

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 #: _____

Project Title: Los Angeles County Events Ordinance

Lead Agency: Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning

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Project Location: Unincorporated Los Angeles County (Countywide)
City County

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

The County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning staff has prepared the Los Angeles County Events Ordinance (Events Ordinance or Project) to codify and update guidance from the 2016 Subdivision and Zoning Ordinance Interpretation memorandum; provide clear definitions and standards for event facilities and special events; identify appropriate zones where event facilities may be considered with discretionary review; clarify when event activity is a primary use or a temporary special event; and align event-related regulations with other Zoning Code provisions. Specifically, the Events Ordinance would: (1) modify Division 2 (Definitions) of the Zoning Code to add and clarify terms related to event activities; (2) add event facilities to several Division 3 (Zones) use tables as a conditionally permitted use in specified base zones, as well as in selected zones within the Santa Monica Mountains Local Implementation Program and various specific plans; (3) add a new "Event Facilities" section within Division 7 (Standards for Specific Uses), establishing development, operational, and management standards for event facilities; (4) revise Chapter 22.188, Special Event Permits to define and regulate short-term and extended-term special events, clarify procedures and findings, and strengthen enforcement provisions; and (5) make conforming changes elsewhere in the Zoning Code to ensure internal consistency and avoid duplication or conflict with related regulations. The Project does not propose any development or other such activities (e.g., ground disturbance, etc.) that could result in direct, adverse environmental impacts under CEQA. Potential indirect environmental impacts of the Project will be analyzed at a programmatic level in the Draft Program Environmental Impact Report.

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

The Project consists of a zoning ordinance and does not propose any project-level development. However, the Project defines and codifies development standards for a new, conditionally permitted use (i.e., event facilities). Although event-facility-type uses are currently permitted on an ad hoc basis and operate throughout the County under existing conditions, the PEIR will analyze potential environmental impacts associated with future construction and operation of new event facilities, as defined and regulated under the proposed Events Ordinance. Thus, consistent with CEQA Guidelines Section 15082, the County has determined that the Project may result in potentially significant environmental effects related to the following environmental topics: biological resources, land use/planning, noise, and transportation. Potential mitigation measures will be addressed in the PEIR.

If applicable, describe any of the project's areas of controversy known to the Lead Agency, including issues raised by agencies and the public.

The County's Zoning Code does not currently contain a countywide "event facility" use or definition. Existing regulations address these uses for specific communities and provide general Special Event Permit procedures for some temporary special event uses, but do not clearly distinguish between principal use event facilities (i.e., ongoing commercial venues) and accessory or incidental events associated with another principal use (such as a winery, campground, or private residence). Because the Zoning Code lacks explicit event-related use definitions and standards, staff and decision-makers have relied on case-by-case interpretations, including the 2016 Subdivision and Zoning Ordinance Interpretation memorandum, to guide permitting. This ad hoc approach has led to inconsistency across communities, uncertainty for property owners and operators, and challenges for enforcement. The Events Ordinance seeks to help addresses these issues.

Provide a list of the responsible or trustee agencies for the project.

Approval of zoning ordinance amendments is a local legislative action that does not require other public agency approvals.