

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 #: 2023090330

Project Title: Socially Equitable Cannabis Program

Lead Agency: County of San Diego (Attn Planning & Development Services)

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Project Location: Countywide, San Diego County

City

County

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

The County is developing a Socially Equitable Cannabis Program (Cannabis Program) as directed by the Board of Supervisors on January 27, 2021. The Cannabis Program will allow for and establish a permitting and licensing system for new commercial cannabis activities including retail, cultivation, manufacturing, distribution, testing, microbusinesses, and temporary events. Furthermore, the Cannabis Program will contain and be informed by a Social Equity Program, which will provide greater opportunities for individuals negatively or disproportionately impacted by cannabis criminalization and the War on Drugs. Adoption of the Cannabis Program will require amendments to the San Diego County Code of Regulatory Ordinances and the San Diego County Zoning Ordinance to establish licensing and operational regulations for a range of cannabis cultivation and non-cultivation uses authorized under state law.

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

Aesthetics - Substantially degrade visual character/quality (Significant): Conduct project-level visual analysis.
 Air Quality - Result in emissions of odors (Significant): Adhere to proposed Regulatory Code provisions including implementation of an odor mitigation plan and odor control requirements.
 Biological Resources (Potentially Significant): Conduct surveys, avoid resources or provide compensatory mitigation.
 Cultural Resources - Change in Significance of Historical Resource (Potentially Significant): Identify and evaluate historical resources and implement avoidance or mitigation measures.
 Energy - Conflict with state/local plan (Potentially Significant): Cannabis facility applications shall include measures enumerated in the County's Climate Action Plan checklist.
 GHG - Conflict with County Climate Action Plan (Potentially Significant): Implement measures in CAP Checklist.
 Hydrology & Water Quality - Groundwater Resources (Significant): Conduct groundwater analysis to establish no net increase in groundwater use and/or provide mitigation measures to reduce potential adverse effects on groundwater.
 Noise - Excessive construction-related noise (Significant): Include noise reduction measures into plan specifications.
 Noise - Excessive long-term noise (Potentially Significant): Conduct noise analysis and implement reduction measures.
 Transportation - Exceed VMT threshold (Significant): Conduct analysis and implement VMT-reducing strategies.
 Utilities & Service Systems - Adequate water supplies (Significant): Require a will serve letter to demonstrate adequate water supply and include water conservation measures.

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

Adverse effects on an potential changes in aesthetic character; light pollution; loss of agricultural land; impacts on sensitive habitats and species; land preserves under the San Diego Multiple Species Conservation Program; introduction of nonnative species; energy usage and demands on the use of renewable energy sources; greenhouse gas emissions and climate change impacts; pesticide and hazardous chemical use; groundwater management; water quality degradation; increased traffic noise; operational nighttime noise; roadway safety and transportation hazards; reduced access to public transportation; increased vehicle miles traveled; increased traffic; adequate water supply; utility infrastructure impacts; wildfire risk during operation of cannabis facilities; increased odors; and increased noise.

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

Cal Fire - Southern Region
CalCannabis Cultivation Licensing
California Agricultural Commissioners
California Air Resources Board
San Diego County Air Pollution Control District
California Department of Cannabis Control
California Department of Conservation
California Department of Fish and Wildlife - South Coast Region
California Department of Food and Agriculture
California Department of Pesticide Regulation
California Department of Public Health
California Department of Toxic Substances Control
CALTRANS DIST 11
California State Water Resources Control Board
California Regional Water Quality Control Board - San Diego Region
California Native American Heritage Commission
California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment
California Office of Historic Preservation
CA RWQCB, Colorado River Basin District 7
California Highway Patrol