

CITY OF ENCINITAS

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Notice of Scoping Meeting and Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report

Date: September 1, 2022

To: State Clearinghouse, Responsible Agencies, Trustee Agencies, Organizations, and Interested Persons

Lead Agency: City of Encinitas, Department of Policy Planning & Housing
505 S. Vulcan Avenue
Encinitas, California 92024
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Project Title: Mobility Element Update

Project Location: City-wide. The regional location is shown in Figure 1. The project location and City boundary is shown in Figure 2. The City of Encinitas lies in northern San Diego County, approximately 25 miles north of the City of San Diego. It encompasses 20.2 square miles and is considered almost fully developed. It is bordered by the City of Carlsbad to the north, the City of Solana Beach to the South, and unincorporated San Diego County to the east. Interstate 5 and Coast Highway 101 both cut through the western half City of Encinitas from north to south.

Project Applicant: City of Encinitas (Development Services Department)

SCOPING MEETING: Pursuant to PRC Section 21080.4(b), the lead agency is hosting an in person scoping meeting on **Monday, September 19, 2022, from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM** to present on the project and solicit comments. Please note that depending on the number of attendees, the meeting could end earlier than 7:00 PM.

This meeting will be held in the Poinsettia Room at City Hall, located at 505 S. Vulcan Ave., Encinitas, CA 92024.

This meeting will be an open house format and interested parties may drop in to review the proposed project exhibits and submit written comments on the scope of the Draft EIR during the meeting. Information is also available at encinitasca.gov/mobilityelement.

If you have any questions regarding this scoping meeting, please contact Jennifer Gates, Planning Manager, at jgates@encinitasca.gov or (760) 633-2714, or Evan Jedynak, at ejedynak@encinitasca.gov or (760) 633-2686.

NOTICE OF PREPARATION (NOP): Notice is hereby given that the City of Encinitas, as the lead agency, is proposing to prepare a Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the proposed project as identified below. This Notice of Preparation (NOP) has been prepared pursuant to PRC Section 21092.3. The City needs to know the views of your agency as to the scope and content of the environmental information that is germane to your agency's statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed project. This NOP of a PEIR and a Scoping Meeting was publicly noticed and distributed on Friday, September 02, 2022. This notice was also published in The Coast News.

NOP Comment Period: The City of Encinitas invites you to comment on the scoping for the PEIR. The NOP is available for a 30-day public review period from Friday, September 02, 2022, to Monday, October 03, 2022. Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15082, responsible and trustee agencies and other interested parties, including members of the public, must submit any comments in response to this notice **no later than 5:00 PM on Monday, October 03, 2022.** Please send your responses to the City of Encinitas Department of Policy Planning & Housing c/o Jennifer Gates and Evan Jedynak at the address listed under "Lead Agency". During this period, the NOP will be available for review, or for purchase at the cost of reproduction, at the Development Services Department located at City Hall (505 S. Vulcan Ave. Encinitas, CA 92024) during regular business hours (8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.), at the Encinitas Community Center, Encinitas and Cardiff public libraries, and on the City's website at: encinitasca.gov/mobilityelement.

Project Description: To address changes in California State legislation, a changing regional context and forecasted future growth, the City of Encinitas is updating its Circulation Element, also known as the Mobility Element. The Mobility Element Update will provide a long-term blueprint that guides transportation decision making, plans for diverse modes and mobility options, envisions future mobility improvements, and includes updated goals, policies, and multi-modal networks. The Mobility Element Update will revise the City's existing Circulation Element policies to account for changes made to state law with the recent development of several mode-specific, strategic, community and neighborhood plans to create one, cohesive mobility framework. The Update will also include changes to the City's roadway classifications through analysis of vehicle miles traveled (VMT) thresholds per SB 743, and metrics such as safety, bicycle, and pedestrian level of comfort (LOC), and trips-by-mode share.

This Mobility Element Update will include the reclassification of roadways as seen in Figure 3. The MEU will also consider separate recent planning documents, including the Encinitas Climate Action Plan (CAP), Coastal Mobility and Livability Study (CMLS), Rail Corridor Vision Study (RCVS), Active Transportation Plan (ATP), Modal Alternatives Plan (MAP), and the El Camino Real Specific Plan (ECRSP).

The objectives of the Mobility Element Update are:

1. Improve the safety, interconnectivity, accessibility, and comfort of all multi-modal corridors to maximize the number of trips made by foot, transit, micro-mobility and bicycle to schools, parks, neighborhoods, the coast, and shopping areas.
2. Provide for, expand, and sustain a mix of transportation modes that meets the existing and future transportation needs of all Encinitas residents and visitors, and minimizes impacts to the community and environmental character.
3. Promote a long-term, coordinated program that provides standards and/or direction for improvements to the public-right-of-way to enhance the identity of specific areas and create street design solutions to accommodate all modes of travel.

4. Update existing classifications and overlays within the Mobility Element so that the Encinitas circulation network responds to the present and future circulation needs of all users.
5. Consolidate existing and new policies in its various mode-specific, strategic, community and neighborhood plans, (including the CAP, Coastal Mobility and Livability Study (CMLS), Rail Corridor Vision Study (RCVS) and the Active Transportation Plan (ATP), etc.), into one cohesive citywide framework.

Environmental Impact Report: The City of Encinitas, as the lead agency under CEQA, will prepare a PEIR for the Mobility Element Update in accordance with CEQA. The Mobility Element Update is considered a “project” under CEQA, and therefore is subject to CEQA review. The EIR will evaluate potential environmental impacts associated with adoption and implementation of the Mobility Element Update. The EIR will disclose potential impacts of the Mobility Element Update, propose mitigation measures to avoid and/or reduce impacts deemed potentially significant, identify reasonable alternatives, and compare the environmental impacts of the alternatives to the proposed Project’s impacts.

Pursuant to Section 15063(a) of the CEQA Guidelines, an Initial Study will not be prepared. Instead, the EIR will evaluate issues that have potentially significant impacts. Resource categories will be evaluated to determine if the project has potentially significant impacts, and what mitigation measures might be required to reduce these impacts. The EIR will also evaluate potential cumulative impacts, growth inducement and other CEQA-required topics.

ATTACHMENTS:

Figure 1. Project Vicinity (Regional Location)

Figure 2. Project Location

Figure 3. Proposed Classification Network

Figure 1. Project Vicinity (Regional Location)

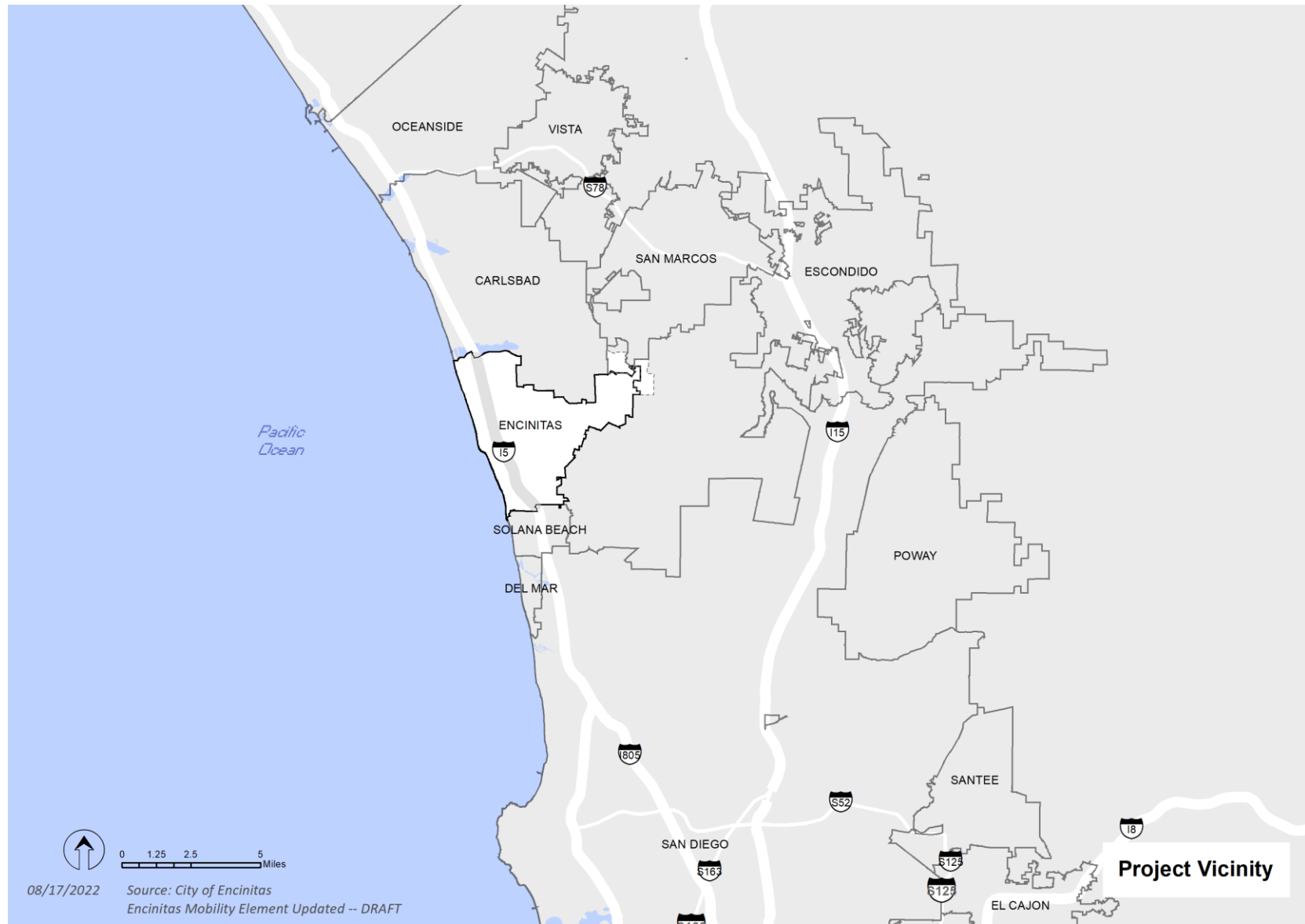


Figure 2. Project Location

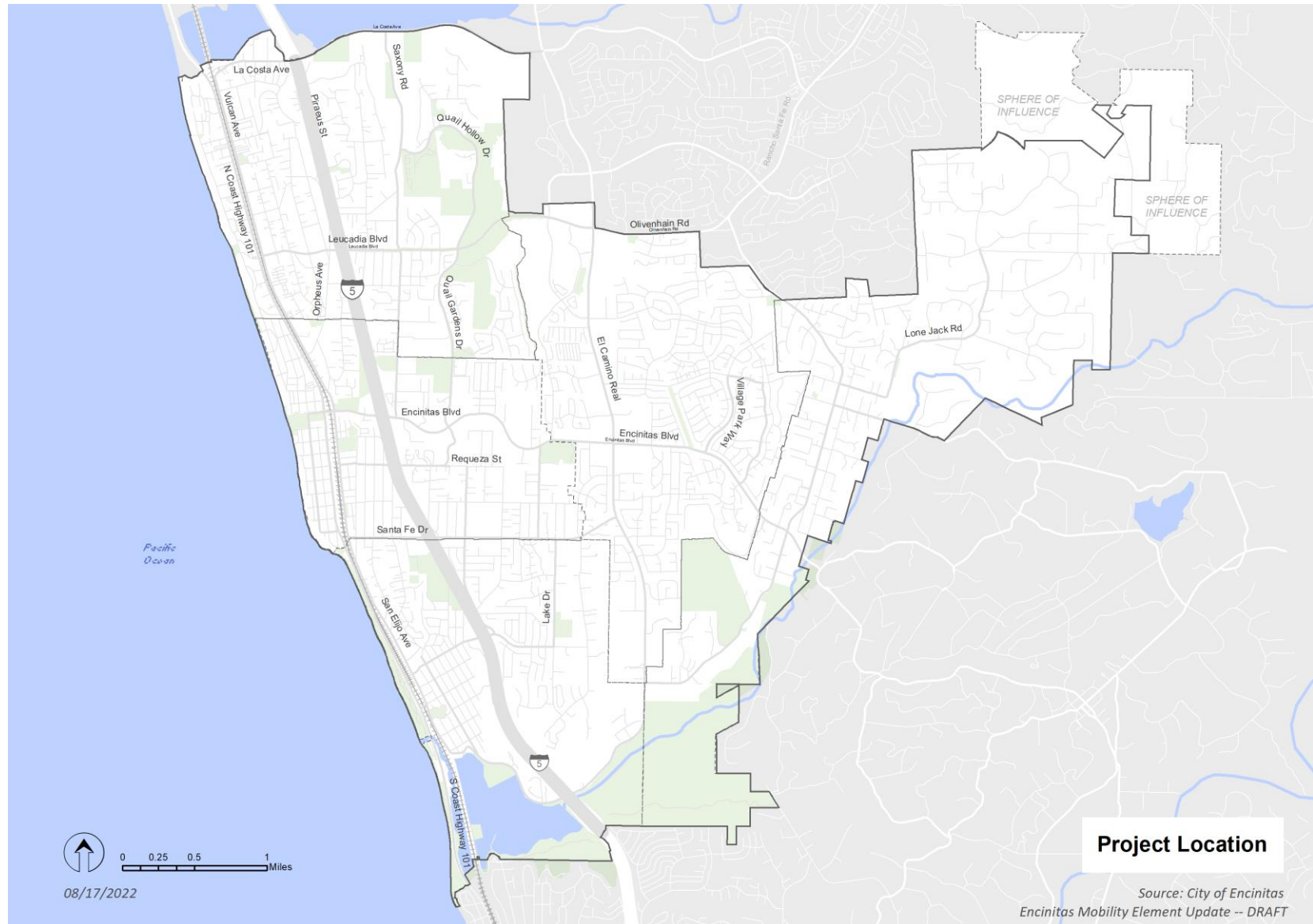


Figure 3. Proposed Classification Network

