

I INTRODUCTION

This Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) has been prepared to provide an assessment of the potential environmental consequences of adoption and implementation of the Proposed General Plan and the Focused Growth Plan. This assessment has been completed to inform decision makers, the City of Chino, other agencies, and the general public of the nature of the General Plan and its effect on the environment. The Proposed General Plan and Focused Growth Plan are analyzed in this EIR. This Draft EIR has been prepared in accordance with and in fulfillment of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements. The City of Chino is the lead agency on the project and the EIR.

A. Proposed Action

Implementation of the Proposed General Plan, which includes the Focused Growth Plan, is the proposed action analyzed in this Draft EIR. The Proposed General Plan is a complete revision of the existing General Plan, which has not been updated comprehensively since 1981. The Proposed General Plan is the principal policy document for guiding future conservation and development in the City of Chino. The Proposed General Plan not only provides concepts for long-term planning through 2025, it also provides overall direction for day-to-day actions of the City, its elected officials, and staff. The Proposed General Plan and the Focused Growth Plan are described in detail in Chapter 3.

The Proposed General Plan includes regulations in the form of goals, objectives, policies, and actions that are designed to implement the community's vision for the future of Chino. The policies and actions are intended to be used by the City to guide everyday decision-making and to ensure progress toward the attainment of the goals outlined in the plan.

B. EIR Scope, Issues, and Concerns

This document is a Program EIR that analyzes the proposed adoption and implementation of the Proposed General Plan and Focused Growth Plan. As a Program EIR, it is not project-specific and does not evaluate the impacts of specific development that may be allowed under the Proposed General Plan and Focused Growth Plan. Each specific individual future project will require separate environmental review, as required by CEQA, to secure the necessary discretionary development permits. Therefore, while subsequent environmental review may be tiered off this EIR, this EIR is not intended to address impacts of individual projects.

The scope of this Draft EIR was established by the City of Chino through the General Plan process. The following issues are addressed in the EIR:

- ◆ Aesthetics
- ◆ Agricultural Resources
- ◆ Air Quality and Greenhouse Gases
- ◆ Biological Resources
- ◆ Cultural and Paleontological Resources
- ◆ Geology, Soils, and Seismicity
- ◆ Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- ◆ Hydrology and Water Quality
- ◆ Land Use
- ◆ Noise
- ◆ Population, Employment, and Housing
- ◆ Public Services
- ◆ Traffic and Circulation
- ◆ Utilities and Infrastructure

C. Report Organization

This Draft EIR is organized into the following chapters:

- ◆ **Chapter 1: Introduction.** This chapter provides a preface and overview describing both the intended use of the document and the review and certification process of the Proposed General Plan, the Focused Growth Plan, and the EIR.
- ◆ **Chapter 2: Report Summary.** This chapter summarizes environmental consequences that would result from the proposed project, describes recommended mitigation measures, and indicates the level of significance of environmental impacts before and after mitigation measures. A Summary Table is also provided for clarity.
- ◆ **Chapter 3: Project Description.** This chapter describes the Proposed General Plan and the Focused Growth Plan in detail, including a summary of the chapters and a listing of proposed land use designation changes.
- ◆ **Chapter 4: Environmental Evaluation.** This chapter provides in depth analyses of the potential environmental impacts of implementation of the Proposed General Plan and the Focused Growth Plan. The chapter also presents recommended mitigation measures, whenever required, to reduce the significance of those impacts.
- ◆ **Chapter 5: Alternatives to the Proposed Project.** This chapter considers three alternatives to the proposed project, including the CEQA-required “No Project Alternative.”
- ◆ **Chapter 6: CEQA-Required Assessment Conclusions.** This chapter discusses growth inducement, unavoidable significant effects, and significant irreversible changes as a result of the project.
- ◆ **Chapter 7: Report Preparers.** This chapter identifies the Draft EIR’s preparers.

D. Environmental Review Process

The Public Review Draft EIR will be available for review by the public and interested parties, agencies, and organizations for a period of at least 45 days, as required by State law. A public hearing on the Draft EIR will be held with the Planning Commission during the review period, during which oral and written comments are welcome.

Written comments on the Draft EIR are encouraged for incorporation in the Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) and should be submitted to:

Nicholas Liguori, Principal Planner
Community Development Department
City of Chino
P.O. Box 667
Chino, CA 91708-0667

Following the close of the public comment period, a FEIR will be prepared to respond to all substantive comments regarding the Draft EIR. The FEIR will be made available for public review prior to consideration of its certification by the City of Chino City Council. Once the City Council certifies the FEIR, it will also consider adoption of the Proposed General Plan and the Focused Growth Plan, which may be approved as drafted or modified, or denied.