

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 #: **2019049018**

Project Title: City of Kerman 2040 General Plan Update

Lead Agency: City of Kerman

Contact Name: Olivia Pimentel, City of Kerman

Email: opimentel@cityofkerman.org

Phone Number: (559) 846-9386

Project Location: City of Kerman
City

County of Fresno
County

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

The proposed project consists of a comprehensive update of the City's General Plan and Background Report. The revised General Plan is intended to build on the major policies of the current 2007 General Plan, but strengthen and modernize them to meet the challenges and community needs through planning horizon year 2040. The revised General Plan would accommodate City population growth projected through 2040. The revised General Plan seeks to preserve agricultural land and natural resources; conserve public spaces and recreational resources; promote the wellbeing of Kerman residents; maintain economic vitality and balance; and direct land use policies that enable sustainable and forecasted growth in the City. The revision includes minimal changes to existing land use designations from the existing 2007 General Plan, but includes expanded areas to accommodate future growth and future relocation of SR 145 and SR 180. The majority of revisions are to goals, policies, and implementation programs of the General Plan. The revision also includes addressing laws affecting the General Plan, including the addition of Environmental Justice policies to the General Plan Policy Document.

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

The EIR for the General Plan Update will describe existing environmental resource areas and conditions in the City of Kerman. The EIR is intended to be a program-level document that will analyze the broad environmental effects of the proposed General Plan revisions, considering broad policy alternatives and program-wide mitigation measures. The EIR will evaluate the potentially significant environmental impacts of implementing the proposed General Plan update and will evaluate whether there are feasible mitigation measures that may lessen or avoid identified significant impacts. No specific development projects are being considered. Rather, the analysis will focus on the reasonably foreseeable direct and indirect physical environmental effects that could result from adoption and implementation of the updated 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.

There are no known areas of controversy at this time.

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

Agencies include, but are not limited to: Fresno Council of Governments, Caltrans, Fresno County, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District.

**NOTICE OF PREPARATION
of a Draft Program Environmental Impact Report for the
City of Kerman 2040 General Plan Update**

Date: April 5, 2019

To: State Clearinghouse, Responsible Agencies, Trustee Agencies, and Interested Parties

From: Olivia Pimentel, City of Kerman

Project Title:

City of Kerman 2040 General Plan Update

Project Location:

Entire Planning Area as shown on Figure 1, which includes the City Limits, Sphere of Influence, and unincorporated area.

NOP Comment Period:

April 5th, 2019 to May 6th, 2019

Lead Agency/Contact:

City of Kerman / Olivia Pimentel, Assistant Planner

Introduction:

The City of Kerman (City) is updating its General Plan. As Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the City has determined that the review and update may have a potential significant effect on the environment and that an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) will be prepared to evaluate these potential effects.

The City has prepared this Notice of Preparation (NOP) to inform agencies and interested parties that an EIR will be prepared for the General Plan Update Project (proposed project). This NOP solicits guidance from regulatory agencies about the scope and content of environmental information to be included in the EIR related to the agencies' statutory responsibilities. The agencies will use the EIR when considering their permits or other approvals related to the General Plan Update. The NOP also provides an opportunity for interested parties to inform the City what environmental issues they think should be addressed in the EIR.

Project Description:

The existing 2007 Kerman General Plan consists of two parts: Part One contains explicit statements of goals, policies, and implementation programs that constitute the formal policy of the City for land use, development, open space protection, and environmental quality. Part Two contains the existing conditions and demographic projections for the City that informs the goals, policies, and implementation programs in Part One. The current General Plan Policy Document is organized by and consists of the Introduction and the following five citywide elements: 1) Land Use; 2) Circulation; 3) Conservation, Open Space, Parks and Recreation; 4) Safety; and 5) Noise.

The General Plan functions as a guide to the type of community that residents of Kerman desire, and provides the means by which that desired future can be achieved. The General Plan addresses a range of immediate, mid-, and long-term issues with which the community is concerned. The General Plan is intended to allow land use and policy determinations to be made within a comprehensive framework that incorporates public health, safety, and "quality of life" considerations in a manner that recognizes resource limitations and productive agricultural land, and the sensitive habitats of the community's natural environment. It outlines policies and programs and sets out plan proposals to guide day-to-day decisions concerning the City's future. Under State law, the General Plan must serve as the foundation upon which all land use decisions are to be based, and must also be comprehensive, internally consistent, and have a long-term perspective.

The Kerman City Council directed City staff to initiate an update of the 2007 General Plan. With input from the public and other agencies, as well as comments received at several public hearings, the City is in the midst of completing a public draft of the revised citywide General Plan Policy Document. The draft will be released for public review and followed by a public scoping meeting. A community meeting for the draft general plan will be held in April 2019.

The proposed project consists of a comprehensive update of the City's General Plan and Background Report. The revised General Plan is intended to build on the major policies of the current 2007 General Plan, but strengthen and modernize them to meet the challenges and community needs through planning horizon year 2040. The revised General Plan would accommodate City population growth projected through 2040. The revised General Plan seeks to preserve agricultural land and natural resources; conserve public spaces and recreational resources; promote the wellbeing of Kerman residents; maintain economic vitality and balance; and direct land use policies that enable sustainable and forecasted growth in the City. The revision includes minimal changes to existing land use designations from the existing 2007 General Plan, but includes expanded areas to accommodate future growth and future relocation of SR 145 and SR 180. The majority of revisions are to goals, policies, and implementation programs of the General Plan. The revision also includes addressing laws affecting the General Plan, including the addition of Environmental Justice policies to the General Plan Policy Document. Additional land use designation maps and diagrams for specific areas in the City are provided in the link below.

The public review draft of the updated General Plan Background Report was released in January 2019. The revised General Plan Policy Document, including land use designation maps, has not been released as to date but will be in the near future. These documents, diagrams and maps are available (and for the General Plan Policy Document, will be available in the near future) for review on the projects website: <http://kermangp.com/>

Probable Environmental Effects and Scope of the EIR:

The EIR for the General Plan Update will describe existing environmental resource areas and conditions in the City of Kerman. The EIR is intended to be a program-level document that will analyze the broad environmental effects of the proposed General Plan revisions, considering broad policy alternatives and program-wide mitigation measures. The EIR will evaluate the potentially significant environmental impacts of implementing the proposed General Plan update and will evaluate whether there are feasible mitigation measures that may lessen or avoid identified significant impacts. No specific development projects are being

considered. Rather, the analysis will focus on the reasonably foreseeable direct and indirect physical environmental effects that could result from adoption and implementation of the updated General Plan. The EIR will also identify and evaluate alternatives to the proposed project.

In accordance with *State CEQA Guidelines* Section 15063(a), the City did not prepare an Initial Study, but advises that the EIR will evaluate potentially significant environmental effects on each of the environmental topics outlined in Appendix G of the *State CEQA Guidelines*. The topics include the following:

- Aesthetics
- Agriculture and Forestry
- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources and Tribal Cultural Resources
- Energy
- Geology and Soils
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials/Wildland Fire
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Land Use and Planning
- Mineral Resources
- Noise
- Population and Housing
- Public Services and Recreation
- Transportation/Traffic
- Utilities and Service Systems

In addition, the EIR will address cumulative impacts, growth inducing impacts, and other issues required by CEQA.

NOP Comment Period:

In accordance with the time limits identified in State law, please respond to this NOP with your comments on the scope and content of the EIR at the earliest possible date, but **no later than 5:00 P.M. on May 6, 2019**. May 6 is 31 days following the date this NOP was first posted and published. Please include the name of the contact person for your agency and submit written comments to:

Olivia Pimentel, Assistant Planner
City of Kerman, Planning Department
850 S. Madera Avenue
Kerman, California 93630
Email: opimentel@cityofkerman.org

Scoping Meeting:

To facilitate responses to the NOP, the City will hold a scoping meeting on April 23, 2019 from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM at the Community/Teen Center, 15101 W. Kearney Blvd, Kerman, California 93630.

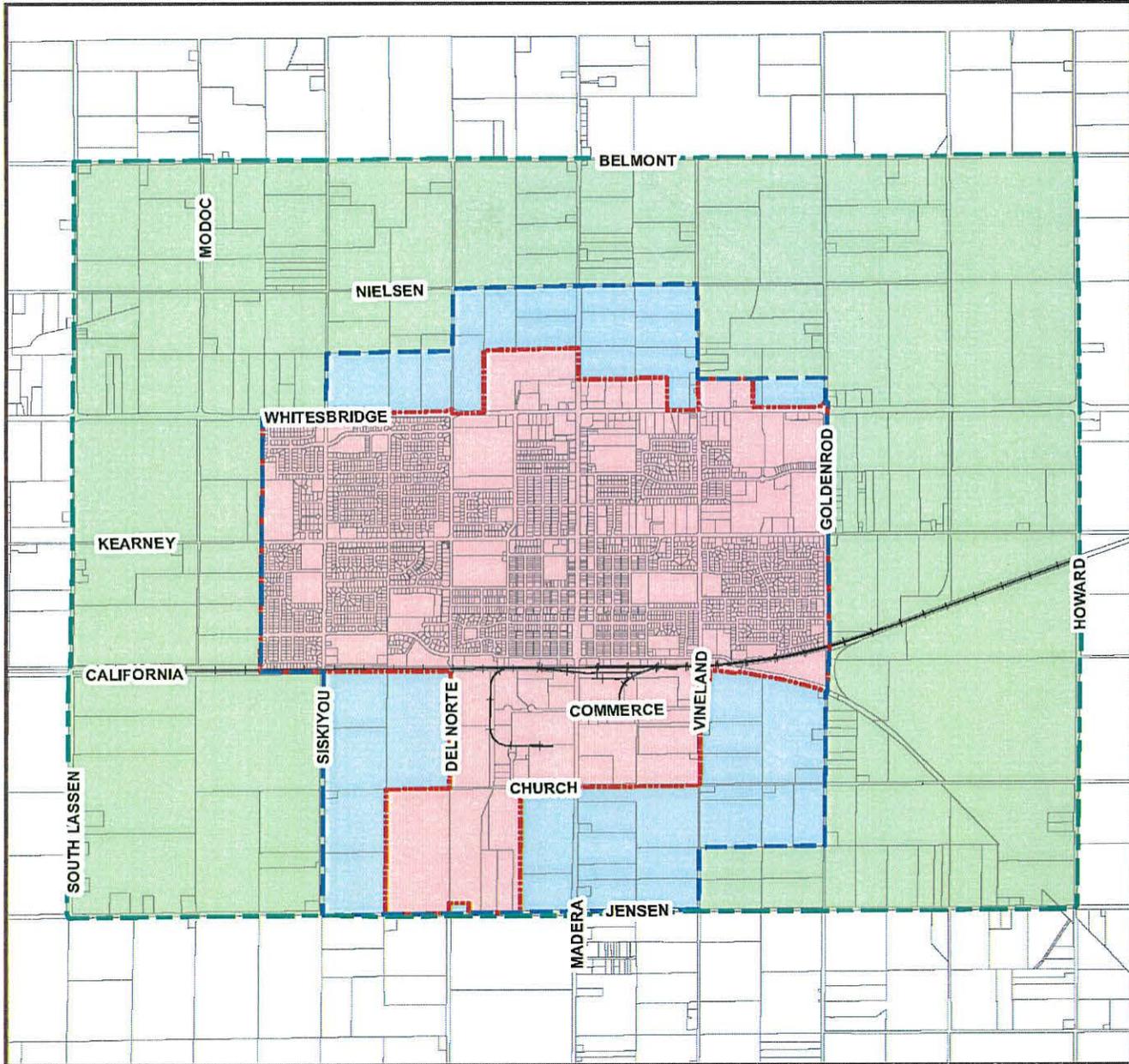
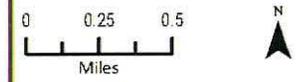


Figure 1:
Planning Area

-  City Limits
-  Sphere of Influence
-  Planning Area
-  Parcels
-  Railroads

Source: Mintier Hamish, 2018; City of Kerman, 2018; Fresno County, 2018.



Map D