

Summary Form for Electronic Document Submittal

Form F

Lead agencies may include 15 hardcopies of this document when submitting electronic copies of Environmental Impact Reports, Negative Declarations, Mitigated Negative Declarations, or Notices of Preparation to the State Clearinghouse (SCH). The SCH also accepts other summaries, such as EIR Executive Summaries prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15123. Please include one copy of the Notice of Completion Form (NOC) with your submission and attach the summary to each electronic copy of the document.

SCH #: 2019011026

Project Title: Ventura County 2040 General Plan Draft Environmental Impact Report

Lead Agency: County of Ventura

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Project Location: unincorporated Ventura County
City *County*

Project Description (Proposed actions, location, and/or consequences).

The County of Ventura, Resource Management Agency, Planning Division (County) is currently developing the Ventura County 2040 General Plan Update (2040 General Plan). The 2040 General Plan includes goals, policies, and implementation programs that will guide the development of Ventura County through the year 2040. The 2040 General Plan is a comprehensive effort to update the existing General Plan and respond to current local and regional conditions, as well as changes in state law that may not have been in place when the general plan was last updated in 2005. It clarifies and articulates the County's intentions with respect to the rights and expectations of the various communities, including residents, property owners, and businesses. Through the 2040 General Plan, the County informs these groups of its goals, policies, and standards, thereby communicating expectations of the public and private sectors for meeting community objectives. In addition, the general plan includes Area Plans that specifically address growth and resource concerns within nine of the county's identified communities.

Identify the project's significant or potentially significant effects and briefly describe any proposed mitigation measures that would reduce or avoid that effect.

Twenty-six significant and unavoidable environmental impacts resulting from the 2040 General Plan were identified in the following resource areas: Agriculture and Forestry Resources; Air Quality; Biological Resources; Cultural, Tribal Cultural, and Paleontological Resources; Greenhouse Gas Emissions; Hazards, Hazardous Materials, and Wildfire; Mineral and Petroleum Resources; Noise and Vibration; Public Services and Recreation; Transportation and Traffic; and Utilities. In addition, there are five impacts that can be reduced to a less-than-significant level through mitigation. These include impacts in the following areas: Aesthetics, Scenic Resources, and Light Pollution; Air Quality; Mineral and Petroleum Resources; Public Services and Recreation; and Transportation and Traffic. Where potential for significant environmental impacts was identified, mitigation measures are proposed to reduce the level of impact in the form of new or revised policies or implementation programs. For the purpose of this draft EIR, these policies and programs constitute mitigation measures pursuant to Section 15126.4 of the State CEQA Guidelines and ensure that implementation of the 2040 General Plan includes a feasible reduction in environmental impacts in accordance with CEQA. This method of incorporating mitigation measures into a proposed plan is consistent with Section 15126.4(a)(2) of the State CEQA Guidelines. The set of new and revised policies and programs that could be included in the 2040 General Plan will be presented before the Board of Supervisors when it considers whether to certify a Final EIR and adopt the 2040 General Plan.

If applicable, describe any of the project's areas of controversy known to the Lead Agency, including issues raised by agencies and the public.

Key areas of concern identified during the public outreach process through responses to the NOP and comments received at the January 2019 scoping meeting were focused on two primary areas of concern: (1) climate change and greenhouse gases, and (2) the effects of continued oil and gas extraction (including secondary effects related to climate change, air quality, water quality, water supply, traffic, noise, odors, aesthetics, and hazards). Other concerns raised through scoping include the following: visual impacts on State Route (SR) 150 and SR 126; conservation of open space and scenic areas; pollution and health risks attributed to agricultural operations; concerns regarding endangered and threatened wildlife species; sensitive natural habitats including riparian and aquatic habitats; effects of development on wildlife movement corridors; concerns related to Native American tribal consultation regarding the preservation of tribal cultural resources pursuant to Assembly Bill 52 (2014) and Senate Bill 18 (2004); noise generated by airports, rail, and agriculture operations; concerns regarding groundwater infiltration, surface water quality, and flooding; affordable housing, adequate workforce housing, and consistency with the County's Regional Housing Needs Assessment; concerns regarding land use and zoning, conformance with the Guidelines for Orderly Development, and consistency with the Southern California Association of Governments Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy; equitable mobility options for people who are economically, socially, or physically disadvantaged; balancing analysis of both level of service (LOS) and vehicle miles traveled (VMT); and the need to actively promote walking, bicycling, and transit as alternatives to driving and a strategy to reduce VMT and greenhouse gas emissions.

Provide a list of the responsible or trustee agencies for the project.

Responsible agencies are agencies other than the lead agency that have discretionary power over carrying out or implementing a specific component of the general plan or for approving a project (such as an annexation) that implements the goals and policies of the general plan. Agencies that may be responsible agencies include: the California Department of Transportation, which has responsibility for approving future improvements to the state highway system; the Department of Conservation, which has responsibility for approving mining Reclamation Plans pursuant to the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act; and the Local Agency Formation Commission of Ventura County, which has responsibility for approving any annexations within the county that might occur over the life of the 2040 General Plan. Trustee agencies have jurisdiction over certain resources held in trust for the people of California but do not have legal authority over approving or carrying out the project. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife is a trustee agency due to the potential impacts to biological resources, the California Department of Parks and Recreation is a trustee agency due to the presence of state parks in the county, and the California State Lands Commission would be a trustee agency if development were to occur on state-owned sovereign lands such as state schools or tide and submerged lands along the coast.