

UPDATE TO CEQA THRESHOLDS AND METHODOLOGY

December 9, 2023 Plancheckncla

Comments

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Dear Stakeholder, Pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guideline Section 15064.7(b), the Department of City Planning is considering adopting updated thresholds of significance and methodologies to analyze impacts: 1) for construction noise and vibration, and 2) to historic resources. Pursuant to the authority of the Director of Planning under Los Angeles Charter Section 506 to make and enforce any necessary rules and regulations, the Director is considering the adoption of updated thresholds and methodology in the Department's preparation of CEQA clearances. Below is a summary of the proposed updates and the available documents for review.

Construction Noise and Vibration A new set of thresholds was developed based on input from noise experts and a review of noise thresholds used by other state and local agencies. The new thresholds are intended to be better suited to the City's urban nature, yet still recognize the importance of human health, including sleep disruption. The thresholds account for reasonable expectations regarding noise and vibration during daytime and nighttime hours and also include absolute noise levels to protect human health.

Construction Noise and Vibration – Proposed Updates to Thresholds and Methodology

Historic Resources The update would memorialize best practices for the review and analysis of historic resources.

Draft CEQA Guide – Guide to Preparation of Impact Analysis – Cultural Resources – Historic Resources

Draft CEQA Guide – Technical Studies – Cultural Resources – Historic Resources

A virtual public hearing is being held to provide a formal opportunity for public comment on the proposed updated CEQA thresholds. Individuals may join the public hearing online or by phone to offer testimony.

Written Comments In lieu of attending the public hearing, comments may be submitted by email to mindy.nguyen@lacity.org or by hard copy to the address below through Wednesday, December 20, 2023. Any written communication must include reference to "Updated CEQA Thresholds."

Virtual Public Hearing on Updated CEQA Thresholds Wednesday, December 20, 2023 10 a.m.

Join Meeting

Enter Meeting ID 817 0625 1571 and Passcode 6497300 or join by phone:
(213) 338-8477 or (669) 900-9128

Receive Future Updates To join the interested parties list for the updated CEQA thresholds and receive future updates, please email mindy.nguyen@lacity.org. **Next Steps** After the public hearing, the Director of City Planning will consider the public testimony received before potentially adopting updated CEQA thresholds and methodology related to construction noise and vibration and impacts to historic resources. Any updated guidance would be publicly available on the Department's website at planning.lacity.org/project-review/environmental-resources.

Accommodations As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability. To request a reasonable accommodation, such as sign language interpretation, assistive listening devices, or translation or interpretation, please contact Mindy Nguyen at mindy.nguyen@lacity.org or (213) 833-8803 a minimum of three days (72 hours) prior to the public hearing. Be sure to identify the language you need English to be translated into and indicate if the request is for verbal interpretation or written translation services. If translation of a written document is requested, please include the document to be translated as an attachment to your email. Visit planning4la.org/hearings for general information about public hearings and the exhaustion of administrative remedies.