

# 1. Introduction

This Final Environmental Impact Report (Final EIR) has been prepared in conformance with the environmental policy guidelines for the implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) to evaluate the environmental effects that may result from construction and operation of the proposed Harvest Landing Retail Center & Business Park Project (proposed Project).

According to Guidelines for Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA Guidelines) Section 15132, the Final EIR shall consist of:

- (a) The Draft Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIR) or a revision of the Draft EIR;
- (b) Comments and recommendations received on the Draft EIR, either verbatim or in summary;
- (c) A list of persons, organizations, and public agencies commenting on the Draft EIR;
- (d) The responses of the lead agency to significant environmental points raised in the review and consultation process;
- (e) Any other information added by the lead agency.

This document contains the City of Perris' responses to the comments received by the City on the Draft EIR during the Draft EIR public review period, which began on May 30, 2025 and ended on July 14, 2025. A Notice of Availability of the Draft EIR was published concurrently with distribution of the Draft EIR. This document has been prepared in accordance with CEQA and the CEQA Guidelines, and represents the independent judgment of the lead agency for the proposed Project, which is the City of Perris. This document and the circulated Draft EIR comprise the Final EIR in accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15132.

## 1.1 FORMAT OF THE FINAL EIR

The following chapters are contained within this document:

**Section 1.0, Introduction.** This section describes CEQA requirements and the content of the Final EIR.

**Section 2.0, Response to Comments.** This section provides a list of agencies and organizations who submitted comments on the Draft EIR, as well as copies of their comment letters received during and following the Draft EIR public review period, and individual responses to their comments.

**Section 3.0, Revisions to the Draft EIR.** This section contains revisions made to the Draft EIR as a result of the comments received by agencies, organizations, and individuals as described in Section 2.0, and/or errors and omissions discovered since the publication of the Draft EIR for public review.

**Section 4.0, Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Program.** This chapter includes the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for the proposed Project. CEQA requires lead agencies to “adopt a reporting and mitigation monitoring program for the changes to the project which it has adopted or made a condition of project approval in order to mitigate or avoid significant effects on the environment” (CEQA Section 21081.6, CEQA Guidelines Section 15097). The Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program was prepared based on the mitigation measures included in the Draft EIR and finalized in this Final EIR.

## 1.2 CEQA REQUIREMENTS REGARDING COMMENTS AND RESPONSES

CEQA Guidelines Section 15204(a) outlines parameters for submitting comments and reminds persons and public agencies that the focus of review and comment of Draft EIRs should be “on the sufficiency of the document in identifying and analyzing the possible impacts on the environment and ways in which the significant effects of the project might be avoided or mitigated. Comments are most helpful when they suggest additional specific alternatives or mitigation measures that would provide better ways to avoid or mitigate the significant environmental effects. At the same time, reviewers should be aware that the adequacy of an EIR is determined in terms of what is reasonably feasible ... CEQA does not require a lead agency to conduct every test or perform all research, study, and experimentation recommended or demanded by commenters. When responding to comments, lead agencies need only respond to significant environmental issues and do not need to provide all information requested by reviewers, as long as a good faith effort at full disclosure is made in the EIR.”

CEQA Guidelines Section 15204(c) further advises that “[r]eviewers should explain the basis for their comments, and should submit data or references offering facts, reasonable assumptions based on facts, or expert opinion supported by facts in support of the comments. Pursuant to Section 15064, an effect shall not be considered significant in the absence of substantial evidence.” CEQA Guidelines Section 15204(d) also states that “[e]ach responsible agency and trustee agency shall focus its comments on environmental information germane to that agency’s statutory responsibility.” CEQA Guidelines Section 15204(e) states that “[t]his section shall not be used to restrict the ability of reviewers to comment on the general adequacy of a document or of the lead agency to reject comments not focused as recommended by this section.”

In accordance with CEQA Section 21092.5, copies of the written responses to public agencies are being forwarded to those agencies at least 10 days prior to certification of the Final EIR, with copies of this Final EIR document, which conforms to the legal standards established for response to comments on the Draft EIR pursuant to CEQA.