

CITY OF ESCONDIDO PLANNING DIVISION 201 NORTH BROADWAY ESCONDIDO, CA 92025-2798 (760) 839-4671

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR "ESCONDIDO CREEK TRAIL EXPANSION AND RENOVATION PROJECT" Project Case No. E21-0066

BACKGROUND: The City of Escondido has prepared a Draft Initial Study Mitigated Negative Declaration ("IS-MND") for the project described below, as required by the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") (Public Resources Code Section 21000 et seq.). The IS-MND discloses potential environmental effects for the proposed project.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The proposed project would expand and renovate the existing Escondido Creek Trail in an approximately 4.5-mile corridor in the city of Escondido. The project would extend the trail westward along the north side of the Escondido Creek to terminate in the vicinity of an extension of Citracado Parkway. From Harmony Grove Road eastward to N. Midway Drive, the project would involve landscaping and recreational improvements to the existing trail. The project would implement trail improvements envisioned in the City's Escondido Creek Trail Master Plan Report.

PROPOSED FINDING: In accordance with CEQA and consistent with CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations) Section 15070, and following the completion of an IS-MND, the Planning Division for the City of Escondido has determined that there is no substantial evidence that the proposed project would have a significant effect on the environment, and that an IS-MND may be adopted.

LOCATION: The Banks of Escondido Creek from Citracado Parkway to North Midway Drive in the City of Escondido. According to online databases of hazardous material sites maintained by the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (EnviroStor) and the California State Water Resources Control Board (GeoTracker), no listed release sites that are still active or need further investigation are present in the project corridor pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the California Government Code.

APPLICANT: City of Escondido

PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD: The review and comment period will begin on February 18, 2022 and end at 5:00 p.m., on March 21, 2022. Copies of the Draft IS-MND are on file and available for public review in the Escondido Planning Division, at 201 N. Broadway, and also posted on the City of Escondido web site, accessible by the following link:

https://www.escondido.org/ECT

Further information may be obtained by contacting Sean Nicholas at the Community Development Department, telephone (760) 839-4546 or email at snicholas@escondido.org. Please refer to Case No. E21-0066.

The City Council will consider the Project at a public hearing in June. Public hearings for the City Council to consider the proposed project have not yet been scheduled and additional public notice will be provided when the hearing dates are set.

Sean Nicholas Principal Planner