CITY OF FRESNO STATUTORY EXEMPTION ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE KINGS CANYON CORRIDOR TRANSIT-ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT CONNECTIVITY STUDY

THE PROJECT DESCRIBED HEREIN IS DETERMINED TO BE STATUTORILY EXEMPT FROM THE PREPARATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTS PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 18 OF THE STATE CEQA GUIDELINES.

APPLICANT:

City of Fresno

PROJECT LOCATION:

The Kings Canyon Corridor Transit-Oriented Development Connectivity Study is located in Southeast Fresno, in an area bounded by East Tulare Avenue to the north, East Butler Avenue to the south, South Argyle Avenue to the east, and Highway 41 to the west.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Kings Canyon Corridor Transit-Oriented Development Connectivity Study (the "Study") was prepared by the City of Fresno using Measure C grant funds. The intent of the Study is to serve as a resource for the planning of transit-oriented development along high-quality transit corridors in the city.

As part of the Study, six prototypes for development, in addition to two Station Area Plans were developed. The prototypes provide development scenarios such as, Infill, Infill Mixed-Use, Walk-Up Apartments, Senior Cottages, Townhomes and Adaptive Reuse projects, all of which are currently permitted in the Study area. The Station Area Plan templates were created for two stations along the Corridor that were identified as having the highest capacity and potential for development. Within each Station Area Plan, potential development strategies were created to implement at each of the two stations. All of these study components serve as resources for future development along the corridor, but no development is included with the study.

Furthermore, the Study does not include any entitlements, land use changes or rezoning, nor does it commit the City of Fresno to any particular actions set forth in the document.

This project is exempt under Section 15262 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines as follows:

CEQA Guidelines Section 15262 exempts projects involving only feasibility or planning studies for possible future action which the agency, board, or commission has not approved, adopted,

or funded does not require the preparation of an EIR or Negative Declaration but does require consideration of environmental factors.

The proposed Kings Canyon Corridor Transit-Oriented Development Connectivity Study qualifies for this exemption because it does not propose any development, land use changes or rezoning, it does not commit the City of Fresno (City) to any actions set forth in the document, and it does not include funding for future project approvals. However, it does serve as a toolkit with resources for the City, partner agencies, private sector agencies, and community members, which can be used in the planning for the implementation of transit-oriented development along high-quality transit corridors in the city. These resources include station area plan templates for two station areas located along the Ventura / Kings Canyon Corridor, six development prototypes with associated pro formas, and a list of potential funding / financing resources.

Therefore, the Kings Canyon Corridor Transit-Oriented Development Connectivity Study is statutorily exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15262.

Date:

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