

Summary Form for Electronic Document Submittal

Form F

Lead agencies may include 15 hardcopies of this document when submitting electronic copies of Environmental Impact Reports, Negative Declarations, Mitigated Negative Declarations, or Notices of Preparation to the State Clearinghouse (SCH). The SCH also accepts other summaries, such as EIR Executive Summaries prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15123. Please include one copy of the Notice of Completion Form (NOC) with your submission and attach the summary to each electronic copy of the document.

SCH #: 2019049066

Project Title: Capitol Annex Project

Lead Agency: State of California Department of General Services

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Project Location: Downtown Sacramento, Sacramento County
City *County*

Project Description (Proposed actions, location, and/or consequences).

The Capitol Annex Project would involve three primary components: (1) demolition of the existing 325,000-square-foot Capitol Annex building and construction of a new, approximately 525,000-square-foot building; (2) construction of a new underground visitor/welcome center on the west side of the Historic Capitol; and (3) abandonment of the existing basement parking under the Annex and construction of a new underground parking garage (approximately 200 spaces) south of the Historic Capitol. The project would address numerous deficiencies in the existing building, including life safety/building code deficiencies, noncompliance with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards, overcrowding, aging and failing infrastructure, and insufficient public and working space.

Identify the project's significant or potentially significant effects and briefly describe any proposed mitigation measures that would reduce or avoid that effect.

The DEIR was circulated for public review and comment for a period of 45 days, from September 9 through October 24, 2019. Comments were received on the DEIR. DGS reviewed those comments and began preparing responses to those comments. However, after the end of the DEIR public review period, design of the new visitor/welcome center continued to progress, and an approach to entry to the visitor/welcome center was adopted that differs from what was analyzed in the DEIR. This modified approach consists of using ramps rather than stairs and elevators to enter the visitor/welcome center. This has resulted in a substantial modification to this project component compared to what was shown and evaluated in the DEIR. The modifications have the potential to substantially increase the severity of an impact or create a new significant impact in three of the environmental issue areas evaluated in the DEIR: Utilities and Service Systems; Archaeological, Historical, and Tribal Cultural Resources; and Aesthetics, Light, and Glare. Therefore, recirculation of the DEIR is required.

As presented in the Recirculated DEIR, the impact conclusions of the DEIR following analysis of the modifications to the visitor/welcome center are unchanged for most issues. Utilities and Service System impacts remain less than significant with no mitigation required. Archaeological, Historical, and Tribal Cultural Resource impacts remain less than significant with mitigation as revised in this Recirculated DEIR, except for the impact on historic architectural resources, which remains significant and unavoidable. However, the significant and unavoidable impact is expanded to also encompass modifications to the historic landscape of Capitol Park. Impacts related to Aesthetics, Light, and Glare remain less than significant with no mitigation required; Mitigation Measure 4.15-1 (Establish and Implement Performance Criteria for Construction of the Visitor/Welcome Center Entrance), which had been required in the DEIR, is no longer necessary with the modified visitor/welcome center design.

If applicable, describe any of the project's areas of controversy known to the Lead Agency, including issues raised by agencies and the public.

The key concerns and issues identified during the scoping process were:

- historic resources and landscapes,
- groundwater,
- sensitivity of Capitol Mall scenic corridor,
- traffic,
- recreation, and
- geotechnical investigations.

Each of these issues was addressed in the DEIR. With the exception of historic resource impacts, any impacts related to these issues were identified as either less than significant or less than significant after mitigation. Because the potential exists for existing historic resources to be altered, damaged, and/or destroyed, therefore resulting in a significant and unavoidable impact, this issue remains an area of controversy. As stated above, the impact conclusions of the DEIR remain unchanged after analysis of the modifications to the visitor/welcome center with the exception of the significant and unavoidable impact to historic architectural resources being expanded to also encompass modifications to the historic landscape of Capitol Park.

Provide a list of the responsible or trustee agencies for the project.

The following agencies may have responsibility for, or jurisdiction over, implementation of elements of the project:

STATE AGENCIES

- California State Parks, Office of Historic Preservation
- California Highway Patrol, Capitol Protection Section
- California Air Resources Board
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Region 5)

REGIONAL AND LOCAL AGENCIES

- City of Sacramento
- Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District

The only trustee agency that has jurisdiction over resources potentially affected by the project is the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.