PUBLIC NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF A PROGRAM ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT AND A SCOPING MEETING

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

PUBLIC NOTICE: The City of San Diego as the Lead Agency has determined that the project described below will require the preparation of a Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). This Notice of Preparation of a PEIR and Scoping Meeting was publicly noticed and distributed on May 9, 2017. This notice was published in the SAN DIEGO DAILY TRANSCRIPT and placed on the City of San Diego website at:


and on the Planning Department website at:

https://www.sandiego.gov/planning/programs/ceqa

SCOPING MEETING: A public scoping meeting will be held by the City of San Diego’s Planning Department on Tuesday, May 23, 2017 from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM in the auditorium at Mission Bay High School located at 2475 Grand Avenue, San Diego, CA, 92109. Please note that depending on the number of attendees, the meeting could end earlier than 8:00 PM. Written comments regarding the scope and alternatives of the proposed EIR will be accepted at the meeting.

Written/mail-in comments may also be sent to the following address: Rebecca Malone, Environmental Planner, City of San Diego Planning Department, 1010 Second Avenue, Suite 1200, East Tower, MS 413, San Diego, CA 92101 or e-mail your comments to PlanningCEQA@sandiego.gov with the Project Name in the subject line within 30 days of the date of the Public Notice above (June 8, 2017). Responsible agencies are requested to indicate their statutory responsibilities in connection with this project when responding. An EIR incorporating public input will then be prepared and distributed for the public to review and comment.

PROJECT NAME: Mission Bay Park Master Plan Update – Fiesta Island Amendment
COMMUNITY PLAN AREA: Mission Bay Park
COUNCIL DISTRICT: 2

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The current Mission Bay Park Master Plan includes a Concept Plan (Concept Plan) for the approximately 485 acre Fiesta Island, located in the southeast portion of Mission Bay Park. The Concept Plan includes areas for recreational uses such as developed park land, swimming areas, youth camping, primitive camping, Over the Line sand arena, concessions, special event RV parking, and launch areas for personal water craft. The Concept Plan also provides for environmental areas including upland and least tern preserves, salt pans, native landscaping, marsh land and additional eelgrass areas as wildlife habitat. Access to Fiesta Island is provided by a single causeway connecting Fiesta Island Road to East Mission Bay Drive.
The project, an amendment to the Park Master Plan, will revise this Concept Plan to be one of two options. The intent of the options is to develop a plan that respects long term existing uses on the island, reduces environmental impacts, reduces the acreage of developed parkland thereby reducing water use, and is economically feasible to implement. The existing Least Tern habitat and the Fiesta Island Youth Camp are largely unaffected. Proposed roadway changes and paved parking areas at various locations along Fiesta Island Road are intended to improve the quality of stormwater runoff. In the Concept Plan, a roadway would be extended along Hidden Anchorage “cove”, in the southwest area of the Island, with swimming proposed in the channel area south of the island, developed parkland, playground and restrooms. Increased pedestrian access to the interior of the island through the creation of trails is also planned. Current City ordinances allow for dog off-leash use of the Island until a formal plan has been adopted. Both options support these ordinances for dog off-leash use of the Island, as well as formally designating an off-leash dog area. The variation in the two options relates to recreational amenities in the southwest portion of the Island.

“Option A” proposes an extension of Fiesta Island Road to an area south of Hidden Anchorage to access a parking area, picnic tables, paddling facility/storage, pier, ramp and floating dock, a designated swimming beach area, and developed park with a children’s play area and restroom, while providing for habitat areas (least tern and eel grass). This option will also provide for a dog special event area that includes an obstacle course, a dog competition area, and restrooms, for a total of approximately 87 acres of dog off-leash use within this southwest area.

“Option B” supports a parking area that will not extend as far, and will provide for a view pavilion and view plaza; picnic tables; running trail; maintenance/emergency trail; native, least tern and eel grass habitat areas; and dog off-leash non-native vegetation play areas, for a total of approximately 93 acres of dog off-leash use within this southwest area.

Except for this southwest area of the Island, all other recreation and design aspects of the island would be identical between the two options. The program EIR will evaluate both of the options at the same level of detail.

APPLICANT: City of San Diego, Planning Department

RECOMMENDED FINDING: Pursuant to Section 15060(d) of the CEQA Guidelines, it appears that the proposed project may result in significant environmental impacts in the following areas: Aesthetics, Air Quality, Biological Resources, Historical and Tribal Cultural Resources, Geology/Soils, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Hazards/Hazardous Materials, Hydrology/Water Quality, Land Use and Planning, Mineral Resources, Noise, Public Services, Recreation, Transportation/Traffic, and Utilities and Service Systems.

AVAILABILITY IN ALTERNATIVE FORMAT: To request this Notice in alternative format, call the Planning Department at (619) 235–5200 OR (800) 735–2929 (TEXT TELEPHONE).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: For environmental review information, contact Rebecca Malone at (619) 446–5371. For information regarding public meetings/hearings on this project, contact the Project Manager, Clark Taylor, at (619) 235–5317. This notice was published in the SAN DIEGO DAILY TRANSCRIPT and distributed on May 9, 2017.

Alyssa Muto
Deputy Director
Planning Department

DISTRIBUTION: See Attached
ATTACHMENTS: Figure 1 – Project Area
Figure 1 - Project Area
Distribution:

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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (19)
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (23)
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (26)

**State Government**
Caltrans, District 11 (31)
California Department of Fish & Wildlife (32)
Department of Toxic Substance Control (39)
California Regional Water Quality Control Board (44)
State Clearinghouse (46A)
California Coastal Commission (47)
California Air Resources Board (49)
California Transportation Commission (51)
California Department of Transportation (51A)
California Department of Transportation (51B)
Native American Heritage Commission (56)

**County of San Diego**
Air Pollution Control District (65)
County of San Diego Department of Planning and Land Use (68)
County Water Authority (73)

**City of San Diego**
Mayor's Office (91)
Councilmember Bry, District 1
Councilmember Zapf District 2
Councilmember Ward, District 3
Councilmember Cole, District 4
Councilmember Kersey, District 5
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San Diego Fire – Rescue Department Logistics (80)
Library Department (81)
Central Library (81A)
Clairemont Branch Library (81H)
Pacific Beach Taylor Branch Library (8tX)
Historical Resources Board (87)
Park & Recreation
  H. Parker
  B. Martinez
  S. McKensie
Wetlands Advisory Board (91A)

Other Agencies, Organizations and Individuals
San Diego Association of Governments (108)
Metropolitan Transit System (112)
San Diego Gas & Electric (114)
Metropolitan Transit System (115)
The San Diego River Park Foundation (163)
Sierra Club (165)
San Diego Natural History Museum (166)
San Diego Audubon Society (167)
Mr. Jim Peugh (167A)
California Native Plant Society (170)
Endangered Habitats League (182)
Endangered Habitats League (182A)
San Diego River Conservancy (168)
Citizens Coordinate for Century 3 (179)
Carmen Lucas (206)
South Coast Information Center (210)
San Diego Archaeological Center (212)
Save Our Heritage Organisation (214)
Clint Linton (215B)
Frank Brown, Inter-Tribal Cultural Resources Council (216)
Campo Band of Mission Indians (217)
San Diego Archaeological Society Inc. (218)
Kuumeyaay Cultural Heritage Preservation (223)
Kuumeyaay Cultural Repatriation Committee (225)
Native American Distribution (225A–S)
Clairemont Mesa Planning Committee (248)
Clairemont Town Council (257)
Linda Vista Community Planning Group (267)
Pacific Beach Community Planning Committee (375)
Mission Bay Park Committee
  P. Robinson
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  R. Anderson
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Fiesta Island Dog Owners (FIDO)