

November 18, 2020

NOTICE OF PREPARATION

To: Responsible Agencies, Trustee Agencies, Stakeholders and Interested Parties

From: California State University, Long Beach
1331 Palo Verde Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90815

Project: Housing Expansion Phase I – Soils Placement on Campus

Subject: **Notice of Preparation (NOP) of a Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (EIR) to the Campus Master Plan Update EIR (SCH# 2007061092)**

Notice of Preparation. California State University, Long Beach (CSULB) will prepare a Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) to the Campus Master Plan Update EIR (State Clearinghouse #2007061092), which was certified by the California State University Board of Trustees in May 2008. CSULB has prepared this Notice of Preparation (NOP) in accordance with Sections 15082(a) and 15375 of the CEQA Guidelines and is requesting input from responsible and trustee agencies, stakeholders, and other interested parties regarding the content of the environmental analysis and information to be included in the Draft Supplemental EIR.

For residential recipients of this notice: You are being provided with this notice because of your property's proximity to the project site.

Background. The Housing Expansion Phase I – Parkside North Housing Project was originally proposed as part of the 2008 Campus Master Plan and analyzed in the Master Plan EIR. In response to additional planning and design-level engineering, the plans for the Parkside North Housing Project were refined and analyzed in Addendum No. 1 to the Master Plan EIR, which was certified in September 2019, and Addendum No. 2, which was certified in November 2019. During construction of the Parkside North Housing Project, a portion of the excavated soils, approximately 6,400 cubic yards (cy), was retained and placed for storage on an undeveloped portion of the CSULB campus during August and September 2019. CSULB is preparing a Draft Supplemental EIR to evaluate the potential environmental effects of the permanent disposition and treatment of the stored soils.

Project Description. This Draft Supplemental EIR will address the permanent disposition and treatment of approximately 6,400 cy of soils that was stored on the largely undeveloped northwestern portion of the campus following excavation and removal from the Parkside North Housing Project construction site. The site of soils placement represents a portion of an approximately 22-acre recorded archaeological site (CA-LAN-235). The site is a contributor to the Puvunga Indian Village Historic District, which encompasses two other archaeological sites on nearby Rancho Los Alamitos and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. This part of the campus also holds significance for several California Native American tribal groups and, with the University's permission, is actively used for tribal ceremonies and gatherings.

This Draft Supplemental EIR will address shaping some of the deposited soils into berms and feathering other deposited soils to blend into the natural landscape in a manner that continues to retain the soils

on campus, preserves and protects cultural and tribal cultural resources, and physically buffers the site and associated activities from adjacent roadways.

Project Location. The site of soils placement is an approximately 22-acre portion of the campus, in the eastern portion of the City of Long Beach, California. The larger campus encompasses over 322 acres and is bounded by East Atherton Street on the north, East 7th Street on the south, Palo Verde Avenue on the east, and North Bellflower Boulevard on the west. The approximately 22-acre site consists of open space, the Earl Miller Japanese Garden, an asphalt parking lot, and temporary staging for construction trailers. The approximately 22-acre site is bounded by Bouton Creek to the north, Beach Drive to the south, Earl Warren Drive to the east, and North Bellflower Boulevard to the west.

Project Alternatives. The Supplemental EIR will recommend mitigation measures for any significant adverse environmental impacts resulting from the proposed actions evaluated in the Supplemental EIR. The Supplemental EIR will also define and analyze a reasonable range of alternatives to the proposed disposition and treatment of the soils that may be capable of avoiding or reducing significant impacts.

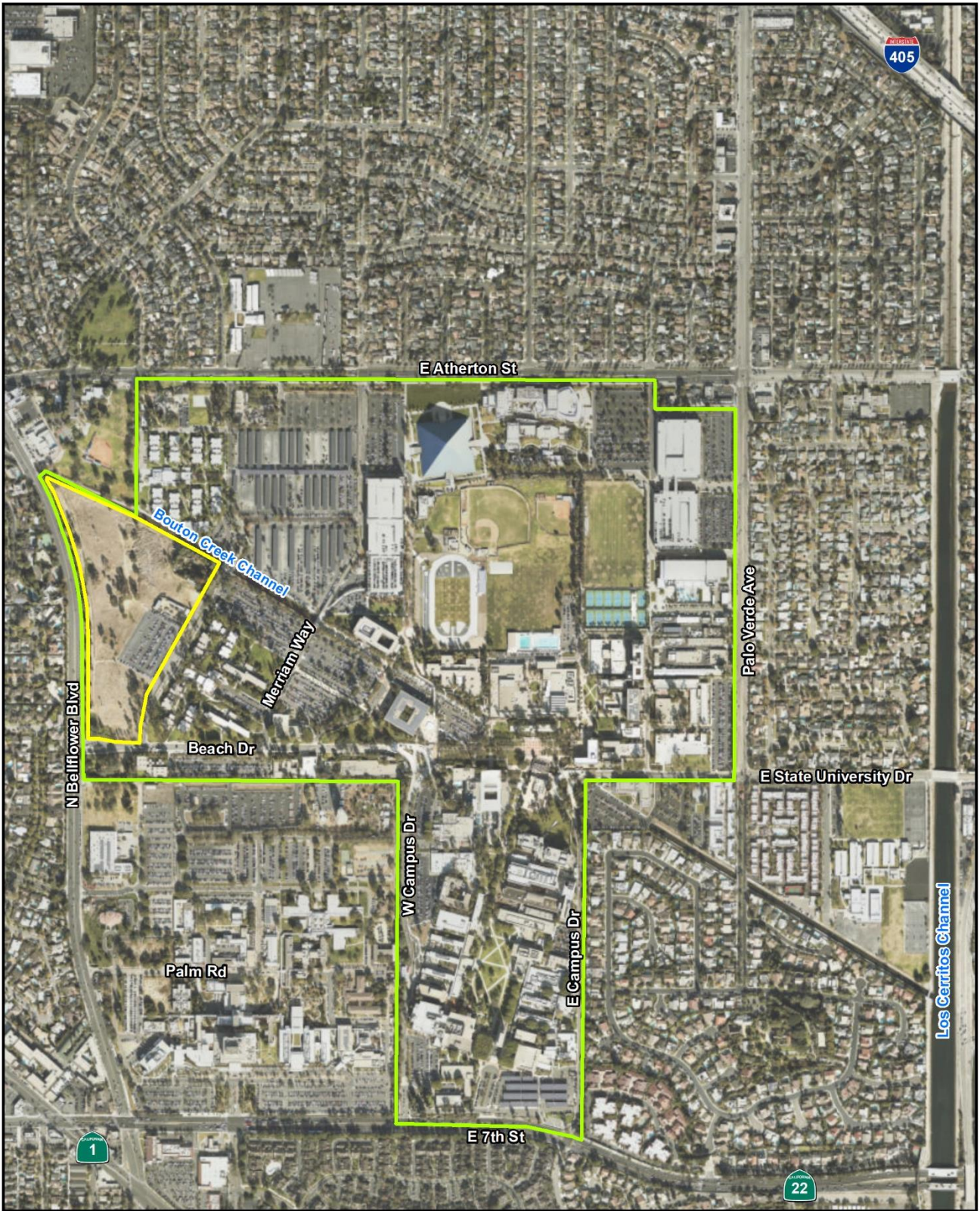
Probable Environmental Effects. Pursuant to Section 15163 of the CEQA Guidelines, the Supplemental EIR need only contain the information necessary to analyze project modifications, changed circumstances, or new information that triggered the need for additional environmental review. Therefore, the Supplemental EIR will evaluate in detail those environmental resources on which the project may have the potential to result in new or substantially more severe significant direct, indirect, and/or cumulative environmental effects compared with the 2008 Campus Master Plan Update EIR. Accordingly, the Draft Supplemental EIR will focus on the environmental topics of Cultural Resources (Historic Resources, Archaeological Resources) and Tribal Cultural Resources. The Draft Supplemental EIR will also briefly discuss all environmental topics listed in Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines that are not anticipated to result in new or more severe significant impacts than those identified in the 2008 Campus Master Plan Update EIR and explain why they are not evaluated in detail in the Draft Supplemental EIR.

Public Review Period/Comment Period. This Notice of Preparation will be circulated for a 30-day public review and comment period, commencing on November 18, 2020 and concluding on December 18, 2020. All written comments on the scope of the Supplemental Draft EIR must be received by mail or email no later than 5:00 P.M. on December 18, 2020. For comments submitted by email, please include "Soils Placement on Campus Supplemental EIR Comments" in the subject line. Please direct all comments to:

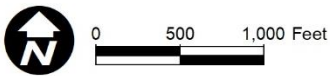
Martin Grant, Program Manager, Capital Construction
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This notice will be filed with the Los Angeles County Clerk's office for a period of not less than 30 days, and will be published in a newspaper of general circulation.

Reviewing Locations. This Notice of Preparation, along with the 2008 Campus Master Plan Update EIR, may be accessed online through the CSULB website at <https://www.csulb.edu/beach-building-services/california-environmental-quality-act-ceqa-compliance>. In addition, a limited number of hard copies of the Notice of Preparation can be provided to persons who are unable to access the online version of the notice. Please contact Mr. Martin Grant at (562) 985-7382 or martin.grant@csulb.edu to request this accommodation.



Source: Esri, 2020.



- CSULB Campus Boundary
- Project Site

Figure 1
Project Site