

MITIGATED NEGLATIVE DECLARATION (MND) and ENERGY, CLIMATE CHANGE, AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE REPORT relative to the Lopez Canyon Equestrian Trails and Trailhead Project (SCH No. 2016091072).

Recommendation for Council action:

APPROVE the MND prepared in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), attached to the Council file.

Fiscal Impact Statement: The Board of Public Works (BPW) reports that there is no impact to the General Fund.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

Summary:

On May 15, 2018, your Committee considered an April 27, 2018 BPW report and MND relative to the Lopez Canyon Equestrian Trails and Trailhead Project (SCH No. 2016091072). According to the BPW, the Bureau of Sanitation, with the assistance of the Bureau of Engineering and local residents, developed a conceptual plan mandated by Council (Council File No. 95-0859-S4) in 1996 to develop a portion of buffer lands surrounding the closed Lopez Canyon Landfill for public recreational use. Part of this plan consists of a trail for equestrians and hikers, and an associated trailhead staging area. The BOS received input during several meetings with the community and stakeholders which helped to finalize the proposed trail alignment and staging area. This project is subject to CEQA, which requires state and local agencies to disclose impacts to the environment that might be caused by their actions. The BOS prepared an initial study and environmental checklist to identify the potential impacts resulting from the construction of this project and long-term trail use.

On April 26, 2016, the BOS awarded Task Order Solicitation (TOS) SN-55 to HDR Engineering, Inc. (HDR) for the Environmental Review and Analysis of the Lopez Canyon Equestrian Trails and Trailhead Project. The original proposed project included the formation of a 5-mile equestrian trail loop system and 4.1-acre trailhead staging area. The study area considered areas within 100 feet of the proposed trail centerline that was mapped and evaluated for potential direct and indirect impacts to biological resources. HDR also performed a record search of all archaeological and historical resources within one-half mile of the project's area of potential effects.

On September 30, 2016, the BOS released the draft Initial Study (IS) and MND for public review and comment. The public review period concluded on December 2, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. The Draft IS/MND was made available in digital format on the BOS's website at www.san.lacity.org. Printed copies of the IS/MND were also available for review at two local libraries and the Lopez Canyon Environmental Center. In addition, BOS held three public meetings to summarize the IS/MND findings and to receive oral and written comments.

After further consideration and having provided an opportunity for public comment, the Committee moved to recommend approval of the MND as detailed in the April 27, 2018 BPW

report. This matter is now submitted to Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

ENERGY, CLIMATE CHANGE, AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE



<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
MARTINEZ:	YES
KORETZ:	ABSENT
KREKORIAN:	ABSENT
CEDILLO:	YES
O'FARRELL:	YES

ARL
5/15/18

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