

## Office of Planning and Research State Clearinghouse Summary Form for Electronic Document Submittal

**Date:** March 8, 2021

**Project Title:** UC Berkeley 2021 Long Range Development Plan and Housing Projects #1 and #2

**CEQA Document:** Draft Environmental Impact Report

**State Clearinghouse Number:** 2020040078

**Lead Agency:** University of California

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**Project Location (City and County):** Berkeley and Oakland; Alameda and Contra Costa Counties

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

The proposed 2021 Long Range Development Plan (LRDP Update) would replace UC Berkeley's existing LRDP and guide land use and capital investment decisions for UC Berkeley to meet its academic goals and objectives moving forward. A buildout horizon year of the 2036–37 school year is used to provide a basis for evaluating associated environmental impacts in this EIR. The proposed LRDP Update, like the current LRDP, does not commit UC Berkeley to any specific project, but rather provides a strategic framework for decisions on those projects. The development program does, however, establish a maximum amount of net new growth in the UC Berkeley's space inventory during this time frame. The LRDP Update proposed development program includes approximately 8,096,249 gross square feet (GSF) of academic life, campus life, residential, and parking spaces, including approximately 11,073 student beds and 549 employee housing units. The proposed LRDP Update planning assumption projection for the UC Berkeley population is 48,200 students and 19,000 faculty and staff in the 2036–37 academic year.

The proposed project also includes two specific housing projects, Housing Projects #1 and #2, that help implement the LRDP Update. Housing Project #1, also called Anchor House, is on a 0.92-acre site located in Downtown Berkeley. Housing Project #1 would involve the demolition of existing on-site structures and the construction and operation of a new 16-story (14 stories above ground) mixed-use building that would include student housing (approximately 770 beds), campus life space (approximately 20,000 square feet), and ground-floor commercial (approximately 17,000 square feet). Housing Project #2 is located on a 2.8-acre site at 2556 Haste Street, known as People's Park. The proposed Housing Project #2 would involve the demolition of the existing on-site structures and park amenities, and the construction and operation of two new mixed-use buildings. The proposed student housing building would include student and faculty/staff housing (approximately 1,187 beds), campus life space (approximately 12,000 square feet), and ground-floor public space (approximately 3,500 square feet). The affordable and supportive housing building would include affordable and supporting housing (approximately 125 beds), and academic life space for a clinic (approximately 7,000 square feet). The project site would include 82,000 square feet of open space with amenities including a People's Park memorial area.

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

The Draft EIR describes significant-but-mitigable impacts and associated mitigation regarding aesthetics (glare), biological resources (bird strike), geology and soils (paleontological resources), greenhouse gas emissions, noise (vibration), population and housing (plan consistency and housing displacement), transportation (plan consistency), tribal cultural resources (unintentional discovery).

The Draft EIR also describes significant and unavoidable impacts and associated mitigation regarding air quality (plan consistency, construction emissions, health risk), cultural resources (historic buildings or structures), noise (construction), public services (schools), transportation (pedestrian hazard), and wildfire (potential development in Hill Campus East).

**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 following lists issues that are likely to be of particular concern to agencies and interested members of the public during the environmental review process. This list is not exhaustive, but attempts to capture concerns that are likely to generate the greatest interest based on the input received during the scoping process.

- Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions: Pollution from construction activities and operation of future development and increased GHG emissions.
- Population and Housing: Impacts from students living off-campus and the increased UC Berkeley population. Increasing the number of beds from what was initially shown in the NOP. Analysis of impacts related to enrollment increases in excess of projections contained in the current LRDP. The balance between projected enrollment and staffing and housing.
- Geology and Soils: Impacts from seismic events.
- Historic Resources. Potential impacts from the loss of and impacts to historic buildings. The demolition of the UC Garage as part of Housing Project #1, and redevelopment of the People's Park site as part of Housing Project #2.
- Hydrology. Secondary impacts from the loss of pervious surfaces and stormwater runoff to Derby Creek.
- Biological Resources. Impacts to special-status species, nesting birds, loss of trees, and creek and riparian protection.
- Transportation. Pedestrian and bicycle safety, and impacts from motorized and non-motorized vehicle interface. Effects of vehicle miles traveled (VMT).
- Wildfire. Increasing the risks of wildfire from the Hill Campus East. Impacts related to emergency evacuation from additional growth development.
- Public Services. Impacts to the City of Berkeley's police and fire protection services from additional growth.
- Recreation. Impacts from the loss of public parkland and need for additional parks.
- Utilities and Services Systems. Impacts to existing utilities and the need for expanded water supplies supply and wastewater treatment capacity.

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

N/A