

Environmental Impact Report (EIR)

An EIR shall be prepared when substantial evidence exists, based upon the whole record, that a project may have a significant adverse effect on the environment. Steps in the EIR process include:

Notice of Preparation: PRC Section 21080.4 and Guidelines Section 15082 *require* that the lead agency immediately send notice of its determination to prepare an EIR to all responsible agencies, trustee agencies, and OPR. These agencies have 30 days to specify the scope and content of the environmental information germane to their area of statutory responsibility which must be included in the EIR

Early Public Consultation (Scoping): Prior to completing the draft EIR the lead agency *may* also consult with other persons or organizations which may be concerned with the environmental effects of the project in order to determine issues to be analyzed in depth in the environmental impact report.

Consultant Selection/EIR Preparation: The Lead Agency hires an environmental consultant to prepare the EIR. (*This is where the Baylands process currently stands.*) Unique to Brisbane the City has chosen to evaluate a community-based project alternative in the EIR at the same level of detail as the applicant's proposal. The City has undertaken an intensive community process to develop and review community alternatives. Alternatives are currently under review by the City Council. Once the City Council selects an alternative for study in the EIR, the consultant shall complete preparation of the Draft EIR.

Notice of Completion/Public Review of Draft EIR: Once the draft EIR is published the Lead Agency shall file a Notice of Completion with the State of California Officer of Planning and Research and provide public notice of the availability of a draft EIR. The public comment period shall be a minimum of 45 days.

Agency Consultation: When a draft EIR is completed, the EIR must be circulated to affected responsible and trustee agencies, as well as any city or county which borders the city or county within which the project is proposed.

Final EIR/EIR Certification: After the close of the public comment period the lead agency shall prepare a Final EIR which includes written comments received on the draft EIR and responses to those comments as well as any changes to the EIR resulting from comments. The lead agency shall certify the EIR prior to approving a project.