

Campaign Message to Natomas Email List – June 20, 2024 (after June 12 meeting w LAFCo)



Thank you for your response and participation in the LAFCo meeting on June 12. Considering the short amount of time we had to prepare – our response was great. About 30 comments were submitted to LAFCo and 11 people addressed the Commissioners to express their concerns. We learned a lot.

We saw the seven LAFCo Commissioners carefully listening. They heard that the impacts on air quality, farmland and the visual aesthetic of our community will be irreparably harmed.

LAFCo's next public hearing on the project will be in the fall. At that time we will ask them to deny the Sphere of Influence Amendment (to stop annexation of the 450 acres of Airport South Industrial into the City). We'd like at least 50 people to attend the next meeting but no date has been set yet.

Corporate America and our region's wealthiest land speculator, who control the property and the proposal, said nothing on June 12. On June 13th, the Sacramento Business Journal reported that construction will start in 2025. Just think, bulldozers in our back yards next year! Followed by asphalt, construction, and then trucks, and 24 hours a day of traffic, lights, pollution and more trucks. And no more birds, spring flowers, open space and green.

But it is not a done deal! You can make a difference.

June 26, 6:30 pm – Attend a Meeting

The City will hold a public meeting at the Westlake Master Association Clubhouse, 4701 Westlake Parkway, Sacramento, CA 95814. This will be a great opportunity to ask questions, express concerns and let City staff know (politely) that you object to the development and why.

July 10, 6:00 pm - Zoom Call

Heather Fargo and the ECOS team will give a brief presentation on the proposed projects, and the draft EIR for ASI. We'll give a preview of the significant issues in the EIR and how the project will affect Natomas residents.

Link to join: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6656164155>

To phone in: 669-900-6833, Meeting ID: 665 616 4155

July 17, by 5 pm – Submit Comments on the draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR)

Read the EIR. Are we kidding? 600 pages of text and 2309 pages of appendix? Don't worry, we have a team working on that.

Seriously, there is a summary table of **impacts and mitigation proposed** in Chapter 2 that is worth your time.

You can also watch the video of the LAFCo Commission hearing for more info (see below).

In the Summary, you should take a look at the impacts which cannot be mitigated that are documented in the draft EIR. There are significant and unavoidable impacts:

- loss of important farmland;
- air pollution – will obstruct implementation of air quality plans to reach attainment of air quality standards;
- visual character of the community

The City is collecting comments on the EIR and they must respond to them. You can comment as a concerned neighbor, or if you have a specialty or interest, comment on a specific part of the EIR.

- Send your comments to the Senior City Planner Scott Johnson, srjohnson@cityofsacramento.org

We've already gotten very significant comments from a neighbor on the traffic analysis. If you write a comment, ECOS would like a copy of your submission. It could help us to strengthen our response if you do this now and do not wait to send it to us at the deadline.

- Send it to the ECOS Team at: Jude Lamare, email - friendsoftheswainsonshawk.com

Links

- LAFCO June 12 Mtg - See the video, agenda, supporting documents, written comments here:
 - <https://agendanet.saccounty.gov/LAFCo/Meetings/ViewMeeting?id=9162&doctype=1>
 - Video, the discussion of Airport South Industrial start at 6 pm and Jose Henriquez, LAFCO Executive Officer provides background on the project, overview of the review process.
 - Then EIR Consultants (document authors) go through a PowerPoint overview of project.
 - At 6:25 – Public Comment starts; end at 6:51. Inspiring comments, worth hearing.
 - Written Comments, Comments submitted before 3:30 pm on June 12 are provided in several packets. All the comments have been sent to the City for response.
- To find the DEIR
 - <https://www.cityofsacramento.gov/community-development/planning/environmental/impact-reports>
 - There are a number of reports listed on this site, alphabetized, so scroll down to find Airport South Industrial
- See ECOS' recently updated webpage for the Natomas Open Space Campaign: <https://tinyurl.com/SacOpenSpace>

Please make a donation to help us pay for experts to review and comment on the EIR.

Donate here: <https://www.ecosacramento.net/natomas-contributions/> We need to raise \$10,000 and need your help to do it!

Thank you for being a part of this campaign.