



City of Huntington Beach

2000 MAIN STREET

CALIFORNIA 92648

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & BUILDING

Notice of Preparation

To: Agencies, Organizations, and Interested Parties

Subject: Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report

Lead Agency:

Agency Name City of Huntington Beach,
Planning and Building Department
Street Address 2000 Main Street
City/State/Zip Huntington Beach, CA 92648
Contact Mr. Ethan Edwards, AICP
Associate Planner

Consulting Firm:

Firm Name: CAA Planning, Inc.
Street Address: 65 Enterprise, Suite 130
City/State/Zip: Aliso Viejo, CA 92656
Contact: Shawna Schaffner

The City of Huntington Beach will be the Lead Agency and will prepare an environmental impact report for the project identified below. We need to know the views of your agency as to the scope and content of the environmental information which is germane to your agency's statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed project. Your agency will need to use the EIR prepared by our agency when considering your permit or other approval for the project.

The City of Huntington Beach, as Lead Agency, prepared an Initial Study (IS) and Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the proposed project in May 2013. Comments received on the MND revealed the need to prepare a focused EIR for the proposed project. A copy of the Initial Study (is is not) attached. The prior IS/MND remains available for review at the City of Huntington Beach website under the current planning activity page at:

<http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/government/departments/Planning/Environmentalreports.cfm>.

Due to the time limits mandated by State law, your response must be sent at the earliest possible date but ***not later than 37 days*** after receipt of this notice.

Starting Date: December 19, 2013

Ending Date: January 24, 2014

Please send your response to Ethan Edwards, AICP, Associate Planner, at the address shown above. We will need the name for a contact person in your agency.

Project Title: Surf City Nights

Project Location: The Project is located within the City of Huntington Beach, County of Orange. The Project site is comprised of public streets, and their adjoining public and private sidewalks including Main Street, between Pacific Coast Highway and Orange Avenue and extending onto the adjoining half blocks of Walnut Avenue and Olive Avenue, continuing onto the first block of 5th Street, bound by Pacific Coast Highway and Walnut Avenue (see project area map attached).

Project Description: Surf City Nights is an existing downtown street festival which occurs every Tuesday night. Surf City Nights includes a Certified Farmer's Market, live entertainment consisting of amplified music, street performances, children's games and activities, local merchant displays, sidewalk sales, a food-court, and the sale of prepackaged food and hand-crafted items. The festival runs weekly on Tuesday nights from 5:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m., but is cancelled in the event of heavy rain or showers. This event was established in 2007 and run by the City of Huntington Beach (City) for the first two years, and is now run by the Downtown Business Improvement District (DTBID), which took over management and operations of the festival in 2009.

The City's Office of Business Development and the DTBID are co-applicants for the proposed Project, which includes renewed discretionary permits for 1) the current operation; and 2) the expansion of Surf City Nights from its current location on Main Street between Pacific Coast Highway and Orange Avenue, onto 5th Street, between Pacific Coast Highway and Walnut Avenue. The Project requires the temporary closure of downtown streets, including Main Street and 5th Street (see project area map) of Huntington Beach every Tuesday from 2:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. The street closures are facilitated by the use of metal bollards and other similar barricades, placed to divert traffic and promote pedestrian safety, however all blockades are removable, and the site is fully accessible to emergency vehicles at all times. The event requires that parking meters within the festival area of Main Street and 5th Street be bagged and labeled with No Parking signs, indicating that

vehicles must be moved by 2:00 p.m. Parking for the event is available on surrounding streets and within an 850 stall parking structure located on Main Street in addition to other available publically accessible parking areas. Peak attendance is observed during the summer months, when the City accommodates additional off-site parking with a free shuttle to and from the event site. The shuttle has operating hours of 5:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., and is initiated once the Main Street Parking structure is full. The project includes amplified music on Main Street. No amplified music is proposed for 5th Street.

Potential Environmental Effects: A focused EIR will be prepared to analyze potential environmental impacts associated with the Project, including Land Use and Planning, Noise, Traffic/Parking, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Alternatives to the proposed project and Growth Inducing and Cumulative Impacts.

Discretionary Permitting: The Project requires the approval of Coastal Development Permit (CDP) No. 12-001, Conditional Use Permit (CUP) No. 12-026, and Noise Deviation Permit No. 13-009, which have been applied for and will be processed concurrently with the EIR, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines §15004(c).

Document Availability: The NOP and prior IS/MND are available for public review at the locations listed below during regular business hours:

- City of Huntington Beach Planning and Building Department, 2000 Main Street, Huntington Beach, 92648 California;
- Huntington Beach Central Library, 7111 Talbert Avenue, Huntington Beach, 92648, California;
- Main Street Branch Library, 525 Main Street, Huntington Beach, 92648, California; and
- <http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/Government/departments/planning/environmentalreports.cfm>

As stated above, the City will receive your written comments regarding this NOP from Thursday, December 19, 2013 through Friday, January 24, 2014. **All written comments must be received by the City by January 24, 2014 at 5:00 p.m.** If you require additional information please contact Mr. Ethan Edwards, AICP, Associate Planner, at (714) 536-5561.

Date: December 19, 2013

Signature: 
Title: Associate Planner
Contact: (714) 536-5561
Email: Ethan.Edwards@surfcity-hb.org

Reference: California Code of Regulations, Title 14, (CEQA Guidelines) Sections 15082(a), 15103, 15375.

