

# 1.0 INTRODUCTION TO THE FINAL EIR

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## **PURPOSE**

*This document, along with the Draft Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIR), incorporated by reference, comprise the Final Environmental Impact Report (Final EIR) for the Glendale Triangle Project. This Final EIR has been prepared in accordance with Section 15132 of the 2008 California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Statutes and Guidelines, as amended. The Glendale Redevelopment Agency (Lead Agency) will consider this Final EIR before considering the approval of the project.*

*As required by Section 15132 of the State CEQA Guidelines, a Final EIR shall consist of the following:*

- The Draft EIR or a revision of the Draft EIR.*
- Comments and recommendations received on the Draft EIR, either verbatim or in summary.*
- A list of persons, organizations, and public agencies commenting on the Draft EIR.*
- The responses of the Lead Agency to significant environmental points raised in the review and consultation process.*
- Any other necessary information added by the Lead Agency.*

*The evaluation and response to public comments is an important part of the CEQA process as it allows the following: (1) the opportunity to review and comment on the methods of analysis contained within the Draft EIR; (2) the ability to detect any omissions which may have occurred during preparation of the Draft EIR; (3) the ability to check for accuracy of the analysis contained within the Draft EIR; (4) the ability to share expertise; and (5) the ability to discover public concerns.*

## **ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS**

As defined by Section 15050 of the *State CEQA Guidelines*, the Glendale Redevelopment Agency (Agency) is serving as Lead Agency, and is responsible for preparing the EIR for this project.

The Agency determined that an EIR should be prepared for the Glendale Triangle Project after conducting preliminary review of the proposed project in accordance with Section 15060 of the *State CEQA Guidelines*. Following this determination, Notice of Preparation (NOP) was prepared and circulated between May 27, 2008 and June 25, 2008, for the required 30-day review period. The purpose of the NOP was to solicit early comments from public agencies with expertise in subjects that would be discussed in the Draft EIR. The NOP and Initial Study are contained in Appendix 1.0 of the Draft EIR. Topics evaluated in this Draft EIR were identified based upon the responses to the NOP and review of

the project by Agency staff. The Agency determined through this initial review process that impacts related to the following topics were potentially significant and required assessment in the Draft EIR:

- Aesthetics
- Air Quality
- Cultural Resources
- Geology and Soils
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Land Use and Planning
- Noise
- Population and Housing
- Public Services
- Recreation
- Traffic and Circulation
- Utilities and Services Systems

The Draft EIR was then prepared and circulated for a 30-day public review period, as required by state law, beginning on November 20, 2008, and ending on December 19, 2008. The lead agency will afterward consider certification of this Final EIR in conjunction with making findings per Section 15090 and 15091 of the *State CEQA Guidelines*. After the Glendale Redevelopment Agency has considered the information contained in this Final EIR, the Agency may decide whether or how to approve or carry out the project according to Section 15092 of the *State CEQA Guidelines*.

## **CONTENTS OF THE FINAL EIR**

As discussed above, the primary intent of the Final EIR is to provide a forum to raise and address comments pertaining to the analysis contained within the Draft EIR. Pursuant to Section 15088 of the *State CEQA Guidelines*, the Glendale Redevelopment Agency as the Lead Agency for this project, has reviewed and addressed all comments received on the Draft EIR prepared for the Glendale Triangle Project. Included within the Final EIR are written comments that were submitted during the required public review period. These comments are included in the interest of providing a complete public record for this project.

In order to adequately address the comments provided by interested agencies and the public in an organized manner, this Final EIR has been prepared in four parts.

**Section 2.0, Executive Summary**, which summarizes the project-level and cumulative impacts associated with the project, and alternatives to the project.

**Section 3.0, Comments and Response to Comments**, on the Draft Environmental Impact Report, provides a list of commenters, copies of written comments (coded for reference), and the responses to those written comments.

**Section 4.0, Revisions to the Draft EIR**, consists of minor text changes made to the Draft EIR as a result of comments raised during the public review process.

**Appendices** to the Final EIR includes **Appendix 4.11, Traffic and Parking Analysis**, of the Draft EIR, which includes minor text changes as a result of comments raised during the public review process.