



NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

DATE: March 31, 2026
TO: State Clearinghouse, Agencies, Organizations, and Interested Parties
PROJECT: Site Plan Review No. 24-0027, Zone Modification No. 24-0032, and Vesting Tentative Parcel Map No. 12637 – Bakersfield Temple; located at the northwest corner of Stockdale Highway and Jewetta Avenue.

This Notice of Availability is to notify agencies, organizations, and interested parties that the City of Bakersfield (City), as Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR; State Clearinghouse No. 2025090952) for the Bakersfield Temple Project. Based on the analysis presented in the DEIR, the Project would not result in any significant and unavoidable adverse environmental impacts. All potentially significant impacts evaluated in the DEIR can be feasibly reduced to less-than-significant levels with the incorporation of the mitigation measures provided in the DEIR. The DEIR and its technical appendices are available for review at the following website:

<https://www.bakersfieldcity.us/279/Environmental-Documents>

Written comments and inquiries regarding the Project and/or the DEIR should be directed to the following:

Roque Nino, Principal Planner
City of Bakersfield Development Services Department – Planning Division
1715 Chester Avenue, 2nd Floor
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Comments may also be emailed to rnino@bakersfieldcity.us

Project Description:

The Project involves the proposed development of an approximately 13.07-gross-acre (11.76 net acres) religious campus on currently vacant, graded land in two phases. The Project is located at the northwest corner of Stockdale Highway and Jewetta Avenue and includes Kern County Assessor's Parcel Numbers (APNs) 500-780-12 and 500-780-13 (Project Site). The first phase proposes the construction and operation of a temple structure with site improvements such as parking, plazas, and gardens. The second phase proposes the construction and operation of a meetinghouse and additional improvements including an expanded parking lot and landscaping. The Project would construct a cross-lot road with sidewalks/walkways and landscaping along the northern perimeter of the Project Site to provide vehicular access from Jewetta Avenue, connecting with the existing surface parking lot on the parcel abutting to the west. The Project Site is surrounded by a pediatric specialty medical facility to the west; a private high school, church, and commercial storage facility to the south across Stockdale Highway; the 14-acre Aera Park to the east across Jewetta Avenue; and a single-family residential subdivision abutting the Project Site to the north.

The applications filed with the City include the following:

- Site Plan Review No. 24-0027 for the development of a 13.07-acre religious campus, including a temple, meetinghouse, grounds building, clothing building, and equipment yard as well as an on-site park area with trellis and an open-air pavilion, and an associated surface parking lot.
- Zone Modification No. 24-0032 to allow steeple heights as proposed (temple: 123 feet 6 inches, meetinghouse: 66 feet 4 inches) where 60 feet is permitted in a C-O (Commercial and Professional Office) zone district.
- Vesting Tentative Parcel Map No. 12637 to subdivide the 13.07 gross acres (11.76 net acres) into three parcels.

Opportunity for Public Review and Comment

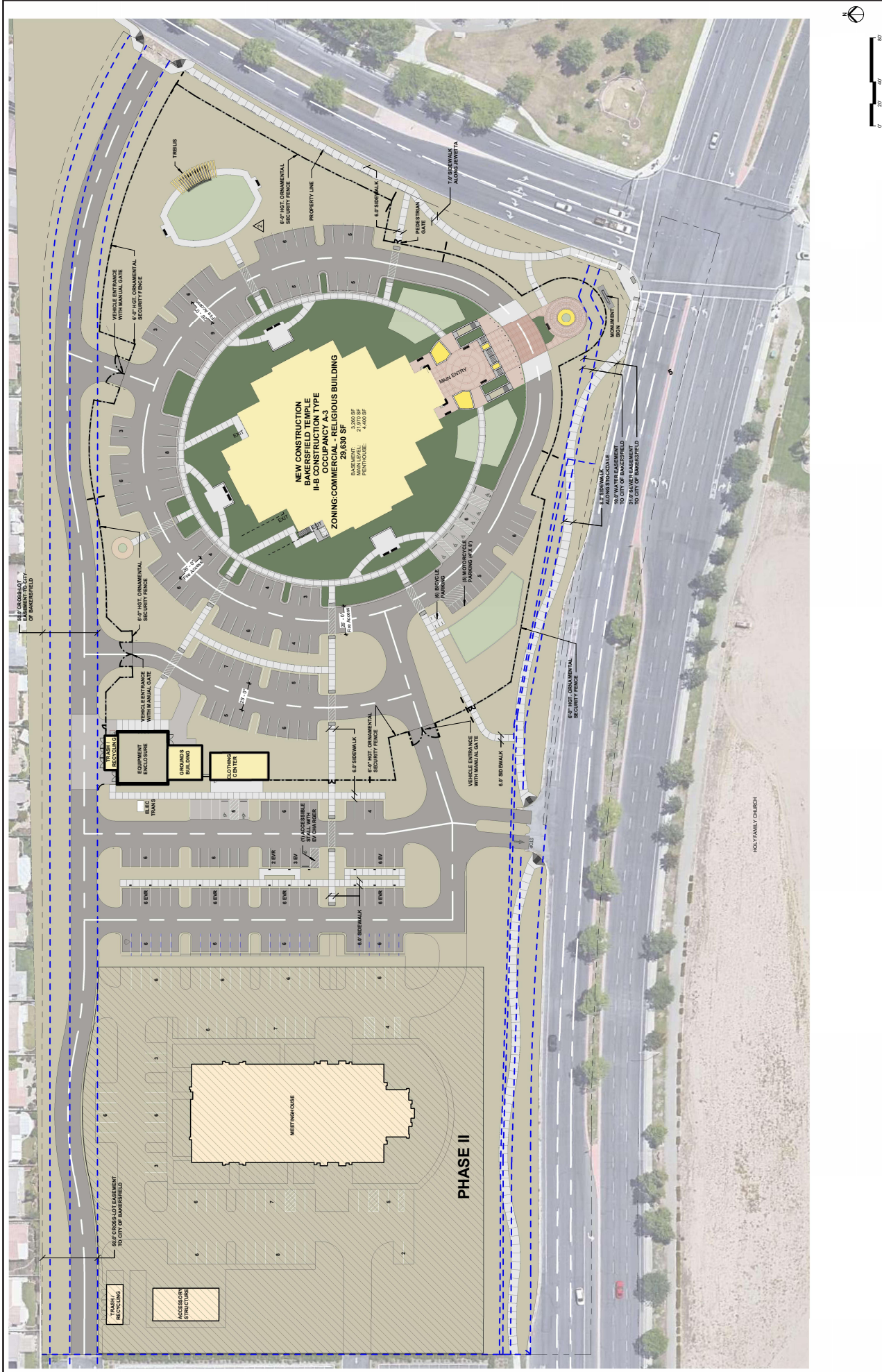
The issuance of this Notice of Availability triggers a 45-day public review period. The public review period begins on **March 31, 2026**, and ends on **May 15, 2026**. The City of Bakersfield invites written comments regarding the proposed Project and/or adequacy of the DEIR. Trustee Agencies and Responsible Agencies are asked to identify their statutory authorities pertaining to the Project. If applicable, please include the name and contact information of a contact person for your agency. In accordance with the time limits established by CEQA, responses should be sent at the earliest possible date, but no later than 45 days after publication of this notice. Please submit your comments by 5:00 p.m. on or before **May 15, 2026**, to:

Roque Nino, Principal Planner
City of Bakersfield
Development Services Department – Planning Division
1715 Chester Avenue, 2nd Floor
Bakersfield, CA 93301

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Attachments:

Conceptual Site Plan



SOURCE: HKS, 2025

FIGURE 1

Conceptual Site Plan