

Community Development Department MEMORANDUM

Date:

May 29, 2014

To:

Planning Commission

From:

Amy Million, Principal Planner

Re:

Update on Draft EIR for Valero Crude by Rail

The Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) is scheduled to be released for a 45-day review period beginning on June 10, 2014, and ending at 5:00 p.m. on July 25, 2014.

The Planning Commission meeting to take public comment is scheduled 30-days after the release of the DEIR on July 10. This will allow interested parties to have 30-days to review the document and determine whether or not they will need more than the 15 additional days to complete their review and provide comments. If the Planning Commission believes that a longer review period is needed because of articulated unusual circumstances, the Planning Commission may decide to extend the comment period. Planning Commission should also determine whether the full additional 30 days requested by some commenters is required to address the circumstances.

Waiting until the release of the document to extend it to 90-days avoids making any assumptions about how much additional time is needed. State law encourages no more than a maximum 60-day review period short of unusual circumstances.

Upon conclusion of the public comment period, staff and the consultants will begin the preparation of the Response to Comments which is included in the Final EIR. Once ready, staff will set the public hearing for the Planning Commission to consider an action on the Final EIR and Use Permit request.

All the project information including the application, application materials, Initial Study, Draft EIR and public comments are available on the City's website.