

DATE: December 11, 2013

TO: Interested Persons

FROM: Susanne Cook, Associate Planner
Community Development Department

RE: **NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT AND
SCOPING MEETING FOR THE REUSABLE BAG ORDINANCE**

COMMENT PERIOD

December 16, 2013 to January 17, 2014

SCOPING MEETING

Thursday, January 9, 2014, 300 Richards Blvd., 2nd Floor (see below)

INTRODUCTION

The City of Sacramento (City) is the Lead Agency for preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the proposed Reusable Bag Ordinance project (Project). The EIR to be prepared by the City will evaluate potential significant environmental effects of the Project. In accordance with Section 15082 of the State California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, upon deciding to prepare an EIR, the City as lead agency must issue a Notice of Preparation (NOP) to inform the public, trustee, and responsible agencies of that decision. 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 implementation of the Reusable Bag Ordinance. The Project description, location, and environmental issue areas that may be affected by development of the proposed project are set forth below. The EIR will evaluate the potentially significant environmental impacts of the proposed project, on both a direct and cumulative basis, identify mitigation measures, if any, that may be feasible to lessen or avoid such impacts, and identify alternatives to the proposed project.

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 January 17, 2014. Please include the contact person's full name and address in order for staff to respond appropriately:

Susanne Cook, Associate Planner,
City of Sacramento Community Development Department,
300 Richards Blvd., Third Floor, Sacramento, CA 95811
Telephone: (916) 808-5375
E-mail: scook@cityofsacramento.org

SCOPING MEETING

A public scoping meeting will be held on Thursday, January 9, 2014, from 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the following location:

City of Sacramento
300 Richards Blvd., 2nd Floor, Room: 221
Sacramento, CA 95811

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 conducted in an open house format. Written comments regarding relevant issues may be submitted at the meeting.

PROJECT LOCATION/SETTING

The Reusable Bag Ordinance would be effective within the City of Sacramento (See Figure 1 below) and would apply to the following retail stores (as defined by the Ordinance):

1. A supermarket, defined as a full-line, self-service retail store with gross annual sales of \$2,000,000, or more, and which sells a line of dry grocery, canned goods, or nonfood items and perishable items;
2. A store of at least 10,000 square feet of retail space that generates sales or use tax pursuant to the Bradley-Burns Uniform Local Sales and Use Tax Law (Part 1.5 (commencing with Section 7200) of Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code) and that has a pharmacy licensed pursuant to Chapter 9 (commencing with Section 4000) of Division 2 of the Business and Professions Code; or
3. A convenience food store, foodmart, or other entity that is engaged in the retail sale of a limited line of goods, including milk, bread, soda, and snack foods, and that holds a Type 20 or 21 license issued by the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed Reusable Bag Ordinance would prohibit certain stores in the City from distributing single-use plastic bags, and would require a minimum \$.10 fee on recycled paper bags and reusable bags distributed by the store. The intent of the proposed ordinance is to mitigate environmental impacts associated with single-use plastic bags and encourage consumers to use reusable shopping bags.

Additional information and materials relating to the proposed project are available on the City's website at:

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

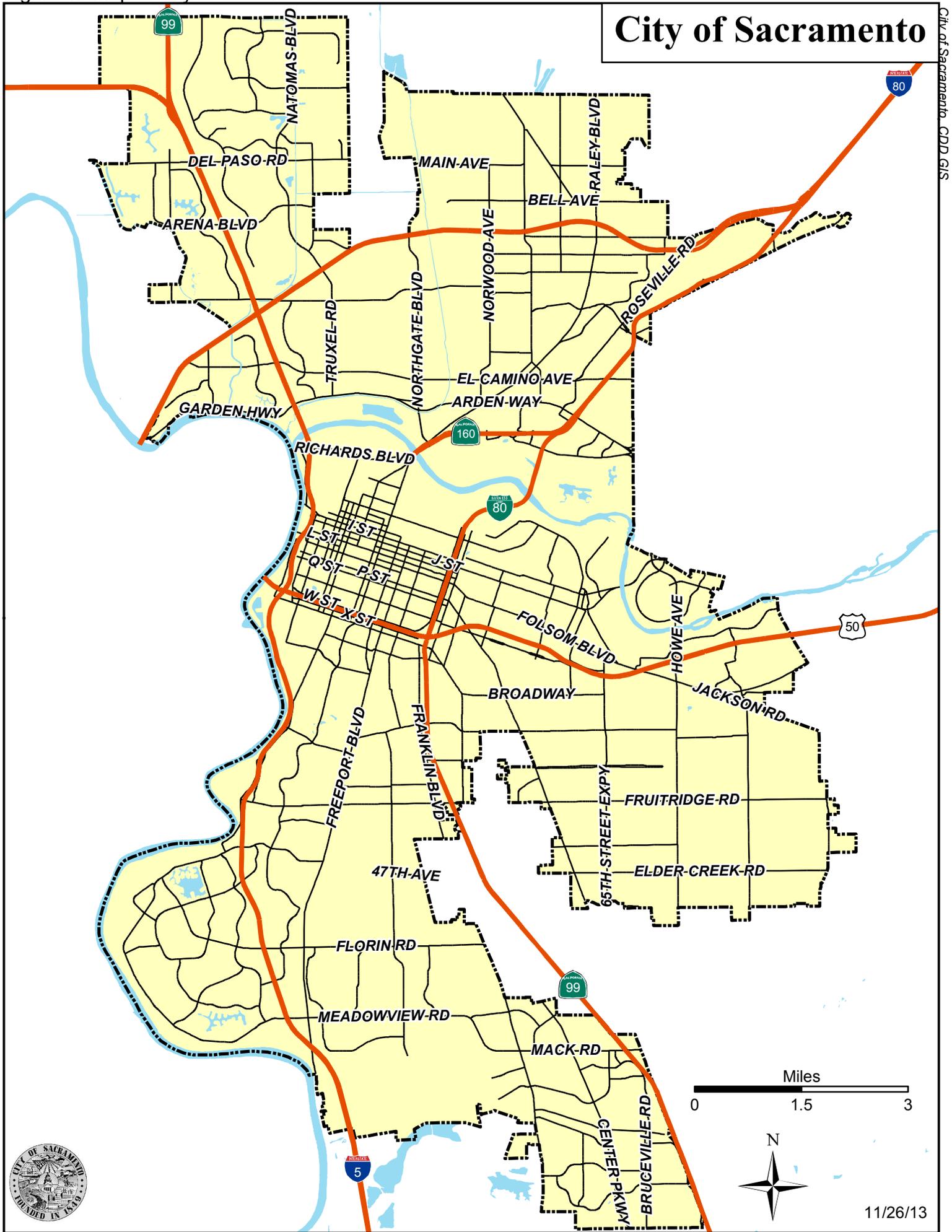
ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS AND SCOPE OF THE EIR

The EIR will analyze potentially significant impacts that result from implementation of the Reusable Bag Ordinance. Pursuant to section 15063 (a), of the CEQA Guidelines, an Initial Study has not been prepared for the proposed project. The environmental factors that the City has determined would potentially be affected by the project include:

- Air Quality
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Hydrology/Water Quality
- Utilities and Service Systems

The EIR will identify and evaluate alternatives to the proposed project.

Figure 1: Map of City of Sacramento



City of Sacramento CDD GIS

City of Sacramento

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