

# RIO DE LOS ANGELES STATE PARK

## General Plan and Final Environmental Impact Report

### Volume 2

SCH No. 2004091126

Arnold Schwarzenegger  
Governor

Mike Chrisman  
Secretary for Resources

Ruth Coleman  
California State Parks

Department of Parks and Recreation  
P.O. Box 942896  
Sacramento, CA 94296-0001



MAY 2005

#### ***California State Parks Mission:***

*To provide for the health, inspiration and education of the people of California by helping to preserve the state's extraordinary biological diversity, protecting its most valued natural and cultural resources, and creating opportunities for high-quality outdoor recreation.*

FROM :CA STATE PARKS-SSC

FAX NO. :

May. 10 2005 01:46PM P2



Arnold  
Schwarzenegger  
Governor

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
Governor's Office of Planning and Research  
State Clearinghouse and Planning Unit



Sean Walsh  
Director

May 2, 2005

Dianna Martinez  
California Department of Parks and Recreation  
Southern Service Center  
8885 Rio San Diego Drive, Suite 270  
San Diego, CA 92108

Subject: Rio de Los Angeles State Park Preliminary General Plan and Draft EIR  
SCH#: 2004091126

Dear Dianna Martinez:

The State Clearinghouse submitted the above named Draft EIR to selected state agencies for review. The review period closed on April 29, 2005, and no state agencies submitted comments by that date. This letter acknowledges that you have complied with the State Clearinghouse review requirements for draft environmental documents, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act.

Please call the State Clearinghouse at (916) 445-0613 if you have any questions regarding the environmental review process. If you have a question about the above-named project, please refer to the ten-digit State Clearinghouse number when contacting this office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Terry Roberts".

Terry Roberts  
Director, State Clearinghouse

FROM : CA STATE PARKS-SSC

FAX NO. :

May. 10 2005 01:46PM P3

**Document Details Report  
State Clearinghouse Data Base**

**SCH#** 2004091126  
**Project Title** Rio de Los Angeles State Park Preliminary General Plan and Draft EIR  
**Lead Agency** Parks and Recreation, Department of

**Type** EIR Draft EIR  
**Description** The Draft General Plan has been prepared to guide future development activities and management objectives of the 37-acre Rio de Los Angeles State Park. The parking site is located on two separate parcels adjacent to the Los Angeles River, referred to as Parcel D (20 acres) and Parcel G-1 (17 acres). The General Plan does not cover the remaining 20 acres on Parcel D that have been leased to the City of Los Angeles to develop and manage active recreational facilities. The General Plan proposes a variety of traditional passive park uses such as habitat restoration, multi-purpose trails, special event areas, nature center, gardens, picnic areas, and other compatible uses. Interpretive and educational facilities would focus on the site's natural history and the nearby Los Angeles River.

**Lead Agency Contact**

**Name** Dianna Martinez  
**Agency** California Department of Parks and Recreation  
**Phone** (619) 278-3777 **Fax**  
**email**  
**Address** Southern Service Center  
 8885 Rio San Diego Drive, Suite 270  
**City** San Diego **State** CA **Zip** 92108

**Project Location**

**County** Los Angeles  
**City** Los Angeles, City of  
**Region**  
**Cross Streets** San Fernando Road / Future Street  
**Parcel No.**  

Township	Range	Section	Base	LA

**Proximity to:**

**Highways** 2, 110, I-5  
**Airports** None  
**Railways** Yes  
**Waterways** Los Angeles River / Arroyo Seco  
**Schools** 5 Elementary, 1 Middle  
**Land Use** State-owned property (State Recreation Area Classification)

**Project Issues** Aesthetic/Visual; Air Quality; Archaeologic-Historic; Flood Plain/Flooding; Geologic/Seismic; Noise; Public Services; Recreation/Parks; Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading; Solid Waste; Toxic/Hazardous; Traffic/Circulation; Vegetation; Water Quality; Water Supply; Wetland/Riparian; Wildlife; Growth Inducing; Landuse; Cumulative Effects

**Reviewing Agencies** Resources Agency; Department of Fish and Game, Region 5; Department of Water Resources; California Highway Patrol; Caltrans, District 7; Department of Health Services; Native American Heritage Commission; Department of Toxic Substances Control; Regional Water Quality Control Board, Region 4; Air Resources Board, Transportation Projects

**Date Received** 03/16/2005 **Start of Review** 03/16/2005 **End of Review** 04/29/2005

Note: Blanks in data fields result from insufficient information provided by lead agency.

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## Sections 1 & 2 Introduction, Table of Contents, and List of Commenters



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## RESPONSE TO COMMENTS AND PROPOSED CHANGES TO PRELIMINARY GENERAL PLAN AND EIR

### 1. INTRODUCTION

On March 16, 2005, the California Department of Parks and Recreation (Department) released to the general public and public agencies the Preliminary General Plan/Draft Environmental Impact Report for Río de Los Angeles State Park (RLASP), also known as the Taylor Yard Project. The proposed general plan will guide future management direction at the Park. It contains a comprehensive and integrated set of park-wide goals and guidelines for the long-term management of the Park that focus on the protection of environmental resources, enhancements to visitor use and opportunities, and improvements to administration and operations of the Park. In addition, the General Plan includes area-specific management guidelines.

The Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) included with the Preliminary General Plan analyzes the environmental effects of the proposed project, providing mitigation measures where needed. Together, the Draft EIR and this response to comments document constitute the Final EIR for the project.

In accordance with Public Resources Code Section 21091 and CEQA Guidelines Section 15087, a 45-day public review period for the Draft EIR was provided. The public was advised of the availability of the Preliminary General Plan/Draft EIR through public notices, public outreach and the Department's web site. The public notice (Notice of Availability) was also posted in the Los Angeles Downtown News. Copies of the Preliminary General Plan/Draft EIR were also available for review at the following locations: Central Library, 630 W. Fifth St., Los Angeles; Edendale Library, 2011 W. Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles; Chinatown Branch Library, 639 N. Hill St., Los Angeles; Lincoln Heights Branch Library, 2530 Workman St., Los Angeles; Echo Park Branch Library, 1410 W. Temple St., Los Angeles; and Cypress Park Library, 1150 Cypress Ave., Los Angeles. The document was also posted at the following California State Parks offices: Angeles District Headquarters, 1925 Las Virgenes Rd., Calabasas; Southern Service Center, 8885 Rio San Diego Dr., Suite 270, San Diego, and on the State Parks Website at [www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov).

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The 45-day public review period began on February 15, 2005 and ended on April 29, 2005. During the public review period, comments on the environmental issues evaluated in the Draft EIR were received from public agencies and private groups. Comments were also received on the various components of the plan itself. This document provides responses to written comments received during the 45-day public review period.

The focus of the response to comments is on the disposition of significant environmental issues that have been raised in the comments, as specified by CEQA Guidelines Section 15088(b), but also includes responses to pertinent planning considerations for implementation of the Preliminary General Plan.

All comments on the Preliminary General Plan/Draft EIR and the responses thereto, are presented in this document, which is organized as follows:

- **Chapter 1** (Introduction) provides a brief overview of the proposed project, describes the requirements under CEQA for responding to public comments received on the Draft EIR, and describes the organization of the Final EIR.
- **Chapter 2** (List of Commenters) provides a list, in table format, of all written comments received on the Preliminary General Plan/Draft EIR during the public comment period.
- **Chapter 3** (Response to Comments) provides a complete copy of, and responses to, written comments on the Preliminary General Plan/Draft EIR received during the public review and comment period.
- **Chapter 4** (Recommended Changes to the General Plan) provides a reproduction of portions of the Preliminary General Plan/Draft EIR with revisions to text and graphics made either in response to comments received during the public review or as errors, omissions, and clarifications noted by departmental staff.

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## 2. LIST OF COMMENTERS

This chapter provides a list of all public and agency comments received on the Preliminary General Plan/Draft EIR during the public review period, which ended on April 29, 2005. Responses to each individual comment are numbered correspondingly and are included in Chapter 3.

### Written Comments Received on the Preliminary General Plan/Draft EIR

No.	Commenter/Agency	Date of Correspondence
1	Timothy Grabiell, Esq. Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)	April 21, 2005
2	Leonard Pitt, Ph.D. Committee Member California State Parks' Cornfield Advisory	April 25, 2005
3	David Solow Chief Executive Officer Southern California Regional Rail Authority (METROLINK)	April 22, 2005
4	Greg Holmes Unit Chief Southern California Cleanup Operations Branch – Cypress Office Department of Toxic Substances Control	April 26, 2005
5	Glenn Striegler Environmental Assessment Coordinator Los Angeles Unified School District	April 28, 2005
6	Robert Garcia Executive Director and Counsel Center for Law and Public Interest (CLIPi)  Erica Flores Baltodano Assistant Director and Counsel Center for Law and Public Interest (CLIPi)  Raul Macias President and Founder Anahuak Youth Soccer Association	April 29, 2005