

Banning, California 92220  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 998  
Phone: 951 922-3125  
Fax: 951 922-3128

**REVISED NOTICE OF PREPARATION**  
**EXTENDED PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD**  
**FOR A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT**  
**AND**  
**PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING NOTICE**

**DATE:** January 9, 2012

**TO:** State Clearinghouse, Responsible and Trustee Agencies, and Interested Parties

**SUBJECT:** Notice of Intent to Prepare Draft Environmental Impact Report

**Project Title:** City of Banning Circulation Element General Plan Amendment

**Lead Agency:** City of Banning

**Lead Agency Address:** 99 E. Ramsey Street, Banning, California 92220

**City Contact:** Zai Abu Bakar, zabubakar@ci.banning.ca.us

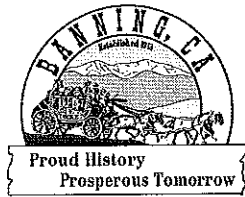
**Phone:** (951) 922-3131

The City of Banning has extended the public review period for the NOP on the above project. The previous review period ended on February 6, 2012. Please be advised that comments on the NOP will now be accepted through **February 13, 2012**. See the attached Revised NOP. Thank you.

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Zai Abu Bakar  
Community Development Director  
City of Banning

Attachments: Revised NOP



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The City of Banning (City) has determined that an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is necessary for the analysis of the proposed Circulation Element General Plan Amendment (the project) in the City of Banning. The City is the Lead Agency for the project and will prepare the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) under the terms and requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the implementing CEQA guidelines ("Guidelines").

**PURPOSE OF THIS NOTICE OF PREPARATION**

The purpose for this notice is: (1) to serve as the Notice of Preparation (NOP) to potential Responsible Agencies, and Trustee Agencies responsible for natural resources affected by the project pursuant to Section 15082 of the CEQA Guidelines; and (2) to advise and solicit comments and suggestions regarding the preparation of the EIR, environmental issues to be addressed in the EIR, and any related issues from interested parties other than those noted above, including interested or affected members of the public. The City requests that any potential Responsible or Trustee Agency responding to this notice, respond in a manner consistent with CEQA Guidelines Section 15082(b).

In order for the concerns of your agency to be incorporated into the Draft EIR, the City is requesting that you provide environmental information pertaining to the scope and content relevant to your agency's statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed project. Your response at a minimum should include: (a) significant environmental issues and reasonable alternatives and mitigation measures that the responsible or trustee agency will need to have explored in the Draft EIR; and (b) whether or not your agency will be a responsible or trustee agency for the project.

The project description, location, and a discussion indicating the probable environmental effects of the proposed action are contained in the attached materials. Additional project information, including a copy of the Initial Study (IS), is available for review at the City Hall, located at 99 E. Ramsey Street, Banning,

California, at the Banning Public Library, located at 21 West Nicolet Street, Banning, California, and on the City's website at <http://www.ci.banning.ca.us/>.

### **HOW AND WHEN TO COMMENT**

Pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21080.4 and Guidelines Section 15082(b), **Responsible Agencies must submit any written comments in response to this notice not later than 30 days after receipt.** All parties that have submitted their names and mailing addresses will be notified as part of the current project's CEQA review process. If you wish to be placed on the mailing list or have any questions or need additional information, please contact the person identified above. The City will accept **written comments** from Agencies and interested parties regarding this notice through the close of business on **February 13, 2012 (submit written comments to the City address shown above).**

### **PROJECT SUMMARY**

The project to be addressed in the EIR is a General Plan Amendment (GPA) to the Circulation Element. The City of Banning is proposing to amend the General Plan Circulation Element. The proposed GPA includes a change to the acceptable level of service (LOS) for roadway operating conditions from LOS C to LOS D. Additionally, the City is proposing to remove one designated interchange improvement at Interstate 10 (I-10) from the Proposed General Plan Street System identified in Exhibit III-6 in the Circulation Element. The objectives for the proposed project include the following:

- Update the City's General Plan Circulation Element to be consistent with adjacent jurisdictions' LOS D standards
- Adopt LOS D as the acceptable roadway operating condition so that additional right-of-way expenses are not incurred to meet a LOS C standard
- Update Exhibit III-6 in the Circulation Element by removing the Highland Home Road/I-10 future interchange and retaining the overcrossing to be consistent with the County's General Plan Circulation Element
- Update the text of the Circulation Element of the Banning General Plan

The project requires processing a GPA to the Circulation Element.

### **POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS**

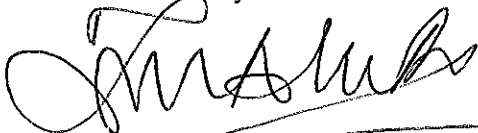
An IS was prepared for the project, which was used to focus the EIR on the effects determined to be significant pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15063(c)(3). A copy of the IS is attached to this NOP. Following are the impacts determined to be Potentially Significant that are to be analyzed in the EIR:

- Transportation/Traffic
- Air Quality
- Greenhouse Gases
- Noise
- Cultural Resources
- Land Use and Planning

**PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING**

A Public Scoping Meeting will be held on January 17, 2012 which will include a brief project overview and discussion of environmental issue areas. The meeting will be held from 6:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers at the above address. Any interested parties may attend to gain a better understanding of the project and to identify environmental issues of concern.

Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Zai Abu Bakar', is written over a horizontal line.

Zai Abu Bakar  
Community Development Director  
City of Banning

Attachments: Initial Study  
Figure 1, Project Location