

NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (EIR)

DATE: November 30, 2023

TO: Responsible and Trustee Agencies, Interested Organizations and Parties

FROM: Inland Valley Development Agency

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE INLAND VALLEY INFRASTRUCTURE CORRIDOR

The Inland Valley Development Agency (IVDA) will be the Lead Agency and will prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the proposed Project identified above (Inland Valley Infrastructure Corridor, IVIC). The IVDA is seeking input from the general public, public agencies, and interested parties regarding the scope and content of the environmental information that should be analyzed in the EIR, including input regarding any topics or specific issues that are germane to a particular agency's statutory responsibilities (such as biology resources) in connection with the proposed Project. A short description of the Project, as well as the location and potential environmental effects, are discussed below. A detailed project description is provided as an attachment to this Notice of Preparation (NOP). The maps and aerial photos in the attached Project Description show the location of the proposed Project. In accordance with Section 15060(d) of the State CEQA Guidelines the IVDA has determined that an EIR will be prepared to address all of the environmental issues identified in the Standard Environmental Assessment Form/Initial Study. Thus, no Initial Study accompanies this NOP.

PROJECT ENTITLEMENT: The IVDA is preparing the IVIC in cooperation with the cities of Highland and San Bernardino. Once the IVIC EIR has been certified, each City and the IVDA will work with utilities that provide infrastructure within the project corridor, shown on the Project Description maps. As funding becomes available from the individual participating agencies or through infrastructure grants and loans, future specific infrastructure projects will be evaluated in the context of the IVIC EIR documentation. Additional CEQA environmental determinations will be prepared the time a specific project is considered for approval/funding.

PROJECT APPLICANT & LEAD AGENCY: Inland Valley Development Agency

PROJECT LOCATION: The IVIC area is located approximately 60 miles east of Los Angeles just south of the foothills of the San Bernardino Mountains. It is centrally located between three major freeways (State Route (SR)-210 to the north and east, the I-215 to the west, and the I-10 to the south).

The IVIC area is located immediately north of the San Bernardino International Airport (SBIA) and the infrastructure planning area extends to the north side of 6th Street except at the southwest and southeast corners of Del Rosa Drive and 6th Street where the Plan area extends to the north side of 5th Street. The western boundary extends to the center line of Tippecanoe Avenue and the Plan area is bounded by the SR-210 to the east.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: IVDA has facilitated coordination of a number of infrastructure improvements within the IVIC project area with the participating agencies working with IVDA to implement this project. The other participating agencies in developing the IVIC include: City of Highland; City of San Bernardino; the Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation (YSMN); and the East Valley Water District (EVWD). These stakeholders have jurisdictional and ownership/service

interests in the project area and have invested significant time and resources in supporting the IVDA in completing the IVIC for the benefit of the area. Improvements to the following infrastructure systems will be considered in the IVIC EIR: water; wastewater/sewer; dry utilities, including communications; drainage; roads; and other future utility integration (accommodate other utilities/emerging technologies that can be integrated concurrently with above infrastructure improvements).

The following environmental issues will be analyzed in the EIR: aesthetics, agricultural and timberlands, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, energy, geology and soils, greenhouse gases/climate change, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use and planning, mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation, tribal cultural systems, utilities and service systems, and wildfire.

COMMENT PERIOD: Pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines (Cal Code Regs., Title 14 para. 15000 *et seq.*) Section 15082(a), any response and/or comments must be submitted to this office as soon as possible but **not later than forty-five (45) days** after the date upon this Notice. The Notice of Preparation comment period begins on November 30, 2023 and ends on January 16, 2024.

Please send your written responses to this Notice, including any comments you may have on this project, by regular mail or e-mail, to:

Ms. Myriam Beltran, Manager of Planning and Programs
Inland Valley Development Agency
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(909) 382-4100, ext. 153

Please include the name of a contact person at your agency in any submitted comments.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Myriam Beltran, at 909-382-4100 or mbeltran@sbdairport.com. The NOP and IVIC Project Description are available electronically at IVDA's website: www.ivdajpa.org

Myriam Beltran

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