

July 19, 2004

Availability of the **Notice of Preparation (NOP)** to Prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the **Riverbend Park Master Plan and Trail**, City of Lompoc, California

To All Interested Agencies, Groups and Persons:

The City of Lompoc, lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), will prepare an EIR for the Riverbend Park Master Plan and Trail Project. The project consists of a Master Plan and associated General Plan Amendment / Zone Change to Community Facilities / Public Facilities. The approximately 95-acre project site is located within the City of Lompoc and the County of Santa Barbara, California.

This Notice of Preparation is designed to ensure that all important environmental issues with potentially significant impacts, related to the Riverbend Park Master Plan and Trail, are addressed in the EIR. The NOP provides a description of the proposed project and its potential environmental impacts. Interested agencies and public members are asked to review the NOP and submit comments identifying any additional impacts that should be addressed.

The project description is as follows:

Phase I Project Elements - 2006

The proposal includes a large turf area to provide up to six soccer fields or four little league fields and one Babe Ruth-sized field in alternating seasons. Parking for up to 580 vehicles is proposed, along with portable restroom facilities. A Park Host's Residence and an informational kiosk are proposed. No lighting is proposed for the fields. Hours of operation are to be dawn to dusk, seven days a week.

Phase II – Santa Ynez River Multi-use Bike Trail - 2006

The Santa Ynez River Multi-use Bike Trail will extend from the intersection of East College Avenue and Riverside Drive to McLaughlin Road, following the bluff-top and an existing dirt road along the river. A segment of Bike Trail (Class 2) is to be improved within the 12th Street right-of-way, between Highway 246 and Laurel Avenue and will connect to the Class II bikeway on Highway 1. Hours: dawn to dusk, seven days a week.

Phase III Project Elements - 2015

The south park (Area south of McLaughlin Road) will be developed in open recreational turf to accommodate three or four little league or soccer fields, in alternating seasons. Four tennis courts, a permanent restroom and a parking lot for up to 308 cars is also proposed. Final determination of the mix of uses will occur at the time the south park is developed. Other options include a basketball court, open recreational area, a tot lot,

community garden or picnic area, in addition to the playing fields. Lighting is not proposed in Phase 3. Hours: dawn to dusk, seven days a week.

Impacts

At minimum, the following areas of potential impact will be discussed in the document: Hydrology and Water Quality; Transportation; Air Quality; Agricultural Conversion; Biological Resources; Noise; Hazards; Cultural Resources; and Recreation.

Copies of the Notice of Preparation are available at the City of Lompoc, Community Development Department, 100 Civic Center Plaza, Lompoc, California, 93436 and on the City's website, cityoflompoc.com. Please send any written comments to Stacy L. Lawson, Senior Environmental Coordinator, at the following address: Community Development Department, City of Lompoc, P.O. Box 8001, Lompoc, CA 93438-8001. If questions arise regarding the proposed project or this notice, please feel free to call me at (805) 875-8275.

Sincerely,

Stacy L. Lawson
Senior Environmental Coordinator