

RESOLUTION NO. RES-2019-093

RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA ROSA CERTIFYING THE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE SOUTHEAST GREENWAY GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT AND REZONING PROJECT - FILE NUMBERS ST14-003, GPAM19-002 AND REZ19-007

WHEREAS, pursuant to requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”), the State CEQA Guidelines, and the Santa Rosa City Code, a notice of preparation of an Environmental Impact Report for the Southeast Greenway General Plan Amendment and Rezoning project (Project) was circulated for a 30-day public review period, from April 24, 2017 through May 23, 2017, and a public scoping meeting was held on May 15, 2017, to offer interested individuals, organizations, and governmental agencies an opportunity to provide input regarding the potential environmental effects of the Project; and

WHEREAS, a Draft Environmental Impact Report (2017 Draft EIR) was prepared and sent to the State Clearinghouse for review by State agencies; and

WHEREAS, a notice of availability of the 2017 Draft EIR was provided and the 2017 Draft EIR was made available to the public for review and comment for a period of 45 days beginning on August 21, 2017 and ending on October 4, 2017; and

WHEREAS, on September 14, 2017 the Planning Commission held a noticed public hearing regarding the Project and 2017 Draft EIR at which time all persons wishing to be heard were invited to speak or submit written comment; and

WHEREAS, during the public review period for the 2017 Draft EIR, the City received public comments requesting additional traffic analysis to address future conditions without the Farmers Lane Extension (if the roadway extension is not completed prior to the Southeast Greenway project). Following the October 4, 2017 closing of the public review period, staff and the consultant team began work on preparing the additional traffic analysis; and

WHEREAS, on October 8, 2017, and continuing for days thereafter, a series of wildfires burned over 90,000 acres in Sonoma County and damaged or destroyed approximately 3,000 homes and 100 commercial structures within the City of Santa Rosa. Due to the impact on City staff resources related to the fires, as well as staff’s work on the Council’s existing priorities, most notably implementation of the City’s Housing Action Plan, work on the Southeast Greenway project was put on hold; and

WHEREAS, in November 2018, with much of the policy work related to the wildfires complete and significant progress made towards the Housing Action Plan initiatives, staff redirected time toward completion of the Project, and finalization of the updated traffic analysis; and

WHEREAS, a Revised Draft Environmental Impact Report (Revised Draft EIR) was prepared and sent to the State Clearinghouse for review by State agencies; and

WHEREAS, the Revised Draft EIR was prepared to evaluate a new traffic scenario and any subsequent residual impacts in response to written and verbal comment made during the 45-day public review period for the 2017 Draft EIR. The written and verbal comments requested that additional traffic analysis be conducted to address potential impacts should the Southeast Greenway project be constructed prior to the extension of Farmers Lane. In compliance with Section 15088.5(f) of the CEQA Guidelines, the Draft EIR was revised to include the new traffic scenario and changes to the traffic noise evaluation; and

WHEREAS, a notice of availability of the Revised Draft EIR was provided and the Revised Draft EIR was made available to the public for review and comment for a period of 45 days beginning on January 28, 2019 and ending on March 13, 2019; and

WHEREAS, on February 14, 2019 the Planning Commission held a noticed public hearing regarding the Revised Draft EIR at which time all persons wishing to be heard were invited to speak or submit written comment; and

WHEREAS, written responses were prepared to all comments, oral and written, regarding the 2017 Draft EIR and Revised Draft EIR received during both public review periods; and

WHEREAS, the 2017 Draft EIR (State Clearinghouse Number 2017042066), dated August 21, 2017, the Revised Draft EIR (State Clearinghouse Number 2017042066), dated January 28, 2019, the Response to Comments, dated May 6, 2019, which contains all comments and recommendations received on the 2017 Draft EIR and the Revised Draft EIR, a list of persons, organizations and public agencies submitting comments on the 2017 Draft EIR and the Revised Draft EIR, and responses by the City to comments received, and the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, dated May 6, 2019, comprise the Final EIR; and

WHEREAS, on May 23, 2019, the Final EIR was presented to the Planning Commission in accordance with the requirements of CEQA and the Santa Rosa City Code; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission found that the Final EIR adequately identifies and analyzes the environmental effects of the Project and was completed in compliance with the requirements of CEQA and the State CEQA guidelines, and therefore recommended that the City Council certify the Final EIR; and

WHEREAS, the Council has reviewed and analyzed the Final EIR.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Santa Rosa finds that the Final Environmental Impact Report for the Project, comprised of the 2017 Draft EIR, the Revised Draft EIR, the comments received and the response to comments, and the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, adequately identifies and analyzes the environmental effects of the Project, and further finds that the Final Environmental Impact Report reflects the City's independent judgment and analysis and was completed in compliance with the requirements of CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council has considered the information contained in the Final EIR and, based on the above findings and determinations, hereby certifies the Final EIR.

IN COUNCIL DULY PASSED this 9th day of July, 2019.

AYES: (5) Mayor Schwedhelm, Vice Mayor Rogers, Council Members Fleming, Olivares, Tibbetts

NOES: (0)

ABSENT: (1) Council Member Combs

ABSTAIN: (1) Council Member Sawyer

ATTEST: *Dina Manis*
Dina Manis (Jul 23, 2019)
Acting City Clerk

APPROVED: *J Schwedhelm*
Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Sue Gallagher
Sue Gallagher (Jul 23, 2019)
City Attorney