



# City of Rancho Palos Verdes

## PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

**TO:** Agencies, Organizations, and Interested Parties

**SUBJECT:** Notice of Public Hearing and Notice of Availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Portuguese Bend Landslide Remediation Project (SCH # 2020110212)

The City of Rancho Palos Verdes, as lead agency, hereby gives notice that pursuant to the authority and criteria contained in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the CEQA Guidelines, the City of Rancho Palos Verdes has prepared and completed a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the proposed Portuguese Bend Landslide Remediation Project. A Draft EIR is an informational document that evaluates a proposed project's potential to significantly impact the environment, while also identifying ways to reduce or avoid environmental impacts through mitigation measures and alternatives to the project.

**AGENCIES:** The City requests your agency's views on the scope and content of the environmental information relevant to your agency's statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed Project, in accordance with California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15082(b). Your agency will need to use the EIR prepared by the City when considering any permits that your agency must issue or for any other approval for the project.

**ORGANIZATIONS AND INTERESTED PARTIES:** The City requests your comments and concerns regarding the environmental issues associated with construction and operation of the proposed Project.

**PROJECT TITLE:** Portuguese Bend Landslide Remediation Project

**PROJECT LOCATION:** The project is located within the Portuguese Bend Landslide Complex (PBLC) area in the city of Rancho Palos Verdes, California. The PBLC is located along the south section of the Palos Verdes Peninsula within the City. The terminus of the active landslide complex, and generally the southwest boundary of the PBLC, is the Pacific Ocean as seen in **Figure 1, Project Site Location**. The proposed project consists of approximately 206 acres within the landslide complex of which approximately 104 acres is located within the City-owned Palos Verdes Nature Preserve, specifically within the Portuguese Bend and Abalone Cove Reserves (project site). Surrounding the project site are residential uses that include the Portuguese Bend Beach Club to the south, the Portuguese Bend Community Association to the west, and the Seaview neighborhood to the east. East of the project site is Klondike Canyon and directly north is the Portuguese Bend Reserve, followed by additional residential uses. The southern portion of the project site can be accessed via Yacht Harbor Drive/Seawall Road, a private road within the Portuguese Bend Beach Club community. Several residences exist adjacent to the northwestern boundary of the project site. The southern end of the project site contains several coastal bluffs abutting the Pacific Ocean. Access to the project site is provided via Palos Verdes Drive South.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** The Portuguese Bend Landslide began moving in 1956, and continued land movement has resulted in significant damage to homes, infrastructure, utilities, roadways, and impacts to native vegetation and project area drainage courses. The proposed project is intended to significantly minimize movement in the existing landslide area by implementing a series of recommended geotechnical engineering solutions that will include relief of artesian pressure below the landslide basal surface and minimize stormwater infiltration into the subsurface. Thus, the proposed improvements include infilling surface fractures to reduce infiltration of surface water into the ground; constructing surface drainage swales and retention areas to collect, slow, and convey surface water to the ocean; and installing a subsurface water extraction system (hydraugers) by means of directional drilling to alleviate artesian pressure and also lower groundwater levels within the landslide mass.

The proposed project would construct the improvements depending on factors such as funding. The construction may occur separately by component or concurrently. After construction, inspection of each of the project components would be conducted on a regular basis, and maintenance activities would be conducted on an as-needed basis.

Project implementation would not result in any significant and unavoidable environmental impacts.

**PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD:** The City has made this Draft EIR available for public review and comment pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15082(b). Your response must be sent as soon as possible but **not later than 64 days after receipt of this notice**. All comments must be submitted in writing to the address below. The comment period during which the City will receive comments on the Draft EIR is:

**Starting Date:** Thursday, February 9, 2023

**Ending Date:** Friday, April 14, 2023

**DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY:** The Draft EIR and all documents incorporated by reference in the Draft EIR are available for public review during regular business hours at the following locations:

- City of Rancho Palos Verdes, Public Works Department, 30940 Hawthorne Boulevard, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275
- Palos Verdes Library District – Miraleste Library, 29089 Palos Verdes Drive East, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275
- Palos Verdes Library District – Peninsula Center Library, 701 Silver Spur Road, Rolling Hills Estates, CA 90274

The Draft EIR may also be viewed on the City's website at [www.rpvca.gov](http://www.rpvca.gov) under the Public Works Department Homepage.

**COMMENTS:** Written comments may be submitted to the City of Rancho Palos Verdes Public Works Department. Please indicate a contact person for your agency or organization and send your comments to:

Ron Dragoo  
Principal Engineer  
City of Rancho Palos Verdes, Public Works Department  
30940 Hawthorne Boulevard  
Rancho Palos Verdes, California 90275  
Tel.: 310.544.5252  
Or via E-mail to: [publicworks@rpvca.gov](mailto:publicworks@rpvca.gov)

All comments must be received no later than 4:30 PM on Friday, April 14, 2023. If you should have any further comments or questions regarding the proposed Project and/or the availability of related environmental documents or applications, please contact Ron Dragoo, Principal Engineer, at 310-544-5252 or [publicworks@rpvca.gov](mailto:publicworks@rpvca.gov).

**PUBLIC MEETING:** The City of Rancho Palos Verdes will receive public comments regarding the Draft EIR at a regularly scheduled **City Council** meeting on **Tuesday, March 21, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.** at Fred Hesse Community Park Building, McTaggart Hall, located at 29301 Hawthorne Blvd., Rancho Palos Verdes. Following the Draft EIR's public review period, the Final EIR including Response to Comments will be prepared and notice will be provided for an additional City Council meeting where certification of the Final EIR will be considered. (Planning Case No. PLGR2023-0003 – Grading Permit, Site Plan Review, Coastal Development Permit, and Landslide Moratorium Ordinance – Exemption E)

For additional inquiries or information please contact Ron Dragoo at 310.544.5252 or via email at [publicworks@rpvca.gov](mailto:publicworks@rpvca.gov).

**Date:** February 9, 2023

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_



Ramzi Awwad

**Title:** Director of Public Works

**Telephone:** 310.544.5252