

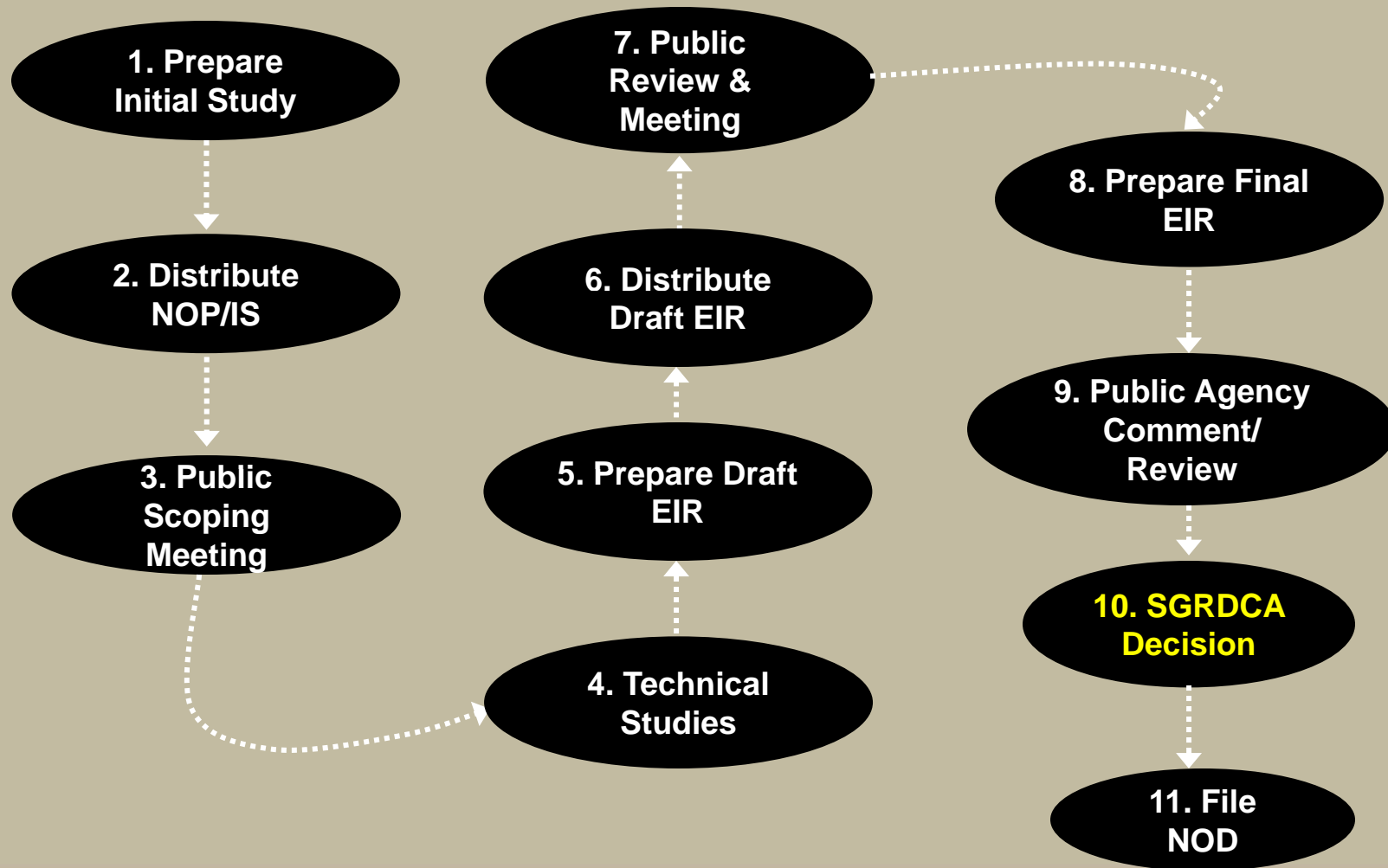
# San Gabriel River Discovery Center Project Final Environmental Impact Report Public Meeting



January 20, 2010

EDAW | AECOM

# CEQA Environmental Review Process



# CEQA Environmental Review Process (cont.)

## Final EIR Process

- ▶ Prepare Final EIR
  - » Response to Comments on Draft EIR
  - » Clarifications and Revisions
  
- ▶ Distribute Final EIR
  
- ▶ Prepare Findings of Fact and Statement of Overriding Considerations

# CEQA Environmental Review Process (cont.)

## Final EIR Process

- ▶ SGRDCA Board Hearing (consideration of project and Final EIR)
  - Includes consideration of staff recommendation to certify Final EIR, adopt Findings, Statement of Overriding Considerations, and Mitigation, Monitoring and Reporting Program, and approve the Lease and Sublease
  
- ▶ File Notice of Determination

# Final EIR - Response to Comments

- 80 comment letters and emails in response to Draft EIR:
  - 1 letter from the State Clearinghouse
  - 1 letter from an agency
  - 78 letters from individuals/organizations
  - 8 letters received after close of public comment period
- Public hearing comments
  - Oral comments from 2 public comment meetings (June 24 and July 18, 2009)
  - 5 comment cards from July 18, 2009 meeting
- Complete set of responses provided in Section 3 of Final EIR

# Types of Impacts

- No Impact
- Less Than Significant Impact
  - *Impact that does not exceed the CEQA defined threshold(s) of significance*
- Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated
  - *Impact can be reduced to less than significant level with implementation of mitigation measures*
- Significant and Unavoidable Impact
  - *Impact that exceeds the threshold(s) of significance in the EIR and cannot be mitigated to a less than significant level.*

# Potentially Significant Impact Areas Analyzed in the EIR

- Aesthetics
- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Hydrology / Water Quality
- Noise
- Transportation and Circulation

# Summary of EIR Conclusions

- Less than Significant
  - Aesthetics
  - Air Quality
  - Cultural Resources
  - Noise
  - Transportation and Traffic
- Less than Significant after Mitigation
  - Biological Resources
  - Hydrology and Water Quality
- Significant and Unavoidable
  - Global Climate Change – cumulative impact

# Proposed Project and Alternatives Considered in the EIR

- 18,230 SF Proposed Project
- No Project Alternative
- 14,000 SF Alternative
- 10,000 SF Alternative
- 2,800 SF Alternative

# 14,000 SF Alternative – Recommended by Staff

- Eliminates one of the proposed building bays, resulting in:
- Elimination of the introductory theatre, topical exhibit areas, one classroom (dry), kitchen, dedicated library, police/visiting staff/sales offices, dedicated copy/storage, staff restrooms in Admin area
- Reductions in the size of the main exhibit hall, exhibit maintenance, restrooms, sales area, lobby, and administrative office spaces
- 116-space ADA-accessible parking lot
- Similar impacts to aesthetics and hydrology as the proposed project (18,230 sf)
- Reduced impacts to air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, noise, and traffic
- Public benefits outweigh significant unavoidable impacts to global climate change

# 14,000 SF Alternative – Recommended by Staff

- Main building features retained as proposed - ensures project objectives are met:
- Multipurpose room with partition, allowing use as classroom
- Wet Classroom (will house library resources)
- Exhibit/storage spaces adequate to meet needs
- External staging area leading to lobby and multipurpose room
- Outdoor exhibit “Exploring the River”