



Notice of Availability Draft Environmental Impact Report City of Hollister

Date: May 17, 2023
To: State Clearinghouse
State Responsible Agencies
State Trustee Agencies
Other Public Agencies
Interested Organizations
From: Eva Kelly, Interim Planning Manager
City of Hollister
Development Services Department – Planning Division
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Hollister, CA 95023

Subject: Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Hollister 2040 General Plan, Climate Action Plan, and Agricultural Lands Preservation Program
Lead Agency: City of Hollister Development Services Department
Project Title: Hollister 2040 General Plan, Climate Action Plan, and Agricultural Lands Preservation Program
Project Area: City of Hollister and the Planning Area

Notice is hereby given that the City of Hollister has prepared a Draft EIR (State Clearinghouse No. 2021040277) for the proposed Hollister 2040 General Plan, Climate Action Plan, and Agricultural Lands Preservation Program (proposed project) and will hold a public meeting to receive comments on the Draft EIR, as detailed below.

Project Description and Location: The Hollister 2040 General Plan brings the current General Plan up to date with the latest State and federal legislation around urban development, transportation, climate resilience, and safety and responds to local and regional housing needs, fosters economic growth and local job creation, enhances civic identity and placemaking, and protects sensitive natural resources. The proposed Climate Action Plan identifies strategies and measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions generated by existing and future uses in Hollister. The proposed Agricultural Lands Preservation Program ensures the benefits of agricultural activities are maintained by requiring that activities that convert existing agricultural lands to non-agricultural uses (i.e., urban uses) directly address that loss through a program that funds agricultural conservation easements. The EIR Study Area includes all land within the city limits and in the City’s proposed sphere of influence (see attachment).

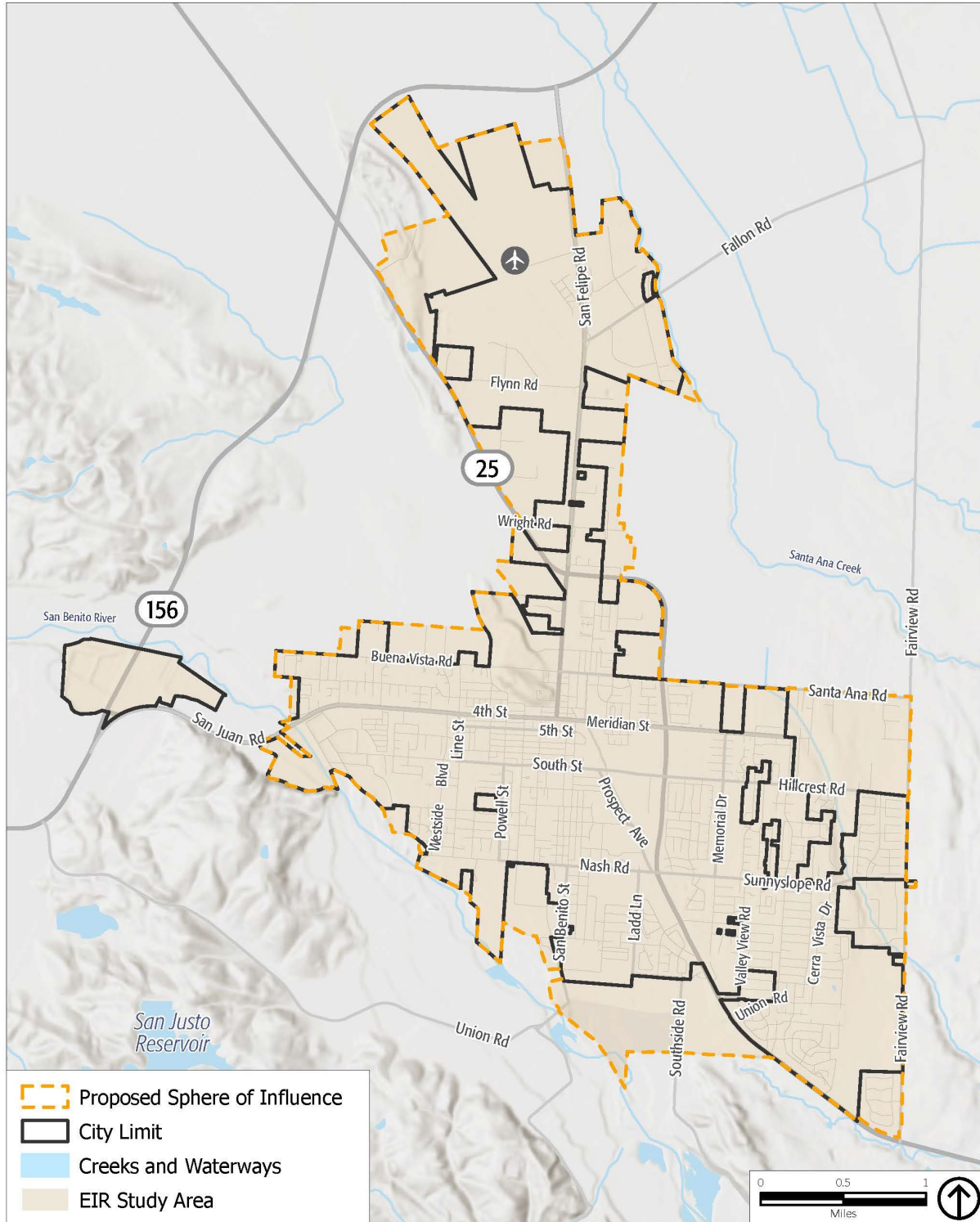
Environmental Review: The Draft EIR identifies less-than-significant effects in the topics of aesthetics, biological resources, cultural and tribal cultural resources, energy, geology and soils, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use and planning, mineral resources, population and housing, public services and recreation, utilities and service systems, and wildfire. The Draft EIR identifies potential significant and unavoidable at the program level in the topics of agricultural resources, air quality, noise, and transportation.

Document Availability: This notice, the Draft EIR, project information, including relevant documents, information on upcoming meetings, and ways you can provide feedback can be viewed online at <https://hollister2040.org/>.

Submitting Comments: Members of the public, agencies, and interested organizations are invited to provide comments on the Draft EIR that focus on whether the Draft EIR is sufficient in discussing possible impacts to the physical environment, ways in which potential adverse effects may be avoided or minimized through mitigation measures, and alternatives to the project in light of the purpose of the EIR to provide useful and accurate information about such factors. A public meeting to accept verbal comments will be held before the Hollister Planning Commission on **Thursday, June 22, 2023 at 6:00 pm**. Comments can be submitted prior to, during, or after the public meeting, but should be submitted by the end of the 45-day review period at 5:00 p.m. on **Friday, June 30, 2023**. Please send your written comments to Eva Kelly, at the address shown above or email generalplan@hollister.ca.gov with “Hollister GPU 2040, CAP, and ALPP EIR” as the subject. Public agencies providing comments are asked to include a contact person for the agency.

Hazardous Materials/Waste Disclosure: A search of the online databases on May 1, 2020, identified four EnviroStor sites that have not been fully remediated or closed. The complete list and location of active cleanup sites within the EIR Study Area is shown in Table 4.9-1, *Active Hazardous Material Sites in the EIR Study Area*, and on Figure 4.9-1, *Hazardous Materials Sites*, of the Draft EIR.

Attachment: EIR Study Area Map



Source: ESRI, 2020; PlaceWorks, 2022; San Benito County, 2020; USGS, 2019