CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT FINDINGS FOR STREAMBED ALTERATION AGREEMENT EPIMS Notification No. SAC-25392-R2

Introduction

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Public Resources Code Section 21000, et seq.) and the State CEQA Guidelines (Guidelines) (Cal. Code Regs., Title 14, § 15000 et seq) require that no public agency shall approve or carry out a project for which an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) has been completed that identifies one or more significant effects, unless the agency makes the following finding as to each significant effect. The following finding is relevant to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's (CDFW) project approval:

 Changes or alterations have been required in, or incorporated into, the project which mitigate or avoid the significant effects on the environment.

CDFW is a responsible agency under CEQA with respect to the project because prior environmental review and approval of the project by the lead agency, Sacramento County (the County), (see generally Pub. Resources Code, § 21067; CEQA Guidelines, § 15367). The County analyzed the environmental impacts associated with implementation of the project in an EIR (SCH No. 2005082017) and approved the project on October 19, 2021. In so doing, the County imposed mitigation and avoidance measures for impacts to biological resources as conditions of project approval and concluded that project-related impacts to biological resources could be substantially lessened with implementation of mitigation and avoidance measures, such that the impacts would be less than significant.

CDFW is entering into Streambed Alteration Agreement (Agreement) EPIMS Notification No. SAC-25392-R2, with the project Applicant, Sacramento County – Department of Airports as represented by Zachary Frese.

The project is limited to the alignment extension of Elkhorn Boulevard from Metro Air Park to Airport Boulevard, totaling a length of approximately 5,900 linear feet. The alignment extension includes various infrastructure improvements including a roundabout at Crossfield Drive, a 32-acre detention basin in the eastern portion of the site, a new traffic signal at the intersection of Power Line Road and Elkhorn Boulevard, surface improvements and a wet utility connection. Project activities include the two culverts, a stormwater tie-in, and grading activities associated with the road extension.

Findings

CDFW has considered the EIR, certified by the County. CDFW has independently concluded that the Agreement should be issued under the terms and conditions specified therein. In this regard, CDFW hereby adopts the findings of the County, as set forth in the EIR insofar as they pertain to the project's impacts on biological resources within CDFW's discretionary authority pursuant to Fish and Game Code sections 1600-1616.

DocuSigned by:	
Kelley Barker	
Signed:	Date: 3/7/2022
Kelley Barker	
Environmental Program Manager	
North Central Region	