

DATE: August 11, 2021

TO: Reviewing Agencies, Organizations, and Interested

Parties

FROM: City of Norco

RE: Notice of Intent to adopt an Initial Study Negative

Declaration for the 2021-2029 Housing Element

This serves as the City of Norco's Notice of Intent (NOI) to adopt a Negative Declaration (ND) for the above referenced project, prepared in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), State CEQA Guidelines, and local implementation procedures.

Project: 2021-2029 Housing Element

Public Review Period: August 16, 2021 – September 15, 2021

Project Location: City of Norco

The purpose of the NOI is to inform agencies and interested parties, in accordance with the CEQA Guidelines, Section 15070, that the City of Norco has prepared a Draft Initial Study Negative Declaration (IS/ND) for the proposed 2021-2029 Housing Element. This NOI provides information about the project and instructions for reviewing and submitting comments on the IS/ND.

The proposed Project is an update to the Norco General Plan Housing Element. The purpose of the Project is to ensure the City establishes policies, procedures, and incentives in its land use planning and redevelopment activities that will result in the maintenance and expansion of the housing supply to adequately accommodate existing and future households in Norco. It institutes policies that will guide City decision-making and establishes an action program to implement housing goals through 2029. Consistent with State law, the Housing Element City provides a plan to accommodate the City's fair share of affordable housing known as the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA), as assigned to the City by the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG). Norco's RHNA for the Sixth Cycle planning period is 454 housing units (145 very low, 85 low, 82 moderate, and 142 above moderate-income units). The proposed Housing Element identifies four candidate housing sites that would have adequate capacity to accommodate the City's prescribed RHNA.

In accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15073, the Draft IS/ND will be available for a 30-day public review and comment from August 16, 2021 to September 15, 2021. The initial study prepared for the project determined that the project would not result in potentially significant impacts on the environment. Therefore, a Draft ND has been prepared and is recommended for approval. A copy of the Draft IS/ND is on file at the City's Planning desk at 2870 Clark Avenue and may be reviewed Mondays through Thursdays, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and at the City of Norco website at the following link: http://www.norco.ca.us/depts/planning/heu/default.asp

All comments concerning this environmental document must be submitted in writing to Alma Robles, Planning Director prior to the close of the public review period on September 15, 2021 at 5 p.m. The City is required to consider all written comments received during the noticed public review period prior to approving the project.

Public Meetings

The City has tentatively planned for the Project to be heard by the Planning Commission on September 8th at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers located behind City Hall at 2820 Clark Avenue.

Please contact Alma Robles at arobles@ci.norco.ca.us or by phone at (951) 270-5682 no later than September 6th should you require any special meeting accommodations such as language translation or physical disabilities.

Date: August 10, 2021

Alma Robles, Planning Director

City of Norco