



CITY OF EL CERRITO NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE 2015-2023 HOUSING ELEMENT

The City of El Cerrito (City) has prepared an Initial Study and Negative Declaration for the City's 2015-2023 Housing Element. In compliance with State California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15072, the City has prepared this Notice of Intent to inform responsible agencies and other interested parties about the City's intent to adopt a negative declaration for the Housing Element.

1. **Project Applicant:** City of El Cerrito Community Development Department
2. **Project Description:** The 2015-2023 Housing Element is an element of the City of El Cerrito General Plan that provides broad-based guidance to plan for housing needs over the next eight years. The 2015-2023 Housing Element is essentially an update of the 2007-2014 Housing Element that retains the same goals that guide the City's commitment to high quality housing for a diverse community. The 2015-2023 Housing Element has been developed to meet California State legal requirements, including the need to plan the City's share of the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA), and is subject to review and certification by the State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD).
3. **Project Location:** Citywide
4. **Findings:** The Development Services Manager has determined that the project described above will not have a significant effect on the environment for the reasons stated below.
5. **Statement of Reasons to Support the Finding:** No significant impacts were identified in the Initial Study completed for this project. The Housing Element is a policy document consistent with the General Plan and San Pablo Avenue Specific Plan (SPASP). The Housing Element identifies sites designated for residential development. The anticipated development capacity was previously evaluated for potential environmental impacts in the General Plan EIR and SPASP EIR. The Housing Element Update does not include any changes to land use designations, zoning, building heights and intensities, or residential densities.

6. Initial Study: The draft 2015-2023 Housing Element and the Initial Study/Negative Declaration may be reviewed online at <http://www.el-cerrito.org/HousingElement>, or in person during normal business hours at the City of El Cerrito Community Development Department, located at 10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito, CA 94530.
7. Public Review: The public comment period for this environmental determination will begin on January 9, 2015 and will end on February 9, 2015. The City of El Cerrito welcomes agency and public comments on the document during this period. Anyone who wishes to comment on the findings of this environmental analysis must submit these comments in writing to Margaret Kavanaugh-Lynch, Development Services Manager, at the address noted above, or by email at MKavanaugh-Lynch@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us or by fax to (510) 233-5401. Comments must be received by 4:00 p.m. on Monday, February 9, 2015.
8. Notice of Intent to Adopt a Negative Declaration: The dates of public hearings to consider adoption of the 2015-2023 Housing Element and the proposed Negative Declaration are not known at this time. This proposed Negative Declaration does not signify approval or disapproval of this project by City decision-making bodies. The final decision-making body will consider the proposed Negative Declaration together with any comments received during the public review process to determine whether the project will have a significant impact on the environment.



Margaret Kavanaugh-Lynch
Development Services Manager
Community Development Department
City of El Cerrito