



State of California – The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

## CEQA NOTICE OF PREPARATION

- To:** Responsible and Trustee Agencies, and Office of Planning & Research.
- Subject:** Notice of Preparation of a program Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Candlestick Point State Recreation Area (SRA) General Plan.
- Lead Agency:** California Department of Parks and Recreation  
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The California Department of Parks and Recreation (California State Parks), as the Lead Agency, is partnering with the City of San Francisco and will prepare a program Environmental Impact Report for the proposed plan described below. We would like to know the views of interested persons, organizations, and agencies as to the scope and content of the information to be included and analyzed in the EIR. Agencies should comment on the elements of the environmental information that are relevant to their statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed project.

The project description, location, and potential environmental effects of the proposed project (to the extent known) are contained in this Notice of Preparation (NOP).

Due to the time limits mandated by State law, your response should be sent at the earliest possible date, but not later than February 15, 2010. Please send your written response or comments to Steve Musillami, Project Manager, California Department of Parks and Recreation, at the address shown above. Responses should include the name of a contact person at your agency.

### **PROJECT TITLE**

Candlestick Point State Recreation Area General Plan.

### **PROJECT LOCATION**

Along the San Francisco Bay in the Bayview-Hunter's Point neighborhood of San Francisco, south and east of Candlestick Park stadium, just east of U.S. Highway 101.

### **DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT**

The California Department of Parks and Recreation's Diablo Vista District and the City of San Francisco will develop a Preliminary General Plan for the Candlestick Point State Recreation Area (SRA) in accordance with Public Resources Code §5002.2 referencing General Plan guidelines and §21000 et seq. concerning the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The purpose of the General Plan is to guide future development activities and management objectives at the SRA.

The California State Park and Recreation Commission created Candlestick Point State Recreation Area in April 1977, establishing California's first urban state park, located on 132 acres in southeastern San Francisco. The SRA follows the shoreline of San Francisco Bay and provides urban waterfront access and recreational activities, such as fishing, windsurfing, day use, and multiple-use trails, including a segment of the San Francisco Bay Trail, a regional non-motorized access trail circling the Bay.

The Governor signed SB 792 in October 2009, to authorize reconfiguration of the SRA and provide for improvements within the park and an ongoing funding source for park operations and maintenance. The reconfiguration resulted in a net transfer of 23 acres, primarily adjacent to the park's border, to the City of San Francisco/San Francisco Redevelopment Agency for development associated with the Candlestick Point-Hunters Point Shipyard Phase II Development Plan in exchange for funding identified for significant improvements to the park (SFRA and SFPD 2009b).

Preparation of the draft Preliminary General Plan is in its early stages, including a current evaluation of existing conditions, as well as resource and management opportunities and constraints at the SRA that will aid in the development of the General Plan. This General Plan will supersede the previously amended plan adopted in 1987. Known resources at the Park include:

- Public access to the Bay
- San Francisco Bay Trail
- Fishing and day use opportunities
- Restoration at Yosemite Slough
- Connections to the surrounding neighborhood
- Coastal shoreline and beaches

Issues that will be considered as part of the General Plan process include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Visitor use/recreation and facilities alternatives
- Local transportation improvements and connections to the SRA
- Natural resource/habitat protection
- Interpretative themes and educational opportunities
- Park operations and maintenance

- Relationship to the adjacent Candlestick Park and proposed Hunter's Point Shipyard Redevelopment Project
- Role of the SRA in enhancing community health
- Climate change and sea level rise

### **Potential Environmental Effects**

The EIR will be fully integrated into the General Plan, including an environmental analysis chapter where environmental effects, and if necessary, mitigation measures are described. Although ultimate land use and resource management provisions of the General Plan have not yet been determined, generally expected types of environmental impacts that may occur as a result of implementing the General Plan can be identified. Based on the resource characteristics of the SRA and generally anticipated uses, potential environmental effects that will likely be addressed in the EIR, include:

- Effects of changes in sea level rise
- Potential hazardous materials/soils effects on SRA use
- Potential negative effects on natural, cultural and recreational resources
- Water quality effects
- Transportation-related impacts

While take of threatened and endangered species is not anticipated, the EIR will describe future State and Federal consultation and permit requirements that may be required for visitor use and facility development, as necessary.

### **Intended Use of the EIR**

The California State Parks and Recreation Commission will use the EIR component of the General Plan to consider the environmental effects, mitigation measures, and alternatives, when reviewing the proposed General Plan for approval. The EIR will serve as the State's CEQA compliance document for adoption of the General Plan. It will also serve as the program environmental document that may be referenced in implementing future actions included in the General Plan. Responsible agencies may also use the EIR as needed for subsequent discretionary actions.

### **Scoping Meeting**

The public is invited to attend a scoping meeting for the General Plan where additional information will be shared about the project and an opportunity will be provided to comment on the desired contents of the plan and EIR. The date, time, and location of the scoping meeting is presented below.

Saturday, January 30, 2010  
10:00 AM to 12:00 PM  
Bret Harte Elementary School  
1035 Gilman Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94124

