February 27, 2004

All Interested Agencies, Organizations, and Persons

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY TAYLOR YARD PARK DEVELOPMENT PROJECT DRAFT MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

A Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) has been prepared by the California Department of Parks and Recreation (State) for the Taylor Yard Park Development Project. The State is the lead agency, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), responsible for preparation of this document. The City of Los Angeles is a responsible agency under CEQA.

Project Location:

Taylor Yard is located in the City of Los Angeles, approximately three miles north of downtown Los Angeles. The Taylor Yard site is located between the Elysian Park Hills on the southwest and the Repetto Hills to the northeast. It is bordered on the north by State Route 2, on the east by San Fernando Road, on the south by industrial development, and on the west by the Los Angeles River. The 247-acre Taylor Yard complex was historically divided into ten parcels: A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, and J. Many of the parcels have been developed for industrial uses. The proposed park site encompasses the vacant 40-acre Parcel D, which is located immediately east of San Fernando Road.

Project Description:

The proposed project includes the development of a park on a 40-acre portion of the former Southern Pacific railyard, referred to as Parcel D. The property is owned by the State. Approximately 20 acres would be operated by the State as a passive park, and the remaining 20 acres would be leased by the City of Los Angeles (City) for active park uses. The proposed project includes five main elements: active recreation; passive recreation; support facilities; parking and access; and streetscape improvements. Active recreation elements include soccer fields, baseball fields, a multi-purpose field, basketball courts, tennis courts, and children's play areas. Passive recreation elements include a natural parkland area with a natural drainage, picnicking areas, and landscaped open space. Parking would be available inside the park with easy access to all active recreation areas. Two new intersections would be created on San Fernando Road for park access. The streetscape improvements would provide a buffer between the park and San Fernando Road.

Summary of Impacts:

No impacts to agricultural resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, hydrology and water quality, land use, mineral resources, population and housing, public services, recreation, traffic/transportation, or utilities would occur as a result of the proposed project. Impacts to aesthetics, air quality, biological resources, hazards and hazardous materials, and 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 30-day public comment period for this Draft MND will commence on February 27, 2004 and conclude on March 29, 2004. Copies of the Draft MND will be available for review at the following locations: Los Angeles Central Library (630 West Fifth Street, Los Angeles, CA 90071); Cypress Park Branch Library (1150 Cypress Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90065); State of California Department of Parks and Recreation (700 North Alameda Street, Room 502, Los Angeles, CA 90012); and the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks (200 North Main Street, Room 1250, Los Angeles, CA 90012). Please submit comments in writing to the address provided below. Comment letters must be postmarked by March 29, 2004.

California Department of Parks and Recreation Southern Service Center 8885 Rio San Diego Drive, Suite 270 San Diego, CA 92108 Contact: Karen Miner

The Draft MND is also available online at:

- http://eng.lacity.org/techdocs/emg/Environmental_Review_Documents.htm
- http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=983