

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

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In compliance with Section 15132 of the 2008 *California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Statutes and Guidelines*, this document serves as the Final EIR for the proposed Master's College project, which consists of the following discretionary project approvals: Master Case 04-496, which includes The Master's College Master Plan 07-001, General Plan Amendment 04-009, Zone Change 04-006, Tentative Tract Map (TTM) 66503, Hillside Review Permit 04-010, Ridgeline Alteration Permit 07-001, and Oak Tree Permit 04-050.

As required, this document provides responses to written comments received on the Draft EIR and response to public testimony received at public hearings before the City of Santa Clarita Planning Commission on July 29, 2008, and September 2, 2008. The initial public review and comment period for the Draft EIR was from July 7, 2008, to August 21, 2008 (45 days). Because additional information became available with regard to oak trees on the project site, the City determined it prudent to recirculate the Draft EIR, Biological Resources section from August 12, 2008, to September 26, 2008. To ensure public access to the Draft EIR, copies of the document were made available for review at two local libraries, as well as the City of Santa Clarita Department of Community Development. In addition, the Draft EIR was made available on the City of Santa Clarita's website. Section 15132 of the *CEQA Guidelines* requires that the Final EIR consist of the following elements:

1. The Draft EIR or a revision of the draft.<sup>1</sup>
2. Comments and recommendations received on the Draft EIR either verbatim or in summary.<sup>2</sup>
3. A list of persons, organizations, and public agencies commenting on the Draft EIR.
4. The responses of the Lead Agency to significant environmental points raised in the review and consultation process.
5. Any other information added by the Lead Agency.

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<sup>1</sup> All references to the Draft EIR are to the Draft EIR for the Master's College project, SCH No. 2004021002, released for public comment on July 7, 2008, to August 21, 2008 and August 12, 2008, to September 26, 2008 (45 days), and incorporated by reference into the Final EIR (*CEQA Guidelines*, Sections 15132, 15150, and 15362).

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

The Final EIR is organized in the following manner:

- Introduction
- Comment Letters and Responses to Comment Letters
- Hearing Testimony and Responses
- Revised Draft EIR Pages
- Appendices to the Final EIR

A list of the persons, organizations, and public agencies commenting on the Draft EIR is presented in the Table of Contents. Comments received, in writing and orally, on the Draft EIR are presented in the sections entitled “Comment Letters and Responses to Comment Letters” and “Hearing Testimony and Responses.” The responses of the City of Santa Clarita to environmental issues raised in the review of the Draft EIR are presented in the sections entitled “Comment Letters and Responses to Comment Letters,” and “Hearing Testimony and Responses.” A revision of the Draft EIR is presented in the section entitled “Revised Draft EIR Pages.” Lastly, “Appendices to the Final EIR” contains documents cited as an appendix to this Final EIR.