#### INITIAL STUDY/NEGATIVE DECLARATION

[Pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21080(c) and California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Sections 15070-15071]

LEAD AGENCY: San Joaquin County Community Development Department

PROJECT APPLICANT: Mountain House Developers

PROJECT TITLE/FILE NUMBER(S): PA-0600327(SU) (TE)

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: A Six-Year Time Extension application for a previously approved Major Subdivision application in the Mountain House Community (Neighborhoods I & J) that would result in the creation of 2,070 single family lots on 440 acres, 3 parcels totaling 28 acres for multifamily development (e.g., town homes, condominiums, garden apartments); parcels totaling 222 acres for an 18-hole golf course and various golf course related activities (i.e., recreational facility, club house, practice facility, and maintenance yard); parcels totaling 26 acres for Dry Creek, detention basins, and open space; a 15-acre wetland parcel; numerous open space and park parcels totaling approximately 18 acres; and a Remainder Parcel totaling 416 acres. The total acreage of the project is 1,216.2 acres.

Project Location: The project site is located north of Byron Road and west of Central Parkway, immediately adjacent to the Alameda County/San Joaquin County boundary in Mountain House. (Supervisorial District: 5)

ASSESSORS PARCEL NO(S).: 258-020-35; 258-030-01

ACRES: 1,216.2 (796.2 acres of residential, commercial, parks and recreation and a 416 acres remainder designated as an age—restricted community)

GENERAL PLAN: R/L and R/M(Low and Medium Density Residential)/R/MH (Medium-High Density Residential)C/R (Recreation Commercial/P (Public)

ZONING: R-L and R-M(Low and Medium Density Residential)/R-MH (Medium-High Density Residential)C-R (Recreation Commercial/P-F (Public Facilities)

POTENTIAL POPULATION, NUMBER OF DWELLING UNITS, OR SQUARE FOOTAGE OF USE(S): 2,070 single family lots, parks and recreation facilities

#### **SURROUNDING LAND USES:**

NORTH: Old River/Agricultural
SOUTH: Byron Road/Residential

**EAST: Waste Water Treatment Plant/Residential** 

WEST: Agricultural/Marina

### REFERENCES AND SOURCES FOR DETERMINING ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

Original source materials and maps on file in the Community Development Department including: all County and City general plans and community plans; assessor parcel books; various local and FEMA flood zone maps; service district maps; maps of geologic instability; maps and reports on endangered species such as the Natural Diversity Data Base; noise contour maps; specific roadway plans; maps and/or records of archeological/historic resources; soil reports and maps; etc.

Many of these original source materials have been collected from other public agencies or from previously prepared EIR's and other technical studies. Additional standard sources which should be specifically cited below include on-site visits by staff (note date); staff knowledge or experience; and independent environmental studies submitted to the County as part of the project application). Copies of these reports can be found by contacting the Community Development Department.

### TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES:

Have California Native American tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project area requested consultation pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.3.1? If so, is there a plan for consultation that includes, for example, the determination of significance of impacts to tribal cultural resources, procedures regarding confidentiality, etc.?

No

## **GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS:**

1.	Does it appear that any environmental feature of the project will generate significant public concern or controversy?
	Yes X No
	Nature of concern(s): Enter concern(s).
2.	Will the project require approval or permits by agencies other than the County?
	X Yes No
	Agency name(s): Mountain House Community Services District
3.	Is the project within the Sphere of Influence, or within two miles, of any city?
	Yes No City: <u>Tracy</u> r

## **ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:**

The is a "	environmental factors checke Potentially Significant Impa	d be	ow would be potentially affected by as indicated by the checklist on the fo	this p ollowi	roject, involving at least one impact that ing pages.		
	Aesthetics		Agriculture and Forestry Resources	3	Air Quality		
X	Biological Resources		Cultural Resources		Energy		
	Geology / Soils		Greenhouse Gas Emissions		Hazards & Hazardous Materials		
	Hydrology / Water Quality	X	Land Use / Planning		Mineral Resources		
	Noise		Population / Housing		Public Services		
	Recreation		Transportation	X	Tribal Cultural Resources		
X	Utilities / Service Systems		Wildfire		Mandatory Findings of Significance		
DET	ERMINATION: (To be comple	eted	by the Lead Agency) On the basis of	f this i	initial evaluation:		
	I find that the proposed popular of the proposed property will be proposed property with the proposed property with the proposed property of the proposed property of the property			fect o	on the environment, and a <b>NEGATIVE</b>		
×	significant effect in this ca	se b	ed project could have a significant e ecause revisions in the project have BATIVE DECLARATION will be prep	e bee	on the environment, there will not be a n made by or agreed to by the project		
	I find that the proposed proposed proposed proposed is required.		t MAY have a significant effect on th	ne en	vironment, and an <b>ENVIRONMENTAL</b>		
	I find that the proposed project <u>MAY</u> have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An <u>ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT</u> is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.						
I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier <u>EIR</u> or <u>NEGATIVE DECLARATION</u> pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier <u>EIR</u> or <u>NEGATIVE</u> <u>DECLARATION</u> , including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.							
Sign	ature	+			8 G G		

#### **EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:**

- 1) A brief explanation is required for all answers except "No Impact" answers that are adequately supported by the information sources a lead agency cites in the parentheses following each question. A "No Impact" answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A "No Impact" answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards (e.g., the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis).
- 2) All answers must take account of the whole action involved, including off-site as well as on-site, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.
- Once the lead agency has determined that a particular physical impact may occur, then the checklist answers must indicate whether the impact is potentially significant, less than significant with mitigation, or less than significant. "Potentially Significant Impact" is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant. If there are one or more "Potentially Significant Impact" entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.
- "Negative Declaration: Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated" applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from "Potentially Significant Impact" to a "Less Than Significant Impact." The lead agency must describe the mitigation measures, and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level (mitigation measures from "Earlier Analyses," as described in (5) below, may be cross-referenced).
- 5) Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or negative declaration. Section 15063(c)(3)(D). In this case, a brief discussion should identify the following:
  - a) Earlier Analysis Used. Identify and state where they are available for review.
  - b) Impacts Adequately Addressed. Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of and adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.
  - c) Mitigation Measures. For effects that are "Less than Significant with Mitigation Measures Incorporated," describe the mitigation measures which were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.
- 6) Lead agencies are encouraged to incorporate into the checklist references to information sources for potential impacts (e.g., general plans, zoning ordinances). Reference to a previously prepared or outside document should, where appropriate, include a reference to the page or pages where the statement is substantiated.
- 7) Supporting Information Sources: A source list should be attached, and other sources used or individuals contacted should be cited in the discussion.
- 8) This is only a suggested form, and lead agencies are free to use different formats; however, lead agencies should normally address the questions from this checklist that are relevant to a project's environmental effects in whatever format is selected.
- 9) The explanation of each issue should identify:
  - a) the significance criteria or threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question; and
  - b) the mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less than significance.

I	S	S	u	E	S	

<u>I. A</u>	NESTHETICS.	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact		Analyzed In The Prior EIR
	cept as provided in Public Resources Code Section 099, would the project:					
a)	Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?				×	
b)	Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?				X	
c)	In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from publically accessible vantage point). If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?				×	
d)	Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?			×		

a-d) The current application request is for a six-year time extension of an underlying approved Major Subdivision application, that would facilitate the development of previously approved Specific Plan II - Neighborhoods J&K. The underlying project will not affect the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings. The proposed visual and residential land use improvements for the project site are subject to Design Review and consistency with existing community approvals to ensure the aesthetics, character, and quality envisioned for the community are maintained. The final design and buildout of the underlying project will fit in with the existing surrounding development. Also, no significant new light and glare impacts would result from the undrlying project. Therefore, any impacts on the existing visual character or surrounding residential development will be less than significant.

II. AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY RESOURCES.	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	Analyzed In The Prior EIR
In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment project; and forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board Would the project:				
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Mapitoring Program of the				

Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as
shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the
Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the
California Resources Agency, to nonagricultural use?

b)	Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or	r
	a Williamson Act contract?	

c)	Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning
	of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code
	section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public
	Resources Code section 4526), or timberland
	zoned Timberland Production (as defined by
	Government Code section 51104(a))?

d)	Result in	the	loss	of	forest	land	or	conversion	of
•	forest land to non-forest use?								

e)	Involve other changes in the existing environment
	which, due to their location or nature, could result in
	conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or
	conversion of forest land to non-forest use?

10	X	
	×	
	×	
	×	
	X	

a-e) The current application request is for a six-year time extension of a previously approved Major Subdivision application. The time extension request and the underlying project will not affect agricultural uses, agricultural zoning within or adjacent to Mountain House. There are no Williamson Act contracts within the project area. Therefore, the proposed application request(s) will have no impact on agriculture and forestry resources.

		Potentially Significant Impact	Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	Analyzed In The Prior EIR
<u>III.</u>	AIR QUALITY.				
the cor	nere available, the significance criteria established by applicable air quality management or air pollution atrol district may be relied upon to make the following terminations. Would the project:				
a)	Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?		×		
b)	Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?		×		

concentrations?

number of people?

Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant

Result in substantial emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial

The current application request is for a six-year time extension of a previously approved Major Subdivision a-d) application. Potential air quality impacts and mitigation measures to reduce them to less than significant have been previously addressed by the Master Plan EIR and Specific Plan II Initial Study for the underlying project.

The project site is within the San Joaquin Valley Air Basin, which has been classified as "non-attainment" for ozone and fine particulate matter - dust (PM-10) as defined by the Federal Clean Air Act. The San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District (SJVAPCD) has been established by the State in an effort to control and minimize air pollution. The District maintains permit authority over stationary sources and the proposed project may be subject to District Rules and Regulations.

Based on information provided to the District, the proposed underlying project would equal or exceed 50 residential dwelling units and the District concluded that the proposed project is subject to District Rule 9510 (Indirect Source Review). The applicant Mountain House Developers (MHD) has indicated that they will comply with District 9510 and mitigate the project's impact on air quality through product design elements or by payment of applicable off-site mitigation fees.

Therefore, as a result of the project applicant complying with the rules and regulations of the San Joaquin Air Pollution Control District, the projects impact on air quality standards will be reduced to less than significant.

IV.	BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES.	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Analyzed In The Prior EIR
Wc	ould the project:					
a)	Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?		×			
b)	Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service?		X		( + ))	
c)	Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?		X			
d)	Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?		X			
e)	Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?		×			
f)	Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?		X			

a-f) The current application request is for a six-year time extension of a previously approved Major Subdivision application. The San Joaquin Council of Governments (SJCOG) has previously reviewed the underlying project and determined that the development project is subject to the San Joaquin Multi-Species Habitat Conservation and Open Space Plan (SJMSCP). Participation in the SJMSCP satisfies requirements of both state and federal endangered species acts, and ensures that the impacts are mitigated below a level of significance in compliance with CEQA. The applicant has committed to participation in the SJMSCP and by participating in the program will reduce any potentially significant impacts on biological resources to less than significant.

<u>V. (</u>	CULTURAL RESOURCES.	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No	Analyzed In The Prior EIR
Wo	ould the project:					
a)	Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to \$15064.5?		×			
b)	Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to § 15064.5?		×			
c)	Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries?		$\times$			

a-c) The current application request is for a six-year time extension of a previously approved Major Subdivision application. The underlying project and development approval include conditions of approval and mitigation measures to avoid potential impacts to cultural resources. In the event human remains are encountered during any portion of the project, California state law requires that there shall be no further excavation or disturbance of the site or any nearby area reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent remains until the coroner of the county has determined manner and cause of death, and the recommendations concerning the treatment and disposition of the human remains have been made to the person responsible for the excavation (California Health and Safety Code - Section 7050.5).

VI.	ENERGY.	Potentially Significant Impact	Less I nan Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Analyzed In The Prior EIR
Wc	ould the project:					
a)	Result in a potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy, or wasteful use of energy resources, during project construction or operation?				×	
b)	Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?				×	
lm	pact Discussion:					

a-b)

None.

			Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No	Analyzed In The Prior EIR	
VII.	GE	OLOGY AND SOILS.			,	•		
Wo	uld t	he project:						
a)	adv	ectly or indirectly cause potential substantial rerse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or ath involving:					×	
	i)	Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.					X	
	ii)	Strong seismic ground shaking?					×	
	iii)	Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?					×	
	iv)	Landslides?				X		
b)		sult in substantial soil erosion or the loss of soil?				X		
c)	or to	located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, that would become unstable as a result of the ject, and potentially result in on- or off-site dslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, lefaction or collapse?				×		
d)		located on expansive soil and create direct or irect risks to life or property?				×		
e)	use dis	ve soils incapable of adequately supporting the e of septic tanks or alternative waste water posal systems where sewers are not available the disposal of waste water?				X		
f)	pal	ectly or indirectly destroy a unique eontological resource or site or unique geologic ture?				X		

- a) The geology of San Joaquin County is composed of high organic alluvium, which is susceptible to earthquake movement. The project will have to comply with the California Building Code (CBC) which includes provisions for soils reports for grading and foundations as well as design criteria for seismic loading and other geologic hazards based on fault and seismic hazard mapping. Therefore, impacts to seismic-related (or other) landslide hazards will be less than significant.
- b-f) The current application request is for a six-year time extension of a previously approved Major Subdivision application. Potential geology and soils impacts and mitigation measures to reduce them to less than significant have been previously addressed by the Master Plan EIR and Specific Plan II Initial Study for the underlying project.

VIII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS.	Potentially Significant Impact	Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Analyzed In The Prior EIR
Would the project:					
a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?			×		
b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?			×		

a-b) The current application request is for a six-year time extension of a previously approved Major Subdivision application. The San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (SJVAPCD) has published the "Guidance for Assessing and Mitigating Air Quality Impacts", that would be used to analyze air quality and greenhouse gas (GHG) impacts associated with the project. With the rules and regulations of the San Joaquin Air Pollution Control District included in the previously approved Conditions of Approval for the project, the impact of the project for greenhouse gas emissions will be less than significant.

IX.	HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS.	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Analyzed In The Prior EIR
Wc	ould the project:					
a)	Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?			×		
b)	Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?				X	
c)	Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?				X	
d)	Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?				×	
e)	For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area?				×	
f)	Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?				×	
g)	Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?				×	

a-g) The current application request is for a six-year time extension of a previously approved Major Subdivision application. The proposed underlying Major Subdivision application would not result in, create or induce hazards and associated risks to the public. Construction activities for the project typically involve the use of toxic or hazardous materials such as paint, fuels, and solvents. Construction activities would be subject to federal, state, and local laws and requirements designed to minimize and avoid potential health and safety risks associated with hazardous materials. No significant impacts are anticipated related to the transport, use, or storage of hazardous materials during construction activities are anticipated.

The nearest airport is the Byron Airport, located approximately 5 miles northwest of the project site. The proposed structures for the project site will not exceed 50 feet in height. Project referrals have been sent to Caltrans Division of Aeronautics, Contra Costa County ALUC, SJCOG ALUC, and Byron Airport. Any additional comments or conditions of approval received from the agencies will be included in the final conditions of approval to ensure any impacts are reduced to less than significant.

<u>X. l</u>	HYD	ROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY.	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Analyzed In The Prior EIR
Wo	uld	the project:					
a)	dis	late any water quality standards or waste charge requirements or otherwise substantially grade surface or ground water quality?			×		
b)	inte suc	ostantially decrease groundwater supplies or erfere substantially with groundwater recharge that the project may impede sustainable undwater management of the basin?			×		
c)	the the	ostantially alter the existing drainage pattern of site or area, including through the alteration of course of a stream or river or through the lition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which uld:			×		
	i)	result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site;			×		
	ii)	substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site;			X		
	iii)	create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff; or			×		
	iv)	impede or redirect flood flows?			×		
d)		flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk ease of pollutants due to project inundation?			×		
e)	qua	nflict with or obstruct implementation of a water lity control plan or sustainable groundwater nagement plan?			X		

a-e) The current application request is for a six-year time extension of a previously approved Major Subdivision application. The proposed underlying project's impacts on hydrology and water are expected to be less than significant. The project will be served by a public water system and a public sewer system. The applicant has provided a will serve letter from the Mountain House Community Services District (MHCSD) confirming that MHCSD will provide sewer, storm drainage and water services to the project site. The project would be required to comply with the National Polluant Discharge Elimination Systems (NPDES) permit program. Also, the residential development would be required to implement additional water quality Best Management Practices (BMP's). These BMP's would be determined on a case-by-case basis and approved by the MHCSD. Therefore, project impacts related to hydrology and water quality will be less than significant.

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	Analyzed In The Prior EIR
<u>XI.</u>	LAND USE AND PLANNING.				
Wc	ould the project:				
a)	Physically divide an established community?			×	
b)	Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?			×	

a-b) The current application request is for a six-year time extension of a previously approved Major Subdivision application. The approved underlying project is subject to the 2035 San Joaquin County General Plan, Mountain House Master Plan, and Specific Plan II document. The Master Plan and Specific Plan II documents contain over 300 policies and implementation measures addressing land use and planning, and this residential development project and underlying Major Subdivision application are consistent with those goals, objectives, and implementation measures of these documents. Also, the project site is subject to Mountain House Residential Design Manual and Design Review to ensure these implementation measures are maintained. Therefore, the proposed six-year time extension request and underlying residential development project and Major Subdivision application will have a less than significant impact on existing land uses and planning policies and plans.

XII	. MINERAL RESOURCES.	Potentially Significant Impact	Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact		Analyzed In The Prior EIR
Wc	ould the project:					
a)	Result in the loss of availability of a known_mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?				×	
b)	Result in the loss of availability of a locally- important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?				×	

a-b) The current application request is for a six-year time extension of a previously approved Major Subdivision application. The underlying project will not result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource of a resource recovery site because the site does not contain minerals of significance or known mineral resources. San Joaquin County applies a mineral resource zone (MRZ) designation to land that meets the significant mineral deposits definition by the State Division of Mines and Geology. Therefore, the project will have less than a significant impact on the availability of mineral resources or mineral resource recovery sites within San Joaquin County and the Mountain House community.

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact		Analyzed In The Prior EIR
XIII	. NOISE.					
Vο	ould the project result in:					
a)	Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?			×		
b)	Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?				X	
c)	For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan, or where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?				×	

**Less Than** 

### **Impact Discussion:**

The current application request is for a six-year time extension of a previously approved Major Subdivision a-c) application. Master Plan Chapter Eleven, addresses mobile and stationary noise sources at Mountain House. No major conflicts with the Master Plan have ben identified with this proposed six-year time extension request.

The underlying development project may have equipment utilized in the grading of the site that will temporarily increase the area's ambient noise levels. The underlying development project will be required to comply with Development Title Section 9-1025.9 (c) (3) which states that:

Noise sources associated with construction are exempt from the provisions of the Noise Ordinance provided such activities do not take place before 6:00 a.m. or after 9:00 p.m. on any day.

As such, noise generation from the proposed underlying project will be less than significant.

XIV	7. POPULATION AND HOUSING.	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	Analyzed In The Prior EIR
Wo	uld the project:				
a)	Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?			×	
b)	Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?			×	

a-b) The current application request is for a six-year time extension of a previously approved Major Subdivision application. Mountain House was planned with a mix of residential, commercial, and industrial development land uses and to be a "self-contained community, thus to minimize growth-inducing impacts. Because the capacity of the onsite water and wastewater plants would serve no more than the projected onsite population as specified in the existing community approvals this would eliminate this potential growth-inducing impact.

Potentially Significant Mitigation Incorporated Less Than Significant No In The Impact Impact Prior EIR

#### XV. PUBLIC SERVICES.

a) Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:

Fire protection?		×	
Police protection?		×	
Schools?		×	
Parks?		×	
Other public facilities?		×	

#### **Impact Discussion:**

a) The current application request is for a six-year time extension of a previously approved Major Subdivision application. The proposed underlying project is substantially the same residential development potential assumed under the existing approved Specific Plan II document. The number of people served by the underlying project is not expected to create a significant impact on the level of service to fire, police, school, park or any other public services or facilities.

XVI. RECREATION.	Potentially Significant Impact	Less I nan Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Analyzed In The Prior EIR
a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?				×	
b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?				X	

a-b) The current application request is for a six-year time extension of a previously approved Major Subdivision application. No significant impacts on existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities, either at the Mountain House Community or off-site, is expected such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur as result of the underlying development project.

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	0.9	No	Analyzed In The Prior EIR
XV	II. TRANSPORTATION.					
Wo	ould the project:					
a)	Conflict with a program plan, ordinance, or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadways, bicycle, and pedestrian facilities?			×		
b)	Would the project conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b)?			×		
c)	Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?			X		

X

#### **Impact Discussion:**

d) Result in inadequate emergency access?

The current application request is for a six-year time extension of a previously approved Major Subdivision application. Master Plan Chapter Nine, Transportation and Circulation addresses the expected traffic volumes and anticipates the need for and timing of circulation improvements required to serve the community and project area through buildout. The proposed underlying project is within the scope of the existing Transportation Demand Management approval for the Mountain House Community; and the conditions of approval will include all applicable mitigation measures and policies of the Master Plan and Specific Plan II documents. As such, through the collection of local and regional traffic impact fees, the project would generate funds to be collected by the County Transportation Impact Mitigation Fee (TIMF) and MHTIF to pay for future roadway and transportation program responsibilities of the project. Therefore, the proposed underlying residential project is not in conflict with any adopted polices or plans and will have a less than significant impact on existing traffic and roadway levels of service.

<u>xv</u>	III. T	RIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES.	Significant Impact	Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Significant Impact	In The Prior EIR
a)	res 210 land the	ould the project cause a substantial adverse ange in the significance of a tribal cultural ource, defined in Public Resources Code section 074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural dscape that is geographically defined in terms of size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, object with cultural value to a California Native terican tribe, and that is:				
	i)	Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or		X		
	ii)	A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resource Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.		×		

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### **Impact Discussion:**

While the proposed current request for a six-year time extension of the previously approved Major Subdivision application will not have any direct impacts to tribal cultural resources, the underlying project was previously reviewed for potential impacts. The Mountain House Master Plan, Chp. 7.4 Cultural Resources, has implementation measures for development projects and mitigation measures to avoid potential impacts to cultural resources. As part of this application request for six-year time extension and with additional input from Kathy Perez, California's Most Likely Descendant of the California Valley Yokuts Tribe. The Community Development Department staff has included the additional mitigation measure(s) below to reduce any potentially significant impacts to tribal cultural resources to less than significant. This mitigation measure will also be included as a condition of approval for the underlying project:

#### TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES:

- 1) Prior to construction personnel shall receive brief "tailgate" training by a qualified archaeologist in the identification of paleontological resources, buried cultural resources, including human remains, and protocol for notification should such resources be discovered during construction work. A Yokuts tribal representative shall be invited to this training to provide information on potential tribal cultural resources.
  - a) If any subsurface historical, archaeological, or paleontological resources, including human burials and associated funerary objects, are encountered during construction, all construction activities within a 50-foot radius of the encounter shall be immediately halted until a qualified archaeologist and/or paleontologist can examine these materials, initially evaluate their significance and, if potentially significant, recommend measures on the disposition of the resource. Mountain House Developers (MHD) shall be immediately notified in the event of a discovery, and if burial resources or tribal cultural resources are discovered, MHD shall notify the appropriate Native American representatives. The contractor shall be responsible for retaining qualified professionals, implementing recommended mitigation measures and documenting mitigation efforts in written reports to MHD.

- b) If project construction encounters evidence of human burial or scattered human remains, the contractor shall immediately notify the County Coroner and MHD, which shall in turn notify the Yokuts tribal representative. MHD shall notify other federal and State agencies as required. MHD will be responsible for compliance with the requirements of California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 and with any direction provided by the County Coroner.
- c) If the human remains are determined to be Native American, the County Coroner shall notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), and the NAHC will notify and appoint a Most Likely Descendant (MLD). The MLD will work with the archaeologist to decide the proper treatment of the human remains and any associated funerary objects in accordance with California Public Resources Code Sections 5097.98 and 5097.991. Avoidance is the preferred means of disposition of the burial resources.
- d) If tribal cultural resources other than human remains and associated funerary objects are encountered, MHD shall be immediately notified of the find, and shall notify the Yokuts tribal representative. The qualified archaeologist and tribal representative shall examine the materials and determine their "uniqueness" or significance as tribal cultural resources and shall recommend mitigation measures needed to reduce potential cultural resource effects to a level that is less than significant.

MHD has reviewed the additional mitigation measure(s) and is in agreement to the implementation of the above mitigation measure.

<u>XI)</u>	(. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS.	Potentially Significant I mpact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Analyzed In The Prior EIR
Wo	ould the project:					
a)	Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment, or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?			×		
b)	Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?			X		
c)	Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?			×		
d)	Generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?			X		
e)	Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?			X		

a-e) The current application request is for a six-year time extension of a previously approved Major Subdivision application. The project site will be served by the Mountain House Community Services District for sewer, water and terminal storm drainage. The utility infrastructure consisting, of a water distribution system, a sanitary sewer drain system, have been constructed for the development of the neighborhood(s). The utilities would be extended to the proposed project site. Therefore, the current request and udnerlying project would not result in significant impacts on utilities and service systems and no additional mitigation measures are necessary.

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Analyzed In The Prior EIR
XX	<u>. WILDFIRE.</u>	·	·			
cla	ocated in or near state responsibility areas or lands ssified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would project:					
a)	Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?				×	
b)	Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?				X	
c)	Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?				×	
d)	Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?				×	

a-c) None.

XXI. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE.	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No	Analyzed In The Prior EIR
a) Does the project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?				×	
b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?				×	
c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?				×	

The overall project impacts from the underlying project have been addressed in the SPII Initial Study (State Clearinghouse No. 1990020776), and thus the six-year time extension request is not expected to have a significant impact on the properties within the project vicinity. All previously approved conditions of approval and the approved mitigation monitoring plan still apply.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 21083, 21083.05, Public Resources Code. Reference: Section 65088.4, Gov. Code; Sections 21080, 21083.05, 21095, Pub. Resources Code; Eureka Citizens for Responsible Govt. v. City of Eureka (2007) 147 Cal.App.4th 357; Protect the Historic Amador Waterways v. Amador Water Agency (2004) 116 Cal.App.4th at 1109; San Franciscans Upholding the Downtown Plan v. City and County of San Francisco (2002) 102 Cal.App.4th 656.

# ATTACHMENT: (MAP[S] OR PROJECT SITE PLAN[S])



