

## City of Needles

817 Third Street • Needles, California 92363 (760) 326-2113 • FAX (760) 326-6765 www.cityofneedles.com Mayor, Jeff Williams
Vice Mayor Edward T. Paget, M.D
Councilmember Tona Belt
Councilmember Zachery Longacre
Councilmember Kirsten Merritt
Councilmember Ellen Campbell
Councilmember Wade Evans

City Manager Rick Daniels

## NOTICE OF INTENT (NOI) TO ADOPT MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE CITY OF NEEDLES GENERAL PLAN UPDATE

This Notice of Intent (NOI) is to inform the public and interested agencies that in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the City of Needles is circulating the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for public comment.

**Project/Location:** The City of Needles is located in San Bernardino County and lie on the western banks of the Colorado River and along the California/Arizona/Nevada borders.

**Project Description:** The Proposed Project is an update to the City's General Plan for the Land Use and Transportation Elements. The Proposed Project will guide the City's growth and development for the next 20 years through 2040.

As proposed, the General Plan update will provide for future growth in population from the existing population of 5,225 and employment of 1,403 to buildout conditions of a population of approximately 7,750 and employment of 2,395. As part of the Land Use Element and Map update, the City will revise the Goals and Polices in the current Land Use Element, create a single-map system that allows for consistency between the Land Use and Zoning Maps, create a Downtown Core (DT) designation, introduce mixed-use development into the City's Downtown, and make corresponding changes to the City's development code.

The Proposed Project will update the City's circulation system, revise the Goals and Policies of the Circulation Plan, provide for potential reconfiguration of certain streets within Downtown Core, update roadway classifications and truck routes.

**Document Availability:** The Initial Study/MND will be available for review at the following locations beginning on Friday, December 2, 2022:

- City Hall at 817 Third Street, Needles, CA 92363
- https://www.cityofneedles.com

Public Review Period: <u>The 30-day public review period for the Initial Study/MND is from December 2, 2022, to January 3, 2023.</u>

**Comments:** Interested individuals, organizations, trustee and responsible agencies, and other agencies who wishes to comment on the City's intent to adopt the MND must submit written comments no later than 5:00 p.m. on Monday, January 3, 2023. Written comments may be sent to:

City of Needles Planning Department 817 Third Street Needles, CA 92363

Comments may also be submitted via email to Patrick Martinez Assistant City Manager/Development Services at <a href="mailto:pmartinez@cityofneedles.com">pmartinez@cityofneedles.com</a>

Please include "Needles General Plan Update" in the subject line. Comments should include the name of a contact person within the commenting agency.

**Project Impacts:** Based on the findings of the Initial Study, it has been determined that the Project will not have significant impact upon the environment with the implementation of mitigation measures.

A Mitigated Negative Declaration has been prepared identifying the potential significant impacts and mitigation measures to reduce potentially significant impacts to less than significant.

**Public Hearing:** The date, time, and place of future public hearings will be appropriately notified per City and CEQA requirements.