

Notice of Availability: Draft Rancho Palos Verdes NCCP/HCP and Environmental Assessment

April 4, 2019

The City of Rancho Palos Verdes seeks approval of its Natural Communities Conservation Plan by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (the Wildlife Agencies). The purpose of the NCCP/HCP is to preserve contiguous open space areas for species preservation while allowing compatible economic growth. The City's NCCP/HCP area is contiguous with the City boundary, and the Plan sets aside Rancho Palos Verdes' 1,400-acre Palos Verdes Nature Preserve for conservation in perpetuity. The Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy serves as the City's habitat manager for the Nature Preserve.

The Draft NCCP/HCP Plan was initially made available on the Federal Register in October 2019 for a 60-day comment period. The Draft NCCP/HCP Plan was put into public recirculation on April 4, 2019 and will undergo an additional public comment period until May 6, 2019. The recirculation is necessary to maximize public review because, while the document provided during the initial 60-day comment period was the document considered by the City of RPV Council at their March 29, 2018, Council Meeting, it did not include changes accepted by City of RPV Council via late correspondence at the Council Meeting, nor did it include technical and clarifying edits made after the Council Meeting. Comments submitted during the first public comment period will be addressed and therefore resubmitting the same comment is not necessary.

The Notice of Availability for the Plan can be viewed online by using the following link: <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2019-04-04/pdf/2019-06501.pdf>. The NCCP/HCP documents can be viewed by using the following link: <http://www.rpvca.gov/nccp>. Hard copies of the Plan are available for public review at the following locations:

- Rancho Palos Verdes City Hall, 30940 Hawthorne Blvd., Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275
- Hesse Park, 29301 Hawthorne Blvd., Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275
- Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy, 916 Silver Spur Rd. #207, Rolling Hills Estates, CA 90274

Those who want to submit comments to the Wildlife Agencies can do so by one of the following methods:

- *Email:* fw8cfwocomments@fws.gov; please include "City of RPV NCCP/HCP" in the subject line.
- *U.S. Mail:* Karen Goebel, Attn: City of RPV NCCP/HCP (use the Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office address under **Obtaining Documents**).
- *Telephone:* Karen Goebel, 760-431-9440.

If approved, by the Wildlife Agencies, the NCCP/HCP will be brought back to the City Council for adoption in 2019. Inquiries should be directed to Administrative Analyst/Open Space Manager Katie Lozano at 310-544-5267 or trails@rpvca.gov.