



300 Richards Boulevard, Third Floor
Sacramento, CA 95811

DATE: May 21, 2019

TO: Interested Persons

FROM: Tom Buford, Principal Planner
Community Development Department

RE: **NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
REPORT AND SCOPING MEETING FOR THE TWO RIVERS TRAIL
PHASE II PROJECT (SCH 2018102058)**

COMMENT PERIOD: **May 21st 2019 to June 19th 2019**

SCOPING MEETING: **Saturday, June 8, 2019, from 10 a.m. to Noon**
Fremont Presbyterian Church – Ferguson Hall
5770 Carlson Drive, Sacramento

INTRODUCTION

Pursuant to section 21166 of the California Public Resources Code and section 15162 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, the City of Sacramento is the Lead Agency for preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the proposed Two Rivers Trail Phase II project (proposed project).

The EIR is being prepared in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act. The City, as Lead Agency, is issuing this Notice of Preparation (NOP) to inform trustee and responsible agencies, as well as the public, of its decision to prepare an EIR. The purpose of the NOP is to provide information describing the project and its potential environmental effects to those who may wish to comment regarding the scope and content of the information to be included in the EIR. Agencies should comment on such information as it relates to their statutory responsibilities in connection with the project.

The EIR will provide an evaluation of potential environmental impacts associated with development of the project. The proposed project location, description, and

environmental issue areas that may be affected by development of the proposed project are described below. The EIR will evaluate potentially significant environmental impacts of the proposed project, on both a direct, indirect, and cumulative basis; identify mitigation measures that may be feasible to lessen or avoid such impacts; and identify alternatives that may lessen one or more potentially significant impacts to the proposed project.

PROJECT LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

The proposed project would construct the remainder of Phase II of the Two Rivers Trail by extending the Class 1 bicycle and pedestrian trail on the south bank of the American River west from Sutter's Landing Regional Park to the Sacramento Northern Bikeway Trail at North 18th Street, and east from the eastern terminus of Sutter's Landing Regional Park to the H Street Bridge (see **Figure 1**). The approximately 3.4 miles of new Class 1 trail, located primarily along the waterside toe of the levee, would generally consist of an 8-ft-wide paved path with a 2-ft-wide compacted shoulder on the inner side and a similar 4- to 6-ft-wide shoulder on the waterside to provide space for walking and jogging adjacent to the paved portion of the trail. The trail would be engineered to be load-bearing to accommodate maintenance and emergency vehicles.

A portion of the trail alignment west of Sutter's Landing Regional Park may be within an area that was the site of an abandoned landfill included on the State Cortese List (Government Code Section 65962.5[a]).

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the proposed project are to:

- Provide a vital recreation link between the Jedediah Smith Trail on the north side of the Parkway, the Sacramento River Parkway, the Sacramento Northern Bikeway Trail, the future Ueda Parkway trails, and the 20th Street bike connection to the Central City;
- Provide alternative transportation access for commuters and residents in the eastern part of the City, California State University Sacramento (CSUS), Central City, North Sacramento, East Sacramento, and Richards Boulevard area;
- Provide opportunities for educating trail users through interpretive signage, establishing a connection to the river, and the Parkway;
- Provide an acceptable project to all authoritative agencies;
- Complete the project in a manner that minimizes environmental impacts to the Parkway, given the proposed project's location within the environmentally sensitive Parkway; and
- Where feasible, design trail access points to comply with the requirements of

the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS AND SCOPE OF THE EIR

The City prepared an Initial Study and Environmental Checklist for the proposed project in October 2018 and has received comments on the Initial Study. Based on the impact conclusions (minimal or no impact) for several resource topics (i.e., Agricultural and Forestry Resources) provided in the Initial Study Checklist and comments received on the Initial Study, the City intends to exclude several topic areas from the EIR, including Agricultural and Forestry Resources, Air Quality, Energy, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Mineral Resources, Population and Housing, and Utilities.

Based on the analysis in the Initial Study and the comments received on the Initial Study, the City intends to prepare an EIR that is focused on addressing the following environmental topics:

Aesthetics	Biological Resources	Cultural Resources
Geology/Soils	Hazards	Hydrology/Water Quality
Land Use/Planning	Noise	Public Services
Recreation	Transportation	Tribal Cultural Resources
Wildfire		

Environmental documents related to the project, including the Initial Study and comments received on the Initial Study, may be reviewed at the office of the Community Development Department, 300 Richards Boulevard, Third Floor, Sacramento, California 95811 during public counter hours, and on the Community Development Department web site at:

<http://www.cityofsacramento.org/Community-Development/Planning/Environmental/Impact-Reports>

SUBMITTING COMMENTS

Comments and suggestions as to the appropriate scope of analysis in the EIR are invited from all interested parties. Written comments or questions concerning the EIR for the proposed project should be directed to the environmental project manager at the following address by 5:00 p.m. on June 19, 2019. Please include the contact person's full name and address in order for staff to respond appropriately:

Tom Buford, Principal Planner
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300 Richards Blvd., Third Floor
Sacramento, CA 95811
Telephone: (916) 808-7931
E-mail: tbuford@cityofsacramento.org

SCOPING MEETING

A public scoping meeting will be held on Saturday, June 8, 2019, from 10:00 a.m. to Noon at the following location:

Fremont Presbyterian Church – Ferguson Hall
5770 Carlson Drive
Sacramento, CA 95819

Responsible agencies and members of the public are invited to attend and provide input on the scope of the EIR.

The scoping meeting will be held in an open house format. Following a brief presentation on the status of the project, informational exhibits and project team members will be available throughout the meeting for one-on-one discussions. Forms for submitting written comments will be available. Written comments of any length may be submitted; however, there will not be a formal presentation or panel to receive oral public comments.

Figure 1. Project Location Map



