

# I Introduction

This Draft Program Environmental Impact Report (EIR) has been prepared on behalf of the City of Livermore (City) in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). This chapter outlines the purpose of and overall approach to the preparation of the EIR on the proposed Isabel Neighborhood Plan (proposed Plan). The proposed Plan is a Specific Plan for the area surrounding the proposed San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) Station in Livermore, referred to as the Isabel Neighborhood or Planning Area.

The proposed Plan consists of goals, policies, standards, guidelines, and diagrams to guide the future development of the Isabel Neighborhood (see Chapter 2 for the detailed project description). The proposed Plan will legally function as a Specific Plan for regulating land use and coordinating the provision of public services and infrastructure, including transportation facilities providing access to and from the Isabel BART station. The City is the lead agency responsible for ensuring that the planning process complies with CEQA.

## I.1 Purpose and Intent

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### **EIR PURPOSE**

This EIR has three purposes:

- Satisfy CEQA requirements for analysis of environmental impacts by including a complete and comprehensive programmatic evaluation of the physical impacts of the proposed Plan and alternatives.
- Inform decision-makers and the public of the potential environmental impacts of the proposed Plan prior to city decision-makers taking action on the proposed Plan. The information presented in this EIR will assist City officials in reviewing and adopting the proposed Plan.
- Provide a basis for the review of subsequent development projects and public improvements proposed within the Planning Area. Subsequent environmental documents may be tiered from the Final EIR.

This EIR analyzes the potential environmental impacts expected to result from implementation of the various policies, programs, and projects identified in the proposed Plan. Specifically, it evaluates the physical changes from potential development that would occur with adoption and implementation of the proposed Plan.