

Community Development Department Planning Division

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Date: April 6, 2022

To: Responsible and Trustee Agencies/Interested Organizations and Individuals

Subject: Notice of Preparation of a Draft Subsequent Environmental Impact Report

Moreno Valley Mall Redevelopment

Lead Agency: EIR Consulting Firm:

CITY OF MORENO VALLEY
Community Development Department
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PO Box 88005
Moreno Valley, California 92552
(951) 413-3209 / Email: juiad@moval.org
Contact: Julia Descoteaux, Senior Planner

KIMLEY-HORN & ASSOCIATES 3880 Lemon St, Ste. 420 Riverside CA 92501 (951) 543-9868 Contact: Kevin Thomas

The City of Moreno Valley (City), as lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), will prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Moreno Valley Mall (Project). In accordance with Section 15082 of the CEQA Guidelines, the City has issued this Notice of Preparation (NOP) to provide responsible agencies, trustee agencies, and other interested parties with information describing the proposed project and its potential environmental effects.

Due to the time limits mandated by State law, your response must be sent at the earliest possible date, but no later than 30 days after receipt of this notice or May 6, 2022.

Please send your response to Ms. Julia Descoteaux at the City of Moreno Valley address listed above. Please include the name, phone number, and address of a contact person in your response. If your agency or organization will be a responsible or trustee agency for this Project, please so indicate.

Project Title: Moreno Valley Mall Redevelopment

Location: Moreno Valley Mall; 65± acres west of the intersection of Centerpoint

Drive and Town Circle, Moreno Valley, CA

Description: The Project includes the following discretionary actions under consideration by

the City of Moreno Valley (note that the "Project" excludes the parcels currently occupied by the JC Penny and Macy's department stores and the parking

areas associated with those parcels):

1) **PEN21-0168 (Specific Plan Amendment)**: The proposed Specific Plan Amendment would amend Specific Plan No. 200 –Towngate Specific Plan, previously approved July 5, 1991, to allow a mix of retail and residential land uses within Planning Area 2 of the Specific

Plan. Note that the Specific Plan and EIR will include language allowing flexibility in ultimate land uses developed (such as equivalency tables comparing equivalent amount of residential and retail or hotel).

- 2) **PEN22-0061 (Tentative Parcel Map)**: The applicant has submitted a Tentative Parcel Map (TPM) application for subdivision of the Project site into multiple parcels pursuant to the Subdivision Map Act and City municipal code.
- 3) **PEN22-0075 (Development Agreement)**: The applicant has submitted an application for a Development Agreement pursuant to Government code commencing at Section 65864.

Project Setting. The Project site consists of the existing Moreno Valley Mall (excluding the JC Penny and Macy's parcels), including the following APNs: 291-110-032, 291-110-033, 291-110-034, and 291-110-035. Town Circle is a loop road surround the mall site. The mall has primary access via Frederick Street and Day Street from SR-60 and Eucalyptus Avenue from I-215 (refer to **Figure 1**, *Vicinity Map*).

Proposed Project. The Project proposes revitalization and redevelopment of a portion of the existing Moreno Valley Mall (excluding the existing JC Penny and Macy's parcels). Key features of the concept plan are noted in the following summary (refer to **Figure 2**, **Concept Site Plan**). The applicant's proposed parcel map is shown in **Figure 3**, **Tentative Parcel Map**. Note that the Concept Site Plan and TPM are currently in City review, and as such may be modified during the City's discretionary Project review process.

- Mall Revitalization the existing mall will be re-modeled with enhanced interiors elements and certain facade improvements, in addition to repurposing the existing Gottschalks building as new retail, and repurposing the existing Sears building for multitenant retail and related uses (see below).
- **Multifamily Units** approximately 1,627 multi-family (MF) dwelling units, including four MF communities in the southeastern mall area totaling 1,377 DU and a Multi-family community in the northwest mall area totaling 250 DU.
- **Hospitality District** two hotel operations (Hotel A and Hotel B) within a single hotel building totaling 270 hotel rooms and a restaurant and conference center in the eastern mall entrance area.
- Office to define the primary entry from Centerpoint Drive, one office building consisting
 of 60,000 square feet on three floors, or more is proposed to allow for the expansion of
 employment opportunities within the City of Moreno Valley. The office space provides the
 potential for medical offices, educational, or professional services development.
- **Food Market** the existing "Food Court" will be redeveloped into a new interior and exterior "pavilion" style Food Market, in conjunction with redesigning the existing Sears building to allow for multi-tenant retail and related uses.
- **Theater and Dining District** the existing interior and exterior area between the existing cinema and the former Gottschalks building will be redesigned to include outdoor dining on a patio.
- New Parking Structures a new parking structure is proposed adjacent to the existing

Gottschalks building as well as adjacent to or incorporated within proposed residential buildings. The existing single level podium parking east of the theater will remain.

- Open Space Improvements A central plaza and publicly accessible open space will be developed to provide for a community gathering place and connect pedestrian access to the Moreno Valley Mall and surrounding proposed buildings.
- Infrastructure Updates multiple transit stations are proposed to be dispersed and relocated to the north perimeter of the property to serve and connect various user destinations. Type and number may be adjusted with the intent to maintain ring road transfer stops and pedestrian connections. The Project will also include various improvements to existing drainage, sewer, water and circulation systems.

Construction/Operation. Construction is expected to be initiated in 2023, with a targeted opening year of 2026. Hours of operation would be specified in the Specific Plan and EIR, generally anticipated to be 24/7 for the hotel and residential uses, late night for the Theater and dining area (similar to current theater operations), with typical retail store hours for the interior mall and Food Market.

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES TO BE EVALUATED IN THE EIR

The City of Moreno Valley has determined that an EIR will be prepared for the Project based on its scale and potential to cause significant environmental effects. The EIR will be prepared as a "Subsequent" EIR pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15162.

The following issues are anticipated to be addressed (additional issues may be identified through the NOP scoping and EIR preparation process, and some of these issues may be determined to result in less than significant impact in light of the previously certified EIR and recently certified Final EIR for the MoVal2040 General Plan, SCH#2020039022).

Aesthetics	Greenhouse Gas Emissions	Public Services
 Agriculture and Forestry Resources 	 Hazards & Hazardous Materials 	Recreation
Air Quality	 Hydrology & Water Quality 	 Transportation
 Biological Resources 	 Land Use & Planning 	Tribal Cultural Resources
 Cultural Resources 	Mineral Resources	Utilities & Service Systems
 Energy 	Noise	Wildfire
Geology & Soils	Population & Housing	 Mandatory Findings of Significance

The EIR will assess the effects of the Project on the environment, identify potentially significant impacts, identify feasible mitigation measures to reduce or eliminate potentially significant environmental impacts, and discuss potentially feasible alternatives to the Project that may accomplish basic objectives while lessening or eliminating any potentially significant Project related impacts. A mitigation monitoring program also will be developed as required by Section 15150 of the CEQA Guidelines. This NOP is subject to a minimum 30-day public review period per Public Resources Code Section 21080.4 and CEQA Guidelines Section 15082. During the public review period, public agencies, interested organizations, and individuals have the opportunity to comment on the proposed Project and identify those environmental issues that have the potential to be affected by the Project and should be addressed further by the City of Moreno Valley in the EIR.

SCOPING MEETING

In accordance with Section 21083.9(a)(2) of the Public Resources Code and CEQA Guidelines Section 15082(c), the City will hold a public scoping meeting, where agencies, organizations, and members of the public will receive a brief presentation on the Project and will have the opportunity to provide comments on the scope of the information and analysis to be included in the EIR. The scoping meeting will be held on April 20, 2022, at 6:00 PM via a teleconference only. The Public may observe the meeting as follows:

STEP 1: Install the Free Zoom App or Visit the Free Zoom Website at https://zoom.us/

STEP 2: Get Meeting ID Number and Password by emailing zoom@moval.org or calling (951) 413-3206, no later than 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 19, 2022.

STEP 3: Select Audio Source (Computer Speakers/Microphone or Telephone).

Cortese List Notice: Pursuant to Public Resources Code §21092.6(a), the Project site is not included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code §65962.5 (California Department of Toxic Substances Control list of various hazardous sites).

Special Assistance: **ACCESSIBILITY**: Upon request and in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, any person with a disability who requires a modification or accommodation in order to participate in a meeting should direct such request to James Verdugo, ADA Coordinator, at (951) 413-3350 at least 72-hours before the meeting. The 72-hour notification will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting.

Please contact the Community Development Department, Planning Division at (951) 413-3206 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Julia Descoteaux Senior Planner

Julia Descoteaux



Source: Nearmap, 9/18/2021





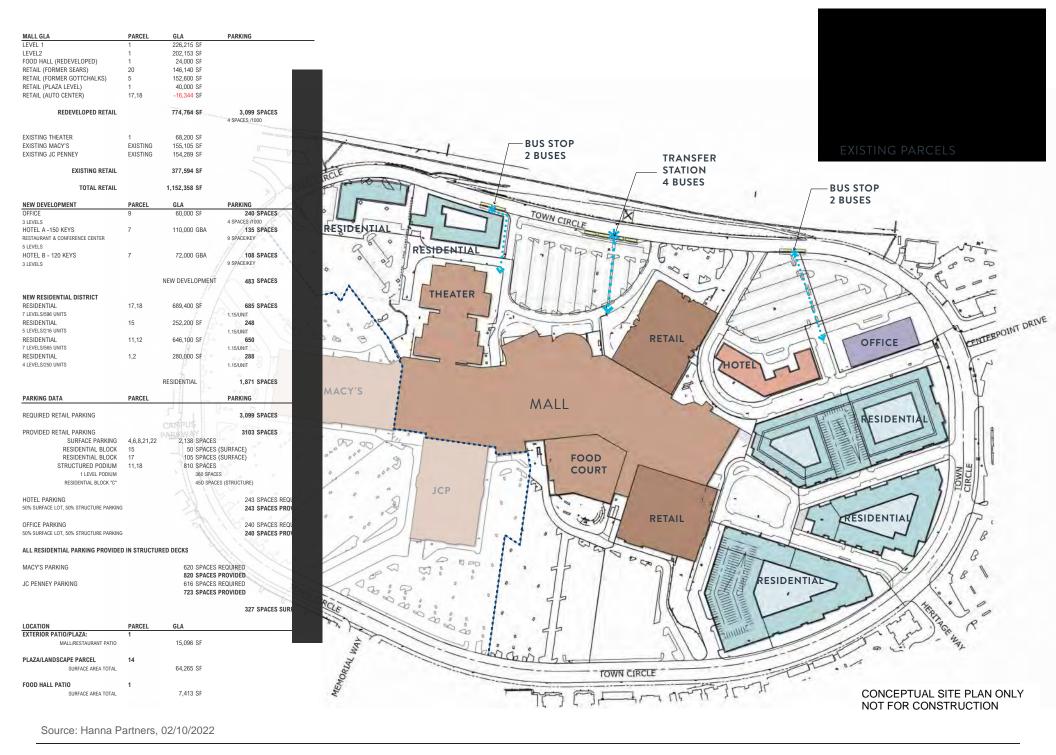
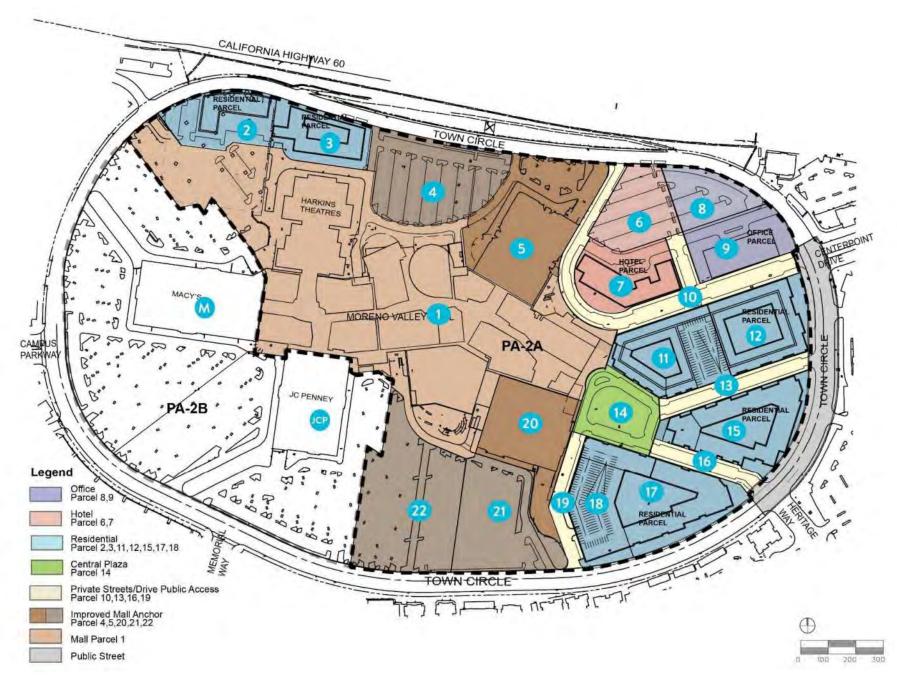


FIGURE 2: Conceptual Site Plan
Moreno Valley Mall Redevelopment Project







Source: Kimley-Horn, 03/22/2022



