



**SANTA MONICA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
NOTICE OF PREPARATION AND SCOPING MEETING FOR THE
SMC 2024 MAIN CAMPUS MASTER PLAN UPDATE
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT**

[CEQA Guidelines Section 15082]

January 9, 2025

TO: All Interested Agencies, Parties, Organizations, and Persons
FROM: Santa Monica Community College District
1900 Pico Boulevard, Santa Monica, CA 90405
SUBJECT: Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report

PROJECT TITLE: Santa Monica College 2024 Main Campus Master Plan Update

Project Proponent/Applicant: Santa Monica Community College District (SMCCD) has determined that a Program and Project-level Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is required for the Santa Monica College 2024 Main Campus Master Plan Update, herein after referred to as the "Proposed Project." The SMCCD is the Lead Agency for this project and is requesting your Agency's input as to the scope and content of environmental information germane to your Agency's statutory responsibilities in connection with the Proposed Project. Your Agency will need to use this EIR when considering any applicable approvals that may be required by your Agency. Interested parties, organizations and persons are also invited to participate in the Notice of Preparation (NOP) consultation and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review process.

Project Location, Environmental Setting, and Description: The Proposed Project Site encompasses the Santa Monica College (SMC) Main Campus located at 1900 Pico Boulevard in the City of Santa Monica, CA. Santa Monica College's Main Campus encompasses approximately 43.98 acres and is generally bounded by Pico Boulevard to the north, 18th Court to the east, Pearl Street to the south, and 16th Street to the west, and includes adjacent properties along Pico Boulevard between 16th Street and 14th Street and along Pearl Street between 17th Street and 18th Court ("Project Site"). (See Project Location Map, attached.)

The Proposed Project would include the demolition of existing temporary and permanent buildings, totaling approximately 360,100 gross square feet (gsf) of building area, and the construction of new buildings consisting of 265,216 gsf of new floor area in five main new buildings ("Proposed Project"). The Project would also include approximately 207,073 gsf of building renovations to two existing buildings (the Physical and Life Science Complex and the Library and Media Center). The Proposed Project would create various new and enhanced open spaces throughout the campus, including landscaping the proposed new Student Union building, a Welcome Lawn, an outdoor amphitheater, a Science Quad, the Tri (triangular open space area), and New Quad. The Proposed Project would generally retain the current vehicular circulation and access points and existing parking supply. The Project would be constructed in three phases beginning in 2025 with final buildout anticipated to be completed by 2035.



Environmental Issues to be Analyzed in the EIR: The SMCCD, as Lead Agency, has determined that an EIR is required for this Proposed Project and, through an Initial Study, has identified the following environmental issue areas to be included within the scope of the EIR: Air Quality, Aesthetics (Views, Light & Glare), Cultural/Historic Resources, Energy Conservation, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Land Use and Planning, Noise, Neighborhood Effects, and Mandatory Findings of Significance. The portion of the Project Site located at 1410 Pico Boulevard is included on a list of hazardous materials sites, specifically the California State Water Resources Control Board GeoTracker website. As of January 2000, the cleanup status of 1410 Pico Boulevard was completed, and the case was closed. (See CEQA Initial Study Checklist, attached.) The NOP and Draft Initial Study will be made available to the public via the College's website at <https://admin.smc.edu/administration/planning/2024-SMC-Campus-Master-Plan.php>.

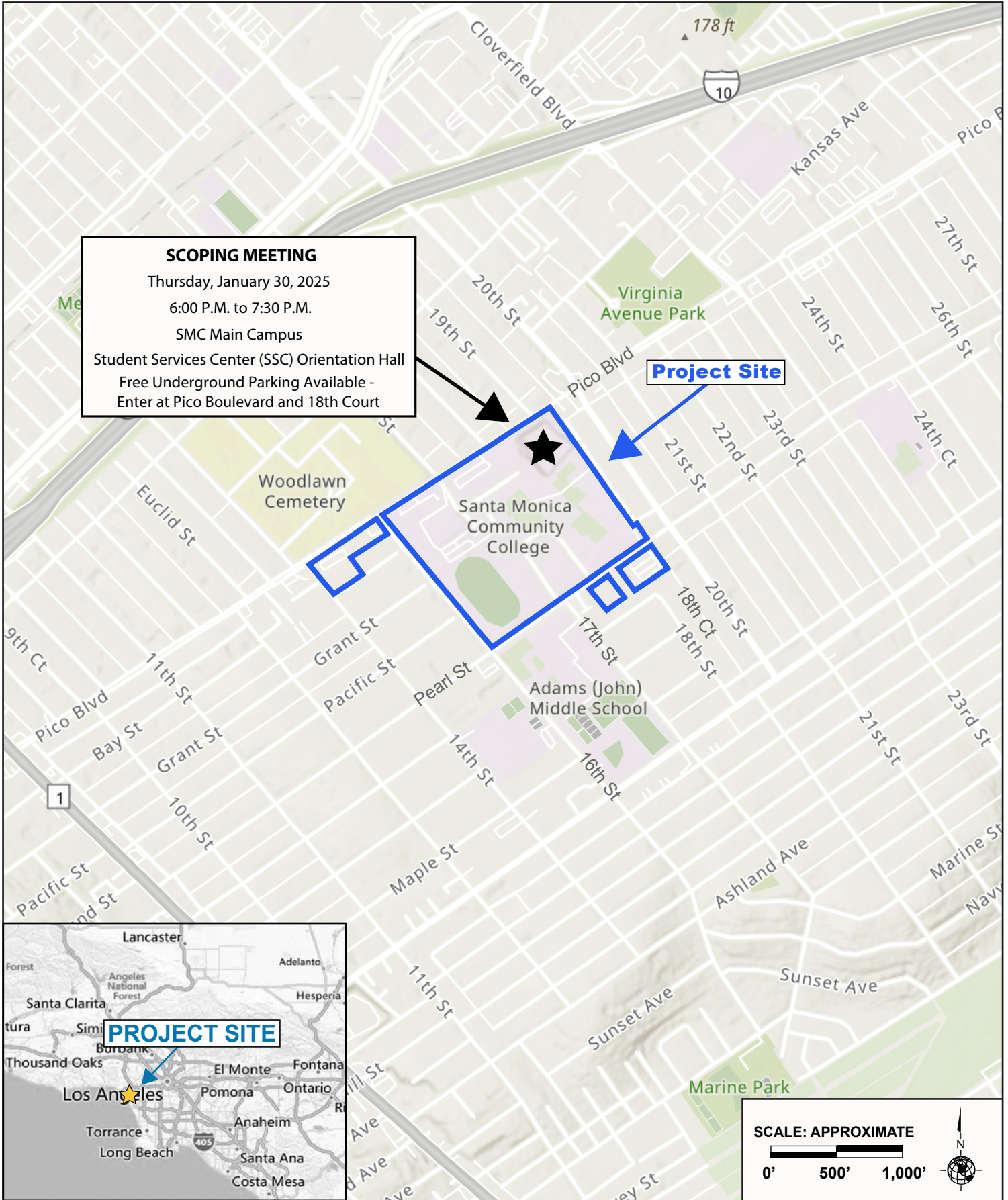
Scoping Meeting. A public scoping meeting will be held to present the Proposed Project and solicit public comments with regard to potential environmental impacts that may occur as a result of the Proposed Project. The scoping meeting will be held on Thursday January 30, 2025 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the following location: SMC Main Campus, Student Services Center (SSC) Orientation Hall, 1900 Pico Boulevard, Santa Monica, CA 90405. (The location of the scoping meeting is indicated on the Project Location Map, attached)

Request for Agency Consultation. Due to the time limits mandated by state law, your response to this NOP or the scope for this EIR must be sent at the earliest possible date but not later than 30 days after receipt of this notice. In order to receive consideration in the Draft EIR, comments are due by Monday February 10, 2025. Please address all comments to Mr. Mr. Charlie Yen, Director of Facilities Planning, Santa Monica College either by USPS mail or via email as directed below.

By Mail: Mr. Charlie Yen, Director of Facilities Planning
Santa Monica Community College District
1900 Pico Boulevard
Santa Monica, CA 90045

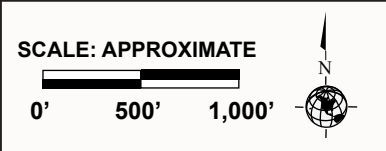
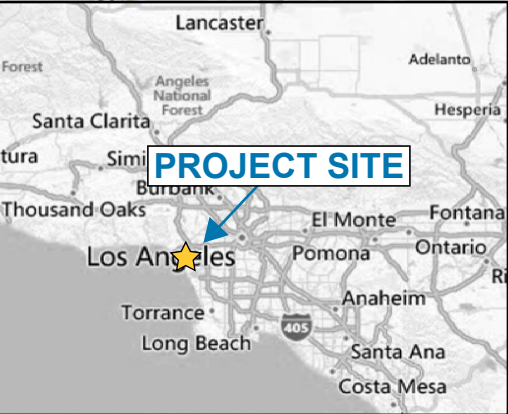
By email: YEN_CHARLIE@smc.edu

Please provide contact information and return mailing address on your correspondence and you will be notified of future notices and hearings.



SCOPING MEETING
 Thursday, January 30, 2025
 6:00 P.M. to 7:30 P.M.
 SMC Main Campus
 Student Services Center (SSC) Orientation Hall
 Free Underground Parking Available -
 Enter at Pico Boulevard and 18th Court

Project Site



Source: ArcGIS, 2024.