



Yana Garcia
Secretary for
Environmental Protection



Department of Toxic Substances Control

Meredith Williams, Ph.D., Director
8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, California 95826-3200



Gavin Newsom
Governor

SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

January 9, 2024

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Joseph Palombi
Planning and Community Development Director
City of Montebello
1600 West Beverly Boulevard
Montebello, CA 90640
jpalombi@Montebelloca.gov

Jan 09 2024
STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

RE: DRAFT EIR (DEIR) FOR THE CITY OF MONTEBELLO GENERAL PLAN UPDATE AND DOWNTOWN MONTEBELLO SPECIFIC PLAN, DATED DECEMBER 4, 2023 STATE CLEARINGHOUSE # [2023050665](#)

Dear Joseph Palombi,

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) received a DEIR for the City of Montebello General Plan Update and Downtown Montebello Specific Plan (Project). The proposed Project includes a comprehensive update of the City's General Plan. The City's General Plan currently has twelve elements: Circulation, Conservation, Land Use, Noise, Open Space, Parks and Recreation, Population, Redevelopment, Safety, Scenic Highways, Seismic Safety, and Housing Element. The proposed Project includes an update of the City's Housing Element (6th Cycle, 2021-2029), which was adopted by the City Council in June 2022 and subsequently certified by HCD on July 11, 2022. While an Initial Study/Negative Declaration (IS-ND) was prepared and adopted concurrently with the Housing Element, the 6th Cycle Housing Element is a component of the General Plan and is also analyzed in the EIR. The Downtown

Montebello Specific Plan is a component of the proposed General Plan Update and focuses on Downtown Montebello.

DTSC has identified that this project may affect multiple active and nonactive mitigation and clean-up sites within the project boundaries therefore, based on our project review, we request the consideration of the following comments:

1. The proposed project encompasses multiple active and nonactive mitigation and clean-up sites where DTSC has conducted oversight that may be impacted as a result of this project. This may restrict what construction activities are permissible in the proposed project areas in order to avoid any impacts to human health and the environment.
2. Due to the broad scope of the project, DTSC is unable to determine all of the locations of the proposed project site, whether they are listed as having documented contamination, land use restrictions, or whether there is the potential for the project site to be included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5. DTSC recommends providing further information on the project site and areas that may fall under DTSC's oversight within the DEIR. Please review the [City of Montebello project area](#) in [Envirostor](#); DTSC's public-facing database.

DTSC believes the City of Montebello must address these comments to determine if any significant impacts under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) will occur and, if necessary, avoid significant impacts under CEQA. DTSC recommends the department connect with our unit if any hazardous waste projects managed or overseen by DTSC are discovered.

DTSC appreciates the opportunity to comment on the City of Montebello General Plan Update and Downtown Montebello Specific Plan. Thank you for your assistance in protecting California's people and environment from the harmful effects of toxic substances. If you have any questions or would like any clarification on DTSC's comments, please respond to this letter or via [email](#) for additional guidance.

Sincerely,

Tamara Purvis

Tamara Purvis
Associate Environmental Planner
HWMP - Permitting Division – CEQA Unit
Department of Toxic Substances Control
Tamara.Purvis@dtsc.ca.gov

cc: (via email)

Governor's Office of Planning and
Research State Clearinghouse
State.Clearinghouse@opr.ca.gov

Dave Kereazis
Associate Environmental Planner
HWMP – Permitting Division - CEQA Unit
Department of Toxic Substances Control
Dave.Kereazis@dtsc.ca.gov

Scott Wiley
Associate Governmental Program Analyst
HWMP – Permitting Division - CEQA Unit
Department of Toxic Substances Control
Scott.Wiley@dtsc.ca.gov

Greg Martin
Senior Planner / Project Manager
Rincon Consultants, Inc.
gmartin@rinconconsultants.com