% of listed green building techniques
- New construction and major renovation projects 50,000 sf and greater (except for single- and two-family structures) must have a LEED AP team member and must demonstrate the project meets LEED certified standards or higher





# City Council

The City adopted an ordinance in 2013 that prohibits the use of plastic carryout bags and requires retailers to charge 10¢ for paper bags



## Plastic and polystyrene regulations



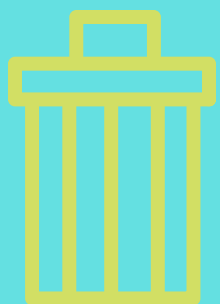
Culver City adopted an ordinance in 2017 that bans the use and sale of certain Polystyrene products citywide





# Public Works

Efforts to improve services in the areas of resource conservation, environmental and public health protection, solid waste diversion and recycling, community education and land use include...



# Recycling & waste management

- Food waste and organics recycling program
- Green5 recycling in CCUSD schools
- E-waste roundup and Too Toxic to Trash events
- Compost and mulch giveaways
- Holiday tree composting



# Culver City

## Resources + support



- California-friendly landscape training
- Smart gardening workshops
- Free turf removal class
- Rain barrel distribution
- Grey water symposium

SPONSORED BY



LOCATION

Culver City Hall, Dan Patacchia Room  
9770 Culver Blvd.  
Culver City, CA 90232

TO REGISTER

Call (310) 371-4633 or visit [www.sbesc.com](http://www.sbesc.com)

Space is limited, register today! Snacks provided





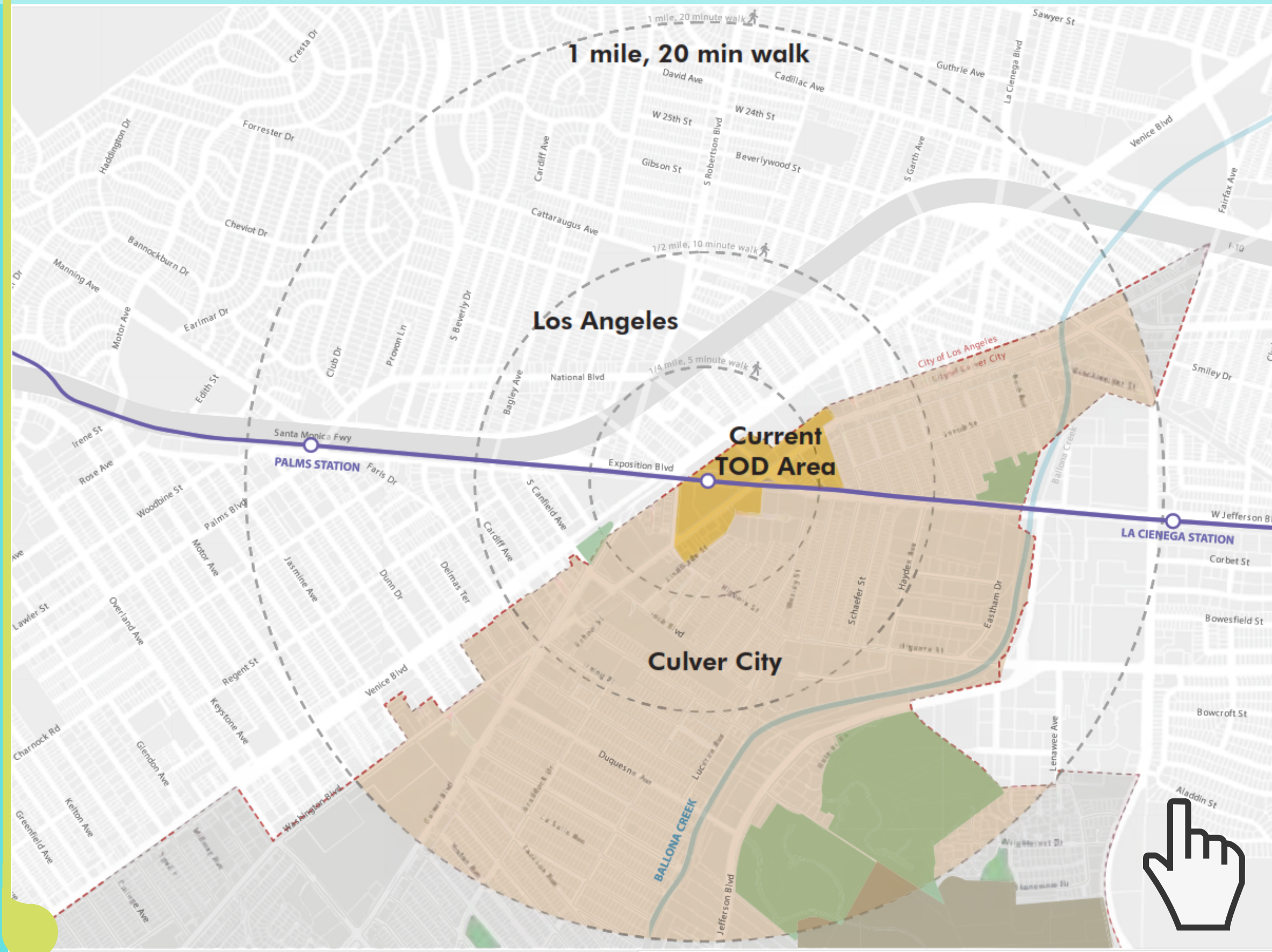
# TOD Visioning

## CENTRAL GOAL:

*Provide more and better choices for circulation by increasing the viability of alternative mobility modes*



# Study and recommendations

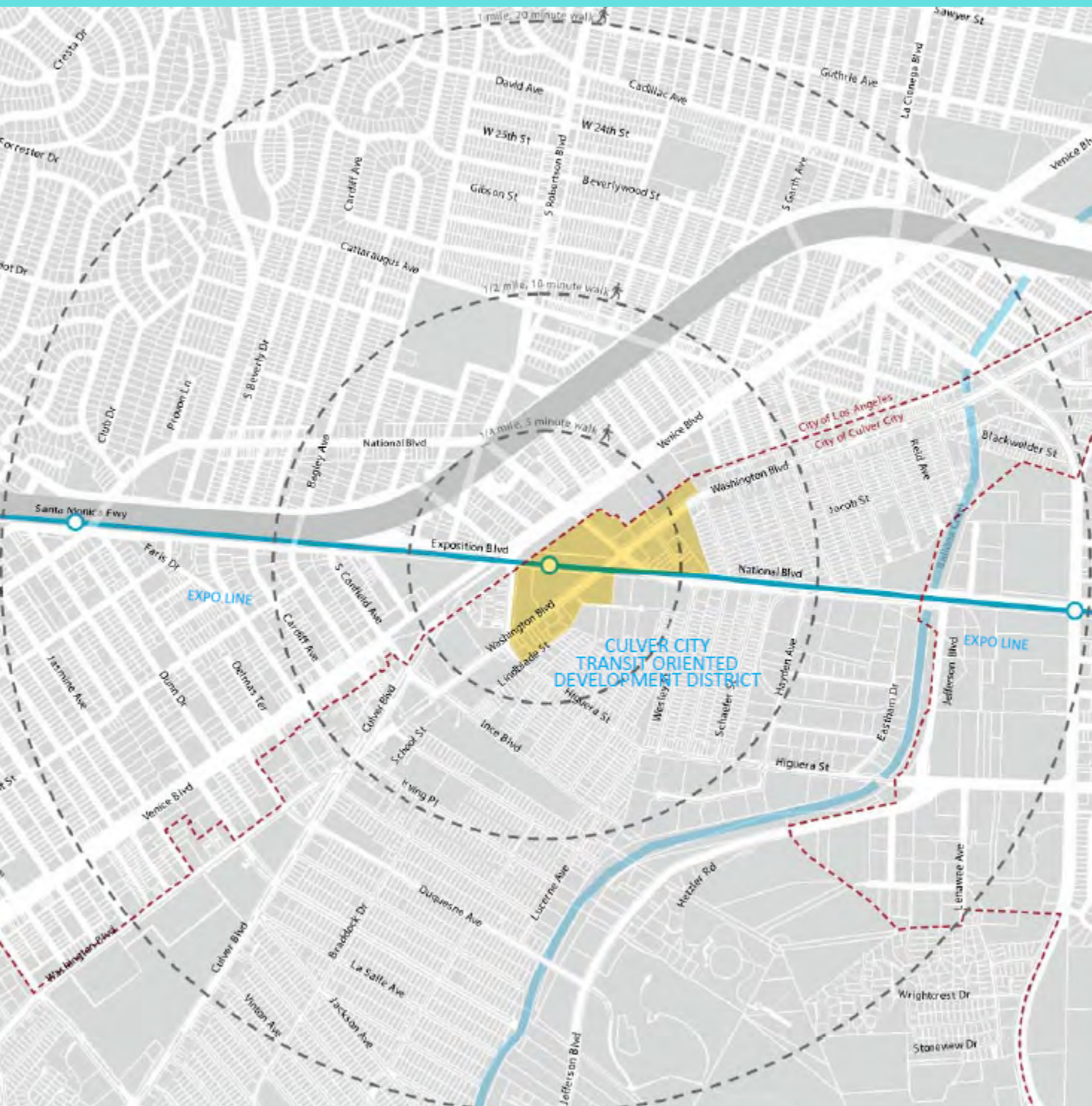




# TOD Visioning

## Supporting objectives

- Establish the TOD area and its adjacent neighborhood as a pedestrian-first environment
- Advance the use of transit for first/last mile connections and local circulation
- Provide a safe and protected network for bicycling as a choice
- Manage the flow of traffic around and through the TOD area to minimize conflicts with other modes



# Transportation

Culver CityBus  
has been recognized by  
Government Fleet  
for last four years as an  
"Elite Fleet"

## Culver CityBus: Elite Fleet



Culver CityBus is the first public transit fleet in the South Coast Air Quality Management District and the second in California to operate a 100% compressed natural gas (CNG) fleet





# Transportation

- 150 alternative-fuel vehicles, including 56 CNG buses, 21 heavy-duty CNG refuse trucks and light, medium and heavy-duty vehicles
- 3 bike racks on CityBuses
- Connections to Big Blue Bus, LADOT buses and Metro rail lines
- Bus signal priority
- Real time bus information
- Discounted transit fares and incentive programs

## CityBus: 90 years of excellence



**MARCH 3, 1928**

Celebrating  
**90**  
Years



**MARCH 3, 2018**

*Culver*  
**CITYBUS**



As of June 1, 2018, the City's fleet is using Renewable Natural gas (RNG); reducing CO2 emissions by 34,500 metric tons over the first five years. This is a 275% increase in reductions versus what was achieved with fossil CNG.





In the works...



## Bicycle & Pedestrian Action Plan

Culver City is updating its Bicycle & Pedestrian Action Plan:

- Exploring Vision Zero
- Bike Share Feasibility Study released March 2017
- Safe Routes to School project
- Complete Streets Policies - to be presented to City Council summer 2018





# Public Works



## Safe Routes to School Program

Through the citywide **Safe Routes to School** program, Culver City has invested in several infrastructure projects to bring greater safety to bicyclists and pedestrians. Street improvements were completed near Linwood E. Howe Elementary School and are planned for La Ballona Elementary School in 2018/2019.





# Scooters

A 6-month pilot program with Bird and Lime scooters began in Summer 2018.

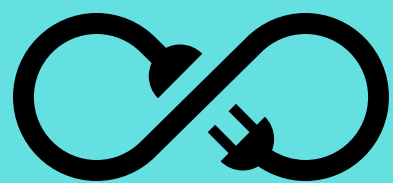
## E-scooter pilot program





# In the works...

In an effort to improve mobility and decrease carbon emissions, Culver City is studying options for shared micro-mobility



## Bike share



A bike share feasibility study was completed in 2017.





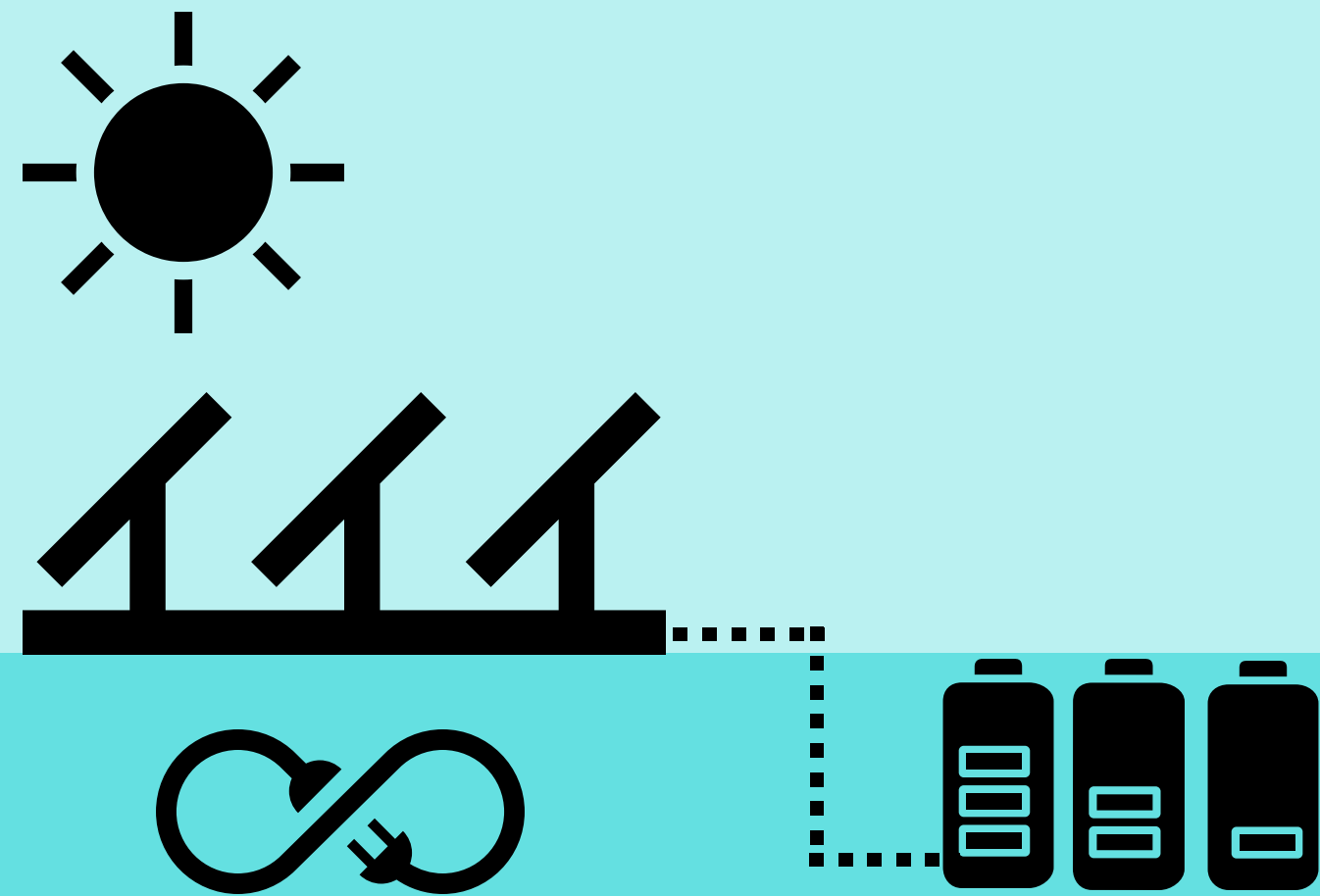
# In the works...

## Mobility and health

The City is working on mobility, healthy community, climate change, and air quality improvements through our work on a new Travel Demand Forecast Model, a revised TDM Ordinance, a new GHG Inventory, and the upcoming General Plan Update



In the works...



## Microgrid feasibility study

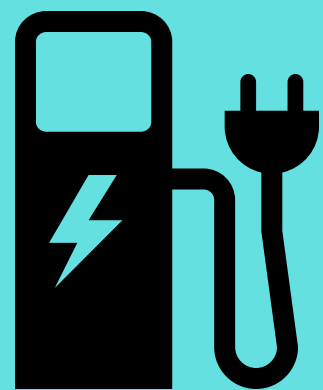
Culver City is studying the feasibility of implementing a microgrid campus project for two critical city facilities that could serve as emergency shelter after a natural disaster.



# In the works...

## Currently required:

- EV charging stations stub outs with 10% EV-ready
- Bicycle parking



# Entitlement requirements

Zoning code is being amended to make these mandatory for all discretionary and non-discretionary projects

The City has installed EV charging stations for public use at the Ince Parking Structure and City Hall.



## In the works...

Mobility fee being studied to be implemented with new entitlements to fund local mobility projects including micro-transit

## Mobility fee

Employment and housing data



$\text{Fee} = \text{cost/unit or cost/sf}$



List of capital projects



# In the works...

Culver City studying on-demand micro-transit pilot program

- Serves as first and last mile connection to transit
- Encourages ride sharing
- Reduces SOV trips

## Micro-transit pilot program

