



Community Development Department - Planning Division

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Environmental Information Form

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT REQUIREMENTS

To the Applicant:

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires that various development projects be analyzed by local governments to determine whether the project will have a significant effect on the environment. An environmental determination must be made prior to final action on the project.

In order for the City to expedite your application and satisfy State law, please complete the attached Environmental Information Form. This form is required to be completed and submitted as part of the project application package to the Planning Department. A fee in an amount established by City resolution must also be submitted with the completed form.

The Planning Department may, during the course of its initial review of the application, determine that additional information is required, such as biological, traffic, noise or archeological studies. The Planning Department may require the submittal of supplemental materials as necessary. All required information must be submitted in order to complete the application prior to the matter being scheduled for review by the appropriate board or commission.

When completing the form please consider all known aspects of the project in your responses. For example, if a project is to be developed in phases, answer each question considering the project's impact when totally built out.

Following review of the completed Environmental Information Form and the accompanying project application package, the Planning Department will make an initial environmental finding and recommendation regarding whether or not an Environmental Impact Report should be prepared on the project. The initial finding and recommendation will then be forwarded to the appropriate City Board or Commission reviewing the application. Should the Board or Commission find that a project will not have a significant effect on the environment, the processing of the application will continue with the responsible City government body acting upon the applicant's request. If the project is approved with a finding that it has no significant effect on the environment, then the City will adopt a Negative Declaration. However, if the Board or Commission finds that the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, then the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is required before a final decision can be made on the project. Any person aggrieved or affected by an environmental finding of the Planning Commission or the Board of Administrative Appeal and Zoning Adjustment may appeal to the City Council. Appeal procedure information is available in the Planning Department, City Hall, 3900 Main Street, Riverside. The decision of the City Council is final. If an EIR is required, it is the City's responsibility to administer preparation of that document. The applicant will be responsible for paying the cost of EIR preparation and providing data that may be necessary for the City to prepare the EIR.

After the project is approved by the City, CEQA requires that a Notice of Determination be filed with the County Clerk and/or State Office of Planning and Research. Filing of the Notice begins a 30-day statute of limitations in which legal challenges to the project approval may be filed based upon issues of CEQA compliance. A 180-day statute of limitations would apply if this notice is not filed. As of January 1, 1991, State law also requires that additional fees be paid to the State Department of Fish and Game in conjunction with filing of the Notice of Determination. The applicant is responsible for paying all fees and filing the Notice of Determination. A letter, explaining in detail the requirements and fees associated with filing of the Notice of Determination, will be mailed to the project applicant once the project is approved by the City.

ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

- 7. Provide a written description of the project site as it presently exists including land uses, information on topography, natural slope, soil stability, and any cultural, historical, or scenic characteristics.

- 8. Describe the existing plant community(ies) occurring on site (i.e., agriculture, coastal sage scrub, non-native grasslands, riparian, etc.). Indicate approximate acreage for each different type.

PROJECT IMPACTS

- 9. Describe the impact of the project on existing public facilities and services such as streets, schools, flood control facilities and the like.

Are the following items applicable to the project or its effects? Discuss all items checked "yes" on additional sheets and attach as necessary.

YES NO

- 10. Could the project be substantially affected by any natural or manmade features present on or near the project site? Examples of such features include the location and/or construction of facilities in a floodplain or natural drainage channel, near an earthquake fault, immediately adjacent to a freeway or in close proximity to an aircraft flight path.

- 11. Could the project substantially affect any natural or manmade features presented on or near the project site? Examples of such include change in topography, change in scenic views or vistas from existing residential areas or public lands, change in pattern, scale or character of general area of the project.

- 12. Could the project change groundwater quality or quantity, or alter existing drainage patterns?

- 13. Will the project involve the application, use or disposal of potentially hazardous materials such as pesticides or high explosives during project construction and/or following completion?

- — 14. Will the project generate substantial amounts of solid waste or litter during project construction and/or following completion?
- — 15. Will the project involve construction of facilities on an existing slope of 10 percent or greater?
- — 16. Will significant amounts of noise be generated by the project during construction and/or following completion? Example would include blasting during construction and machinery operation following completion.
- — 17. Will the project result in the generation of significant amounts of dust, particulate matter or chemical aerosols during construction and/or following completion?
- — 18. Will the project significantly affect any form of fish, wildlife, or plant life in the area of the project?
- — 19. Will the project substantially increase fossil fuel consumption (electricity, natural gas, etc.)?

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the statements made herein and in the attached exhibits require for this initial environmental evaluation are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature _____ Date _____
Applicant