

RESOLUTION #18-02

RESOLUTION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF HERCULES RECOMMENDING THAT THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVE A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE INITIAL STUDY AND NEGATIVE DECLARATION IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA); AND ADOPTING GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT #GPA 17-03, UPDATING THE CIRCULATION ELEMENT OF THE GENERAL PLAN

WHEREAS, the State of California requires that cities and counties adopt a comprehensive, long-term General Plan for the physical development of their jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, the Circulations Element is one of seven mandated elements of the General Plan and provides the basis for decision-making regarding the continued development and enhancement of the City's transportation system to meet the needs of the City's residents, employees, and visitors, as well as prepare for the community's future residential and commercial needs; and

WHEREAS, state law requires periodic review of and updates to the Circulation Element, and also requires any substantive revision to the Circulation Element occurring after January 1, 2011 to contain plans for a balanced, multimodal transportation network that meets the needs of all users of streets, roads, and highways for safe and convenient travel in a manner that is suitable to the rural, suburban, or urban context of the general plan, including safe and convenient travel for bicyclists, children, persons with disabilities, motorists, movers of commercial goods, pedestrians, users of public transportation, and seniors; and

WHEREAS, the January 2018 Circulation Element (the "Project") Update was prepared to comply with state law; and

WHEREAS, the Project would amend sections of the General Plan Circulation Element, including but not limited to text, tables, exhibits, goals, policies, and programs in substantially the same form as attached herewith; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA")(Public Resources Code Sections 21000 et seq.) and its implementing regulations (the "CEQA Guidelines")(California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 3, Sections 15000 et seq.), the attached Initial Study prepared for the Project shows that there is no substantial evidence demonstrating that the Project may have a significant effect on the environment, so the attached Negative Declaration was prepared; and

WHEREAS, 3 community workshops were held for the community on December 7, 2016, May 30, 2017, and August 1, 2017 for input into preparing the Update to the Circulation Element (with their summaries attached to the December 18, 2017 Planning Commission Staff Report); and

WHEREAS, the December 18, 2017 staff report, including but not limited to Attachment F, includes staff responses to public questions and comments on the Revised Draft – December 2017 Circulation Element; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission did hold a properly noticed public hearing to consider the Project and related environmental review on December 18, 2017 and continued the public hearing to their January 16, 2018 meeting and did hear and use its independent judgment to consider all said reports, recommendations and testimony hereinabove set forth.

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission considered all staff report as well as written information and testimony received during the public comment period regarding the Project and the potential adoption of the Initial Study and Negative Declaration; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. The foregoing recitals are true and correct and made a part of this Resolution.
2. The Planning Commission, based on its independent judgment and analysis, finds that there is no substantial evidence that the project will have a significant effect on the environment based on the whole record before it that includes the Initial Study, Negative Declaration, and comments received to date during the public review period and at the public hearing (per Exhibit A).
3. After due study, deliberation and public hearing, the Planning Commission finds and determines that the Project is in the public interest and that the General Plan as so amended (per Exhibit B) will remain internally consistent and will maintain the integrity and compatibility of its policy statements.
4. The Planning Commission finds this Project to be a reasonable manner of preserving, protecting, providing for, and fostering the health, safety and welfare of the City.
5. The Planning Commission recommends that the City Council approve a resolution i) approving and adopting the attached Initial Study and Negative Declaration that analyzes the environmental effects of the Project and finds no significant impacts and ii) approving and adopting General Plan Amendment #GPA 17-03 Updating the Circulation Element of the General Plan per the attached document with additional modifications reflected in Exhibit C (stemming from Attachment F to the staff report and public testimony agreed to by a majority of the Planning Commission).


PASSED, AND ADOPTED BY THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF HERCULES on this 16th day of January 2018, by the following votes:

AYES: Morrison, Galieva, Rubio, Tolley, Bailey

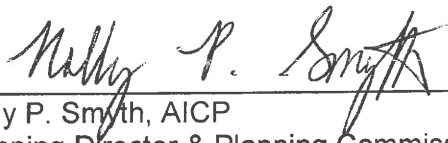
NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None


Dion Bailey, Chairperson

ATTEST:



Holly P. Smyth, AICP
Planning Director & Planning Commission Secretary

Exhibit A - Revised January 2018 Circulation Element (provided 1/11/2018)

Exhibit B - Circulation Element Appendices (provided 12/18/2017)

Exhibit C - CEQA Initial Study and Negative Declaration Document (provided 12/18/2017)

Exhibit D- Additional modifications to be incorporated into the Draft Element

EXHIBIT D- CIRCULATION ELEMENT CHANGES FROM JANUARY 2018 VERSION
(Agreed at 1-16-2017 Planning Commission)

Modify Figure 3-1 Roadway Network:

- Pull back Hercules Avenue to Fawcett (not into Chelsea By the Bay which is currently shown)
- Show Sante Fe Avenue from Railroad Avenue to Fawcett and Fawcett between Sante Fe and Hercules Avenue as a Collector Street