UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

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PHYSICAL & ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING
A & E BUILDING, # 1382
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA 94720-1382

March 8, 2021

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (EIR) AND ONLINE PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPOSED UC BERKELEY 2021 LONG RANGE DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND HOUSING PROJECTS #1 AND #2

Pursuant to the State of California Public Resources Code Section 21091(a) and the Guidelines for the Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA Guidelines), the University of California, Berkeley (UC Berkeley) has released for public review a Draft EIR for the proposed UC Berkeley 2021 Long Range Development Plan (2021 LRDP) and Housing Projects #1 and #2. The Draft 2021 LRDP was released for public review on February 23, 2021.

Project Title: UC Berkeley 2021 Long Range Development Plan and Housing Projects #1 and #2

Lead Agency: The Regents of the University of California

Draft EIR Review Period: Monday, March 8, 2021, through Wednesday, April 21, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.

Project Location: The EIR Study Area is contiguous with the LRDP Planning Area, which includes properties owned by UC Berkeley located within the cities of Berkeley and Oakland in Alameda County, and a small area in unincorporated Contra Costa County (see *Figure 1, Regional Location Map*). The EIR Study Area includes: 1) the Campus Park, which is generally bounded by Gayley Road/Piedmont Avenue to the east, Hearst Avenue to the north, Oxford Street to the west, and Bancroft Way to the south; 2) the Hill Campus West, located east of the Campus Park along Gayley Road/Piedmont Avenue; 3) the Hill Campus East, which extends further east into the hills from the Hill Campus West; 4) the Clark Kerr Campus, generally bounded by Dwight Way to the north, Warring Street to the west, Derby Street to the south, and the hills to the east; and 5) the City Environs Properties located at various sites in the City of Berkeley north, west, and south of the Campus Park (*see Figure 2, EIR Study Area*). The sites for Housing Projects #1 and #2, in the City Environs Properties, are described as follows:

- The 0.92-acre (40,000-square-foot) site for Housing Project #1 is bounded by Berkeley Way to the north, Oxford Street on the east, University Avenue to the south, and Walnut Street to the west. The site consists of six UC Berkeley-owned parcels listed here by address and assessor's parcel number (APN): 1921 Walnut Street (APN 57-2045-1); 1952 Oxford Street (APN 57-2045-2); 1990 Oxford Street (APN 57-2045-3); 2161 University Avenue (APN 57-2045-4); 1933 Walnut Street (APN 57-2045-5); and 1925 Walnut Street (APN 57-2045-6). The site is across Oxford Street from the Campus Park (*see Figure 3, Housing Project #1 Site Aerial*).

- The 2.8-acre (122,000-square-foot) site for Housing Project #2 is bounded by Haste Street to the north, Bowditch Street to the east, Dwight Way to the south, and commercial buildings that front Telegraph Avenue to the west. The site consists of one UC Berkeley-owned parcel at 2556 Haste Street and is assigned APN 55-1875-40-1. The site is known as People's Park and is located three blocks south (0.2 miles) of the Campus Park (*see Figure 4, Housing Project #2 Site Aerial*).

Project Description: The proposed 2021 LRDP would replace UC Berkeley's existing LRDP and guide land use and capital investment decisions for UC Berkeley to meet its future academic goals and objectives. A buildout horizon year of the 2036-37 school year is used to provide a basis for evaluating associated environmental impacts in the EIR. The proposed 2021 LRDP, like the existing LRDP, does not commit UC Berkeley to any specific project, but rather provides a strategic framework for decisions on future projects. The development program does, however, establish a maximum amount of net new growth in UC Berkeley's space inventory during this time frame. The proposed 2021 LRDP development program includes approximately 8,096,249 gross square feet of net new academic life, campus life, residential, and parking spaces, including approximately 11,073 student beds and 549 faculty and staff beds. The proposed 2021 LRDP planning assumption projection for the UC Berkeley population is 48,200 students and 19,000 faculty and staff in the 2036-37 academic year. Proposed Housing Projects #1 and #2, described below, would be two of the first major projects implementing the proposed 2021 LRDP.

- Housing Project #1 would involve the demolition of existing on-site structures and the construction and operation of a new 16-story (14 stories above ground) mixed-use building that would include student housing (approximately 770 beds), campus life space (approximately 20,000 square feet), and ground-floor commercial (approximately 17,000 square feet).

- Housing Project #2 would involve the demolition of the existing on-site structures and park amenities, and the construction and operation of two new mixed-use buildings and revitalized open space. The proposed student residential building would include student and faculty/staff housing (approximately 1,187 beds), campus life space (approximately 12,000 square feet), and ground-floor public space (approximately 3,500 square feet). The affordable and supportive housing building would include approximately 125 beds for the housing component, and academic life space for a clinic (approximately 7,000 square feet). The project site would include 82,000 square feet of open space with amenities for campus and community use.

Significant Environmental Effects: The Draft EIR identifies the following effects by environmental topic:

- **No Impacts:** agricultural, forestry, and mineral resources

- **Less than Significant without Mitigation:** energy, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use and planning, public services (fire, police, libraries), parks and recreation, and utilities and service systems.

- **Less than Significant with Mitigation:** aesthetics (glare), biological resources (bird strike), geology and soils (paleontological resources), greenhouse gas emissions, noise (vibration), population and housing (plan consistency and housing displacement), transportation (plan consistency), tribal cultural resources (unintentional discovery).

- **Significant and Unavoidable with Mitigation:** air quality (plan consistency, construction emissions, health risk), cultural resources (historic buildings or structures), noise (construction), public services (schools), transportation (pedestrian hazard), and wildfire (potential development in Hill Campus East). *Note, the identification of these program-level impacts does not preclude a less-than-significant finding for subsequent projects.*

Hazardous Materials/Waste Disclosure: Within the LRDP Planning Area, there are sites listed in the EnviroStor and Geotracker databases maintained pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5. The Hazardous Waste Handling Facility at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory would not be affected by implementation of the proposed project.

Document Availability: The Draft 2021 LRDP and associated Draft EIR are available online at: https://lrdp.berkeley.edu.

As a result of COVID-19 and restrictions placed on in-person gatherings throughout California, UC Berkeley libraries are closed to the public and it is not feasible to provide printed copies of the Draft 2021 LRDP and Draft EIR at these locations. Printed copies of both the Draft 2021 LRDP and Draft EIR will be available for Outside Pickup during the public comment period from the Downtown Berkeley Library located at 2090 Kittredge Street, Berkeley, 94704. If assistance accessing documents is needed, including documents incorporated by reference in the Draft EIR, please contact UC Berkeley's Physical and Environmental Planning department at (510) 643-4793 or by email at planning@berkeley.edu.

Public Review and Comment Period: UC Berkeley is soliciting written comments on the Draft 2021 LRDP and Draft EIR during a 45-day public review period that begins on March 8, 2021, and ends on April 21, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. Written comments via e-mail and regular mail can be provided no later than **April 21, 2021**. Written comments will be responded to in the Final EIR.

Mail comments to: UC Berkeley, Physical & Environmental Planning
Attention: 2021 LRDP and Housing Projects #1 and #2 Draft EIR
300 A&E Building
Berkeley, CA 94720-1382

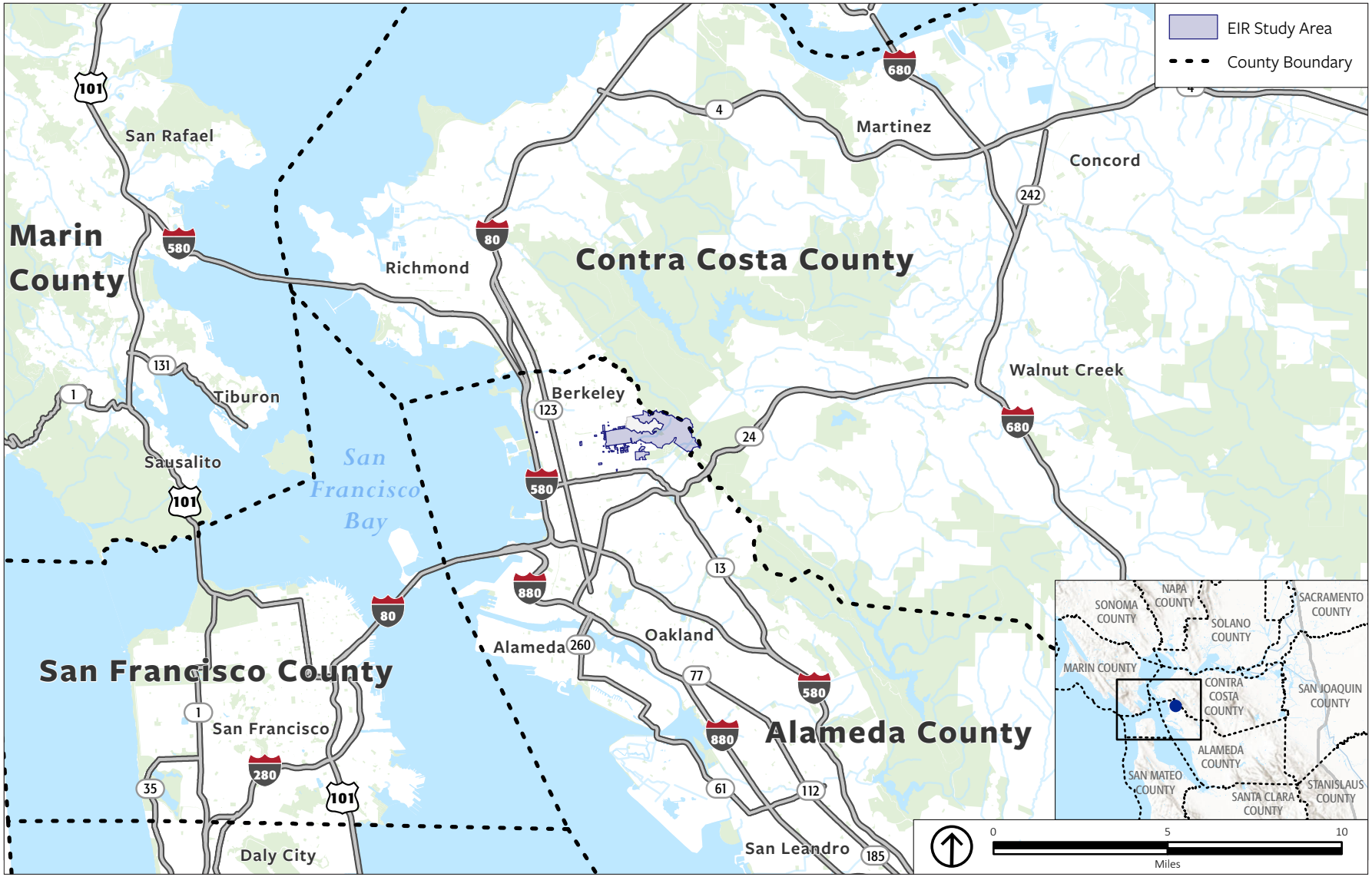
Email comments to: planning@berkeley.edu
Include "Draft EIR Comments: 2021 LRDP and Housing Projects #1 and #2" in the subject line.

Public Hearing to Provide Comments: As a result of COVID-19 and restrictions placed on in-person gatherings throughout California, UC Berkeley will host an online public hearing to receive public comments on the Draft EIR, rather than hold an in-person event. **The online public hearing will be hosted on March 29, 2021, starting at 6:00 p.m.**, via live video feed at the following link: https://lrdp.berkeley.edu/public-hearing.

The public may submit written comments in advance but no later than 1:00 p.m. on March 29, 2021, to be read aloud during the public hearing. Comments must be sent via email to planning@berkeley.edu, with your first and last name, and your expressed written permission allowing UC Berkeley to read your comments aloud as part of the online public session. Because of time restraints, there is a 300 word limit for all comments read aloud during the public hearing. All comments received during the 45-day public review period will be included in the public record and equally considered.

For more information about how to participate in the online public session, including information on how to submit a comment to be read aloud during the online public session, please visit: https://lrdp.berkeley.edu/public-hearing.

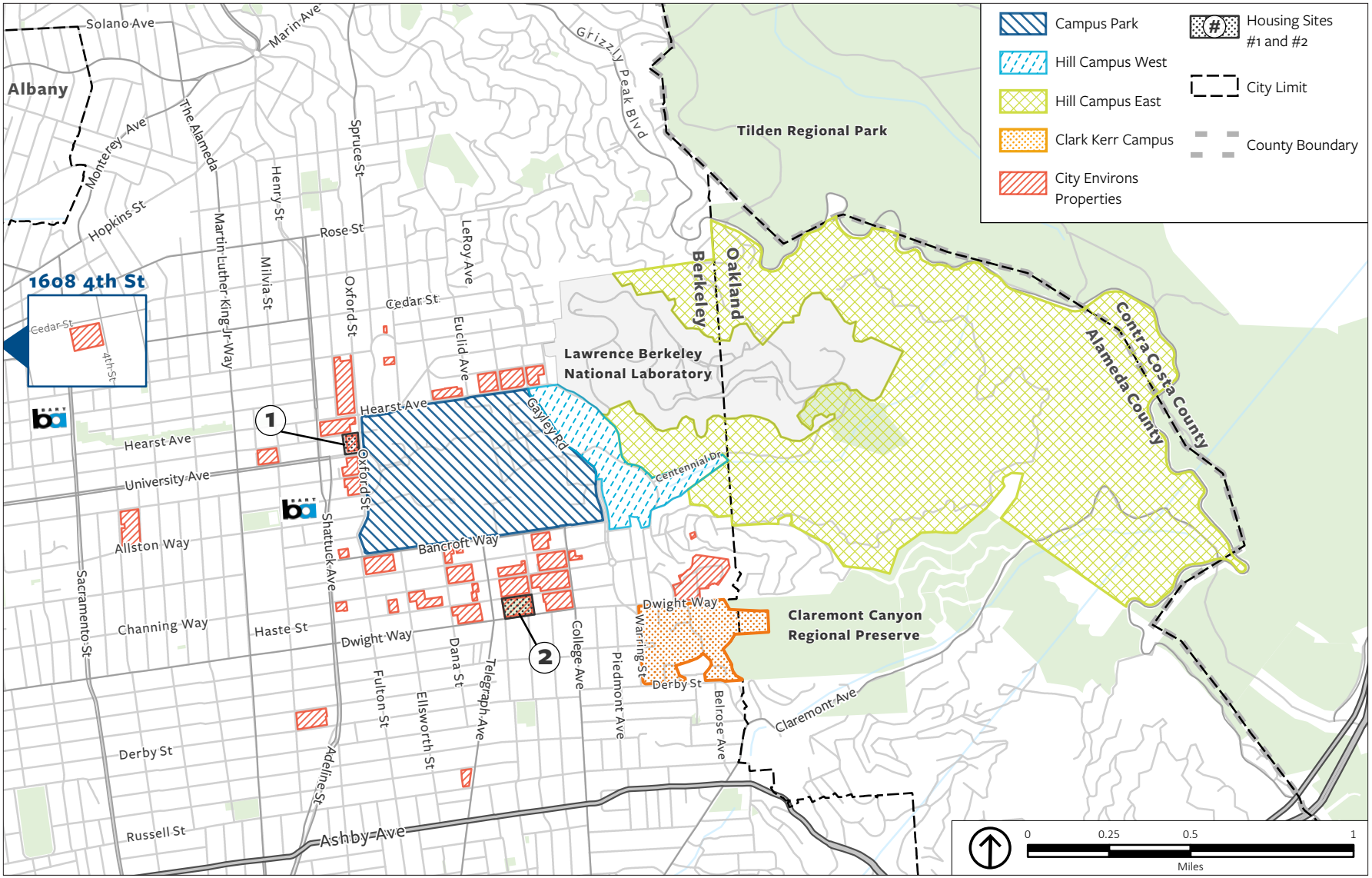
Attachments:
Figure 1: Regional Location Map
Figure 2: EIR Study Area
Figure 3, Housing Project #1 Site Aerial
Figure 4, Housing Project #2 Site Aerial



Source: Alameda County, 2019; ESRI, 2020; PlaceWorks, 2021; Sasaki and Page; 2019.

Figure 1

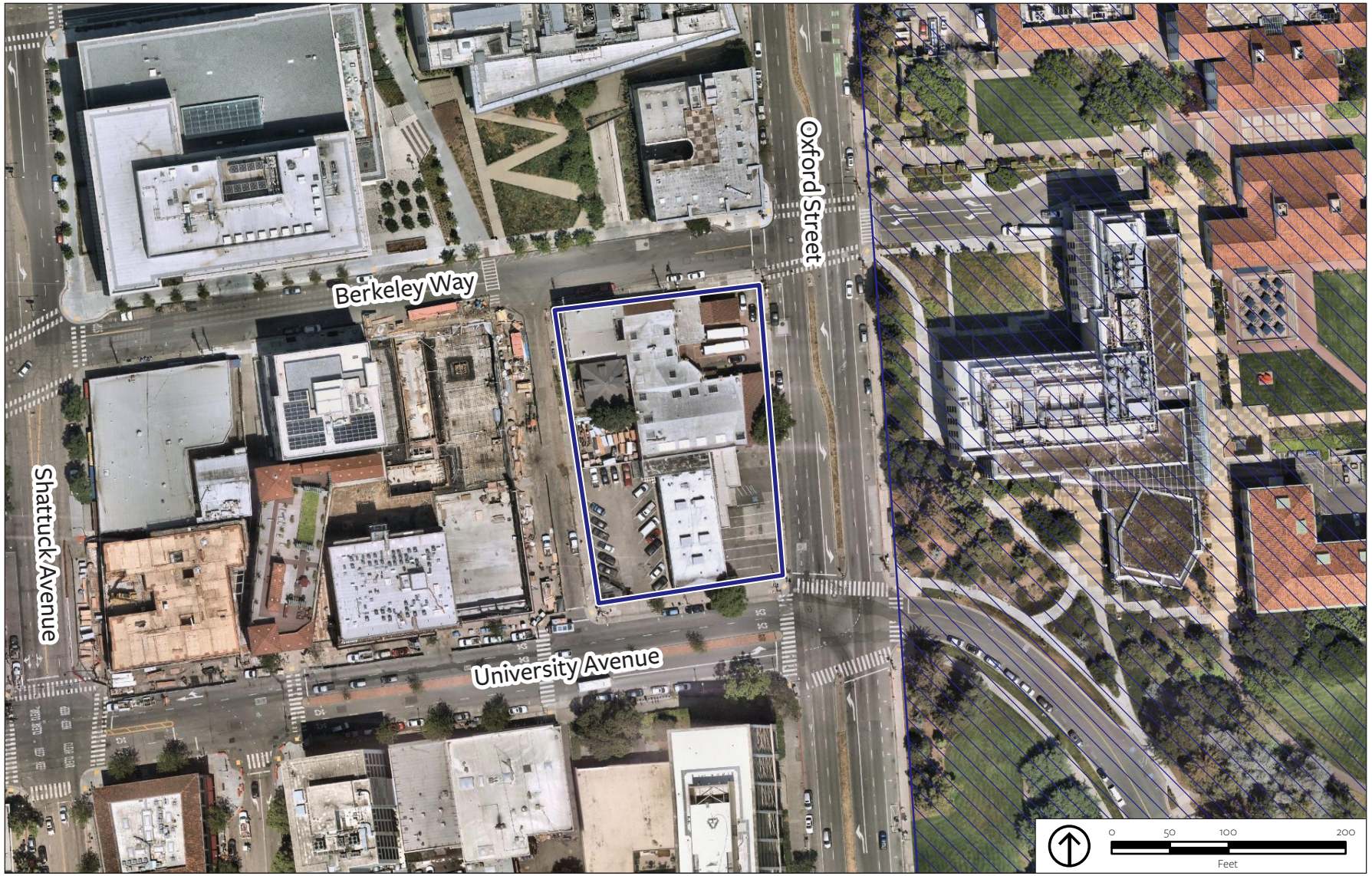
Regional Location Map



Source: Alameda County, 2019; ESRI, 2020; PlaceWorks, 2021; Sasaki and Page; 2019.

Figure 2

EIR Study Area



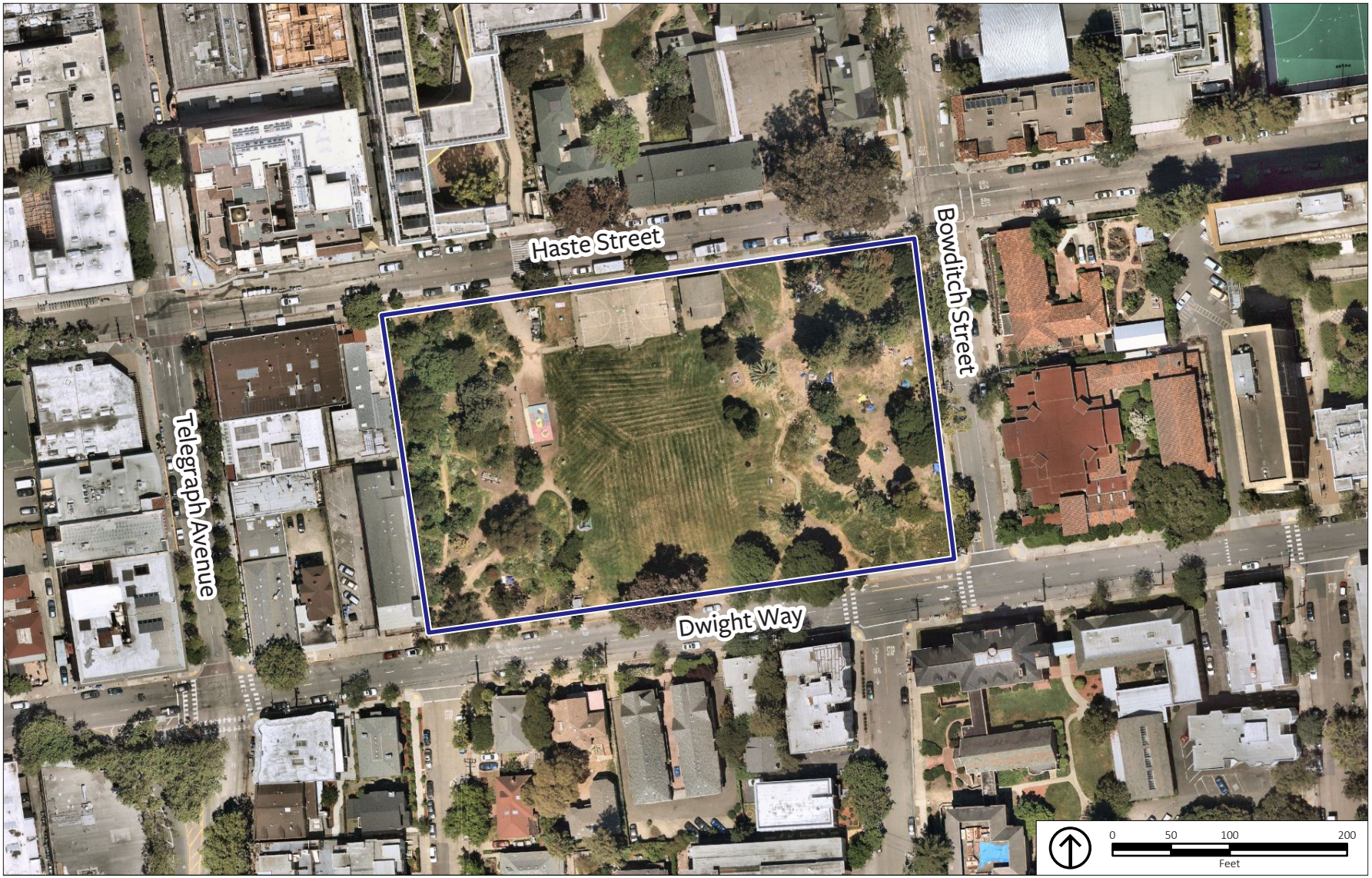
Source: Alameda County, 2019; ESRI, 2020; PlaceWorks, 2020; Sasaki and Page; 2019.

Project Site

Campus Park

Figure 3

Housing Project #1 Site Aerial



Source: Alameda County, 2019; ESRI, 2020; PlaceWorks, 2021; Sasaki and Page; 2019.

Project Site

Figure 4

Housing Project #2 Site Aerial

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