

RESOLUTION NO. 19-15

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE
COUNTY OF VENTURA

**RESOLUTION ADOPTING AMENDMENTS TO THE VENTURA COUNTY
GENERAL PLAN – GOALS, POLICIES, AND PROGRAMS, RESOURCES
APPENDIX, AND GLOSSARY RELATED TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A
HABITAT CONNECTIVITY AND WILDLIFE CORRIDORS OVERLAY ZONE
AND A CRITICAL WILDLIFE PASSAGE AREAS OVERLAY ZONE (PL16-0127)**

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2019, the County Planning Commission held a legally noticed public hearing at which time it heard and received oral and written testimony from the general public and County staff, including the staff report and all exhibits, regarding proposed general plan amendments which consist of (collectively “Proposed Amendments”):

- (1) Revisions to the Resources Appendix to add background information related to habitat connectivity and wildlife corridors that are identified in three maps consisting of the Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Corridors map and two Critical Wildlife Passage Areas map. (Addition of Figures 1.5.5 – 1.5.7 of the General Plan Resources Appendix);
- (2) Additions to the text in the background information on biological resources (Section 1.5 of the General Plan – Goals, Policies, and Programs [GPP]) as it relates to habitat connectivity and wildlife corridors;
- (3) Additions to the text in Section 1.5.2 of the General Plan (GPP - Biological Resources);
- (4) Revisions and additions to the text in the General Plan GPP Glossary to include terms necessary to improve clarity and consistency;

WHEREAS, the County Planning Division staff conducted a review of the legislative actions consisting of the Proposed Amendments in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and determined the project is exempt pursuant to CEQA Sections 15061(b)(3), 15307 and 15308;

WHEREAS, following its aforementioned public hearing, the Planning Commission voted 5-0 to recommend that the Board of Supervisors approve the Proposed Amendments subject to the Planning Division addressing the following issues before presenting the project to the Board of Supervisors:

- (1) The program needs to have a clearly communicated appeals process for resolving the inevitable complications of individual properties and also have mechanisms for revisions to the program;

- (2) Request the Ventura County Sheriff to review security issues regarding the program's lighting standards;
- (3) Clarify the effect of the program on properties that have granted conservation easements such as Tash and Newhall;
- (4) Clarify what effect the vegetation modification regulations have on the Fire Department brush clearance requirements and fire risk;
- (5) Clarify stream bed mapping where it may be incorrect;
- (6) Consider including the entire Boeing, Santa Susanna Field Lab land in the HCWC overlay zone and adding exemptions for temporary cleanup actions;
- (7) Reduce set back of waterways from 200 to 100 feet in order to assist ranchers and farmers;
- (8) Remove Lockwood Valley from the entire ordinance;
- (9) Remove Tierra Rejada from CWPA overlay zone;
- (10) Revise vegetation modification exemption to state "as allowed by" instead of "as required by" the Fire Department;
- (11) Modify vegetation modification exemption to include all bona fide conservation efforts;

WHEREAS, the County published a summary of the Proposed Amendments, and notice of the March 12, 2019 public hearing before the Board, pursuant to Government Code section 65090;

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2019, the Board held a public hearing on the Proposed Amendments and considered the Planning Commission's recommendation as well as all written and oral testimony from County staff and members of the public on the foregoing matters, including the March 12, 2019 Board letter and all exhibits thereto; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board:

1. **CERTIFIES** that it has reviewed and considered the Board letter dated March 12, 2019 regarding the Proposed Amendments and all exhibits thereto ("Board Letter"), including the Planning Commission recommendations, and has considered all comments received during the public hearing process;
2. **FINDS** on the basis of the entire record, including the analysis set forth in Section B of the Planning Commission staff report (Exhibit 1 to the Board Letter), that, pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines (CEQA) Section 15061(b)(3), 15307 and 15308, the Proposed

Amendments to the Ventura County General Plan, as shown in Exhibits 2-4 and SR¹ Exhibits 7 and 13 to the Board Letter, are exempt from CEQA;

3. **FINDS** based on the substantial evidence set forth in Sections A, B, and C of the Planning Commission staff report (Exhibit 1 to the Board Letter) and the entire record, that the Proposed Amendment to the Ventura County General Plan, as shown in Exhibits 2-4 and SR Exhibits 7 and 13 to the Board Letter, is in the interest of public health, safety or general welfare and would be internally consistent with all existing elements of the Ventura County General Plan;
4. **ADOPTS** the Proposed Amendment to the Ventura County General Plan (Exhibits 2-4 and SR Exhibits 7 and 13 to the Board Letter); and
5. **SPECIFIES** the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors at 800 S. Victoria Avenue, Ventura, CA 93009 as the custodian and location of the documents and materials that constitute the record of proceedings upon which this decision is based.

Upon a motion by Supervisor Bennett, and seconded by Supervisor Parks, duly carried, the foregoing Resolution was passed and adopted this 12th day of March, 2019.

Steve Bennett
Supervisor Steve Bennett
Chair, Board of Supervisors
County of Ventura

ATTEST:

MICHAEL POWERS,
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors,
County of Ventura, State of California

By: Don Jones
Deputy Clerk of the Board



¹ The "SR" prefix refers to the fact that these exhibits were originally exhibits to the Planning Commission staff report prepared for its January 31, 2019 hearing of this matter.