



NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY WHITMORE RANCH SPECIFIC PLAN - DRAFT EIR

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN of the availability of the following document:

Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Whitmore Ranch Specific Plan. The Whitmore Ranch Specific Plan ("Plan") Area is located in unincorporated Stanislaus County, adjacent to the City of Ceres, and includes approximately 94 acres that is bounded by Whitmore Avenue on the north, Moore Road on the west, and the east side of La Rosa Elementary School on the east. The southern limit of the "Plan" Area is approximately 1,300 feet south of Whitmore Avenue. The "Plan" area has two existing schools which are Ceaser Chavez Junior High School and La Rosa Elementary. The "Plan" area has a mix of open space, schools; low, medium and high density residential uses which could support up to 441 new housing units at build out.

In accordance with procedures set forth in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the City has determined that an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is required for this project. The City of Ceres is the Lead Agency for the preparation of the EIR. A Notice of Preparation (NOP) was circulated in February of 2017 to solicit the views of interested persons and agencies as to the scope and content of the environmental information that is relevant to the agencies' statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed project. In response to the NOP, a Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) has been prepared for the Whitmore Ranch Specific Plan.

The DEIR discusses the following significant environmental impacts: aesthetics; agricultural resources; air quality; biological resources; energy, greenhouse gases, and climate change; geology, soils, and seismicity; hazards and hazardous materials, historic and cultural resources; hydrology and water quality; land use, population, and housing; noise; public services and recreation; transportation; and utilities, along with the cumulative effects of these impacts.

In accordance with Section 15105 of CEQA, the written public review period for the DEIR commences on Wednesday, June 27, 2018 and ends at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, August 13, 2018. A Public Scoping Meeting on the Whitmore Ranch DEIR will be held at 6:00 p.m. on August 6th by the Ceres Planning Commission, which meets in the Ceres Community Center at 2701 4th Street. Written comments will be accepted until the conclusion of the public comment period on August, 13, 2018 and should be directed to the attention of Tom Westbrook, Director of Community Development, 2220 Magnolia Street, Ceres, California 95307; by Email at: tom.westbrook@ci.ceres.ca.us; or telephone at: 209.538.5774. If you have any questions concerning the Whitmore Ranch Specific Plan DEIR, these records are available for review at the City of Ceres Community Development Division at the address listed above during business hours, Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. CD Copies of the DEIR can be obtained at 2220 Magnolia Street, Ceres, CA, 95307 or from the City's website at: www.ci.ceres.ca.us.

Legal Notice-Publish once on:
June 27, 2018