

# 1 INTRODUCTION

Sacramento Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) and the City of Elk Grove (City) prepared an environmental impact report (EIR) to evaluate the potential environmental effects of the proposed Elk Grove SOI Amendment and Multi-Sport Park Complex, also referred to as “the proposed Project,” in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Public Resources Code Section 21000 et seq.) and the CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations Section 15000 et seq.).

## 1.1 INPUT ON THE SCOPE OF ANALYSIS REPORTED IN THE DRAFT EIR

Pursuant to Section 15082 of the CEQA Guidelines, Sacramento LAFCo and the City prepared a notice of preparation (NOP) of an EIR and provided copies directly by mail and through the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research (State Clearinghouse) to CEQA responsible and natural resource trustee agencies, local municipalities, interested persons, organizations, agencies, and landowners. The City issued the NOP on October 23, 2015, and comments were accepted for a 30-day period ending on November 23, 2015.

During the 30-day comment period, Sacramento LAFCo and the City held public scoping meetings on November 4, 2015 and November 12, 2015.

The Draft Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIR) (State Clearinghouse Number 2015102067) was received by the State Clearinghouse and circulated for a 45-day public review period from June 29 through August 14, 2018.

LAFCo hosted a workshop to discuss the Draft EIR on Wednesday, August 1st, 2018, at the County Administration Center, 700 H Street in Sacramento.

In accordance with Section 15088 of the CEQA Guidelines, Sacramento LAFCo and the City, as the lead agencies, have reviewed the comments received on the Draft EIR for the proposed Project and have prepared written responses to the comments received.

Sacramento LAFCo and the City prepared this Final EIR, which includes:

- ▶ A full list of agencies, organizations, and individuals that provided comments on the Draft EIR;
- ▶ A summary of verbal comments on the Draft EIR received at the public workshop;
- ▶ A summary of comments and responses to comments on the Draft EIR; and
- ▶ Minor revisions to the Draft EIR detailed in Chapter 3, “Errata,” of this Final EIR.<sup>1</sup>

Chapter 2, “Comments and Responses to Comments” of this Final EIR includes the written and verbal comments received on the Draft EIR and responses to these comments (as required by the CEQA Guidelines Section 15132). To assist the reader, each response includes a summary of the comment. The range of responses include providing clarification on the Draft EIR, making factual corrections, explaining why certain comments may not warrant further response, or simply acknowledging the comment for consideration by decision makers when the comment does not relate to the adequacy of the Draft EIR for addressing potential adverse physical environmental effects of the Project.

---

<sup>1</sup> Chapter 3, “Errata,” includes only pages of the Draft EIR where revisions have been made, not the entire Draft EIR.

In some instances, responses to comments may warrant modification of the text of the Draft EIR. In those cases, the text of the Draft EIR is revised and the changes compiled in Chapter 3, “Errata” of this Final EIR. The text deletions are shown in strikeout (strikeout) and additions are shown in underline (underline). The revisions summarized in Chapter 3 of this Final EIR do not change the conclusions presented in the Draft EIR.

This document and the Draft EIR together constitute the Final EIR that LAFCo and the City Council will consider. Appendix A is the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program.

## **1.2 USE OF THE FINAL EIR**

The Final EIR allows the public, Sacramento LAFCo, and the City decision makers an opportunity to review revisions to the Draft EIR and the Responses to Comments. The Final EIR serves as the environmental document to inform the Commission’s and City Council’s consideration of the proposed Project, either in whole or in part, or one of the alternatives to the Project discussed in the Draft EIR.

As required by Section 15090 of the CEQA Guidelines, a lead agency, in certifying a Final EIR, must make the following three determinations:

1. The Final EIR has been completed in compliance with CEQA.
2. The Final EIR was presented to the decision-making body of the lead agency, and the decision-making body reviewed and considered the information in the Final EIR prior to approving the project.
3. The Final EIR reflects the lead agency’s independent judgment and analysis.

As required by Section 15091 of the CEQA Guidelines, no public agency shall approve or carry out a project for which an EIR has been certified that identifies one or more significant environmental effects of the project unless the public agency makes one or more written findings (Findings of Fact) for each of those significant effects, accompanied by a brief explanation of the rationale for each finding supported by substantial evidence in the record. The possible findings are:

1. Changes or alterations have been required in, or incorporated into the project [that] avoid or substantially lessen the significant environmental effect as identified in the Final EIR.
2. Such changes or alterations are within the responsibility and jurisdiction of another public agency and not the agency making the finding. Such changes have been adopted by such other agency or can and should be adopted by such other agency.
3. Specific economic, legal, social, technological, or other considerations, including provision of employment opportunities for highly trained workers, make infeasible the mitigation measures or project alternatives identified in the Final EIR.