

**Initial Study and
Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration
For the
Riverside Park Outdoor Development
Project**

Prepared for:

City of Los Angeles
Department of Recreation and Parks
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September 2009

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MICHAEL A. SHULL
Superintendent
Planning and Construction

September 17, 2009

TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES, ORGANIZATIONS AND PERSONS:

**RIVERSIDE DRIVE OUTDOOR DEVELOPMENT PROJECT—NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A
MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION (MND-RP-09-439)**

Pursuant to the State of California Public Resources Code and Article 7 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), as amended, the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks has prepared an Initial Study/Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration for the project described below.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The proposed project involves the development of the approximately 18-acre site in two phases with recreational amenities suitable for both active and passive recreational use located in the Silver Lake–Echo Park–Elysian Valley Community. Phase I of the proposed project would involve development of approximately 5 acres of recreational and supporting elements, including: multi-purpose game courts; a multi-purpose sports field; picnic and play areas; nature interpretive area and outdoor classroom; scenic viewpoint improvements; and supporting infrastructure (e.g., extension of utilities and incorporation of bio-swailes to capture storm water runoff). Phase II of the project includes the construction and operation of a 2,500 square-foot community building with restrooms near the sports field and play area along Riverside Drive. Additionally, a trail system would be developed in Phase II. Primary access to the project site would be from Riverside Drive; however, there would also be access to the upper level via Landa Street.

PROJECT LOCATION: The proposed project is northeast of downtown Los Angeles in the Silver Lake–Echo Park–Elysian Valley Community, west of the intersection of Riverside Drive and Stadium Way. Interstate 5 is located northeast of the site across Riverside Drive, and State Route 134 is located approximately 0.5 mile to the northwest.

PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD: The proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration will be circulated for a 30-day public review period, beginning on **Thursday, September 17, 2009** and ending on **Monday, October 19, 2009**. Copies of the document are available for review at the following locations:

- **Department of Recreation and Parks**, 221 North Figueroa Street, Suite 100, Los Angeles 90012
- **Cypress Park Branch Library**, 1150 Cypress Avenue, Los Angeles, 90065
- **Elysian Valley Recreation Center**, 1811 Ripple Street, Los Angeles, CA 90039

The Mitigated Negative Declaration is also available for review on the internet at the following web address:
<http://www.laparks.org/environmental/environmental.htm>

All comments must be submitted in writing **no later than 3:00 PM on Monday, October 19, 2009**, by mailing to: Paul Davis, Environmental Specialist, City of Los Angeles, Department of Recreation and Parks, 221 North Figueroa Street, Suite 100, Los Angeles 90012. Facsimiles at (213) 202-2611 will also be accepted up to the comment deadline (please mail the original). For further information, contact Paul Davis at (213) 202-2667.

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
ROOM 395, CITY HALL
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012
CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

NEGATIVE DECLARATION

(Article I, City CEQA Guidelines)

CITY CLERK'S USE

Date:

SEP 10 2009

Certified by *[Signature]*

No. M-09-439-18

City Clerk's Office

DOCUMENT FILED

FORM RP 7-31-02

LEAD CITY AGENCY AND ADDRESS: Department of Recreation and Parks, 221 N. Figueroa Street, Suite 100, Los Angeles, CA 90012	COUNCIL DISTRICT: 13
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PROJECT TITLE: RIVERSIDE PARK OUTDOOR DEVELOPMENT PROJECT	CASE NUMBER: MND-RP-09-439
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NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANT IF OTHER THAN CITY AGENCY:

FINDING: The Department of Recreation and Parks of the City of Los Angeles has determined that this project will not have significant effect on the environment for the following reasons:
SEE ATTACHED INITIAL STUDY

SEE ATTACHED SHEET(S) FOR ANY MITIGATION MEASURES IMPOSED

Any written objections received during the public review period are attached together with the response of the lead City Agency.

THE INITIAL STUDY PREPARED FOR THIS PROJECT IS ATTACHED

NAME OF PERSON PREPARING THIS FORM: David Attaway	TITLE: Environmental Supervisor	TELEPHONE NUMBER: (213) 202-2660
ADDRESS: Department of Recreation and Parks 221 N. Figueroa Street, Suite 100, Los Angeles, CA 90012	SIGNATURE (OFFICIAL): <i>[Signature]</i>	DATE: September 10, 2009

Table of Contents

Chapter 1	Introduction.....	1-1
	Overview.....	1-1
	Authority.....	1-1
	Scope of the Initial Study/ Mitigated Negative Declaration	1-2
	Impact Terminology	1-2
	Organization of the Initial Study/ Mitigated Negative Declaration.....	1-3
Chapter 2	Environmental Setting and Project Description	2-1
	Project Overview.....	2-1
	Objectives of the Proposed Project	2-1
	Project Location	2-1
	Environmental Setting and Surrounding Land Uses.....	2-2
	Description of the Proposed Project	2-2
	Proposed Project Elements	2-2
	Construction Activities	2-3
Chapter 3	Initial Study Environmental Checklist	3-1
	I. Aesthetics	3-5
	II. Agricultural Resources.....	3-7
	III. Air Quality	3-8
	IV. Biological Resources	3-16
	V. Cultural Resources	3-21
	VI. Geology and Soils.....	3-24
	VII. Hazards and Hazardous Materials.....	3-29
	VIII. Hydrology and Water Quality.....	3-32
	IX. Land Use and Planning	3-36
	X. Mineral Resources	3-39
	XI. Noise.....	3-40
	XII. Population and Housing.....	3-46
	XIII. Public Services	3-47
	XIV. Recreation	3-49
	XV. Transportation/Traffic.....	3-50
	XVI. Utilities and Service Systems.....	3-52
	XVII. Mandatory Findings Of Significance	3-56

Chapter 4	References	4-1
	Printed References	4-1
	Personal Communications.....	4-3
Chapter 5	List of Preparers	5-1
	Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks.....	5-1
	Jones & Stokes.....	5-1
Appendix A	Air Quality URBEMIS2007 Model Outputs and Operational Emissions Calculations	
Appendix B	Biological Resources Species Table	
Appendix C	Plant Community Map	
Appendix D	Cultural Resources Technical Report	
Appendix E	Hazardous Resources EDR Executive Summary	

Tables

Table	Page
3-1 Forecast of Regional Construction Emissions	3-11
3-2 Forecast of Localized Construction Emissions	3-12
3-3 Forecast of Regional Operational Emissions.....	3-13
3-4 Forecast of Localized Operational Emissions.....	3-14
3-5 Estimate of Project-Related Greenhouse Gas Emissions (pounds per day).....	3-15
3-6 Typical Noise Levels from Construction Activities for Recreation Projects	3-43
3-7 CIMIS Data and Proposed Project Irrigation Demand	3-55

Figures

Figure	Follows Page
2-1 Regional Location	2-2
2-2 Local Vicinity	2-2
2-3 Existing Conditions and Surrounding Land Uses	2-2
2-4 Proposed Site Plan	2-2
2-5 Lower Level Project Elements	2-4

Acronyms and Abbreviations

ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act
AQMP	Air Quality Management Plan
Basin	South Coast Air Basin
BMPs	best management practices
CDFG	California Department of Fish and Game
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CH ₄	methane
CIMIS	California Irrigation Management Information System
CNDDB	California Natural Diversity Database
CO ₂	carbon dioxide
dBA CNEL	decibels above reference noise, adjusted, community noise equivalent level
Department	Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks
DWP	Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
EDR	Environmental Data Resources, Inc.
EIR	Environmental Impact Report
Eto	Evapotranspiration
GHGs	greenhouse gas emissions
h:v	horizontal:vertical
HCPs	Habitat Conservation Plans
IS/MND	Initial Study/Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration
LADOT	Los Angeles Department of Transportation
LOS	level of service
LST	Localized Significance Threshold
MLD	Most Likely Descendent
N ₂ O	nitrous oxide
NAHC	Native American Heritage Commission

NCCP	Natural Community Conservation Planning
NOI	Notice of Intent
NPDES	National Pollution Discharge Elimination System
OS	Open Space Zone
proposed project	Riverside Park Outdoor Development Project
RCP	Regional Comprehensive Plan
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
SCAG	Southern California Association of Governments
SCAQMD	South Coast Air Quality Management District
SEAs	significant ecological areas
SUSMP	Standard Urban Stormwater Mitigation Plan
SWPPP	stormwater pollution prevention plan
TACs	toxic air contaminants
UFD	Urban Forestry Division
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
V/C	vehicle to capacity
VMT	vehicle miles traveled