

RESOLUTION NO. .

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

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**RESOLUTION CERTIFYING THE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (FEIR)
FOR THE CORDILLERAS HEALTH SYSTEM REPLACEMENT PROJECT AS
COMPLETE AND ADEQUATE PURSUANT TO THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY ACT AND ADOPT A STATEMENT OF OVERRIDING CONSIDERATIONS
RELATED TO ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS IDENTIFIED IN THE FEIR THAT
CANNOT BE MITIGATED TO LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT**

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

WHEREAS, the County's Project Development Unit (PDU) has prepared an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the design and construction of the Cordilleras Health System Replacement Project (Project); and

WHEREAS, consistent with the CEQA Guidelines set forth in Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, the EIR focuses on the potentially significant direct and indirect environmental impacts that could result from implementation of the Project; and

WHEREAS, a Notice of Preparation for the EIR was filed with the California Office of Planning and Research, distributed to responsible agencies, directly mailed to potentially interested organizations and parties, and published on July 1, 2015; and

WHEREAS, a Notice of Completion and public availability of the Draft EIR was published on November 8, 2019 and was sent to the California Governor's Office of Planning and Research and State Clearinghouse, and a Notice of Availability for the Draft EIR was posted at the San Mateo County Clerk's Office, directly mailed to local

agencies and other potentially interested agencies, organizations, and individuals, and published in the local daily newspaper.

WHEREAS, the Draft EIR became available for public review and comment for a 45-day period that concluded on December 23, 2019; and

WHEREAS, on December 3, 2019, the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors held a public hearing to receive comment on the Draft EIR at the Hall of Justice, 400 County Center in Redwood City; and

WHEREAS, the PDU has considered and responded to all comments received on the Draft EIR during the comment period, and has revised the EIR appropriately, where necessary, with such responses and revisions incorporated into a Final EIR; and

WHEREAS, the County sent letters on February 13, 2020 to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) providing responses to their comments as presented in the FEIR, and while no further reply was received from CDFW, SFPUC sent a reply on February 21, 2020 requesting revision to the maps in the Final EIR to show SFPUC utility lines and revised parking areas, and the County revised the maps accordingly after reposting the revisions for public review; and

WHEREAS, the EIR concludes that most potential impacts of construction of the Project are either not significant, or will not be significant if appropriately mitigated, with the exception of two unavoidable impacts that may be significant, specifically an increase in vehicle miles traveled (VMT) by 18 new employees that exceed the regional

average, and an increase in risk of wildfire by project construction in a high fire hazard area; and

WHEREAS, the Final Environmental Impact Report for the Cordilleras Health System Replacement Project was published February 13, 2020 and an update was published March 3, 2020; and

WHEREAS, this Board has reviewed and considered the Final EIR in full compliance with State and CEQA Guidelines and requirements; and

WHEREAS, CEQA requires that a Statement of Overriding Considerations be adopted for any potentially significant impacts identified in the EIR that are not avoided or substantially lessened, and the Statement of Overriding Considerations must state in writing the specific reasons to support the action based on the Final EIR and/or other information in the record; and

WHEREAS, one such impact identified in the EIR is an increase in vehicle miles traveled (VMT) by 18 new employees that exceed the regional average, described in the EIR as “Impact TRA-1”; and

WHEREAS, the County implements Transportation Demand Management (TDM) measures to reduce VMT and associated Green House Gas (GHG) emissions, these TDM measures encourage employees to carpool and take transit, and given the location of the facility, staffing shift requirements, and limited high quality mass transit service in the project area, there are no feasible mitigation measures to reduce the project VMT from 30.96 to 18.53; and

WHEREAS, the second unavoidable potentially significant impact identified in the EIR is an increase in risk of wildfire by project construction in a high fire hazard area, described in the EIR as “Impact WFR-1”; and

WHEREAS, the Project incorporates measures to minimize fire risk including a fire loop access road, new water supply tank to meet fire flow requirements, fire-resistant building materials, and implementation of a 100 foot radius defensive zone described in the EIR as “Mitigation Measure WFR-1”, in addition, County Fire Station 18 is located at the project site and would provide immediate fire protection services; and

WHEREAS, Mitigation Measure WFR-1 would be implemented to substantially lessen the environmental effect of increased wildfire risk by, *inter alia*, establishing a Defensible Space Management Plan to identify specific site treatment activities designed to reduce fuel load and that plan shall identify action specific to 30 foot and 100 foot defensible space zones pursuant to CalFire recommendations and such actions are expected to include removal of ground and ladder fuels, regular cleaning of debris barriers, and general maintenance of the defensible space zone, combined with site inspections and vegetation management; and

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DETERMINED AND ORDERED that:

1. This Board has reviewed and considered the information contained in the Final EIR for the Project; and
2. The foregoing recitals are true and correct and made part of this Resolution and its determinations and orders; and

3. This Board certifies that the Final EIR for the Project has been presented to the Board of Supervisors, that the Final EIR is completed in full compliance with State law and CEQA Guidelines and requirements, that there was legally required public review of the EIR, that this Board has considered all comments on the EIR and responses to comments, and all other relevant comments submitted prior to or at the meeting of March 10, 2020, that the Final EIR adequately discusses all significant environmental issues, and that the Final EIR reflects the independent judgment and analysis of this Board; and
4. Changes or alterations have been required in, or incorporated into, the Project which avoid or substantially lessen any significant environmental effect as identified in the Final EIR, with the exception of impacts identified in the Final EIR as “TRA-1”, related to an unavoidable increase in vehicle miles traveled, and “WFR-1”, related to an exacerbation in wildfire risks; and
5. As related to TRA-1, as set forth in the Statement of Overriding Considerations attached as Exhibit B, the County implements Transportation Demand Management (TDM) measures to reduce VMT and associated Green House Gas (GHG) emissions, these TDM measures encourage employees to carpool and take transit, and given the location of the facility, staffing shift requirements, and limited high-quality mass transit service in the project area there are no feasible mitigation measures or alternatives to reduce the project VMT; and
6. As related to WFR-1, as set forth in the Statement of Overriding Considerations attached as Exhibit B, the Project incorporates measures to minimize fire risk including a fire loop access road, new water supply tank to meet fire flow

requirements, fire-resistant building materials, and implementation of a 100 foot radius defensive zone described in the EIR as “Mitigation Measure WFR-1”; in addition, County Fire Station 18 is located at the project site and would provide immediate fire protection services; further, Mitigation Measure WFR-1 would be implemented to substantially lessen the environmental effect of increased wildfire risk by, *inter alia*, establishing a Defensible Space Management Plan to identify specific site treatment activities designed to reduce fuel load and that plan shall identify action specific to 30 foot and 100 foot defensible space zones pursuant to CalFire recommendations and such actions are expect to include removal of ground and ladder fuels, regular cleaning of debris barriers and general maintenance of the defensible space zone combined with site inspections and vegetation management; and

7. This Board approves and adopts the Mitigation Monitoring Program for the Final EIR attached as Exhibit A; and
8. This Board adopts the Statement of Overriding Considerations attached as Exhibit B.

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