

Summary Form for Electronic Document Submittal

Form F

Lead agencies may include 15 hardcopies of this document when submitting electronic copies of Environmental Impact Reports, Negative Declarations, Mitigated Negative Declarations, or Notices of Preparation to the State Clearinghouse (SCH). The SCH also accepts other summaries, such as EIR Executive Summaries prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15123. Please include one copy of the Notice of Completion Form (NOC) with your submission and attach the summary to each electronic copy of the document.

SCH #: TBD

Project Title: City of Berkeley Housing Element Update Project

Lead Agency: City of Berkeley

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Project Location: entire City of Berkeley, Alameda County

City

County

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

The proposed project consists of a comprehensive update to the Housing Element and related edits to the City's General Plan Land Use Element and Berkeley Municipal Code. The City of Berkeley is preparing the 2023-2031 Housing Element Update to comply with the legal mandate that requires each local government to identify adequate sites for housing to meet the existing and projected housing needs for varying income-levels in the community. It is intended to provide the city with a comprehensive strategy for promoting the production of safe, decent and affordable housing, and affirmatively furthering fair housing during the housing cycle. The Housing Element Update establishes goals, policies, and actions to address the existing and projected housing needs in Berkeley. The goals, policies, and actions in the Housing Element are required to meet Berkeley's Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) allocation. Berkeley's latest RHNA allocation calls for 8,934 new housing units, including 3,854 new units for residents in the low- and very low-income categories. The City must demonstrate to the State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) that the City's Housing Element has adequate land capacity and implementing policies to accommodate its RHNA allocation. In addition, HCD recommends that cities identify a "buffer" of 15% to 30% above RHNA for lower- and moderate-income categories. Thus, overall, the City's zoning and other land use regulations must accommodate between approximately 9,750 and 10,500 new units.

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

Approval of the proposed Housing Element Update would not approve any physical development (e.g., construction of housing or infrastructure). However, the EIR will assume that such actions are reasonably foreseeable future outcomes of the Housing Element Update. As such, the EIR will evaluate the potential physical environmental impacts that could result from future actions for implementing the policies proposed under the Housing Element Update at a programmatic level, in accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15168.

The topical areas that will be addressed in the EIR are: Aesthetics, Air Quality, Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Energy, Geology and Soils, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Hydrology and Water Quality, Noise, Land Use and Planning, Population and Housing, Public Services and Recreation, Transportation, Tribal Cultural Resources, Utilities and Service Systems, and Wildfire.

If applicable, describe any of the project's areas of controversy known to the Lead Agency, including issues raised by agencies and the public.

None known at this time.

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

There are no responsible or trustee agencies for the project at this time.