



City of Santa Barbara

Planning Division

NOTICE OF EIR PREPARATION/ NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING HEARING

Date: June 19, 2014

To: State Clearinghouse
City Clerk
Clerk of the Board
Neighbors and Interested Parties

From: Planning Division
City of Santa Barbara
P.O. Box 1990
Santa Barbara, CA 93102-1990
(805) 564-5470

Project Title: Santa Barbara Airport Master Plan

Project Location: 601 Norman Firestone Road – Santa Barbara, CA 93117

Project No.: MST2013-00453

APNs: 073-450-001, 073-450-002, 073-450-003

General Plan: Airport and Goleta Slough Natural Reserve

Zone(s): Aircraft Approach and Operations Zone (A-A-O), Airport Facilities Zone (A-F), Airport Industrial Zones (A-I-1 and A-I-2), Goleta Slough Reserve Zone (G-S-R), Airport Industrial Specific Plan Zone (SP-6), and Coastal Overlay Zone (S-D-3)

Public Scoping Hearing: **Thursday July 24, 2014**, City Council Chambers, Santa Barbara City Hall, De La Guerra Plaza, 735 Anacapa Street. *Note time below.

Project Description: The Santa Barbara Airport Master Plan (Master Plan) provides guidance for the Airport's overall development for the next 15-20 years, (i.e., 2014 to 2032). The Master Plan relies on Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)-approved forecasts of aviation activity at the Airport and provides development scenarios for the short term (2017), intermediate term (2022) and long term (2032). These development scenarios are not only reflective of the level of activity forecast to occur at the Airport, but are dependent on federal funding cycles and the availability of grant money for aviation projects.

The Airport is currently (2011) operating at 48 percent of its annual service volume (ASV); the FAA recommends that when an airport reaches 60 percent of its total ASV then capacity-increasing development should be considered. Therefore no capacity improvements are proposed in the Master Plan.

The proposed Master Plan consists of:

- Airfield Recommendations: Extension of Taxiway H to the west, parallel to the main instrument runway, restriping of existing paved areas, paving light lanes along taxiway edges, and relocating entrances and exits from the taxiway system to comply with Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) recommendations.
- North Landside Recommendations: Consolidation of general aviation operations to facilitate two Fixed Base Operator (FBO) lease areas on the northeast portion of the airfield to provide tenant and visiting private aircraft services and facilities, and support facility changes including the relocation of the Airport Maintenance Yard.
- Terminal Area Recommendations: Construction of a new Long Term Parking Lot south of the Airline

Terminal to accommodate 1,315 new or relocated parking spaces, expansion of the Airline Terminal, and relocation of the southside FBO.

The Santa Barbara Airport is located on approximately 948 acres adjacent to the City of Goleta and the University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB) in the South Coast region of Santa Barbara County. It is located eight miles to the west of the rest of the City of Santa Barbara. Due to the proximity of the Goleta Slough to certain proposed Master Plan project, it is likely that approval of a Local Coastal Program (LCP) amendment will be necessary for some of the proposed actions. An LCP amendment will, therefore, be considered along with the proposed actions, as appropriate.

Summary of Potential Environmental Effects:

Based on the attached Initial Study, the proposed aspects of the Master Plan could have the following potentially significant impacts:

- Short term construction-related air quality effects are unknown at this time;
- Impacts to protected wetlands or other sensitive natural communities are unknown at this time;
- Inconsistencies with applicable policies protecting biological resources are unknown at this time;
- Significant impacts to historical or archaeological resources could occur;
- Geological risks due to proposed construction are of concern and mitigation may be required;
- Hazardous materials risks may require mitigation;
- Cumulative impacts of solid waste disposal related to landfill capacity are unknown at this time;
- Cumulative impacts to the surrounding transportation system, the regional congestion management plan, and related levels of service are unknown at this time;
- Potential impacts related to the presence of the 100-year floodplain and associated floodways at the Airport are unknown at this time;
- Inconsistencies with the LCP or other land use plans are unknown at this time.

Environmental Impact Report (EIR) Scope of Analysis: The City of Santa Barbara will be the Lead Agency and will prepare an EIR to evaluate impacts of the proposed project. The purpose of an EIR is to provide decision-makers and the public with information that enables them to consider the environmental consequences of the proposed project. The EIR would identify potentially significant effects, and any feasible means of avoiding or reducing these effects through project redesign, the imposition of mitigation measures, or implementation of alternatives to the project.

An Initial Study, describing potentially significant impacts as well as potentially significant, but mitigable, and less than significant impacts in other issue areas, is available for review at the City Planning Division located at 630 Garden Street between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday, and every other Friday, or online at www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov/eir. Please check our website to verify office closure dates.

Comments: Comments on the proposed EIR scope of analysis are invited from public agencies, community interest groups, and individual members of the public. We request the views of public agencies as to the scope and content of environmental information be germane to agency statutory responsibilities for the project. Some agencies may need to use the EIR prepared by our agency when considering approvals for the project. Please provide the name of an agency contact persons, if applicable.

Written comments on the EIR scope of analysis identified in the Initial Study should be sent at the earliest possible date, but **received no later than July 31, 2014, at 4:30 p.m.** Please send your written comments to the attention of Andrew Bermond, AICP, Project Planner at P.O. Box 1990, Santa Barbara, CA 93102-1990 or ABermond@SantaBarbaraCA.gov.

Public Hearing: An environmental scoping hearing to receive public comments on the proposed EIR scope of analysis will be held before the Planning Commission on **July 24, 2014**.

***NOTE:** On Thursday July 17, 2014 an Agenda with all items to be heard on Thursday, July 24, 2014 will be available at 630 Garden Street. Copies of all documents relating to the agenda items will also be available for review at 630 Garden Street and posted online at www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov/PC and environmental documents will be available online at www.SantaBarbaraCa.gov/EIR on Thursday July 17, 2014. Please note that online Staff Reports may not include some exhibits. Agenda items are subject to change. It is recommended that applicants and interested parties plan to arrive for the meeting at 1:00 p.m. However, for longer agendas, all parties are encouraged to monitor Channel 18 and when the item prior to the application of interest begins come to the Commission hearing. Continuances will not be granted unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Meetings can be viewed live on City TV-18, or on your computer via www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov/CityTV. A rebroadcast schedule can be found at www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov/CityTVProgramGuide.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to gain access to, comment at, or participate in this meeting, please contact the City Administrator's Office at (805) 564-5305. If possible, notification at least 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements in most cases.

Signature:



Andrew Bermond, AICP, Project Planner

Telephone: (805) 692-6032