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Community and Economic Development Agency
Planning & Zoning Division

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**MEASURE DD IMPLEMENTATION PROJECT
NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (FINAL EIR)
AND NOTICE OF A PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING TO CERTIFY THE FINAL EIR**

TO: All Interested Parties

SUBJECT: Notice of Availability of Final Environmental Impact Report for the Measure DD Implementation Project and Notice of a Planning Commission Meeting to certify the same

CASE NO.: ER 06-0017 (State Clearinghouse Number 2006122048)

PROJECT SPONSOR: City of Oakland

PROJECT LOCATION: The proposed components of the Measure DD Implementation Project would be located in the City of Oakland around Lake Merritt and the Lake Merritt Channel generally along Lakeshore Avenue, Lakeside Drive, and 12th Street; on the Oakland waterfront between Alice Street and 66th Avenue; at the Ira Jinkins Recreational Center on Edes Avenue in East Oakland; at the Studio One facility on 45th Street in North Oakland; and at multiple small creekside locations throughout the City.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: In November 2002, Oakland voters passed a \$198,250,000 bond measure entitled Oakland Trust for Clean Water, Safe Parks (Measure DD). This bond measure authorizes funding for physical improvements to existing parks; acquisition of land for new parks; development of new parks and recreation facilities; clean water measures; restoration and rehabilitation of recreation buildings; and implementation of creek and waterway protection and restoration activities. The proposed project would implement the activities funded by Measure DD, which include the following:

- Lake Merritt and Lake Merritt Channel Improvements
 - 12th Street Improvements
 - Replace the 12th Street culvert at Lake Merritt Channel with a bridge to increase tidal flow into and out of Lake Merritt
 - Reconfigure 12th Street, create a new 4-acre park, and connect these features to the Lake Merritt Channel
 - Lake Merritt Channel
 - Construct a bridge to replace the existing culvert at 10th Street
 - Redesign Channel at the Lake Merritt flood control station at 7th Streets
 - Improve bike, pedestrian access, restore wetlands and make other Channel and shoreline improvements
 - Lakeshore Avenue, El Embarcadero, Pergola, and E. 18th Street Pier Improvements
 - Consolidate the El Embarcadero roadway to form a "Grand Lake green link"
 - Renovate Pergola
 - Renovate E.18th Street Pier
 - Widen Lake Merritt Park paths and add bike lanes by reconfiguring Lakeshore Avenue
 - Lakeside Drive and Municipal Boathouse
 - Widen Lake Merritt Park paths and add bike lanes by reconfiguring perimeter streets (Oak Street, Harrison Street, and Lakeside Drive)
 - Renovate the Municipal Boathouse at 1520 Lakeside Drive and restore public use
 - Snow Park and Lakeside-Harrison-20th Street Intersection
 - Expand Snow Park and redesign the Lakeside Drive-Harrison Street-20th Street Intersection
 - Implement system-wide improvements including paths, irrigation, landscaping, furnishing, restrooms and signs
 - Bellevue Avenue Redesign, Children's Fairyland and the Sailboat House
 - Redesign Bellevue Avenue to improve circulation and to accommodate parking moved from the Sailboat House
 - Renovate Children's Fairyland
 - Renovate the Sailboat House and convert some of the adjacent parking lot to parkland

- Water Quality Control Measures and Other Improvements
 - Install stormwater filters, floating trash barriers, and aerating fountains, and implement other water quality improvements, including goose management elements
 - Repair or replace Lake Merritt retaining walls
- Oakland Waterfront Trail and Access Improvements
 - Acquire land for conservation and remediation purposes
 - Remediate hazardous materials from contaminated soils
 - Provide continuous public access from Jack London Square to Martin Luther King Jr. Regional Shoreline
 - Construct an access/overlook area at 66th Avenue
 - Acquire and develop Estuary Park, Meadow Park and a new park in the area of the 9th Avenue Terminal
 - Complete Union Point Park
 - East and North Oakland Recreation Facilities
 - Construct the East Oakland Sports Complex
 - Renovate and restore Studio One Art Center
- City-wide Creeks Restoration, Preservation and Acquisition
 - Restore and rehabilitate creeks by creating natural meanders, regrading and stabilizing banks, removing failing structures, and landscaping with native plants
 - Acquire creekside properties to facilitate restoration and habitat preservation

Implementation of the Project is anticipated to require actions or approvals by the City including design review, conditional use permits, tree removal permits, grading permits, and creek protection permits. These actions will be considered after certification of the Final EIR.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW: On July 20, 2007, a Draft EIR was published for this project, and a 52-day public review and comment period occurred from July 20, 2007 to September 10, 2007. The standard 45-day minimum comment period specified by State law was extended to allow for additional public review opportunities after the Labor Day holiday in early September. In addition, because September 10 was a City of Oakland holiday and City offices were closed, public comments were accepted until September 11, 2007. All comments that were received have been compiled and responded to in a Response to Comments document, along with changes and clarifications to the Draft EIR. The Response to Comments document, together with the Draft EIR, constitutes the Final EIR for the proposed project. The City of Oakland, as the Lead Agency, is hereby releasing this Final EIR, finding it to be accurate and complete and ready for certification. The preparation of the Final EIR has been overseen by the City's Environmental Review Officer or his/her representative, and the conclusions and recommendations in the EIR document represent the independent conclusions and recommendations of the City. Copies of the Final EIR will be available for distribution to interested parties at no charge starting Friday, January 25, 2008, after 3:00 p.m. at the Community and Economic Development Agency, Planning Division, 250 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Suite 3315, Oakland, CA 94612, Weekdays, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and on the City of Oakland Website at: <http://www.oaklandnet.com/government/ceda/revise/planningzoning/MajorProjectsSection/environmentaldocuments.html>

Public Hearing: The Oakland Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on February 13, 2008, to consider certification of the Final EIR for the project. Project approvals will be acted upon by the appropriate agencies at later dates. For further information please contact Elois A. Thornton, Planner IV, City of Oakland, Community and Economic Development Agency, Planning Division, 250 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Suite 3315, Oakland, California 94612; telephone (510) 238-6284; email: eathornton@oaklandnet.com.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Wednesday, February 13th, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. City Planning Commission, Hearing Room 1, City Hall, One Frank H. Ogawa Plaza (Considering certification of the Final EIR)

Dated: January 25, 2008

Elois A. Thornton
Planner IV