

**From:** [Bridging the Borders](#)  
**To:** [Zemaitaitis, Vilija](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Glendale's Safety Element Updates for Review and Comment by December 18th  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 7:29:50 AM  
**Attachments:** [glendaleca\\_logo.png](#)

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Hello Ms. Zemaitaitis,

My name is Araik Sinanian, and I am the founder of Bridging the Borders, a local organization focused on community safety, equity, and advocacy, particularly for Glendale's Armenian-American community and other underrepresented voices. Our mission is to amplify issues impacting our city and foster engagement through education and outreach.

Thank you for sharing the updates regarding Glendale's Land Use and Mobility Elements, the new Environmental Justice Element, and the revisions to the Safety Element. We are eager to support these vital initiatives that aim to create a safer and more inclusive Glendale.

As a local organization, we are particularly interested in:

- **Environmental Justice Element:** Addressing mobility and resource disparities impacting Glendale's diverse population, especially vulnerable groups.
- **Safety Element Updates:** Strengthening climate resilience and evacuation measures for populations most affected by climate change.

We plan to attend the December 9 scoping meeting and will submit comments on the Safety Element by the December 18 deadline. Please let us know if there are social media materials we can share to increase public awareness and engagement.

Thank you for your work on these initiatives. We look forward to

collaborating to ensure all Glendale residents benefit from these plans.

Best regards,  
Araik Sinanian

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In solidarity,  
Araik Sinanian  
Founder, Bridging the Borders  
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On Mon, Nov 18, 2024 at 7:01 PM Zemaitaitis, Vilia <[VZemaitaitis@glendaleca.gov](mailto:VZemaitaitis@glendaleca.gov)> wrote:

In compliance with recent State legislation, the City is revising its Safety Element to include updated information on natural hazards such as wildfires and floods, as well as evacuation and emergency preparedness and response. Recent State Law also mandates the Safety Element to identify how these and other hazards in Glendale are exacerbated by climate change, and what populations, locations, and community features are particularly vulnerable to climate hazards and changing climate conditions. These updates are reflected in the Draft Safety Element that is now available for public review on the City's General Plan - Safety Element webpage: [Safety Element \(click here\)](#) and on the GlendalePlan.com webpage: [Safety Element \(click here\)](#). Note: Underlining indicates new text to the 2003 Safety Element and ~~strikethrough~~ indicates deleted text.

Public comments on the [Safety Element Public Draft](#) will be accepted until December 18, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.

Please email comments to [GlendalePlan@GlendaleCA.gov](mailto:GlendalePlan@GlendaleCA.gov) (you are welcome to copy me as well - [vzemaitaitis@glendaleca.gov](mailto:vzemaitaitis@glendaleca.gov)).

Once public comments and feedback have been received, City staff and the consultant will coordinate with the required State agencies to obtain their approval of the Draft Safety Element. The revised Safety Element will then be presented to the Planning Commission and subsequently to City Council for adoption in Spring 2025.

For questions, please contact me or Teresa Santilena, Principal Planner, at (818) 548-2140.

Thank you.



**Vilia Zemaitaitis** | Deputy Dir. Of Cmty Dev/ Long Range Planning

Community Development

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**vzemaitaitis@GlendaleCA.gov | GlendaleCA.gov | Follow us!**

**From:** [Hermelinda Martinez](#)  
**To:** [Zemaitaitis, Vilja](#)  
**Subject:** Glendale Safety  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 5:04:56 PM

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**CAUTION: This email was delivered from the Internet. Do not click links, open attachments, or reply if you are unsure as to the sender.**

Dear Mr. Zemaitaitis,

Climate change is an extreme issue not only in our community but also in our state. The city continues to build apartments that people can't afford and cause more pollution with traffic. Even if they are being built, they lack greenery and that should be an important part of our city, especially for us living near Griffith Park. If trees are being removed, they need to be replaced with trees that are fire-resistant like deciduous trees, succulents and native plants. These trees shed their leaves annually and are generally more fire-resistant than evergreens. Examples include maple, polar, and cherry.

To avoid litter in the streets we need to have high-rise beds with invasive plants that do not require much water the rain should suffice, because litter on the street causes fires due to the high rise of homelessness, and they try to keep warm, so they use the trash in dumpsters. Also to avoid wasting money in cleaning tagging high-rise beds in alleys will prevent tagging, and that profit can be used to encourage community gardening, cleaner parks, and smoking in certain areas should be outlawed. They flick the cigarettes and with dry leaves they cause fire. Greenery should be taught in all schools, it will help keep kids busy from social media, and they need to be part of their community so they can learn the importance of taking care of it. Now in days nobody knows how to get their hands dirty but expect it. Kids need structure and this is a good way to start at all ages and prevent mental illness, cleaning streets, parking our rivers, and taking trail classes.

There are many empty lots, and we need organic stores, plant businesses should be invited to utilize those areas for healthier living. We must remember it is also good for mental health. Final thought or advice from a community member we need you all city workers and city officials to walk the streets, talk to your neighbors, and educate them. They need it to be encouraged by officials and you will see how that has a very positive effect on people and makes them feel valued so they get encouraged, educate why green bins are essential. If I must remind my neighbors constantly to stop putting trash in the green bins you can as well as representatives of our community do the same.

Sincerely,

Linda Martinez