



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
"Parks Make Life Better!"

Norma E. García-González, Director

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NOTICE OF COMPLETION AND AVAILABILITY
OF DRAFT SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT
FOR
PROPOSED OPERATIONAL CHANGES AT THE VIRGINIA ROBINSON GARDENS
STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER 2012091034

The Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation, acting in the capacity of "Lead Agency" under the County Environmental Guidelines, Chapter III, Section 304, has filed a "Notice of Completion and Availability" of a Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (Draft SEIR) for the Project. This document has been prepared in accordance with, and pursuant to, the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), as amended; Public Resources Code, Section 21000 *et seq.*; and the "Guidelines for Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act (State CEQA Guidelines), California Code of Regulation, Title 14, Chapter 15000 *et seq.*, (including Section 15160).

PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD

The formal public review period for the Draft SEIR will be from **July 22, 2022 to September 5, 2022** (45 days). All comments received by the closing of the public review period will be considered in the Final SEIR.

SITE LOCATION

The Project Site encompasses the Virginia Robinson Gardens, located at 1008 Elden Way in the City of Beverly Hills, Los Angeles County, California on a 6.2-acre parcel (location map attached). The Project Site is located within a fully developed area of the City of Beverly Hills on County property, at the top of a hill above Sunset Boulevard at the end of a cul-de-sac (Elden Way). The property is a terraced, irregularly shaped parcel bound by residential uses on all sides. The Project Site features the main residence, pool pavilion, trees, dense vegetation, and other landscape and built features.

PROPOSED PROJECT

The Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation is proposing changes to expand the use of Virginia Robinson Gardens for increased public access and benefit. Specifically, the following operational changes are proposed:

	Existing	Proposed
Days Open and Hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday to Saturday; 6 days per week. • 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday to Sunday; 7 days a week. • 9:30 a.m. to sunset
Number of Patrons in Attendance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With advance reservation. • Up to 100 visitors per day of docent tours, seminar/classes, or commercial filming (video only, no motion picture) or a combination of any of these activities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With advance reservation. • Up to 200 visitors per day for docent tours, seminar/classes, or commercial filming (video only, no motion picture) or a combination of any of these activities.
Types of Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer children's programming. • Schedule staff and public programming such as temporary exhibits, health and physical fitness activities, painting, wine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In addition to the existing type of events listed to the left, propose adding private and family ceremonies such as weddings.

	Existing	Proposed
	and cooking classes etc. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Institute subsidized musical and performing arts programs, and movie screenings. • Subject matter for events to be determined at the discretion of the Superintendent. 	
Special Uses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 special use events per year. Tickets are sold to regulate the number of visitors to ensure safety and a quality experience. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to 24 special use events per year; up to 4 events per month. Tickets would continue to be sold to regulate the number of visitors to ensure safety and a quality experience.
Parking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With advance reservation: • Parking on property (35 spaces available). • No parking permitted on Elden Way. • For special events, offsite parking is made available, so guests are shuttled to the estate. Valet service is also utilized. • Visitor drop-off and walk-ins allowed. • All events require a parking/transportation plan. • Promote the use of shuttle service to reduce the number of trips to the Gardens. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In addition to existing conditions listed to the left, promote the use of public transit and ridesharing such as Lyft/Uber.

SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

The SEIR concludes that implementation of the proposed operational changes would result in new significant traffic impacts. Based on the Project trip generation analysis, the proposed operation changes would result in 100 net new daily vehicle trips. All of these trips would use local roadways to access the Project Site, and all of the trips would use Elden Way to access the Project Site driveway. Based on traffic counts on Elden Way conducted for the previous 2014 SEIR environmental analysis, volumes on that roadway range from 150 to 275 vehicles each day. The current Project operations add 50 vehicles per day to the same road segment, based on 100 daily visitors, an assumption of two persons per vehicle, and one inbound trip and one outbound trip. The Project addition of up to 100 additional trips each day on Elden Way would cause increases in volumes that range from 38 percent to 57 percent. The City of Beverly Hills maximum impact threshold of 16 percent would be exceeded every day of the week.

Feasible physical improvements for the local roadway volume impact on Elden Way were not identified, nor were feasible project mitigation measures identified that would reduce the number of Project trips to a level where the local impact is less than significant. The Proposed Project’s impact to Elden Way would be significant and unavoidable.

All other potential impacts identified would be mitigated to less-than-significant levels.

PUBLIC MEETING

A virtual Draft SEIR Public Meeting will be held on **Wednesday, August 10, 2022 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.** via Zoom. The purpose of the Draft SEIR Public Meeting is to solicit public comments regarding environmental issues addressed in the Draft SEIR. Written comments can be provided via email or mailed to the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation contact listed at the end of this notice. The link to the virtual meeting is as follows:

<https://tinyurl.com/mwktmuwc>



REVIEWING LOCATIONS

The Draft SEIR is available for public review starting on **July 22, 2022 through September 5, 2022** at the following website: <https://parks.lacounty.gov/environmental-documents/>, and at the following locations:

City of Beverly Hills Public Library

444 N. Rexford Drive
Beverly Hills, California 90210

Virginia Robinson Gardens

1008 Elden Way
Beverly Hills, California 90210
(Please call (310) 550-2065 to make an appointment)

County of Los Angeles

Department of Parks and Recreation

1000 S. Fremont Ave.
Unit #40 A-9 West, 3rd Floor
Alhambra, California 91083
(Please call (626) 588-5317 to make an appointment)

COMMENTS

Please submit written comments on the Draft SEIR by **September 5, 2022** to Ms. Jui Ing Chien, Park Planner, Department of Parks and Recreation at the above address. You may also email your comments to jchien@parks.lacounty.gov. Should you have any questions, please call (626) 588-5317.

PROJECT VICINITY MAP

