



NOTICE OF PREPARATION AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING
Program Environmental Impact Report
Irvine Climate Action and Adaptation Plan

Date: January 11, 2024
To: Reviewing Agencies, Interested Parties, and Organizations
Subject: Notice of Preparation of a Program Environmental Impact Report for the Irvine Climate Action and Adaptation Plan
Scoping Meeting: February 8, 2024, 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Conference & Training Center (CTC)
1 Civic Center Plaza
Irvine, CA 92606-5207
Comment Period: January 11, 2024, through February 26, 2024
Project Title: Irvine Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP)
Project Proponent: City of Irvine

The City of Irvine (City) is preparing a Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (hereinafter referred to as the CAAP or project). The City as the lead agency has determined that the project will require the preparation of a Program Environmental Impact Report (Program EIR) in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA; California Public Resources Code, Section 21000 et seq.), and Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR; hereafter CEQA Guidelines, 14 CCR 15000 et seq.). The City has prepared this Notice of Preparation (NOP) in accordance with CEQA Guidelines Sections 15082(a) and 15375.

We need to know your views or the views of your agency or organization as to the scope and content of the environmental information that is germane to your agency's statutory responsibilities in connection with the project. If applicable, your agency will need to use the Program EIR prepared by our agency when considering your permit(s) or other approval(s) for the project. The project description, location, and the probable environmental effects are described in this notice. Because the City has determined that a Program EIR is required for the project, pursuant to Section 15060(d) of the CEQA Guidelines (14 CCR 15000 et seq.), preparation of an Initial Study is not required and, therefore, one has not been prepared.

Responses to this NOP must be submitted at the earliest possible date and no later than the close of the NOP review period, which concludes on: Monday, February 26, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. Comments should be provided in writing to:

Joel Belding, Deputy Director of Project Delivery and Sustainability
City of Irvine
1 Civic Center Plaza
Irvine, CA 92606-5207
JBelding@cityofirvine.org

A copy of this notice will be available to download from the City's website at the following link: <https://www.cityofirvine.org/climate-action-and-adaptation-plan-caap/documents-resources> . Please contact Joel Belding at JBelding@cityofirvine.org with any questions regarding this notice or the scoping meeting.

Public Scoping Meeting

Pursuant to Section 21083.9(a)(2) of CEQA (California Public Resources Code, Section 21000 et seq.), scoping meetings are required for projects that may have statewide, regional, or area-wide environmental impacts. The City has determined that this project meets this threshold.

The City will hold a Public Scoping Meeting to present information regarding the Project and the CEQA process, and to receive public comments and suggestions regarding the scope and content of the Draft EIR. The date, time, and location of the Public Scoping Meeting are provided below.

Date: February 8, 2024
Location: Conference & Training Center (CTC)
1 Civic Center Plaza
Irvine, CA 92606-5207
Time: 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Verbal and written comments regarding the scope of the Program EIR will be accepted at the Public Scoping Meeting.

Should you require special accommodations at the public scoping meeting, such as for the hearing impaired or an English interpreter, please contact the Joel Belding at JBelding@cityofirvine.org no later than January 25, 2024.

Project Location

The City of Irvine is located within the coastal and foothill region of central Orange County. Irvine is adjacent to the cities of Newport Beach, Lake Forest, Tustin, Santa Ana, Laguna Hills, Laguna Woods, and Laguna Beach. The planning area for the CAAP consists of the incorporated city limits of Irvine, which is shown on Figure 1.

Project Description

The CAAP for the City of Irvine will layout pathways for reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and adapting to current and future climate hazards. It will address both City government operations and community-wide activities.

The CAAP will quantify existing and future levels of GHG emissions resulting from activities in Irvine, and establish City-specific targets for reducing GHG emissions to levels in alignment with reduction targets identified in State laws and adopted plans. The CAAP will identify quantifiable measures and associated implementation actions that would reduce GHG emissions to levels that meet or exceed the City-specific GHG reduction targets.

The CAAP will also identify current and future climate hazards in Irvine, assess the

vulnerability to each hazard, and set forth adaptation strategies to reduce vulnerability to the hazards and enhance climate resilience in Irvine.

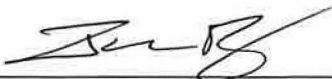
The CAAP is anticipated to be used for future project-specific environmental documents by being prepared consistent with the tiering and streamlining provisions of CEQA Guidelines Section 15183.5. The Program EIR will provide the appropriate level of environmental review to allow future projects that are consistent with the CAAP to tier from and streamline their analysis of GHG emissions pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15183.5(b)(2).

Probable Environmental Effects

The City has determined that a Program EIR will be prepared for the project. Section 15168 of the CEQA Guidelines states that a Program EIR may be prepared on a series of actions that can be characterized as one large project and are related either:(1) geographically; (2) as logical parts in the chain of contemplated actions; (3) in connection with issuance of rules, regulations, plans, or other general criteria to govern the conduct of a continuing program; (4) as individual activities carried out under the same authorizing statutory or regulatory authority and having generally similar environmental effects that can be mitigated in similar ways.

The Program EIR will be prepared in accordance with the requirements of CEQA Statute and Guidelines, as amended. Pursuant to Section 15146 of the CEQA Guidelines, the degree of specificity in the Program EIR will correspond to the degree of specificity involved in the project. The Program EIR will evaluate the potential environmental effects of implementing the GHG reduction and climate adaptation actions included in the CAAP.

Based on the preliminary analysis of the project, the following environmental topics will be examined in the Program EIR: Aesthetics, Agricultural/Forest Resources, Air Quality, Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Energy, Geology and Soils, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Hazard/Hazardous Materials, Hydrology/Water Quality, Land Use/Planning, Mineral Resources, Noise, Population/Housing, Public Services, Recreation, Transportation, Tribal Cultural Resources, Utilities/Service Systems, and Wildfire.



Signature of Lead Agency Representative

1/10/24

Date



Source: adapted by Ascent Environmental in 2023

Figure 1 – Regional Setting and Project Location