

PREFACE

The City of Roseville (the City) has directed the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) to evaluate the impacts of the of the *City of Roseville 2035 General Plan Update* (proposed General Plan Update), also referred to as “the proposed project.” The Draft General Plan Update EIR was prepared in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) of 1970 (Public Resources Code Section 21000 *et seq.*) and the CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15000 *et seq.*).

PUBLIC REVIEW AND INPUT

The City encouraged review and input on the Draft General Plan Update EIR through a variety of means and has considered this input in developing the Final EIR.

NOTICE OF PREPARATION AND THE SCOPE OF ANALYSIS

As described in Section 1.6 of the Draft General Plan Update EIR, the City circulated a Notice of Preparation (NOP) on August 26, 2019 to each responsible and trustee agency, special service districts, organizations, and individuals with an interest in or jurisdiction over the project. The NOP informed the public, interested parties, responsible agencies, trustee agencies, and potentially affected federal, state, and local agencies that the City plans to prepare an EIR. The NOP also seeks comments regarding the scope and content of the EIR. The City held a public scoping meeting for the project on September 17, 2019. Please see Appendix A of the Draft General Plan Update EIR for the NOP and responses.

INPUT RECEIVED IN RESPONSE TO THE NOTICE OF PREPARATION

The City received NOP comment letters from the California Department of Transportation, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board, the City of Citrus Heights, the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research (State Clearinghouse), the Native American Heritage Commission, Placer County, Placer County Air Pollution Control District, and Reclamation District 1000. The NOP responses suggested that the City should study the following topics, which are addressed in the Draft EIR vehicular travel demand (vehicle miles traveled, or VMT); direct, indirect, and cumulative biological resources effects; surface and groundwater quality; cultural resources and tribal cultural resources; greenhouse gas emissions; criteria air pollutant emissions; carbon monoxide concentrations and flooding and hydraulic impacts

NATIVE AMERICAN CONSULTATION

The City contacted the Native American Heritage Commission to obtain a list of Native American Tribal representatives that may have an interest in the proposed General Plan Update and sent a letter inviting input to each of these representatives and all Native American Tribal representatives that have requested consultation by the City. The United Auburn Indian Community responded to this invitation to provide input and provided recommendations, which were incorporated into the proposed General Plan Update and Draft General Plan Update EIR.

The City has continued to invite input from Tribal representatives as a part of the General Plan and EIR process, including inviting input on both documents following the end of the public review period for the Draft EIR.

CIRCULATION OF THE DRAFT GENERAL PLAN UPDATE EIR

The City published a newspaper notice, a notice with the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research, and a notice with the Placer County Clerk-Recorder, and circulated the Draft General Plan Update EIR for public review starting May 8, 2020 and ending on June 22, 2020. The City broadly notified responsible and trustee agencies, adjacent jurisdictions, school districts, and other potentially interested agencies, organizations, and individuals of the availability of the proposed General Plan Update and Draft General Plan Update EIR for review on the City’s website. The City also advertised and held a public meeting with the Planning Commission of the City of Roseville on June 25, 2020 and invited additional public input. As detailed in Chapter 9 of this Final EIR, the City received written and oral comments on the Draft EIR and has provided written responses to comments on environmental issues received from reviewers of the Draft EIR.

CONTENTS OF THE FINAL EIR

The Final EIR includes:

- ▶ The Draft EIR (State Clearinghouse Number 2019080418);¹
- ▶ The City’s response to each comment received on the Draft EIR; and
- ▶ A list of modifications to the Draft General Plan Update EIR.

In accordance with Section 15088 of the CEQA Guidelines, the City, as the lead agency, has reviewed the comments received on the Draft General Plan Update EIR and has prepared written responses to the comments received.

Chapter 9 of this Final EIR includes the comments received on Draft General Plan Update EIR and presents responses to these comments (as required by the CEQA Guidelines Section 15132). The focus of the responses to comments is on the disposition of significant environmental issues that are raised in the comments, as specified by Section 15088(c) of the CEQA Guidelines.

In some instances, responses to comments may warrant modification of the text of the Draft General Plan Update EIR. In those cases, the text of the Draft EIR is revised and the changes compiled in Chapter 10, Revisions to the Draft EIR. The text deletions are shown in ~~strikeout~~ (strikeout) and additions are shown in underline (underline).

USE OF THE FINAL EIR

The Final EIR allows the public and the City an opportunity to review revisions to the Draft General Plan Update EIR and the responses to comments. The Final EIR serves as the environmental document to inform the City Council’s consideration of the proposed project.

As required by Section 15090(a)(1)-(3) of the CEQA Guidelines, a lead agency, in certifying a Final EIR, must make the following three determinations:

1. The Final EIR has been completed in compliance with CEQA.

¹ Chapters 1 through 8 of the Final EIR are the Draft EIR, as circulated, plus revisions made as a part of the Final EIR.

2. The Final EIR was presented to the decision-making body of the lead agency, and the decision-making body reviewed and considered the information in the Final EIR prior to approving the project.
3. The Final EIR reflects the lead agency's independent judgment and analysis.

As required by Section 15091 of the CEQA Guidelines, no public agency shall approve or carry out a project for which an EIR has been certified that identifies one or more significant environmental effects of the project unless the public agency makes one or more written findings (Findings of Fact) for each of those significant effects, accompanied by a brief explanation of the rationale for each finding supported by substantial evidence in the record. The possible findings are:

1. Changes or alterations have been required in, or incorporated into the project which avoid or substantially lessen the significant environmental effect as identified in the Final EIR.
2. Such changes or alterations are within the responsibility and jurisdiction of another public agency and not the agency making the finding. Such changes have been adopted by such other agency or can and should be adopted by such other agency.
3. Specific economic, legal, social, technological, or other considerations, including provision of employment opportunities for highly trained workers, make infeasible the mitigation measures or project alternatives identified in the Final EIR.

In addition, as described in Section 15092 of the CEQA Guidelines, the City may not carry out a project for which an EIR was prepared unless the following additional Findings of Fact are made:

1. The project as approved will not have a significant effect on the environment, or
2. The agency has:
 - a. Eliminated or substantially lessened all significant effects on the environment where feasible as shown in findings under Section 15091, and
 - b. Determined that any remaining significant effects on the environment found to be unavoidable under Section 15091 are acceptable due to overriding concerns as described in Section 15093.

Finally, with regard to the overriding concerns described above for significant and unavoidable impacts, CEQA Guidelines Section 15093 requires lead agencies to balance environmental impacts with economic, legal, social, technological, or other benefits, including region-wide or statewide environmental benefits of a proposed project. If the benefits outweigh the unavoidable adverse environmental effects, the adverse environmental effects may be considered acceptable. If there are significant and unavoidable environmental impacts and the lead agency wishes to approve a project, the lead agency must state the reasons for approval in writing.

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