

MEETING DATE: 09/08/2021

ITEM NO: 3

DATE: August 30, 2021

TO: Planning Commission

FROM: Joel Paulson, Community Development Director

SUBJECT: Provide the Public with an Opportunity to Give Verbal Comments on the Draft

Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the Draft 2040 General Plan. **No** action will be taken at this meeting. Project Planner: Jennifer Armer.

RECOMMENDATION:

Open and hold a public hearing to allow the public to provide verbal comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the Draft 2040 General Plan.

PURPOSE OF THIS HEARING:

As required by CEQA, this public hearing is being held during the 45-day public review period for the DEIR for the proposed project, the Draft 2040 General Plan. The Notice of Availability for review of the DEIR was released on July 30, 2021, with the 45-day public review period ending on September 13, 2021. This public hearing is an opportunity for members of the public to provide verbal comments on the completeness and adequacy of the DEIR. Written comments will be accepted until the close of the public review period that ends at 5:00 p.m. on September 13, 2021.

The DEIR is an informational document that informs the public and the Town's decision-makers of significant environmental impacts related to the proposed project. The DEIR also identifies ways to minimize potentially significant impacts to a less than significant level through implementation of mitigation measures. The DEIR will be considered by the deciding body in its review of the proposed project. The findings within the DEIR do not mandate a particular decision on the proposed project, and the DEIR does not act as a recommendation for the

PREPARED BY: Jennifer Armer, AICP

Interim Planning Manager

Reviewed by: Community Development Director

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SUBJECT: Draft 2040 General Plan DEIR

DATE: August 30, 2021

PURPOSE OF THIS HEARING (continued):

proposed project. The proposed project may ultimately be adopted, even if the DEIR discloses significant unavoidable impacts associated with the proposed project. Similarly, the proposed project may not be adopted, even if the DEIR finds that there are no significant impacts. A decision on the proposed project will be made based on the merits of the project and the record, including the DEIR.

This public hearing is not intended for consideration of the proposed project nor for the actual certification of the DEIR. The deciding body may not act on the merits of the proposed project until the Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) has been prepared. This public hearing is intended solely to allow the public an opportunity to provide verbal comments on the DEIR. Staff will not be responding to comments on the DEIR received during the public hearing. The responses to comments will be included in the FEIR.

NEXT STEPS:

Following the public hearing on September 8, 2021 and the close of the 45-day public review period on September 13, 2021, staff and the Draft 2040 General Plan Environmental Consultant will respond to all written comments and to the testimony received at this Planning Commission public hearing. The response to the comments will be provided in the FEIR, which will include any revisions to the DEIR necessitated by the comments that are received.

A public hearing for consideration of the FEIR and the proposed project has not been scheduled. The Town Council is the deciding body for the proposed project.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

At the time of this report's preparation, the Town has not received any public comment on the DEIR.

EXHIBIT:

Previously received under separate cover:

1. Notice of Availability and DEIR

Note that the complete Draft 2040 General Plan and DEIR are also available online at: https://www.losgatos2040.com