



County of Santa Barbara
Community Services Department
Parks Division
Jesús Armas, Director
Jeff Lindgren, Deputy Director, Parks Division

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**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF AND PUBLIC HEARING ON THE DRAFT
PROGRAM ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE SANTA
BARABRA COUNTY RECREATION MASTER PLAN AND RELATED
RECREATION AMENDMENTS TO THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AND
ZONING ORDINANCES**

(Case Nos. 22ORD-00000-00009; 22GPA-00000-00008)

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Project includes the proposed Recreation Master Plan, a strategic long-range plan to fund and construct new public parks and trails to meet current and future recreation needs countywide. The Recreation Master Plan identifies recreation needs within five recreation planning regions and proposes capital improvements, programs, funding, and implementation strategies to guide the development of a range of public parks and trail projects over 10 to 20 years. In addition, the Project would introduce the Recreation Benefit Project (RBP) Program, which would create a voluntary opportunity for private development projects to contribute directly to the County's public recreation system. The program would establish incentives for eligible projects that provide public recreation facilities as part of a proposed private development project. To support the Recreation Master Plan and the RBP Program, the Project involves a General Plan Amendment (GPA) to update the Recreation Section of the Land Use Element and policies within the County's Comprehensive Plan. The Project would also amend the County Land Use and Development Code (LUDC), the Montecito LUDC, and the Coastal Zoning Ordinance (CZO) to update the Recreation (REC) zoning district consistent with the Comprehensive Plan and implement the RBP and other related amendments, including allowing and regulating parks and trails as permitted uses in selected zoning districts. Finally, the Project includes targeted rezones of public park properties to REC zoning either to improve the accuracy of the County Zoning Map or support the implementation of the Recreation Master Plan.

Additional information regarding the Project will be posted to the Project's webpage as it becomes available at:

<https://www.countyofsb.org/1214/Recreation-Master-Plan>

Please also visit www.sbcrecplan.com for more information about the Project and its background.

PROJECT LOCATION: The Project involves unincorporated areas of Santa Barbara County (inland and coastal) within five recreation planning areas.

COMMENT: The County of Santa Barbara Parks Division is soliciting comments on the adequacy and completeness of the analysis and the proposed mitigation measures described in the Draft Program EIR for Santa Barbara County Recreation Master Plan and Related Recreation Amendments to the Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinances (Case Nos. 22ORD-00000-00009, 22GPA-00000-00008; State Clearinghouse No. 2025010324). You may also submit written comments to the Project Manager identified below prior to the close of the public comment period on August 10, 2026.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW FINDINGS: The County has prepared the Draft Program EIR pursuant to requirements of the State Guidelines for the Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the County of Santa Barbara Environmental Thresholds and Guidelines Manual. The Draft Program EIR prepared for the project identifies and discusses potential impacts, mitigation measures, residual impacts and monitoring requirements for identified subject areas. **Significant and unavoidable** effects on the environment identified in the Draft Program EIR include: agricultural resources and transportation.

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY: The Draft Program EIR and all documents incorporated by reference may be reviewed at County offices located at 123 E. Anapamu Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101 and 624 Foster Rd., Santa Maria, CA 93455 AND is available on the Parks Division website:

<https://www.countyofsb.org/1214/Recreation-Master-Plan>

PUBLIC AND AGENCY COMMENTS: Please send your comments and the name of a contact person in your agency to Jeff Lindgren, Deputy Director of Parks Division, at the address below, prior to close of the public comment period on **August 10, 2026 at 5:00 p.m** or provide testimony at the public hearing on the date and time specified above. Please limit comments to issues pertaining to the environmental impact analysis. Future notice will be provided for dates of future public hearings to consider Project approval or denial.

Submit Comments to: Jeff Lindgren

Via Email: RecPlan@countyofsb.org

Via USPS: Community Services Department, Parks Division
123 East Anapamu Street, 2nd Floor, Santa Barbara, CA 93101

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in the hearing, please contact Hearing Support Staff (805) 568-2000. Notification at least 48 hours prior to the hearing will enable Hearing Support Staff to make reasonable arrangements.