Notice of Availability of the Recirculated Draft Environmental Impact Report for the California Department of General Services Capitol Annex Project

YOU ARE INVITED TO REVIEW AND COMMENT

The California Department of General Services (DGS) is releasing the Recirculated Draft Environmental Impact Report (Recirculated DEIR) for the Capitol Annex Project for public review and comment from January 17, 2020 to March 2, 2020. The Capitol Annex Project would involve three primary components: (1) demolition and reconstruction of the existing Annex, (2) construction of a new underground visitor/welcome center on the west side of the Historic Capitol, and (3) construction of a new underground parking garage south of the Historic Capitol. The original DEIR identified significant environmental effects in the areas of Aesthetics; Archaeological, Historical, and Tribal Cultural Resources; Noise; and Biological Resources.

The DEIR was circulated for public review and comment for a period of 45 days from September 9, 2019 to October 24, 2019. Additionally, an informational workshop was held on September 17, 2019, and a public hearing was held on October 15, 2019. During the review period, written and oral comments were received on the DEIR. DGS reviewed those comments to identify specific environmental concerns and began preparation of responses to those comments. However, after the end of the DEIR public review period, design of the new visitor/welcome center continued to progress and an approach to entry to the visitor/welcome center was adopted that is different from what was analyzed in the DEIR. This modified approach consists of using ramps rather than stairs and elevators to enter the welcome center. This has resulted in a substantial modification of this project component compared to what was shown and evaluated in the DEIR. The modifications have the potential to substantially increase the severity of an impact or create a new significant impact in three of the environmental issue areas evaluated in the DEIR: Utilities and Service Systems; Archeological, Historical, and Tribal Cultural Resources; and Aesthetics, Light, and Glare. Therefore, recirculation of the DEIR is required.

Pursuant to procedures set forth in Section 15088.5(f)(2) of the State CEQA Guidelines, reviewers are directed to limit their comments to the information contained in the Recirculated DEIR that is revised and recirculated. Specifically, comments should be limited to the revised project description and modified portions of the three impact analyses: utilities and service systems; archaeological, historical, and tribal cultural resources; and aesthetics, light, and glare. Reviewers need not resubmit comments on the DEIR. Comments received on the DEIR, as well as comments on the Recirculated DEIR, will be included and responded to within the Final EIR (FEIR).

An informational workshop to inform the public of key analyses and conclusions of the Recirculated DEIR will be held from 4:30 to 6:30 PM on January 22, 2020 at the Tsakopoulos Library Galleria, located at 828 I Street Sacramento, CA 95814, in the West Room. A public hearing to receive comments on the Recirculated DEIR will be held from 4:30 to 6:30 PM on February 26, 2020 at the Tsakopoulos Library Galleria, located at 828 I Street Sacramento, CA 95814, in the West Room.

Written comments on the Recirculated DEIR will be accepted by DGS through 5:00 PM on March 2, 2020. Comments must be delivered or mailed to:

Stephanie Coleman, Senior Environmental Planner Department of General Services, Environmental Services Section Mailing Address: P.O. Box 989052, West Sacramento, CA 95798 Street Address: 707 3rd Street, MS-509, West Sacramento, CA 95605 Email: environmental@dgs.ca.gov

The Recirculated DEIR is available for review at the following locations:

- Department of General Services, Environmental Services Section between 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM
- Sacramento Central Library at 828 I Street during library hours
- Request a copy by email at: environmental@dgs.ca.gov
- Download from the website: http://bit.ly/DGSCEQA