



# Ceres General Plan Update



EIR Scoping Meeting

June 5, 2017

## Agenda

1. Meeting Purpose
2. Summary of Project Description
  - General Plan Update
3. EIR Purpose and Process
4. Schedule and Next Steps
5. Planning Commission and Public Comment on Scope of EIR



## Meeting Purpose

- Provide a summary of the General Plan Update that the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) will cover
- Provide an overview of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process
- Receive your comments on the scope of the EIR

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## Project Description

- Comprehensive update to the 1997 General Plan
  - Planning horizon is 2035
  - Encompasses Ceres city limits, Sphere of Influence (SOI), and area outside the SOI
  - Area involved: approximately 23 square miles
  - Same study area as the 1997 General Plan

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## Project Description: General Plan Process

- Current General Plan adopted in 1997
  - Outdated, conditions and priorities have changes
- Outreach
  - Workshops, stakeholder interviews, newsletters, website, community mail-in survey, City Council and Planning Commission meetings, Ceres Street Faire
- Analysis
  - Existing conditions, Alternatives, infrastructure, transportation, fiscal
- Draft General Plan
  - State required Elements incorporated
  - Does not include the Housing Element (updated in 2016)

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## Project Description: Buildout

- Potential development capacity for 2035 horizon year:
  - 69,300 residents (22,300 new residents)
  - 20,500 housing units (6,800 new housing units)
  - 27,700 jobs (19,200 new jobs)

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## Project Description: Components

- What is in the General Plan?
  1. Introduction
  2. Land Use and Community Design Element
  3. Transportation and Circulation Element
  4. Agricultural and Natural Resources Element
  5. Health and Safety Element
  6. Public Facilities and Services Element
  7. Economic and Community Development Element
  8. Administration and Implementation

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## EIR: Purpose

- Purpose of Program EIR
  - Inform decision-makers and the public
    - Describe the project
    - Identify affected environment
    - Describe environmental effects
    - Prevent significant, avoidable damage to the environment
    - Define mitigation or policies that serve to avoid or reduce significant environmental effects

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## EIR: Process

- Establish the scope of the Program EIR
  - Opportunity to comment on what the EIR will analyze
- Prepare the Draft Program EIR
- Provide for 45-day public and agency review of the Draft Program EIR
  - Opportunity to comment on the adequacy of the Program EIR
- Prepare the Final EIR
  - Respond to all comments submitted on the draft EIR

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## EIR: Potential Environmental Impacts

- Aesthetics
- Agriculture
- Air Quality
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Energy
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Geology/Soils
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Land Use, Population, and Housing
- Noise
- Public Services and Recreation
- Transportation
- Utilities

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## EIR: Potential Environmental Impacts

- Topics that will not be addressed in the EIR
  - Forest/Timber Resources
  - Mineral Resources

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## EIR: Other issues covered

- Alternatives to the proposed project
  - Includes No Project (Existing General Plan)
- Significant environmental effects that cannot be avoided if the project is implemented
- Significant irreversible environmental changes
- Growth inducing impacts
- Cumulative impacts
- Effects not found to be significant

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## EIR: Opportunities to participate

- Notice of Preparation (NOP)
  - May 24 – June 23, 2017
  - Program EIR Scoping Meeting (tonight)
- Draft Program EIR Release
  - Tentatively scheduled for Autumn 2017
  - Following release, minimum 45-day comment period
- Final EIR
  - Responds to comments on Draft EIR
- Public hearings: Planning Commission and City Council

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## EIR: How to comment on scope

- Oral comments at this meeting
- Written comments on Notice of Preparation
  - **By mail or email**
  - **Comments due June 23, 2017**

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## EIR: Comment submission

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## Remaining schedule

Task	Approximate Timing
Draft General Plan Released	Autumn 2017
Draft EIR Released	Autumn 2017
EIR Public Review Period (45 days minimum)	Winter 2018
Final EIR	Winter 2018
Hearings on General Plan	Winter 2018

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**THANK YOU**

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