

County of Santa Clara

Department of Planning and Development

County Government Center, East Wing, 7th Floor

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To Interested Parties:

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF TIME EXTENSION FOR PUBLIC COMMENT FOR MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR BAY AREA VIPASSANA CENTER (BAVC)

The County of Santa Clara, as the Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), has prepared a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) to evaluate the potential environmental impacts of the project described below:

Bay Area Vipassana Center (BAVC), proposes a silent retreat center for teaching and practicing Vipassana meditation. The proposed project will house staff and volunteers and be open to the public for 10-day, 30-day, and 45-day retreats.

Development will include the construction of 18 structures totaling 53,260 square feet (sq. ft.), demolition of an accessory structure (barn), and on-site improvements including a new 97,000-gallon water tank, driveway, access road, parking lot with 122 spaces, new landscaping, sewage collection lines, septic tanks, effluent collection lines, wastewater pre-treatment system (circulating textile filter system), pressure delivery effluent pipelines, pump stations, and subsurface drip disposal areas. Total development would consist of approximately 10 acres of the 54.59-acre site. Grading consists of approximately 4,689 cubic yards (cy) of cut and 4,644 cy of fill.

The public comment period for the BAVC MND was originally scheduled to close on Monday, April 1, 2024. At the request of a few members of the public, the County of Santa Clara has granted an extension of the MND public comment period. It began on March 1, 2024 and will now extend to **April 5, 2024**.

Your comments regarding the environmental effects of this project and the adequacy of the MND are welcome. Written comments should be addressed to the attention of Valerie Negrete at the County of Santa Clara Planning Office, County Government Center, 70 W. Hedding Street, San Jose, CA 95110, Tel: (408) 299-5791. A file containing additional information on this project may be reviewed at the Planning Office under the file number appearing at the top of this form. The MND and referenced documents are also available for review on the Department of Planning Development's web site:

<https://www.sccgov.org/sites/dpd/Development/Current/Pages/Current.aspx>

(Gilroy>File PLN20-003 – Camp, Retreat and Meditation Center on El Matador).

For additional information regarding this project and the Mitigated Negative Declaration, please contact Valerie Negrete at (408) 299-5791 or Valerie.negrete@pln.sccgov.org