Department of Gonservation & Development

30 Muir Road Martinez, CA 94553-4601

Phone: 1-855-323-2626

Contra Costa County



Catherine KutsurisDirector

Aruna Bhat
Deputy Director
Community Development Division

Jason CrapoDeputy Director
Building Inspection Division

Steven Goetz
Deputy Director
Transportation, Conservation and
Redevelopment Programs

April 6, 2012

REVISED NOTICE EXTENSION OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

NOTICE OF PUBLIC REVIEW AND INTENT TO ADOPT A PROPOSED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

County File #RZ10-3216

Pursuant to the State of California Public Resources Code and the "Guidelines for Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970" as amended to date, this is to advise you that the Department of Conservation & Development of Contra Costa County has prepared an Initial Study to assess the potential environmental impacts of the following project:

CHARLES AND LORRAINE FARR (Applicants & Owners), County File #RZ10-3216: A request to rezone three properties (Parcel A – 22.77 acres, Parcel B – 24.50 acres, and Parcel C – 25.82 acres) from A-4 Agricultural Preserve District to A-2 General Agricultural District. The subject properties are addressed 18311 Bollinger Canyon Road in the unincorporated San Ramon area: (Zoning: A-4) (General Plan Designation: Agricultural Lands) (Assessor Parcel Numbers: 199-030-060, -061, and -062)

The County has determined that the proposed project will not result in significant environmental impacts and has therefore prepared a Negative Declaration pursuant to the California Code of Regulations, Section 15070.

A copy of the Negative Declaration, Initial Study, and all documents referenced therein may be reviewed in the offices of the Department of Conservation & Development, located at 30 Muir Road, Martinez, during normal business hours. The Negative Declaration and Initial Study may also be downloaded from the Department of Conservation & Development website at www.co.contra-costa.ca.us/index.aspx?nid=869.

Public Comment Period – The period for accepting comments on the adequacy of the environmental document has been extended to <u>5:00 P.M., Monday, April 30, 2012</u>. Any comments should be submitted in writing to the following address:



Ryan Hernandez
Contra Costa County
Department of Conservation & Development
Community Development Division
30 Muir Road
Martinez, CA 94553

The County File Number indicated near the top of this notice should be included on all correspondence.

The proposed Negative Declaration will be considered for adoption at a meeting of the County Planning Commission. While a date for this hearing has not yet been set, it is anticipated to occur in May or June 2012. The hearing will be held at 30 Muir Road, Martinez.

Additional Information – For additional information on the Negative Declaration and the proposed project, please contact me by telephone at (925) 674-7788, fax at (925) 674-7257 or email at ryan.hernandez@dcd.cccounty.us.

Sincerely,

For Ryan Hernandez

cċ:

Senior Planner

Department of Conservation & Development

County Clerk's Office County File #RZ10-3216

California Environmental Quality Act Environmental Checklist Form

1. Project Title:

Farr Rezone

County File #RZ10-3216

2. Lead Agency Name and Address:

Contra Costa County

Department of Conservation & Development

Community Development Division

30 Muir Road

Martinez, CA 94553

3. Contact Person and Phone Number:

Ryan Hernandez, Senior Planner, (925) 674-7788

4. Project Location:

18311 Bollinger Canyon Road

San Ramon, CA 94583

APN: 199-030-060, 061 & 062

5. Project Sponsor's Name and Address:

Charles & Lorraine Farr (Applicant & Owner)

18311 Bollinger Canyon Road

San Ramon, CA 94583

- 6. General Plan Land Use Designation: Agricultural Lands (AL). This land use designation allows a density of 0.2 units per net acre and includes most of the privately owned rural lands in the County, excluding private lands that are composed of prime soils or lands that are located in or near the Delta. Most of the land designated AL is in hilly portions of the County and is used for grazing livestock or dry grain farming.
- 7. Zoning: A-4 Agricultural Preserve District. This zoning district requires a 40-acre minimum parcel size for non-prime agricultural land and a 10-acre minimum parcel size for prime agricultural land. This district is intended to provide areas primarily for the commercial production of food and fiber and other compatible uses consistent with the intent and purpose of the Land Conservation Act of 1965, also known as the Williamson Act.
- 8. Setting, Site Description & Surrounding Land Uses: The subject site consists of three rectangular parcels (A=22.77 acres, B=24.50 acres and C=25.82 acres, see attached parcel page) located in a rural area of unincorporated San Ramon. Parcels A and C are vacant. Parcel B is developed with a single family residence and accessory structures/buildings normally accessory to an agricultural property. Parcels in the vicinity range in size from 1-acre to over 100-acres and tend to be vacant or developed with agricultural and/or residential uses. The site is surrounded by properties zoned A-4 and A-2 General Agricultural District. Other agricultural zoning districts in the area include A-20 Exclusive Agricultural District and A-80 Exclusive Agricultural District. The area is characterized by steep terrain and large groupings of mature trees. These features combine with limited access to restrict much of the site's development potential and suitable building locations are few.
- 9. Project Description: The A-4 District is a unique zoning district that applies to properties covered by a Williamson Act contract. In 1975 the subject properties were part of a larger 481-acre parcel that was rezoned from A-2 to A-4 because it was under a Williamson Act contract. That larger parcel has since been subdivided; however, the zoning remained A-4. The applicant proposes to rezone the subject parcels from A-4 back to A-2 because of the contract's termination. No physical development or site modifications are proposed, and the project applicant has not indicated that the proposed rezoning is a precursor to future development.

The A-4 zone requires a minimum parcel size of 40 acres for non-prime agricultural land like the subject property, while the A-2 District requires a 5-acre minimum parcel size. As the subject sites

are 25.82, 26.14 and 20.34 acres in area, rezoning to A-2 would rectify the non-compliance with current zoning requirements.

The primary land uses in the A-2 District are general farming, horticulture, floriculture, nurseries and greenhouses, dairying, livestock production and other compatible uses. The A-2 zoning also allows some uses by right, such as granaries, fruit and vegetable packing plants, and cold storage plants that are somewhat industrial in nature and more intensive than the uses allowed by right in the A-4 District. However, the subject property's unfavorable location (it is not in the vicinity of large-scale crop production), varied topography, limited building sites, lack of water and sewer connections, and limited access (one rural road accesses the property and it is not proximate to a major road, highway, or rail line) make it an unrealistic candidate for development of those types of land uses. Additional uses might be established in the A-2 District upon approval of land use permits, but each land use permit would be subject to its own California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review. For that reason, establishment of uses requiring issuance of a land use permit is not considered in this Initial Study. Ultimately, it is most reasonable to expect for the properties to be developed with the lowintensity agricultural uses permitted in both the A-2 and A-4 districts, along with a single-family residence and its appurtenant uses.

10. Other Public Agencies Whose Approval is Required (e.g. permits, financing, approval or participation agreement): None; rezoning is a legislative act under the sole purview of the County Board of Supervisors.

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.
Aesthetics Agriculture & Forest Resources Air Quality Biological Resources Cultural Resources Geology & Soils Greenhouse Gas Emissions Hazards & Hazardous Materials Hydrology & Water Quality Land Use & Planning Mineral Resources Noise Population & Housing Public Services Recreation Transportation/Traffic Utilities & Service Systems Mandatory Findings of Significance
None of the above
DETERMINATION
On the basis of this Initial Study:
✓ I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because the mitigation measures described on an attached sheet have been added to the project. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect(s) on the environment, but at least one effect (1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and (2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets, if the effect is a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated." An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there WILL NOT be a significant effect in this case because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR pursuant to applicable standards and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project.
Signature Ryan Hernandez Senior Planner

Contra Costa County Department of Conservation & Development

SOURCES

In the process of preparing the Initial Study Checklist and conducting the evaluation, the following references, which are available for review either online or at the Contra Costa County Department of Conservation & Development, 651 Pine Street 2nd Floor-North Wing, Martinez, were consulted:

- 1. Application to rezone the subject site from A-4 to A-2, received by Contra Costa County on September 9, 2010.
- 2. Contra Costa County General Plan 2005-2020
- 3. Contra Costa County Code Title 8 Zoning Ordinance
- 4. Contra Costa County Geographic Information System
- 5. Contra Costa County Land Information System
- 6. Contra Costa County Important Farmland Map 2008 prepared by the California Department of Conservation
- 7. Public Resources Code section 12220(g)
- 8. Public Resources Code section 4526
- 9. Government Code section 51104(g)
- California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as amended January 1, 2012, and CEQA Guidelines amended as of May 2011
- 11. Bay Area Air Quality Management District CEQA Guidelines dated May 2011.
- 12. Bay Area Air Quality Management District proposed Thresholds of Significance for Greenhouse Gas Emissions dated December 7, 2009
- 13. California Department of Toxic Substances Control website
- 14. Association of Bay Area Governments Geographic Information Systems, Hazard Maps Wildland Urban Interface Fire Threat
- 15. Federal Emergency Management Agency Flood Insurance Rate Map
- 16. Association of Bay Area Governments Geographic Information Systems, Hazard Maps Dam Failure Inundation Areas
- 17. Minor subdivision application, County File #M.S.90-0141
- 18. Contra Costa County Code Title 4 Health and Safety

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

I. <u>AESTHETICS</u> – Would the project:

	±1	Potentially Significant Inmact	With Mitigation	Less Than Significant	
	Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista? (Sources: 1, 2)	ampuo.	Incorporated	Impact	No Impact
	Substantially damage scenic resources, including but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway? (Sources: 1, 2)				
(Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings? (Source: 1)			8	
1	Create a new source of substantial light or glare that would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area? (Source: 1)				-

Less Than

Impact: None

Summary a-d: The upper (southern) 10-percent of the subject site is located within a County-designated scenic ridge. As part of the Department's approval of Minor Subdivision, County file #MS90-0141, which created the subject lots, the property owner recorded a scenic easement to protect the visual quality of that scenic ridge. Notwithstanding that fact, the applicant is proposing to rezone the site and has not proposed physical development. As explained in the project description above, the physical characteristics of the site all but preclude development of anything other than low-intensity agricultural uses along with a single-family residence and its appurtenant uses. Without a proposal for a specific land use, any assumption of significant visual impact would be purely speculative. The act of rezoning by itself would not impact trees, rock outcroppings, or other scenic resources, and would not introduce substantial light or glare to the area.

II. AGRICULTURE & FOREST RESOURCES — In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agricultural and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection and state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project; and forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board. Would the project:

a. Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-

Potentially Significant Impact	Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impac

Less Than

		agricultural use? (Source: 6)			Y	✓
	ъ.	Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act Contract? (Sources: 3, 5)				✓
	c.	Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g)? (Sources: 1, 3, 7, 8, 9)			Managery.	✓
ŝ	d.	Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use? (Sources: 1, 3, 7, 8)	21.0			
	e.	Involve other changes in the existing environment, which due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of farmland, to non-agricultural use? (Sources: 1, 3)				
	<u>Im</u>	pact: None				
	as Fa	mmary a: The 2008 Contra Costa County Important F. Grazing Land. Thus, there would be no be impact to rmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance. mmary b: The property's Williamson Act contract ha	farmland de	signated Pri	me Farmlaı	nd, Unique
	a V	Williamson Act contract would occur. The proposed panother, which clearly would not conflict with zoning	roject is to	rezone from	one agricu	ltural zone
	tin ph the	mmary c-d: The site may qualify as forest land under neberland under Public Resources Code 4526. This sysical changes are proposed that would directly impact site from A-4 to A-2 would not increase the likelihole because the uses that could realistically be established.	tite is not z tithe forest/ ood of conv	oned Timber timber resources of for	rland Prod arces onsite rest land to	uction. No Rezoning non-forest
	rai	mmary e: No physical development is proposed and agricultural uses. No changes to the existing e conversion of farmland to non-agricultural uses.				
ш.	ma	R QUALITY – Where available, the significance or an agement or air pollution control district may be reliculd the project:	iteria establ ed upon to n	ished by the nake the foll	applicable owing dete	air quality rminations.
		·	Potentially Significant impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	Ne impact
	a.	Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan? (Sources: 1, 11)				
	b.	Violate any air quality standard or contribute to an existing or projected air quality violation? (Sources: 1, 11)				

c.	Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is in non-attainment under an applicable federal or State ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)? (Sources: 1, 11)		
d.	Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations? (Sources: 1, 4, 11)	 	 ✓
e.	Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people? (Sources: 1, 11)	1	√

Impact: Less than significant

Bay Area Air Quality Management District CEQA Guidelines

Management of air quality in the San Francisco Bay Area Air Basin (SFBAAB) is the responsibility of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD). The BAAQMD is responsible for bringing and/or maintaining air quality in the Basin within federal and state air quality standards. Specifically, the BAAQMD has the responsibility to monitor ambient air pollutant levels throughout the Basin and to develop and implement attainment strategies to ensure that future emissions would be within federal and state standards.

The SFBAAB is currently designated as a nonattainment area for state and national ozone standards and national particulate matter ambient air quality standards. SFBAAB's nonattainment status is attributed to the region's development history. Past, present and future development projects contribute to the region's adverse air quality impacts on a cumulative basis. By its very nature, air pollution is largely a cumulative impact. No single project is sufficient in size to, by itself, result in nonattainment of ambient air quality standards. Instead, a project's individual emissions contribute to existing cumulatively significant adverse air quality impacts. If a project's contribution to the cumulative impact is considerable, then the project's impact on air quality would be considered significant.

The District's CEQA Guidelines are developed to assist local jurisdictions and lead agencies in complying with the requirements of CEQA regarding potentially adverse impacts to air quality. The primary purpose of the Guidelines is to provide a means to identify proposed local plans and development projects that may have a significant adverse effect on air quality and public health.

The Air District's CEQA Guidelines, updated in May 2011, recommend air quality significance thresholds, analytical methodologies and mitigation measures for local agencies to use when preparing air quality impact analyses under CEQA. The updated CEQA Guidelines seek to better protect the health and well-being of Bay Area residents by addressing new health protective air quality standards, exposure to toxic air contaminants, and adverse effects from global climate change.

This document describes the criteria that the BAAQMD uses when reviewing and commenting on the adequacy of environmental documents. The *Guidelines* recommend thresholds for use in determining whether projects would have significant adverse environmental impacts, identify methodologies for predicting project emissions and impacts, and identify measures that can be used

to avoid or reduce air quality impacts. This Initial Study section was prepared in accordance with the principles outlined in the Guidelines.

A May 2011 update to the Air District's CEQA Guidelines has been posted. The CEQA Guidelines were updated to reflect the Air District's recently released refined risk and hazard analysis tools. The updated CEQA Guidelines include other clarifications and revisions, summarized on page i in the document, to further assist lead agencies in implementing the Air District's thresholds of significance.

<u>Summary a-c</u>: The proposed project is a rezone from one agricultural zoning district to another. As explained in Section I above, while the A-2 District allows certain land uses that are more intense than the uses allowed in the A-4 District, the likelihood of those uses being developed is extremely low because of the subject property's unfavorable location, varied topography, limited building sites, and limited access. It is far more reasonable to expect that the property will be developed with the low-intensity residential and agricultural land uses permitted by both zoning districts.

Even if the property were eventually developed with some of the more intense uses allowed in the A-2 District, it is extremely unlikely that emissions would result in significant impacts. Table 3-1 of the BAAQMD CEQA Guidelines lists projects likely to generate potentially significant emissions of NO_x. Such projects include single-family residential developments of 325 units, supermarkets of 42,000 square feet, office parks of 323,000 square feet, and hotels containing 489 rooms. While Table 3-1 addresses only one of the criteria pollutants, the Guidelines state that Table 3-1 may be used to screen projects to determine the likelihood that the significance thresholds might be exceeded. Table 3-1 lists development types that would be expected to generate hundreds of trips per day. As nothing of that scale could reasonably be expected to be developed at the subject property, the County has determined that even in the worst-case scenario, the proposed rezone would not lead to production of significant amounts of criteria pollutants and thus the individual impact on air quality would be less-than-significant.

The Guidelines state that if a project will not have a significant individual impact and it is consistent with the local land use agency's general plan (i.e., does not require a general plan amendment), and the general plan is consistent with the applicable Clean Air Plan, then the project will not have a significant cumulative impact. All of these criteria are met for the proposed project, and thus the project would have a less-than-significant cumulative impact on air quality.

<u>Summary d</u>: Residences on nearby properties are the only sensitive receptors in the area. Agricultural land uses can generate pollutants, such as airborne pesticides. However, since the proposal is to change the zoning from one agricultural zoning district to another, the potential for a substantial increase in pollutant concentrations is negligible.

<u>Summary e</u>: Agricultural land uses routinely generate objectionable odors. However, since the proposal is to change the zoning from one agricultural zoning district to another, the potential for a substantial increase in objectionable odors is negligible.

IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES - Would the project:

Less Than Significant With

Potentially

Significant

Mitigation Incorporated Less Than Significant Impact

No impact

a.	Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Dept. of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service? (Sources: 1, 3)			√
b.	Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, and regulations or by the California Dept. of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service? (Sources: 1, 3)	>		✓
c.	Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means? (Sources: 1, 3)			✓
d.	Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?			✓
e.	Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as tree preservation policy or ordinance? (Sources: 1, 3)			✓
f.	Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional or state habitat conservation plan? (Sources: 1, 4)			✓
[m]	oact: None			

I

Summary a-e: As explained in the project description above, no development or other physical changes to the site are proposed and the uses that could realistically be established under the proposed A-2 zoning are substantially similar to the uses that can be established under the existing A-4 zoning. Therefore, rezoning the site poses no realistic additional threat to biological resources.

Summary f: No Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan has been approved or adopted for the project site or its vicinity.

V. **CULTURAL RESOURCES** – Would the project:

Less Than Significant Potentially With Significant Mitigation Significant Impact Incorporated

No Impact

a.	significance of a historical resource as defined in		
	Section 15064.5? (Sources: 1, 10)		
b.	Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Section 15064.5? (Sources: 1, 10)		
c.	Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geological feature? (Source: 1)	ш	 ✓
d.	Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries? (Source: 1)		✓

Impact: None

Summary a: CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5 defines historical resources as follows:

- "a) For purposes of this section, the term "historical resources" shall include the following:
 - (1) A resource listed in, or determined to be eligible by the State Historical Resources Commission, for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources (Pub. Res. Code, § 5024.1, Title 14 CCR, Section 4850 et seq.).
 - (2) A resource included in a local register of historical resources, as defined in section 5020.1(k) of the Public Resources Code or identified as significant in an historical resource survey meeting the requirements section 5024.1(g) of the Public Resources Code, shall be presumed to be historically or culturally significant. Public agencies must treat any such resource as significant unless the preponderance of evidence demonstrates that it is not historically or culturally significant.
 - (3) Any object, building, structure, site, area, place, record, or manuscript which a lead agency determines to be historically significant or significant in the architectural, engineering, scientific, economic, agricultural, educational, social, political, military, or cultural annals of California may be considered to be an historical resource, provided the lead agency's determination is supported by substantial evidence in light of the whole record. Generally, a resource shall be considered by the lead agency to be "historically significant" if the resource meets the criteria for listing on the California Register of Historical Resources (Pub. Res. Code, § 5024.1, Title 14 CCR, Section 4852) including the following:
 - (A) Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California's history and cultural heritage;
 - (B) Is associated with the lives of persons important in our past;
 - (C) Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, or represents the work of an important creative individual, or possesses high artistic values; or
 - (D) Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history."

No historical resources are apparent onsite and no physical changes are proposed. Therefore, there would be no impact to historical resources as a result of the proposed rezoning.

Summary b-d: As no physical changes are proposed, there is no possibility of impacts to archaeological or paleontological resources, unique geologic features, or human remains.

Less Than

VI. GEOLOGY AND SOILS – Would the project:

a.	sul	pose people or structures to potential bstantial adverse effects, including the risk of s, injury, or death involving:	Potentially Significant Impact	Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
	1.	Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42. (Sources: 1, 2)	_			✓
	2.	Strong seismic ground shaking? (Sources: 1, 2)	-			✓
	3.	Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction? (Sources: 1, 2)				✓
	4.	Landslides? (Sources: 1, 2)				1
b.		sult in substantial soil erosion or the loss of soil? (Source: 1)				✓
c.	res ons sub	located on a geologic unit or soil that is stable, or that would become unstable as a ult of the project, and potentially result in site or offsite landslide, lateral spreading, esidence, liquefaction or collapse? (Sources: 2, 17)				✓
1.	18- cre	located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1998), ating substantial risks to life or property? surces: 1, 2, 17)				✓
ð.	the disp	use of septic tanks or alternative waste posal systems where sewers are not available the disposal of wastewater? (1, 17)				✓

Impact: None

Summary a 1-4: The subject site is located near a known earthquake fault, however, according to the Estimated Seismic Ground Response map (Figure 10-4, County General Plan), the site is rated as

having a "Moderately low damage susceptibility". In addition, Figure 10-5 in the County General Plan shows that the site has generally low liquefaction potential. Changing the zoning from one agricultural district to another that is substantially similar in terms of the uses that could realistically be established would not expose people or structures to substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death, involving rupture of a known earthquake fault, strong seismic ground shaking, seismic-related ground failure, or landslides.

Summary b: No physical changes to the site are proposed. Therefore, no erosion or loss of topsoil would occur.

Summary c-d: Figure 10-4 in the Safety Element of the General Plan indicates that the site is underlain by bedrock. Unstable geologic units or soils are unlikely to be present.

Expansive soils shrink and swell as a result of moisture changes that can cause heaving and cracking of slabs-on-grade, pavements, and structures founded on shallow foundations. Expansive soils are an engineering issue, not a land use or feasibility issue. If expansive soils are present, damage resulting from volume changes can be reduced by placing slabs on select, granular fill and by use of rigid mat or post-tensioned slabs on specially prepared and moisture conditioned soils. However, any adverse geologic conditions would be addressed during the Building Inspection Division plan check process and would not be exacerbated by approval of the proposed rezone.

<u>Summary e</u>: As the three subject parcels were created through the subdivision process, it is believed that the site is capable of supporting a septic system.

VII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS - Would the project:

Significant Potentialiy With Less Tuan Significant Mitigation Significant No Impact Imeact incomorated a. Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment? (Sources: 1, 3, 12) b. Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases? (Sources: 1, 3, 12)

Less Than

Impact: Less than significant

Summary a-b: The BAAQMD has developed significance thresholds for greenhouse gas emissions as well as screening criteria to assist local agencies in determining whether a project could potentially exceed those thresholds. The screening criteria do not include agricultural uses, but indicate that single-family residential development of 56 units or more, general light industrial development of 72 acres or more, and general office development of 53,000 square feet or more would be expected to generate significant greenhouse gas emissions. A-2 zoning is more intensive than A-4 zoning, but the site, because of its physical constraints, could not be developed at a level approaching the intensity of

the aforementioned development types. Therefore, at worst, the impact of the proposed rezone would be less than significant.

VIII.	<u>H</u>	AZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS – W	ould the pro	_		
			Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant With Mitigation	Less Than Significant	()
	a.	Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use or disposal of hazardous materials? (Sources: 1, 3)	Impact	Incorporated	Impact	No Impact
	b.	Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment? (Sources: 1, 3)		Maa		√
	c.	Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school? (Sources: 1, 3, 4)				✓
	d.	Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65862.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment? (Source: 13)			15	
	e.	For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area? (Source: 4)			21	√
3	f.	For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area? (Source: 4)		= 1.0		→
	g.	Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan? (Sources: 1, 2, 3)	C#			✓
	h.	Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wild land fires, including where wild lands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wild lands? (Sources: 1, 2, 14)				

Impact: Less than significant

<u>Summary a-b</u>: No new land uses are proposed that would routinely handle hazardous materials. Therefore, rezoning the site would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment due to the routine transport, storage, use, or disposal of hazardous materials.

<u>Summary c</u>: The subject site is not located within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school.

Summary d: The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) provides an annually updated list of hazardous materials sites pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5. This list, known as the "Cortese List," identifies thirty-eight hazardous materials sites within Contra Costa County. According to the list, the subject site is not on or located near any such site.

<u>Summary e-f</u>: The subject site is not located within two miles of a public airport or within the vicinity of a private airstrip. The site is not located within an area covered by an airport land use plan.

<u>Summary g</u>: The proposed project calls for a change from one agricultural zone to another that is substantially similar in terms of the uses that could realistically be established. As no physical development or substantial change in use is proposed, there would be no interference with implementation of an emergency response or evacuation plan.

Summary h: Figure 10-10 in the Safety Element of the County General Plan indicates that the subject site is within a "moderate fire hazard area." Approval of the proposed rezone would not change the site's physical characteristics as they pertain to fire hazards, and would not result in substantial intensification of land use. Any future development must meet the requirements of the local fire district.

HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY - Would the project: Less Than Significant Potentially Less Than Significant Mitigation Significant incorporated Impact No Impact a. Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements? (Sources: 1, 3) b. Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or substantially with groundwater interfere recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aguifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)? (Sources: 1, 3, 18) c. Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner that would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site? (Source: 1)

d.	Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface run-off in a manner that would result in flooding on- or off-site? (Source: 1)	 		√
e.	Create or contribute runoff water that would exceed the capacity of existing or planned storm water drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff? (Sources: 1, 3)		✓	^
f.	Otherwise substantially degrade water quality? (Sources: 1, 3)		✓	
g.	Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a Federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map? (Source: 15)			√
h.	Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures that would impede or redirect flood flows? (Source: 15)			✓
i.	Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam? (Source: 16)			✓
j.	Be subject to inundation by seiche, tsunami or mudflow? (Sources: 1, 3, 4)			✓

Impact: Less than significant

Summary a: Approval of the proposed project would change the subject site's zoning from one agricultural district to another. As the uses allowed in the two districts are substantially similar, no element of this action would have the potential for violating water quality standards or discharge requirements. Therefore, no impact would occur.

Summary b: Establishment of the proposed zoning would not substantially interfere with groundwater recharge. The existence of sufficient groundwater supplies must be determined prior to development. Groundwater supplies would be verified and appropriately monitored by the County Health Services Department, Environmental Health Division.

Summary c-f: As no physical changes to the site are proposed, no alterations would occur to existing drainage patterns in the area and no additional runoff would be generated. As the land uses permitted by the existing and proposed zoning districts are substantially similar, the project's potential to generate additional sources of polluted runoff or otherwise substantially degrade water quality would be negligible.

Summary g-h: Portions of Parcel A, vacant and Parcel B, developed (located adjacent to Bollinger Canyon Road) are located within a special flood hazard area. Approval of the proposed project would change the subject site's zoning from one agricultural district to another and no physical development

is proposed at this time. Any future development of the Parcel A or B will require review and compliance with the County's Floodplain Management Ordinance. This project does not propose to place housing or structures within a 100 year flood hazard area.

Summary i: No impact would occur because the subject site is not protected by levees or dams.

Summary j: Seiche and tsunami occur in larger bodies of water such as lakes and oceans. There is no threat to the subject site from seiche or tsunami because the types of water bodies where they occur do not exist in the vicinity. Any current threat to the site from mudflow would not be exacerbated by changing the zoning district from A-4 to A-2 because substantially similar uses could be established.

Х.	LAND USE AND PLANNING - Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
	a. Physically divide an established community? (Sources: 1, 3)				
	b. Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or the regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect? (Sources: 1, 2, 3, 11, 12, 18)			*	± 1
	c. Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan? (Source: 4)				
	Impact: None				
	Summary a: The subject site is in an area that is comprise Rezoning the site from one agricultural district to a compromise the character of the area or lead to a physical structure.	nother one	that is sim	ilar clearly	would not
	Summary b: Nothing in the record suggests that the policies, or regulations adopted for the purpose of mithroughout this Initial Study, implementation of the pragricultural zone to another that is similar in terms of The proposed zoning is consistent with the General Plan	tigating envioject would the uses that	vironmental d result only at could real	impacts. As	e from one
	Summary c: No Habitat Conservation Plan or Natu approved or adopted for the subject site or its vicinity.	ral Comm	inity Conse	rvation Pla	n has been
XI.	MINERAL RESOURCES – Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Innact	No Impact

a. Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the

b.	Result in the loss or availability of a locally		•		
	important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan? (Source: 2)	**************************************	13-14-14-15-1		✓
<u>Im</u>	pact: None				
		Plan, there	e are no m	ineral resou	rces in the
<u>NC</u>	DISE – Would the project result in:		Less Than Significant		
		Significant	Mitigation	Significant	
a.	levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or	impact	Incorporated	Impact	No Impact
	1, 2, 3)				· ·
Ъ.	Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive ground borne vibration or ground borne noise levels? (Sources: 1, 3)		1		√
c.	A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project? (Sources: 1, 3)		E .		✓
d.	A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project? (Sources: 1, 3)			38	···
e.	For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels? (Source: 4)	_			✓
f.	For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels? (Source: 4)	.77			
	survice NC a. b. c. d.	 Impact: None Summary a-b: According to the Contra Costa General vicinity of the project site. NOISE – Would the project result in: a. Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies? (Sources: 1, 2, 3) b. Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive ground borne vibration or ground borne noise levels? (Sources: 1, 3) c. A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project? (Sources: 1, 3) d. A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project? (Sources: 1, 3) e. For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels? (Source: 4) f. For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project expose people residing or working in the project expose people residing or working in the project area to 	Impact: None Summary a-b: According to the Contra Costa General Plan, there vicinity of the project site. NOISE – Would the project result in: Resposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies? (Sources: 1, 2, 3) b. Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive ground borne vibration or ground borne noise levels? (Sources: 1, 3) c. A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project? (Sources: 1, 3) d. A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels existing without the project? (Sources: 1, 3) e. For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to	Impact: None Summary a-b: According to the Contra Costa General Plan, there are no movicinity of the project site. NOISE – Would the project result in: Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies? (Sources: 1, 2, 3) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive ground borne vibration or ground borne noise levels? (Sources: 1, 3) C. A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project? (Sources: 1, 3) d. A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project? (Sources: 1, 3) e. For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels? (Source: 4) f. For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to	Summary a-b: According to the Contra Costa General Plan, there are no mineral resouvicinity of the project site. NOISE – Would the project result in: Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies? (Sources: 1, 2, 3) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive ground borne vibration or ground borne noise levels? (Sources: 1, 3) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project? (Sources: 1, 3) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project? (Sources: 1, 3) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels and the project? (Sources: 1, 3) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project expose people residing or

Impact: None

Summary a: The General Plan specifies the same noise standards for all agricultural uses. Therefore, rezoning from one agricultural zone to another would not cause the standards to be exceeded.

Summary b-d: The existing noise environment would not change because no development is proposed and the uses allowed by the A-2 and A-4 zoning districts are substantially similar.

Summary e-f: The subject site is not located within two miles of a public airport or within the vicinity of a private airstrip. The site is not located within an area covered by an airport land use plan.

XIII. POPULATION AND HOUSING - Would the project:

- a. Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)? (Sources: 1, 3)
- b. Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere? (Source: 4)
- c. Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere? (Source: 4)

Potentially Significant Impact	Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	Ne Impact
* *************************************	(F
			✓
			✓

Less Than

Impact: Less than significant

Summary a: The proposed A-2 zoning permits construction of one single-family residence by right, whereas the existing A-4 zoning requires approval of a land use permit in order to establish a residence. A residential second unit could potentially be constructed in either zone through a separate ministerial process. Clearly, establishment of one residence and possibly one residential second unit on a legally created parcel would neither directly nor indirectly induce substantial population growth. Other uses permitted by the proposed zoning are agricultural in nature and would not induce substantial population growth.

<u>Summary b-c</u>: Two of the three subject parcels are vacant and therefore rezoning them would not result in displacement of existing housing or people.

XIV. <u>PUBLIC SERVICES</u> – Would the project:

- a. Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services?
 - 1. Fire protection? (Sources: 1, 2)

Potentially Significant Impact	Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact			
	51				
			✓		

Less Than

2. Police protection? (Sources: 1, 2, 3)		✓	
3. Schools? (Sources: 1, 2, 3)		√	
4. Parks? (Sources: 1, 2, 3)			
5. Other public facilities? (Sources: 1, 3)		√	

Impact: Less than significant

Summary a.1: The service standard for fire protection is based on distance. The General Plan states that new development must be located within 1.5 miles driving distance of a fire station or must be equipped with improvements, such as automatic sprinklers and in some cases water storage tanks, to enhance fire fighting capabilities. Rezoning the site would neither alter its distance to a fire station nor lessen the requirements for installation of fire suppression equipment.

<u>Summary a.2-4</u>: The service ratios for police protection, schools, and parks are based on population. As no substantial population growth would occur, there would be negligible, if any, impacts to these services.

Summary a.5: As the proposed rezoning would not result in substantial population growth, impacts to other public facilities such as hospitals and libraries would be insignificant.

XV. RECREATION

a.	Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would	Significant Impact	Mitigation Incorporated	Significant Impact	No Impact
	occur or be accelerated? (Sources: 1, 3)				✓
b.	Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities that might have an adverse physical effect on the environment? (Source: 1)			*	

Impact: No impact

Summary a: As explained in Section XIII above, implementation of the proposed project would not induce substantial population growth. Therefore, use of parks and recreational facilities would not increase, and their deterioration would not be accelerated.

Summary b: The proposed project does not include a proposal for new recreational facilities, and because it would not induce population growth, would not necessitate the expansion of existing facilities.

XVI. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC - Would the project:

	Less Than		
	Significant		
Potentially	With	Less Than	
Significant	Mitigation	Significant	
Impact	Incorporated	Impact	No impact

Less Than Significant

Less Than

Potentially

a.	Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including, but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit? (Sources: 1, 2, 3)				
b.	Conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including, but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways? (Sources: 1, 3)	:			
c.	Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks? (Source: 1)				
d.	Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g. sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g. farm equipment)? (Sources: 1, 3)		Phylogen and the second state of the second st	1	✓
e.	Result in inadequate emergency access? (Sources: 1, 17)				✓
f.	Conflict with adopted policies, plans or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities? (Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4)				√

Impact: No impact

<u>Summary a-b</u>: As explained above, the project would not result in substantial population growth, no physical changes are proposed, and the uses allowed in the existing and proposed zoning districts are substantially similar. Therefore, there is no possibility that rezoning the site as proposed would impact the circulation system's performance or conflict with the county's congestion management programs and standards.

<u>Summary c</u>: The subject site is not in the vicinity of an airstrip or airport and changing the zoning designation as proposed clearly would not impact air traffic.

Summary d: Since no physical development is proposed, hazards would not increase due to a design feature. Because the uses that could realistically be established under the A-4 and A-2 zoning are substantially similar, rezoning the site as proposed would not result in introduction of incompatible uses.

Summary e: Access to the site is gained via Bollinger Canyon Road and this has been the planned access since the subject parcels were created by subdivision approval in September 1997. Rezoning the site would not alter the planned access. If and when the vacant sites are developed, the access must be improved to comply with the fire district's standards for emergency access.

Summary g: The subject site is located in a rural area that is not served by public transit. Because of the area's rural character and low density, bicycle and pedestrian facilities, such as bike lanes and sidewalks, are not widely developed. As no physical changes are proposed and the proposed rezone would not result in a substantial change in uses at the subject site, there is no realistic possibility of the project conflicting with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise degrading the performance of such facilities.

Less Than

XVII. <u>UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS</u> – Would the project:

a.	Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board? (Sources: 1, 3)	Potentially Significant Impact	Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
ъ.	Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects? (Sources: 1, 5)				√
c.	Require or result in the construction of new stormwater drainage facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects? (Source: 1)	·			✓
d.	Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed? (Sources: 1, 17, 18)		,		✓
e.	Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider that serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the				=:

	project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments? (Sources: 1, 17, 18)				✓
				-	
f.	Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's waste disposal needs? (Sources: 1, 3)	=	50		
g.	Comply with federal, state and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste? (Source: 3)			✓	

Impact: Less than significant

Summary a: No physical development is proposed and the uses allowed in the existing and proposed zoning districts are substantially similar. Additionally, the site does not and will not discharge into a facility regulated by the Regional Water Quality Control Board. Therefore, there is no possibility that changing the zoning from A-4 to A-2 would cause an exceedance of the Board's wastewater treatment requirements. Also see discussion in Section IX.a above.

Summary b: See Sections XVI.d and XVI.e below regarding water and wastewater facilities, respectively.

<u>Summary c</u>: The types of stormwater drainage facilities required at any site are dependent on the characteristics if the development proposed, not on the underlying zoning designation. Therefore, rezoning the site from A-4 to A-2 has effect on construction of stormwater drainage facilities. Also see discussion in Section IX.e above.

<u>Summary d</u>: There is no local supplier of potable water; a well would be required upon development of the site. Changing the site's zoning designation has no impact on the requirement for a well.

<u>Summary e</u>: There is no local wastewater treatment provider serving the site; a septic system would be required upon development of the site. Changing the site's zoning designation has no impact on the requirement for a septic system.

<u>Summary f-g</u>: Because the uses allowed by the existing and proposed zoning districts are substantially similar, implementation of the proposed project would not substantially alter the quantity or type of solid waste produced at the subject site. Landfills serving the County have sufficient permitted capacity to accept any waste generated at the site.

XVIII. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

a. Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish and wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or

Potentially Significant Impact	Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact		
	*				

Less Than

	prehistory?			
b.	Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but are cumulatively			
×	considerable? (Cumulatively considerable means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection			
	with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?	6 0		✓
c.	Does the project have environmental effects that will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?			✓

Impact: Less than significant impact

Summary a: As explained throughout this Initial Study, implementation of the proposed project would not result in serious degradation of the quality of the environment because no physical changes to the site are proposed and the uses that could realistically be established under the proposed A-2 agricultural zoning are substantially similar to the uses that could be established under the existing A-4 agricultural zoning. Based on the evidence in the record, the staff finds that the project does not have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish and wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, or reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal.

Summary b: No cumulative environmental impacts would result from implementation of the proposed project. As explained throughout this Initial Study, no physical changes to the site are proposed, and because of the site's physical characteristics, the uses that could realistically be established under the proposed A-2 agricultural zoning are substantially similar to the uses that could be established under the existing A-4 agricultural zoning. Additionally, it is a normal practice to rezone property from A-4 to another agricultural zoning district upon expiration of a Williamson Act contract. There is no evidence in the record suggesting that cumulatively considerable environmental effects would result from approval of the proposed rezone.

Summary c: As explained throughout this Initial Study, the proposed project would result in very few potential impacts and all of the impacts that were identified would be less than significant. Nothing in the record indicates that project has the potential to cause substantial adverse effects on humans, either directly or indirectly.

Attached

- 1) Vicinity Map
- 2) 2008 Ortho Photograph
- 3) Agricultural Lands, AL General Plan Designation Map
- 4) Agricultural Preserve Zoning District Map