



1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration/Environmental Assessment (IS/MND/EA) has been prepared pursuant to the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (see Public Resources Code Sections 21000-21177), as well as the State CEQA Guidelines (see Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, Sections 15063); enclosed as Part 1 of this document. Also, as the City is seeking funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the IS/MND/EA has been prepared pursuant to the guidelines and regulations of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), enclosed as Part 2 of this document.

The IS/MND/EA was made available for public review and comment pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15070. The public review period commenced on August 3, 2009, and expired on September 1, 2009. The IS/MND/EA and supporting attachments were available for review by the general public at the following locations:

- City of Long Beach, Community Development Department, City Hall, 333 West Ocean Boulevard, Long Beach, CA 90802; and
- Long Beach Public Library and Information Center, 101 Pacific Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90822.



2.0 RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

During the public review period, comments were received on the IS/MND/EA from certain interested public agencies and private parties. The following is a list of the persons, firms, or agencies that submitted comments on the IS/MND/EA during the public review period:

Comment Letter No.	Person, Firm, or Agency	Letter Dated	Letter Received
1	Scott Morgan, Acting Director, State Clearinghouse, State of California Office of Planning and Research,	September 2, 2009	September 2, 2009

Although the State CEQA Guidelines do not require a Lead Agency to prepare written responses to comments received, as contrasted with a Draft Environmental Impact Report (see State CEQA Guidelines Section 15088), the City has elected to prepare the following written responses with the intent of conducting a comprehensive and meaningful evaluation of the proposed Project.

The number designations in the responses are correlated to the bracketed and identified portions of each comment letter.



ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE of PLANNING AND RESEARCH
STATE CLEARINGHOUSE AND PLANNING UNIT



CYNTHIA BRYANT
DIRECTOR

September 2, 2009

Mark Christoffels
City of Long Beach
333 W. Ocean Boulevard
Long Beach, CA 90802

Subject: River Avenue Storm Drain Improvements Project
SCH#: 2009081002

Dear Mark Christoffels:

The State Clearinghouse submitted the above named Joint Document to selected state agencies for review. The review period closed on September 1, 2009, and no state agencies submitted comments by that date. This letter acknowledges that you have complied with the State Clearinghouse review requirements for draft environmental documents, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act.

Please call the State Clearinghouse at (916) 445-0613 if you have any questions regarding the environmental review process. If you have a question about the above-named project, please refer to the ten-digit State Clearinghouse number when contacting this office.

Sincerely,

for Scott Morgan
Acting Director, State Clearinghouse

1-1

SCH# 2009081002
Project Title River Avenue Storm Drain Improvements Project
Lead Agency Long Beach, City of

Type JD Joint Document
Description The inadequate River Avenue drainage system has resulted in flooding to adjacent residents. The project proposed to bring the system flood protection in this area to a full 10 yr protection level. The proposal involves construction of a parallel storm drain system along River Avenue (which is located Wardlow Road/23rd Street to the north to an underground storage (detention) basin proposed on the SCE property). The detention basin would temporarily hold 2 acre ft of storm water during heavy flows and then release the flows as the storm abates. The proposed detention basin would allow the downstream pipe to no longer flow full. The City has elected to proceed with the 10 yr frequency flood level protection improvement option.

Lead Agency Contact

Name Mark Christoffels
Agency City of Long Beach
Phone (562) 570-6771 **Fax**
email
Address 333 W. Ocean Boulevard
City Long Beach **State** CA **Zip** 90802

Project Location

County Los Angeles
City Long Beach
Region
Lat / Long 33° 49' 23.47" N / 116° 13' 20.20" W
Cross Streets River Avenue/Wardlow Avenue
Parcel No.
Township 4S **Range** 13W **Section** **Base** SBB&M

Proximity to:

Highways I-405,I-710
Airports No
Railways Yes
Waterways Los Angeles Rivera and Dominguez Channel
Schools Yes
Land Use Local roadway and Public Right-of-Way

Project Issues Aesthetic/Visual; Agricultural Land; Air Quality; Archaeologic-Historic; Biological Resources; Cumulative Effects; Drainage/Absorption; Flood Plain/Flooding; Forest Land/Fire Hazard; Geologic/Seismic; Growth Inducing; Landuse; Minerals; Noise; Public Services; Recreation/Parks; Schools/Universities; Septic System; Sewer Capacity; Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading; Solid Waste; Toxic/Hazardous; Traffic/Circulation; Vegetation; Water Quality; Water Supply; Wetland/Riparian

Reviewing Agencies Resources Agency; Department of Fish and Game, Region 5; Office of Historic Preservation; Department of Parks and Recreation; Department of Water Resources; California Highway Patrol; Caltrans, District 7; Regional Water Quality Control Board, Region 4; Department of Toxic Substances Control; Native American Heritage Commission

Date Received 08/03/2009 **Start of Review** 08/03/2009 **End of Review** 09/01/2009

Note: Blanks in data fields result from insufficient information provided by lead agency.



RESPONSE TO COMMENT LETTER NO. 1

Mr. Scott Morgan, Acting Director

State of California Office of Planning and Research, State Clearinghouse

September 2, 2009

- 1.1 This comment indicates that the State Clearinghouse submitted the IS/MND/EA to selected state agencies for review, and that the comment period for the Draft IS/MND/EA concluded on September 1, 2009 for State agencies. The comment indicates that the lead agency complied with the review requirements for draft environmental documents pursuant to CEQA. As such, the comment does not provide specific comments regarding information presented in the IS/MND/EA and no further response is necessary.