



# PLANNING COMMISSION MOTION NO. 20900

**HEARING DATE: APRIL 29, 2021**

**Record No.:** 2016-016100ENV  
**Project Title:** Southern Skyline Boulevard Ridge Trail Extension Project  
**Zoning:** Resource Management District and Residential Estates District  
**Block/Lot:** Various  
**Project Sponsor:** San Francisco Public Utilities Commission  
Scott MacPherson – (415) 551-4525  
[smacpherson@sfgov.org](mailto:smacpherson@sfgov.org)  
**Property Owner:** San Francisco Public Utilities Commission  
**Staff Contact:** Timothy Johnston – (628) 652-7569  
[timothy.johnston@sfgov.org](mailto:timothy.johnston@sfgov.org)

ADOPTING FINDINGS UNDER THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT RELATED TO THE CERTIFICATION OF A FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR A PROPOSED PROJECT THAT WOULD IMPROVE AND DEVELOP RECREATIONAL TRAILS AND ASSOCIATED FACILITIES LOCATED WITHIN THE PENINSULA WATERSHED IN CENTRAL SAN MATEO COUNTY. THE PENINSULA WATERSHED PROPERTY IS OWNED BY THE CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO AND MANAGED BY THE SFPUC. THE PROJECT IS A COMPONENT OF THE SFPUC'S PENINSULA WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN. THE PROJECT AREA INCLUDES WATERSHED LANDS ALONG THE FIFIELD-CAHILL RIDGE TRAIL, WHICH IS APPROXIMATELY 1.5 MILES NORTH OF THE STATE ROUTE 92 (S.R. 92)/STATE ROUTE 35 (S.R. 35) INTERSECTION (NORTH OF THE SKYLAWN MEMORIAL PARK), AND WATERSHED LANDS EXTENDING SOUTH FROM S.R. 92 APPROXIMATELY 6 MILES TO THE PHLEGER ESTATE BOUNDARY AND EAST FROM S.R. 35 A FEW HUNDRED FEET.

PRIMARY PROJECT COMPONENTS PROPOSED FOR AREAS NORTH OF S.R. 92 INCLUDE A NEW 0.5-MILE UNIVERSAL ACCESS LOOP TRAIL (THAT WOULD PROVIDE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT-COMPLIANT ACCESS AND PARKING), AND A 50-CAR PARKING LOT AND RESTROOM NEAR THE WATERSHED'S CEMETERY GATE, AS WELL AS THE TRANSFER OF A PUBLIC ACCESS EASEMENT (FROM THE BAY AREA RIDGE TRAIL COUNCIL TO THE SFPUC) ALONG AN EXISTING SEGMENT OF THE BAY AREA RIDGE TRAIL THROUGH SKYLAWN MEMORIAL PARK. PROJECT COMPONENTS PROPOSED FOR AREAS SOUTH OF S.R. 92 INCLUDE A NEW 6-MILE SOUTHERN SKYLINE RIDGE TRAIL ALONG S.R. 35, A 20-CAR PARKING LOT, AND TWO RESTROOMS. ALONG THE PROPOSED SOUTHERN SKYLINE RIDGE TRAIL, THE SFPUC WOULD INSTALL A PREFABRICATED BRIDGE TO SPAN A GULCH THAT INTERSECTS THE TRAIL ALIGNMENT.

THE SFPUC IS CONSIDERING MULTIPLE PUBLIC ACCESS PROGRAM CONFIGURATIONS WITH DIFFERING LEVELS OF RESTRICTIVENESS. THESE ACCESS PROGRAMS WOULD APPLY TO EXISTING AND NEW TRAIL AREAS NORTH AND SOUTH OF STATE ROUTE 92, AND COVER A RANGE OF POTENTIAL ACCESS CONTROLS – FROM SUPERVISED TO UNSUPERVISED.

**MOVED**, that the San Francisco Planning Commission (hereinafter “Commission”) hereby CERTIFIES the Final Environmental Impact Report identified as Case No. 2016-016100ENV, for the Southern Skyline Boulevard Ridge Trail Extension Project (hereinafter “Project”), based on the following findings:

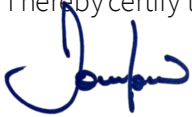
1. The City and County of San Francisco, acting through the Planning Department (hereinafter “Department”) fulfilled all procedural requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (Cal. Pub. Res. Code Section 21000 et seq., hereinafter “CEQA”), the State CEQA Guidelines (Cal. Admin. Code Title 14, Section 15000 et seq., hereinafter “CEQA Guidelines”) and Chapter 31 of the San Francisco Administrative Code (hereinafter “Chapter 31”).
  - A. The Department determined that an Environmental Impact Report (hereinafter “EIR”) was required and provided public notice of that determination by publication in a newspaper of general circulation on December 21, 2016. In addition, on March 30, 2017, the Department expanded its public outreach by mailing the notice of preparation of an EIR to owners and occupants of properties within 300 feet of project sites.
  - B. On June 24, 2020, the Department published the Draft Environmental Impact Report (hereinafter “DEIR”) and provided public notice in a newspaper of general circulation of the availability of the DEIR for public review and comment and of the date and time of the Planning Commission public hearing on the DEIR; this notice was mailed to the Department’s list of persons requesting such notice, and to property owners and occupants within a 300-foot radius of the site on June 25, 2020.
  - C. The notice of availability of the DEIR and of the date and time of the public hearing were posted at four locations near the site. The notice complied with local requirements under the March 23, 2020, Fifth Supplement to the Mayoral Proclamation Declaring the Existence of a Local Emergency Dated February 25, 2020.
  - D. On June 24, 2020, copies of the DEIR were mailed or otherwise delivered to a list of persons requesting it, to those noted on the distribution list in the DEIR, to adjacent property owners, and to government agencies, the latter both directly and through the State Clearinghouse.
  - E. Notice of Completion was filed with the State Secretary of Resources via the State Clearinghouse on June 24, 2020.
2. The Commission held a duly advertised public hearing on said DEIR on July 23, 2020 at which opportunity for public comment was given, and public comment was received on the DEIR. The period for acceptance of written comments ended on August 10, 2020.
3. The Department prepared responses to comments on environmental issues received at the public hearing and in writing during the 48-day public review period for the DEIR, prepared revisions to the text of the DEIR in response to comments received or based on additional information that became available during the public review period, and corrected errors in the DEIR. This material was presented in a Responses to Comments document, published on April 14, 2021, distributed to the Commission and all parties who commented on the DEIR, and made available to others upon request at the Department.

4. A Final Environmental Impact Report (hereinafter “FEIR”) has been prepared by the Department, consisting of the DEIR, any consultations and comments received during the review process, any additional information that became available, and the Responses to Comments document, all as required by law.
5. Project EIR files have been made available for review by the Commission and the public. These files are available for public review at the Department at 49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1400, and are part of the record before the Commission.
6. The Commission, in certifying the completion of said FEIR, hereby does find that that none of the factors that would necessitate recirculation of the Final EIR under CEQA Guidelines Section 15088.5 are present. The Final EIR contains no information revealing (1) any new significant environmental impact that would result from the Project or from a new mitigation measure proposed to be implemented, (2) any substantial increase in the severity of a previously identified environmental impact, (3) any feasible Project alternative or mitigation measure considerably different from others previously analyzed that would clearly lessen the environmental impacts of the Project, but that was rejected by the Project’s proponents, or (4) that the Draft EIR was so fundamentally and basically inadequate and conclusory in nature that meaningful public review and comment were precluded.

The Commission finds that the Project proposed for approval is within the scope of the Project analyzed in the Final EIR and the Final EIR fully analyzed the Project proposed for approval. No new impacts have been identified that were not analyzed in the Final EIR.

7. On April 29, 2021, the Commission reviewed and considered the information contained in the FEIR and hereby does find that the contents of said report and the procedures through which the FEIR was prepared, publicized, and reviewed comply with the provisions of CEQA, the CEQA Guidelines, and Chapter 31 of the San Francisco Administrative Code.
8. The Planning Commission hereby does find that the FEIR concerning File No. 2016-016100ENV reflects the independent judgment and analysis of the City and County of San Francisco, is adequate, accurate and objective, and that the Responses to Comments document contains no significant revisions to the DEIR, and hereby does CERTIFY THE COMPLETION of said FEIR in compliance with CEQA and the CEQA Guidelines.
9. The Commission, in certifying the completion of said FEIR, hereby does find that the project’s proposed access-management program, along with variants 2 and 3 described in the EIR:
  - A. Would have significant unavoidable project-specific impacts on biological resources and transportation and circulation.

I hereby certify that the Planning Commission ADOPTED the foregoing Motion on April 29, 2021.



Jonas P. Ionin  
Commission Secretary

AYES: Tanner , Chan, Diamond, Fung, Imperial, Moore, Koppel

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ADOPTED: April 29, 2021