

RESOLUTION NO. _____

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING: 1.THE APPROVAL OF THE FLOOD COUNTY PARK LANDSCAPE PLAN; AND 2.THE CERTIFICATION OF THE FLOOD COUNTY PARK LANDSCAPE PLAN'S FINAL REVISED ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT AND ERRATA; AND 3. ADOPTION OF CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT FINDINGS OF FACTS AND A STATEMENT OF OVERRIDING CONSIDERATION; AND 4. ADOPTION OF THE MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PLAN

RESOLVED, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo, State of California, that

WHEREAS, in 2014, the Parks Department determined that Flood County Park ("Flood"), a County-owned and operated park located within the City of Menlo Park, warranted a complete overhaul due to aging and obsolete facilities and infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, in 2015, after an extensive public engagement process that lasted eight months, the Parks Department prepared a landscape plan for Flood (2015 Landscape Plan); and

WHEREAS, the goals of the 2015 Landscape Plan (and later the 2020 Landscape Plan) include updating Flood's failing amenities, preserving its mature trees, meeting area demands for sports facilities, and providing a variety of active and passive recreation opportunities for all park visitors; and

WHEREAS, in April 2016, the County's Parks and Recreation Commission (the "Commission") approved the proposed 2015 Landscape Plan and directed staff to initiate the environmental impact analysis, including the preparation of an environmental

impact report (“EIR”), that is required by the California Environmental Quality Act, Public Resources Code section 21000 *et seq.* (“CEQA”); and

WHEREAS, the Parks Department thereafter prepared the May 2018 Final EIR, which consisted of the September 2017 Draft EIR and responses to comments, in accordance with CEQA, which analyzed the potential environmental impacts of the project; and

WHEREAS, at its August 5, 2018 meeting, the Commission received a presentation and public comment on the 2015 Landscape Plan and May 2018 Final EIR and, following extensive public testimony, the Commission voted 4-0 to recommend that the Board of Supervisors adopt a resolution: (1) authorizing approval of the 2015 Landscape Plan, and (2) certifying the May 2018 Final EIR including by adopting the CEQA Findings of Facts and a Statement of Overriding Considerations; and

WHEREAS, the Department determined that concerns expressed by members of the public regarding the May 2018 Final EIR, including its projected growth in park usage resulting from proposed improvements and noise generated on-site from concurrent park events, warranted additional environmental analysis; and

WHEREAS, the Department prepared a Draft Revised EIR that: (1) evaluated potential impacts associated with air quality, greenhouse gas emissions, noise, traffic, wildfire, energy, and project alternatives, and (2) incorporated the September 2017 Draft EIR and May 2018 Final EIR as appendices; and

WHEREAS, as a result of concerns expressed during public testimony on November 5, 2019, when the Parks Department presented the 2015 Landscape Plan and its Environmental Impact Report to this Board for consideration, this Board directed

the Department to re-evaluate the 2015 Landscape Plan and determine if revisions could be made to resolve these concerns; and

WHEREAS, upon re-evaluation of the data collected during the project's public engagement process, speaking with other nearby park agencies that operate sport fields, and analyzing potential environmental impacts created by relocating proposed amenities, the Parks Department prepared the 2020 Landscape Plan; and

WHEREAS, analysis of the 2020 Landscape Plan conducted by the project's environmental consultants concluded that there are no new or significant environmental impact created by the proposed changes (when compared to the 2015 Landscape Plan), and therefore, in accordance with CEQA, the Final Revised EIR did not need to be recirculated; and

WHEREAS, because the Final Revised EIR determined that the traffic noise on Ringwood Avenue is projected to increase during Saturday peak use (midday, noon to 4pm) by 2 decibels from the existing ambient noise level, which is in excess of the 1 decibel threshold, but which cannot be reasonably mitigated to a less-than-significant level, a Statement of Overriding Consideration is required to certify the Final Revised EIR; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with CEQA, the Parks Department prepared the Final Revised EIR, consisting of the Draft Revised EIR and responses to comments, to analyze the potential environmental impacts of the project; and

WHEREAS, the Final Revised EIR concludes that most of the potential environmental impacts are less than significant or will be reduced to a less-than-significant level through the discussed mitigation measures; and

WHEREAS, an Errata to the Final Revised EIR clarifies and corrects non-material information in the Final Revised EIR for the Landscape Plan, but does not introduce new or more severe adverse environmental effects and does not address feasible alternatives to the project or mitigation measures beyond those considered in the Draft Revised and/or the Final Revised EIR; and

WHEREAS, this Board has balanced the economic, legal, social, technological, and other benefits of the modified project against the same, previously disclosed unavoidable environmental risks that may result, and finds that the specific economic, legal, social, technological, and other benefits of the modified project outweigh the unavoidable adverse environmental effects.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors as follows:

1. The 2020 Landscape Plan, as referenced in further detail herein, is hereby approved by this Board; and
2. In accordance with Section 15091 of the CEQA Guidelines for significant effects of the project, this Board hereby adopts the CEQA Findings of Facts and Statement of Overriding Considerations, as well as the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan, attached hereto as Exhibits A and B, respectively; and
3. After balancing the economic, legal, social, technological, and other benefits of the modified project against the same against the previously disclosed unavoidable environmental risks that may result, this Board finds that the specific economic, legal, social, technological, and other benefits of the

modified project outweigh the unavoidable adverse environmental effects such that the adverse environmental effects of the project continue to be “acceptable,” and therefore adopts the Statement of Overriding Considerations contained within Exhibit A; and

4. After considering the Final Revised EIR and in conjunction with making these findings, this Board has eliminated or substantially lessened these significant effects where feasible, and has determined that remaining significant effects are still found to be unavoidable under Section 15901 and acceptable under Section 15093, and finds that the analysis is adequate, supported by substantial evidence in the record, and reflects the independent judgement and analysis of this Board, and hereby adopts the Final Revised Environmental Impact Report in accordance with the requirements of CEQA; and
5. These findings made by this Board are supported by substantial evidence in the record, which is summarized within; and
6. The County Parks Department and affected parties shall be bound by the mitigation measures set forth in the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan (Exhibit B), which this Board finds to be fully enforceable conditions on the modified project; and
7. A Notice of Determination shall be filed by the County Parks Department immediately after final approval of the project; and
8. Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15095, County Parks Department staff are directed as follows:

1. A copy of the CEQA Findings of Facts shall be retained in the project files; and
2. A copy of the Final Revised Environmental Impact Report (consisting of the Draft Revised EIR, Revised Final EIR, and Errata) and Findings of Facts shall be retained in the project files; and
3. A copy of the Final Revised Environmental Impact Report and CEQA Findings of Facts shall be provided to CEQA “responsible” agencies.

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