PUBLIC NOTICE OF SCOPING MEETING/NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT



Proposed Project: Fire Station No. 9 Project at 4101 Long Beach Boulevard

Lead Agency: City of Long Beach

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the *State CEQA Guidelines*, an Initial Study (IS) has been prepared for the proposed Fire Station No. 9 at 4101 Long Beach Boulevard (proposed project) in Long Beach, California. Pursuant to Section 15063(a) of the *State CEQA Guidelines*, the City of Long Beach (City), as the Lead Agency, is required to undertake the preparation of an IS to determine whether the proposed action will have a significant effect on the environment. The purposes of an IS are to: (1) identify potential environmental impacts; (2) provide the Lead Agency with information to use as the basis for deciding whether to prepare an Environmental Impact



Report (EIR), Negative Declaration (ND), or other CEQA document; (3) enable the Lead Agency to modify the project (through mitigation of adverse impacts); (4) facilitate assessment of potential environmental impacts early in the design of the project; and (5) provide documentation for the potential finding that the project will not have a significant effect on the environment or can be mitigated to a less than significant level (*State CEQA Guidelines*, Section 15063[c]). The City has determined that an EIR will be prepared for the proposed project.

<u>PROJECT LOCATION</u>: The proposed project site is located at 4101 Long Beach Boulevard in the City of Long Beach. The 0.4-acre project site is currently developed with an approximately 5,000-square foot (sf), one-story office building with an associated parking lot.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The proposed project includes the demolition of the existing building and parking lot on the project site and the subsequent development of an approximately 12,780 sf, two-story fire station and associated improvements. Vehicular access would be provided through the alley on the northern side of the project site and an exit-only driveway onto Long Beach Boulevard. Firefighting and emergency medical response vehicles would exit the project site via a driveway off East Randolph Place.

Off-site improvements would include a new driveway apron from the proposed parking lot to Long Beach Boulevard and three new traffic signals at the intersection of East Randolph Place and Long Beach Boulevard. Additionally, the alley on the project site's northern border would be widened.

Required discretionary actions associated with the proposed project include the following: certification of the EIR, Site Plan Review approval, Standards Variance, a General Plan Amendment to change the PlaceType designation of the project site to Neighborhood Serving Center or Corridor Low Density (NSC-L), a Zoning Amendment to zone the project site as Mixed Use (MU-1), and a lot merger of the existing parcels on the project site.

POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS: The Draft EIR will examine potential environmental impacts generated by the proposed project in relation to the following Environmental Analysis categories: Air Quality, Cultural Resources, Energy, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Land Use and Planning, Noise, Transportation, and Tribal Cultural Resources. Based on findings in the Initial Study, environmental impacts related to: Aesthetics, Agriculture and Forestry Resources, Biological Resources, Geology and Soils, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Hydrology and Water Quality, Mineral Resources, Population and Housing, Public Services, Recreation, Utilities and Service Systems, and Wildfire are not anticipated to be significant or potentially significant requiring a detailed analysis in the EIR. The Draft EIR will also identify appropriate and feasible mitigation measures, if necessary, for each of the environmental impacts listed above.

PROJECT SCOPING PROCESS: Circulation of this NOP starts a 32-day public review and comment period on the scope of the Draft EIR that begins on **February 18, 2022, and ends on March 22, 2022**, at 4:30 p.m. All interested parties, including the public, responsible agencies, and trustee agencies, are invited to provide comments and input on the scope of and content of the environmental analysis to be addressed in the Draft EIR. Responsible and trustee agencies should provide comments and input related to the agencies' respective areas of statutory responsibility. Comments received during the scoping period will be considered during preparation of the Draft EIR. Public agencies and interested parties will have an additional opportunity to comment on the proposed project during the 45-day public review period to be held after the publication of the Draft EIR.

SCOPING MEETING: The City will conduct a virtual Public Scoping Meeting in order to present the proposed project and the EIR process and to receive public comments. The City invites interested parties to the following public scoping meeting for the proposed project in order to learn more about the project, ask questions, and submit comments:

DATE: March 9, 2022 TIME: 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. LOCATION: Virtual (see link below)

LINK: To join from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone or Android device, please click this URL:

https://longbeach-gov.zoom.us/j/92007963330

Or join by phone: Dial US: +1 213 338 8477; Webinar ID: 920 0796 3330

Initial Study Reviewing Locations

The Initial Study is available for public review beginning February 18, 2022 and ending March 22, 2022 at the following locations:

Online: https://www.longbeach.gov/lbds/planning/environmental/reports/

City of Long Beach Dana Neighborhood Library Billie Jean King Main Library

Development Services/Planning 3680 Atlantic Avenue 200 W. Broadway
Bureau Long Beach, CA 90807 Long Beach, CA 90802

411 W. Ocean Boulevard, 3rd Floor,

Long Beach, CA 90802

Send Comments on the Draft EIR to:

Email (include "Fire Station No. 9" in the subject line): LBDS-EIR-Comments@longbeach.gov

Mail: City of Long Beach Development Services, Planning Bureau Attention: Maryanne Cronin, Planner (562) 570-5683 411 West Ocean Boulevard, Third Floor

Long Beach, CA 90802