



## 6.1 PUBLIC WORKS & ENERGY FACILITIES

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### **Coastal Act policies related to Public Works & Energy Facilities that are relevant to Santa Barbara include the following:**

**Section 30232.** Protection against the spillage of crude oil, gas, petroleum products, or hazardous substances shall be provided in relation to any development or transportation of such materials. Effective containment and cleanup facilities and procedures shall be provided for accidental spills that do occur.

**Section 30233(a).** The diking, filling, or dredging of open coastal waters, wetlands, estuaries, and lakes shall be permitted in accordance with other applicable provisions of this division, where there is no feasible less environmentally damaging alternative, and where feasible mitigation measures have been provided to minimize adverse environmental effects, and shall be limited to the following:

- (1) New or expanded port, energy, and coastal-dependent industrial facilities, including commercial fishing facilities...
- (4) Incidental public service purposes, including, but not limited to, burying cables and pipes or inspection of piers and maintenance of existing intake and outfall lines...

**Section 30250.** (a) New residential, commercial, or industrial development, except as otherwise provided in this division, shall be located within, contiguous with, or in close proximity to, existing developed areas able to accommodate it or, where such areas are not able to accommodate it, in other areas with adequate public services and where it will not have significant adverse effects, either individually or cumulatively, on coastal resources...

(b) Where feasible, new hazardous industrial development shall be located away from existing developed areas.

**Section 30253.** New development shall... minimize energy consumption and vehicle miles traveled.

**Section 30255.** Coastal-dependent developments shall have priority over other developments on or near the shoreline. Except as provided elsewhere in this division, coastal-dependent developments shall not be sited in a wetland. When appropriate, coastal-related developments should be accommodated within reasonable proximity to the coastal-dependent uses they support.

## INTRODUCTION

This Chapter encompasses public water and wastewater facilities and telephone and other similar utilities as defined in part (a) of Coastal Act Section 30144 and energy facilities as defined in Coastal Act Section 30107. Other public works facilities as described in Section 30144 are discussed in Chapter 3.1 *Public Access*, Chapter 3.2 *Visitor-Serving & Recreation Facilities*, and Chapter 6.2 *Highway 101*.

**Section 30114.** *“Public works” means the following:*

*(a) All production, storage, transmission, and recovery facilities for water, sewerage, telephone, and other similar utilities owned or operated by any public agency or by any utility subject to the jurisdiction of the Public Utilities Commission, except for energy facilities.*

*(b) All public transportation facilities, including streets, roads, highways, public parking lots and structures, ports, harbors, airports, railroads, and mass transit facilities and stations, bridges, trolley wires, and other related facilities. For purposes of this division, neither the Ports of Hueneme, Long Beach, Los Angeles, nor San Diego Unified Port District nor any of the developments within these ports shall be considered public works.*

*(c) All publicly financed recreational facilities, all projects of the State Coastal Conservancy, and any development by a special district.*

*(d) All community college facilities.*

**Section 30107.** *“Energy facility” means any public or private processing, producing, generating, storing, transmitting, or recovering facility for electricity, natural gas, petroleum, coal, or other source of energy.*

Development in the Coastal Zone is mostly redevelopment and infill projects located within existing developed areas accommodated by the City’s existing public works and energy facilities. To protect coastal resources, energy and utility transmission and other public works facilities in the Coastal Zone are designed and limited to accommodate needs generated by development and uses permitted in the Coastal LUP.

The Coastal Act contains policies (Article 7 Industrial Development) that specifically address oil and gas and other industrial development, separate from public works facilities. Article 7 contains a provision (Coastal Act Section 30260) to allow coastal-dependent industrial facilities that are not otherwise consistent with the Coastal Act as long as (a) alternative locations are infeasible or more environmentally damaging, (b) to deny the project would adversely affect the public’s welfare, and (c) adverse environmental effects are mitigated to the maximum extent feasible. The Coastal LUP does not include policies for coastal-dependent industrial or other industrial facilities, such as tankers, refineries, petrochemical facilities, and thermal electric generating plants, because there are no such facilities now within the City limits, and no new facilities could be permitted based on existing land use and zoning. Furthermore, as explained below, the City’s Charter prohibits drilling for oil, gas, or other hydrocarbon substances within City limits, including the offshore portion of the Tidelands Grant.

# PUBLIC WORKS FACILITIES

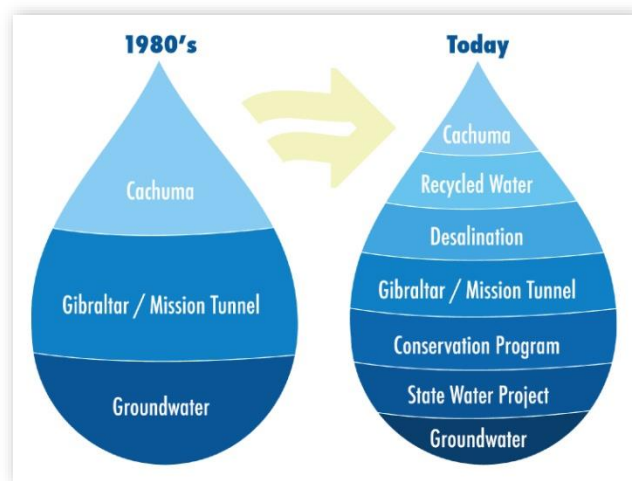
## Water Facilities & Supply

The City of Santa Barbara operates a public water supply system that serves all of the properties within the Coastal Zone, as well as several unincorporated areas. The City's diverse potable water supply portfolio includes local reservoirs, groundwater from City production wells, the State Water Project, a conservation program, and desalination. A separate Tertiary Treatment facility supplies treated and recycled wastewater, primarily for irrigation of landscaping, to offset the need to use potable water.

Public works facilities for water supply and distribution in the Coastal Zone include the Tertiary Treatment facility for recycled water and the Charles E. Meyer Desalination facility. There are no public reservoirs or public groundwater production wells in the Coastal Zone. There are three existing private wells in the Coastal Zone that may or may not still be in use; nonetheless, construction of new private wells is prohibited for properties connected to the City's water supply system or within 500 feet of a feasible connection to the water supply system.

The Coastal Land Use Plan policy goals for water facilities and supply include:

- New facilities are sited and designed to protect coastal resources and sized appropriately to accommodate the certified land uses.
- Adequate water supply exists to serve existing and new development, including multiple-year drought conditions.
- Water conservation is a key component of water supply management.
- Desalination is included as a permanent part of the City's water supply portfolio.
- Groundwater is managed to prevent depletion of groundwater levels and prevent degradation of groundwater quality.



WATER SUPPLY PORTOLIO

### *Water Conservation*

The City's Water Conservation Program is operated to minimize the use of potable water supplies, meet the requirements of the California Water Efficiency Partnership Best Management Practices, and achieve compliance with the state's requirements for water conservation. The City's Water Conservation Program includes the following activities:

- Incentive programs for large commercial, institutional, and industrial water users, identifying strategies to substantially reduce water use.
- Restaurant and lodging water conservation programs.

- Water conservation and drought response marketing.
- Landscape rebate program on eligible, pre-approved material costs for water-efficient landscaping and irrigation.
- Rebate program for high-efficiency clothes washers.
- Free residential and commercial water checkups.
- Free high-efficiency sprinkler nozzles and rain sensors.
- Water wise landscaping training and workshops for homeowners and landscape professionals.
- Water education programs for K-12 students.
- Water Hero Awards to highlight individuals, businesses, and organizations that go above and beyond in their water conservation efforts and serve as an example of resource efficiency in the community.

The City continues to promote water conservation through the following practices to the maximum extent feasible:

- Establishing goals for reducing water use in the City.
- Monitoring and documenting water use.
- Promoting water conservation through public information and marketing campaigns.
- Providing guidelines for the use of water and emergency guidelines for water use in times of drought.
- Providing and enforcing building standards for use of water wise plants and irrigation for development projects.

#### *Water Supply & Demand*

The City's Coastal Zone is mostly built out, and adequate water is supplied to meet demand. Furthermore, with the state's urban water conservation requirement (20% reduction by 2020), the City's sustainability principles (managing wise use of resources), and the City's drought condition water conservation target (currently, a 30% reduction under Stage Three Drought Conditions), the City has consistently met and exceeded the state's water use reduction targets and mandated conservation standards.

Additional infill development as anticipated based on existing land use designations and zoning would create an incremental increase in citywide water demand to the year 2030. However, the small increase in water demand is not predicted to significantly impact existing City supplies due to substantially lower water use in new projects (required water-efficient plumbing fixtures and landscaping), continuing water conservation measures, and long-term efficiency improvements with redevelopment from updated plumbing codes and appliance standards, offsetting the effects of development.

## Wastewater

The City's El Estero Wastewater Treatment Plant (El Estero) is located in the Coastal Zone between Highway 101 and the railroad tracks. Other wastewater facilities in the Coastal Zone include three lift stations to pump wastewater from low spots to higher elevations in the gravity collection system.

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El Estero provides full secondary treatment, which involves the removal of solids and the reduction of the biological oxygen demand of the wastewater through a series of physical and biological processes. After secondary treatment, the wastewater is chlorinated, and then de-chlorinated, in order to eliminate remaining pathogens prior to discharge. This treated water is disposed of through an effluent outfall pipeline that discharges treated effluent into the ocean at a water depth of 70 feet, approximately 1.5 miles offshore of East Beach. With the exception of approximately 100 parcels near the western City limits, all Coastal Zone properties are connected to the City's sanitary sewer system.

Design work is underway to modify El Estero's secondary treatment process to a nitrification/denitrification system, along with other upgrades. The nitrification/denitrification process will produce a more stable secondary effluent, increase production of higher-quality process water for subsequent production of recycled water, and yield a higher quality of treated effluent discharge.

As with water facilities, the policy goals for wastewater facilities include ensuring that any new facilities are sited and designed to protect coastal resources, and any new or expanded facilities are sized appropriately to accommodate the certified land uses. The design capacity of El Estero is 11 million gallons per day (MGD). Wastewater flow anticipated up to the year 2030 is projected to average 8.55 MGD.

## Other Utilities

Utility companies provide telephone, cellular phone, television, and internet services to residents and businesses within the City. These utility companies design, install, and maintain facilities located within the City pursuant to permit approvals. Chapter 4.3 *Scenic Resources & Visual Quality* includes additional policies to address utility undergrounding and visual impacts of telecommunications facilities.

## ENERGY FACILITIES

### On & Offshore Oil & Gas

There are no existing on or offshore oil and gas processing or producing facilities, pipelines for transporting crude oil, refineries, petrochemical facilities, or thermal electric generating plants within City boundaries and, based on existing land use designations and zoning, no large energy facilities could be developed within the Coastal Zone. However,



DISTANT OIL PLATFORM

the production and distribution of offshore oil and gas has long been a part of the history of the surrounding Santa Barbara County, and several offshore oil platforms can be seen from the City. Most of the visible offshore oil platforms are located in federal waters. In state waters, the last remaining visible oil platform (Platform Holly, located west and not visible from the City's Coastal Zone) was recently quitclaimed back to the State Lands Commission, which is prevented from offering new offshore oil and gas leases in this location in the Santa Barbara Channel.

The City's coastal natural resources, ocean-related and visitor-serving uses, and working harbor are dependent upon healthy marine

resources in the Channel. Additionally, there are no appropriate areas to support oil and gas development within the City's Coastal Zone. Further, since 1967, the City's Charter prohibits drilling for oil, gas, or other hydrocarbon substances within City limits, which includes the offshore portion of the granted tidelands. See the Chapter 4.2 *Water Quality* for more information about the history of oil and gas development in relation to water quality.

### Electrical Power

Electrical power is provided to the City by Southern California Edison and brought from the electrical grid to substations located within the City over the Edison transmission system. No large renewable (e.g., utility-scale photovoltaic or wind farms) or fossil fuel electric power stations exist in the City. There is, however, a small hydroelectric plant at Lauro Reservoir (outside the Coastal Zone) capable of powering 200 homes. Otherwise, with the exception of private and public small renewable energy systems (e.g., roof top photovoltaic), all local electrical power is produced elsewhere in the state or in neighboring states.

### Gas

Gas is supplied by Southern California Gas Company, which obtains the gas from throughout the country and Canada and stores it locally at an underground gas storage

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unit located at a facility near the Santa Barbara Airport. Natural gas is provided to City customers from the storage facility via pipelines.

## Renewable Energy

Renewable energy means power sources that would not be depleted, such as solar, wind, geothermal, hydroelectric, biomass, methane, and wave energy. Use of renewable energy sources reduces carbon emissions that result from combustion of fossil fuels. In accordance with directives of the Global Warming Solutions Act (AB 32), the City supports energy efficiency and renewable energy projects to reduce the rate of carbon emissions generated within the community. The City is a partner with the County of Santa Barbara in pursuing Community Choice Aggregation, a tool through which local governments can purchase electricity from cleaner sources like wind, solar, and geothermal and use the existing utilities transmission lines to deliver that power to everyone in the community.

For private development, the City encourages the use of photovoltaic arrays on new construction, redevelopment, and significant remodel projects, if physically feasible. Furthermore, the City has integrated environmentally sustainable goals in the management and operation of all City Departments. Examples of renewable energy sources employed in City operations include photovoltaic generation facilities in the Public Works Corporate Yard, solar thermal systems used to heat water at the Harbor restrooms, and a cogeneration system at the El Estero Wastewater Treatment Plant that converts fats, oils, and grease from local restaurants into renewable energy to power the plant. In 2017, 30 percent of electrical power that powers City facilities is defined as renewable, and the City adopted a goal of 100 percent renewable energy use by municipal facilities and the community by 2030.



CITY CORPORATE YARD SOLAR PANELS

## HAZARDOUS MATERIAL TRANSPORT & DISPOSAL

Highway 101 and the Union Pacific Railroad extend through the Coastal Zone, and both are used to transport hazardous materials. In the event of a transportation-related hazardous material leak, emergency response is provided by the California Highway Patrol, City and County Fire Departments, Caltrans, and local Sheriff and Police Departments for containment, enforcement, and traffic routing assistance.

There are no large industrial or commercial users of hazardous materials located within City limits; however, there are small-quantity hazardous waste generators associated with existing commercial and industrial facilities. Typically, these wastes include fuels,

lubricants, waste oil, batteries, aerosols, and chemical solvents associated with service industries like dry cleaning, vehicle maintenance, photographic processing, and painting. Hazardous waste disposal from small-quantity generators and community members occurs at four locations outside the Coastal Zone.



# PUBLIC WORKS & ENERGY FACILITIES POLICIES

## CITY PLANNING EFFORTS & PROGRAMS

### *Water*

- Policy 6.1-1** Water Conservation. Continue to promote water conservation to reduce water demand and require extraordinary water conservation measures during periods of drought to manage water supply.
- Policy 6.1-2** Water Reuse for Landscaping. Plan for, and implement where feasible, water recycling and reuse for landscape irrigation, in order to reduce the demand on potable water and reduce ocean discharges of treated effluent.
- Policy 6.1-3** Groundwater Basins. Groundwater production may augment depleted surface water during a drought, provided that there are no adverse impacts on coastal resources and the integrity of the groundwater basin is maintained. Monitor groundwater withdrawals, and when necessary, require in-stream flow studies or hydrologic studies, to prevent depletion of groundwater levels and degradation of groundwater quality and to protect the potable groundwater supply from saltwater intrusion.

### *Energy*

- Policy 6.1-4** Energy Efficiency and Conservation. Continue to reduce the rate of carbon emissions generated within the community by implementing municipal and community-wide energy efficiency projects, promoting energy conservation, facilitating renewable energy technologies, and converting City operations to renewable energy sources.

## DEVELOPMENT REVIEW POLICIES

### *Public Works Facilities*

- Policy 6.1-5** New Public Works Facilities Capacity. Public Works facilities shall be safe, efficient, and cost-effective. The capacities of new, expanded, or substantially redeveloped public works facilities shall not be oversized so as to induce growth in the Coastal Zone beyond land uses permitted or certified to be consistent with the Coastal Act and the Coastal LUP.

Special Districts to provide water, sewage, or other public works services shall not be formed or expanded if assessment for and provision of the service would facilitate new development inconsistent with the Coastal Act or the Coastal LUP.

**Policy 6.1-6** Sufficient Wastewater Capacity/Water Supply for New Development. If new development is outside the scope of the certified land use or intensity of uses anticipated in the Coastal LUP, or if changed conditions in wastewater capacity and/or water supply warrant an update to the analysis of capacity and supply, the City shall make a finding, based on substantial evidence, that adequate wastewater capacity and/or water supply exists to serve the new development for the life of the development, including multiple-year drought conditions.

**Policy 6.1-7** Public Works Facilities for New Development. All required public works infrastructure for a project shall be in place prior to occupancy of the new development or substantial redevelopment. Where adequate infrastructure does not extend into the project area at the time of permit approval, the Coastal Development Permit shall be conditioned to require all public works facilities necessary to serve the development to be in place prior to occupancy.

**Policy 6.1-8** Public Works Facilities Siting. New public works facilities shall be sited and designed in a manner that:

- A. Protects coastal resources consistent with all policies and provisions of the Coastal LUP;
- B. Minimizes risks from shoreline hazards due to rising sea level;
- C. Minimizes the need for new shoreline protection devices. New shoreline protection devices shall only be allowed pursuant to Policy 5.1-44 *Shoreline Protection Device Permitting*;
- D. Protects public scenic views in scenic areas by being located and painted so as to not be visually obtrusive, except as required by regulation or code; and
- E. Where feasible, are located within existing rights-of-way or utility easements, provided that the existing rights-of-way and utility easements are otherwise consistent with the provisions of the Coastal LUP.

**Policy 6.1-9** Abandonment Provisions. Existing public works and energy facilities proposed for abandonment and all new public works and energy facilities shall require an abandonment plan if there is a potential for abandonment of the facility to impact ESHA, wetlands, creeks, and/or coastal waters. The abandonment plan shall outline the measures that will be taken once the facility is no longer in use to ensure the facility is abandoned in a manner that is safe and protective of coastal resources.

This may include such measures as abandoning subsurface facilities in place or facility removal and restoration of the site.

### *Water*

- Policy 6.1-10** Minimize Water Use. New development and substantial redevelopment shall minimize water use by implementing the best available technology and water conservation practices. New development and substantial redevelopment shall be evaluated for methods to conserve water that could include, among other things, optimizing use of recycled water, low water use plumbing fixtures, climate-appropriate landscaping, low-flow irrigation, Low Impact Development, or other new technologies as they become available.
- Policy 6.1-11** Maintain Desalination Component of Water Supply. The Charles E. Meyer Desalination Plant is an important and permanent part of the City's water supply portfolio that provides critical and intermittent water supply. As a part of any Coastal Development Permit to improve or expand the facility beyond the currently permitted 10,000 AF/year capacity, the City should implement, as feasible, state-of-the-art technology and design practices that increase energy efficiency and minimize potential impacts on coastal resources.

### *Pipelines*

- Policy 6.1-12** Utility Pipelines Design and Routing. New utility pipelines (e.g., natural gas, water, and wastewater pipelines) shall be sited and designed to prevent erosion and avoid impacts to coastal resources to the maximum extent feasible. Improvements to existing utility pipelines shall avoid impacts to coastal resources to the maximum extent feasible. Where avoidance is not feasible, adverse impacts to coastal resources during construction, operation, or improvements to utility pipelines shall be minimized and mitigated, consistent with the policies and provisions of the Coastal LUP.
- Policy 6.1-13** Utility Pipeline Construction. Herbicides shall not be used during pipeline construction, and sidcasting of soil may be restricted when deemed necessary to protect coastal resources, in which case excess soil shall be removed to an approved dumping site after the excavation has been backfilled and compacted.

### *Hazardous Material Transport & Disposal*

- Policy 6.1-14** Hazardous Substances. Development involving the transport of hazardous materials shall be evaluated during environmental review for potential health, safety, and coastal resource adverse impacts. New development and substantial redevelopment shall minimize use and

production of hazardous waste to the extent feasible, and in projects where potential health, safety, and coastal resource adverse impacts are identified, appropriate measures to minimize the risk of adverse impacts shall be required.