

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY of the  
CITY OF VISALIA - EAST SIDE REGIONAL PARK PROJECT  
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT  
SCH # 2014121076**

Copies of the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) are now available for public review. The review and comment period starts on Thursday, February 2, 2023 and ends on Monday, March 20, 2023. More information on how to access the documents and submit comments is located below. The City of Visalia is the Lead Agency on the below-described project and has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Report on the proposed project (Project).

**Project Description:** The purpose of the Project would be to co-locate city-wide/regional park amenities for both passive and active recreational uses, amongst functional groundwater recharge/storm water layoff basins. The Project would allocate approximately 148 acres park uses and approximately 104 acres for recharge/storm water facility purposes.

**Project Location:** The Project area evaluated in this DEIR comprises approximately 286 acres situated in the northeast quadrant of the City of Visalia and County of Tulare, lying north of State Route (SR) 198 and east of North McAuliff Street. The Project Site is generally bounded as follows: on the south by the proposed realigned Mineral King Avenue; on the west by existing single-family residences and proposed Tower Street (Road 148); on the east by Road 152; and on the north by Houston Avenue (called Ivanhoe Drive within Tulare County). This segment of Houston Avenue is also designated as SR 216. The project area consists of Assessor Parcel Numbers (APNs) 103-110-024, -025, -026, -027, -028, -029, -032, and -033; 103-500-001, -002, -003; 103-510-002, -003, -004, -005, -006, -007 -008, and -009. The Project site has historically been and is currently used for agricultural purposes. There are multiple orchards in various stages, such as removal, planting, and harvesting, on the site. Two seasonal channels traverse the property: Mill Creek, and Packwood Creek. Three irrigation ditches traverse a portion of and terminate on the property or along the property boundary: Fleming Ditch, Oakes Ditch and one unnamed ditch. The unnamed ditch originates on the property as a bifurcation of Oakes Ditch (Appendix D). A portion of the Project site south of Packwood Creek and fronting along Mineral King Avenue is currently fallow with two depressed areas; the depressed area in the southeast corner was utilized in the past as a temporary parking lot. A portion of the Project site north of Packwood Creek and in the southwest corner contains an existing agricultural recharge basin.

**Draft Environmental Impact Report**

The Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) is prepared in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) to evaluate the potential environmental impacts associated with the implementation of the proposed East Side Regional Park & Groundwater Recharge Project (Project). This document is prepared in conformance with CEQA (California Public Resources Code Section 21000, et seq.) and the CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 3, Section 15000, et seq.).

The purpose of this DEIR is to inform decision-makers, representatives of affected or responsible agencies, the public, and other interested parties of the potential environmental effects that may result from implementation of the Project. This DEIR describes potential impacts relating to a wide variety of environmental issues and along with methods by which these impacts can be mitigated or avoided.

Potentially Significant Environmental Impacts Identified

Analysis in the DEIR has identified potentially significant environmental impacts in the following areas: Agriculture and Transportation.

### Known Hazardous Waste Sites

Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15807(c)(6) and 65962.5 of the Government Code, a listing of contaminated sites within the City and the Project vicinity are available through the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) Envirostor database. According to this listing, there are no hazardous waste sites listed within the vicinity of the Project.

### **Availability of Documents for Review**

Copies of the DEIR are available for review on the City of Visalia website at:

[https://www.visalia.city/depts/community\\_development/planning/ceqa\\_environmental\\_review.asp](https://www.visalia.city/depts/community_development/planning/ceqa_environmental_review.asp)

Hard copies of the DEIR are also located for review at the following locations:

City of Visalia  
315 E. Acequia Avenue  
Visalia, CA 93291  
(559) 713-4444  
Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Tulare County Library – Visalia Branch  
200 W. Oak Avenue  
Visalia, CA 93291  
Please call or see website for more information on hours of operation

### **To Submit Comments on the DEIR**

The DEIR has a review period of **45** days, starting on **February 2, 2023** and ending **March 20, 2023**. Any written comments on the DEIR should be sent to the attention of:

City of Visalia  
Attn: Rebecca Keenan, PE  
Senior Civil Engineer  
315 E. Acequia Avenue  
Visalia, CA 93291  
or  
Email: [Rebecca.Keenan@visalia.city](mailto:Rebecca.Keenan@visalia.city)

If applicable, responses should include the name of a contact person at your agency or organization.

### **Tentative Public Hearing Dates**

The DEIR is tentatively scheduled to be heard before the City of Visalia Planning Commission on June 12, 2023 and the City of Visalia City Council on July 17, 2023. Confirmed dates for the review and adoption of the DEIR will be posted in conformance with CEQA and the CEQA Guidelines. The City of Visalia Planning Commission meetings are generally held at 7:00 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Monday of every month and the City Council Regular Session meetings generally take place on the 1st and 3rd Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m. at the following address:

City of Visalia – City Council Chambers  
707 W. Acequia Avenue  
Visalia, CA 93291

Please take notice that pursuant to Public Resource Code Section 21177, Government Code Section 65009, and other applicable law if you challenge the proposed action described above in court, then you may be limited to raising only those issues or objections you or someone else raised during the public comment period or the public hearing, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Visalia within the review period, or to the Planning Commission or City Council during the public hearings.