

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (EIR) AND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

The City of Fremont has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the proposed **California Nursery Historical Park Master Plan**, the long term planning, preservation, and enhancement of the 20.1-acre site at 36501 Niles Boulevard on the south side between Hillview Drive and Rancho Arroyo Parkway. The Master Plan provides for relatively light development, such that the park would remain a passive park that is not substantially different from what it is today. The main changes include the addition of a history museum, small café, and retail nursery, and expanded use of the site for events, which would go toward funding rehabilitation of the site and historic buildings and ongoing maintenance.

The proposed project will have a significant environmental effect through removal of the historic garden store. The decision to remove the garden store building was based on an assessment of its current condition (poor) and the financial implications of rehabilitation. All other historic buildings are proposed to be retained and rehabilitated. The remainder of the potential impacts are either below significance levels or can be reduced to that level through implementation of the identified mitigation measures.

The Draft EIR and documents referenced in the Draft EIR are available for review online at the City of Fremont's website: http://www.fremont.gov/430/Environmental-Review and are also available at the following locations:

City of Fremont

Alameda County Library

Planning Division

Fremont Main Library

39550 Liberty Street

2400 Stevenson Boulevard

Fremont, CA 94537

Fremont, CA 94538

(510) 494-4440

(510) 745-1400

The public review period for this Draft EIR begins on **December 22**, **2016**, and ends on **February 10**, **2017**. Because this period includes the winter holidays, the review has been extended through an extra work week (50 days rather than the standard 45 days). Written comments must be received at the Planning Division by **5:00 p.m. on Friday, February 10** in order to be addressed as part of the formal EIR review process. Comments on the environmental analysis should be referred to **Ingrid Rademaker**, in the Planning Division at (510) 494-4543, via e-mail: IRademaker@fremont.gov, by fax at (510) 494-4457, or by regular mail at the City of Fremont mailing address listed above. Please reference the above project name in your written comment letter.

Following the close of the public review period, the City will prepare a Final EIR that will include responses to comments received during the public review period. Ten days prior to the public hearing on the proposed project and Final EIR, the City's responses to comments received during the public review period will be available for review and will be mailed to those who have commented in writing during the public review period.

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Ingrid Rademaker, Principal Planner

Date