In compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the County of Los Angeles prepared an Initial Study and Notice of Preparation (NOP) for the Hall of Justice Renovation and Reuse Project. The Initial Study and NOP were circulated between February 4, 2003, and March 5, 2003, for the required 30-day review period. The purpose of the Initial Study and NOP was to solicit early comments from public agencies with expertise in subjects that are discussed in the Draft EA/EIR. A copy of the Initial Study and NOP are included in **Appendix 1.0** of this document.

Two scoping meetings were held on January 14, 2003, to receive comments from public agencies, other groups, and concerned individuals, and to determine the issues to be discussed in the Draft EA/EIR. These meetings were held in downtown Los Angeles at the County Hall of Administration and Bradbury Building. A notice of the scoping meetings was placed in the Los Angeles Times, Downtown Los Angeles News, and posted on the Hall of Justice site.

Topics evaluated in this Draft EA/EIR are based on the responses to the Initial Study and NOP, comments received at the scoping meeting on January 14, 2002, and review of the project by the County of Los Angeles and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

Both the NEPA and CEQA require that the Draft EA/EIR be made available for public review. Accordingly, the Draft EA/EIR is being made available for public review for a period of 45 days. During this period, comments on the accuracy and completeness of the Draft EA/EIR may be submitted by public agencies, other groups, and concerned individuals. Written comments should be submitted to:

Cheryl Fuerth
County of Los Angeles
Chief Administrative Office
500 West Temple Street, Room 754
Los Angeles, California 90012

The Final EA/EIR will be prepared to include comments received on the Draft EA/EIR and the response to those comments. A Notice of Availability (NOA) of the Final EA/EIR will be placed in the local newspapers, the Federal Register, and filed with the County Clerk Registrar-Recorder. All persons making comments on the Draft EA/EIR will receive responses to those comments prior to any action being taken by the County or FEMA.