



City of Huntington Beach

2000 MAIN STREET CALIFORNIA 92648
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Planning Division
714/536-5271

Code Enforcement Division
714/375-5155

Building Division
714/536-5241

May 17, 2017

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

TO: Agencies, Organizations, and Interested Parties

FROM: Jennifer Villasenor, Planning Manager

SUBJECT: **NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF A DRAFT PROGRAM ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (EIR) FOR THE HUNTINGTON BEACH GENERAL PLAN UPDATE (EIR NO. 14-001) (STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NO. 2015101032)**

Section 15087 of the State CEQA Guidelines requires a Lead Agency (in this case, the City of Huntington Beach) to provide a notice of availability of a draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for public review. The following information regarding the characteristics of the project and the availability of the associated environmental documentation is provided according to the requirements of CEQA Guidelines Section 15087(c).

Proposed project location and characteristics (§15087(c)(1))

The Draft Program Environmental Impact Report for the General Plan Update identifies and analyzes the potential environmental impacts associated with a City-initiated comprehensive update to the General Plan. State law (Government Code Section 65300) requires each city to adopt a comprehensive, long-term general plan for its physical development. The proposed General Plan Update establishes an overall development capacity for the City and serves as a policy guide for determining the appropriate physical development and character of Huntington Beach over an approximate 25-year planning horizon (to 2040). The General Plan Update incorporates components of the 1996 General Plan that are still applicable today, while reducing the number of optional elements and proposing a streamlined approach to the goals and policies. The General Plan Update also proposes to establish a new Research and Technology land use designation, which highlights and prioritizes the City's commitment to job growth and sustained economic growth and vitality. While the General Plan Update does not change any of the City's existing residential designations or allowable densities or propose new areas of residential land, it allows for continued residential growth within the City's current residential areas and established densities of those areas. The General Plan Update also functions as a plan for the management of resources and infrastructure to accommodate this projected growth.

The General Plan Update also includes a Greenhouse Gas Reduction Program (GGRP) and a Coastal

Resiliency Program (CRP). A GGRP provides near-term specific and measurable actions, programs, and projects to achieve greenhouse gas reduction goals as required by state legislation, and provides performance indicators and a monitoring tool. A CRP provides guiding engineering, ecological, and community resilience principles to address potential sea level rise in accordance with the adopted guidelines of the California Coastal Commission, while also identifying potential preparedness goals, actions, and an implementation strategy.

The draft General Plan Update document, Draft EIR, Coastal Resiliency Program, Fiscal Impact Analysis and associated technical studies and project materials developed to date are available for review at the following website: <http://www.hbthenextwave.org/>.

Project Location: City of Huntington Beach and surrounding unincorporated areas, Orange County, California

Start and end dates of the public comment period (§ 15087(c)(2))

The 45-day public review period for the General Plan Update Draft Program Environmental Impact Report (EIR No. 14-001) begins on **Monday May 22, 2017 and ends on Friday July 7, 2017**. Comments should be addressed to:

Jennifer Villasenor, Planning Manager
City of Huntington Beach Community Development Department
2000 Main Street, Huntington Beach, CA 92648

Dates, times, and places of currently scheduled public meetings (§15087(c)(3))

A public comment meeting will be held during the review period to take comments related to the adequacy of the environmental issues analyzed in the Draft EIR. The comment meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 7, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. in Room B-7, City Hall – Lower Level located at 2000 Main Street, Huntington Beach, CA 92648.

A Planning Commission study session on the Draft EIR for the General Plan Update will be held on Tuesday, June 27, 2017 at 5:15 P.M. in the City Council Chambers, City Hall – Lower Level, 2000 Main Street, Huntington Beach, CA 92648.

Subsequent to the comment period, public hearings on the General Plan Update and Draft EIR will be scheduled for the Planning Commission and City Council. The public hearings will be separately noticed and are tentatively scheduled for August/September 2017.

Significant environmental effects anticipated to result from the proposed project (§15087(c)(4))

The EIR determined that implementation of the proposed project would result in the following significant or potentially significant impacts:

- Air Quality
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Noise (construction: groundborne noise/vibration; operational: roadway noise)

- Utilities (Water Supply)

Less than significant or potentially significant impacts that could be mitigated to a less-than-significant level in the following issue areas:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| • Aesthetics | • Land Use and Planning |
| • Biological Resources | • Recreation |
| • Cultural Resources | • Population, Housing & Employment |
| • Geology, Soils & Mineral Resources | • Public Services |
| • Hazards & Hazardous Materials | • Transportation & Traffic |
| • Hydrology & Water Quality | • Utilities & Service Systems |

The EIR also presents alternatives to the proposed project that could avoid or reduce the severity of impacts described in the issue areas above.

Address(es) where copies of the draft EIR, draft General Plan Update and all are available for public review (§15087(c)(5))

A copy of the Draft Program EIR describing the General Plan Update, planning area, and potential environmental effects is available at the following locations:

- City of Huntington Beach Community Development Department, City Hall – 3rd floor, 2000 Main Street, Huntington Beach, California, 92648;
- City of Huntington Beach Clerk’s Office, City Hall – 2nd floor, 2000 Main Street, Huntington Beach, CA 92648;
- Central Library, 7111 Talbert Avenue, Huntington Beach, CA 92647;
- The project website: <http://www.hbthenextwave.org>
- The City’s website:
<http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/government/departments/planning/major/major-projects-view.cfm?ID=46>