NOTICE OF PREPARATION (NOP) OF A
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (EIR)
COLLEGE AVENUE SAFeway

The Oakland Community and Economic Development Agency, Planning and Zoning Division, is preparing a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for College Avenue Safeway as identified below, and is requesting comments on the scope and content of the EIR. The EIR will address the potential physical, environmental effects for each of the environmental topics outlined in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

The City has prepared an Initial Study that identified areas of probable environmental effects. The Initial Study is available at the Planning Division office, City of Oakland, Community and Economic Development Agency, 250 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Suite 3315, Oakland, CA 94612 and on the City's website at:
http://www.oaklandnet.com/government/ceda/revised/planningzoning/MajorProjectsSection/environmentaldocuments.html

The City of Oakland is the Lead Agency for the Project and is the public agency with the greatest responsibility for approving the Project or carrying it out. This notice is being sent to Responsible Agencies and other interested parties. Responsible Agencies are those public agencies, besides the City of Oakland, that also have a role in approving or carrying out the Project. When the Draft EIR is published, it will be sent to all Responsible Agencies and to others who respond to this NOP or who otherwise indicate that they would like to receive a copy.

Responses to this NOP and any questions or comments should be directed in writing to: Pete Vollman, Planner III, City of Oakland, Community and Economic Development Agency, 250 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Suite 2114, Oakland, CA 94612; 510-238-6167 (phone); 510-238-4730 (fax); or e-mailed to pvollman@oaklandnet.com. Comments on the NOP must be received at the above mailing or e-mail address by 4:00 p.m. December 1, 2009. Please reference case number ER09-0006 in all correspondence. In addition, comments may be provided at the EIR Scoping Meeting to be held before the City Planning Commission. Comments should focus on discussing possible impacts on the physical environment, ways in which potential adverse effects might be minimized, and alternatives to the project in light of the EIR’s purpose to provide useful and accurate information about such factors.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: The City Planning Commission will conduct a public scoping hearing on the Draft EIR for the project on November 18, 2009, at 6:00 p.m. in Hearing Room #1, City Hall, 1 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza.
PROJECT TITLE: College Avenue Safeway

PROJECT LOCATION: 6310 College Avenue at Claremont Avenue. Assessor’s Parcel Number 048A-7070-007-01; & -001-01 (see attached Figure 1).

PROJECT SPONSOR: Safeway Stores Inc.

EXISTING CONDITIONS: The 2.1 acre project site at the northeast corner of College and Claremont Avenues is presently occupied by an existing Safeway Store, with approximately 25,000 square-feet of floor area, a 96-space surface parking lot, and a Union 76 gasoline station. The Safeway Store at 6310 College Avenue existed in its present configuration for over 40 years. The site is not listed on the Cortese List and does not include any existing historical buildings.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The project would involve demolition of the existing 25,000 square-foot store, parking lot and service station and construction of a two-story, approximately 64,860 square foot building that would contain a 50,400 square foot Safeway supermarket, about 11,500 square feet of ground floor retail spaces (for approximately eight retail shops), and a partially below-grade parking garage with about 173 parking spaces.

PROBABLE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS:

The Initial Study screened out environmental factors that will not be further studied in the Draft EIR. These factors include: agricultural resources, air quality, cultural resources, land use, mineral resources, noise, population and housing, recreation, and utilities and service systems. The Draft EIR will address the potential environmental effects only for noise, air quality, and transportation and traffic. All other impacts would be less than significant and not studied further in the Draft EIR.

The Draft EIR will also examine a reasonable range of alternatives to the Project, including the CEQA-mandated No Project Alternative, and other potential alternatives that may be capable of reducing or avoiding potential environmental effects.

Oct 30, 2009
File Number Enter ER09-0006

Scott Miller
Zoning Manager

Attachments: Figure 1: Project Location