

Findings

Based on the review and analysis of this project by staff and affected agencies, and supported by discussion in the staff report and evidence in the record, the following findings can be made:

1.0 CEQA FINDINGS

- 1.1 The project is Exempt from CEQA pursuant to Section 15061.b.3 of the CEQA Guidelines. CEQA requires analysis of agency approvals of discretionary “projects.” A “project,” under CEQA, is defined as “the whole of an action, which has a potential for resulting in either a direct physical change in the environment, or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment.” Section 15061 (b)(3) of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations (the CEQA Guidelines) describes the General Rule that CEQA only applies to projects which “have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment; where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA.”

The approval of these General Plan amendments does not approve any development projects. Rather, they provide guidance and standards for land uses within the vicinity of the airports to protect public safety and to ensure safe operation of the airports in compliance with the California State Aeronautics Act. Each of these components, individually and cumulatively, does not result in the possibility of creating significant or cumulative effects on the environment. Future development under the proposed amendments would be subject to CEQA at that time, as those actions would be classified as “projects” under CEQA. Therefore, these General Plan amendments are not subject to CEQA under the General Rule and no further environmental review is necessary.

- 1.2 The documents and other materials which constitute the record of proceedings upon which this decision is based are in the custody of the Development Services Department, Planning Services, at 2850 Fairlane Court, Placerville, CA.

2.0 GENERAL PLAN FINDINGS

- 2.1 The proposed General Plan amendments are consistent and compatible with the rest of the General Plan and any implementation programs that may be affected.
- 2.2 The proposed General Plan amendments are a response to a requirement by State law. Government Code Section 65302.3 requires cities and counties to amend their general plans so that they are consistent with the policies of an adopted Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan.

- 2.3 The potential impacts of the proposed amendments have been assessed and have been determined not to be detrimental to the public health, safety, or welfare. They are intended to implement the El Dorado County Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan which provides guidance and standards for land uses within the vicinity of the airports to protect public safety and to ensure safe operation of the airports in compliance with the California State Aeronautics Act.