



MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 1, 2011

TO: Housing Commission

FROM: Thomas Rogers, Associate Planner
Arlinda Heineck, Community Development Director
Community Development Department

RE: **Agenda Item D-1: El Camino Real/Downtown Specific Plan – Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) Presentation**

BACKGROUND

Menlo Park is developing a long-term plan for the El Camino Real and Downtown areas. The 2007-2008 visioning process (Phase I) led into the preparation of a Specific Plan and associated Environmental Impact Report (Phase II). The completed Specific Plan will contain elements such as detailed land use regulations, design guidelines, and implementation measures. Broad public outreach and participation are key elements of the project. More information about the overall process is available on the project web page:

<http://www.menlopark.org/specificplan>

ANALYSIS

The Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the El Camino Real/Downtown Specific Plan was released publicly on April 29, 2011. The Draft EIR is required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and is available at the following location:

http://www.menlopark.org/projects/comdev_ecrdowntown_eir.htm

The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on the Draft EIR on June 6, 2011. Comments may be made verbally at the June 6 meeting or submitted by email (throgers@menlopark.org), letter (Community Development Department, 701 Laurel Street, Menlo Park CA 94025), or fax (650-327-1653). Written

comments must be submitted to the Community Development Department no later than 5:30 p.m., Monday, June 20, 2011.

In addition to the Planning Commission hearing, City staff will be making presentations to the Bicycle, Environmental Quality, Housing, Parks and Recreation, and Transportation Commissions in early June to provide an overview of CEQA and the Draft EIR, and to answer questions. These sessions will be informational in nature and comments will not be recorded, although Commissioners and members of the public are encouraged to submit individual correspondence and/or speak at the June 6 Planning Commission hearing.

EXHIBITS TO BE PROVIDED AT MEETING

Draft EIR Overview Presentation

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