

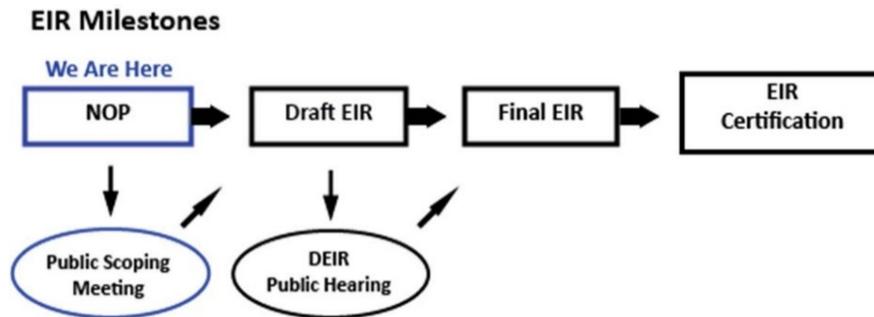


**SIXTH STREET PARK, ARTS, RIVER, CONNECTIVITY IMPROVEMENTS (PARC) PROJECT
SUMMARY OF THE NOTICE OF PREPARATION (NOP)/INITIAL STUDY (IS)**

Environmental Review Process

To comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the City is conducting an environmental review process to consider what environmental impacts may result from constructing and operating the proposed Sixth Street PARC Project. This process starts when the City prepares a Notice of Preparation (NOP) to inform public agencies and the general public that the City will prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the proposed Project. The City has also prepared an Initial Study (IS), which is a preliminary checklist of the potential environmental issues that could possibly result from the construction or operation of the proposed Project. The NOP and IS are being circulated for a 30-day review and comment period. During this scoping period, the City is requesting comments from agencies, interested parties, stakeholders, and the general public on the scope and content of the environmental information to be included in the Draft EIR.

EIR Process Overview



Once the Draft EIR is developed, regulatory agencies and the public are invited to review and comment on the adequacy of the EIR analysis and its findings. Another public meeting will be held at that time. The City will consider these comments and then prepare a Final EIR for review and approval by the Los Angeles City Council.

Proposed Project

The Sixth Street PARC Project includes the creation of public recreational space on approximately 12 acres in areas underneath and adjacent to the Sixth Street Viaduct (Viaduct) in the city of Los Angeles. The Project may include the following elements:



Landscaping/planting, irrigation systems, and **open space**



Performance area(s), **public gathering/** assembly areas, and **public art**



Support Facility: Field office, Community and/or concession building(s)



Recreational courts and fields, which could include synthetic soccer field(s) and field lighting; basketball or other sports court(s); soccer warm-up and stretching zones and a **skate park**



Playground area and equipment; stationary exercise equipment



Water features, such as **splash pads**



Dog park and related amenities



Typical **park site furnishings/amenities**: benches, tables, bike racks, bicycle rentals, kiosks, drinking fountains, safety bollards, lighting and signage, fencing, **restrooms**, and equipment storage



Mobility: Pedestrian paths, bicycle paths and connections, internal park roadways and service roads, and related lighting and parking areas/spaces; street lighting



Rehabilitation of the existing pedestrian/ vehicular **tunnel** on the west side of the River



Utilities: Utility connections; Utility relocations and undergrounding in some areas may be required



Infrastructure: Retaining walls; Stormwater infrastructure improvements



Potential terracing with vegetation planters and construction of a bikeway may occur within the **River channel bank** adjacent to the proposed Arts Plaza, extending from Fourth Street to Seventh Street with connections to the bridge structures; terracing may also occur on the opposite River bank, or at street level within the project boundaries



Connectivity improvements with colored concrete pavement; parking on adjacent streets; and pedestrian activated cross walks on Santa Fe Avenue, Mission Road, Jesse Street, South Anderson Street, and South Clarence Street



Site soil would be compliant with residential soil standards and/or standards that support park use. **Soil remediation** activities during construction may be required



Demolition activities may include demolition of existing urban infrastructure, such as buildings, pavement, and roadways



Right-of-way acquisition and relocation, as well as temporary construction easements. The majority of the property requirements for the proposed Project have been secured by the Viaduct Replacement Project

Potential Environmental Issues

The City, as the CEQA Lead Agency, has decided to prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR). As part of an EIR, potential environmental impacts resulting from the project are organized by various environmental issues. The following issues will be studied in more detail for the project EIR:



Aesthetics: Project lighting for events or recreational activities could increase ambient light at night during operations. Construction activities may also require lighting at night.



Air Quality: Air emissions from construction equipment and vehicular traffic during operations may contribute to existing regional air quality violations for these pollutants: ozone, particulate matter (PM) 2.5, PM 10 and lead. The Project will also attract sensitive receptors (residents, children, the elderly) to the Project area, which is located near rail lines and major freeways. The EIR will study whether the Project will expose these receptors to substantial concentrations of air pollution.



Biological Resources: Bats and nesting birds could be disturbed by light and noise from the Project.



Cultural, Historic and Paleontological Resources: The EIR will review potential historic, cultural, and paleontological resources (fossils) that may be present in the Project area.



Hazards and Hazardous Materials: Project construction may require removal of contaminated soils. Additional soil remediation may be also required. Results of previous soil studies will be discussed in the EIR.



Population and Housing: The Project will not construct new homes or businesses, but it could spur additional economic growth in the area, which could create new growth in the local community and region. This issue will be evaluated further in the EIR.



Traffic: Recreational facilities would be added to a mostly industrial area, so pedestrian safety will be important. The Project may also result in additional vehicular traffic to the area. Public transit, walking and bike access will be encouraged.



Noise: Project activities (traffic, events, soccer, performances) could produce additional noise. Construction noise may exceed noise standards. Noise levels from construction and operations will be studied in the EIR.



Water Quality and Hydrology: Terracing and construction of a bikeway in the River could result in changes to drainage patterns and impede or redirect flood flows within the River. Also, construction, operation and maintenance of the Project could require large amounts of water. Impacts to water quality, hydrology and groundwater supplies will be studied in the EIR.

In addition to the environmental resource areas identified above, the following issues will also be included in the scope of the EIR:

- Geology/Soils
- Greenhouse Gases
- Land Use & Planning
- Public Services
- Recreation
- Utilities and Service Systems



Public Comment Process

Comments of the NOP/IS are **due May 22, 2017**. To submit written comments, you may:

- Email comments to:
Jan.Green.Rebstock@lacity.org,
Subject: Sixth Street PARC Project
(Please include contact information with mailing address.)
- Submit a comment card or letter by mail to:
RE: Sixth Street PARC
Dr. Jan Green Rebstock, Environmental Supervisor II
Los Angeles Bureau of Engineering, Environmental Management Group
1149 S. Broadway, Suite 600, Mail Stop 939, Los Angeles, CA 90015