

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE GENERAL PLAN NOISE ELEMENT AND AMENDMENTS TO THE CITY'S NOISE ORDINANCE

Pursuant to Public Resources Code Sections 21091 and 21092 and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) State Guidelines Sections 15105 and 15087(a), notice is hereby given that a Draft Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIR) (SCH No. 2019050009) for the General Plan Noise Element and Amendments to the City's Noise Ordinance (Long Beach Municipal Code [LBMC] Section 8.80) (proposed project) is available for public review during the public comment period (**MARCH 23, 2021, THROUGH MAY 6, 2021**). The City of Long Beach (City) has prepared the Draft EIR to analyze environmental impacts associated with implementation of the proposed project; to propose mitigation measures for identified potentially significant impacts that will minimize, offset, or otherwise reduce or avoid those environmental impacts; and to discuss alternatives that could reduce the potentially significant impacts of the proposed project.

Lead Agency: City of Long Beach, Development Services/ Planning Bureau

Project Title: General Plan Noise Element and Amendments to the City's Noise Ordinance

Project Location: The entire 50 square miles within the limits of the City of Long Beach (excluding the City of Signal Hill) in Los Angeles County (County), California

Project Description: The proposed project involves both the adoption of a new General Plan Noise Element and amendments to the City's Noise Ordinance, LBMC Section 8.80, which regulates noise and implements the policies of the Noise Element.

The proposed project includes the adoption of a new General Plan Noise Element, which would replace the City's existing 1975 Noise Element. As required by Section 65302 of the California Government Code, the Noise Element is a required element of a City's General Plan. The proposed Noise Element includes strategies and policies intended to provide protection for land uses, as identified in the Land Use Element (LUE), from excessive noise and vibration sources, as well as to implement the vision of a healthy, livable noise environment in the City.



As part of the proposed Noise Element, the City has established 16 strategies related to noise, which would aid review of future projects and their associated environmental impacts. In addition to the 16 strategies, the proposed Noise Element contains numerous policies that work together to achieve the goals of creating a healthy, livable community with the equitable distribution of noise, minimizing exposures to excessive noise, with allowances for elements necessary for a dynamic, growing city. These citywide policies aim to provide a holistic and comprehensive guide for the City, whereas future projects facilitated by project approval would provide a refined direction for distinct areas within the City.

The Noise Ordinance is contained in Title 8, Health and Safety, Chapter 8.80, Noise, of the LBMC. Chapter 8.80, Noise, establishes exterior and interior noise limits for the generation of sound within the City. The maximum noise levels vary based on the receiving land use type and the cumulative duration of noise. Several amendments to the Noise Ordinance are included as part of the proposed project.

The planning area does not contain any hazardous materials sites enumerated under Section 65962.5 of the Government Code.



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Draft EIR: The Draft EIR examines the potential impacts generated by the proposed project in relation to the following Environmental Analysis Checklist categories: Land Use and Planning, Noise, and Transportation. Impacts that were determined to be less than significant prior to the preparation of the Draft EIR were discussed and evaluated in the Initial Study. The analysis contained in the Initial Study and in the Effects Found Not to Be Significant section of the Draft EIR Introduction chapter (Chapter 2.0) determined that the proposed project would result in either no impact or a less than significant impact to Aesthetics, Agriculture and Forestry Resources, Air Quality, Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Energy, Geology and Soils, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Hydrology and Water Quality, Mineral Resources, Population and Housing, Public Resources, Recreation, Tribal Cultural Resources, Utilities and Service Systems, and Wildfires. All environmental issues analyzed in the Draft EIR were determined to result in less than significant impacts. Therefore, as determined by the Draft EIR, implementation of the proposed project would not result in any significant and unavoidable adverse impacts. Further, no mitigation measures are required to reduce project-related impacts.

The purpose of this notice is to inform local residents, institutions, agencies, and other interested parties about the availability of the Draft EIR during the public comment period (March 23, 2021, through May 6, 2021). Written comments (accepted via email and/or letter) on the Draft EIR must be submitted no later than close of business May 6, 2021, to the address below. Note that only written comments provided by mail or email to the below contact will be responded to; posts on social media will not be considered comments.

Address Comments to:

City of Long Beach Development Services, Planning Bureau
411 West Ocean Boulevard, Third Floor
Long Beach, CA 90802
Attention: Jennifer Ly, Planner
LBDS-EIR-Comments@LongBeach.gov

A hearing of the Planning Commission will be scheduled to take place subsequent to the end of the public comment period, and upon recommendation of the Planning Commission to the City Council, and a hearing of the City Council will take place on this matter. These hearings have not been scheduled as of this notice date (March 23, 2021).

Draft EIR Reviewing Locations

Online: <http://longbeach.gov/lbds/planning/environmental/reports/>

In-Person: It should be noted that the following location may not be open to the public due to the ongoing COVID-19 public health concerns.

City of Long Beach City Hall
411 West Ocean Boulevard, First Floor
Long Beach, CA 90802
Hours: Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Note City closure dates on alternating Fridays: www.longbeach.gov/furlough
Saturday and Sunday, Closed