Notice of Availability of and Public Meeting on the Draft Environmental Impact Report and LRDP Amendment Faculty and Family Student Housing and Open Space Plan

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act and the California Coastal Act, the University of California, Santa Barbara (University) has prepared an Environmental Impact Report to analyze the environmental impacts of the proposed Faculty and Family Student Housing projects, amendment to the University's Long Range Development Plan (LRDP), and implementation of Ellwood-Devereux Coast Open Space and Habitat Management Plan components that fall within the University's jurisdiction. The proposed housing projects comprise development of 236 faculty housing units on the University's North Campus north of Ocean Meadows Golf Course, and 151 family student housing units along Storke Road and Whittier Drive east of Ocean Meadows Golf Course. The University also proposes to amend its LRDP to expand the Coal Oil Point Natural Reserve by 40 acres, and to implement the Ellwood-Devereux Coast Open Space and Habitat Management Plan through the transfer of the University's planned residential development from the South Parcel of the University's North Campus, to concentrate development away from sensitive coastal resources to the north side of the Ocean Meadows Golf Course. The establishment of the Open Space Plan area and associated public access and habitat improvements are dependent upon approval of the proposed relocation of University faculty housing away from more sensitive coastal resources.

The EIR prepared for the project identifies and discusses potential impacts, mitigation measures, residual impacts, and monitoring requirements for identified subject areas. Potential significant environmental effects on the environment were identified for the following issue areas but would be reduced by proposed mitigation measures: geology and soils, hydrology, biological resources, hazards and hazardous materials, visual resources, recreation, cultural resources, and public services. Significant environmental effects on the environment were identified for traffic, noise, and air quality. Portions of the project area were historically used for oil and gas exploration. Any areas of petroleum-related contamination have been identified and listed on the Section 65962.5 Cortese List and other lists of sites with potential for hazardous materials.

The University will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, May 4, 2004 at 7:00 pm at Embarcadero Hall, 935 Embarcadero Del Norte, Isla Vista. Copies of the EIR are available for public review at the Office of Campus Planning and Design on the UCSB campus at 1325 Cheadle Hall, www.ellwood-devereux.org, and at:

- University Library Government Information Center
  University of California, Santa Barbara
  Santa Barbara CA 93106
  (805) 893-2477
- Santa Barbara Public Library
  40 East Anapamu
  Santa Barbara CA 93101
  (805) 962-7653
- Goleta Valley Public Library
  500 North Fairview
  Goleta CA 93117
  (805) 964-7878

The 45-day public review period for the EIR is from April 9, 2004 to May 24, 2004. The purpose of the public review period is to provide the public and other government agencies an opportunity to comment on the EIR and LRDP Amendment. Please send written comments postmarked no later than May 24, 2004 to:

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Office of Campus Planning and Design (2032)
Santa Barbara, California 93106-2032