

Community and Economic Development Planning Division

Jamie Bax Director 200 W. Fourth St.

· Suite 3100

Madera, CA 93637

TEL (559) 675-7821

• FAX (559) 675-6573

• TDD (559) 675-8970

PLANNING COMMISSION DATE: June 7, 2022

AGENDA ITEM:

#1

CZ	#2022-001	Rezone from RMS (Residential Mountain Single- Family) District to CUM (Commercial Urban Median) District
APN	064-070-009	Applicant: Reese Real Estate & Investment Company
CEQA	MND #2022-11	Mitigated Negative Declaration

REQUEST:

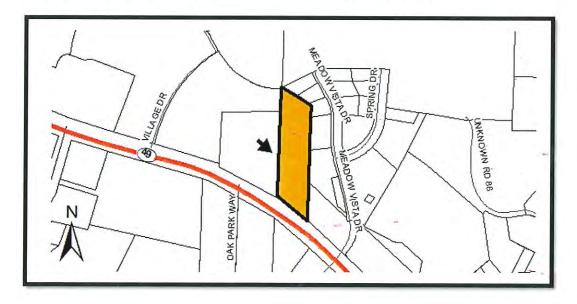
The applicant is requesting a rezone from RMS (Residential Mountain Single-Family) District to CUM (Commercial Urban Median) District to allow for an addition of a storage building addition for an existing pumping, HVAC and hardware supply retail establishment.

LOCATION:

On the north side of Highway 49 approximately 368 feet north of its intersection with Meadow Vista Drive (no situs), Oakhurst.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:

Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND #2022-11) has been prepared and is subject to approval by the Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors.



RECOMMENDATION: Staff supports a recommendation of approval of CZ #2022-001, subject to conditions, and MND #2022-11 with mitigation measures.

CZ #2022-001

GENERAL PLAN DESIGNATION (EXHIBIT A):

SITE: CC (Community Commercial)

SURROUNDING: HDR (High Density Residential) Designation

CC (Community Commercial) Designation

OS (Open Space) Designation

AERA PLAN DESIGNATION (EXHIBIT A-1):

SITE: CC (Community Commercial)

ZONING (EXHIBIT D-1)

SITE: RMS (Residential, Mountain, Single Family) District

SURROUNDING: CRM (Commercial, Rural, Median) District

CUM (Commercial, Urban, Median) District RUS (Residential, Urban, Single Family) District RUM (Residential, Urban Multiple Family) District

PROPOSED ZONE DISTRICT:

SITE: CUM (Commercial, Urban, Median) District

LAND USE:

SITE: Vacant

SIZE OF PROPERTY: 2.53 Acres

ACCESS (EXHIBIT B): Access to the site is via Meadow Vista Drive

WILLIAMSON ACT:

The subject property is not under any Williamson Act Contracts.

BACKGROUND AND PRIOR ACTIONS:

October 21,1985, Rezone #85-46 from RRM to CUM for future commercial use as a potential senior center was approved. On June 23, 1987, Conditional Use Permit #87-38 was approved to allow an apartment complex. January 5, 2021, parcel was merged into one legal parcel with APN (Assessor's Parcel Number) 064-142-015. Parcel remained with two separate APN's due to location in separate tax areas. The legal parcel has split zoning of RMS (Residential Mountain Single-Family) District and CUM (Commercial Urban Median) District.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

A proposed rezone from RMS (Residential Mountain Single-Family) District to CUM (Commercial Urban Median) District to allow for the addition of a storage building for an existing pumping, HVAC and hardware supply retail establishment. The project is an expansion of an existing retail facility. The project consists of a 15,000 sq ft metal storage building addition and four additional parking spaces for a total of 24 spaces and one Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant parking space. Truck parking and unloading is located along the north side of the existing building and proposed addition. The standard and ADA compliant proposed parking complies with Madera County Ordinance Chapter 18.102.

The existing facility is accessed from Meadow Vista Drive and there will be no changes to access with the proposed addition. The facility operates six days per week from 7:00am to 5:00pm with an average number of 50 and maximum of 60 customers per day. The facility currently has nine employees, and an additional 9 future employees projected. Operating hours are Monday through Saturday from 7:00am to 5:00pm. Two service and delivery trips are expected per day. The addition of the storage building is not expected to have a significant impact or change to the existing business operations.

The subject parcel has two Assessor Parcel Numbers, two tax rate districts and split zoning of CUM (Commercial Urban Median) District and RMS (Residential Mountain Single-Family) District. The current facility is zoned CUM (Commercial Urban Median) District and the expansion crosses into the RMS (Residential Mountain Single-Family) District. The rezone is proposed to provide consistency of the zone district, the General Plan and Oakhurst Area Plan Designations of CC (Community Commercial).

ORDINANCES/POLICIES:

Madera County General Plan Part 1, Land Use Designations

<u>Chapter 18.32</u> of the Madera County Zoning Ordinances outlines the allowable uses within the CUM (Commercial Urban Median) District.

<u>Chapter 18.110</u> of the Madera County Zoning Ordinance outlines the procedures for the procession and approval of amendments.

Chapter 18.102 of the Madera County Zoning Ordinance outlines parking regulations.

ANALYSIS:

The applicant is requesting a rezone of a 2.53-acre section of a merged legal parcel to change the zone district from RMS (Residential Mountain Single-Family) District to CUM (Commercial Urban Median) District. The merged parcel consists of APN's 064-070-009 and 064-142-015. For historical context, on January 5, 2021, a parcel merger was recorded creating one legal parcel. The parcel retained two separate APN's due to their location in different tax rate areas. The merged legal parcel has split zoning of RMS (Residential Mountain Single-Family) District and CUM (Commercial Urban Median) District.

The proposed storage building expansion is 15,000 sq ft and will be attached to the existing structure that houses the retail and office areas of the existing business. The storage addition will be a metal constructed building with paint color matching the existing structure. The peak height of the proposed addition is 24'-4.5" with an open floor plan for inventory and equipment storage. Chain link fence will be added to surround the addition.

The parcel located to the south of the project site has a land use designation of Light Industrial and zoned IH (Industrial Heavy) and includes a tire and automobile repair shop. The parcels located to the north have a land used designation of High Density Residential and are zoned RUS (Residential, Urban, Single-Family District) with an existing multi-family residential complex. The parcel located to the west of the project site is vacant and has a land use designation of Community Commercial and zoned as CRM (Commercial, Rural, Median District). The parcel located to the east of the project site is vacant and has a land use designation of High Density Residential and is zoned RUM (Residential, Urban, Multiple Family District).

The project development of a storage building addition to an existing retail facility would be visible to motorists on S.R. 49; however, the visual character will be consistent with the

existing facilities in the area. The project would not substantially alter the site's character and would not result in visually dominant or adverse qualities affecting a substantial number of viewers. The existing retail establishments is accessed via Meadow Vista Drive approximately 170' north of its intersection with Highway 49. The proposed storage addition will not change or alter the current access to the project site.

The project will include an additional four parking spaces. This will bring the total number of parking spaces to 24 and will additionally include one Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant parking space. Truck parking and unloading is located along the north side of the existing building and proposed addition. The standard, ADA compliant, and truck proposed parking complies with Madera County Ordinance Chapter 18.102.

The project was circulated to County Departments and outside regulatory agencies for comments and conditions. This included the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District, Regional Water Quality Control, Caltrans, and Sheriff's Department. Comments were received from Environmental Health, Public Works, and California Department of Transportation.

Pursuant to Public Resource Code (PRC) §21080.3.1(d), the project was circulated to requesting tribes, including Table Mountain Rancheria, Dumna Wo Wah, Picayune Rancheria of Chuckchansi Tribe and the Chowchilla Yokuts Tribe. This circulation allows for local native tribes the opportunity to indicate if they wish to be further consulted on the project, request various levels of archaeological studies on site prior to continuing with the processing of the project or starting of constructing, or decline further consultation. No comments were received in return.

If this project is approved, the applicant will need to submit a check, made out to the County of Madera, in the amount of \$2,598.00 to cover the Notice of Determination (CEQA) filing at the Madera County Clerks' office. The amount covers the \$2,548 Department of Fish and Wildlife fee that took effect January 1, 2022, and the County Clerk \$50.00 filing fee. In lieu of the Fish and Wildlife fee, the applicant may choose to contact the Fresno office of the Department of Fish and Wildlife to apply for a fee waiver. The County Clerk Fee, Department of Fish and Wildlife Fee (or waiver if approved) is due within five days of approval of this permit at the Board of Supervisors.

GENERAL PLAN CONSISTENCY:

The applicant is requesting a rezone of APN 064-070-009 from RMS (Residential Mountain Single-Family) District to CUM (Commercial Urban Median) District which allows retail sales establishments and customer service establishments. The General Plan and Oakhurst Area Plans are listed as CC (Community Commercial) which retail, wholesale, services, restaurants, professional and administrative offices, hotels and motels, public and quasipublic uses, and similar and compatible uses. The proposed rezone will bring the General Plan, Oakhurst Area Plan and zoning designations into consistency.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff supports a recommendation of approval of CZ #2022-001, Mitigated Negative Declaration #2022-011 and Mitigation Monitoring Program.

CONDITIONS:

See attached conditions of approval.

STAFF REPORT June 7, 2022 CZ #2022-001

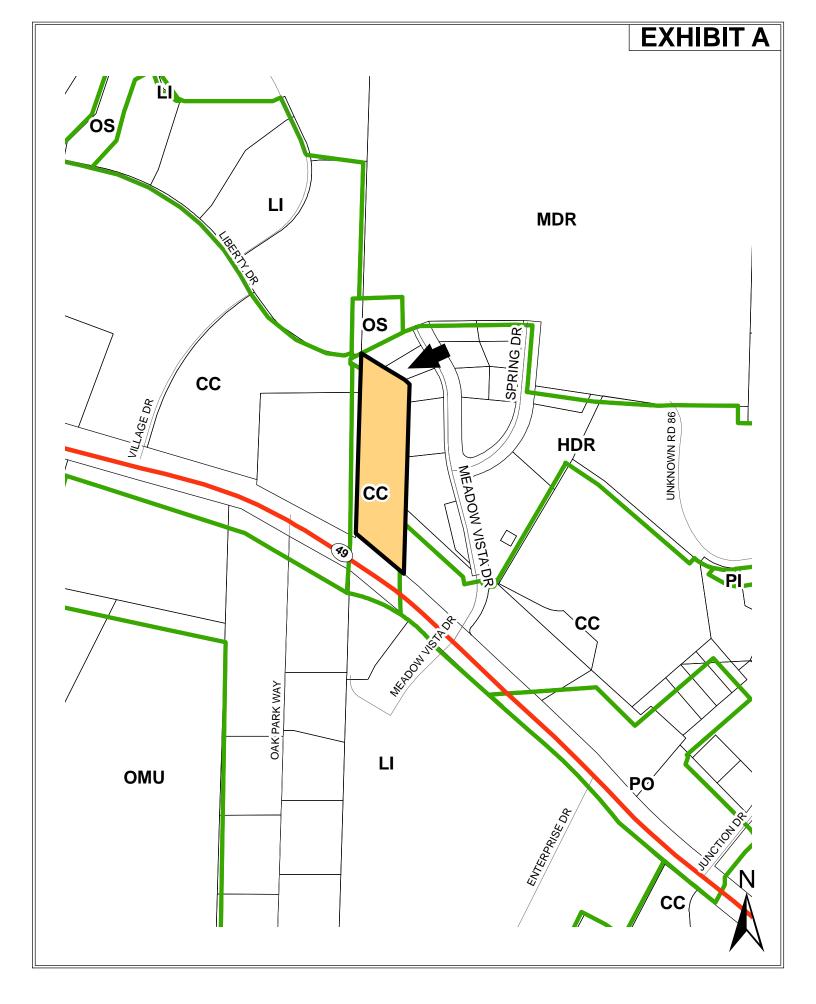
ATTACHMENTS:

- 1. Exhibit A. General Plan Map
- 2. Exhibit A-1. Area Plan Map
- 3. Exhibit B. Zoning Map
- 4. Exhibit C. Assessor Map
- 5. Exhibit D-1. Site Plan
- 6. Exhibit D-2. Elevation Plan
- 7. Exhibit D-3. Floor Plan
- Exhibit D-4. Building Plan
 Exhibit E. Aerial Map

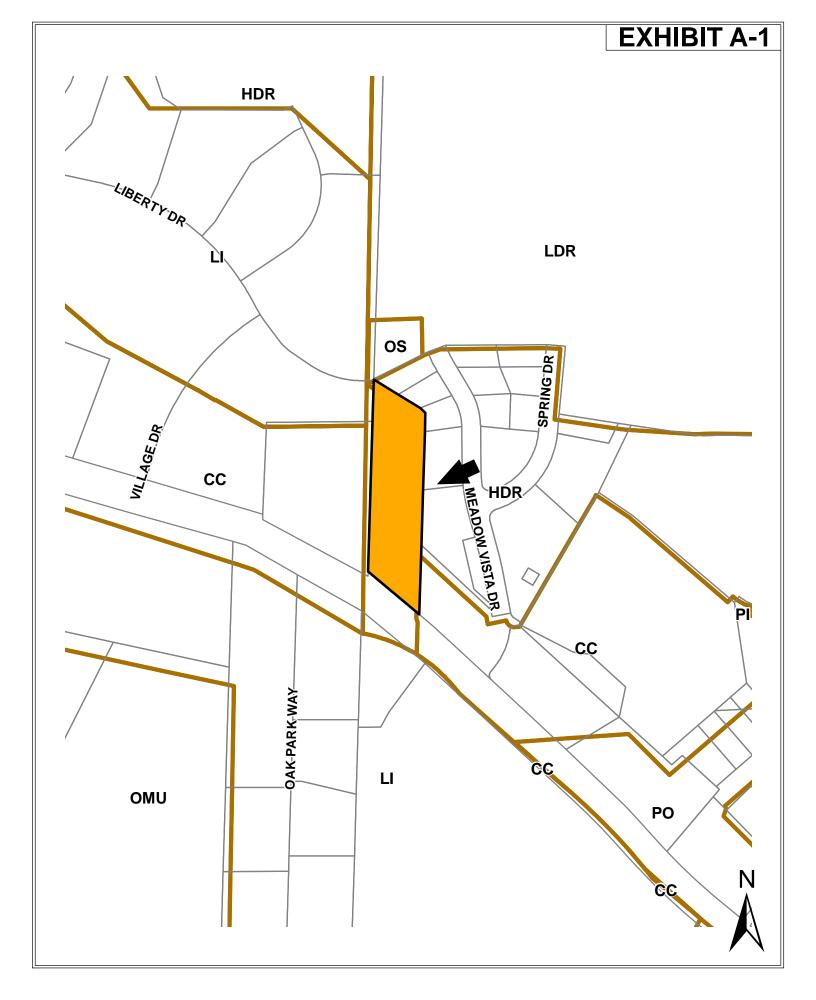
- 10. Exhibit F. Topographical Map11. Exhibit G. Operational Statement
- 12. Exhibit H. Environmental Health Division Comments
- 13. Exhibit I. Public Works Comments
- 14. Exhibit J. CalTrans Comments
- 15. Exhibit K. Initial Study
- 16. Exhibit L. Mitigated Negative Declaration #2022-11

	CONDITIONS OF APPR	ROVAL				
PROJEC	ΓNAME:	CZ 2022-001 Rees	e Real Estate	& Investment		
			The property is located on Highway 49 approximately 368' north or Meadow Vist Drive (no situs) Oakhurst.			
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The applicant is requesting a Rezone from RMS (Resident Family) District to CUM (Commercial Urban Median) District storage building for an existing retail facility for pumping, H supplies.			dian) District to allow for a			
		1				
APPLICA		Reese Real Estate				
CONTAC	T PERSON/TELEPHONE NUMBER:	Richard Reece 801	-233-4090			
No.	Condition	Department/Ag Verification of Complian			n of Compliance	
		ency	Initials	Date	Remarks	
Environm	nental Health	_				
1	If this proposed project is within 200 feet of a public sanitary sewer or within MD-22 service area (Sewer Maintenance District MD-22A) it shall connect. Please provide a will serve letter from MD-22A.	EH				
2	If this proposed project is within 500 feet of an existing public water system (Hillview Water Company/ Cal American) it shall connect. Please provide a Will Serve letter from Hillview Water Company/ Cal American	EH				
3	Solid waste collection with sorting for recyclables and garbage is required.	EH				
4	The construction and then ongoing operation must be done in a manner that shall not allow any type of public nuisance(s) to occur including but not limited to the following nuisance(s); Dust, Odor(s), Noise (s), Lighting, Vector(s) or Litter. This must be accomplished under accepted and approved Best Management Practices (BMP) and as required by the County General Plan, County Ordinances and any other related State and/or Federal jurisdiction.					
5	During the application process for required County pe1mits, a more detailed review of the proposed project's compliance with all current local, state & federal requirements will be reviewed by this department. The owner/operator of this property must submit all applicable permit applications to be reviewed and approved by this department prior to commencement of any work activities.					
Fire					•	

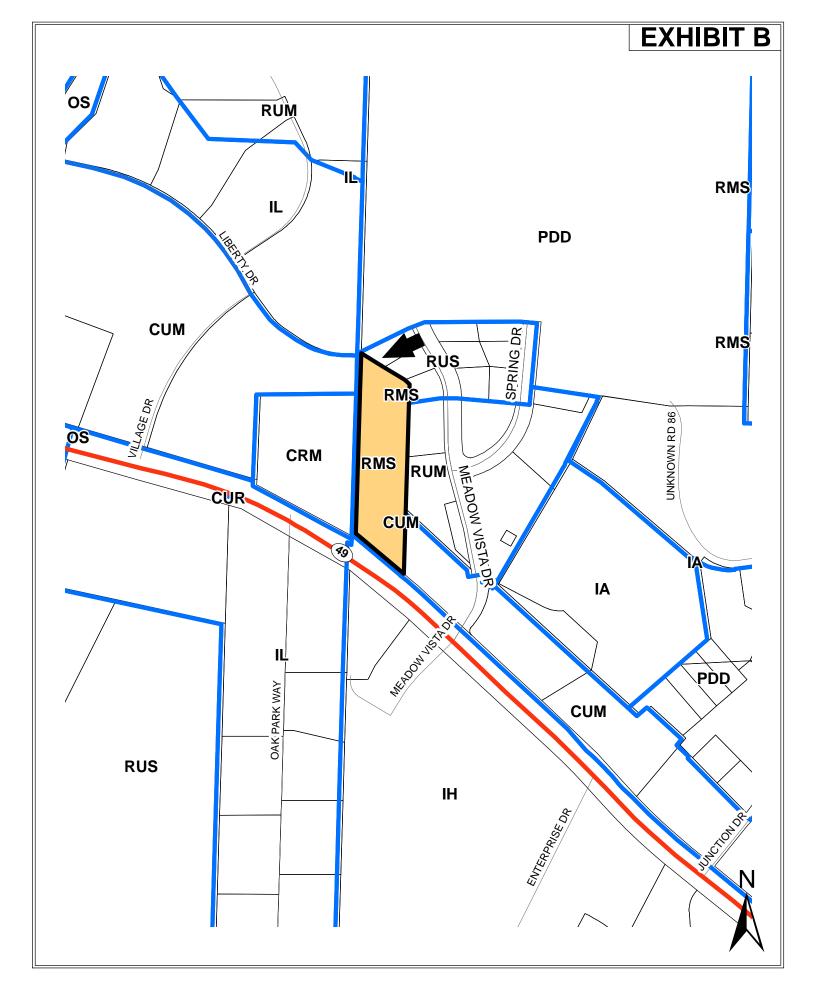
No.	Condition	Department/Ag ency	Verification of Compliance		
			Initials	Date	Remarks
Planning					
1	The project shall be developed and operate in accordance with the operational statement and site plan submitted with the application, except as modified by the mitigation measures and other conditions of approval required for the project.	Planning			
2	Lighting associated with this project is to be hooded and directed downward and away from adjoining parcels.	Planning			
3	Construction activities are limited to the hours of seven a.m. and seven p.m. Monday through Friday and nine a.m. and five p.m. on Saturdays. Construction activities will be prohibited on Sundays.	Planning			
4	Project must comply with MCC section 9.58.020 regarding general noise regulations.	Planning			
5	If archeological evidence is noted on the site prior to the start of construction, no work shall start without first notifying the Planning Department and completion of an Archeological study.	Planning			
Public W	orks				
1	The developer shall pay road impact fees in accordance with County Code Chapter 14.70 at time of applying building permits to offset the impacts to local roads.	Public Works			
2	the property 064-142-015 does not have sufficient sewer units allocated for the existing development let alone for the proposed development. In order to provide sewer service to the existing & proposed development, an additional 5.3 sewer units is required to be allocated to the property. Per County Title 13, Section 92.160.				
3	Since 064-070-009 is not within MD-22A, this parcel will need to be annexed into MD-22A prior to purchasing the additional sewer units necessary.				
California	Department of Transportation				
1	Comply with Caltrans requirments and conditions.	CalTrans			
ı	Comply with Califans requirifients and conditions.	Carrans			



GENERAL PLAN MAP



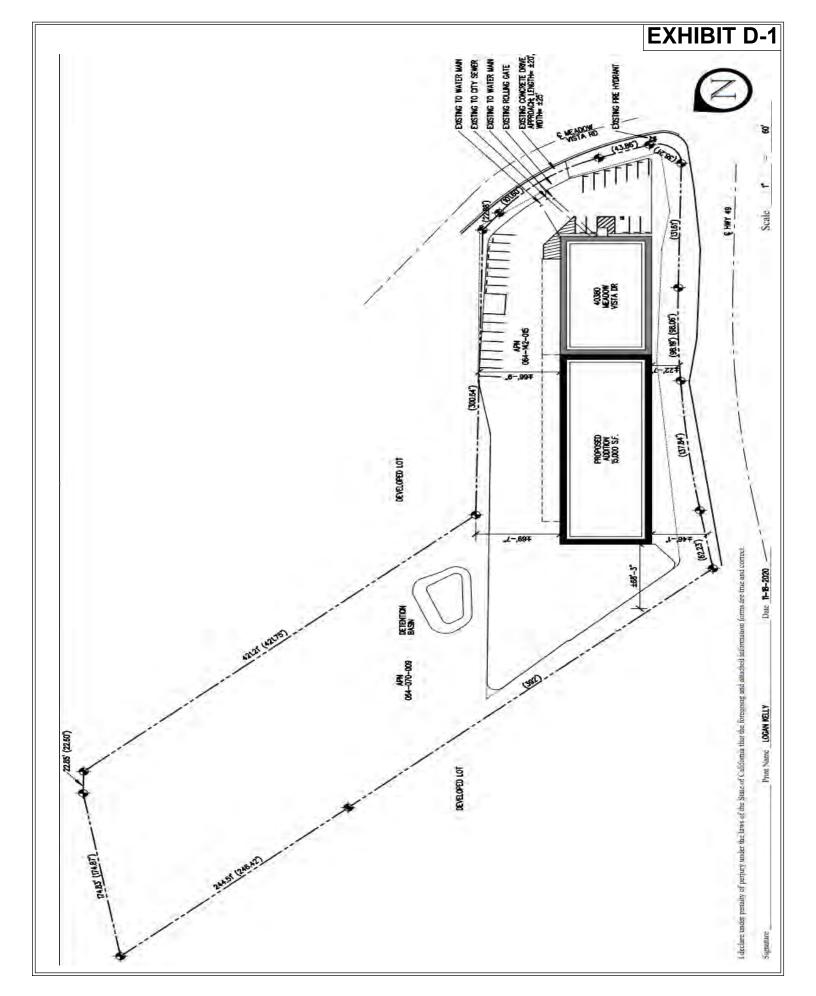
OAKHURST AREA PLAN MAP



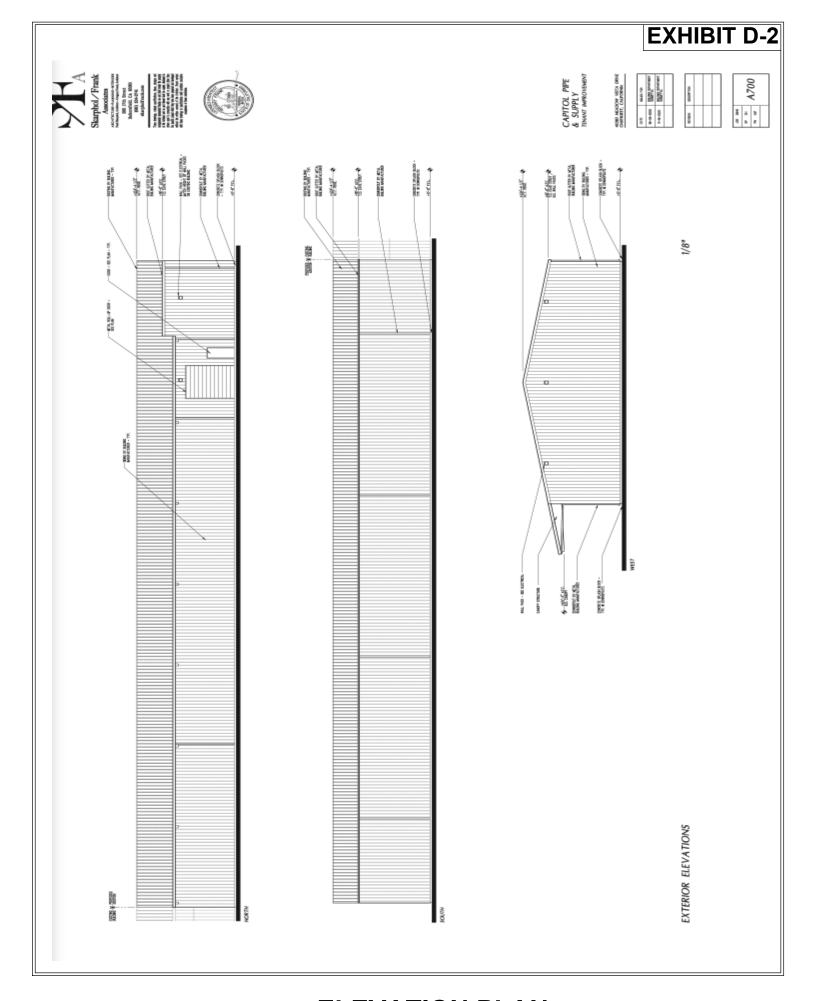
ZONING MAP



ASSESSOR'S MAP



SITE PLAN



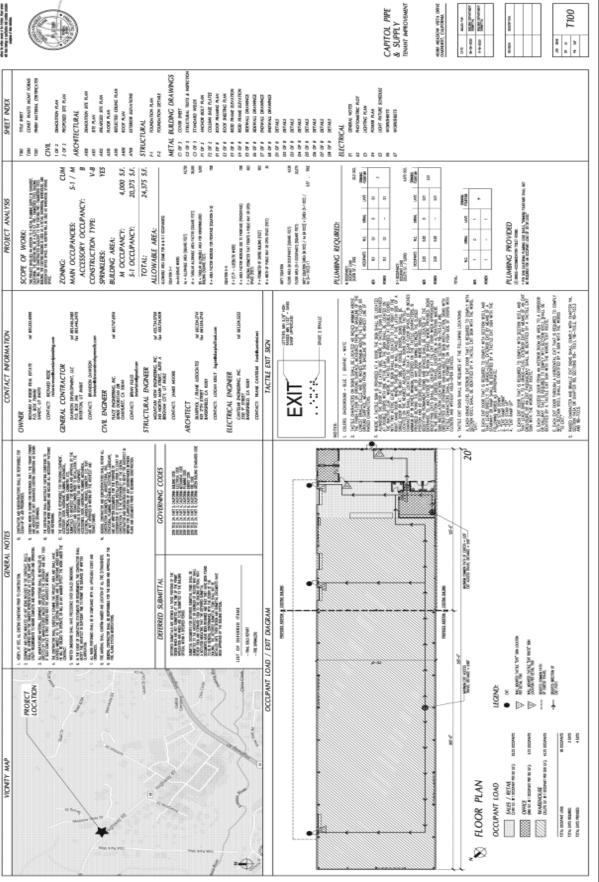
ELEVATION PLAN

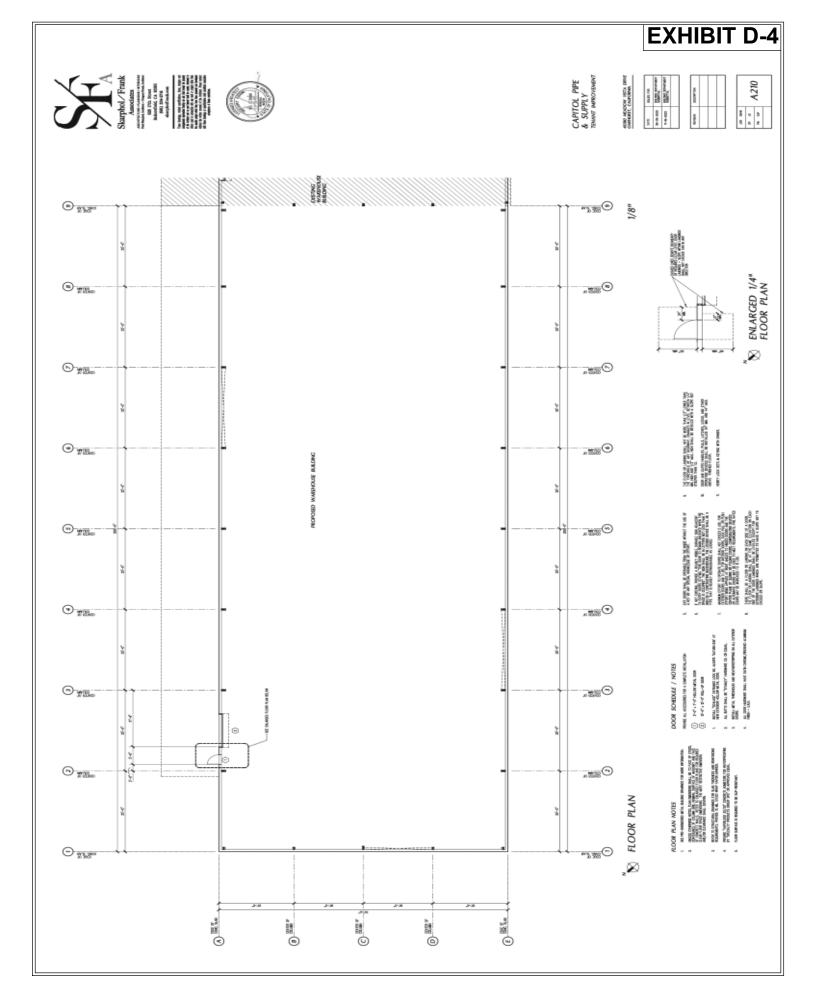
EXHIBIT D-3

KOLADER

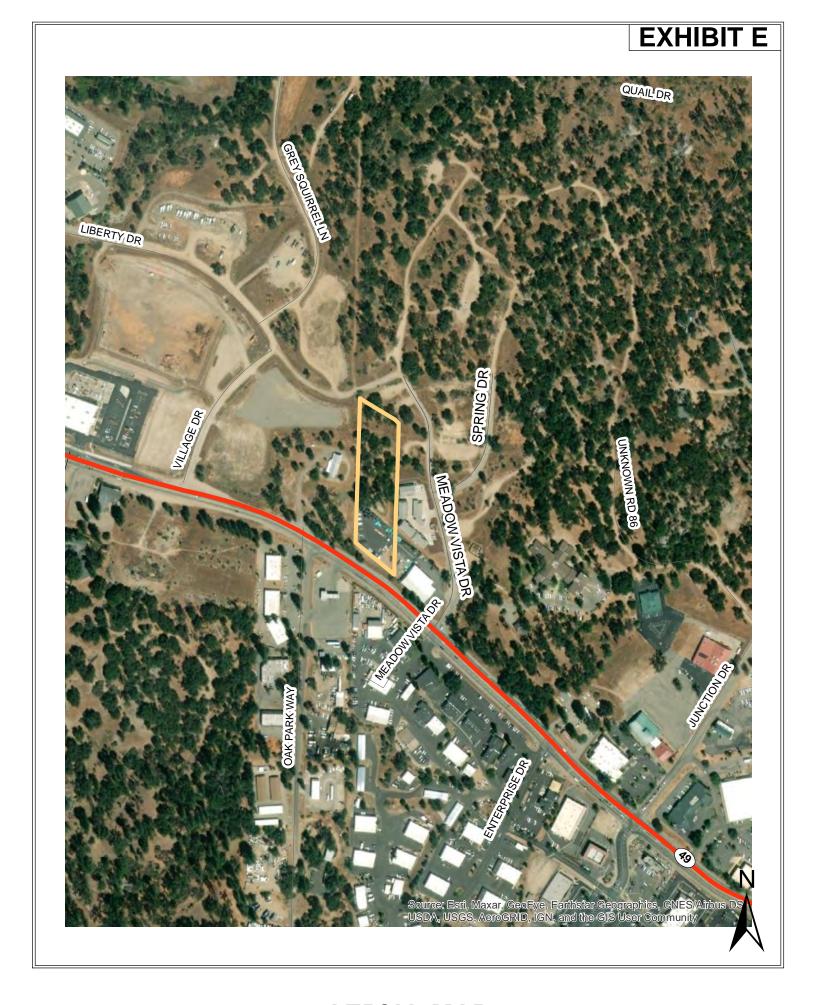
7100

40380 MEADOW VISTA DRIVE OAKHURST, CALIFORNIA

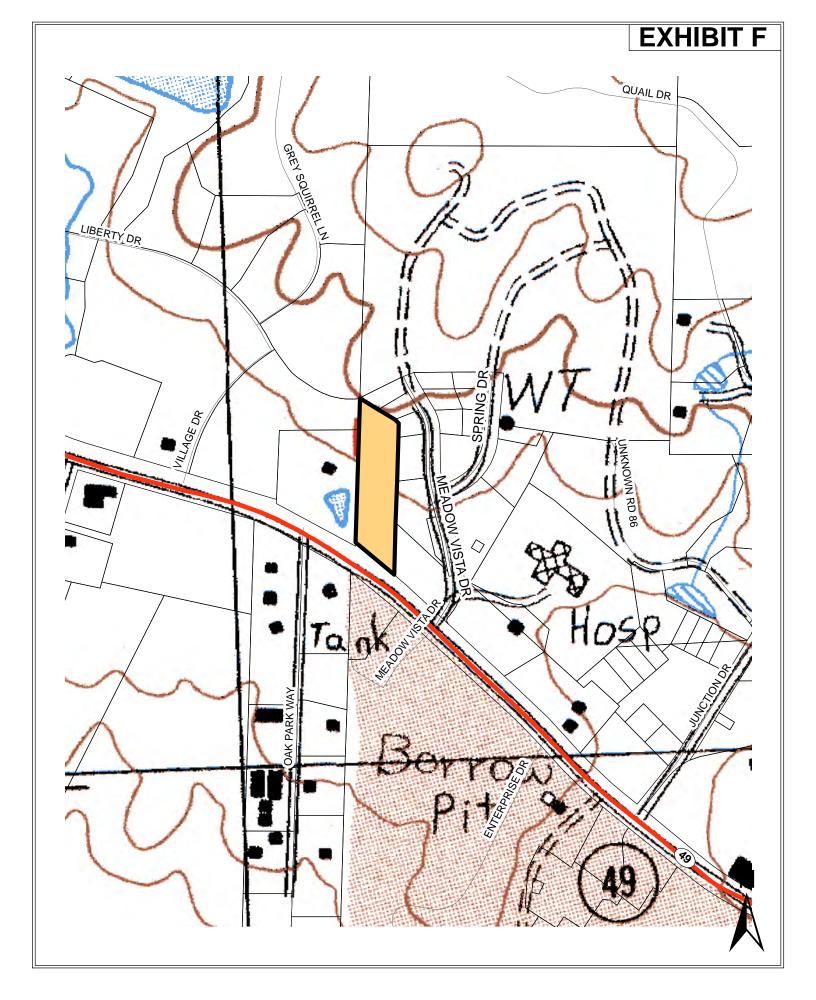




BUILDING PLAN



AERIAL MAP



TOPOGRAPHICAL MAP

EXHIBIT G



Community and Economic Development Planning Division

Matthew Treber Director · 200 W 4th Street

· Suite 3100

Madera, CA 93637

• (559) 675-7821

• FAX (559) 675-6573

TDD (559) 675-8970
mc_planning@madera-county.com

OPERATIONAL/ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT CHECKLIST

It is important that the operational/environmental statement provides for a complete understanding of your project proposal. Please be as detailed as possible.

1.	Please provide the following information:
	Assessor's Parcel Number: 064-070-009 Applicant's Name: Richard N Reese
	Address: PO Box 708490 Sandy, UT 84070
	Phone Number: 801-233-4090
	, rotte (terripo).
2.	Describe the nature of your proposal/operation. Building addition to a wholesale/retail building that sells plumbing, sprinkler, HVAC, and hardware supplies.
3.	What is the existing use of the property? Vacant field
١.	What products will be produced by the operation? Will they be produced onsite or at some other location? Are these products to be sold onsite?
	No products are produced onsite. We sell products produced at other locations by other companies
5.	What are the proposed operational time limits?
	Months (if seasonal):
	Days per week: 6
	Hours (from 7AM to _): Total Hours per day: 10
j.	How many customers or visitors are expected?
	Average number per day: 50
	Maximum number per day: 60
	What hours will customers/visitors be there? 7AM - 5PM
7.	How many employees will there be?
	Current: 9
	Future: 9
	Hours they work: 8
	Do any live onsite? If so, in what capacity (i.e. caretaker)? No

8.	What equipment, materials, or supplies will be used and how will they be stored? If appropriate, provide pictures or brochures. Plumbing, HVAC, Hardware supplies will be merchandised and displayed
9.	Will there be any service and delivery vehicles? yes Number: 2
	Type: _GMC pickup truck aand Kenworth T270 Flatbed Frequency:
10.	Number of parking spaces for employees, customers, and service/delivery vehicles. Type of surfacing on parking area. 22 spaces or as required. Asphalt parking
11.	How will access be provided to the property/project? (street name) From Meadow Vista Drive
12.	Estimate the number and type (i.e. cars or trucks) of vehicular trips per day that will be generated the proposed development.
	N/A no new trips will be generated. This is an addition to an already existing building
13.	Describe any proposed advertising, inlcuding size, appearance, and placement.
14.	Will existing buildings be used or will new buildings be constructed? Indicate which building(s) or portion(s) of will be utilized and describe the type of construction materials, height, color, etc. Profloor plan and elevations, if applicable. This will be an addition to an existing building. Steel building, cement slab foundation with steel panneled walls and roof
	Paint to match existing color.
15.	Is there any landscaping or fencing proposed? Describe type and location. Additional chain link fence will be added to surround the addition and the new paved space behind the building
16.	What are the surrounding land uses to the north, south, east and west property boundaries? There is vacant lands on east and west sides of the property, an apartment complex to the North and a tire and auto repair shop to the south
17.	Will this operation or equipment used, generate noise above other existing parcels in the area?
18.	On a daily or annual basis, estimate how much water will be used by the proposed development, and how is water to be supplied to the proposed development (please be specific). No addition of fixtures. No increas

15.	On a daily or weekly basis, how much wastewater will be generated by the proposed project and how will it be disposed of? No increase to fixtures
20.	On a daily or weekly basis, how much solid waste (garbage) will be generated by the proposed project and how will it be disposed of? 10% increase of current handling
21.	Will there be any grading? Tree removal? (please state the purpose, i.e. for building pads, roads, drainage, etc.) As per the permit
22.	Are there any archeological or historically significant sits located on this property? If so, describe and show location on site plan.
23.	Locate and show all bodies of water on application plot plan or attached map.
24.	Show any ravines, gullies, and natural drainage courses on the property on the plot plan.
25.	Will hazardous materials or waste be produced as part of this project? If so, how will they be shipped or disposed of?
26.	Will your proposal require use of any public services or facilities? (i.e. schools, parks, fire and police protection or special districts?) The addition will not increase any use as fire and police protection will remain the same.
27.	How do you see this development impacting the surrounding area? Minimal impact. it is an addition to an already existing building.
28.	How do you see this development impacting schools, parks, fire and police protection or special districts? Minimal to no impact
29.	If your proposal is for commercial or industrial development, please complete the following; Propose Use(s): Wholesale and retail sale of plumbing, HVAC, and hardware supplies Square feet of building area(s): 26,000 Total number of employees: 9
	Building Heights: 20ft

ached

EXHIBIT H



Community and Economic Development Environmental Health Division

Dexter Marr Deputy Director · 200 W. Fourth St.

Suite 3100

Madera, CA 93637

TEL (559) 661-5191

FAX (559) 675-6573
TDD (559) 675-8970

MEMORANDUM

TO: Annette Kephart

FROM Dexter Marr, Environmental Health Division

DATE: May 3, 2022

RE: 525- - Reese Real Estate & Investment Company - Rezoning - Oakhurst(064-070-009-0

Comments

TO: Madera County Planning Division

FROM: Environmental Health Division

DATE: April 14, 2022

REGARDING:

Change of Zone CZ #2022-001 – Reese Real Estate & Investment – Oakhurst APN: (064-070-009)

The Environmental Health Division Comments:

If this proposed project is within 200 feet of a public sanitary sewer or within MD-22 service area (Sewer Maintenance District MD-22A) it shall connect. Please provide a will serve letter from MD-22A.

If this proposed project is within 500 feet of an existing public water system (Hillview Water Company/ Cal American) it shall connect. Please provide a Will Serve letter from Hillview Water Company/ Cal American.

Solid waste collection with sorting for recyclables and garbage is required.

The construction and then ongoing operation must be done in a manner that shall not allow any type of public nuisance(s) to occur including but not limited to the following nuisance(s); Dust, Odor(s), Noise (s), Lighting, Vector(s) or Litter. This must be accomplished under accepted and approved Best Management Practices (BMP) and as required by the County General Plan, County Ordinances and any other related State and/or Federal jurisdiction.

During the application process for required County permits, a more detailed review of the proposed project's compliance with all current local, state & federal requirements will be reviewed by this department. The owner/operator of this property must submit all applicable permit applications to be reviewed and approved by this department prior to commencement of any work activities.

contact our Division at (559) 675-7823.



COUNTY OF MADERA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

200 West 4th Street Madera, CA 93637-8720 Main Line - (559) 675-7811 Special districts - (559) 675-7820 Fairmead Landfill - (559) 665-1310

MEMORANDUM

DATE:

May 11, 2022

TO:

Annette Kephart

FROM

Phu Duong, Public Works

SUBJECT

525 -- Reese Real Estate & Investment Company - Rezoning - Oakhurst(064-070-009-0

Comments

The developer shall pay road impact fees in accordance with County Code Chapter 14.70 at time of applying building permits to offset the impacts to local roads.

The subject proposed building (warehouse) is on multiple APN's, APN 064-070-009 and APN 064-142-015. Parcel 064-142-015 is within Madera County Maintenance Districts No. 22A, Oakhurst (MD-22A). Parcel 064-070-009 is not within MD-22A.

Please note that currently the property 064-142-015 does not have sufficient sewer units allocated for the existing development let alone for the proposed development. In order to provide sewer service to the existing & proposed development, an additional 5.3 sewer units is required to be allocated to the property. Per County Title 13, Section 92.160

Since 064-070-009 is not within MD-22A, this parcel will need to be annexed into MD-22A prior to purchasing the additional sewer units necessary.

This note will be placed as a correction on Commercial Permit number 21-0023-COM.

GAVIN NEWSOM, GOVERNOR

California Department of Transportation

DISTRICT 6 OFFICE 1352 WEST OLIVE AVENUE | P.O. BOX 12616 | FRESNO, CA 93778-2616 (559) 981-1041 | FAX (559) 488-4195 | TTY 711 www.dot.ca.gov





May 3, 2022

Madera-49-0.62 CZ #2022-001, Proposed Rezone https://ld-igr-gts.dot.ca.gov/district/6/report/26176#36552

SENT VIA EMAIL

ANNETTE KEPHART, Planning Department 200 West 4th Street Madera, CA 93637 Phone: (559) 675-7821 annette.kephart@maderacounty.com

Dear Mx. Kephart,

Thank you for the opportunity to review the CZ #2022-001, proposing rezoning to allow a rezone from Residential Mountain Single-Family (RMS) to Commercial Urban Median (CUM) to allow for a wholesale and retail facility for pumping, HVAC and hardware Supplies. The project is located on the north side of State Route (SR) 49 and just west of Meadow Vista Drive, approximately 0.5 miles northwest of the SR 49 and SR 41 intersection, in the community of Oakhurst.

Caltrans provides the following comments consistent with the State's smart mobility goals that support a vibrant economy and sustainable communities:

- Access to the proposed development would be provided via Meadow Vista Drive. Please provide a Truck turning diagram at this intersection of SR 49 to our office for review.
- 2. Frontage improvement such as curb, gutter, curb ramps, and sidewalk shall be constructed. Curb gutter should be constructed at the ultimate configuration of SR 49.
- 3. A typical future cross-section at this section of SR 49 would require a minimum 110 feet right-of-way, 55 feet from the highway centerline to the northeast side of SR 49 (Project site).
- 4. The right-of-way requirement above does not account for right of way for side slopes, cut and fill embankment, and/or easement for utility, drainage, or other usage. Therefore, additional ROW may be needed.

- 5. Caltrans recommends any proposed building be located outside of the ultimate configuration along this segment of SR 49
- 6. Street parking along SR 49 at the Project's frontage will not be permitted.
- 7. As a point of information, a Traffic Impact Analysis (TIA) for a proposed Frito Lay Distribution Center (CUP #2022-007, adjacent to this project site) was prepared by KD Anderson Traffic Consultant dated 3/8/2022. The TIA identified the need for a future intersection improvement at SR49/Meadow Vista Drive. The identified improvement included installing a traffic signal with intersection widening, installing a roundabout, or prohibiting outbound left-turn movement. The TIA for the Frito Lay Distribution Center is still being reviewed by Caltrans. Further study will be needed when the intersection improvement would actually be constructed. Additional right of way at the intersection may be needed if the roundabout option is selected.
- 8. Furthermore, traffic signal option at SR49/Meadow Vista Drive would potentially be too close to the existing traffic signal at SR49/Junction Drive, that is spaced approximately ¼ mile.
- 9. All roadway improvement on SR 49 must be designed and constructed per the current Caltrans Standards.
- 10. An encroachment permit must be obtained for all proposed activities for placement of encroachments within, under or over the State highway rights-ofway. Activity and work planned in the State right-of-way shall be performed to State standards and specifications, at no cost to the State. Engineering plans, calculations, specifications, and reports (documents) shall be stamped and signed by a licensed Engineer or Architect. Engineering documents for encroachment permit activity and work in the State right-of-way may be submitted using English Units. The Permit Department and the Environmental Planning Branch will review and approve the activity and work in the State right-of-way before an encroachment permit is issued. The Streets and Highways Code Section 670 provides Caltrans discretionary approval authority for projects that encroach on the State Highway System. Encroachment permits will be issued in accordance with Streets and Highway Codes, Section 671.5, "Time Limitations." Encroachment permits do not run with the land. A change of ownership requires a new permit application. Only the legal property owner or his/her authorized agent can pursue obtaining an encroachment permit.

ANNETTE KEPHAR- CUP #2022-007 New WAREHOUSE & MINI STORAGE May 3, 2022 Page 3

11. This comment letter <u>does not</u> constitute FINAL approval. Changes to the site plan may be required along the process.

If you have any other questions, please call or email Edgar Hernandez at (559) 981-7436 or edgar.hernandez@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

David Padilla, Branch Chief Transportation Planning – North

County of Madera California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Initial Study

1. Project title: CZ #2022-001 – Reese Real Estate & Investment Company

2. Lead agency name and address: County of Madera

Community and Economic Development Department

200 West 4th Street, Suite 3100 Madera. California 93637

3. Contact person and phone

number:

Annette Kephart, Planner III

559-675-7821

Annette.Kephart@maderacounty.com

4. Project Location & APN: The subject property is located on the north side of Highway

49 approximately 368' north of its intersection with Meadow

Vista Drive (no situs), Oakhurst.

APN #: 064-070-009

5. Project sponsor's name

and address:

Reese Real Estate & Investment Company

P.O. Box 708490 Sandy, UT 84070

6. General Plan Designation: CC (Community Commercial)
Oakhurst Area Plan Designation: CC (Community Commercial)

7. Zoning: RMS (Residential, Mountain, Single Family)

8. Description of project:

A proposed rezone from RMS (Residential Mountain Single-Family) District to CUM (Commercial Urban Median) District to allow for the addition of a storage building for pumping, HVAC and hardware supplies. The project consists or a 15,000 sq ft steal building addition and four additional parking spaces for a total of 22 spaces which is required by ordinance. The project is an expansion of an existing retail facility of pumping, HVAC and hardware supplies. The existing facility is accessed from Meadow Vista Drive and there will be no changes to access with the proposed addition. The facility operates six days per week from 7:00am to 5:00pm. The average number of customers is 50 per day. The facility currently has nine employees and an additional 9 future employees are expected. The subject parcel has two tax rate districts and split zoning of CUM (Commercial Urban Median) District and RMS (Residential Mountain Single-Family) District. The current facility is zoned CUM (Commercial Urban Median) District and the expansion crosses into the RMS (Residential Mountain Single-Family) District. The rezone is proposed to provide consistency of the zone district, the General Plan and Oakhurst Area Plan Designations of CC (Community Commercial).

9. Surrounding Land Uses and Setting:

The parcels located to the south of the project site have a land use designation of Light Industrial and is zoned IH (Industrial Heavy) are developed parcels with several operational facilities. The parcels located to the north has a land used designation of High Density Residential and are zoned RUS (Residential, Urban, Single Family District). The parcel located to the west of the project site has a land use designation of Community Commercial and zoned as CUM (Commercial, Rural, Median District). The parcel located to the east of the project site is has a land used designation of High Density Residential and is zoned RUM (Residential, Urban, Multiple Family District).

10. Other Public Agencies Whose Approval is Required:

None.

11. Have California Native American tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project area requested consultation pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21080.3.1? If so, is there a plan for consultation that includes, for example, the determination of significance of impacts to tribal cultural resources, procedures regarding confidentiality, etc.?

In accordance with Public Resources Code Section 21080.3.1, notification letters were sent to tribal representatives of California Native American tribes that have requested to be notified of projects within the project area of Madera County. Tribal representatives were advised of the project and invited to request formal consultation with the County regarding the project within 30 days of receiving the notification letters. Eight notification letters were sent to representatives of the following tribes on April 11 2022:

- Table Mountain Rancheria
- · Picayune Rancheria of the Chukchansi Indians
- Dumna Wo Wah Tribal Government
- Chowchilla Yokuts Tribe

As of the preparation of this Initial Study, more than 30 days following the County's transmittal of notification letters, no requests for consultation have been received. Section XVIII of this Initial Study provides additional discussion of tribal cultural resources and outreach.

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED

checklist on the following pages. ☐ Aesthetics ☐ Agricultural/Forestry ☐ Air Quality Resources ☐ Biological Resources ☐ Cultural Resources Energy ☐ Geology/Soils ☐ Greenhouse Gas Emissions ☐ Hazards & Hazardous Materials ☐ Hydrology/Water Quality ☐ Land Use/Planning ☐ Mineral Resources ☐ Noise ☐ Population/Housing ☐ Public Services Recreation ☐ Transportation ☐ Tribal Cultural Resources ☐ Utilities/Service Systems ☐ Wildfire Mandatory Findings of Significance **DETERMINATION** (to be completed by Lead Agency) On the basis of this initial evaluation: 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 revisions in the project have been made or agreed to by the project proponent. 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 "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact 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. 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, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required. Signed: Date:

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

I. AESTHETICS Except as provided in Public Resources Code Section	Potentially Significant Impact	Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
21099, would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?				\boxtimes
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?				
c) In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from publicly accessible vantage point). If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?				
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?				

Loce Than

Responses:

- (a) No Impact. The project site and components would not be visible from any designated areas or have substantial characteristics of a scenic vista.
- **(b) No Impact.** The project site does not contain scenic resources and is not visible from a state scenic highway.
- **(c) Less Than Significant Impact.** The project site is zoned RMS (Residential, Mountain, Single Family) and is immediately north of operations allowed in an industrial zone. The project site is vacant and does not represent a unique or otherwise important visual resource. The project development of a storage addition to an existing retail facility would be visible to motorists on S.R. 49; however, the visual character will be consistent with the existing facilities in the area. The project would not substantially alter the site's character and would not result in visually dominant or adverse qualities affecting a substantial number of viewers. Therefore, the project's change in the visual character of the site is considered less than significant.
- **(d)** Less than Significant Impact With Mitigation. The project is in an area where development exists to the south. Otherwise, the surrounding parcels are vacant. There is potential for additional lighting resulting from the project; however, the additional lighting would be minimal. Lighting will be required to be hooded and directed down and away from neighboring parcels to maintain the visual character and mitigate light disbursement during the evenings.

	Significant Impact	With Mitigation Incorporation	Significant Impact	No Impact
II. AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTRY RESOURCES In determining whether agricultural 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 agriculture 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 regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy 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-agricultural use?				
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?				
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))?				
d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?				
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 or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?				
Responses:				
(a) No Impact. The project site is designated as Url	oan and B	Built-Up Land	by the Ca	llifornia

Less Than

Significant

Potentially

Less Than

Madera County
Initial Study

CZ 2022-001 RMS to CUM

Department of Conservation (DOC) Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program. The project would not convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance

to a non-agricultural use (Department of Conservation, 2016).

- **(b) No Impact.** The project site is not subject to a Williamson Act contract and is not zoned for agricultural use. The subject property is zoned RMS (Residential, Mountain, Single Family) and has a land use designation of CC (Community Commercial). Community Commercial allows for retail, wholesale, services, restaurants, professional and administrative offices, hotels, motels, public and quasi-public uses, and similar comparable uses. The project use would not convert existing agricultural uses and would not conflict with agricultural uses on adjacent properties.
- (c d) No Impact. The project site does not contain forest land or forest resources and is not zoned for such uses.
- (e) No Impact. The project would not involve changes to convert agricultural land or forest land to non-agricultural or non-forest land.

General Information

The California Land Conservation Act of 1965 -- commonly referred to as the Williamson Act -- enables local governments to enter into contracts with private landowners for the purpose of restricting specific parcels of land to agricultural or related open space use. In return, landowners receive property tax assessments which are much lower than normal because they are based upon farming and open space uses as opposed to full market value.

The Department of Conservation oversees the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program. The Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program (FMMP) produce maps and statistical data used for analyzing impacts on California's agricultural resources. Agricultural land is rated according to soil quality and irrigation status; the best quality land is called Prime Farmland. The maps are updated every two years with the use of a computer mapping system, aerial imagery, public review, and field reconnaissance. The program's definition of farmland classification is below:

PRIME FARMLAND (P): Farmland with the best combination of physical and chemical features able to sustain long term agricultural production. This land has the soil quality, growing season, and moisture supply needed to produce sustained high yields. Land must have been used for irrigated agricultural production at some time during the four years prior to the mapping date.

FARMLAND OF STATEWIDE IMPORTANCE (S): Farmland similar to Prime Farmland but with minor shortcomings, such as greater slopes or less ability to store soil moisture. Land must have been used for irrigated agricultural production at some time during the four years prior to the mapping date.

UNIQUE FARMLAND (U): Farmland of lesser quality soils used for the production of the state's leading agricultural crops. This land is usually irrigated, but may include non-irrigated orchards or vineyards as found in some climatic zones in California. Land must have been cropped at some time during the four years prior to the mapping date.

FARMLAND OF LOCAL IMPORTANCE (L): Land of importance to the local agricultural economy as determined by each county's board of supervisors and a local advisory committee.

GRAZING LAND (G): Land on which the existing vegetation is suited to the grazing of livestock. This category was developed in cooperation with the California Cattlemen's Association, University of California Cooperative Extension, and other groups interested in the extent of grazing activities. The minimum mapping unit for Grazing Land is 40 acres.

URBAN AND BUILT-UP LAND (D): Land occupied by structures with a building density of at least

1 unit to 1.5 acres, or approximately 6 structures to a 10-acre parcel. This land is used for residential, industrial, commercial, institutional, public administrative purposes, railroad and other transportation yards, cemeteries, airports, golf courses, sanitary landfills, sewage treatment, water control structures, and other developed purposes.

OTHER LAND (X): Land not included in any other mapping category. Common examples include low density rural developments; brush, timber, wetland, and riparian areas not suitable for livestock grazing; confined livestock, poultry or aquaculture facilities; strip mines, borrow pits; and water bodies smaller than 40 acres. Vacant and nonagricultural land surrounded on all sides by urban development and greater than 40 acres is mapped as Other Land.

CONFINED ANIMAL AGRICULTURE: Poultry facilities, feedlots, and dairy facilities – this use may be a component of Farmland of Local Importance in some counties.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
III. AIR QUALITY Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management district or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:				
a) Conflict with, or obstruct implementation of, the applicable air quality plan?				
b) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?				
c) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?				
d) Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people?				

Responses:

- (a b) Less Than Significant Impact.. The project was circulated to the (SJVAPCD) San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District, no comments were received. The project is consistent with the Air Quality Element of the General Plan. The proposed project is a rezone to allow a storage addition to a current existing facility. The net increase of any criteria pollutantis expected as a less than significant impact.
- **(c)** Less Than Significant Impact. Sensitive receptors are defined as people that have an increased sensitivity to air pollution or environmental contaminants. Sensitive receptor locations include schools, parks and playgrounds, daycare centers, nursing homes, hospitals, and residential dwelling units. The closest sensitive receptor to the project site is the Oakhurst Elementary School located approximately one mile to the east of the project site on High School Road. As previously stated construction and operational emissions associated with the project are not expected to exceed any of the following District significance thresholds.

(d) Less Than Significant Impact. During project construction, some odors may be present due to diesel exhaust. However, these odors would be temporary and limited to the construction period. The expansion of a storage building would not result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people. This impact would be less than significant.

Sensitive receptors are facilities that "house or attract children, the elderly, people with illnesses, or others who are especially sensitive to the effects of air pollution. Hospitals, schools, convalescent facilities and residential areas are examples of sensitive receptors." (GAMAQI, 2002).

Global Climate Change

Climate change is a shift in the "average weather" that a given region experiences. This is measured by changes in temperature, wind patterns, precipitation, and storms. Global climate is the change in the climate of the earth as a whole. It can occur naturally, as in the case of an ice age, or occur as a result of anthropogenic activities. The extent to which anthropogenic activities influence climate change has been the subject of extensive scientific inquiry in the past several decades. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), recognized as the leading research body on the subject, issued its Fourth Assessment Report in February 2007, which asserted that there is "very high confidence" (by IPCC definition, a 9 in 10 chance of being correct) that human activities have resulted in a net warming of the planet since 1750.

CEQA requires an agency to engage in forecasting "to the extent that an activity could reasonably be expected under the circumstances. An agency cannot be expected to predict the future course of governmental regulation or exactly what information scientific advances may ultimately reveal" (CEQA Guidelines Section 15144, Office of Planning and Research commentary, citing the California Supreme Court decision in *Laurel Heights Improvement Association* v. *Regents of the University of California* [1988] 47 Cal. 3d 376).

Recent concerns over global warming have created a greater interest in greenhouse gases (GHG) and their contribution to global climate change (GCC). However at this time there are no generally accepted thresholds of significance for determining the impact of GHG emissions from an individual project on GCC. Thus, permitting agencies are in the position of developing policy and guidance to ascertain and mitigate to the extent feasible the effects of GHG, for CEQA purposes, without the normal degree of accepted guidance by case law.

IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
			\boxtimes	

	Potentially Significant Impact	Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	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 Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	impace	incorporation	impact	impact
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?				
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?				
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 a native wildlife nursery site?				
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?				
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?				

Less Than

Responses:

Responses:

(a, b, d) Less Than Significant Impact. There are no habitats identified on this parcel, so no habitat modifications are expected as a result. There are no projects or activities associated with this project off-site, therefore there will be no indirect impacts to habitats as a result. While there are candidate species identified in the quadrangle in which this project is located, given the commercial and residential development that has occurred in the area over the years the chances of any of the listed species being on the parcel are less than likely.

The project is not located in a riparian or wetland habitat. Any impacts are anticipated to be less than significant.

The project site is zoned for residential uses and the surrounding properties are zoned for commercial, residential and industrial uses. The parcel to the north is an existing multiple family residential complex and to the south there are existing industrial uses. The movement of any native wildlife species is expected less than significant.

(b, c, e, f) No Impact. The surrounding area is utilized for residential, commercial and industrial uses. uses. The operation of this project is not anticipated to interfere with any habitats off site, either directly or indirectly.

During the construction of the facilities on site there is the potential of minimally impacting the migration patterns of listed species. This is due to noise production during the process of construction, which animals will instinctively avoid. This will be a temporary occurrence for the duration of the construction. Any disruption will be minimal as a result and will return to baseline levels at conclusion of the project construction. Operations of the facilities will have negligible impacts.

While the list below shows several species listed in the quadrangle in which this project is located, this does not necessarily mean that these species are actually located on the project site either in a habitat setting or migrating through.

The project will not conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources or provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan.

General Information

Special Status Species include:

- Plants and animals that are legally protected or proposed for protection under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA) or Federal Endangered Species Act (FESA);
- Plants and animals defined as endangered or rare under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) §15380;
- Animals designated as species of special concern by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) or California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG):
- Animals listed as "fully protected" in the Fish and Game Code of California (§3511, §4700, §5050 and §5515); and
- Plants listed in the California Native Plant Society's (CNPS) Inventory of Rare and Endangered Vascular Plants of California.

A review of both the County's and Department of Fish and Game's databases for special status species have identified the following species:

Species	Federal Listings	State Listings	Dept. Of Fish and Game Listings	CNPS Listings
foothill yellow-				
legged frog	None	Endangered	SSC	-
California Spotted				
Owl	None	None	SSC	-
rufous hummingbird	None	None	-	-

An andrenid bee	None	None	-	-
western bumble bee	None	None	-	-
valley elderberry				
longhorn beetle	Threatened	None	-	-
Sierra Nevada red				
fox - Sierra Nevada				
DPS	Endangered	Threatened	-	-
pallid bat	None	None	SSC	-
western pond turtle	None	None	SSC	-
Hall's wyethia	None	None	-	4.3
orange lupine	None	None	-	1B.2
Mariposa pussypaws	Threatened	None	-	1B.1
Yosemite evening-				
primrose	None	None	-	4.3
Kings River				
monkeyflower	None	None	-	3
slender-stalked				
monkeyflower	None	None	-	1B.2
Gray's				
monkeyflower	None	None	-	4.3
Madera leptosiphon	None	None	-	1B.2
Ewan's larkspur	None	None	-	4.2

Daulton Quadrangle

List 1A: Plants presumed extinct

List 1B: Plants Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California and elsewhere.

<u>List 2</u>: Plants Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California, but more numerous elsewhere

<u>List 3</u> Plants which more information is needed – a review list

List 4: Plants of Limited Distributed - a watch list

Ranking

- 0.1 Seriously threatened in California (high degree/immediacy of threat)
- 0.2 Fairly threatened in California (moderate degree/immediacy of threat)
- 0.3 Not very threatened in California (low degree/immediacy of threats or no current threats known)

SSC Species of Special Concern

WL Watch List

FP Fully Protected

Effective January 1, 2007, Senate Bill 1535 took effect that has changed de minimis findings procedures. The Senate Bill takes the de minimis findings capabilities out of the Lead Agency hands and puts the process into the hands of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (formally the California Department of Fish and Game). A Notice of Determination filing fee is due each time a NOD is filed at the jurisdictions Clerk's Office. The authority comes under Senate Bill 1535 (SB 1535) and Department of Fish and Wildlife Code 711.4. Each year the fee is evaluated and has the potential of increasing. For the most up-to-date fees, please refer to: http://www.dfg.ca.gov/habcon/cega/cega_changes.html.

The Valley elderberry longhorn beetle was listed as a threatened species in 1980. Use of the elderberry bush by the beetle, a wood borer, is rarely apparent. Frequently, the only exterior evidence of the elderberry's use by the beetle is an exit hole created by the larva just prior to the pupal stage. According to the USFWWS, the Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle habitat is primarily in communities of clustered Elderberry plants located within riparian habitat. The USFWS stated that VELB habitat does not include every Elderberry plant in the Central Valley, such as isolated, individual plants, plants with stems that are less than one inch in basal diameter or plants located in upland habitat.

Wetlands are defined under Title 33 §328.3 of the California Code of Regulations as "those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas."

V. CULTURAL RESOURCES Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to §15064.5?				
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?				
c) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?				

Responses:

(a - d) Less Than Significant Impact. While the County is known to potentially have historical and archaeological resources, due to the development of project site and surrounding properties as agricultural, the chances of finding any archaeological or paleontological resources are less than likely. Most of the paleontological finds in Madera County have been found in the proximity of the landfill, located near the community of Fairmead. Most of the historical finds in Madera County have been found in the mountain and foothill areas above the valley floor due to previous Native American presence in the area. However, any new findings are unlikely on this parcel because the project is located in the unicorporated community of Oakhurst and surrounding parcels have been developed with residential, commercial and industrial uses. The likelihood of any finds in this area is minimal. There are no known fossil bearing sediments on the project site. No known unique geological features in the vicinity of the project site exist. However, there is still the potential for uncovering previously unknown human remains or cemeteries. Therefore, the project will cease all operations if any human remains, cemeteries, archaeological, paleontological, or historic resource is uncovered during the construction or operational phase of the project, until the County can determine whether or not the project can continue.

If project construction related activities (including but not limited to ground disturbing activities) result in the disturbing of subsurface cultural deposits, project related activities should be halted, and a professional archaeologist will be brought in to determine the culture of the deposits.

General Information

Public Resource Code 5021.1(b) defines a historic resource as "any object building, structure, site, area or place which is historically significant in the architectural, engineering, scientific, economic, agricultural, educational, social, political, military, or cultural annals of California." These resources are of such import, that it is codified in CEQA (PRC Section 21000) which prohibits actions that "disrupt, or adversely affect a prehistoric or historic archaeological site or a property of historical or cultural significance to a community or ethnic or social groups; or a paleontological site except as part of a scientific study."

Archaeological importance is generally, although not exclusively, a measure of the archaeological research value of a site which meets one or more of the following criteria:

- Is associated with an event or person of recognized significance in California or American history or of recognized scientific importance in prehistory.
- Can provide information which is both of demonstrable public interest and useful in addressing scientifically consequential and reasonable archaeological research questions.
- Has a special or particular quality such as oldest, best example, largest, or last surviving example of its kind.
- Is at least 100 years old and possesses substantial stratigraphic integrity (i.e. it is essentially undisturbed and intact).
- Involves important research questions that historic research has shown can be answered only with archaeological methods.

(CEQA Guidelines §15064.5 for definitions)

Paleontology is a branch of geology that studies the life forms of the past, especially prehistoric life forms, through the study of plan and animal fossils. Paleontological resources represent limited, non-renewable and impact sensitive and educational resources. Most of the paleontological finds have been on the valley floor.

VI. ENERGY Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact

	Potentially Significant Impact	Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Result in potentially significant environmental impact				
due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption				
of energy resources, during project construction or				
operation?				
b) Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for			\boxtimes	
renewable energy or energy efficiency?				

Responses:

(a - b) Less Than Significant Impact. California has implemented numerous energy efficiency and conservation programs that have resulted in substantial energy savings. The State has adopted comprehensive energy efficiency standards as part of its Building Standards Code, California Codes of Regulations, Title 24. In 2009, the California Building Standards Commission adopted a voluntary Green Building Standards Code, also known as CALGreen, which became mandatory in 2011. CALGreen sets forth mandatory measures applicable to new residential and non-residential structures and additions and alterations on water efficiency and conservation, building material conservation, interior environmental quality, and energy efficiency.

Additionally, California has adopted a Renewables Portfolio Standard, which requires electricity retailers in the state to generate 33 percent of the electricity they sell from renewable energy sources (i.e., solar, wind, geothermal, hydroelectric from small generators, etc.) by the end of 2020. In 2018, SB 100 was signed into law, which increases the electricity generation requirement from renewable sources to 60% by 2030 and requires all the state's electricity to come from carbon-free resources by 2045. The main sources of energy consumption would be construction activities and ongoing project operations. Project construction would involve fuel consumption and use of other nonrenewable resources. Construction equipment used for such improvements typically runs on diesel fuel or gasoline. The same fuels are typically used for vehicles transporting equipment and workers to and from a construction site. However, construction-related fuel consumption would be finite, short-term and consistent with construction activities of a similar character. This energy use would not be considered wasteful, inefficient or unnecessary. Equipment overtime would be more energy-efficient in order to assist with meeting State emissions reduction goals. Additionally, under California's Renewable Portfolio Standard, a greater share of electricity would be provided from renewable energy sources over time, so less fossil fuel consumption to generate electricity would occur. The Project would be required to comply with the building energy efficiency standards of California Code of Regulations Title 24, Part 6, also known as the California Energy Code. Compliance with these standards would reduce energy consumption associated with project operations, although reductions from compliance cannot be readily quantified at this time. Overall, project construction and operations would not consume energy resources in a manner considered wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary; the project would also not conflict or obstruct any state or local plans for renewable energy efficiency. project impacts related to energy consumption are considered less than significant.

Less Than
Potentially Significant Less Than
Significant With Mitigation Significant No
Impact Incorporation Impact Impact

VII. GEOLOGY AND SOILS

Would the project:

a) Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone 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.				
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?			\boxtimes	
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?				
iv) Landslides?				
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?				
c) Be located on a geological unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?				
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18- 1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property?			\boxtimes	
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?				
f) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?		\boxtimes		

Responses:

(a i - iv) Less than Significant Impact. According to the California Earthquake Hazards Zone Application (EQ Zapp) located on the Department of Conservation, the project is not within an Earthquake Fault Zone (Department of Conservation, 2021).

The Earthquake Shaking Potential for California Map located on the Department of Conservations website displays the Level of hazards regarding ground shaking for each county. According to the map, Madera is located in a region distant from known active faults and will experience lower levels of shaking less frequently. In most earthquakes, only weaker, masonry buildings would be damaged. However, very infrequent earthquakes could still cause strong shaking. The project area is topographically flat, with no potential for landslides (Department of Conservation , 2016).

(b) Less Than Significant Impact. The parcel is subject to potential erosion due to rain events; however, with the implementation of HYDRO MM-1, construction project proponents will be required to submit a Notice of Intent and Storm Water Pollution

Prevention Plan (SWPPP) to the Regional Water Quality Board to obtain a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Construction Permit. The SWPPP will include Best Management Practices (BMPs) to control erosion and siltation on the site in order to prevent water quality degradation. Such measures may include, but are not limited to, covering the graded area with straw or straw matting and using water for dust control. Due to the flat nature of the project site, future development within the project site would result in a less than significant soil erosion impact.

- **(c) Less Than Significant Impact.** The project site is not located in an earthquake fault zone and is in an area with a low probability of seismic activity. Lateral spreading, subsidence, and collapse are uncommon in Madera County. Since the project site is not located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable or would become unstable due to project activities, there is little to no potential for result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse. Impacts from these criteria are considered less than significant.
- (d) Less Than Significant Impact. Soils associated with a high risk for expansion are generally characterized as dense materials with less air-filled voids and therefore have a greater potential to undergo volume change. The volume of change is influenced by the quantity of moisture, the kind and amount of clay in the soil, and the original porosity of the soil. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Services Web Soil Survey, identified soil on the project site consists of Ahwahnee and Auberry coarse sandy loams, eight to fifteen percent slopes (AaC) and Ahwahnee and Auberry coarse sandy loams, fifteen to thirty percent slopes (AaD). The soil characteristics of the project site can be seen in Figure 3. These soils have are well-drained when subjected to fluctuations in moisture and have a low potential for liquefaction or ground failure. Based on the known conditions of the soils documented on the project site, risks to life or property as a result of expansive soils are not substantial, and the impact of expansive soil on the future project site development will be less than significant.
- **(e) Less Than Significant Impact.** The project proposes to construct an expansion to a current existing retail facility in which current wastewater disposal sytems are already in place.
- **(f) Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation.** Refer to the discussion regarding Cultural Resources.

General Information

Madera County is divided into two major physiographic and geologic provinces: the Sierra Nevada Range and the Central Valley. The Sierra Nevada physiographic province in the northeastern portion of the county is underlain by metamorphic and igneous rock. It consists mainly of homogenous types of granitic rocks, with several islands of older metamorphic rock. The central and western parts of the county are part of the Central Valley province, underlain by marine and non-marine sedimentary rocks.

The foothill area of the county is essentially a transition zone, containing old alluvial soils that have been dissected by the west-flowing rivers and streams which carry runoff from the Sierra Nevada's.

Seismicity varies greatly between the two major geologic provinces represented in Madera County. The Central Valley is an area of relatively low tectonic activity bordered by mountain

ranges on either side. The Sierra Nevada's, partly within Madera County, are the result of movement of tectonic plates which resulted in the creation of the mountain range. The Coast Ranges on the west side of the Central Valley are also a result of these forces, and continued movement of the Pacific and North American tectonic plates continues to elevate the ranges. Most of the seismic hazards in Madera County result from movement along faults associated with the creation of these ranges.

There are no active or potentially active faults of major historic significance within Madera County. The County does not lie within any Alquist Priolo Special Studies Zone for surface faulting or fault creep. However, there are two significant faults within the larger region that have been and will continue to be, the principle sources of potential seismic activity within Madera County.

<u>San Andreas Fault</u>: The San Andreas Fault lies approximately 45 miles west of the county line. The fault has a long history of activity and is thus a concern in determining activity in the area.

Owens Valley Fault Group: The Owens Valley Fault Group is a complex system containing both active and potentially active faults on the eastern base of the Sierra Nevada Range. This group is located approximately 80 miles east of the County line in Inyo County. This system has historically been the source of seismic activity within the County.

The *Draft Environmental Impact Report* for the state prison project near Fairmead identified faults within a 100 mile radius of the project site. Since Fairmead is centrally located along Highway 99 within the county, this information provides a good indicator of the potential seismic activity which might be felt within the County. Fifteen active faults (including the San Andreas and Owens Valley Fault Group) were identified in the *Preliminary Geotechnical Investigation*. Four of the faults lie along the eastern portion of the Sierra Nevada Range, approximately 75 miles to the northeast of Fairmead. These are the Parker Lake, Hartley Springs, Hilton Creek and Mono Valley Faults. The remaining faults are in the western portion of the San Joaquin Valley, as well as within the Coast Range, approximately 47 miles west of Fairmead. Most of the remaining 11 faults are associated with the San Andreas, Calaveras, Hayward and Rinconada Fault Systems which collectively form the tectonic plate boundary of the Central Valley.

In addition, the Clovis Fault, although not having any historic evidence of activity, is considered to be active within quaternary time (within the past two million years), is considered potentially active. This fault line lies approximately six miles south of the Madera County line in Fresno County. Activity along this fault could potentially generate more seismic activity in Madera County than the San Andreas or Owens Valley fault systems. However, because of the lack of historic activity along the Clovis Fault, there is inadequate evidence for assessing maximum earthquake impacts.

Seismic ground shaking, however, is the primary seismic hazard in Madera County because of the County's seismic setting and its record of historical activity (General Plan Background Element and Program EIR). The project represents no specific threat or hazard from seismic ground shaking, and all new construction will comply with current local and state building codes. Other geologic hazards, such as landslides, lateral spreading, subsidence, and liquefaction have not been known to occur within Madera County.

According to the Madera County General Plan Background Report, groundshaking is the primary seismic hazard in Madera County. The valley portion of Madera County is located on alluvium deposits, which tend to experience greater groundshaking intensities than areas located on hard rock. Therefore, structures located in the valley will tend to suffer greater damage from groundshaking than those located in the foothill and mountain areas.

Liquefaction is a process whereby soil is temporarily transformed to a fluid form during intense and prolonged ground shaking. According to the Madera County General Plan Background Report, although there are areas of Madera County where the water table is at 30 feet or less below the surface, soil types in the area are not conducive to liquefaction because they are either too coarse in texture or too high in clay content; the soil types mitigate against the potential for liquefaction.

VIII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?				
b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?				

Responses:

- (a) Less Than Significant Impact. The project in and of itself will not generate greenhouse gases that will impact the environment. However, vehicles traveling to and from the project site during normal operations will contribute to greenhouse generation. This will be less than significant in that the project site is immediately adjacent to Highway 49 which has a high level of traffic already, and the impacts of vehicles visiting this project site will be minimal in light of the whole. It has been assumed in previous analysis that the traffic generated is expected.
- **(b) No Impact.** There is no anticipated impact as a result of this project.

Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions: The potential effect of greenhouse gas emission on global climate change is an emerging issue that warrants discussion under CEQA. Unlike the pollutants discussed previously that may have regional and local effects, greenhouse gases have the potential to cause global changes in the environment. In addition, greenhouse gas emissions do not directly produce a localized impact, but may cause an indirect impact if the local climate is adversely changed by its cumulative contribution to a change in global climate. Individual development projects contribute relatively small amounts of greenhouse gases that when added to other greenhouse gas producing activities around the world would result in an increase in these emissions that have led many to conclude is changing the global climate. However, no threshold has been established for what would constitute a cumulatively considerable increase in greenhouse gases for individual development projects. The State of California has taken several actions that help to address potential global climate change impacts.

Assembly Bill 32 (AB 32), the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006, outlines goals for local agencies to follow in order to bring Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions to 1990 levels (a 25% overall reduction) by the year 2020. The California Air Resources Board (CARB) holds the responsibility of monitoring and reducing GHG emissions through regulations, market mechanisms and other actions. A Draft Scoping Plan was adopted by CARB in order to provide guidelines and policy for the State to follow in its steps to reduce GHG. According to CARB, the scoping plan's GHG reduction actions include: direct regulations, alternative compliance

mechanisms, monetary and non-monetary incentives, voluntary actions, and market-based mechanisms such as a cap-and-trade system.

Following the adoption of AB 32, the California State Legislature adopted Senate Bill 375, which became the first major bill in the United States that would aim to limit climate change by linking directly to "smart growth" land use principles and transportation. It adds incentives for projects which intend to be in-fill, mixed use, affordable and self-contained developments. SB 375 includes the creation of a Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) through the local Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO) in order to create land use patterns which reduce overall emissions and vehicle miles traveled. Incentives include California Environmental Quality Act streamlining and possible exemptions for projects which fulfill specific criteria.

IX. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use or disposal of hazardous materials?				
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?				
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?				
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?				
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 or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area?				
			\boxtimes	

f) Impair implementation of, or physically interfere with, an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	Potentially Significant Impact	Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
g) Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires?				

Responses:

(a - c) Less Than Significant Impact. The end result of the Rezone request is a storage building for an existing pumping, HVAC and hardware supply/retail store

By definition, a hazardous material is any material that has components that make it hazardous but has not been used for its' intended purpose. A hazardous waste is a hazardous material but has been utilized for its' intended purpose and is typically no longer useable. The current business use does not include storage or disposal of any type of hazardous wastes. Therefore less than significant impacts from the project are expected.

There are no schools within one quarter mile of the proposed business. There project is adjacent to other commercially zoned properties.

- (d − e) No Impact. The subject property does not appear on a list of hazardous materials sites. The proposed project is not located within an airport land use plan, airport, or private airstrip.
- (f g) Less Than Significant Impact. The project is not expected to interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan.

The proposed project would put a new storage building within an area which could be subject to wildfires. However, developing the project in accordance to Fire Code standards should limit the spreading of wildfires and mitigate the impact to less than significant.

General Information

Any hazardous material because of its quantity, concentration, physical or chemical properties, pose a significant present or potential hazard to human health and safety, or the environment the California legislature adopted Article I, Chapter 6.95 of the Health and Safety Code, Sections 25500 to 25520 that requires any business handling or storing a hazardous material or hazardous waste to establish a Business Plan. The information obtained from the completed Business Plans will be provided to emergency response personnel for a better-prepared emergency response due to a release or threatened release of a hazardous material and/or hazardous waste.

Business owners that handle or store a hazardous material or mixtures containing a hazardous material, which has a quantity at any one time during the year, equal to or greater than:

- 1) A total of 55 gallons,
- 2) A total of 500 pounds,
- 3) 200 cubic feet at standard temperature and pressure of compressed gas,

4) Any quantity of Acutely Hazardous Material (AHM).

Assembly Bill AB 2286 requires all business and agencies to report their Hazardous Materials Business Plans to the Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA) information electronically at http://cers.calepa.ca.gov.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
X. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY Would the project:	·	·	·	·
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or groundwater quality?				
b) Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?				
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would:				
(i) Result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site;				
(ii) substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site;				
(iii) create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff; or				
(iv) Impede or redirect flood flows?				
d) In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?				\boxtimes
e) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?				

Responses:

(a - b) No Impact. No impacts have been identified as a result of this project. Minimal usage of

water is expected, as well as minimal wastewater generation is expected. The proposed expansion is not expected to have additional impacts to the current, existing by-right useage. The project is served by Cal American Water company for drinking water and an onsite septic system for waste water services.

(ci - iv) Less than Significant Impact. The operations of the proposed project will have a less than significant impact due to the conditions that our Public Works Department has placed which requires the applicant to submit a grading, drainage, and storm water design plan prior to issuance of a building permit.

(d - e) No Impact. No impacts have been identified as a result of this project.

General Information

Groundwater quality contaminants of concern in the Valley Floor include high salinity (total dissolved solids), nitrate, uranium, arsenic, methane gas, iron, manganese, slime production, and dibromochloropropane with the maximum contaminant level exceeded in some areas. Despite the water quality issues noted above, most of the groundwater in the Valley Floor is of suitable quality for irrigation. Groundwater of suitable quality for public consumption has been demonstrated to be present in most of the area at specific depths.

Groundwater quality contaminants of concern in the Foothills and Mountains include manganese, iron, high salinity, hydrogen sulfide gas, uranium, nitrate, arsenic, and methylbutylethylene (MTBE) with the maximum concentration level being exceeded in some areas. Despite these problems, there are substantial amounts of good-quality groundwater in each of the areas evaluated in the Foothills and Mountains. Iron and manganese are commonly removed by treatment. Uranium treatment is being conducted on a well by the Bass Lake Water Company.

A seiche is an occasional and sudden oscillation of the water of a lake, bay or estuary producing fluctuations in the water level and caused by wind, earthquakes or changes in barometric pressure. A tsunami is an unusually large sea wave produced by seaquake or undersea volcanic eruption (from the Japanese language, roughly translated as "harbor wave"). According to the California Division of Mines and Geology, there are no active or potentially active faults of major historic significance within Madera County. As this property is not located near any bodies of water, no impacts are identified.

The flood hazard areas of the County of Madera are subject to periodic inundation which results in loss of life and property, health and safety hazards, disruption of commerce and governmental services, extraordinary public expenditures for flood protection and relief, and impairment of the tax base, all of which adversely affect the public health, safety and general welfare. These flood losses are caused by uses that are inadequately elevated, floodproofed, or protected from flood damage. The cumulative effect of obstruction in areas of special flood hazards which increase flood height and velocities also contribute to flood loss.

XI. LAND USE AND PLANNING Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Physically divide an established community?				\boxtimes

Significant Significant With Mitigation Nο Impact Impact Incorporation Impact b) Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect? Responses: (a) No Impact. The project would not divide an established community (b) No Impact. The project would not conflict with the County General Plan or other land use plan policies or regulations adopted to avoid or mitigate an environmental effect. Less Than Potentially Significant Less Than Significant With Mitigation Significant No Impact Impact Incorporation Impact XII. MINERAL RESOURCES Would the project: a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral \boxtimes resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state? b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important \boxtimes mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan? **Responses:** (a - b) No Impact. The project site is not within an area identified as having a known mineral resource of value to the state or region. The site is not in an area delineated in the Madera County General Plan or other land use plan as a locally important mineral resource recovery site. Less Than Significant Potentially With Less Than Significant Mitigation Significant No Impact Incorporation Impact Impact XIII. NOISE Would the project result in: \boxtimes a) Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local

Less Than

Significant

Less Than

Potentially

 \boxtimes

general plan or noise ordinances, or applicable

standards of other agencies?

b) Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	Potentially Significant Impact	Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
c) For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or 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?				

Responses:

(a) Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation. During project construction, heavy equipment would be used for grading, excavation, paving, and building construction, which would increase ambient noise levels when in use. Noise levels would vary depending on the equipment used, how it is operated, and how well it is maintained. Noise exposure at any single point outside the project site would also vary depending upon the proximity of equipment activities to that point. The property line of the nearest existing noise-sensitive uses to the project is located approximately 200 feet away from where construction activities could occur on the project site. Construction and operating noise is expected less than significant with mitigation measures.

The following measures shall be incorporated into the project on-site construction operations:

- Pursuant to Section 9.58.020(G) of the Madera County Municipal Code, construction activities are limited to the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, and from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturdays. Construction activities are prohibited on Sundays.
- **b)** Less Than Significant Impact. During project construction, heavy equipment would be used for grading, excavation, paving, and building construction, which would generate localized vibration in the immediate vicinity of the construction. As previously stated, the property line of the nearest parcel containing an existing sensitive use is located approximately 200 feet from where construction activities could occur on the project site.

The Madera County General Plan (Policy 7.A.9) and Municipal Code (Section 9.58.020.F) establish a vibration perception threshold of 0.1 in/sec PPV applicable at the property line of residential use. Noise generated from construction activities in support of the project are predicted to be well below the General Plan and Municipal Code vibration perception threshold of 0.1 in/sec PPV at the property line of the nearest parcel, considered a sensitive use. The project consists of the development of commercial uses. These uses do not typically have equipment that generates appreciable vibration. The project does not propose equipment that will produce appreciable vibration. Therefore the project would have a less than significant impact.

c) No Impact. This project is not within proximity to an airstrip or airport. It is not within an

airport/airspace overlay district. There will be no impacts as a result.

General Discussion

The Noise Element of the Madera County General Plan (Policy 7.A.5) provides that noise which will be created by new non-transportation noise sources shall be mitigated so as not to exceed the Noise Element noise level standards on lands designated for noise-sensitive uses. However, this policy does not apply to noise levels associated with agricultural operations. All the surrounding properties, while include some residential units, are designated and zoned for agricultural uses. This impact is therefore considered less than significant.

Construction noise typically occurs intermittently and varies depending upon the nature or phase of construction (e.g. demolition/land clearing, grading and excavation, erection). The United States Environmental Protection Agency has found that the average noise levels associated with construction activities typically range from approximately 76 dBA to 84 dBA Leq, with intermittent individual equipment noise levels ranging from approximately 75 dBA to more than 88 dBA for brief periods.

Short Term Noise

Noise from localized point sources (such as construction sites) typically decreases by approximately 6 dBA with each doubling of distance from source to receptor. Given the noise attenuation rate and assuming no noise shielding from either natural or human-made features (e.g. trees, buildings, and fences), outdoor receptors within approximately 400 feet of construction site could experience maximum noise levels of greater than 70 dBA when onsite construction-related noise levels exceed approximately 89 dBA at the project site boundary. Construction activities that occur during the more noise-sensitive eighteen hours could result in increased levels of annoyance and sleep disruption for occupants of nearby existing residential dwellings. As a result, noise-generating construction activities would be considered to have a potentially significant short-term impact. However with implementation of mitigation measures, this impact would be considered less than significant.

Long Term Noise

Mechanical building equipment (e.g. heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems, and boilers), associated with the proposed structures, could generate noise levels of approximately 90 dBA at 3 feet from the source. However, such mechanical equipment systems are typically shielded from direct public exposure and usually housed on rooftops, within equipment rooms, or within exterior enclosures.

Landscape maintenance equipment, such as leaf blowers and gasoline powered mowers, could result in intermittent noise levels that range from approximately 80 to 100 dBA at 3 feet, respectively. Based on an equipment noise level of 100 dBA, landscape maintenance equipment (assuming a noise attenuation rate of 6 dBA per doubling of distance from the source) may result in exterior noise levels of approximately 75 dBA at 50 feet.

MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE NOISE EXPOSURE FOR NON-TRANSPORTATION NOISE SOURCES*

		Residential	Commercial	Industrial	Industrial	Agricultural
				(L)	(H)	
Residential	AM	50	60	55	60	60

	PM	45	55	50	55	55
Commercial	AM	60	60	60	65	60
	PM	55	55	55	60	55
Industrial	AM	55	60	60	65	60
(L)	PM	50	55	55	60	55
Industrial	AM	60	65	65	70	65
(H)	PM	55	60	60	65	60
Agricultural	AM	60	60	60	65	60
	PM	55	55	55	60	55

^{*}As determined at the property line of the receiving land use. When determining the effectiveness of noise mitigation measures, the standards may be applied on the receptor side of noise barriers at the property line.

AM = 7:00 AM to 10:00 PM PM = 10:00 PM to 7:00 AM

L = Light H = Heavy

Note: Each of the noise levels specified above shall be lowered by 5 dB for pure tone noises, noises consisting primarily of speech or music, or for recurring impulsive noises. These noise level standards do not apply to residential units established in conjunction with industrial or commercial uses (e.g. caretaker dwellings).

Sensitive Noise Receptors include residential areas, hospitals, schools, performance spaces, businesses, and religious congregations.

Vibrating objects in contact with the ground radiate energy through the ground. Vibrations from large and/or powerful objects are perceptible by humans and animals. Vibrations can be generated by construction equipment and activities. Vibrations attenuate depending on soil characteristics and distance. Vibration perception threshold: The minimum ground or structure-borne vibrational motion necessary to cause a normal person to be aware of the vibration by such direct means as, but not limited to, sensation by touch or visual observation of moving objects. The perception threshold shall be presumed to be a motion velocity of one-tenth (0.1) inches per second over the range of one to one hundred Hz.

Reaction of People and Damage to Buildings from Continuous Vibration Levels				
Velocity Level, PPV (in/sec)	Human Reaction	Effect on Buildings		
0.006 to 0.019	Threshold of perception; possibility of intrusion	Damage of any type unlikely		
0.08	Vibration readily perceptible	Recommended upper level of vibration to which ruins and ancient monuments should be subjected		

0.10	Continuous vibration begins to annoy people	Virtually no risk of architectural damage to normal buildings
0.20	Vibration annoying to people in buildings	Risk of architectural damage to normal dwellings such as plastered walls or ceilings
0.4 to 0.6	Vibration considered unpleasant by people subjected to continuous vibrations vibration	Architectural damage and possibly minor structural damage
Source: Whiffen and Le	eonard 1971	

XIV. POPULATION AND HOUSING Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and business) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?				
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				
Responses:				
(a) No Impact. The Project would provide a storage business. This type of project would not induce unplain or indirectly.			•	
(b) No Impact. The project is located on a vacant site	e and woul	d not displac	e housing	or people
XV PUBLIC SERVICES	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact

a) Would the project 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:	Potentially Significant Impact	Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
i) Fire protection?			\boxtimes	
ii) Police protection?			\boxtimes	
iii) Schools?				
iv) Parks?				\boxtimes
v) Other public facilities?				\boxtimes

Responses:

(a - i-ii) Less Than Significant Impact. The project could increase the risk of emergency services being provided to the project site; however, the increase would be minimal and would not require new or physically altered governmental facilities. Therefore, the project would have a less than significant impact.

There are fire stations in Coarsegold and Oakhurst would respond to this location. The closest station is CalFire Station #12 in Oakhurst, directly north of the project site.

The project itself would not increase the potential of fires in the area. Dependent on fire marshal requirements, fire sprinklers and/or alarm systems need to be in place as a part of the new construction.

The proposed project in and of itself would not result in any additional demands for police protection with the exception of ancillary need for potential events of vandalism and theft.

Crime and emergency response is provided by the Madera County Sherriff's Department. There will be an incidental need for law enforcement in the events of theft and vandalism on the project site.

A Federal Bureau of Investigations 2009 study suggests that there is on average of 2.7 law enforcement officials per 1,000 population for all reporting counties. The number for cities had an average of 1. 7 law enforcement officials per 1,000 population.

(a - iii through v) No Impact. The project would not result in new or physically altered governmental facilities to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for any public services. And therefore, the project will have no

impact.				
XVI. RECREATION	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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 occur or be accelerated?				
b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?				
(a – b) No Impact. The project would not result in the governmental or recreational facilities. The project is result in an increase in population or the need for paresult, would have no impact.	s for comi	mercial use	and would	not
XVII. TRANSPORTATION Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Conflict with a program, plan, ordinance, or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?				
b) Would the project conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b)?				
c) Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g. sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm				

equipment)?

	Less IIIdii			
	Potentially	Significant	Less Than	
	Significant	With Mitigation	Significant	No
	Impact	Incorporation	Impact	Impact
d) Result in inadequate emergency access?				\boxtimes

Responses:

(a) No Impact. In the area around the proposed project, opportunities for bicycles and pedestrians, especially as an alternative to the private automobile, are significantly limited by lack of developed shoulders, sidewalks or pavement width accommodating either mode. The condition is not uncommon in rural areas where distances between origins and destinations are long and the terrain is either rolling or mountainous. In the locations outside urbanized portions of the County, the number of non-recreational pedestrians/cyclists would likely be low, even if additional facilities were provided.

As with most rural areas, Madera County is served by limited alternative transportation modes. Currently, only limited public transportation facilities or routes exist within the area. Volunteer systems such as the driver escort service, as well as the senior bus system, operate for special purpose activities and are administered by the Madera County Action Committee. The rural densities which are prevalent throughout the region have typically precluded successful public transit systems, which require more concentrated populations in order to gain sufficient ridership.

Local circulation is largely deficient with these same State Highways and County Roads composing the only existing network of through streets. Most local streets are dead-end drives, many not conforming to current County improvement standards. Existing traffic, particularly during peak hour and key intersections, already exhibits congestion.

During the period of any potential construction of the project, it is expected that there will be some construction related vehicles.

(b) Less Than Significant Impact. Madera County has not yet adopted its own VMT analysis guidelines and standards of significance. In lieu of that guidance, the Office of Planning and Research (OPR) Technical Advisory on Evaluating Transportation Impacts in CEQA provides recommended thresholds for determining the significance of VMT impacts associated with land use development projects. The directive addresses several VMT impact analysis aspects and provides a VMT Screening Evaluation (VMTSE). The VMTSE assists in determining if a project would result in an impact.

The VMT impact of the project's storage building uses can be presumed to be less than significant based on OPR screening criteria.

- **(c)** Less Than Significant Impact. The project will continue to utilize the current access off Meadow Vista Drive. An additional four parking spaces have been added and the impact is expected to be less than significant.
- **(d) No Impact.** The project will not result in inadequate emergency response and therefore have no impact.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XVIII. TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES				
Would the project: a) Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code Section 21074 as either a site, feature, place cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:				
 Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code Section 5020.1(k), or 				
ii. A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.				

Responses:

(a - i, ii) No Impact. In accordance with Public Resources Code Section 21080.3.1, notification letters were sent to tribal representatives of California Native American tribes that have requested to be notified of projects within the project area of Madera County. Tribal representatives were advised of the Project and invited to request formal consultation with the County regarding the Project within 30 days of receiving the notification letters. Notification letters were sent to:

- Table Mountain Rancheria
- Picayune Rancheria of the Chukchansi Indians
- **Dumna Wo Wah Tribal Government**
- Chowchilla Yokuts Tribe

As of the preparation of this Initial Study, more than 30 days following the County's transmittal of notification letters, no tribal representatives requested consultation. No tribal cultural resources have been identified associated with the site.

CZ 2022-001 RMS to CUM 31

XIX. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment, or stormwater drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?				
b) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?				
c) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it had adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?				
d) Generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?				
e) Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?				

Responses:

(a–c) Less Than Significant Impact. As previously stated, the project will use approximately .67 acre-feet of water a year in support of the project. This type of water usage is nominal and would not require or result in a change to facilities or operations of existing utility style facilities. And as previously stated, the water used from the project is less than half a percent of the overall water demand used for the County of Madera and, therefore would have a less than significant impact. The project will be annexed into the M.D. 22-A Wastewater District.

(d-e) No Impact. Project construction would generate nominal solid waste associated with construction activities that would be disposed in existing permitted disposal sites. Solid waste generated by the project would not be expected to exceed the existing capacity of local infrastructure and would not conflict with any federal, state, or local management and reduction statutes or regulations.

General Discussion

Madera County has 34 County Service Areas and Maintenance Districts that together operate 30 small water systems and 16 sewer systems. Fourteen of these special districts are located in the Valley Floor, and the remaining 20 special districts are in the Foothills and Mountains. MD-1 Hidden Lakes, Bass Lake (SA-2B and SA-2C) and SA-16 Sumner Hill have surface water treatment plants, with the remaining special districts relying solely on groundwater.

The major wastewater treatment plants in the County are operated in the incorporated cities of Madera and Chowchilla and the community of Oakhurst. These wastewater systems have been recently or are planned to be upgraded, increasing opportunities for use of recycled water. The cities of Madera and Chowchilla have adopted or are in the process of developing Urban Water Management Plans. Most of the irrigation and water districts have individual groundwater management plans. All of these agencies engage in some form of groundwater recharge and management.

Groundwater provides almost the entire urban and rural water use and about 75 percent of the agricultural water use in the Valley Floor. The remaining water demand is met with surface water. Almost all of the water use in the Foothills and Mountains is from groundwater with only three small water treatment plants relying on surface water from the San Joaquin River and its tributaries.

In areas of higher precipitation (Oakhurst, North Fork, and the topographically higher part of the Coarsegold Area), groundwater recharge is adequate for existing uses. However, some problems have been encountered in parts of these areas due to well interference and groundwater quality issues. In areas of lower precipitation (Raymond-Hensley Lake and the lower part of the Coarsegold area), groundwater recharge is more limited, possibly requiring additional water supply from other sources to support future development.

Madera County is served by a solid waste facility (landfill) in Fairmead. There is a transfer station in North Fork. The Fairmead facility also provides for Household Hazardous Materials collections on Saturdays. The unincorporated portion of the County is served by Red Rock Environmental Group. Above the 1000 foot elevation, residents are served by EMADCO services for solid waste pick-up.

Less Than Potentially Significant Less Than Significant With Mitigation Significant No Impact Incorporation Impact Impact XX. WILDFIRE If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project: a) Substantially impair an adopted emergency response \boxtimes plan or emergency evacuation plan? b) Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, \boxtimes exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to, pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire? c) Require the installation or maintenance of associated \boxtimes infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?

	Potentially Significant Impact	Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
d) Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?				

Responses:

(a - d) No Impact. The types of activities occurring on the project site typically do not contribute to or exacerbate wildfire risks. The project does not propose any habitable structures and would therefore have no occupants. Further analysis of the project's potential impacts on wildfire is not warranted.

Madera County developed an Operational Area Emergency Operations Plan which, was updated in January of 2010 and a Multi-Hazard Functional Plan which, is responsible for establishing emergency management organization required to mitigate any emergency or disaster affecting Madera County. Both documents Identify policies, responsibilities and procedures required to protect the health and safety of Madera County communities, public and private property and the environmental effects of natural and technological emergencies and disasters. And establish the operational concepts and procedures associated with Initial Response Operations (field response) to emergencies, the Extended Response Operations County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) activities and the recovery process. Madera County also developed a Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) which is responsible for evacuation procedures. The LHMP states the Sheriff's Department uses a system know as "MCALERT". There is nothing in both documents That indicate the project would impact a response plan or emergency evacuation plan. The project does not propose any actions or structures that expose people or structures to significant risks. Furthermore, the project would not generate runoff, post-fire slope instability, or negatively impact drainage.

XIX. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	
a) Does the project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially 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 prehistory?					
b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are significant when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.)					
c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?					
Responses:					
(a) Less Than Significant Impact. The analysis conducted in this Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration results in a determination that the project, with the incorporation of mitigation measures, would have a less than significant impact on the environment. As a result, the project would not have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment and, therefore will have a less than significant impact					
(b) Less Than Significant Impact. Implementation of the project would not result in significant cumulative impacts and all potential impacts would be reduced to less than significant.					
(c) Less Than Significant Impact. For the reasons discussed in the sections above, the Project would not have the potential to result in environmental effects that would cause substantial adverse direct or indirect effects on human beings.					

Bibliography

Madera County General Plan

California Department of Finance

California Department of Transportation (CALTRANS)

California Integrated Waste Management Board

California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines

United States Environmental Protection Agency

Caltrans website http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/LandArch/scenic_highways/index.htm accessed October 31, 2008

California Department of Fish and Game "California Natural Diversity Database" http://www.dfg.ca.gov/biogeodata/cnddb/

Madera County Air Quality Element of the General Plan (2010)

Madera County Integrated Regional Water Management Plan

Madera County Department of Environmental Health

Madera County Department of Public Works

Madera County Roads Department

MND 2022-11 1 May 22, 2022

MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

MND 2022-11

RE: Reese Real Estate & Investment Company– Rezone #2022-001

LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT:

The subject property is on Highway 49 approximately 368' north of Meadow Vista Drive (no situs) Oakhurst. The project is a request for a rezone from RMS (Residential Mountain Single-Family) District to CUM (Commercial Urban Median) District to allow for a storage building for an existing retail facility for pumping, HVAC and hardware supplies.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:

No adverse environmental impact is anticipated from this project. The following mitigation measures are included to avoid any potential impacts.

BASIS FOR NEGATIVE DECLARATION:

1. Please see attached Mitigation Monitoring Report.

Madera County Environmental Committee

A copy of the negative declaration and all supporting documentation is available for review at the Madera County Community & Economic Development Department - Planning Division, 200 West 4th Street, Ste. #3100, Madera, California.

DATED: May 11, 2022

FILED:

PROJECT APPROVED:

MITIGATION MONITORING REPORT

MND # 2022-11

No.	Mitigation Measure	Monitoring Phase	Enforcement Agency	Monitoring Agency	Action Indicating Compliance	Verification of Compliance		
						Initials	Date	Remarks
Aesthetics								
	Any proposed lighting associated with this project is to be hooded and directed downward and away from adjoining	Operations	Madera County Planning	Madera County				
	parcels.	'	Division	Planning Division				
Agricultur	e/Forestry Resources		•					
Air Quality	y							
Biological	Resources							
Cultural R	esources						,	
Energy								
Geology a	nd Soils							
Greenhou	se Gas Emissions	1	T	ı			1	
Hamanda a	wal Hamandaya Matariala							
Hazards a	nd Hazardous Materials	I	ı				I	
Hydrology	l v and Water Quality							
nyurology	and Water Quanty	Π	I	I			Π	
I and Use	and Planning							
Lana ooo	und i lanning							
Mineral Re	esources							
			1				ĺ	
Noise			1				L	
	Construction activities are limited to the hours of seven a.m.		I					
	and seven p.m. Monday through Friday and nine a.m. and five	Construction	Madera County	Madera County				
	p.m. on Saturdays. Construction activities will be prohibited on	Construction	Planning Division	Planning Division				
	Sundays.		DIVISION					
Populatio	n and Housing							
Public Sei	rvices							
Recreation	n		,					
_			<u> </u>				<u> </u>	
Transport	ation	ı	•	1			ı	
			<u> </u>					
Tribal Cul	tural Resources							

No.	Mitigation Measure	Monitoring Phase	Enforcement Agency	Monitoring Agency	Action Indicating Compliance	Verification of Compliance			
						Initials	Date	Remarks	
	If during the grading or trenching work archeological evidence is found, all work is to stop and the Planning Department is to be notified within 24 hours, or on the first work day following for weekends and holidays.		Madera County Planning Division	Madera County Planning Division					
	If archeological evidence is noted on the site prior to the start of construction, no work shall start without first notifying the Planning Division and completion of an archaeological study.	Pre-construction	Madera County Planning Division	Madera County Planning Division					
	If any prehistoric resources or human remains are uncovered during construction, work shall stop immediately and a qualified archeologist shall be contacted to determine further mitigation which may be needed. The County Coroner shall be contacted if human remains are found.	Construction	Madera County Planning Division	Madera County Planning Division					
Mandatory	Mandatory Findings of Significance								