

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A SUBSEQUENT MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION
Amendment to the 2018 Long Range Development Plan to Address Impacts on Crotch's Bumble Bee
and the West Village Open Space Improvements Project

University of California
State Clearinghouse No. 2017012008

Project Title: Amendment to the UC Davis 2018 Long Range Development Plan to Address Impacts on Crotch's Bumble Bee and the West Village Open Space Improvements Project

Proposed Subsequent MND Review Period: August 9, 2024 to September 9, 2024

Project Overview and Description: Crotch's bumble bee (*Bombus crotchii*) was designated as a candidate for listing as endangered under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA) by the California Fish and Game Commission on September 30, 2022. The designation of Crotch's bumble bee as a candidate for listing under CESA occurred after certification of the UC Davis 2018 Long Range Development Plan (2018 LRDP) environmental impact report (EIR) (State Clearinghouse No. 2017012008). In the context of subsequent environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), this is considered new information of substantial importance. The potential take of Crotch's bumble bee due to the implementation of projects on the UC Davis campus as contemplated in the 2018 LRDP and evaluated in the 2018 LRDP EIR, has been identified as a potential new significant impact due to new information.

Under CEQA Guidelines Section 15162, if an EIR is certified, no subsequent EIR or Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) is needed unless an action may result in new or substantially more severe significant effects due to, among other things, new information that was not known and could not have been known at the time of certification of an EIR, in this case the UC Davis 2018 LRDP EIR, that could lead to a new or substantially more severe significant impact. Consistent with CEQA Guidelines Section 15070 (decision to prepare a mitigated negative declaration), UC Davis will adopt mitigation measures included in the analysis, and with these measures in place, the effects to Crotch's bumble bee from implementation of the 2018 LRDP will be mitigated to the point where clearly no significant effects on this species will occur. Therefore, UC Davis intends to adopt Subsequent MND, supported by an Initial Study (IS) (Subsequent IS/MND), to evaluate an Amendment to the 2018 LRDP to Address Impacts on Crotch's Bumble Bee due to the implementation of projects on the UC Davis campus (hereinafter, "Amendment").

In addition, the West Village Open Space Improvements Project currently proposed on the UC Davis campus (hereinafter, "Project"), is evaluated herein, and was found to be within the scope of the 2018 LRDP EIR, as amended to include mitigation measures addressing Crotch's bumble bee. The Project will include construction of a new open space and agriculture buffer around the West Village Student Housing Neighborhood at UC Davis. The Project will include creation of an agricultural buffer to separate the West Village Neighborhood from the adjacent Teaching and Research Fields, the creation of open space areas vegetated with new native plantings totaling approximately 15 acres on the northern and southern edges of the West Village Neighborhood, and the temporary use of the northern edge of the West Village Neighborhood as a soil borrow site, excavating soils for the eventual use of that area as a stormwater detention basin.

No other changes to the UC Davis 2018 LRDP are planned or considered.

UC Davis Campus Location Relative to Potential Impact on the Crotch's Bumble Bee: The approximately 5,300-acre UC Davis campus is located in Yolo and Solano counties, approximately 72 miles northeast of San Francisco, 15 miles west of the City of Sacramento, and adjacent to the City of Davis. The campus is composed of four geographical areas: the central campus, the south campus, the west campus, and Russell Ranch. Most classroom-based academic, office, laboratory, and extracurricular activities occur within the central campus.

The central campus consists of approximately 900 acres and is bounded approximately by Russell Boulevard to the north, State Route (SR) 113 to the west, Interstate Highway 80 (I-80) and the Union Pacific Railroad tracks to the south, and A Street to the east. The south campus is located south of I-80 and north of the South Fork of Putah Creek. The west campus is bounded by SR 113 to the east, Putah Creek to the south, Russell Boulevard to the north, and extends approximately one-half mile west of County Road 98 (Pedrick Road). The south and west campus units are contiguous with the central campus and are used primarily for teaching and research and animal support uses. The approximately 1,600-acre Russell Ranch portion of the campus lies to the west, separated from the west campus by approximately one and one-half miles of privately owned agricultural land. Russell Ranch was purchased in 1990 for campus uses including large-scale agricultural and environmental research, study of sustainable agricultural practices, and habitat mitigation. Russell Ranch is bordered roughly by County Road 96 on the east, Putah Creek on the south, Covell Boulevard on the north, and Russell Boulevard and privately owned agricultural land on the west and northwest.

West Village Open Space Improvements Project Location: The West Village Open Space Improvements Project is located along the northern, southern, and western edges of the UC Davis West Village, which is a 180-acre mixed use neighborhood integrating student housing and educational and research facilities, all centered on a civic village square. The West Village Neighborhood, located on the UC Davis west campus, is bounded by Hutchison Drive to the south; SR 113 to the east; UC Davis Teaching and Research Fields to the west; and fields, Russell Boulevard, and the City of Davis to the north. The existing West Village neighborhood contains three apartment complexes, the Sacramento City College Davis Center, and a central green that is framed by six mixed-use residential buildings with academic and administrative programs as well as commercial retail.

Environmental Effects: The Subsequent IS/MND was prepared to assess the potential environmental effects of the proposed Amendment to the 2018 LRDP to Address Impacts on Crotch's Bumble Bee and the West Village Open Space Improvements Project, including: the significance of those effects, whether those effects were appropriately evaluated and mitigated if necessary in the 2018 LRDP EIR, and to determine if a Subsequent EIR, MND, or other environmental document should be prepared. Based on the evaluation in the IS, the LRDP, with the Amendment to include Crotch's bumble bee mitigation, and the Project would not have substantial adverse effects on the environment. Therefore, a Subsequent MND has been prepared.

Hazardous Materials/Waste On-Site: The State of California maintains the linked EnviroStor and Geotracker databases of known contamination sites pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5. There are no listed sites within the project boundaries. Some hazardous materials sites that are located within 1 mile of the site. (See 2018 LRDP EIR Table 3.9-1 and Exhibit 3.9-1: Documented Sites of Contamination in the Vicinity of the Plan Area).

Document Availability: Copies of the Draft Subsequent IS/MND and 2018 LRDP EIR are available during the public review period at the following locations:

- ▲ On-line: <https://environmentalplanning.ucdavis.edu/wv-open-space-and-lrdp-amendment>
- ▲ UC Davis Design and Construction Management in 255 Cousteau Place, Davis, CA 95618
- ▲ UC Davis: Shields Library Reserves Section, Shields Avenue, University of California
- ▲ Yolo County Public Library at 315 East 14th Street in Davis

Public Review and Comment Period: The 30-day public review period for the Subsequent IS/MND begins on August 9, 2024 and ends on September 9, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. A public hearing will not be held. Please send your written comments, with appropriate contact information, to the following address:

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