



NOTICE OF PREPARATION/INITIAL STUDY FOR A FOCUSED ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

Notice is hereby given that the City of Hanford will be the Lead Agency and will prepare a focused Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the proposed Silicon Valley Ranch Residential Subdivision Project (Project). An Initial Study has been prepared along with this Notice of Preparation (NOP), which scopes out environmental topics for further review. The focused EIR will address the potential physical environmental effects of the proposed projects that have not been scoped out, as outlined in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The City is requesting comments on the scope and content of this focused EIR.

A scoping session will be held on Monday, July 8, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. at City Hall in the Training Room (319 N Douty Street, Hanford, CA 93230). The scoping session, which is part of the focused EIR process, is the time when the City solicits input from the public and agencies on specific topics they believe should be addressed in the environmental analysis. The scoping process is designed to enable the City to determine the scope and content of the focused EIR, identify the range of actions, and identify potentially significant environmental effects, alternatives, and mitigation measures to be analyzed in the focused EIR.

Project Location

The Project is located within the Sphere of Influence for the City of Hanford and is anticipated for annexation. The Project is adjacent to Hanford Armona Road to the north, between Greenbrier Drive to the east and 13th Avenue to the west, and encompasses approximately 88.9 acres (APN 011-040-008, 010, and 027). The Project site is located within the Hanford USGS Quad, Section 3, Township 19S, Range 21E, Mount Diablo Base and Meridian (MDB&M).

Project Description

The Project proposes to construct a 326-lot residential subdivision within the City of Hanford Sphere of Influence. The Project will be annexed into the City under separate application. An approximately 12.5-acre portion of the site at the northeast corner of the property is intended to be removed via a lot-line adjustment.

The Project will be developed with a 326-unit single-family subdivision, a 3.58-acre park, and a three-acre retention basin. Lots will range between 5,000 to 6,000 square feet and would be developed with single-family residential units. Associated utility and right-of-way infrastructure would also be developed in accordance with City of Hanford standards and regulations.

Approvals include:

- Approval of Tentative Tract Map #943
- Rezoning – Because the project site does not currently have a City of Hanford zoning designation, rezoning of the site is required. The project site would be rezoned to the R-L-5 zone.
- Annexation into the city limits by Kings County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo)

Construction:

Development of the Project is anticipated to occur over a 12-month period. Construction equipment will vary over the course of development and would include the following:

- Excavators/earth-moving equipment
- Depending on foundation system, auger rig, or pile-driving rig
- All-terrain forklifts

- A man/material hoist
- Truck cranes and potentially a tower crane (pending permit approval)
- Concrete trucks
- Dump trucks
- Street sweepers/water trucks for dust control
- Construction delivery trucks (typically box trucks or flat beds)
- Small tools (generators, light plants, compactors, air compressors)

As mandated by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the public review period for this document was 30 days (CEQA Section 15073[b]). The public review period began on June 21, 2024 and ended on July 22, 2024. For further information, please contact Gabrielle de Silva Myers, 317 N. Douty Street, Hanford, CA 93230, (559) 585-2578 or visit:

<https://cityofhanfordca.com/1236/Current-Projects>

Mailing Address and Phone Number of Contact Person

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Findings

As Lead Agency, the City of Hanford finds that the Project will have a significant effect on the environment. The Environmental Checklist (CEQA Guidelines Appendix G) or Initial Study (IS) (see *Section 3 - Environmental Checklist*) has identified one or more potentially significant effects on the environment. Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 115064 (a)(1), an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) must be prepared if there is substantial evidence in light of the whole record that the proposed Project under review may have a significant effect on the environment and should be further analyzed to determine mitigation measures or project alternatives that might avoid or reduce project impacts to less-than-significant levels. The City of Hanford has determined that preparation of a focused Environmental Impact Report for the Project is necessary.

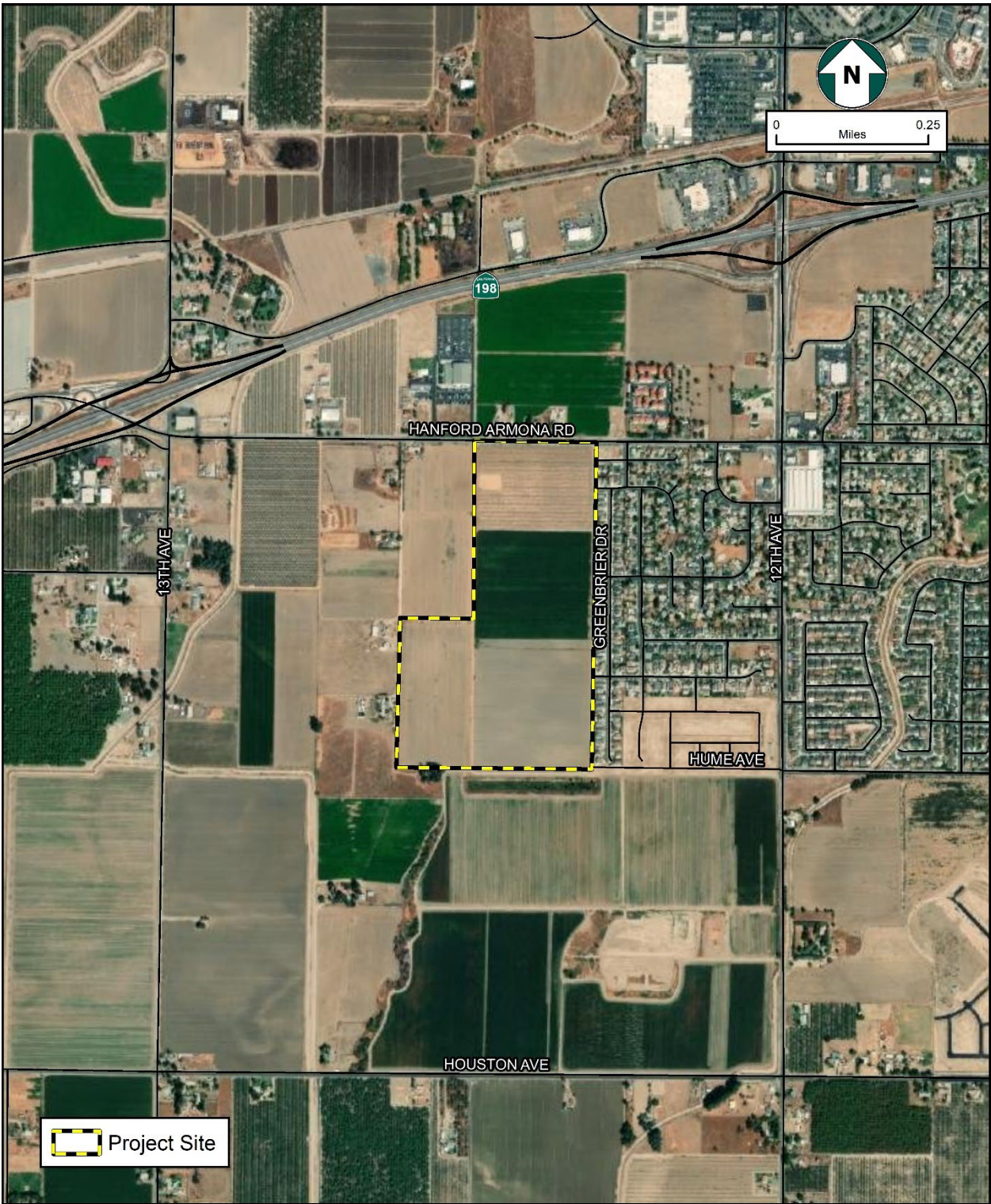


Figure 3-1
Project Site Area