

RESOLUTION NO. 23-9188

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF SANTA CLARA, CALIFORNIA, TO ADOPT AN ADDENDUM TO THE GENERAL PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT, FOR ADOPTION OF THE 6TH CYCLE HOUSING ELEMENT (2023-2031)

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY OF SANTA CLARA AS FOLLOWS:

WHEREAS, the California legislature has found that “California has a housing supply and affordability crisis of historic proportions. The consequences of failing to effectively and aggressively confront this crisis are hurting millions of Californians, robbing future generations of the chance to call California home, stifling economic opportunities for workers and businesses, worsening poverty and homelessness, and undermining the state’s environmental and climate objectives.” (Gov. Code Section 65589.5.); and

WHEREAS, the legislature has further found that “Among the consequences of those actions are discrimination against low-income and minority households, lack of housing to support employment growth, imbalance in jobs and housing, reduced mobility, urban sprawl, excessive commuting, and air quality deterioration.” (Gov. Code Section 65589.5.); and

WHEREAS, the legislature recently adopted the Housing Crisis Act of 2019 (SB 330) which states that “In 2018, California ranked 49th out of the 50 states in housing units per capita... California needs an estimated 180,000 additional homes annually to keep up with population growth, and the Governor has called for 3.5 million new homes to be built over 7 years”; and

WHEREAS, State Housing Element Law (Government Code Sections 65580 et seq.) requires that the City Council adopt a Housing Element for the eight-year period 2023-2031 to accommodate the City of Santa Clara (City) regional housing need allocation (RHNA) of 11,632 housing units, comprised of 2,872 very-low income units, 1,653 low-income units, 1,981 moderate-income units, and 5,126 above moderate-income units; and

WHEREAS, to comply with State Housing Element Law, the City of Santa Clara has prepared its Housing Element Update for the years 2023-2031 (the Housing Element); and

WHEREAS, as provided in Government Code Section 65350 et. seq., the Housing Element constitutes a General Plan Amendment; and

WHEREAS, the Project approvals will include a resolution approving the Addendum to the General Plan EIR; and a resolution approving the General Plan Amendment (collectively, the “Approvals”);

WHEREAS, the City has prepared an Addendum to the 2010-2035 General Plan Environmental Impact Report adopted by the City Council on November 16, 2010, and to the environmental review documents that were prepared for subsequent amendments to the General Plan that affected housing development in the City, including but not limited to the December 2013 Climate Action Plan Negative Declaration; the February 2016 Mission Town Center EIR; the 2016 Related Santa Clara EIR; the November 2016 Lawrence Station Area Plan EIR; the July 2018 575 Benton Project Addendum; the July 2019 Gateway Crossings EIR; the March 2022 Patrick Henry Drive Specific Plan EIR; the June 2022 Climate Action Plan Addendum; and the June 2022 Freedom Circle Future Focus Area EIR (collectively, the “Subsequent Documents”), all of which provide environmental clearance for all of the units in the 6th cycle Housing Sites Inventory;

WHEREAS, a notice of the public hearing on the proposed General Plan Amendment was published in the Santa Clara Weekly, a newspaper of general circulation for the City, on December 11, 2022, for the January 11, 2023 Planning Commission Meeting and the January 31, 2023 City Council meeting; and

WHEREAS, on January 11, 2023, the Planning Commission opened the public hearing to consider the proposed General Plan Amendment, and then continued the hearing to January 23, 2023; and

WHEREAS, on January 20, 2023, the City published a revised draft Housing Element with the changes required by HCD (see Housing Element Exhibit A – HCD Comments and Responses) and requested public comment on the draft; and

WHEREAS, on January 23, 2023, the Planning Commission resumed the previously-opened public hearing to consider the proposed General Plan Amendment, and then subsequently continued the hearing to January 26, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission reviewed the Addendum to the General Plan EIR, in accordance with the requirements of CEQA, along with the City Staff report pertaining to the Project, and all evidence received at a duly noticed public hearing on January 26, 2023. All these documents and evidence are incorporated herein by reference into this Resolution; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission recommended that the City Council approve the Addendum to the General Plan EIR, in accordance with CEQA for the Project; and

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2023, the City Council conducted a public hearing, at which time all interested persons were given an opportunity to give testimony and provide evidence in support of and in opposition to the proposed Addendum to the General Plan EIR.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE CITY OF SANTA CLARA AS FOLLOWS:

1. That the City Council hereby finds that the above Recitals are true and correct and by this reference makes them a part hereof.
2. That the City Council hereby finds that the Addendum to the General Plan EIR has been completed in compliance with CEQA.
3. That the City Council hereby finds that the Addendum to the General Plan EIR has been presented to the Council, which reviewed and considered the information and analysis contained therein, and that the Addendum represents the independent judgment of the Council.
4. That the City Council hereby finds that the proposed General Plan Amendments do not involve substantial changes to the General Plan that would require major revisions to the previous EIR or Subsequent Documents.
5. That the City Council hereby finds that there is no substantial change in circumstances as a result of modifications to the General Plan that would require major revisions to the previous EIR and Subsequent Documents or cause new or substantially more severe significant impacts.

//

//

6. That the City Council hereby finds that there is no new information of substantial importance that identifies new or more intense significant impacts than those identified in the General Plan EIR and Subsequent Documents.

7. Based on the findings set forth in this Resolution and the evidence in the City Staff Report, the City Council approves the Addendum to the General Plan EIR, in accordance with CEQA for the Project.

3. Effective date. This resolution shall become effective immediately.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THE FOREGOING TO BE A TRUE COPY OF A RESOLUTION PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE CITY OF SANTA CLARA, CALIFORNIA, AT A REGULAR MEETING THEREOF HELD ON THE 31ST DAY OF JANUARY 2023, BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:	COUNCILORS:	Becker, Chahal, Hardy, Jain, Watanabe, and Mayor Gillmor
NOES:	COUNCILORS:	Park
ABSENT:	COUNCILORS:	None
ABSTAINED:	COUNCILORS:	None

ATTEST:



NORA PIMENTEL, MMC
ASSISTANT CITY CLERK
CITY OF SANTA CLARA

Attachments incorporated by reference: None