

SECTION 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this document is to present public comments and responses to comments received on Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (EIR) (State Clearinghouse Number 1991071003) to Final EIR No. 142 for the Hoag Memorial Hospital Presbyterian (Hoag Hospital) Master Plan Project located in the City of Newport Beach, California. The Draft EIR was released for public review and comment by the City of Newport Beach on September 21, 2007. The public review period ended on November 5, 2007.

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines §15088, the City of Newport Beach, as the lead agency, has evaluated all substantive comments received on the Hoag Hospital Master Plan Draft EIR, and has prepared written responses to these comments. This document has been prepared in accordance with CEQA and represents the independent judgment of the lead agency.

The Final EIR for the project consists of the Draft EIR and its technical appendices; Final EIR No. 142 and its technical appendices; the Responses to Comments included herein; other written documentation prepared during the EIR process; and those documents which may be modified by the City Council at the time of certification. The City Council will also consider adoption of a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, a Statement of Findings of Fact, and a Statement of Overriding Considerations as part of the approval process for the proposed Master Plan Update Project.

This Response to Comments document is organized as follows:

Section 1 provides a brief introduction to this document.

Section 2 identifies the Draft EIR respondents.

Section 3 provides responses to comments received on the Draft EIR. Responses are provided in the form of individual responses to comment letters received. Comment letters are followed immediately by the responses to each letter.

Section 4 presents clarifications to the Draft EIR, identifying revisions to the text of the document.