



PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

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July 26, 2019

NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

RE: Santa Cruz Parks Master Plan 2030

To Interested Agencies and Persons:

The City of Santa Cruz, as the lead agency, is preparing an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) on the project described herein. Please respond with written comments regarding the scope and the content of the EIR as it may relate to your agency's area of statutory responsibility or your areas of concern or expertise. Your agency may need to use the EIR prepared by our agency when considering your permit or other approval for the project, if any is required. **Responses are due within 30 days of the receipt of this Notice, as provided by State law.** The contact person's name and address are listed below. Please include the name and phone number of a contact person at your agency in your response.

1. **Project.** Santa Cruz Parks Master Plan 2030 (SCH# 2018012030)
2. **Project Location.** City of Santa Cruz. See the attached Location Map.
3. **Project Applicant.** City of Santa Cruz
4. **Project Description.** The proposed project consists of a citywide Parks Master Plan, which is a guidance document that assesses existing conditions and community needs, and guides the short- and long-term planning of parks, recreational facilities, beaches, and open space-greenbelt lands throughout the City. The Parks Master Plan includes goals, policies and actions that address the provision of parks and recreational services, as well as, general recommendations for expanded recreational uses and specific recommendations for improvements at the City's individual parks, beaches, open spaces, and recreational facilities. The Parks Master Plan lays out recommendations for the next 15 years but is designed to be updated over time, providing a guiding framework while allowing for adjustments based on both presently anticipated and unforeseen future needs and community desires.

The proposed Parks Master Plan includes the following components:

- An inventory of existing conditions, parks, open space and recreational facilities
- An assessment of emerging trends and community needs
- Goals, policies and actions
- Recommendations for specific facilities
- Implementation and funding strategies

- 5. Probable Environmental Effects of the Project.** An Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) were prepared and circulated for a 30-day public review period from January 22, 2018 through February 20, 2018. As a result of additional comments submitted to the City after the close of the public review period, the IS/MND was revised to provide expanded analyses in response to public comments and was recirculated for public review from February 11, 2019 through March 12, 2019. Upon receipt of additional comments and in consultation with the City Attorney, City staff decided to proceed with preparation of an EIR.

The City has identified the following possible effects of the project as topics for analysis in the EIR. Other issues are evaluated in the February 2019 Initial Study, which is available for review at the Parks and Recreation Department at the address at the bottom of this notice and on the City's website at: <http://www.cityofsantacruz.com/government/city-departments/parks-recreation/parks-beaches-open-spaces/parks-master-plan>

- Aesthetics
- Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Biological Impacts
- Cultural Resources
- Geology and Soils
- Hazards – Wildland Fire Hazards
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Land Use
- Noise
- Public Services, Utilities
- Transportation and Traffic
- Land Use
- CEQA-Required Sections: The EIR will include the additional following topics as required by the State CEQA Guidelines: growth inducement, cumulative impacts, and alternatives.

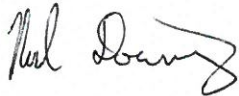
The following issues were evaluated in the Initial Study, and no significant impacts were identified. Thus, these topics will not be reviewed further in the EIR.

- Agriculture and Forest Resources
- Mineral Resources
- Population and Housing
- Tribal Cultural Resources

6. **Contact Person Name and Phone Number:** The City will consider the written comments received in response to this Notice of Preparation in determining whether any additional topics should be studied in the Draft EIR. Please provide comments to this Notice of Preparation by August 26, 2019 to:

Noah Downing
City of Santa Cruz Parks and Recreation Department
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Santa Cruz, California 95060
Phone: 831 420-5362
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Sincerely,



Noah Downing
Park Planner

LOCATION MAP

