



City of Santa Barbara California

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC ENVIRONMENTAL HEARING FOR THE ELINGS PARK PHASE III IMPROVEMENT PLAN PROJECT MST2006-00509

REVISED NOVEMBER 11, 2009 – PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD EXTENDED

PROJECT LOCATION: 1298 Las Positas Road, City of Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara County. The site occupies approximately 214 acres of land generally bound by Las Positas Road to the west and Cliff Drive to the south. The site consists of two properties; Elings Park North (84 acres; APN 047-010-034) and Elings Park South (130 acres; APN 047-010-049). A portion of Elings Park North is located on a closed landfill site (RWQCB Case # 3420402171).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Elings Park Phase III Improvement Plan project would provide a variety of park-related facilities in three general areas of the park property: Elings Park North – Lower Plateau, Elings Park North – Upper Plateau, and Elings Park South.

The improvements proposed for Elings Park North – Lower Plateau include: a Community Activity Center (13,170 square feet), two lighted Multi-Use Playing Fields, lighted Multi-Sport Arena Field, public pedestrian access and accessibility improvements, Family Activity Zone (including a Rock Climbing Wall, a lighted 18-Hole Putting Green, a Small Children's Water Spray Play Area, a Ropes Challenge Course, and a Zip Line (approximately 1,130 feet long and extending from an area near Godric Grove in the Upper Plateau area to the Family Activity Zone)), picnic areas, a Park Services Building (1,250 square feet), new and reconfigured parking areas (203 spaces total), replacement lighting along Jerry Harwin Parkway, an entry kiosk (98 square feet), restrooms, landscaping, and landfill cover and building protection systems.

The improvements proposed for Elings Park North – Upper Plateau include: a 2.5-acre Dog Walk area, Batting Cages, Hillside Amphitheater, public pedestrian access, new lighting for the two existing soccer fields, replacement lighting for the three existing softball fields, and replacement lighting along Jerry Harwin Parkway.

The improvements proposed for Elings Park South include: a Bicycle Motocross (BMX) Track with night lighting, Park office building and restrooms (1,350 square feet), Disc Golf Course, picnic areas, public pedestrian access and accessibility improvements, paved parking spaces (25 spaces), overflow parking area (approximately 100 spaces), and landscaping.

Special events that could draw 1,000 visitors or more are proposed to occur a maximum of 12 times per year.

The project also includes an estimated 128,200 cubic yards of cut and 132,300 cubic yards of fill. Approximately 4,100 total cubic yards of fill material would be imported to the Elings Park North and South project sites. It is estimated that construction of the entire project will take approximately 24 months to complete.

In addition to the project components listed above, the Elings Park Phase III Improvement Plan project includes several off-site project elements, including: an upgraded Metropolitan Transit District (MTD) bus stop located along Las Positas Road, and six-inch sewer and six-inch water line connections to existing service lines located in the Cliff Drive right-of-way to serve proposed Elings Park South facilities.

DOCUMENT: A Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) has been prepared for this project and is available for review and comment. The Draft EIR focuses on project impacts to aesthetics, air quality, biology, hazards, noise, transportation and circulation, and water resources. The EIR has identified significant unavoidable environmental effects related to traffic as a result of the project. The City of Santa Barbara, Planning Division is the lead agency for this Draft EIR.

The City of Santa Barbara encourages the public to provide written comments on this and other projects. The Draft

EIR is available for review at the Planning Division, 630 Garden Street, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and every other Friday, on-line at www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov/eir, and at the Public Library at 40 E. Anapamu Street during the library's hours of operation. Please check our website under City Calendar to verify closure dates.

PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD: **October 5, 2009** through ~~Wednesday, November 18, 2009~~
Thursday, December 3, 2009 at 4:30 p.m.

Please send your comments by US Mail to: City of Santa Barbara Planning Division Attn: **Allison De Busk, Project Planner** P.O. Box 1990, Santa Barbara, CA 93102-1990 **OR** electronically to: adebusk@santabarbaraca.gov

PUBLIC HEARING: A hearing to take public comments on the Draft EIR will be held before the Planning Commission and Park and Recreation Commission on **November 12, 2009** at 6:00 p.m.* in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

You are invited to attend these hearings and address your verbal comments to the Planning Commission. If you have any questions, wish to know more about this application, or wish to review the plans, please contact **Allison De Busk, Project Planner**, at (805)-564-5470 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. (Monday through Thursday and every other Friday), or by e-mail at adebusk@santabarbaraca.gov.

Following the end of the Draft EIR public review period, a Final EIR including responses to comments will be prepared, and subsequent noticed public hearing will be held at the Planning Commission to consider actions to approve the project.

If you challenge the permit approval or environmental document in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the Planning Commission at, or prior to the public hearing.

AMERICAN 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.

* **NOTE:** On Monday, November 9, 2009, an agenda with all items to be heard on Thursday, November 12, 2009 will be available at 630 Garden Street. Agendas and Staff Reports are also accessible online at www.SantaBarbaraCa.gov/pc. Environmental documents can be viewed online at www.SantaBarbaraCa.gov/eir Please note that online Staff Reports may not include some exhibits. Continuances will not be granted unless there are exceptional circumstances. *Meetings can be viewed live on City TV-18, or on your computer via [http://www.santabarbaraca.gov/Government/Video/ Meetingrebroadcast](http://www.santabarbaraca.gov/Government/Video/Meetingrebroadcast) schedule can be found at <http://www.citytv18.com/schedule.htm>.*