

## I. INTRODUCTION

### A. PURPOSE OF THE RESPONSE TO COMMENTS DOCUMENT

This document has been prepared to respond to comments received on the Draft Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIR) prepared for the Measure DD Implementation Project (SCH# 2006122048). The Draft EIR identifies the likely environmental consequences associated with the implementation of the proposed project, and recommends mitigation measures to reduce potentially significant impacts. This Response to Comments (RTC) Document provides responses to comments on the Draft EIR and makes revisions to the Draft EIR, as necessary, in response to these comments or to amplify or clarify material in the Draft EIR.

This RTC Document, together with the Draft EIR, constitutes the Final EIR for the proposed project.

### B. ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS

According to CEQA, lead agencies are required to consult with public agencies having jurisdiction over a proposed project and to provide the general public with an opportunity to comment on the Draft EIR.

The City of Oakland circulated a Notice of Preparation (NOP) that included a list of potential environmental effects that could result from the proposed project. The NOP was published on December 8, 2006 and a public scoping meeting was conducted on January 3, 2007. Comments received by the City on the NOP were taken into account during the preparation of the EIR.

The Draft EIR was made available for public review on July 20, 2007 and distributed to applicable local and State agencies. Copies of the Notice of Availability of the Draft EIR (NOA) were mailed to all individuals previously requesting to be notified of the Draft EIR, in addition to those agencies and individuals who received a copy of the NOP. Verbal comments on the Draft EIR were accepted at the City of Oakland Planning Commission meeting held on September 5, 2007.

The CEQA-mandated public comment period for the Draft EIR ended on September 11, 2007. The comment period extended over a 53-day period, about a week longer than the 45-day comment period required by the *California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines*, Section 15105(a). The Copies of all written comments received during the comment period are included in Chapter III of this document.

### C. DOCUMENT ORGANIZATION

This RTC Document consists of the following chapters:

- *Chapter I: Introduction.* This chapter discusses the purpose and organization of this RTC Document and the Final EIR, and summarizes the environmental review process for the project.

- *Chapter II: List of Commenting Agencies, Organizations and Individuals.* This chapter contains a list of agencies, organizations, and persons who submitted written comments or spoke at the public comment session on the Draft EIR during the public review period.
- *Chapter III: Comments and Responses.* This chapter contains reproductions of all comment letters received on the Draft EIR as well as a summary of the comments provided at the public comment session. A written response for each CEQA-related comment received during the public review period is provided. Each response is keyed to the preceding comment. It should be noted that many of the comments received do not pertain to the CEQA analysis, but relate to the merits of the project or other issues. While these comments will be included in the record before the decision-makers, the purpose of this document is to respond to CEQA comments and not other issues.
- *Chapter IV: Draft EIR Revisions.* Corrections to the Draft EIR necessary in light of the comments received and responses provided, or necessary to amplify or clarify material in the Draft EIR, are contained in this chapter. Text with underline represents language that has been added to the Draft EIR; text with ~~strikeout~~ has been deleted from the Draft EIR. Revisions to figures are also provided, where appropriate.