



City of Santa Barbara California

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON THE DRAFT NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE CLIMATE ACTION PLAN UPDATE AND MASTER ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT GUIDELINES FOR GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION ANALYSIS

A Draft Negative Declaration has been prepared for the following project, pursuant to the State of California Public Resources Code and the “Guidelines for Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970,” as amended to date.

PROJECT LOCATION: City of Santa Barbara

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Climate Action Plan Update (CAP Update) modernizes the City of Santa Barbara 2012 Climate Action Plan and provides a roadmap of specific actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and achieve City emission targets. The CAP Update also comprehensively analyzes and programmatically addresses the City’s greenhouse impacts and is considered a qualified greenhouse gas emission reduction plan for the purpose of meeting the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The Master Environmental Assessment Guidelines for Greenhouse Gas Emission Analysis (Guidelines) outlines how future development projects and plans demonstrate consistency with the CAP Update in a streamlined manner with a checklist. The Guidelines also establish a greenhouse gas impact analysis methodology and threshold of significance for those limited projects or plans that are not able to demonstrate consistency with the CAP Update through the checklist and must undergo more thorough review to satisfy the requirements of CEQA.

DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT: An Initial Study and a Draft Negative Declaration (Draft ND) have been prepared for this project and are available for review and comment. The Draft ND examines environmental impacts which may be associated with this project. No significant environmental effects are identified in the Draft ND. The City of Santa Barbara includes sites on lists enumerated under Section 65962.5 of the government code; however, the project would not result in significant impacts.

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY: The Draft ND is available for review at the Planning Counter at 630 Garden Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101 and online at www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov/climate.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: The City of Santa Barbara encourages the public to provide written comment on this and other projects. The public review period begins on **Friday March 22, 2024**. Comments on the Draft ND must be submitted by **Wednesday April 24, 2024 at 4:30 p.m.** Please send your comments to: City of Santa Barbara, Sustainability and Resilience Department, Attn: **Melissa Hetrick, Resilience Program Supervisor** P.O. Box 1990, Santa Barbara, CA 93102-1990, or send them electronically to **CAP@SantaBarbaraCA.gov**.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEARING: Any interested person may request a hearing before the Planning Commission to comment on the Draft ND by completing and filing a hearing request with the Planning Division on or before April 1, 2024. If requested, a Planning Commission hearing will then be scheduled for Thursday, April 18, 2024 at 1:00 p.m.*. If you have any questions, wish to know more about this application, wish to review the plans, or wish to request a public hearing, please contact Melissa Hetrick, Resilience Program Supervisor, at CAP@SantaBarbaraCA.gov or (805) 991-2447 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. (Monday through Friday). Please note, a hearing to take public comment will only be held if specifically requested, otherwise, review and adoption of the Draft ND, along with the project review, will occur at a later public hearing of the Planning Commission. The special hearing would ONLY be to take additional public comment on the Draft ND, not the project itself.

FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT: Following the end of the Draft ND public review period, a Final Negative Declaration including responses to comments will be prepared and subsequent noticed public hearing will be held at the Planning Commission on May 16, 2024 to consider actions to approve the project. If you challenge the permit approval or environmental document in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised in written correspondence delivered to the Planning Commission, or in a public hearing on the project.

***NOTES REGARDING PUBLIC HEARING:** The Planning Commission meeting to accept comments on the Draft ND will only occur if specifically requested and would begin at 1:00 p.m. Thursday afternoon. If a hearing is requested, by Thursday, April 1, 2024, an Agenda with all items to be heard on Thursday April 18, 2024, will be available at www.SantaBarbaraCa.gov/pc. AGENDAS, MINUTES and REPORTS: Copies of all documents relating to agenda items are available for review at www.SantaBarbaraCa.gov/pc. Please note that online Staff Reports may not include some exhibits. Agenda items are subject to change. It is recommended that applicants and interested persons plan to arrive at 1:00 P.M. However, for longer agendas, all parties are encouraged to monitor Channel 18 and when the item prior to the application of interest begins come to the Commission hearing. Continuance will not be granted unless there are exceptional circumstances.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to gain access to, comment at, or participate in this meeting, please contact the Planning Division Office at (805) 564-5470, extension 4535. If possible, notification at least 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements in most cases.

Meetings can be viewed live on City TV-18, or on your computer via <http://www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov/Government/Video/> Meeting rebroadcast schedule can be found at <https://www.santabarbaraca.gov/gov/depts/cityadmin/programming.asp>.