**Initial Study**

Project Address/Title

Planning Department Case No. 20XX.XXXXE

## A. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

## B. PROJECT SETTING

## C. COMPATIBILITY WITH EXISTING ZONING AND PLANS

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | ***Applicable*** | ***Not Applicable*** |
| Discuss any variances, special authorizations, or changes proposed to the Planning Code or Zoning Map, if applicable. |  |  |
| Discuss any conflicts with any adopted plans and goals of the City or Region, if applicable. |  |  |
| Discuss any approvals and/or permits from City departments other than the Planning Department or the Department of Building Inspection, or from Regional, State, or Federal Agencies. |  |  |

## D. SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

The proposed project could potentially affect the environmental factor(s) checked below. The following pages present a more detailed checklist and discussion of each environmental factor.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Land Use |  | Air Quality |  | Biological Resources |
|  | Aesthetics |  | Greenhouse Gas Emissions |  | Geology and Soils |
|  | Population and Housing |  | Wind and Shadow |  | Hydrology and Water Quality |
|  | Cultural Resources |  | Recreation |  | Hazards/Hazardous Materials |
|  | Transportation and Circulation |  | Utilities and Service Systems |  | Mineral/Energy Resources |
|  | Noise |  | Public Services |  | Agricultural and Forest Resources |
|  |  |  |  |  | Mandatory Findings of Significance |

## E. EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

| ***Topics:*** | ***Potentially Significant Impact*** | ***Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated*** | ***Less Than Significant Impact*** | ***No Impact*** | ***Not Applicable*** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **1. LAND USE AND LAND USE PLANNING— Would the project:** |  |  |  |  |  |
| a) Physically divide an established community? |  |  |  |  |  |
| b) Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect? |  |  |  |  |  |
| c) Have a substantial impact upon the existing character of the vicinity? |  |  |  |  |  |

| ***Topics:*** | ***Potentially Significant Impact*** | ***Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated*** | ***Less Than Significant Impact*** | ***No Impact*** | ***Not Applicable*** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **2. AESTHETICS—Would the project:** |  |  |  |  |  |
| a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista? |  |  |  |  |  |
| b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and other features of the built or natural environment which contribute to a scenic public setting? |  |  |  |  |  |
| c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings? |  |  |  |  |  |
| d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area or which would substantially impact other people or properties? |  |  |  |  |  |

| ***Topics:*** | ***Potentially Significant Impact*** | ***Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated*** | ***Less Than Significant Impact*** | ***No Impact*** | ***Not Applicable*** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **3. POPULATION AND HOUSING— Would the project:** |  |  |  |  |  |
| a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)? |  |  |  |  |  |
| b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing units or create demand for additional housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing? |  |  |  |  |  |
| c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere? |  |  |  |  |  |

| ***Topics:*** | ***Potentially Significant Impact*** | ***Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated*** | ***Less Than Significant Impact*** | ***No Impact*** | ***Not Applicable*** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **4. CULTURAL RESOURCES—Would the project:** |  |  |  |  |  |
| a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in §15064.5, including those resources listed in Article 10 or Article 11 of the San Francisco *Planning Code*? |  |  |  |  |  |
| b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5? |  |  |  |  |  |
| c) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries? |  |  |  |  |  |
| d) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource as defined in Public Resources Code §21074? |  |  |  |  |  |

| ***Topics:*** | ***Potentially Significant Impact*** | ***Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated*** | ***Less Than Significant Impact*** | ***No Impact*** | ***Not Applicable*** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **5. TRANSPORTATION AND CIRCULATION— Would the project:** |  |  |  |  |  |
| a) Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit? |  |  |  |  |  |
| b) Conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways? |  |  |  |  |  |
| c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location, that results in substantial safety risks? |  |  |  |  |  |
| d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses? |  |  |  |  |  |
| e) Result in inadequate emergency access? |  |  |  |  |  |
| f) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities? |  |  |  |  |  |

| ***Topics:*** | ***Potentially Significant Impact*** | ***Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated*** | ***Less Than Significant Impact*** | ***No Impact*** | ***Not Applicable*** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **6. NOISE—Would the project:** |  |  |  |  |  |
| a) Result in exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies? |  |  |  |  |  |
| b) Result in exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels? |  |  |  |  |  |
| c) Result in a substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project? |  |  |  |  |  |
| d) Result in a substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project? |  |  |  |  |  |
| e) For a project located within an airport land use plan area, or, where such a plan has not been adopted, in an area within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the area to excessive noise levels? |  |  |  |  |  |
| f) For a project located in the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels? |  |  |  |  |  |
| g) Be substantially affected by existing noise levels? |  |  |  |  |  |

| ***Topics:*** | ***Potentially Significant Impact*** | ***Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated*** | ***Less Than Significant Impact*** | ***No Impact*** | ***Not Applicable*** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **7. AIR QUALITY—Would the project:** |  |  |  |  |  |
| a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan? |  |  |  |  |  |
| b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation? |  |  |  |  |  |
| c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal, state, or regional ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)? |  |  |  |  |  |
| d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations? |  |  |  |  |  |
| e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people? |  |  |  |  |  |

| ***Topics:*** | ***Potentially Significant Impact*** | ***Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated*** | | ***Less Than Significant Impact*** | ***No Impact*** | ***Not Applicable*** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **8. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS— Would the project:** |  |  |  | |  |  |
| a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment? |  |  |  | |  |  |
| b) Conflict with any applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases? |  |  |  | |  |  |

| ***Topics:*** | ***Potentially Significant Impact*** | ***Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated*** | ***Less Than Significant Impact*** | ***No Impact*** | ***Not Applicable*** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **9. WIND AND SHADOW—Would the project:** |  |  |  |  |  |
| a) Alter wind in a manner that substantially affects public areas? |  |  |  |  |  |
| b) Create new shadow in a manner that substantially affects outdoor recreation facilities or other public areas? |  |  |  |  |  |

| ***Topics:*** | ***Potentially Significant Impact*** | ***Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated*** | ***Less Than Significant Impact*** | ***No Impact*** | ***Not Applicable*** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **10. RECREATION—Would the project:** |  |  |  |  |  |
| a) Increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facilities would occur or be accelerated? |  |  |  |  |  |
| b) Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities that might have an adverse physical effect on the environment? |  |  |  |  |  |
| c) Physically degrade existing recreational resources? |  |  |  |  |  |

| ***Topics:*** | ***Potentially Significant Impact*** | ***Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated*** | ***Less Than Significant Impact*** | ***No Impact*** | ***Not Applicable*** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **11. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS— Would the project:** |  |  |  |  |  |
| a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board? |  |  |  |  |  |
| b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects? |  |  |  |  |  |
| c) Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects? |  |  |  |  |  |
| d) Have sufficient water supply available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or require new or expanded water supply resources or entitlements? |  |  |  |  |  |
| e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider that would serve the project that it has inadequate capacity to serve the project’s projected demand in addition to the provider’s existing commitments? |  |  |  |  |  |
| f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project’s solid waste disposal needs? |  |  |  |  |  |
| g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste? |  |  |  |  |  |

| ***Topics:*** | ***Potentially Significant Impact*** | ***Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated*** | ***Less Than Significant Impact*** | ***No Impact*** | ***Not Applicable*** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **12. PUBLIC SERVICES— Would the project:** |  |  |  |  |  |
| a) Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of, or the need for, new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for any public services such as fire protection, police protection, schools, parks, or other services? |  |  |  |  |  |

| ***Topics:*** | ***Potentially Significant Impact*** | ***Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated*** | ***Less Than Significant Impact*** | ***No Impact*** | ***Not Applicable*** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **13. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES— Would the project:** |  |  |  |  |  |
| a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service? |  |  |  |  |  |
| b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service? |  |  |  |  |  |
| c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means? |  |  |  |  |  |
| d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites? |  |  |  |  |  |
| e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance? |  |  |  |  |  |
| f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan? |  |  |  |  |  |

| ***Topics:*** | ***Potentially Significant Impact*** | ***Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated*** | ***Less Than Significant Impact*** | ***No Impact*** | ***Not Applicable*** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **14. GEOLOGY AND SOILS— Would the project:** |  |  |  |  |  |
| a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving: |  |  |  |  |  |
| i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? (Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.) |  |  |  |  |  |
| ii) Strong seismic ground shaking? |  |  |  |  |  |
| iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction? |  |  |  |  |  |
| iv) Landslides? |  |  |  |  |  |
| b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil? |  |  |  |  |  |
| c) Be located on geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse? |  |  |  |  |  |
| d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18‑1‑B of the Uniform Building Code, creating substantial risks to life or property? |  |  |  |  |  |
| e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater? |  |  |  |  |  |
| f) Change substantially the topography or any unique geologic or physical features of the site? |  |  |  |  |  |
| g) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature? |  |  |  |  |  |

| ***Topics:*** | ***Potentially Significant Impact*** | ***Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated*** | ***Less Than Significant Impact*** | ***No Impact*** | ***Not Applicable*** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **15. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY— Would the project:** |  |  |  |  |  |
| a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements? |  |  |  |  |  |
| b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)? |  |  |  |  |  |
| c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner that would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site? |  |  |  |  |  |
| d) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner that would result in flooding on- or off-site? |  |  |  |  |  |
| e) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff? |  |  |  |  |  |
| f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality? |  |  |  |  |  |
| g) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other authoritative flood hazard delineation map? |  |  |  |  |  |
| h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures that would impede or redirect flood flows? |  |  |  |  |  |
| i) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam? |  |  |  |  |  |
| j) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow? |  |  |  |  |  |

| ***Topics:*** | ***Potentially Significant Impact*** | ***Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated*** | ***Less Than Significant Impact*** | ***No Impact*** | ***Not Applicable*** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **16. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS— Would the project:** |  |  |  |  |  |
| a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials? |  |  |  |  |  |
| b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment? |  |  |  |  |  |
| c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school? |  |  |  |  |  |
| d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment? |  |  |  |  |  |
| e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area? |  |  |  |  |  |
| f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area? |  |  |  |  |  |
| g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan? |  |  |  |  |  |
| h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving fires? |  |  |  |  |  |

| ***Topics:*** | ***Potentially Significant Impact*** | ***Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated*** | ***Less Than Significant Impact*** | ***No Impact*** | ***Not Applicable*** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **17. MINERAL AND ENERGY RESOURCES—Would the project:** |  |  |  |  |  |
| a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state? |  |  |  |  |  |
| b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan? |  |  |  |  |  |
| c) Encourage activities which result in the use of large amounts of fuel, water, or energy, or use these in a wasteful manner? |  |  |  |  |  |

| ***Topics:*** | ***Potentially Significant Impact*** | ***Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated*** | ***Less Than Significant Impact*** | ***No Impact*** | ***Not Applicable*** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **18. AGRICULTURE AND FOREST RESOURCES:** In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state’s inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment project; and forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board. **—Would the project** | | | | | |
| a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance, as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use? |  |  |  |  |  |
| b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract? |  |  |  |  |  |
| c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code Section 12220(g)) or timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code Section 4526)? |  |  |  |  |  |
| d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use? |  |  |  |  |  |
| e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural use or forest land to non-forest use? |  |  |  |  |  |

| ***Topics:*** | ***Potentially Significant Impact*** | ***Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated*** | ***Less Than Significant Impact*** | ***No Impact*** | ***Not Applicable*** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **19. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE—Would the project:** |  |  |  |  |  |
| a) Have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory? |  |  |  |  |  |
| b) Have impacts that would be individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? (“Cumulatively considerable” means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.) |  |  |  |  |  |
| c) Have environmental effects that would cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly? |  |  |  |  |  |

## F. MITIGATION MEASURES AND IMPROVEMENT MEASURES

## G. PUBLIC NOTICE AND COMMENT

## H. DETERMINATION

On the basis of this Initial Study:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared. |
|  | I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared. |
|  | I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an environmental impact report is required. |
|  | I find that the proposed project MAY have a “potentially significant impact” or “potentially significant unless mitigated” impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed. |
|  | I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, no further environmental documentation is required. |

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Sarah B. Jones

Environmental Review Officer

for

John Rahaim

DATE\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Director of Planning

## Initial Study Preparers

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