

January 8, 2004

All Interested Agencies, Organizations, and Persons

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY  
BALDWIN HILLS SCENIC OVERLOOK PROJECT  
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT**

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A Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) has been prepared by the California Department of Parks and Recreation (Department) for the Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook Project. The Department is the lead agency, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), responsible for preparation of this document.

**Project Location:**

The proposed project site is located in the Baldwin Hills area in southwestern Los Angeles County and is part of the 387-acre Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area. The project area encompasses 58 acres of hillside terrain, which is primarily characterized by natural vegetation and undeveloped open space. The site is located within the City of Culver City and is adjacent to residential and commercial developments located in the Cities of Culver City, Los Angeles, and Inglewood.

**Project Description:**

The purpose of the proposed project is to develop the 58-acre Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook for use as a recreational area, as well as a natural resource educational/interpretive park for visitors and local schools. The project has four primary elements: develop public access to the property; provide approximately 110 parking spaces for visitors; construct a 10,300-square-foot visitor center; and provide protection and interpretation of the natural and cultural resources of the park and the adjacent Ballona Creek. The project would restore the site's natural ridgelines and topography that were previously graded and would emphasize restoration of native coastal sage scrub habitat. Several public meetings and workshops have been held to solicit public input on the design of the proposed visitor center and site features.

The project area falls well below the nationally recommended standard of 6 to 10 acres of parkland per 1,000 people. The proposed project would provide much needed recreational and educational open space for residents who live in this highly under-served area. The scenic overlook would also provide public access to some of the most magnificent views in the metropolitan Los Angeles area.

**Summary of Impacts:**

No impacts to agricultural resources, hazards, hydrology and water quality, mineral resources, population and housing, public services, recreation, or utilities would occur as a result of the proposed project. Impacts to aesthetics, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology, noise, and transportation/circulation would be less than significant with the implementation of recommended mitigation measures. No significant unavoidable impacts would occur as a result of the project.

**Public Comment Period:**

The 45-day public comment period for this Draft EIR will commence on January 8, 2003 and conclude on February 23, 2004. Copies of the Draft EIR will be available for review at the following locations: Culver City Julian Dixon Library (4975 Overland Ave Culver City, CA 90230); California State Parks Angeles District Headquarters (1925 Las Virgenes Road, Calabasas, CA 91302); and the Park Ranger Station at the entrance of the park on Hetzler Road. A copy of the document will also be posted on line at [http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page\\_id=22790](http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=22790). Please submit comments in writing to the address provided below. Comment letters must be postmarked by February 23, 2004.

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