

AUGUST 15, 2023

TO: Interested Persons
FROM: Scott Johnson, Senior Planner

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY-DRAFT MASTER ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE CITY OF SACRAMENTO 2040 GENERAL PLAN UPDATE AND CLIMATE ACTION & ADAPTATION PLAN (SCH#: 2019012048)

As Lead Agency, the City of Sacramento, Community Development Department, Environmental Planning Services, has completed the Draft Master Environmental Impact Report (MEIR) for the City of Sacramento 2040 General Plan Update (GPU) and Climate Action & Adaptation Plan (CAAP). The document is now available for public review and comment.

COMMENT PERIOD: August 24, 2023 to October 10, 2023 (Comment period ends - 5:00 p.m. Tuesday, October 10, 2023).

Document Availability: The Draft MEIR is available at the City's Community Development Department, environmental documents webpage at the following link:

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

The document is also available for review at the Community Development Department, 300 Richards Boulevard, Third Floor, Sacramento, California 95811, Tuesday through Thursday, between 9:00am and 4:00pm (except holidays) and at the downtown Central Library (828 I Street). The 2040 General Plan and CAAP documents along with the Draft MEIR can also be accessed through the City's General Plan webpage at the following link: www.Sac2040gpu.org

The project area is the city of Sacramento and adjacent areas collectively defined as the General Plan Policy Area, located in Sacramento County. Regionally, Sacramento is in the center of California's Central Valley, roughly halfway between San Francisco to the west and Lake Tahoe to the east. The General Plan planning area covers a total area of approximately 197 square miles of incorporated and unincorporated land, encompassing land within the City limits, the Sphere of Influence, and five special study areas. Within the City limits, there are numerous sites that are present on lists compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5. The Draft MEIR includes a discussion of hazards and hazardous materials.

The 2040 General Plan

The Sacramento General Plan can be considered a blueprint for development and conservation — a set of policies that guide the City's land use and capital investment decisions for the next two decades. The Sacramento General Plan serves to:

- Establish a long-range vision that reflects the aspirations of the community and outlines steps to achieve it;
- Guide decision-making related to development, housing, transportation, environmental quality, public services, parks, open space, and agricultural conservation;
- Help Sacramento achieve compliance with applicable State and regional policies, including housing production and environmental regulations;
- Allow City departments, other public agencies, and private developers to design projects that will enhance the community, preserve environmental resources, and minimize hazards; and

- Provide the basis for establishing and setting priorities for detailed programs, such as the Planning and Development Code and future specific plans.

The 2040 General Plan addresses the eight state-mandated topics as well as several additional topics of local importance. The 2021-2029 Housing Element, which fulfills the state requirement for a certified housing element, was adopted in 2021 and published separately.

The Climate Action & Adaptation Plan (CAAP):

The CAAP establishes Sacramento's GHG reduction target for 2030, which surpasses the statewide GHG reduction goals established for 2030 by SB32, and also establishes a 2045 climate action goal. The CAAP provides GHG reduction measures and actions that are achievable based on substantial evidence, and meets the requirements for a "qualified" GHG reduction plan as defined by California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines §15183.5(b).

The CAAP also includes an Adaptation chapter, which builds on analysis completed in the Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment (VA). The VA analyzes the projected effects of climate change in Sacramento over the course of the 21st Century, with special consideration of the projected impacts on the most vulnerable populations within the community. The key projected climate change vulnerabilities include temperature increase, changes in precipitation and increased flooding, and increased wildfire and associated air quality impacts. Six primary adaptation goals were identified, with supporting policies and actions.

Master Environmental Impact Report (MEIR)

The 2040 GPU and CAAP Draft MEIR evaluates the full range of environmental issues contemplated for consideration under CEQA and the CEQA Guidelines. Major issues for the MEIR update include, but are not limited to: Transportation and Circulation (including Vehicle Miles Travelled); Air Quality; Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Climate Change; Noise and Vibration; Population and Housing; Public Utilities (including Water Supply); Public Services and Recreation; Hydrology and Water Quality; Flood Hazards; Hazards and Hazardous Materials; Geology, Soils, and Mineral Resources; Agricultural Resources; Cultural Resources; Tribal Cultural Resources, Biological Resources; Aesthetics and Visual Resources; and Land Use and Planning. In addition to the potential environmental effects listed above, the MEIR will evaluate potential cumulative effects and potential growth-inducing impacts of the proposed Sacramento General Plan Update. The MEIR will also compare the impacts of the proposed General Plan Update to a range of reasonable alternatives, including a No Project Alternative, and will identify an environmentally superior alternative.

Written comments on the Draft MEIR or questions concerning the environmental review process should be submitted to:

MEIR@cityofsacramento.org

Or mailed to:

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300 Richards Boulevard, 3rd Floor
Sacramento, CA 95811
(916) 808-5842

For information or questions on the 2040 General Plan Update, please contact Amy Yang at (916) 808-5023. For information or questions on the Climate Action & Adaptation Plan, please contact Victor Randall at (916) 808-5530. No public hearing has been scheduled at this time.