



# CITY OF EL CERRITO NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A NEGATIVE DECLARATION

El Cerrito Recycling Center Project  
Planning Commission  
June 18, 2008

Notice is hereby given that the City of El Cerrito finds that no significant effect on the environment, as prescribed by the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970 (CEQA), as amended, will occur for the following proposed project:

1. Project Proponent: City of El Cerrito, Integrated Waste Services Division and Public Works Department, 10940 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito, CA 94530
2. Project Description: The proposed project would result in the reconstruction of the Recycling Center. The purpose of the project is to remove existing structures that contain hazardous materials and are structurally defective, rebuild improved Recycling Center office and operational structures, and organize the uses on the site in a way that better serves the public, staff, and the needs of the City. The project would result in the demolition and removal of all existing structures on the site, and the construction of new structures, including Recycling Center offices and a Recycling Center operations building. The Recycling Center offices would contain a conference room/classroom, expanded office, break/lunch room, locker area, and bathrooms with showers. The structure would accommodate staff from the Maintenance Division of the Public Works Department that is currently housed in buildings across the street from the project site. Other facilities that would be developed on the site include a covered recycling operations area, visitor and staff parking spaces, a bin and materials storage area, and an organic garden adjacent to the Recycling Center operations building. The footprint of the Recycling Center would expand slightly towards the hillside with implementation of the proposed project. Total interior square footage of recycling office and operations space on the site would increase from approximately 5,947 square feet to 11,812 square feet. The project is intended to improve the operation of the existing Recycling Center and would not increase the capacity of the Recycling Center such that additional staff could be accommodated or recycling throughput substantially increased (although Maintenance Division staff in the area would be relocated to the site from the Corporation Yard).
3. Project Location: 7501 Schmidt Lane, El Cerrito California.

4. Findings: The Planning staff has determined that the project described above will not have a significant effect on the environment for the reasons stated below.
5. Statement of Reasons to Support the Finding: Staff has hired the firm LSA Associates, Inc. to conduct an Initial Study/Negative Declaration, pursuant to California Resources Code Chapter 2.6, Section 21080 (c) and the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines, Article 6 - Negative Declaration Process. The Initial Study identifies potential impacts to the environment as a result of development of the proposed project. The Initial Study did not identify any environmental topics as being associated with potentially significant impacts.
6. Initial Study and Negative Declaration: Project plans, an environmental analysis of the potential effects of the project and related background source materials may be reviewed at the following locations: during normal business hours at the City of El Cerrito Department of Public Works, located at 10940 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito, CA; during regular business hours at the Recycling Center located at 7501 Schmidt Lane, El Cerrito, CA; on the City of El Cerrito's main web page at [www.el-cerrito.org](http://www.el-cerrito.org); and the Recycling Center's web page at [www.ecrecycling.org](http://www.ecrecycling.org).
7. Hazardous Materials: The site is not listed on a hazardous materials database. The project site would not create a significant hazard to the public or environment.
8. Public Review: The public comment period for this environmental determination will begin on May 14, 2008. Anyone who wishes to comment on the findings of this environmental analysis must submit these comments in writing to **Adam Weinstein**, Associate, LSA Associates, Inc., 2215 Fifth Street, Berkeley, CA 94710, or by fax to (510) 540-7344. Comments must be received by 5:00 p.m. on June 12, 2008.
9. Notice of Intent to Adopt a Negative Declaration: Notice is hereby given that the City of El Cerrito **Planning Commission** will consider the adoption of this proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration and its findings at a public hearing tentatively scheduled on June 18, at 7:30 p.m., in the Council Chamber at 7007 Moeser Lane, in El Cerrito. This proposed Negative Declaration does not signify approval or disapproval of this project by City decision-making bodies. The final decision-making body will consider the proposed Negative Declaration together with any comments received during the public review process to determine whether the project will have a significant impact on the environment.



Adam Weinstein  
Associate, LSA Associates, Inc.

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