

*****PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT*****

CITY OF ORANGE ISSUES “NOTICE OF PREPARATION”
TO SECURE EARLY INPUT FOR
RIO SANTIAGO ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

The City of Orange has issued an official notice that it intends to prepare a full Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the proposed Rio Santiago active adult residential community/open space development plan.

Commonly known as a Notice of Preparation (NOP), the official notice includes a description of the key land use elements planned for Rio Santiago and then requests input from the public and responsible agencies regarding those issues that should be analyzed in the EIR. No project-related City approvals will be granted at this time.

“The NOP is just the first step in the City’s very extensive EIR study, analysis, and public review process,” said Ken Ryan, principal of KTG Y Group, Inc., the award-winning planning and architectural design firm representing Rio Santiago. “According to California environmental regulations, the intent of the NOP is to obtain early public comments on those environmental issues to be addressed in the EIR. For those of us on the Rio Santiago team, this is one more step in the extensive planning process that has been under way for our property.”

As part of the EIR preparation process, the City of Orange also will conduct public Scoping Meetings as announced in the NOP. These meetings will provide an opportunity for members of the public and responsible agencies to inform the City of Orange of the scope of issues they believe should be addressed in the EIR. The date of the Rio Santiago Scoping Meetings is Thursday, May 21. The first meeting, for public agency representatives, will be held from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. in Conference Room C of the Community Development Department within Orange City Hall, located at 300 East Chapman Avenue in the City of Orange. Later that same day, a scoping meeting for the public will be held from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Linda Vista Elementary school, located at 1200 North Cannon Street in the City of Orange.

“An important point to restate is that no project approvals are granted by any agencies or organizations at the Scoping Meetings,” said Ryan. “The NOP and Scoping Meetings are the first steps in a very lengthy, detailed and comprehensive EIR preparation process that will be followed by the creation and distribution of the EIR and then culminate in public hearings with the City of Orange Planning Commission and then City Council.”

The 110-acre Rio Santiago property is privately owned and is envisioned as a luxury active adult residential community with such adjacent recreational facilities as sports fields, tennis courts, and a potential equestrian facility. In addition, nearly 73% of the Rio Santiago property is planned to remain as recreational open space, allowing for the preservation of the existing Santiago Creek, creation of new on-site trails as well as the dedication of land for future trails that could provide important linkage to both a proposed regional trail system and to Santiago Oaks Regional Park.

Currently the site of the Hanson Aggregates recycling and rock crushing operation, with no existing open space zoning, Rio Santiago will help meet several local needs including the creation and preservation of open space, the preservation of the creek in its current, natural condition, the provision of luxury active adult living, and several “in-demand” recreational facilities.

The Rio Santiago property is situated along Santiago Canyon Road in the City of Orange, and is bordered by Cannon Street on the east and Mabury Avenue on the north. To learn more about Rio Santiago, visit

www.RioSantiago.com.

