

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

TO: Agencies, Organizations, and Interested Parties

SUBJECT: Notice of Availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Fire Station No. 9 Replacement Project (SCH No. 2019110206)

As the lead agency overseeing the project's environmental review, the City of Long Beach initiated the preparation of an EIR to determine the nature and extent of the proposed project's impact on the environment. An EIR also identifies ways to reduce environmental effects and analyzes reasonable alternatives to avoid or minimize significant environmental effects.

Pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15087(a), this notice has been prepared to advise that the City of Long Beach has completed a Draft EIR for the proposed project listed above and described below. The Draft EIR is available for public review.

PROJECT TITLE: Fire Station No. 9 Replacement Project (3917 Long Beach Boulevard)

PROJECT APPLICANT: City of Long Beach

PROJECT LOCATION: 3917 Long Beach Boulevard, Long Beach, CA 90807 (Los Angeles County Assessor's ID Number 7139-013-900)

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The proposed project involves the demolition of the existing, city-owned Fire Station No. 9, located at 3917 Long Beach Boulevard as shown on the attached location map. The proposed project includes two potential courses of action, Option A and Option B, both involving the demolition of the 5,548-square foot City-owned Fire Station No. 9 and eventual development of a permanent fire station (the site and scope of the replacement structure has not yet been identified and is not a part of this project). Due to the age and architecture of the building, the station appears to be eligible for designation as a Long Beach Historic Landmark and listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and California Register of Historic Resources (CRHR). Therefore, Fire Station No. 9 is considered a historic resource pursuant to CEQA.

The station has been closed since July 2019 due to the recurrence of toxic mold in the building and Fire Station No. 9 activities have been temporarily relocated offsite. This relocation has compromised response times in the Fire Station No. 9 service area and has increased the average response time by 16 percent and by as much as 55 percent in certain neighborhoods. The increased response times present public safety concerns in this area of the City. Due to the hazardous conditions of the building, the station is uninhabitable by the Long Beach Fire Department. The City has determined there are two potential options for site:

- Option A would remove the existing structurally impaired and deteriorated building due to the hazardous conditions created by the mold and building moisture and install a temporary modular structure to accommodate the station crew.



- Option B would also remove the existing structurally impaired and deteriorated building. However, under Option B, the site would remain undeveloped and available for a future civic use.

Option A would involve the installation of a temporary/modular structure that would house Fire Station No. 9 operations for approximately five years while a larger permanent replacement structure is built off-site (the site of the replacement structure has not yet been identified and is not a part of this project). Under Option B, the existing Fire Station No. 9 facility would be removed, and the project site would be cleared and remain undeveloped, with the site prepared for a future civic use. The potential future use of the project site has not been identified and is not part of this EIR. Fire Station No. 9 would continue to operate out of an alternate location until a new permanent station has been constructed.

The project site is not on any of the lists of sites enumerated under Section 65962.5 of the Government Code including, but not limited to, lists of hazardous waste facilities, land designated as hazardous waste property, hazardous waste disposal sites and others, and the information in the Hazardous Waste and Substances Statement required under subdivision (f) of that Section.

SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS OF THE PROJECT: The Draft EIR has determined that the project would result in a significant and unavoidable environmental impact related to historic resources. The project would also have the potential for significant environmental impacts in the areas of hazards and hazardous materials, paleontological resources, and tribal cultural resources; mitigation measures have been included to reduce these impacts to a less than significant level.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: The public comment period during which the City of Long Beach will receive written comments on the Draft EIR is:

Beginning: Friday, July 10, 2020

Ending: Monday, August 24, 2020

The City will accept written comments only during the public comment period. Comments must be submitted via letter or email to the contact below. Comments made via other means, including social media or delivered to other recipients, will not be accepted or considered. The City of Long Beach must receive all written comments relating to the Draft EIR no later than 4:30 p.m. on Monday, August 24, 2020. Comments should be sent to:

Department of Development Services, Planning Bureau
ATTN: Maryanne Cronin, Planner
411 W. Ocean Boulevard, 3rd Floor
Long Beach, CA 90802

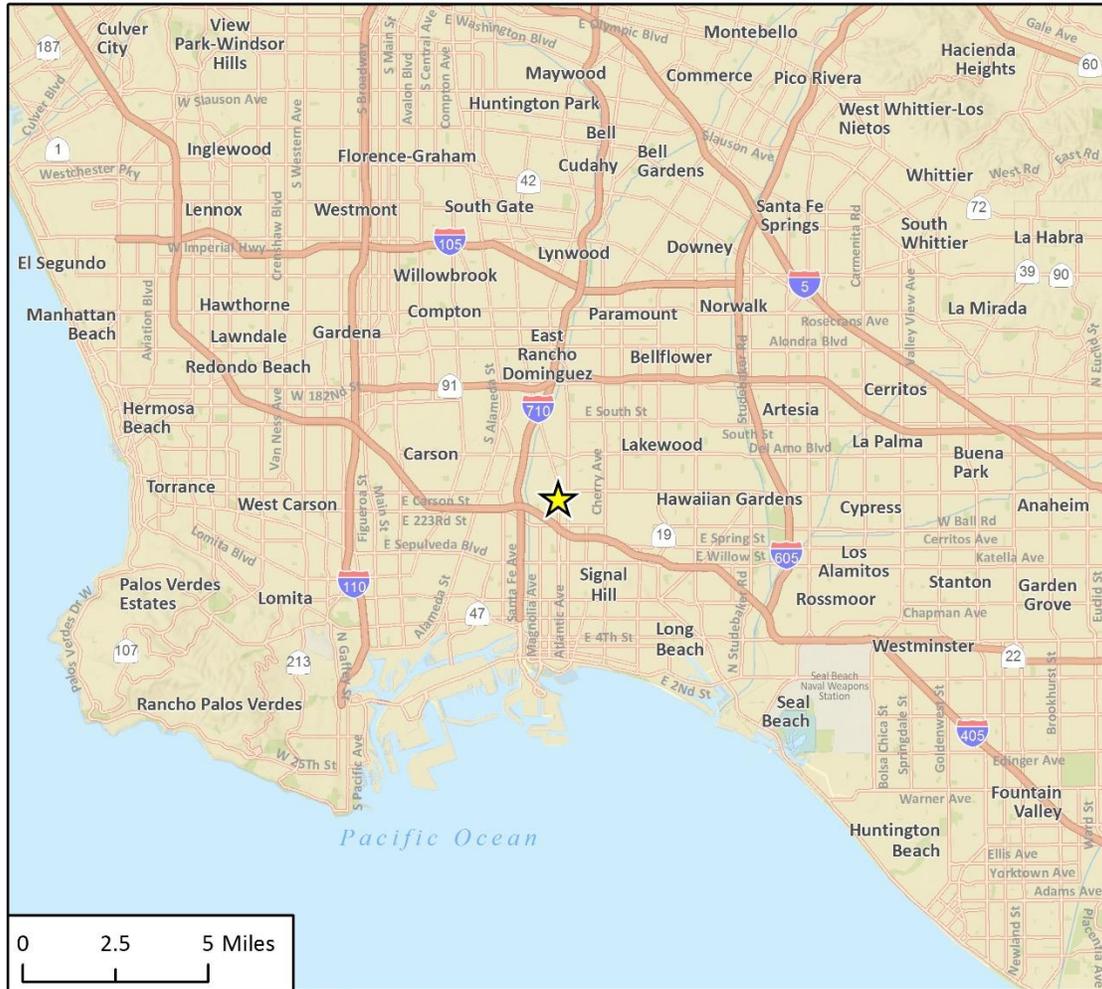
Or via email to: LBDS-EIR-Comments@longbeach.gov

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY: Due to the State of Emergency declared by local, state and federal authorities, the EIR is being made available only electronic format. Physical copies are not available at libraries or offices due to those facilities currently being closed to the public.

Online: <http://www.longbeach.gov/lbds/planning/environmental/reports/>

If you require additional information about this environmental document, please contact Maryanne Cronin at LBDS-EIR-Comments@longbeach.gov.

Project Site Location Map



Imagery provided by Esri and its licensors © 2019.

★ Project Location

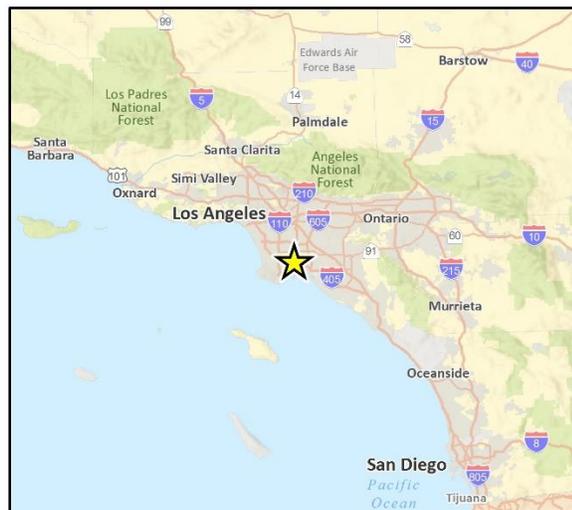


Fig 2 Regional Location