



September 2, 2022

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE CITY OF ANTIOCH HOUSING, ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS, AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ELEMENTS

State Clearinghouse #2021110146

Pursuant to the State of California Public Resources Code and the “Guidelines for Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970” as amended to date, this is to advise you that the City of Antioch has prepared an Environmental Impact Report for the following project:

Project Title: Antioch Housing, Environmental Hazards, and Environmental Justice (EJ) Elements

Applicant: City of Antioch
Attn: Anne Hersch
200 H. Street
Antioch, CA 94509

Location: The project site encompasses the entirety of the City of Antioch’s geographic boundary

Project Description:

The Project is being proposed by the City of Antioch to comply with California Government Code Section 65580-65589.8, which requires local jurisdictions to update the Housing Element of their General Plans every eight years to adequately plan for the regional housing needs of residents of all income groups. The Project includes the following components:

1. **Housing Element.** Adoption and implementation of the City’s 6th Cycle Housing Element Update (2023-2031), including the adoption and implementation of rezoning and General Plan amendments to accommodate the City’s Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA). A community’s RHNA obligation represents the total number of housing units that must be planned to accommodate the housing needs of all residents during the eight-year planning period. RHNA obligation numbers are determined by a methodology established by the State of California’s Department of Finance (DOF) and Housing and Community Development (HCD) Department. RHNA obligation numbers are ascribed to each region of the State and further allocated to local communities by the designated regional planning entity for each region. The City of Antioch’s “fair share” of this RHNA obligation is 3,016 units as determined by the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG). The Housing Element demonstrates that the City has capacity to accommodate

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1,559 housing units beyond its RHNA obligation of 3,016 housing units for a total of 4,575 units. The Project includes a compilation of these sites, which is comprised of 182 sites totaling 230 acres. Of these 182 sites, 125 (69 percent) are nonvacant and underutilized, and 57 (31 percent) are vacant. These sites are anticipated to accommodate the potential future development of up to 4,575 residential units, including 967 units affordable for very low-income households, 548 for low-income, 947 for moderate-income, and 2,113 for above moderate-income. Of the sites identified for affordable units (i.e., units for very low- and low-income households), 53 percent of the anticipated units would be on vacant sites and 47 percent on nonvacant, underutilized sites.

2. **Environmental Hazards Element.** As part of the Project, the City of Antioch will also be updating the Environmental Hazards Element of their General Plan (referenced in State Law as “Safety Element”) as required by State Law. A community’s Safety Element is meant to implement policies that minimize the negative impacts and risks of natural and man-made hazards such as fires, floods, droughts, earthquakes, and landslides. In recent years, State requirements have expanded the Safety Element’s scope to include climate change vulnerability and adaptation, and greater attention to evacuation routes. Jurisdictions are also now required to complete a vulnerability assessment; develop adaptation and resilience goals, policies, and objectives; and develop a set of feasible implementation measures addressing climate change adaptation and resiliency.
3. **Environmental Justice (EJ) Element.** Another component of the Project will include the development and adoption of an Environmental Justice Element that will be integrated into the City of Antioch’s General Plan in compliance with State Bill (SB) 1000 (2016). SB 1000 began requiring communities with disadvantaged parts of their population to include additional EJ-related goals, objectives, policies, and implementation measures within their General Plans. These additional goals and policies are intended to reduce the unique or compounded health risks experienced by disadvantaged communities, to encourage civic engagement in the public decision-making process within disadvantaged populations, and to prioritize improvements and programs that benefit disadvantaged populations. The term “disadvantaged communities” is defined as a low-income area that is disproportionately affected by environmental pollution and other hazards that can lead to negative health effects, exposure, or environmental degradation. Additionally, “low-income area” is defined as an area with household incomes at or below 80 percent of the statewide median income (\$109,600 for a household of 4) or with household incomes at or below the threshold designated as low income by HCD’s list of state adopted income limits.

Environmental Effects of the Project:

Pursuant to Article 9 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the Draft EIR describes the Project; identifies, analyzes, and evaluates the environmental impacts which may result from the Project; and identifies measures to mitigate adverse environmental impacts. Mitigations identified in the EIR are designed for the Project to ensure that the Project will not cause a significant impact on the environment. The Draft EIR for the Project identified potentially significant impacts in the environmental topics of air quality and transportation. Environmental analysis determined that measures were available to mitigate potential adverse impacts to less-than-significant levels except for Transportation. As a result of the above, a Draft EIR has been prepared pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21080(d) of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines.

Where to Review the Draft EIR:

The Draft EIR can be viewed online at the following link: <https://www.antiochca.gov/community-development-department/planning-division/housing-element-docs/>

Any sources of information referenced in the Draft EIR can be provided upon request by contacting the project planner.

Public Comment Period:

Prior to adoption of the Draft EIR, the City will be accepting comments on the adequacy of the document during a 45-day public comment period; the Draft EIR may be certified at a future date in a public hearing following the public comment period. The period for accepting comments on the adequacy of the environmental document will begin on Friday, September 2, 2022 and extends to Monday, October 17, 2022 until 5:00 pm. Any comments should be in writing and submitted to the following address:

Anne Hersch, AICP, Planning Manager
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City of Antioch
200 H. St, Antioch, CA 94509
OR emailed to ahersch@antiochca.gov



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Attachment: Project Location Map

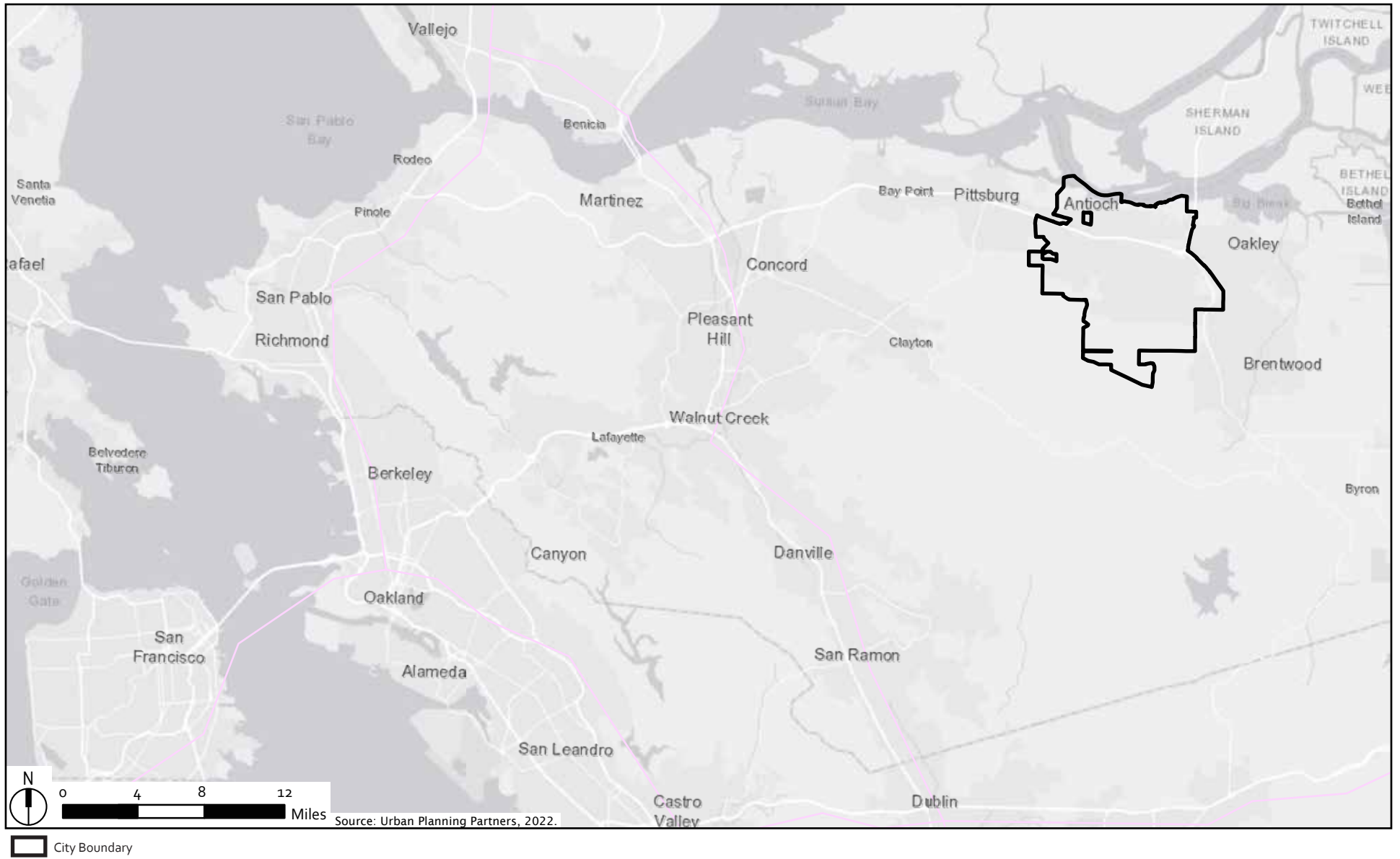


Figure 1
Project Location

Antioch Housing, Environmental Hazards, and EJ Elements EIR