



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

"Parks Make Life Better!"

Norma E. García-González, Director

Alina Bokde, Chief Deputy Director

**NOTICE OF PREPARATION FOR THE
PROPOSED OPERATIONAL CHANGES AT THE VIRGINIA ROBINSON GARDENS**

The County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) is the lead agency for the preparation of a Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) for the Proposed Operational Changes at the Virginia Robinson Gardens (Proposed Project). Pursuant to section 15082 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), DPR is soliciting comments from all interested persons, responsible and trustees agencies and organizations concerned with the project as to the scope and content of the SEIR and the environmental information to be analyzed in connection with the Proposed Project. The project description, location, environmental review requirements, and probable environmental issues to be addressed in the SEIR are included in this Notice of Preparation (NOP).

PROJECT LOCATION

1008 Elden Way, Beverly Hills, CA 90210 (location map attached)

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

DPR is proposing changes to expand the use of Virginia Robinson Gardens for increased public access and benefit. Specifically, the following operational changes are proposed:

- Days open to the public: Monday to Sunday (7 days a week).
- Hours for public use: 9:30 a.m. to sunset.
- Number of patrons in attendance: With advance reservations, up to 200 visitors per day, spread throughout the day for either tours, meetings seminars/classes, events or commercial filming (video only, no motion picture) or a combination of any of these activities.
- Types of events: In addition to existing events, consider family ceremonies such as weddings.
- Special Uses: Up to 24 special use events a year/ approximately 2 per month.

POTENTIAL PROJECT IMPACTS

Based on a preliminary assessment of potential environmental impacts that may occur as a result of the Proposed Project, the areas of potential environmental impact to be addressed in the SEIR will include at least the following:

- Air Quality/Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Noise
- Energy
- Historical Resources
- Transportation/Traffic

In addition, the SEIR will address cumulative impacts, growth inducing impacts, and other issues required by CEQA. As discussed in CEQA Guidelines Section 15163, a lead agency may choose to prepare an SEIR when only minor additions or changes would be necessary to make the previous EIR adequately apply to the project in the changed situation.

NOTICE OF PREPARATION REVIEW AND COMMENTS

The NOP is being distributed to solicit written comments regarding the scope and content of the environmental analysis to be included in the SEIR. DPR has prepared this NOP in accordance with the State CEQA Guidelines.

The review period for this NOP is from **November 16, 2021 to December 16, 2021**. Due to the time limits mandated by State law, your response must be sent at the earliest possible date, but not later than **December 16, 2021**. Please direct all written comments to the following address:

Julie Yom, AICP, Park Planner
County of Los Angeles
Department of Parks and Recreation
1000 S. Fremont Ave.
Unit #40 A-9 West, 3rd Floor
Alhambra, California 91083
Telephone: (626) 588-5311
Email: jyom@parks.lacounty.gov

COMMUNITY MEETING

A Community Meeting will be held to present the Proposed Project and to solicit early comments from the public regarding the Proposed Project and issues to be addressed in the SEIR. The date, time, and link to the virtual meeting is as follows:

Monday, November 15, 2021, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

<https://tinyurl.com/xnembk6k>



Please RVSP to Julie Yom: jyom@parks.lacounty.gov



Figure 1. Project Location

2017-276.009 Virginia Robinson Gardens

Invitation to a Community Meeting on Proposed Operational Changes at the

VIRGINIA ROBINSON GARDENS



The Virginia Robinson Gardens is a unique historic estate, a cultural jewel that transports the visitor back to the birthplace of Beverly Hills. Built in 1911, it was once the residence of retail giants Virginia and Harry Robinson (of the Robinson department stores) and now occupies an illustrious place in history as the first estate built in Beverly Hills. In 1977, Mrs. Robinson bequeathed her estate to the County of Los Angeles to be operated as a house museum and public botanic garden. Virginia Robinson Gardens is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, California Point of Historical Interest, and the City of Beverly Hills Local Register of Historic Properties.

The County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation and the Friends of Robinson Gardens would like to invite you to a Community Meeting to discuss proposed operational modifications at the Virginia Robinson Gardens. These changes are intended to allow greater public access to the facility, while having minimal impact on the surrounding neighbors.

The proposed changes will be discussed in detail at the meeting. Please join us as we would very much like to hear your thoughts and comments.

A virtual Community Meeting will take place on **Monday, November 15, 2021**, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.
<https://tinyurl.com/xnembk6k>



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