



Section 1.0: Introduction

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1.1 Introduction

The following table lists all persons, organizations, and public agencies which provided comments or recommendation to the County of Riverside regarding the Draft EIR (refer to Responses to Comments Section 2 for copies of the Comment Letters and Responses). Refer to Table 1, *Recirculated Draft EIR No. 521 Comment Submissions*, for a full listing of those who submitted comments during the Recirculated Draft EIR public review period.

1.2 CEQA Requirements for the Final EIR Document

The Final Environmental Impact Report (Final EIR) for the proposed Riverside County General Plan Update has been prepared in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines and the County of Riverside policies for implementing CEQA.

The following is an excerpt from the *CEQA Guidelines* Section 15132 that states:

“The Final EIR shall consist of:

- (a) The Draft EIR or a version of the draft.
- (b) Comments and recommendations received on the Draft EIR either verbatim or in summary.
- (c) A list of persons, organizations, and public agencies commenting on the Draft EIR.
- (d) The responses of the Lead Agency to significant environmental points raised in the review and consultation process.
- (e) Any other information added by the Lead Agency.”

The Final EIR includes all of these required components. The Draft EIR has been provided to the public and decision-makers, is available on the County’s website, and has been provided to individuals and organizations that have requested the Draft EIR. Section 2.0 includes the comments received on the Draft EIR. A list of the public agencies and members of the public who commented on the Draft EIR is provided above in the Table of Contents. Section 2 includes each comment letter, followed by the corresponding response(s), consistent with the requirements of Section 15088 of the State CEQA Guidelines. A response is provided for each written comment identifying significant environmental issues, as received by the County during the Draft EIR public review period.

It should be noted that responses to comments also resulted in various editorial clarifications and corrections to the original Draft EIR text. In order to clearly display all of the changes that have been made during the General Plan Update Process, text has been formatted to show changes made in each step of the process. This includes:

- Black Text: General Plan text prior to GPA No. 960 is noted in black text.
- Red Text: Textual changes proposed as part of the May 2014 previously circulated document are shown in red text.
- Blue Text: Textual changes made to the documents after the May 2014 circulation are shown in blue text.
- Green Text: Textual changes made to the documents after the February 2015 recirculation are shown in green text.

The color coding of the edits allows the reader to distinguish more clearly between the original General Plan text, the previously proposed May 2014 revisions (red), the February 2015 proposed revisions to GPA No. 960, EIR No. 521 and the Climate Action Plan (blue), and the proposed revisions from the February 2015 recirculation (green). Added or modified text is shown by italicizing (*example*) while deleted text is shown by striking (~~example~~). The additional information, corrections, and clarifications are not considered to substantively affect the conclusions within the Draft EIR.

1.3 Background

The County of Riverside issued a **Notice of Preparation (NOP)** for the proposed Project to identify the potential environmental impacts of the Project, to solicit comments from public agencies and interested parties, and to identify issues that should be considered in the Draft EIR. The NOP for the proposed Project was sent to trustee and responsible agencies, members of the public, other interested parties, the California Office of Planning and Research, and State Clearinghouse on April 13, 2009. This began the 30-day NOP public review period, which ended on May 12, 2009. During the review period, public agencies and members of the public had the opportunity to respond to the NOP to identify issues of special concern and to suggest additional issues to be considered in the Draft EIR.

In addition, the County held public scoping meetings in eastern Riverside County on April 27, 2009 and in western Riverside County on May 4, 2009, to discuss characteristics of the proposed Project, its planning status, the nature of its potential environmental effects, and the scope (i.e., the specific issues) of the EIR analysis. The scoping meeting provided further opportunities for public input regarding environmental concerns and issues that should be addressed in the EIR.

In addition to the formal NOP review and scoping process, the County held several informal meetings with stakeholders and interested parties, maintained a Project website, and assembled regular Advisory Committee Meetings. The NOP scoping process and substantial additional public outreach conducted by the County is summarized in the Draft EIR Sections 2.3 *Initial Notices, Public Outreach and Community Involvement* and Draft EIR Appendix EIR-1 *CEQA Items*.

The Draft EIR for the proposed Project was distributed to trustee and responsible agencies, members of the public, other interested parties, the California Office of Planning and Research, and the State Clearinghouse on April 29, 2014. The Draft EIR was released to the public for a 60-day comment period from May 1, 2014 to July 1, 2014.

The Recirculated Draft EIR for the proposed Project was distributed to trustee and responsible agencies, members of the public, other interested parties, the California Office of Planning and Research, and the State Clearinghouse on February 18, 2015. The Recirculated Draft EIR was released to the public for a 45-day comment period from February 21, 2015 to April 6, 2015.

Comments received on the Recirculated Draft EIR and the subsequent Errata have been incorporated into the Final EIR document. GPA No. 960, along with Draft EIR 521 and the Climate Action Plan will be considered by the Riverside County Board of Supervisors. However, prior to Board consideration, the Riverside County Planning Commission will evaluate the documents and make a recommendation for the consideration of the Board. The following discretionary actions will be considered by both the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors:

- Adoption of General Plan Amendment No. 960 amending various General Plan maps, Elements, policies and appendices.
- Adoption of the Climate Action Plan
- Certification of Program Environmental Impact Report No. 521 pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

Table 1: Recirculated Draft EIR No. 521 Comment Submissions

Comment Letter	Name
OPR Transmittal Letter	
1	Governor's Office of Planning and Research (Scott Morgan, Director)
State Agency Comments	
2	California Board of Forestry and Fire Protection
3	California Department of Conservation
4	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Local Agency Comments	
5	Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians
6	Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District
7	Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD)
8	Corona, City of
9	Eastern Municipal Water District (EMWD)
10	Menifee, City of
11	Morongo Band of Mission Indians
12	Pala Tribal Historic Preservation Office
13	Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians (Letter 1)
14	Riverside, City of
15	Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation Department
16	Riverside County Regional Parks and Open Space District
17	Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC)
18	San Bernardino County
19	San Jacinto, City of
20	South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD)
Group/Organization Comment Letters	
21	Building Industry Association of Southern California
22	Center for Biological Diversity with San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society
23	Cherry Valley Environmental Planning Group and Cherry Valley Pass Acres and Neighbors
24	Coachella Valley Archeological Society (CVAS)
25	Endangered Habitats League
26	Friends of the Northern San Jacinto Valley
27	Highgrove Municipal Advisory Council (via R.A. Barnett)
28	Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability & SWAPE
29	Property Owners Association of Riverside County

Comment Letter	Name
30	Property Owners Association of Riverside County Addendum
31	Residents Association of Greater Lake Mathews (RAGLM)
32	Sierra Club, Moreno Valley Group
33	Shute, Mihaly & Weinberger, LLP (Re: San Gorgonio Sierra Club)
34	Sierra Club, Santa Margarita Group
Individual Comment Letters	
35	Avelar, Albert
36	Baeza, Francisco (via California Rural Legal Assistance)
37	Ballmer, Greg
38	Baranek, John
39	Brumfield, Phyllis
40	Brunetto, Ross and Cathy
41	Carow, Sharon A. and Robert J.
42	Chin, Darren via Standard Portfolios, LLC
43	Cohen, Dena and Sidney
44	Cohen, Kenneth D.
45	Colston, Anthony and Clea
46	Cruse, Jim and Betty
47	Culton, Gregory M.
48	Culton, Margie
49	Davis, Roberta
50	DeLeon, Rudy and Dranda
51	Domenigoni-Barton Entities via Jackson, DeMarco, Titus, Peckenpaugh
52	Eshelman, Carole
53	Gallagher, Ginny
54	Gardiner, Mark
55	Hague, George (Letter 1)
56	Hague, George (Letter 2)
57	Hague, George (Letter 3)
58	Hansen, Lilian V.
59	Haunschild, Bob and Dianne
60	Hikel, Gene
61	Hikel, Karen
62	Hoffman, Julie
63	Hsu, Patrick
64	Hughes, Robert D.
65	Jaeckels, Jerry
66	Jafay, Charlene
67	Johnson, Ernest R.
68	Johnson, Mark W. and Elizabeth L.
69	Kenyon, Dennis
70	Lansing, Greg (Lansing Companies)
71	Laughlin & Associates (Letter 1)
72	Laughlin & Associates (Letter 2)
73	Lincoln, Jeanne
74	Malarkey, Cecelia
75	Masonbrink, Kay
76	McManis, Charles and Ginny (Letter 1)
77	Morriss, Robert and Linda
78	Murphy, Michael D.
79	Naumowich, Michael R.
80	Patterson, Cheryl
81	Peterson, Jaculin R.
82	Redhawk Investments (via Jackson, DeMarco, Titus, Peckenpaugh)
83	Rickert, Bruce and Robin

Comment Letter	Name
84	Ridenour, Linda
85	Rosenbloom, Mr. & Mrs. Albert
86	Roy, Ron
87	Russell, Patrick (Sares Regis Group)
88	Saunders, Dan and Anita
89	Sethi, Manmohan
90	Smigun, Kathy
91	Smit, Ann M. and Gerard J.
92	Straub, Daniel and Carolyn
93	Swinney, Mary and Bill
94	Taylor, Joan
95	Tetley, Jerry & Judith
96	Togo, George J.
97	Torres, Bonnie
98	Varnado, Larry
99	Varnado, Shirley
100	Weaver, Ginny Cole-
101	Webber, Carol H.
102	Woynowski, Dick and Jackie
Letters Received After the Close of the Comment Period	
103	Riverside County Farm Bureau
104	Moore, Bonnie J.
105	Moore, Thomas C.
106	McManis, Charles and Gerri (Letter 2)
107	Best, Diane C.
108	Johnson and Sedlack
109	Highland Springs Resort
110	Riverside County Airport Land Use Commission
111	California Governor's Office of Planning and Research (Letter 2)
112	Wakefield, Carol
113	Hague, George (Letter 4)
114	Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians (Letter 2)
115	Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians

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