

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

THERMAL COMMUNITY PARK
CHANGE OF ZONE AND GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT

LEAD AGENCY: Desert Recreation District
45-305 Oasis Street
Indio, CA 92201

FROM: Troy Strange, Director of Planning & Public Works

PROJECT TITLE: Thermal Community Park

PROJECT LOCATION: Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) 757-062-003, 757-062-002

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Desert Recreation District (District) is proposing to develop the Thermal Community Park Project (proposed Project), located at the southeast corner of Olive Street and Church Street intersection in the unincorporated community of Thermal, County of Riverside, California. The proposed Project will consist of a new community park with ball fields, basketball courts, tennis courts, a fitness station, a playground, horseshoe pits, a picnic area, a splash pad, pond area, and parking lots in the area of Thermal, unincorporated Riverside County (County). The District will be requesting a General Plan Amendment (GPA) to be adopted by the County in order to change the proposed Project site's land use designation from Light Industrial (LI) to Open Space-Recreation (OS-R). The District will also request for County adoption of a change of zone from the existing Manufacturing-Service Commercial (M-SC) to General Residential (R-3). Circulation on site will primarily be via pedestrian access. Parking will be located around the perimeter of the site along Church Street to the north and Olive Street to the east. Construction of the park is anticipated to occur in one phase from mid- to late-2023 to mid- to late-2024. In accordance with the disclosure requirements of CEQA Guidelines Section 15072, the Project site is not listed as a hazardous property as designated under Section 65962.5 of the Government Code.

FINDINGS / DETERMINATION: The District has reviewed and considered the proposed project and has determined that any potentially significant impacts can be mitigated to a less than significant level. The District hereby prepares and proposes to adopt an Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for this project.

PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD: A 30-day public review period for the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration will commence for from February 22, 2023 to March 24, 2023. Any written comments from all interested individuals and public agencies on the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration must be received at the above address within the public review period. In addition, you may email comments to the following address: tstrange@drd.us.com. Copies of the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration are available for review at Desert Recreation District Offices at 45-305 Oasis Street, Indio, CA 92201 and at myrecreationdistrict.com.