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PHYSICAL & ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING A & E BUILDING, # 1382

BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA 94720-1382

200308213

## NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF A DRAFT SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

Project Title:

Upper Hearst Development for the Goldman School of Public Policy and Minor Amendment

to the 2020 Long Range Development Plan

Lead Agency:

The Regents of the University of California

**Project Sponsor:** 

University of California, Berkeley

**Project Location:** 

University of California, Berkeley: adjacent to 2607 Hearst Avenue at La Loma Avenue,

Berkeley, California 94720; Assessor's Parcel Number 58-2201-9-1

County:

Alameda County, California

Program EIR:

UC Berkeley 2020 Long Range Development Plan EIR, certified by The Regents January 2005, State Clearinghouse No. 2003082131; as updated by Amendment #1 to the 2020 LRDP to

address Climate Change and accompanying Addendum #5 to the 2020 LRDP EIR.

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the University of California has completed a Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (Draft SEIR) addressing the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed development of two buildings located on the UC Berkeley campus. This notice is to inform interested agencies and the public of the availability of the Draft SEIR and the start and end dates of the review period, within which comments on the Draft SEIR can be submitted to UC Berkeley.

Project Location and Description: The project site is an approximately 44,900-square-foot (just over one acre) portion of a University owned property on the northwest corner of La Loma Avenue and Hearst Avenue, immediately west of 2607 Hearst Avenue across from the northeastern region of the UC Berkeley Campus Park. The site is bordered on the north by Ridge Road and the Cloyne Court Student Cooperative; on the east by La Loma Avenue; on the south by Hearst Avenue; and on the west by the Goldman School of Public Policy and the Cloyne Court Student Cooperative. The project site is located within the area of campus designated in the 2020 LRDP as the "City Environs," and within the City Environs' Adjacent Blocks North subarea.

The project comprises two separate buildings – an academic building and a residential building on top of a rebuilt parking structure – that would be built concurrently by the project developer. The residential building would be up to six-stories constructed on top of a three-story partially subterranean parking structure where the Upper Hearst parking structure and adjacent at-grade Ridge parking lot are now located on La Loma Avenue between Hearst Avenue and Ridge Road. The residential component would consist of up to 150 residential units in a mixture of studio and one- and two-bedroom apartments for campus. The project would reduce the total number of parking spaces on-site from 346 to approximately 175. The building, including the residential units and parking, would be approximately 220,000 gross square feet.

A separate academic building would be constructed immediately east of the existing GSPP building located at 2607 Hearst Avenue. The approximately 37,000 gross square feet of office, classroom, and event space in the academic building would serve several GSPP programs. The academic building would be four stories in height over one subterranean level. The fourth level would provide access to a rooftop terrace and include an event space with a seating capacity of 300 that could accommodate up to 450 people at maximum capacity.

Environmental Review and Impacts of the Project: UC Berkeley has prepared a Draft SEIR, tiered from its 2020 LRDP EIR to evaluate the environmental effects of the proposed project. UC Berkeley has been approving development projects based upon environmental documents that tier off the 2020 LRDP EIR approved in 2005. The campus population has now increased beyond 2020 LRDP projections that were analyzed in the 2020 LRDP EIR. The Draft SEIR analyzes the impacts of the Upper Hearst Development project and any change in environmental impacts from increased enrollment that has led to a new baseline for the overall campus population to those identified in the 2020 LRDP EIR. The Draft SEIR provides a project-level analysis of the Upper Hearst Development, including an LRDP text amendment for change in land use, and a program-level environmental analysis of development anticipated to accommodate current and projected enrollment at the UC Berkeley campus.

The preliminary conclusions of the Draft SEIR indicate that the proposed project would result in new significant and unavoidable impacts that were not identified in the 2020 LRDP EIR in aesthetics and land use compatibility.

Public Review and Document Availability: The Draft SEIR will be circulated for a 45-day review and comment period by agencies and the public. The comment period begins on February 20, 2019 and ends on April 8, 2019.

Written responses to the Draft SEIR must be received by 5:00 PM on Monday, April 8, 2019. A public hearing to receive oral comments will be held on the UC Berkeley campus the evening of Tuesday March 12, 2019. The public meeting will be held from 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM at the Alumni House.

UC Berkeley will prepare a Final SEIR that responds to comments received during the comment period. The Final SEIR, along with a mitigation monitoring and reporting program, will then be submitted to The Regents of the University of California for consideration and approval, anticipated in May 2019.

Links to electronic versions of this <u>Notice of Availability</u> and <u>Draft SEIR</u> are available on-line on the UC Berkeley Capital Strategies website at: <a href="https://capitalstrategies.berkeley.edu/resources-notices/public-notices">https://capitalstrategies.berkeley.edu/resources-notices/public-notices</a>

Draft SEIR hard copies are also available for review in the following locations:

Berkeley Main Library Reference Desk 2090 Kittredge Street Berkeley, CA 94704 DOE Main Library Reference Desk South Hall Road Berkeley, CA 94704

A&E Building Physical & Environmental Planning

Berkeley, CA 94720

Call 510-643-7384 to arrange a visit

**Opportunities for Commenting:** UC Berkeley invites comments on Draft SEIR. Please send written comments on the Draft SEIR by April 8, 2019, to be considered in the Final SEIR. Comments should be addressed to:

Raphael Breines, Senior Planner Physical & Environmental Planning University of California, Berkeley 300 A&E Building, Berkeley, CA 94720-1382

You may also send written comments via email to: <u>planning@berkeley.edu</u>. Please include a subject line indicating Public Comments: Upper Hearst Development Project.

In addition, comments may be presented orally at the public hearing to be held on Tuesday, March 12, 2019, beginning at 6:30 PM at the following address:

Alumni House Spieker Plaza Berkeley, CA 94720

UC Berkeley appreciates your interest in this project and looks forward to your involvement with the environmental review process.

## **Summary Form for Electronic Document Submittal**

Form F

Lead agencies may include 15 hardcopies of this document when submitting electronic copies of Environmental Impact Reports, Negative Declarations, Mitigated Negative Declarations, or Notices of Preparation to the State Clearinghouse (SCH). The SCH also accepts other summaries, such as EIR Executive Summaries prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15123. Please include one copy of the Notice of Completion Form (NOC) with your submission and attach the summary to each electronic copy of the document.

SCH #: 2003082131	
Project Title: Upper Hearst Development for the Goldman Schoo	of Public Policy & Minor Amendment to the 2020 LRDP
Lead Agency: University of California, Berkeley	
Contact Name: Raphael Breines	
Email: rbreines@berkeley.edu	Phone Number: (510) 642-6796
Project Location:Berkeley, Alameda County  City	County
City	County

Project Decription (Proposed actions, location, and/or consequences).

The Upper Hearst Development for the Goldman School of Public Policy (GSPP) Project is located on the northeast edge of the UC Berkeley Campus Park and includes two components – academic and residential – to be undertaken simultaneously by a Project developer. The academic component involves constructing an approximately 37,000 square foot building immediately east of the existing GSPP building located at 2607 Hearst Avenue. The residential building would be up to six stories constructed on top of a three-story mostly subterranean parking structure and consist of up to 150 residential units in a mixture of studio and one- and two-bedroom apartments. The Project also would include a Minor Amendment to UC Berkeley's 2020 Long Range Development Plan (LRDP), expanding the 2020 LRDP's Housing Zone to accommodate residential development on the Project site.

Identify the project's significant or potentially significant effects and briefly describe any proposed mitigation measures that would reduce or avoid that effect.

The Supplemental EIR determines that the Project would result in two new significant and unavoidable impacts, beyond the impacts identified in the 2020 LRDP EIR for implementation of the 2020 LRDP as a whole, related to the issues of: 1) visual character and quality, and 2) land use compatibility. No feasible mitigation is available to reduce these impacts to a less-than-significant level.

Consistent with the 2020 LRDP EIR's analysis, the Project also would have significant and unavoidable impacts related to historical resources, construction noise, and the exposure of new residents to ambient noise. Mitigation would reduce the impact on historical resources to the extent feasible by requiring the archiving of information about historical features prior to their demolition and the review of site plans by a historic architect to improve the compatibility of new buildings with adjacent historical resources. Other mitigation measures from the 2020 LRDP EIR would include the development of specifications to control construction noise and compliance with building standards that reduce the noise exposure of new residents to the full feasible extent.

Impacts related to climate change, traffic safety, and wastewater facilities would be reduced to a less-than-significant level with mitigation required in the Supplemental EIR. These mitigation measures include the purchase of credits to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, providing adequate sight distance at the proposed garage's driveway, and installing wastewater conveyance lines that prevent inflow/infiltration. All other impacts would either be less than significant or reduced to a less-than-significant level with implementation of mitigation measures and continuing best practices from the 2020 LRDP EIR.

f applicable, describe any of the project's areas of controversy known to the Lead Agency, including issues raised by agencies and the public.					
Based on input received from the public during th	ne scoping process	, areas of contro	versy include environ	mental impacts	
related to population growth, compatibility with hi	istoric resources, a	nd utilities.	•		
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Provide a list of the responsible or trustee agence	ies for the project.				
None.					
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