



# City of Wheatland

111 C Street Street – Wheatland, California 95692  
Tel (530) 633-2761 – Fax (530) 633-9102

## PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING STAFF REPORT

Date: November 21, 2017  
Agenda Item: 2

**Subject:** Recommend City Council adoption of the City of Wheatland Community Design Standards Initial Study/Negative Declaration and approval of the Draft City of Wheatland Community Design Standards.

**Prepared by:** Tim Raney, Community Development Director

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### Recommendation

Staff requests that the Planning Commission recommend that the Wheatland City Council adopt the City of Wheatland Community Design Standards Initial Study/Negative Declaration (IS/ND), and approve the Draft City of Wheatland Community Design Standards.

### Background

In December 2013, the City of Wheatland was awarded the Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) Community and Residential Design Standards Grant for the preparation of the Wheatland Community Design Standards. As part of the preparation of the Community Design Standards, the City performed public outreach and workshops and an Ad Hoc Committee was appointed by City Council to serve as an advisory body for the preparation of this and other citywide documents. The Ad Hoc Committee consisted of two City Council members and two Planning Commissioners.

Adopting the Draft Community Design Standards would establish a set of design goals, objectives, and standards that would assist developers in understanding the level of architectural design that is required in Wheatland. In addition, the City of Wheatland Community Design Standards would provide a process to implement the SACOG Blueprint Project.

## SACOG Blueprint Project

In 2002 SACOG, in partnership with the region's six counties and 22 cities, launched the Blueprint Project. The Blueprint Project is a comprehensive program that strives to examine how transportation planning and funding could be better linked to land use planning, and to explore alternatives to current land use/transportation patterns for future growth through 2050.

The starting point for the Blueprint process was the Base Case Study, a projection of how the area would grow if current local government growth and land-use plans are followed through to the year 2050. Land use and demographic projections show that the six-county region that includes Sacramento, Placer, El Dorado, Yuba, Sutter and Yolo counties will remain an attractive place to live and is likely to grow dramatically. According to the study, an estimated 1.7 million more people will be in the Sacramento Region in 2050 than there were in 2000. As the area grows to over 3.6 million residents, the number of homes will more than double from 713,000 to over 1.5 million.<sup>1</sup>

The SACOG Board of Directors adopted the "Preferred Blueprint Scenario" in December 2004, which is a vision for growth in the Sacramento region that promotes compact, mixed-use development and more transit choices as an alternative to low-density development. The "Preferred Scenario" depicts how more compact development patterns and planning for transit options might result in less overall acres developed and less traffic congestion. In particular, the "Preferred Scenario" emphasizes land use patterns that place future residents closer to jobs, and promotes a variety of transportation modes. The "Preferred Scenario" consists of the following growth principles:

- Transportation Choices;
- Mixed-Use Developments;
- Compact Development;
- Housing Choice and Diversity;
- Use of Existing Assets;
- Quality Design; and
- Natural Resources Conservation.

The Draft City of Wheatland Community Design Standards includes Goals, Objectives, and Standards specifically related to mixed-use developments, compact development, housing choice and diversity, quality design, and natural resources conservation. Therefore, adopting the Draft Community Design Standards would ensure future development would be compatible with the region's vision for growth.

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<sup>1</sup> Sacramento Region Blueprint. *Base Case Scenario*. Available at: <http://www.sacregionblueprint.org>. Accessed June 12, 2014.

## **Document Preparation Process**

The Ad-Hoc Committee, consisting of two Planning Commission and two City Council members, previously assisted with the creation of the City of Wheatland Bikeway Master Plan and the Downtown Corridor Improvement Plan and was also asked to assist in the preparation of the Community Design Standards.

The City of Wheatland held a series Ad Hoc Committee meetings in order for staff to obtain direction from the Ad Hoc Committee with respect to the community's goals regarding the design of future development within the City, as well as an opportunity for the public to provide input. Notice of the workshops were posted publicly on the City of Wheatland website and in the local newspaper to ensure that a variety of residents could attend. Key discussion points and public input from the workshops were recorded in notes prepared by staff to be considered in the drafting of the Community Design Standards.

## **Document Components**

The Draft City of Wheatland Community Design Standards consists of the following components:

### **Introduction Section**

This section describes the vision, purpose, public outreach conducted, and the organization of the Community Design Standards document.

### **Relationship to Existing Plans Section**

This section describes the relationship of the Community Design Standards to other existing plans in the area, such as the City of Wheatland General Plan, the City of Wheatland Community Vision, and the SACOG Blueprint Project.

### **Residential Goals, Objectives, and Standards Section**

This section presents the community design goals, objectives, and standards for future residential development in the City of Wheatland. The residential goals are as follows:

RES Goal 1 New residential development should be compatible with, and complementary to, the existing context in terms of scale, height, front yard setbacks, and neighborhood feel.

RES Goal 2 Encourage the development of convenient access to neighborhood amenities.

- RES Goal 3 Encourage the continuation of distinct, identifiable neighborhoods with traditional development styles that provide a high quality of living and generate civic pride.
- RES Goal 4 Provide high quality architectural design for all sectors of the housing market, and maintain development at a finer scale, utilizing variations in building form or style, colors and materials.
- RES Goal 5 Buildings should generally draw on traditional residential designs and be well proportioned, balanced, and attractive on all elevations.
- RES Goal 6 Building designs should maximize energy efficiency and promote environmental quality.
- RES Goal 7 Maintain a small-town atmosphere through use of human scale and strong relationships between the home, the site, and the street.
- RES Goal 8 Establish a positive relationship between indoor and outdoor space.
- RES Goal 9 Design landscaping to enhance aesthetics, comfort, security, and privacy, and conserve water and energy.

#### Commercial Goals, Objectives, and Standards Section

This section presents the community design goals, objectives, and standards for future commercial development, including highway commercial and mixed-use commercial, in the City of Wheatland. The commercial goals are as follows:

- COM Goal 1 Maintain a building scale which is consistent with the City's small town rural heritage and historic qualities of Wheatland.
- COM Goal 2 Ensure a compatible architectural context with surrounding developments and the community as a whole.
- COM Goal 3 Ensure that parking areas provide safe and efficient access to buildings, but do not dominate the overall site design.
- COM Goal 4 Incorporate attractive, useable outdoor space, and facilitate pedestrian movement within the corridors.
- COM Goal 5 Maximize energy efficiency and promote environmental quality.
- COM Goal 6 Encourage unifying architectural themes for development along the highways passing through Wheatland.
- COM Goal 7 Encourage integrated commercial districts rather than insular shopping centers.

COM Goal 8 Encourage, establish, and maintain a unique and identifiable image for mixed-use commercial development in the City of Wheatland.

COM Goal 9 Enhance the streetscape by emphasizing corners of blocks, designating points of entry, and differentiating new commercial areas in the community from other types of activity centers, nodes, or areas.

#### Parks and Open Space Goals, Objectives, and Standards Section

This section presents the community design goals, objectives, and standards for future parks and open space development in the City of Wheatland. The parks and open space goals are as follows:

POS Goal 1 Improve the visual environment within the City of Wheatland.

POS Goal 2 Ensure high quality, safe, and walkable parks and open space design within new development.

POS Goal 3 Provide attractive and functional landscaping in neighborhoods.

#### Plan Implementation Section

This section describes how the City will implement the Community Design Standards included in this document.

#### **CEQA Review**

The City prepared an IS/ND (see Attachment 1) for the Draft City of Wheatland Community Design Standards in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

Community Design Standards IS/ND determined that the Draft City of Wheatland Community Design Standards would not result in a significant effect on the environment because the City's Community Design Standards is a long-range planning, policy-level document intended to establish an adopted and published set of design goals, objectives, and standards that would assist developers in understanding the level of architectural design that is required in Wheatland and provide a process to implement the SACOG Blueprint Project. Furthermore, the Community Design Standards would not include any specific development proposals, nor does the project grant any entitlements for development.

Per Assembly Bill (AB) 52, the City of Wheatland notified the United Auburn Indian Community of the Auburn Rancheria (UAIC) of the Draft City of Wheatland Community Design Standards. The City of Wheatland did not receive a response letter from the UAIC within the 30-day AB 52 response period.

The IS/ND was routed for public review from October 13, 2017 to November 1, 2017 and the City of Wheatland did not receive any comment letters during the 20-day public review period.

### **Alternatives**

The Planning Commission could choose to recommend that the City Council not adopt the City of Wheatland Community Design Standards IS/ND and not approve the Draft City of Wheatland Community Design Standards and continue to lack an adopted and published set of design goals, objectives, and standards, which would continue to hinder the City staff's evaluation process of development applications for architectural review. The Planning Commission could also choose to continue the public hearing date and direct staff to revise the Community Design Standards.

### **Conclusion**

Based on the information contained in the staff report, staff recommends that the Planning Commission take the following actions:

- Recommend City Council adoption of the City of Wheatland Community Design Standards Initial Study/Negative Declaration.
- Recommend City Council approval of the Draft City of Wheatland Community Design Standards.

### **Attachments**

1. City of Wheatland Community Design Standards IS/ND.
2. Draft City of Wheatland Community Design Standards.

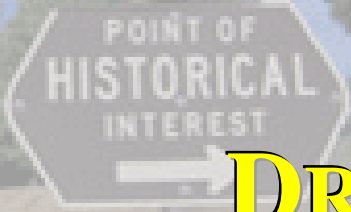
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ATTACHMENT 1

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**DRAFT**

# **CITY OF WHEATLAND COMMUNITY DESIGN STANDARDS**



**OCTOBER 2017**



**City of Wheatland  
Community Development Department  
111 C Street  
Wheatland CA 95692**





**Draft**  
**City of Wheatland**  
**Community Design Standards**

**Prepared By:**

Raney Planning and Management, Inc.  
1501 Sports Drive, Suite A  
Sacramento, CA 95834  
(916) 372-6100

Contact:  
Tim Raney, AICP  
President

Kevin Valente  
Associate Planner

**October 2017**

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# I. INTRODUCTION

The general purpose of the City of Wheatland Community Design Standards (CDS) is to establish an adopted and published set of design goals, objectives, and standards that would assist developers in understanding the level of architectural design that is required in Wheatland. In addition, the proposed project would aid City staff's evaluation process of development applications for architectural review. Furthermore, creating and adopting the City of Wheatland CDS would provide a process to implement the Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) Blueprint Project.

## PUBLIC OUTREACH

As part of the scope for the preparation of the CDS, the City performed public outreach and workshops. An Ad Hoc Committee was appointed by City Council to serve as an advisory body for the preparation of other citywide documents (Bikeway Master Plan, Downtown Corridor Plan, and Climate Action Plan) and also served for the preparation of the CDS. The Ad Hoc Committee consists of two City Council members and two Planning Commission members. A series of Ad Hoc Committee meetings were held in order for staff to obtain direction from the Ad Hoc Committee with respect to community's goals regarding the design of future development within the City.

The meetings were also an opportunity for the public to provide input. Based upon the direction set by the Ad Hoc Committee, as well as stakeholder and community feedback during the workshops, the City of Wheatland CDS has been prepared.

## ORGANIZATION OF THE COMMUNITY DESIGN STANDARDS

The CDS begins with this Introduction and includes the following components:

- II. Relationship to Existing Plans – This section describes the relationship of the CDS to other existing plans in the area, such as the City of Wheatland General Plan, the City of Wheatland Community Vision, and the SACOG Blueprint Project.
- III. Residential Goals, Objectives, and Standards – This section presents the community design goals, objectives, and standards for future residential development in the City of Wheatland.
- IV. Commercial Goals, Objectives, and Standards – This section presents the community design goals, objectives, and standards for future commercial development, including highway and mixed-use commercial, in the City of Wheatland.
- V. Parks and Open Space Goals, Objectives, and Standards – This section presents the community design goals, objectives, and standards for future parks and open space development in the City of Wheatland.
- VI. Plan Implementation – This section describes how the City will implement the design standards included in this document.

## II. RELATIONSHIP TO EXISTING PLANS

The City of Wheatland CDS is consistent with the existing and serves to implement adopted plans, including the Wheatland General Plan Policy Document, Community Vision, and the SACOG Blueprint Project, as discussed in more detail below.

### CITY OF WHEATLAND GENERAL PLAN

The City of Wheatland General Plan sets the framework for future growth and development within which Wheatland can expand while still maintaining the small-town feeling and quality of life that are so important to Wheatland residents. The major theme of the General Plan is to retain and build upon Wheatland's small-town and neighborhood qualities while achieving an economically-healthy and self-sufficient community.

The City of Wheatland General Plan identified the following five guiding principles to provide the foundation for the Land Use Diagram, Circulation Diagram, and the goals, policies, and implementation programs.

1. *Balance development on both sides of existing State Route (SR) 65 and the railroad tracks.*
2. *Reinforce downtown as the traditional and cultural core of the city, but not as the central commercial district.*
3. *Emphasize neighborhood-oriented growth to retain small town feel.*
4. *Create a strong local employment base.*
5. *Plan the city to accommodate eventual development of a SR 65 bypass.*

In addition, the General Plan identifies the following three terms in order to understand the key elements and relationships within the built environment for the purposes of planning for future growth and development.

- *Urban Form: refers to the distinguishing physical features of an urbanized area, including both natural factors and elements of the built environment that are determinants of the geography - the form or shape - of the development pattern. The overall urban form is in turn further defined and differentiated into smaller units or districts, characterized by differences in building type, historical periods, parcel sizes and ownership, and other distinctive features, that delineate the shape and extent of the settlement pattern.*
- *Urban Structure: refers to the overall physical framework of the built environment that provides, the basic structure for the development pattern. This structure consists primarily of the transportation and other infrastructure that serves to facilitate and subsequently define the historic patterns of urban growth, and provide the internal and external linkages, that constitute the pattern of settlement and development. Urban structure also refers to the constellation of specialized development nodes that provide essential services to specific geographic areas within the larger settlement pattern, ranging in scale from regional centers, traditional downtowns, neighborhood centers, and even to the more fine-grained structure of schools, parks, and other public spaces.*
- *Urban Character: is a reflection of the aesthetic and social expression of the built environment - the particulars of the architecture, the landscape, and the patterns of human use and activity that constitute the unique attributes and "places" that provide*

*meaning in the lives of the residents. In brief, this expression is an aggregate “image,” and consists of elements such as key landmarks, distinctive buildings and landscapes, public spaces, unique neighborhoods, and other features that are the essential cultural expression of a community.*

The design standards presented in this document are consistent with the Wheatland General Plan and intend to provide a means to implement the design goals and policies of the City of Wheatland General Plan.

## **CITY OF WHEATLAND COMMUNITY VISION**

In 2008, the City of Wheatland completed a process establishing a long-term vision of what Wheatland could and should become in the future. The City Council, Planning Commission, and citizens came together to produce a vision statement and guiding policies which, as they are implemented, could lead to Wheatland becoming a leading city in Northern California, in terms of progressive urban planning and Smart Growth principles. The Wheatland Community Vision provides a comprehensive guide to the long-term treatment in the areas of Environmental Resources, Community Development and Design, Economic Development, Mobility, Education, Governance, Infrastructure, Public Safety, and Green Space and Recreation.

The City of Wheatland community vision statement is:

*Wheatland is committed to being forward thinking non-reactionary city that values its small-town feel, and its agricultural and historical heritage.*

The Community Vision of the City of Wheatland is guided by principles, which includes the following community development and design principles applicable to new development in Wheatland:

- *Wheatland shall be a community of villages, each of which shall be designed to provide a distinct sense of place.*
- *Villages shall be connected to each other with substantial greenways to the maximum extent feasible.*
- *Villages shall have at their center a community gathering space such as a public square or promenade.*
- *Commercially designated lands shall be located within villages to provide neighborhood serving retail opportunities.*
- *Commercial areas will be encouraged to include residential above first floor retail uses.*
- *Large format commercial (i.e. big box stores) and regional commercial shall be located along the State Route 65 Bypass.*

The CDS is consistent with, and implements the community development and design principles included in the Community Vision listed above.

## **SACOG BLUEPRINT PROJECT**

In 2002 SACOG, in partnership with the region’s six counties and 22 cities, launched the Blueprint Project. The Blueprint Project is a comprehensive program that strives to examine how transportation planning and funding could be better linked to land use planning, and to explore alternatives to current land use/transportation patterns for future growth through 2050.

The starting point for the Blueprint process was the Base Case Study, a projection of how the area would grow if current local government growth and land-use plans are followed through to the year 2050.

Land use and demographic projections show that the six-county region that includes Sacramento, Placer, El Dorado, Yuba, Sutter and Yolo counties will remain an attractive place to live and is likely to grow dramatically. According to the study, an estimated 1.7 million more people will be in the Sacramento Region in 2050 than there were in 2000. As the area grows to over 3.6 million residents, the number of homes will more than double from 713,000 to over 1.5 million.<sup>1</sup>

The SACOG Board of Directors adopted the “Preferred Blueprint Scenario” in December 2004, which is a vision for growth in the Sacramento region that promotes compact, mixed-use development and more transit choices as an alternative to low-density development. The “Preferred Scenario” depicts how more compact development patterns and planning for transit options might result in less overall acres developed and less traffic congestion. In particular, the “Preferred Scenario” emphasizes land use patterns that place future residents closer to jobs, and promotes a variety of transportation modes.

Creating and adopting the City of Wheatland’s CDS would provide a process to implement all the following seven growth principles resulting from the “Preferred Scenario”:

Transportation Choices

*Developments should be designed to encourage people to sometimes walk, ride bicycles, ride the bus, ride light rail, take the train or carpool. Use of Blueprint growth concepts for land use and right-of-way design would encourage use of these modes of travel and the remaining auto trips would be, on average, shorter.*

Mixed-Use Developments

*Buildings homes and shops, entertainment, office and even light industrial uses near each other can create active, vital neighborhoods. The mixture of uses can be either in a vertical arrangement (mixed in one building) or horizontal (with a combination of uses in close proximity). Mixed-use types of projects function as local activity centers, contributing to a sense of community, where people tend to walk or bike to destinations and interact more with each other. Separated land uses, on the other hand, lead to the need to travel more by auto because of the distance between uses. Mixed land uses can occur at many scales. Examples include: a housing project located near an employment center, a small shopping center located within a residential neighborhood, and a building with ground floor retail and apartments or condominiums on the upper floor(s).*

Compact Development

*Creating environments that are more compactly built and use space in an efficient but aesthetic manner can encourage more walking, biking, and public transit use, and shorten auto trips.*

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<sup>1</sup> Sacramento Region Blueprint. *Base Case Scenario*. Available at: <http://www.sacregionblueprint.org>. Accessed on: June 12, 2014.

### Housing Choice and Diversity

*Providing a variety of places where people can live – apartments, condominiums, townhouses, and single-family detached homes on varying lot sizes – creates opportunities for the variety of people who need them: families, singles, seniors, and people with special needs. Housing choice and diversity is of special concern for the people with very low-, low-, and moderate-income, often teachers, other public employees and professionals, as well as retail employees, service workers and other people for whom finding housing close to work is challenging. By providing a diversity of housing options, more people have a choice.*

### Use of Existing Assets

*In urbanized areas, development on infill or vacant lands, intensification of the use of underutilized parcels (for example, more development on the site of a low-density retail strip shopping center), or redevelopment can make better use of existing public infrastructure. The use of existing assets also includes rehabilitation and reuse of historic buildings, denser clustering of buildings in suburban office parks, and joint use of existing public facilities such as schools and parking garages.*

### Quality Design

*The design details of any land use development - such as the relationship to the street, setbacks, placement of garages, sidewalks, landscaping, the aesthetics of building design, and the design of the public right-of-way (the sidewalks, connected streets and paths, bike lanes, the width of streets) - are all factors that can influence the attractiveness of living in a compact development and facilitate the ease of walking and biking to work or neighborhood services. Good site and architectural design is an important factor in creating a sense of community and a sense of place.*

### Natural Resources Conservation

*The natural resources conservation principle encourages the incorporation of public use open space (such as parks, town squares, trails, and greenbelts) within development projects, over and above state requirements; along with wildlife and plant habitat preservation, agricultural preservation and promotion of environment-friendly practices such as energy efficient design, water conservation and stormwater management, and shade trees to reduce the ground temperatures in the summer. In addition to conserving resources and protecting species, this principle improves overall quality of life by providing places for everyone to enjoy the outdoors with family outings and by creating a sense of open space.*

The Draft City of Wheatland Community Design Standards includes Goals, Objectives, and Standards specifically related to mixed-use developments, compact development, housing choice and diversity, quality design, and natural resources conservation. Therefore, adopting the Draft Community Design Standards would ensure future development would be compatible with the region's vision for growth.

### III. RESIDENTIAL GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND STANDARDS

The residential design standards apply to all residential development located within the Residential Estates (RE), Residential Single-Family (R-1), Two-Family Residential (R-2), and Multi-Family Residential (R-3) zoning districts.

The residential design standards address the important components of a residential neighborhood, such as the design of the house itself; relationship of the house to the street and adjoining houses; and the overall design of the neighborhood. When all of these are well designed, the houses and neighborhood are more likely to look attractive and maintain value. In addition, the neighborhood is more likely to facilitate walking and bicycling to nearby destinations, invite social interaction, and result in a safer community that preserves the traditional small town feel of Wheatland. The design standards are also intended to result in neighborhoods that reduce energy dependence, and promote fitness, health, and personal safety.

Specific residential architectural style is not required; however, the design tenants presented are consistent with and reflect those of traditional architectural styles. Likewise, a specific formula is not presented or required for the design of neighborhoods. The City does not desire a collection of formulaic subdivisions based on rigid standards, but rather creative and original development that meets the stated objectives. New neighborhoods should be uniquely and imaginatively designed and carried out with quality construction and craftsmanship.

All types of residential development should be thought of foremost as homes for people. The residential design standards are intended to accommodate the large variety of home types, including detached single-family houses, small lot and courtyard houses, duplex and multifamily dwellings.

The need for more compact residential development is identified as one of the Blueprint's seven key growth principles. A key component of the CDS is to implement SACOG's Blueprint growth principles and encourage attractive and efficient compact building design. The design standards for compact residential development identified herein are intended to accomplish that goal and allow flexibility in achieving quality design. The flexibility and choice provided by the design standards is intended to support developers in designing a range of product types targeting varying price points. Using the standards as an inventory of options, developers can creatively design quality products at varying price points that are consistent with the design character and expectations of the Wheatland community.

#### GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND STANDARDS

**RES Goal 1 New residential development should be compatible with, and complementary to, the existing context in terms of scale, height, front yard setbacks, and neighborhood feel.**

RES Objective 1.1 A sense of place should be provided by retaining views of surrounding hills and scenic open spaces, wherever possible.





RES Standard 1.1.1 Natural topography should be integrated into site design to the extent feasible.

RES Standard 1.1.2 Retaining walls shall not exceed six feet in height and be compatible with the overall identity or character of the development. Innovative wall designs are encouraged.



RES Standard 1.1.3 Grade changes and berming should be used in conjunction with landscape to screen undesirable views.

RES Objective 1.2

Garages and driveways should not dominate street frontages.



RES Standard 1.2.1 Orient home entry toward streets.

RES Standard 1.2.2 Entry porches and active living space should have greater prominence than garages along street frontages.

RES Standard 1.2.3 When feasible, locate front-loaded garages behind the front elevation plane with a minimum setback of three feet.



RES Standard 1.2.4 Vary the design of garage doors facing streets. Garages with windows visible from the street should be tinted or treated with window coverings.

RES Objective 1.3

Compact residential development should be compatible with surrounding large lot single-family development.

RES Standard 1.3.1 Where appropriate, units/lots should be clustered to define public open spaces and activity areas that are



integrated into the overall design of the project and not an afterthought.

RES Standard 1.3.2 Textured decorative paving in driveways visible from the street is strongly encouraged, and provide a landscaped area to separate adjacent garages and reduce the amount of driveway paving.

RES Objective 1.4

Multi-family development shall reflect the small town traditional identity of Wheatland.



RES Standard 1.4.1 Multi-family projects shall not be walled off from the surrounding neighborhood, but rather shall be connected to the surrounding neighborhood through multiple pedestrian and street connections.



RES Standard 1.4.2 Multi-family development should be compatible with adjacent development with similar front setbacks, similar building styles and architectural features, building massing and articulation, and a consistent landscaping approach.

RES Standard 1.4.3 Multi-family buildings adjacent to single-family homes should step down in height or use other design techniques to ensure compatibility.

**RES Goal 2 Encourage the development of convenient access to neighborhood amenities.**

RES Objective 2.1

Pedestrian orientation within and between neighborhoods shall be emphasized to enhance mobility.



RES Standard 2.1.1 Provide connections to streets in adjacent neighborhoods, as appropriate. A minimum of two vehicular connection locations are required for developments of 25 dwelling units or more.

RES Standard 2.1.2 Consistent with the Bikeway Master Plan, provide pedestrian and bicycle connections, existing and planned, to adjacent neighborhoods and open



space, parks, schools, and commercial service areas.

RES Standard 2.1.3 Residents within larger developments should be able to walk easily to other homes in the development and to reach adjacent neighborhoods and open spaces.

RES Standard 2.1.4 Residential developments should front onto parks and other public open spaces. Where it is necessary for residences to back up to parks or open spaces, public access at regular intervals should be provided.

RES Objective 2.2

Building placement and design in community centers shall prioritize pedestrian comfort and aesthetics.



RES Standard 2.2.1 Developments within community centers should be designed to emphasize the public realm. These centers should contain one or more of the following: small parks; public plazas; wide sidewalks; spaces for entertainment, displays, exhibitions, and other community events; outdoor seating and gathering areas; and/or, similar uses and activities.

RES Standard 2.2.2 Buildings in community centers that front on sidewalks should provide awnings or other overhangs for pedestrian shelter.

**RES Goal 3 Encourage the continuation of distinct, identifiable neighborhoods with traditional development styles that provide a high quality of living and generate civic pride.**

RES Objective 3.1

Plans and elevations should be mixed within a development to avoid repetition of identical facades and roof lines.



RES Standard 3.1.1 One distinct plan with four distinctive elevations shall be provided for every 25 units. The same plan shall not be located adjacent to each other.



RES Standard 3.1.1 Projecting entries and porches are strongly encouraged as the primary front elevation element.

RES Standard 3.1.2 Porch and projecting entry design and details should be consistent with the architectural style of the dwelling.

RES Objective 3.2

Create neighborhoods with central focus, clear edges and entry points, and a cohesive design style. Coordinate architecture and landscaping for consistency within neighborhoods and to differentiate neighborhoods from one another.



RES Standard 3.2.1 Neighborhoods in Wheatland shall be distinguished from one another through the use of edges and landmarks that are formed with trees, open space, parks, natural features, or major streets.

RES Standard 3.2.2 Cluster mailboxes should include design features consistent with the theme of the neighborhood.

RES Standard 3.2.2 Cluster mailboxes shall be located in highly visible, well-lit, heavy use areas for convenience, to allow for casual social interaction, and to promote safety.



RES Standard 3.2.2 A trash and recycling receptacle should be located adjacent to cluster mailboxes.

RES Standard 3.2.3 Sound walls should be of solid and durable construction. Graffiti resistant materials should be used. The inclusion of decorative hand laid block is strongly encouraged. Wood board and wood panel fences are not allowed facing arterial and collector streets.



RES Standard 3.2.4 Break up sound walls with decorative columns and pilasters, and with decorative wall caps that match the design theme of the neighborhood.

RES Objective 3.3

Consider parking and service facilities for multi-family residential development as part of the overall design.



RES Standard 3.3.1 Parking for multi-family development shall be located in the rear of the building if possible, and shall be unobtrusive and not disrupt the quality of common spaces and pedestrian environments.



RES Standard 3.3.2 New multi-family developments that propose surface parking adjacent to the street frontage shall screen parking areas from public views with street trees, berms and other landscaping, and/or low fences or walls.



RES Standard 3.3.3 Service facilities for multi-family development shall not be visible from public areas. Utility meters, transformers, and other service elements shall be enclosed or otherwise concealed from view.



RES Standard 3.3.4 Trash enclosures for multi-family development shall be architecturally compatible with the buildings and heavily landscaped. The enclosure shall contain sufficient room for recycling.

RES Standard 3.3.5 Trash enclosures for multi-family development shall be designed as part of the structure wherever possible or located to the rear of the project and not visible from the street.

RES Objective 3.4

Neighborhood entries should be designed to establish neighborhood identity.



RES Standard 3.4.1 Focus the visual terminus of entry streets on a significant neighborhood open space or community facility, not on parked cars or backs of housing.

RES Standard 3.4.2 Avoid on-street parking and curb cuts for entries, whenever feasible.



RES Standard 3.4.3 Provide decorative and durable paving materials at entry streets to enhance the street's visual character.



RES Standard 3.4.4 Sign type and locations should be consistent throughout the development and the sign materials and graphics should complement the design. Signs design shall match the architectural character of the neighborhood.



RES Standard 3.4.5 Monument signs (or freestanding signs) shall be low-profile signs where the sign width is mounted to the ground with a solid architectural base covered with authentic, natural materials (e.g., stone, brick, etc.).

RES Standard 3.4.6 Electrical transformer boxes, raceways, and conduits shall be concealed from view.

**RES Goal 4 Provide high quality architectural design for all sectors of the housing market, and maintain development at a finer scale, utilizing variations in building form or style, colors and materials.**

RES Objective 4.1

Careful attention shall be given to architectural details including roof overhangs, window trim and decorative elements, porch columns and railings, trellises, and other features that add visual richness to the home and neighborhood.



RES Standard 4.1.1 Avoid tall blank walls and add variety to second floors with varied eave heights, windows and ridge line variations.

RES Standard 4.1.2 Where visible, articulate elevation and roof planes to minimize the visual impact of repetitious flat planes.



RES Standard 4.1.3 Provide variations in ridge lines on all sides of the home to avoid repeating elements such as continuous gable ends, identical building silhouettes, eave heights and ridge heights.



RES Standard 4.1.4 High-quality window and door trim and detailing should be provided and used on all facades of the dwelling.

RES Standard 4.1.5 Window and door types and proportions should generally be consistent with the architectural style throughout a development and sensitive to those of adjacent neighborhoods.



RES Standard 4.1.6 The architectural style, building materials, colors, roof form, and other primary design features of homes should also be reflected in accessory buildings, such as garages and secondary units, not including sheds less than 150 square feet in size.



RES Objective 4.2 High-quality durable materials shall be used throughout new residential development.



RES Standard 4.2.1 New residential subdivision projects should include a diversity of color, building materials, floor plans, sizes, and types.

RES Standard 4.2.2 A minimum of six different color schemes should be provided for each architectural style of each plan type.

RES Standard 4.2.3 Select color schemes appropriate to the architectural style and relate color changes to plane changes and materials changes.

RES Standard 4.2.4 Fences and walls should be constructed with durable materials and should be designed to

complement building design, color, and materials.

**RES Goal 5 Buildings should generally draw on traditional residential designs and be well proportioned, balanced, and attractive on all elevations.**

RES Objective 5.1 Rooflines and building forms should be clean and need not be overly complex or decorated.



RES Standard 5.1.1 Select architectural styles to provide a variety of roof designs along street frontages. The roof pitch should match the architectural style, and should generally be consistent for any individual house.



RES Standard 5.1.2 Solar panels if provided, should be integrated into the design of the roof and flush with the roof slope. Frames should be colored to match the roof color. Natural aluminum finish is not allowed. All mechanical equipment, whether roof-mounted or on the ground, shall be adequately screened from view.

RES Objective 5.2 Buildings should make careful use of mass, façade depth and/or articulation, fenestration, roof overhangs and eaves, detailing, colors, texture variation, and landscaping to ensure that the buildings present a human scale.



RES Standard 5.2.1 Design front elevations to emphasize entries, porches or other living areas and de-emphasize garages. More than 50 percent of the front elevation of a house should not consist of garage door area.



RES Standard 5.2.3 Avoid exposed long, unarticulated second floor walls which increase the apparent mass of the upper floor.

RES Standard 5.2.4 Dwellings on corner lots should receive the same level of articulation on both front and corner side facades.

RES Objective 5.3 Compact residential building design shall be compatible with adjacent surrounding large lot single-family development.





RES Standard 5.3.1 Individual units should have some variety related to other units within a cluster, but in general, the overall design of units within clusters should represent a consistent architectural character.

RES Standard 5.3.2 Provide each unit with a patio and orient unit entries to streets rather than parking courtyards to the maximum extent possible.



RES Objective 5.4

Maintain a scale and character for multi-family development that is compatible to other residential neighborhoods.



RES Standard 5.4.1 Large multi-family residential projects should be broken up into smaller groups of structures or "villages" with distinct architectural styles as a means of establishing human scale and a sense of neighborhood.



RES Standard 5.4.2 Design elements should be incorporated to add visual interest and to avoid a box-like appearance. Elements such as balconies, porches, arcades, dormers, and cross gables should be used. Hipped or gable roofs are preferred to mansard-type roofs.



RES Standard 5.4.3 Multi-family development should be designed to provide an inviting visual environment, where porches, balconies, windows, entrances, stoops, and other features are prominent and visible from the street and other public areas.



**RES Goal 6 Building designs should maximize energy efficiency and promote environmental quality.**

RES Objective 6.1 Consider solar orientation early in design process of new roads, driveways, subdivisions, and structures.

RES Standard 6.1.1 Design overhangs to optimize passive heating and cooling, for window and building shade during hotter months, and solar heating during colder months.

RES Standard 6.1.2 Consider deciduous shade trees in landscape design along the south and west sides of buildings, allowing heat gain in cooler seasons and providing shade during hotter seasons.

RES Standard 6.1.3 Minimize unshaded pavement along south and west elevations.

RES Objective 6.2 Ensure efficiency and effectiveness of outdoor lighting.

RES Standard 6.2.1 Optimize use of energy-efficient fixtures for external lighting, including parking lots, buildings, and signage.

RES Standard 6.2.2 Design outdoor lighting to provide the minimum intensity of lighting needed to provide security while

minimizing glare, spillover, and energy consumption.

- RES Objective 6.3 Ensure energy efficiency of new residential structures.
- RES Standard 6.3.1 All residential buildings shall be developed in compliance with the current version of California’s Title 24, Building Energy Efficiency Standards for Residential structures, as well as all applicable portions of the current California Green Building Code (CALGreen).
  - RES Standard 6.3.2 Natural climate control features such as roofs with larger overhangs and trellises or deciduous trees over south-facing windows are encouraged to reduce energy demand.
  - RES Standard 6.3.3 Use of windows for natural light indoors as much as possible is encouraged. Windows should be placed for cross-ventilation and airflow to promote natural cooling.
  - RES Standard 6.3.4 Building designs that incorporate opportunities for renewable energy production such as solar panels are encouraged.
  - RES Standard 6.3.5 Adequate attic space shall be incorporated into building design to accommodate “whole house fans.”
  - RES Standard 6.3.6 Heating, cooling, lighting control systems, and water heating systems shall meet Energy Star Standards.
  - RES Standard 6.3.7 Low-flow toilets, faucets, and shower heads shall be incorporated into building design to minimize water use.
  - RES Standard 6.3.8 Rainwater harvesting based on low impact development (LID) principles is encouraged.
  - RES Standard 6.3.9 Wood burning devices shall not be incorporated into residential

buildings. Gas or propane fire places or stoves may be used.

RES Objective 6.4 Encourage alternative modes of transportation.



RES Standard 6.4.1 Multiple unit developments should include internal pedestrian circulation routes that link residential buildings with adjacent streets and any nearby transit facilities or future transit facilities.

**RES Goal 7 Maintain a small-town atmosphere through use of human scale and strong relationships between the home, the site, and the street.**

RES Objective 7.1 Arrange the site so that attractive building elevations face the street to give visual definition to the street edge and provide for security in public spaces.



RES Standard 7.1.1 Homes should be designed so that porches, stoops, windows, and other architectural elements provide “eyes on the street,” helping to maintain community surveillance of public areas. Windows and active rooms should view onto yards, corridors, entrances, streets, and other public and semipublic places.

RES Standard 7.1.2 Homes on corner lots should address both street frontages with windows, porches, stoops, entrances, active rooms, and other appropriate architectural elements.

RES Objective 7.2 Encourage compact residential development to reduce walking distances and prioritize a pedestrian-friendly environment in residential areas and adjoining commercial areas through convenient, comfortable, and safe design.

RES Standard 7.2.1 Decorative street lights are required in all areas with sidewalks.

RES Standard 7.2.2 Lights should be of a pedestrian scale with a height no greater than 18 feet, and should provide a fully shielded light source to avoid glare into adjacent residential units, and shall utilize a cutoff or full cutoff classified light fixture.

RES Standard 7.2.3 Compact residential development should consist of a variety of single-family housing types, such as cottages, clustered homes, and attached housing.



**RES Goal 8 Establish a positive relationship between indoor and outdoor space.**

RES Objective 8.1



Arrange site improvements to respect neighboring properties. Maintain the privacy of neighbors' private outdoor open space and neighbors' private yard access to sunlight. Minimize nuisance to neighboring properties.

RES Standard 8.1.1 Private open space should be sited to minimize privacy intrusions on adjacent or nearby dwelling units.

RES Standard 8.1.2 Usable open spaces and parks shall be provided within residential neighborhoods.

**RES Goal 9 Design landscaping to enhance aesthetics, comfort, security, and privacy, and conserve water and energy.**

RES Objective 9.1

A strong commitment shall be made to landscaping in all new residential development. Plant palettes should include large canopied shade trees, shrubs, and flowering plants.



RES Standard 9.1.1 Street trees should be regularly spaced to provide a continuous canopy at maturity and shade both the street and sidewalk, as well as, avoiding conflict with street signage, street lights and other utilities.

RES Standard 9.1.2 Provide a mix and variation from property to property of deciduous and evergreen trees to provide year-round foliage, subject to the adopted City of Wheatland Recommended Tree List.

RES Objective 9.2

Trees, shrubs, groundcover, and grass areas should be incorporated within neighborhoods to create an attractive and comfortable environment for residents and those viewing from public areas.



RES Standard 9.2.1 Parkstrips should have a sufficient width to allow the planting of significant street trees. Generally, this should be seven to ten feet to allow for full growth of canopy trees.

RES Standard 9.2.2 Front yard landscaping should emphasize visual openness to provide for visual surveillance of the street and sidewalks.



RES Standard 9.2.3 To the extent feasible, existing mature trees and shrubs should be preserved and incorporated into the landscaping scheme.

RES Standard 9.2.4 Native, drought-tolerant, low-water use ornamental plants and groundcover are strongly encouraged as alternatives to turf grass.



RES Standard 9.2.5 Automatic irrigation systems shall be required for all residential developments, and should be capable of being expanded.

RES Standard 9.2.6 Utilize hydrozoning by placing plants together with the same watering needs.

RES Standard 9.2.7 The use of recycled water is encouraged for landscaping, where available.

## **IV. COMMERCIAL GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND STANDARDS**

The commercial design standards apply to all non-residential development located within the Neighborhood Commercial (C-1), Retail Commercial (C-2), Heavy Commercial (C-3), and Light Industrial (M-1) zoning districts.

A particular architectural style for commercial development is not prescribed in the design standards; rather, the focus is on good quality design that establishes a unique character and identity for the buildings and overall development, and that is sensitive to the character of surrounding areas. A principal tenant of the commercial design standards is the establishment of appropriate relationships with the adjoining land uses, and insightful response to the context of the greater neighborhood. Commercial development within these areas should weave itself into the land use and transportation fabric.

### Highway Commercial

Consistent with guiding principal five of the City of Wheatland General Plan, the City shall plan to accommodate the eventual development of a SR 65 bypass. Therefore, the highway commercial design standards apply to all non-residential properties along the SR 65 bypass. The principal focus of the highway commercial design standards remains the aesthetic improvement of the highway corridor that passes through Wheatland.

The standards are applicable to properties with a property line within 500 feet of the highway right-of-way, or that receive principal access from the highway corridor, even if the parcel is not directly adjacent to the highway. The highway commercial design standards provide specific guidance on the architectural requirements of each style.

While the highway corridor consists primarily of auto-oriented shopping, the standards include measures intended to provide a comfortable environment for pedestrians as well. Pedestrian-friendly design is especially important in providing suitable connections to adjoining residential neighborhoods.

### Mixed-Use Commercial Development

On August 13, 2014, the City of Wheatland annexed 4,149.4 acres into the City of Wheatland, known as the Johnson Rancho and Hop Farm Annexation Project. The Johnson Rancho Project included two distinct Commercial Districts or subzones associated with the Planned Development rezoning, one of which is mixed-use commercial. The mixed-use commercial district is intended to promote a mix of retail goods and services as well as small-scale office and mixed-use development that includes high density housing. Therefore, this section contains objectives and standards for new development in areas designated mixed-use. Generally, developers are encouraged to implement a vertically mixed-use typology, such as multi-family residential use above a retail use. However, the mix of uses is developed horizontally, such as an apartment complex adjacent to a retail center, is also encouraged.

The primary purpose of the mixed-use commercial design standards is to ensure that high quality design is maintained for all new mixed-use development. The standards are intended to



encourage individual creativity of project designers while respecting the needs of the individual owner and user. In addition, the standards are intended to: create a distinctive and cohesive image for mixed-use development; assure that all new development, rehabilitation and improvements give consideration to quality design in architecture and site planning; protect and enhance property values and investment; and provide consistency and compatibility within mixed-use development. The standards promote a comfortable environment for pedestrians promoting live, work, and gathering places, which is especially important in providing suitable connections to adjoining residential neighborhoods.

## GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND STANDARDS

### COM Goal 1 Maintain a building scale which is consistent with the City's small town rural heritage and historic qualities of Wheatland.

#### COM Objective 1.1



Designs should be simple, attractive, and should feature vertical and horizontal façade variations. Solid un-broken walls should be avoided in favor of smaller well-proportioned building units.

COM Standard 1.1.1 Commercial frontages adjoining public streets should provide a transparent façade area along the street, consisting of such features as windows, entries, and storefront displays.



COM Standard 1.1.2 Doors, windows, floor heights, cornice lines, signage, and awnings should be designed to reduce the appearance of mass of buildings as experienced at the street level.

COM Standard 1.1.3 Use sloped roofs, rather than flat roofs, whenever possible. If flat roofs are used, vary wall and parapet heights, use shaped parapets, and provide a projecting wall cap.

#### COM Objective 1.2



Entries should be clearly visible to pedestrians and have a defined relationship to the street and pedestrian right-of-way.

COM Standard 1.2.1 Formal public entries shall have a strong relationship with the primary fronting street.

COM Standard 1.2.2 Secondary public entries should also be clearly visible and easily accessible to pedestrians.



COM Standard 1.2.3 Where public gathering spaces are incorporated into the design of the site and building, they should be located near entries to encourage use and heighten visibility.

COM Standard 1.2.4 Entries should be defined with signage, lighting, and architectural detailing.

COM Standard 1.2.5 Overhangs and awnings are encouraged, where suitable to the style of the building, to shade and otherwise protect entries from the weather and enhance the pedestrian experience.

**COM Goal 2 Ensure a compatible architectural context with surrounding developments and the community as a whole.**

COM Objective 2.1 Commercial site design and landscaping should establish an ambiance and character.



COM Standard 2.1.1 Organize development to front onto adjacent public streets to provide visual definition to the street edges. Secondary frontage may be provided onto pedestrian spaces.

COM Standard 2.1.2 Design corner buildings to “turn the corner” and present equally important facades of similar appearance on both sides. Features that emphasize the corners shall be used at corners and building intersections.

COM Standard 2.1.3 Carry architectural detailing throughout all aspects of the building design, including window and door trim, bulkheads, and lighting. Attention to detail is critically important in creating appropriate designs.



COM Standard 2.1.4 Incorporate useable open spaces such as courtyards and plazas, and amenities such as outdoor seating, water features, sculpture, or drinking fountains. Locate seating in places shaded in summer and sunny in winter, and shielded from winds.

COM Objective 2.2

High-quality, attractive, and durable materials should be used for all buildings, landscaping, paving, and signage.

COM Standard 2.2.1 The predominant color on a building should be compatible with the colors used on adjacent and nearby buildings.

COM Standard 2.2.2 Lighter colors may be placed above darker colors on a building to give the appearance of balance and of anchoring the building to the ground.

COM Standard 2.2.3 Accent materials such as brick, stone, or wood should be used to highlight architectural elements. Typical accent materials could include stainless or painted steel, stone, textured concrete, or wood.

COM Standard 2.2.4 Exterior materials shall be composed of a minimum of 50 percent low reflectance, non-polished finishes. Bare metallic surfaces (e.g., pipes, flashing, vents, and light standards) shall be painted to minimize reflectance.

COM Standard 2.2.5 Large areas of bright, intense colors are not allowed.

COM Standard 2.2.6 Concrete construction for commercial buildings may be used only when accompanied by elements that help provide articulation and visual interest. Those elements include:

- a. Texturing of the concrete surface to simulate rough or split-faced block.

- b. Trim or other suitable exterior materials (Ornamental masonry veneers).
- c. Integral color to be provide within the concrete.

COM Objective 2.3 Organize and screen roof mounted equipment.

COM Standard 2.3.1 Place roof mounted equipment away from building edges.

COM Standard 2.3.2 Group roof mounted equipment wherever possible to minimize number and extent of screen walls.

COM Standard 2.3.3 Hide equipment with walls and screens to match the primary building materials in order to integrate them with the design of the building walls.

COM Standard 2.3.4 Mechanical screens should appear to be an integral part of the building, not an added-on element.

COM Standard 2.3.5 Roof wells in sloped roof forms are strongly encouraged.

**COM Goal 3 Ensure that parking areas provide safe and efficient access to buildings, but do not dominate the overall site design.**

COM Objective 3.1 The appearance and location of parking lots should be secondary to that of commercial and office buildings.



COM Standard 3.1.1 Dispersion of parking into smaller lots is encouraged.

COM Standard 3.1.2 Surface parking lots should be located behind buildings and accessed from side streets wherever feasible.



COM Standard 3.1.3 Design parking lots to allow easy vehicular and pedestrian circulation between developments in commercial districts to reduce traffic congestion in areas of related commercial uses.

COM Standard 3.1.4 Locate loading areas at the rear of a building where they should be



screened from view and where noise, odors and other potential nuisance impacts to surrounding properties can be minimized. Incorporate into the circulation plan for the site access to loading and storage areas and provide separation from pedestrian and auto circulation.

COM Standard 3.1.5 Trash receptacles shall be fully enclosed with masonry materials that are architecturally compatible with the design of the buildings. Enclosures shall be landscaped and screened on three sides and built to City specifications. Locate trash enclosures conveniently for collection and maintenance.

COM Standard 3.1.6 Electric charging stations for electric vehicles is encouraged.

COM Objective 3.2 Provide clear pedestrian pathways.



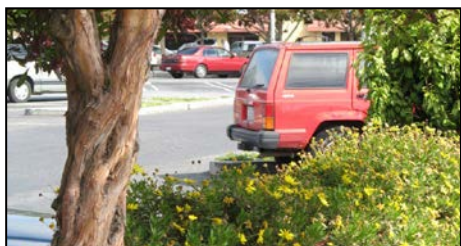
COM Standard 3.2.1 Pedestrian circulation patterns within vehicular rights-of-way should be clearly delineated with a change of paving material or color, and use of special signage and lighting.

COM Standard 3.2.2 Pedestrian walkways within parking lots should be centrally and conveniently located, should be landscaped with shade trees, and should include other landscaping and pedestrian amenities.



COM Standard 3.2.3 Design drive-thru lanes so as not inconvenience pedestrian circulation, nor to present a traffic hazard or a nuisance to residential areas.

COM Objective 3.3 Provide landscaping to screen and shade parking areas.



COM Standard 3.3.1 Parking lots shall contain landscaped areas with large shade trees in sufficient size and spacing to provide shade to surrounding parking spaces.

COM Standard 3.3.2 A landscaped buffer shall be located between parking areas and public sidewalks.



COM Standard 3.3.3 Collection and channelization of stormwater runoff based on low impact development (LID) principles is encouraged.

COM Standard 3.3.4 Water efficient irrigation systems shall be installed, which may include such features as night irrigation scheduling, use of drip irrigation for trees and large shrubs, and drip or micro sprinklers for groundcover areas. In addition, irrigation systems shall be designed and calibrated to prevent overspray and runoff.



**COM Goal 4 Incorporate attractive, useable outdoor space, and facilitate pedestrian movement within the corridors.**

COM Objective 4.1 Building sites should be designed to encourage pedestrian access and circulation, with integrated walkways and inviting building entryways.



COM Standard 4.1.1 Clearly delineated pedestrian walkways should connect streets, transit facilities, parking structures, and parking lots to main building entrances.

COM Standard 4.1.2 Public spaces should be linked through a continuous pedestrian circulation system.



COM Standard 4.1.3 Provide special treatment for crosswalks in vehicular traffic areas. Use special textures (e.g., interlocking paving blocks) and colors to alert drivers to the potential presence of pedestrians.

COM Standard 4.1.4 Open space plazas intended for pedestrian use shall include shaded areas for quiet seating.



COM Standard 4.1.5 Provide outdoor seating adjacent to restaurant and near takeout food places and sidewalk vendors.

COM Standard 4.1.6 Provide weather protection for pedestrians at building entrances and over pedestrians paths such as arcades, awning, canopies, porches, and overhangs.

COM Standard 4.1.7 Provide information and/or signage for restrooms, key directional information, emergency instructions, phone locations, and emergency facility locations.

COM Objective 4.2 Provide bicycle access between commercial uses.

COM Standard 4.2.1 Bicycle lanes and primary routes should be clearly marked with pavement striping and signage.

COM Standard 4.2.2 Bicycle parking should be connected to nearby destinations with safe, direct access on clearly visible and accessible pedestrian walkways.

COM Objective 4.3 Lighting fixtures should complement and enhance the architectural style of buildings and contribute to the safety and security of commercial buildings.



COM Standard 4.3.1 All light fixtures should be made of high-quality materials, and be attractive and consistent with building design.

COM Standard 4.3.2 Sufficient lighting shall be provided to ensure safe vehicular and pedestrian orientation and the security of persons, property, and vehicles during low-light periods.

COM Standard 4.3.3 Lighting fixtures shall be constructed of durable materials, have vandal-resistant covers, and be resistant to tampering.



COM Standard 4.3.4 Light fixtures should be selected as part of the overall building and landscape theme. Creative fixture design is encouraged.

COM Standard 4.3.5 Specialized lighting is appropriate for entries, building towers, public art,

water features, and other unique architectural elements.

COM Standard 4.3.6 Light fixtures shall be the appropriate scale, location, and shielded to avoid spillover or glare into surrounding areas.

**COM Goal 5 Maximize energy efficiency and promote environmental quality.**

COM Objective 5.1 To the greatest extent possible, from a functional standpoint, design buildings to have sufficient daylight that artificial ambient lighting is unnecessary.

COM Standard 5.1.1 Use vestibules at entrances to retain heat or air conditioning.

COM Standard 5.1.2 Buildings should be designed to incorporate daylighting that includes the use of high quality, energy efficient glazing as well as any emergent technologies designed to reduce heat loss and gain.

COM Standard 5.1.3 Lighting zones to control perimeter lighting and optimize daylighting should be incorporated into buildings.

COM Standard 5.1.4 Light fixtures should include photocell control to reduce energy usage.

COM Standard 5.1.5 Solar-powered lighting is encouraged for landscaping use.

COM Objective 5.2 Passive solar energy design that minimizes energy use should be incorporated into building design. Where practical, encourage the design and/or orientation of buildings to minimize or maximize solar gain based on time of day and local climatic needs.

COM Standard 5.2.1 All commercial and mixed-use buildings shall be developed in compliance with the current version of California's Title 24, Building Energy Efficiency Standards for Residential and Nonresidential Buildings and any amendments.



- COM Standard 5.2.2 Energy Star certified roofing materials shall be incorporated into the design of all commercial and mixed-use buildings.
- COM Standard 5.2.3 Energy Star certified or equivalent appliances, office equipment, and water heaters shall be installed in all commercial and mixed-use buildings to reduce energy usage.
- COM Standard 5.2.4 Heating, cooling, and lighting control systems shall meet Energy Star standards.
- COM Standard 5.2.5 Energy Star certified roofing materials shall be incorporated into the design of all office buildings.
- COM Standard 5.2.6 Incorporate solar panels onto roofs and use lightly colored roof materials that reflect heat away from the building.
- COM Standard 5.2.7 Walkways, parking lots, and other nonroof hardscape surfaces should incorporate high-reflectivity materials to the greatest extent possible to minimize heat absorption, which may include alternative paving forms such as interlocking concrete pavers.
- COM Standard 5.2.8 Walkways, parking lots, and other nonroof hardscape surfaces shall be subject to a minimum of 50 percent shading after 15 years, to be provided by landscaping or a covering structure, as appropriate.
- COM Standard 5.2.9 The use of large-canopy shade trees should be incorporated into landscaping wherever possible to shade buildings and paved area and reduce the heat island effect. Locating trees on the southern and western sides of buildings is particularly effective, and, therefore, encouraged.

**HIGHWAY COMMERCIAL GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND STANDARDS**

**COM Goal 6 Encourage unifying architectural themes for development along the highways passing through Wheatland.**

COM Objective 6.1 Avoid large plain rectangular building designs. Larger buildings shall feature vertical and horizontal façade variations. Solid un-broken walls should be avoided in favor of smaller well-proportioned building units.



COM Standard 6.1.1 Design each building with a definable base, body, and cap element.



COM Standard 6.1.2 Provide consistent architectural design and detailing on all sides of a building to help eliminate obvious "side" and "back" of building appearances.



COM Standard 6.1.3 Individualize building entries, making them clearly identifiable, integrated with adjacent landscaping, and principle organizing elements in the building's design and massing.



COM Standard 6.1.4 Use corner details to further enhance a building's identity and relate the building to a corner lot location.



COM Standard 6.1.5 Use three-dimensional cornice treatments, parapet wall details, overhanging eaves, etc. to enhance the architectural character of the roof, and conceal roof equipment.



COM Standard 6.1.6 Service station islands or other open canopies shall be integrated architecturally and compatible with the character of the building(s) on the site.



COM Objective 6.2 Provide substantial landscaping and screening for rear facing buildings along the highways.



COM Standard 6.2.1 Screen service areas with landscaping and walls and carefully integrate the design of screen walls with the architecture of the buildings. Use the same materials as used in the buildings.



COM Standard 6.2.2 Driveways to the development site shall be planted with landscaping appropriate for the driveway size and space.

COM Standard 6.2.3 Shopping cart enclosures shall be enclosed with masonry materials that are architecturally compatible with the design of the buildings.

**COM Goal 7 Encourage integrated commercial districts rather than insular shopping centers.**

COM Objective 7.1 In multiple-building developments, the number, location, and design of independent pad sites shall reinforce, rather than obscure, the identity and function of the commercial development.

COM Standard 7.1.1 Pad sites shall be clustered together to define street edges and entry points, to enclose and create interesting places between buildings, and to increase the ease of pedestrian movement between buildings.

COM Standard 7.1.2 Integrate adjoining properties parking areas and pedestrian zones. Shared parking lots and plazas are encouraged to reduce driveways and store to store trips on the highways.

COM Standard 7.1.3 Provide effective, efficient and cohesive automobile and pedestrian circulation within the site and between adjacent properties.



COM Standard 7.1.4 Orient buildings close to the street with inviting and detailed elevations to strengthen the retail image of the corridors.

COM Standard 7.1.5 Design the site so that parking does not dominate areas adjacent to the street. Concentrate parking in areas away from the street, behind buildings when possible. Shared use parking facilities are encouraged.

COM Objective 7.2

Provide for pedestrian safety and comfort in large-scale commercial projects.



COM Standard 7.2.1 All site amenities within a commercial development shall be an integral part of the overall design and within easy walking distance of primary buildings, major tenants, and any transit stops.

COM Standard 7.2.2 Use of site furnishings, such as benches, tables, bike racks, and other pedestrian amenities shall be provided and shaded along main pedestrian walkways and at building entryways, plazas, and other pedestrian areas.



COM Objective 7.3

Signage shall complement the project architecture and create a uniform project identity.



COM Standard 7.3.1 Signs shall be in proportion to the size of the area where they are located. In areas where the restricted easement is narrow, smaller signs are appropriate.

COM Standard 7.3.2 The sign shall be supported by a solid architectural base comprised of authentic, natural materials (e.g., stone, brick, etc.), and architectural elements such as columns, pilasters, cornices, trellises, and similar details



shall be provided on the sides and top to frame the sign panel and add design interest.

COM Standard 7.3.3 The construction materials and colors of the monument sign shall be consistent with and complement the style, design, materials, and colors of adjacent structures and the character of the neighborhood.

COM Standard 7.3.4 Sign lighting shall be focused, directed and arranged to minimize glare and light spillover and shall be consistent with the City of Wheatland Sign Code.



## MIXED-USE COMMERCIAL GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND STANDARDS

**COM Goal 8 Encourage, establish, and maintain a unique and identifiable image for mixed-use commercial development in the City of Wheatland.**

COM Objective 8.1 Design buildings to a human scale for aesthetic appeal, pedestrian comfort, and compatibility with other land uses.



COM Standard 8.1.1 All mixed-use developments shall be subject to Architectural Review, Chapter 18.67 of the Wheatland Municipal Code.

COM Standard 8.1.2 Mixed-use buildings should be built to the property line or right-of-way easement; however, mixed-use development shall accommodate



pedestrian activities including sidewalks, plazas, courtyards, or outdoor dining associated with an eating establishment. Therefore, the setback may vary up to twenty feet with City approval, the setback shall not be used for parking.

COM Standard 8.1.3 Recess storefronts, windows, and doors into the wall plane to add articulation to the building, to generate various shadow patterns, and to create visual interest. Mixed-use building facades should have clearly defined vertical divisions.



COM Standard 8.1.4 Accentuate openings with paint, tile, shutters, awnings, plant shelves/planters, or other appropriate architectural features. These features and the various shadow patterns created throughout the façade add a rich visual texture to the building.



COM Standard 8.1.5 Include awnings, canopies, trellises, arcades, roof overhangs, projected balconies, and/or other architectural elements on exterior walls to provide visual diversity and aid in climate control. Such features shall be compatible with the style and character of the structure and the City of Wheatland.



COM Standard 8.1.6 Fifty (50) to eighty (80) percent of the ground floor façade for mixed-use buildings shall be adjacent to sidewalks and private and public plazas, patios, and courtyards. Windows at the second story and above should not exceed fifty (50) percent of the total exterior wall surface.



COM Standard 8.1.7 No building or structure shall exceed forty-eight feet in height, except as provided in Section 18.60.110 of the Wheatland Municipal Code.

COM Standard 8.1.8 All mixed-use developments shall prepare a Master Sign Program in accordance with Chapter 19.75 of the Wheatland Municipal Code. Signage in the mixed-use district shall be an integral part of the building rather than an afterthought and shall be consistent with the City of Wheatland Sign Code and the following guidelines.



- a. Wall-mounted signs shall not project more than six inches from the building.
- b. Building-mounted or wall signs for retail shops and commercial areas shall be located in the storefront area above the door height and below canopy (typically eight feet above floor).
- c. Signs shall be centered between architectural elements and between columns to allow building architecture to be expressed.
- d. Signs shall be compatible in scale and proportion with building design and other signs.
- e. Signage shall be placed facing primary pedestrian streets.
- f. Overhanging, building-mounted or blade signs which hang from the canopy, arcade or building front may be utilized to increase visibility. Overhanging signs shall not have an area of more than three square feet or exceed two inches in thickness. The bottom of the sign shall not be lower than eight feet above ground.
- g. Letter height shall not exceed eighteen inches. Larger first letters up to twenty-four inches are permitted.
- h. Length of the signs shall not be more than two-thirds of the overall "leased" facade area or



less than three feet from demising wall of lease premises. Each sign is calculated separately and shall conform to all applicable maximum area limitations. Calculated maximum areas are not transferable to other facades without prior approval from the Planning Commission and/or an applicable Master Sign Program. Each tenant is allowed to place signage on no more than two facades.

- i. Awnings with signs painted on them are allowed, but the awnings cannot be internally illuminated.
- j. Monument signs and wall signs cannot be internally illuminated.

COM Objective 8.2

Parking should safely accommodate residents, customers, visitors, business owners and employees, without sacrificing the pedestrian orientation and urban streetscape of Wheatland.



COM Standard 8.2.1 Provide direct vehicle access to parking areas and/ or loading areas and limit conflicts with general pedestrian movement and circulation.

COM Standard 8.2.2 To the extent feasible and practicable, use shared or grouped access driveways to off-street parking and/or loading areas to minimize traffic congestion and curb cuts in the sidewalks. Driveways should be placed to minimize curb cuts and preserve on-street parking capacity.



COM Standard 8.2.3 Off-street surface parking should not be located in the front of mixed-use buildings. Locate off-street surface parking behind buildings and accessible by driveways.

COM Standard 8.2.4 If off-street surface parking cannot be located behind buildings, parking may be located between buildings





and adjacent to the sidewalks. Such parking lots shall be designed as an integral element of the site and streetscape with careful regard to orderly arrangement, landscape, and ease of access. Parking lots shall not be located at the corner of the block.



COM Standard 8.2.5 When off-street parking lots adjacent to sidewalks and between buildings are developed, they shall be screened with a low wall (maximum three feet high) and/or landscaping and dimensioned to replicate the rhythm of the buildings on the block and maintain streetscape and pedestrian continuity.

COM Standard 8.2.6 Two parking spaces for each two-bedroom and larger residential dwelling unit and one and one-half parking space for each studio and one-bedroom unit, and one guest space per every four units should be provided on site.<sup>2</sup> Parking for the commercial/retail/office space shall be determined using the parking matrix contained in Chapter 18.63.040, Number of Spaces Required. Consideration should be given to shared parking where uses may have different peak times.



COM Standard 8.2.7 Bicycle parking areas shall have permanently secured anchorage for locking each bicycle in place. Transparent bicycle lockers for employees and residents are encouraged.

COM Standard 8.2.8 Locate bicycle parking such that it does not interfere with pedestrian or vehicular circulation and is close to building entrances. In addition, locate bicycle parking in places

<sup>2</sup> COM Standard 8.2.6 is not intended to contradict the parking requirements identified in the Wheatland Zoning Code, but shall offer direction for the number of parking spaces required until the Zoning Code is updated to include parking requirements for mixed-use development.

where pedestrian traffic or views from windows will provide security.

**COM Goal 9 Enhance the streetscape by emphasizing corners of blocks, designating points of entry, and differentiating new commercial areas in the community from other types of activity centers, nodes, or areas.**

COM Objective 9.1 Provide development features that facilitate live, work, and congregation activities.



COM Standard 9.1.1 Design sidewalk improvements to allow adequate space for through pedestrian movement, window shopping and conversation, streetscape features, outdoor seating, and street trees.



COM Standard 9.1.2 Sidewalks shall be a minimum of ten feet in width, unless determined to be infeasible by the Community Development Director. Permeable surfaces shall be utilized to the maximum extent feasible.



COM Standard 9.1.3 Provide consistent streetscape features that are pedestrian-oriented, of quality materials, and simple design on public sidewalks and in public plazas, courtyards, and patios in order to create a pedestrian space and environment that people want to visit, shop, and live.



COM Standard 9.1.4 Streetscape features should include benches or seating areas, play areas, planters, flowerpots, streetlights, trash receptacles, bike racks, drinking fountains, street trees, tree grates, bollards, public art, fountains, informational directional kiosks, textured sidewalks, and banners or hanging baskets mounted on streetlights.

COM Standard 9.1.5 Residential units, office and commercial/retail spaces shall overlook the streets and courtyards as part of a unified and defined sense of space.

COM Objective 9.2

Build on-site vehicle and pedestrian circulation systems that are safe, convenient, attractive and comfortable for pedestrians.



COM Standard 9.2.1 All mixed-use buildings shall be publicly accessible via a path or walkway from a public sidewalk.

COM Standard 9.2.2 Where pedestrian paths or walkways cross parking areas or driveways, the paths shall utilize decorative paving to define the pedestrian space.



COM Standard 9.2.3 Where walkways cross traffic lanes, special design features should be used to increase safety for the pedestrian. Potential design features include: raised or textured pavement, curb extensions to narrow the travel lane or low-level lighting, such as a bollard light.



COM Standard 9.2.4 Pedestrian passages (walkways, plazas, or courtyards) shall be provided between buildings where access is needed to allow pedestrian connections between buildings and adjoining commercial and residential sites.

COM Standard 9.2.5 Main pedestrian walkways to and from buildings and parking areas should use materials that create flat, even surfaces, and do not create a tripping hazard, particularly for strollers and wheelchairs.



COM Standard 9.2.6 Exterior lighting shall be an integral part of the architecture and landscape design. Lighting of walkways shall be concentrated along the pedestrian paths leading to parking areas and shall relate in scale to the pedestrian character of the area. Lighting shall be shielded to reduce glare and shall not spill off-site or beyond parking lots and streets.

## V. PARKS AND OPEN SPACE GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND STANDARDS

The parks and open space design standards apply to all parks and open spaces uses within the City in any zone. The parks and open space design standards are intended to encourage the preservation and integration of existing vegetation, such as individual or mature stands of trees, naturally occurring hedgerows, and contiguous patches of native grasses, whenever practical and feasible to do so. In addition, the parks and open space design standards intend to protect important natural processes and ecological functions, such as natural stormwater drainage, air purification, and provision of shade. The design of public spaces is intended to provide safe, active and accessible gathering places in the community that encourage social interaction and a sense of community.

### GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND STANDARDS

#### POS Goal 1 Improve the visual environment within the City of Wheatland.

- POS Objective 1.1 Incorporate existing natural features (e.g., creeks, mature trees, rock outcroppings, etc.) as well as preserving any existing historical sites into the site design to enhance the subdivisions' visual links to their unique location.
- POS Standard 1.1.1 Existing large trees shall be preserved, whenever possible, to add to the character and natural ambiance of neighborhood parks.
- POS Standard 1.1.2 Large-canopy shade trees should predominate, supplemented by smaller ornamental trees and plantings near entry areas and gathering places (such as picnic areas).
- POS Standard 1.1.3 Drought-tolerant and native species should be used whenever possible.
- POS Standard 1.1.4 Tree species shall be chosen from the adopted City of Wheatland Recommended Tree List.
- POS Objective 1.2 Design neighborhood parks to serve as local gathering places.
- POS Standard 1.2.1 Pursuant to Section 17.09.0140 of the Wheatland Municipal Code, three (3) acres of park and



recreational facilities shall be provided per 1,000 residents.

POS Standard 1.2.2 Where practical, adjacent structures should front onto the park to encourage physical and visual access from surrounding uses and increase safety through visibility.



POS Standard 1.2.3 Parks may include neighborhood identity signage and native and ornamental plantings to enhance the visual appearance of the neighborhood.



POS Standard 1.2.4 Amenities to be provided shall include seating, shade structures, trash receptacles, bike racks, signage, lighting, and drinking fountains.



POS Standard 1.2.5 Playgrounds and other active recreational facilities shall be combined with passive uses.

POS Standard 1.2.6 Neighborhood parks should include areas for quiet seating and active play for young children (such as child playground structures) with adequate seating and shade.



POS Standard 1.2.7 Child playground structures shall be visible from the street and/or surrounding residential units for safety and security purposes.

POS Standard 1.2.8 Provide usable open spaces with community amenities (e.g., lawn areas, BBQ areas, water play feature, tennis courts).



**POS Goal 2 Ensure high quality, safe, and walkable parks and open space design within new development.**

POS Objective 2.1 Direct access to neighborhood parks should be provided from the surrounding area through formal entries, easements, and sidewalks. The parks should be located adjacent to streets to provide public access and visibility.



POS Standard 2.1.1 Locate open space for ease of access from all dwelling units, and comply with all ADA access requirements.

POS Standard 2.1.2 On-street parking is allowed, where feasible, and may be supplemented by off-street parking areas. Shared parking with adjacent retail/commercial uses and school sites is encouraged.

POS Objective 2.2 Provide pedestrian and bicycle connections, existing and planned, to adjacent neighborhoods and open space, parks, schools, and commercial service areas.



POS Standard 2.2.1 Bicycle and pedestrian pathways should connect the neighborhood park to the regional trail system identified in the adopted City of Wheatland Bikeway Master Plan.

POS Standard 2.2.2 Chain link fencing shall not be allowed along parks, trails, and open space areas.

**POS Goal 3 Provide attractive and functional landscaping in neighborhoods.**

POS Objective 3.1 Parkstrips are encouraged to connect neighborhoods and parks throughout the community.



POS Standard 3.1.1 Parkstrips should have a sufficient width to allow the planting of significant street trees. Generally, this should be seven (7) to ten (10) feet to allow for full growth of canopy trees. Applicants should work with staff for each specific location.

POS Standard 3.1.2 Ground cover is encouraged in the parkstrips. Contrasting modular paving may be considered in parkstrips where heavy foot traffic



from parked car passengers is anticipated.

POS Standard 3.1.3 Street trees shall be planted an average of one 15-gallon tree per 30 linear feet of street frontage. Corner lots shall include trees along both frontages. To avoid any potential for mass loss of trees as a result of species specific disease, street trees shall be selected by street at the time landscape plans are submitted to the Wheatland Community Development Department. Once approved, there shall not be deviation from the approved tree without written approval from the Wheatland Community Development Director.

POS Objective 3.3



Create an interconnected natural open space system that encompasses the preservation and enhancement of natural habitat areas, including historical sites, for the use, appreciation, and enjoyment of the community.

POS Standard 3.3.1 Ensure the natural open space system is accessible to residents and visitors, and link these lands to community activity areas, parks, and recreation areas.



POS Standard 3.3.2 Direct access to the natural open space system should be provided at 1/4- to 1/3-mile intervals. Where topographic relief or the preservation of existing vegetation makes the provision of trail access impractical or undesirable, access intervals may be greater than 1/3 mile.

POS Standard 3.3.3 When adjacent to a residential land use, trails shall be set back a minimum of ten (10) feet from the property line.

POS Standard 3.3.4 Major access points from the neighborhoods to the natural open spaces shall occur at parks; along street frontages or via easements; or at live-end cul-de-sacs.

POS Standard 3.3.5 Trails within the natural open space system shall be eight (8) feet wide and meet ADA standards for universal access.

POS Standard 3.3.6 A 30-foot fire prevention buffer shall be created and maintained within all natural open space areas adjacent to all developable areas.

- a. The buffer shall be measured from the fence line, the parcel boundary, or the edge of the road right-of-way, as appropriate.
- b. The buffer shall be maintained to minimize potentially hazardous fire fuels while also protecting the scenic values of natural open space areas. When removing combustible materials, damage to mature trees should be avoided whenever possible.
- c. No combustible structures may be located within the fire buffer.
- d. Fire-resistant plants may be used to reduce the fire barrier, as approved by the Wheatland Fire Chief. Fire resistant plants should be planted in a manner consistent with guidelines provided by the Fire Safe Council (available at <http://www.firesafecouncil.org/education/landscaping/>) and the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.
- e. Fire resistant plants in the buffer area should emphasize tree species, planted separately or in small clusters, with some scattered shrubs. Grasses and coniferous shrubs should be avoided.



POS Standard 3.3.7 Parking for the natural open space area should be in the smallest groupings feasible to minimize disturbance to the land. Parking lots serving the facilities can be shared.



## VI. PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

The CDS serves as a regulatory tool for new the development in Wheatland. The standards included in this document are to be used by designers, developers, builders, planners, and regulators.

These standards set forth specific criteria that encourage the establishment of a greater sense of quality, unity, and conformance with the community's urban form. It is also important to note that the standards are not intended to delay or restrict development, but rather to add consistency and predictability to the development review process. Standards are the minimum requirements that each development project should strive to meet.

The "shall" statements offer relatively little flexibility, unless choices are provided within the statements themselves. The "should", "recommended", or "encouraged" statements offer flexibility and indicate that the City is open to design features that are equal to or better than those stated, so long as the intent is satisfied.

When submitting a site plan and architecture for review, the development application shall demonstrate how a project has responded to the design standards included in this document. The applicant has the burden of proof to demonstrate how a proposed design satisfies the standards and appropriately addresses the objective in order to achieve the goal. This determination will be made by the Community Development Director.

The pictures, drawings, and diagrams in this document are intended to illustrate the intention of the individual standards. They are not intended to illustrate the only or even the best way to meet the minimum requirements. Applicants and project designers are encouraged to consider designs, styles, and techniques not pictured in the examples that fulfill the intention of the design standards.

### **ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW PROCESS**

Consideration of these standards should be contemplated early in the design process and should be a collaborative effort with the developer and City staff. Developers are encouraged to meet with the Community Development Director early to identify any major issues associated with these design standards. The architectural review process authorizes the Community Development Director to review, as a part of the site plan and architectural review process, certain development applications for conformance with adopted design standards. Any party aggrieved by the decision of the Community Development Director may file an appeal in accordance with the provisions and procedures for appeals set forth in Section 18.67.070 of the Wheatland Municipal Code.

Anyone considering a development project should first make an appointment to discuss the project and these design standards with a member of the Community Development Department staff. The staff member can help explain the City's development procedures and determine if architectural review is required. The staff member can also provide an approximate timetable for the processing of the project and describe any other permits or approvals that may be required.

Architectural review is not a separate process apart from other discretionary approvals such as site plan review or a conditional use permit. To the extent allowed by the City's codes and ordinances, any additional permits will usually be processed concurrently.

### Exceptions

It is envisioned that the great majority of projects will comply in their entirety with these design standards. However, it is possible that there may be unusual circumstances where a project may not be able to meet one or more of the standards due to the peculiarities of the project. In such instances, the Community Development Director or the Planning Commission may approve an exception provided that the overall intent of the design standards is still being met.

### Amendments to the Design Standards

These design standards express the community's expectations for the design and quality of new and development in Wheatland. Although they advocate basic principles of "good" design that have been found to apply in almost every occasion, they also encourage innovation and creativity. However, the design standards cannot anticipate how the community's expectations are likely to change over time as new design and construction techniques emerge and as tastes change. Thus, the CDS should be viewed as a "living document" that will evolve with the changing sentiments of the community. If amendments are deemed necessary in the future, they should be considered carefully and with the full participation of the community.

### When is Architectural Review Required?

Generally, architectural review is required for:

1. All proposed development in the Neighborhood Commercial (C-1), Retail Commercial (C-2), Heavy Commercial (C-3), and Light Industrial (M-1) zoning districts;
2. All proposed development in the Multi-Family Residential (R-3) zoning district; and
3. Residential Estates (RE), Residential Single-Family (R-1) and Two-Family Residential (R-2) projects when an entitlement is required from the City (use permit, annexation, general plan amendment, zoning amendment, tentative map, lot line adjustment, or variance).

The provisions of these design standards should be discussed with Community Development Department staff before an application for architectural review is submitted.

### Who Does the Reviewing?

The Community Development Director (or designated staff) handles the task of architectural review for projects that do not require Planning Commission approval. When Planning Commission approval is required, such as a project requiring a conditional use permit, planned development or other entitlement, the Commission serves as the architectural review authority. When the Director or Commission determines that a project conforms to all applicable provisions of the City Code, the project is approved. The approval may be subject to conditions that bear a reasonable relationship to the nature and intensity of development and the potential impacts such development may generate. Before a building permit may be issued, the project must demonstrate compliance with all applicable conditions and codes.

### Application Submittal

In order for the City to process an architectural review request, the following items must be submitted to Wheatland City Hall.

- a. Completed City of Wheatland Universal Planning Application.
- b. Completed City of Wheatland Environmental Assessment Form.
- c. Two (2) sets of all plans in color and one (1) electronic copy. Plans must be accurately drawn to scale and include the following:
  1. Fully dimensioned elevations showing the exterior appearance of all sides of the building(s);
  2. Color/material samples showing actual colors or a range of possible color choices;
  3. Landscaping plans (commercial, industrial and multi-family residential projects only);
  4. Details, such as outdoor lighting and signs;
  5. Fully dimensioned site plan including the following information:
    - i. Name and address of applicant/owner;
    - ii. Date, north arrow, scale;
    - iii. Entire parcel boundary with dimensions;
    - iv. Adjacent public and private streets, and driveways;
    - v. All existing and proposed buildings and site features (Significant trees and topographic features must be included; and
    - vi. Locations and widths of all recorded easements.

***Note: All plans must be folded by the applicant to size of 8 ½ x 11". Two (2) sets are submitted initially. When deemed complete, a total of 10 sets are required.***

- d. Pay all required fees and deposits per Wheatland adopted Fee Schedule at the time of submittal. Deposits are intended to cover all City processing costs associated with the project (application/plan review, preparation of staff reports, public noticing, public hearing attendance), the City will bill actual costs in the event that more time/budget is required.
- e. Any other materials or illustrations as determined by the Community Development Director.

### What Standards Will Be Used to Review My Project?

By its nature, architectural review involves subjective judgments: one person's idea of artistry may appear unpleasant to another. That is, in part, why the City prepared these design standards and why persons contemplating a development project should meet with City staff to discuss the City's architectural review process.

In their role as the architectural review authority for the City, the Director and/or Planning Commission will look at the entire design of a project, considering such factors as how the project relates to the natural features of a site and to surrounding development, and the visibility of the site along major corridors and entryways. The Director and/or Planning Commission will also try to judge the quality of the experience people will have when living, working, or shopping in the development, as well as the effect the development will have on the visual character and quality of life of the community. The following fundamental principles of design may be used in reviewing new projects.

**FUNCTION:** *The design should be usable by all.*

A functional design will need to effectively accommodate the use or activity for which the project is intended, and provide for the comfort and security of its users. A functional design will also provide safe and efficient pedestrian and vehicular links within the project and between the project and surrounding neighborhoods and districts. However, a 'functional' project need not sacrifice diversity, variation, or uniqueness of style. Rather, the functional aspects of the project will be the foundation upon which its unique character is established.

**ORDER:** *The design should be readily and easily understood.*

Development projects are most effective when the design clearly communicates to the user a sense of understanding about how the project is organized. It is especially important that new residential neighborhoods be designed to a comprehensible scale with clearly defined pedestrian, bicycle and vehicular links within the neighborhood and links to surrounding areas. "Where is the entrance?" and "How do I get there from here?" are questions the design will readily answer. Order also implies maintaining a sense of continuity and harmony. A project will help maintain order by not interrupting the rhythm and character of existing development. Within a development project, order is maintained through the use of unifying elements such as window treatments, exterior materials, and color.

**IDENTITY:** *The design should be distinct and recognizable.*

An effectively designed project will convey a sense of identity consistent with the character of surrounding development, establishing its own unique identity. Project identity can be enhanced by incorporating elements that establish visual focus (a clock tower, fountain or public art, for example) and by providing activity nodes such as open plazas, courtyards and walkways.

**APPEAL:** *The design should be pleasing and attractive, and contribute in a positive way to the quality of life in Wheatland.*

At its most basic level, architectural review is a visual experience: We like (or don't like) what we see. But what determines these qualities? The appeal of a project could be directly tied to a number of factors, beginning with the principles discussed above. One important factor is scale. An effective design will incorporate elements of human scale that convey a sense of comfort and familiarity to the user.

Another important aspect of the appeal of a project is the context within which development takes place. Are the character, scale, and appearance of the project in keeping with surrounding development? Or does it ignore the established architectural, neighborhood or community character? Although most development projects in a community involve a specific site, the principles discussed above apply equally well to an expansion area or street corridor. In addition to applying these fundamental principles of design, the Director or Planning Commission will also consider the 'practical' aspects of the project such as: How does the project contribute to the quality of life in Wheatland? Because buildings and other site development will be a part of the community for years to come, it is important that the buildings contribute in a positive way to the enjoyment of living, working or shopping in the community. For example, does the project accommodate the natural features of the site, such as views, trees, topography, etc, consistent with the objectives of these design standards?

Does an apartment project look friendly, homelike, and livable? For example, if families are expected to live in a development, are there safe, usable outdoor areas? If the project is a commercial building, does it look like a place to shop or do business? Is the design functional?

Does the project make good use of the site? "Good use" of a site implies taking advantage of the opportunities provided by its natural features. For example, are natural topography, trees and other features preserved and protected? Does the orientation of the building and landscaping provide opportunities for passive solar heating and cooling? Are materials, forms and other elements of a project suitable for their uses? Has maintenance been considered in the choice of materials and finishes? Will trees provide shade where and when it is needed?

The criteria discussed above are not the only issues to be considered in the review of new development. Each project and project site is unique and presents its own constraints and opportunities for a good design solution.

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ATTACHMENT 2

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# Initial Study / Negative Declaration

## City of Wheatland Community Design Standards

Prepared for  
the City of Wheatland



October 2017

Prepared by



1501 Sports Drive, Suite A • Sacramento • CA • 95834  
Office 916.372.6100 • Fax 916.419.6108

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Appendix A Draft City of Wheatland Community Design Standards



## CITY OF WHEATLAND

### Initial Study

#### BACKGROUND

1. Project Title: City of Wheatland Community Design Standards
2. Lead Agency Name and Address: City of Wheatland  
Community Development Department  
111 C Street  
Wheatland, CA 95692
3. Contact Person and Phone Number: Tim Raney  
Community Development Director  
(916) 372-6100
4. Project Location: Wheatland, CA
5. Project Sponsor's Name and Address: City of Wheatland  
Community Development Department  
111 C Street  
Wheatland, CA 95692  
(916) 372-6100
6. General Plan Designation: N/A
7. Existing Zoning: N/A
8. Proposed Zoning: N/A

#### SOURCES

The following documents are referenced information sources utilized by this analysis:

1. Beale Air Force Base. *Comprehensive Land Use Plan*. Adopted 1987, amended 1992.
2. California Department of Conservation. *Yuba County Important Farmland 2016 Map*. Available at: <ftp://ftp.consrv.ca.gov/pub/dlrp/FMMP/pdf/2016/yub16.pdf>. Accessed on September 7, 2017.
3. City of Wheatland. *City of Wheatland General Plan Draft and Final Environmental Impact Report*. July 11, 2006.
4. City of Wheatland. *General Plan Policy Document*. Adopted July 11, 2006.
5. City of Wheatland. *Wheatland Municipal Code*. Current through July 2016.
6. Yuba County. *Yuba County 2030 General Plan*. Adopted June 7, 2011.

## **INTRODUCTION**

The following document is an Initial Study resulting in a Negative Declaration (IS/ND) prepared pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), for the City of Wheatland Community Design Standards (proposed project). This IS/ND has been prepared in accordance with CEQA, Public Resources Code Sections 21000 et seq., and the State CEQA Guidelines to evaluate the potential environmental impacts of the proposed project.

The City of Wheatland is located in Northern California's Central Valley along State Route 65 (SR 65) in Yuba County, and has a land area of 8.19 square miles. SR 65 runs northwest to southeast and divides the City into eastern and western sections (see Figure 1). According to SACOG, the City has an approximate 2014 population of 3,500 with 1,320 housing units. The individual setting for each impact analysis area is described in the respective analysis section.

In December 2013, the City of Wheatland has been awarded the Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) Community and Residential Design Standards Grant for the preparation of the Wheatland Community Design Standards. As part of the preparation of the Community Design Standards, the City performed public outreach and workshops. An Ad Hoc Committee was appointed by City Council to serve as an advisory body for the preparation of this and other citywide documents (Bikeway Master Plan, Downtown Corridor Plan, and Climate Action Plan). The Ad Hoc Committee consists of two City Council members and two Planning Commission members. A series of Ad Hoc Committee meetings were held in order for staff to obtain direction from the Ad Hoc Committee with respect to community's goals regarding the design of future development within the City.

The meetings were also an opportunity for the public to provide input. Based upon the direction set by the Ad Hoc Committee, and stakeholder and community feedback during the workshops, the City of Wheatland Community Design Standards have been prepared.

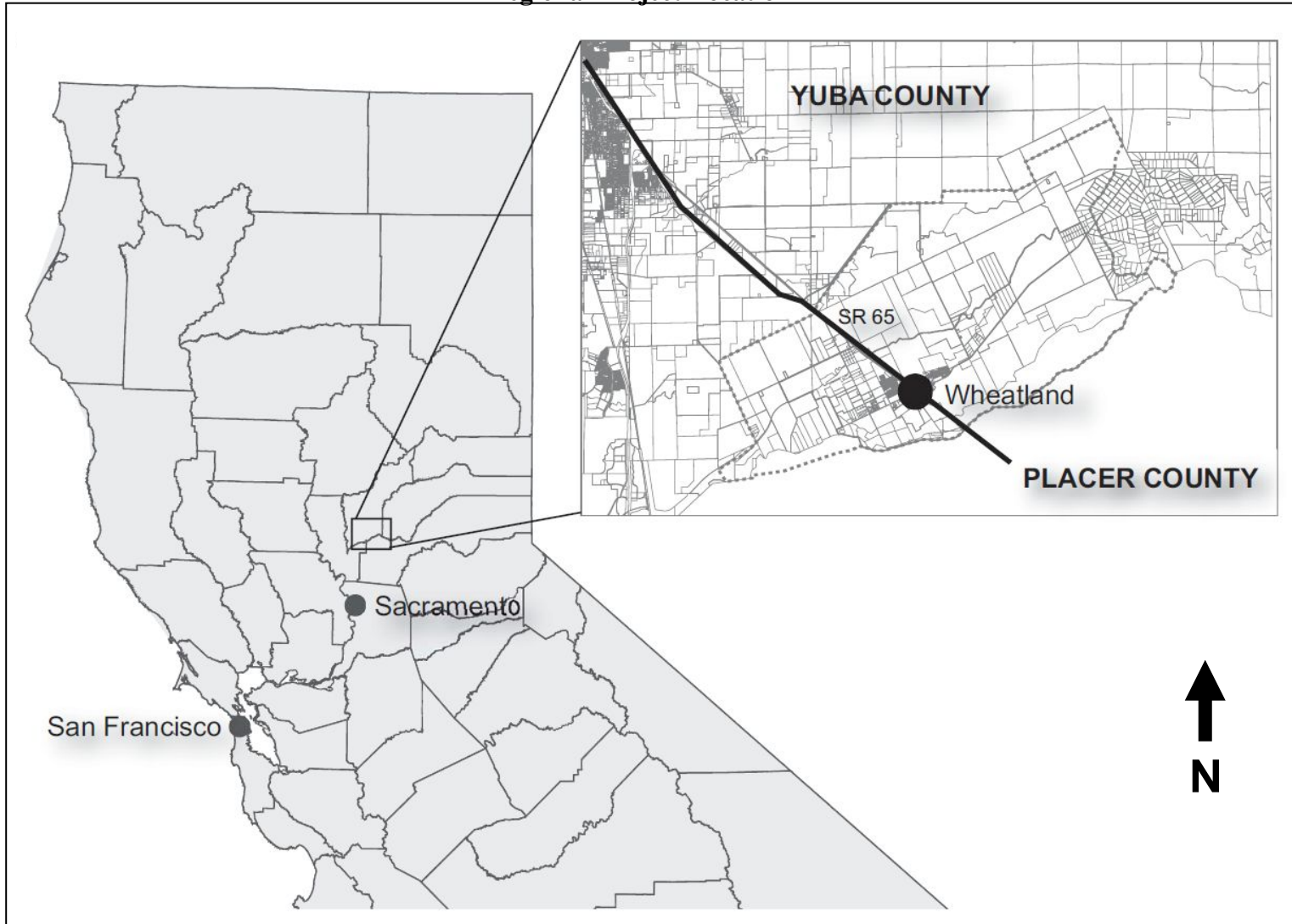
## **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The proposed project is a policy-level document that is intended to establish an adopted and published set of design goals, objectives, and standards that would assist developers in understanding the level of architectural design that is required in Wheatland. In addition, the proposed project would aid City staff's evaluation process of development applications for architectural review.

Furthermore, creating and adopting the City of Wheatland Community Design Standards would provide a process to implement the SACOG Blueprint Project. In 2002 SACOG, in partnership with the region's six counties and 22 cities, launched the Blueprint Project. The Blueprint Project is a comprehensive program that strives to examine how transportation planning and funding could be better linked to land use planning, and to explore alternatives to current land use/transportation patterns for future growth through 2050.

The starting point for the Blueprint process was the Base Case Study, a projection of how the area would grow if current local government growth and land-use plans are followed through to the year 2050.

**Figure 1**  
**Regional Project Location**



Land use and demographic projections show that the six-county region that includes Sacramento, Placer, El Dorado, Yuba, Sutter and Yolo counties will remain an attractive place to live and is likely to grow dramatically. According to the study, an estimated 1.7 million more people will be in the Sacramento Region in 2050 than there were in 2000. As the area grows to over 3.6 million residents, the number of homes will more than double from 713,000 to over 1.5 million.<sup>1</sup>

The SACOG Board of Directors adopted the “Preferred Blueprint Scenario” in December 2004, which is a vision for growth in the Sacramento region that promotes compact, mixed-use development and more transit choices as an alternative to low-density development. The “Preferred Scenario” depicts how more compact development patterns and planning for transit options might result in less overall acres developed and less traffic congestion. In particular, the “Preferred Scenario” emphasizes land use patterns that place future residents closer to jobs, and promotes a variety of transportation modes. The following section describes the seven growth principles included in the “Preferred Scenario”.

### Transportation Choices

Developments should be designed to encourage people to sometimes walk, ride bicycles, ride the bus, ride light rail, take the train, or carpool. Use of Blueprint growth concepts for land use and right-of-way design would encourage use of these modes of travel and the remaining auto trips would be, on average, shorter.

### Mixed-Use Developments

Buildings homes and shops, entertainment, office and even light industrial uses near each other can create active, vital neighborhoods. The mixture of uses can be either in a vertical arrangement (mixed in one building) or horizontal (with a combination of uses in close proximity). Mixed-use types of projects function as local activity centers, contributing to a sense of community, where people tend to walk or bike to destinations and interact more with each other. Separated land uses, on the other hand, lead to the need to travel more by auto because of the distance between uses. Mixed land uses can occur at many scales. Examples include: a housing project located near an employment center, a small shopping center located within a residential neighborhood, and a building with ground floor retail and apartments or condominiums on the upper floor(s).

### Compact Development

Creating environments that are more compactly built and use space in an efficient but aesthetic manner can encourage more walking, biking, and public transit use, and shorten auto trips.

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<sup>1</sup> Sacramento Region Blueprint. *Base Case Scenario*. Available at: <http://www.sacregionblueprint.org>. Accessed on: June 12, 2014.

### Housing Choice and Diversity

Providing a variety of places where people can live – apartments, condominiums, townhouses, and single-family detached homes on varying lot sizes – creates opportunities for the variety of people who need them: families, singles, seniors, and people with special needs. Housing choice and diversity is of special concern for the people with very low-, low-, and moderate-income, often teachers, other public employees and professionals, as well as retail employees, service workers and other people for whom finding housing close to work is challenging. By providing a diversity of housing options, more people have a choice.

### Use of Existing Assets

In urbanized areas, development on infill or vacant lands, intensification of the use of underutilized parcels (for example, more development on the site of a low-density retail strip shopping center), or redevelopment can make better use of existing public infrastructure. The use of existing assets also includes rehabilitation and reuse of historic buildings, denser clustering of buildings in suburban office parks, and joint use of existing public facilities such as schools and parking garages.

### Quality Design

The design details of any land use development - such as the relationship to the street, setbacks, placement of garages, sidewalks, landscaping, the aesthetics of building design, and the design of the public right-of-way (the sidewalks, connected streets and paths, bike lanes, the width of streets) - are all factors that can influence the attractiveness of living in a compact development and facilitate the ease of walking and biking to work or neighborhood services. Good site and architectural design is an important factor in creating a sense of community and a sense of place.

### Natural Resources Conservation

The natural resources conservation principle encourages the incorporation of public use open space (such as parks, town squares, trails, and greenbelts) within development projects, over and above state requirements; along with wildlife and plant habitat preservation, agricultural preservation and promotion of environment-friendly practices such as energy efficient design, water conservation and stormwater management, and shade trees to reduce the ground temperatures in the summer. In addition to conserving resources and protecting species, this principle improves overall quality of life by providing places for everyone to enjoy the outdoors with family outings and by creating a sense of open space.

## **Project Components**

The City of Wheatland Community Design Standards consists of the following components:

- I. *Introduction Section* – This section describes the vision, purpose, public outreach conducted, and the organization of the Community Design Standards document.

- II. *Relationship to Existing Plans Section* – This section describes the relationship of the Community Design Standards to other existing plans in the area, such as the City of Wheatland General Plan, the City of Wheatland Community Vision, and the SACOG Blueprint Project.
- III. *Residential Goals, Objectives, and Standards Section* – This section presents the community design goals, objectives, and standards for future residential development in the City of Wheatland.
- IV. *Commercial Goals, Objectives, and Standards Section* – This section presents the community design goals, objectives, and standards for future commercial development, including highway and mixed-use commercial, in the City of Wheatland.
- V. *Parks and Open Space Goals, Objectives, and Standards Section* – This section presents the community design goals, objectives, and standards for future parks and open space development in the City of Wheatland.
- VI. *Plan Implementation Section* – This section describes how the City will implement the community design standards included in this document.

**PUBLIC AGENCIES WHOSE APPROVAL IS OR MAY BE REQUIRED:** (e.g., permits, financing approval, or participation agreement.)

- City of Wheatland City Council.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED**

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is “Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated” as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture Resources       | <input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources              | <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources          | <input type="checkbox"/> Geology & Soils                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse Gas Emissions          | <input type="checkbox"/> Hazards                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrology & Water Quality          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources           | <input type="checkbox"/> Noise                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Population, Employment, & Housing | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Services             | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation & Circulation      | <input type="checkbox"/> Utilities & Service Systems | <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of Significance |

**DETERMINATION**

On the basis of this initial study:

- I find that the Proposed Project **COULD NOT** have a significant effect on the environment, and a **NEGATIVE DECLARATION** will be prepared.
- I find that although the Proposed Project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the applicant. A **MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION** will be prepared.
- I find that the Proposed Project **MAY** have a significant effect on the environment, and an **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT** is required.
- I find that the proposed project **MAY** have a “potentially significant impact” or “potentially significant unless mitigated” 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 **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT** 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 EIR pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Tim Raney, Community Development Director  
Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

City of Wheatland  
For

## ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

The following Checklist contains the environmental checklist form presented in Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines. The checklist form is used to describe the impacts of the proposed project. A discussion follows each environmental issue identified in the checklist. Included in each discussion are project-specific mitigation measures recommended, as appropriate, as part of the proposed project.

For this checklist, the following designations are used:

**Potentially Significant Impact:** An impact that could be significant, and for which no mitigation has been identified. If any potentially significant impacts are identified, an EIR must be prepared.

**Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated:** An impact that requires mitigation to reduce the impact to a less-than-significant level.

**Less-Than-Significant Impact:** Any impact that would not be considered significant under CEQA relative to existing standards.

**No Impact:** The project would not have any impact.



<b>I. AESTHETICS.</b>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
<i>Would the project:</i>				
a. Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✘	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a State scenic highway?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✘	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✘	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✘	<input type="checkbox"/>

Discussion

a-d. The proposed project is a policy-level document intended to establish an adopted and published set of design goals, objectives, and standards that would assist developers in understanding the level of architectural design that is required in Wheatland. In addition, the proposed project would aid City staff’s evaluation process of development applications for architectural review, and would not cause development or redevelopment of specific projects within the City. As such, implementation of the proposed project would not have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista, and is not located within a scenic highway nor would the project degrade the existing visual quality or add new light or glare. The standards included in the proposed project are designed to ensure building design is compatible with the surrounding area and includes guidelines related to lighting.

Because the proposed project is a policy-level document, site-specific designs or proposals are not included, nor does the project grant any entitlements for development. Furthermore, all future development within the City of Wheatland would be subject to CEQA and additional environmental review. Therefore, impacts related to aesthetics and visual character resulting from the adoption of the proposed project would result in a *less-than-significant* impact.

<b>II. AGRICULTURE AND FOREST RESOURCES.</b> <i>Would the project:</i>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>✘</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>✘</b>
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(g))?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>✘</b>
d. Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>✘</b>
e. Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could individually or cumulatively result in loss of Farmland to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>✘</b>

Discussion

- a. According to the Department of Conservation’s 2010 Yuba County Important Farmland Map, the City of Wheatland contains Urban and Built-Up Land, Unique Farmland, and Prime Farmland.<sup>2</sup>

The proposed project is a policy-level document intended to establish an adopted and published set of design goals, objectives, and standards that would assist developers in understanding the level of architectural design that is required in Wheatland. In addition, the proposed project would aid City staff’s evaluation process of development applications for architectural review, and would not cause development or redevelopment of specific projects within the City. As such, implementation of the proposed project would not convert any of the existing agricultural lands within the City of Wheatland to non-agricultural uses.

Because the proposed project is a policy-level document, site-specific designs or proposals are not included, nor does the project grant any entitlements for development. Furthermore, all future development within the City of Wheatland would be subject to CEQA and additional environmental review. Therefore, impacts related to the conversion of Farmland, and a *less-than-significant* impact would occur.

<sup>2</sup> California Department of Conservation. *Yuba County Important Farmland 2016 Map*. Available at: <ftp://ftp.consrv.ca.gov/pub/dlrp/FMMP/pdf/2016/yub16.pdf>. Accessed on September 7, 2017.

- b. The City of Wheatland is surrounded by agricultural uses; however, the City does not contain any land under a Williamson Act contract. The proposed project would not involve changes to agricultural zoning districts. As such, implementation of the proposed project would not conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use or a Williamson Act contract, and *no impact* would occur.
- c,d. The City does not include lands designated as forest land or timberland. Therefore, the proposed project would have *no impact* on forest land or timberland resources.
- e. The proposed project is a policy-level document intended to establish an adopted and published set of design goals, objectives, and standards that would assist developers in understanding the level of architectural design that is required in Wheatland. As such, implementation of the proposed project would not convert forest land or agricultural land, and *no impact* would occur.

<b>III. AIR QUALITY.</b> <i>Would the project:</i>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. 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 (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion

a-d. Wheatland is located within the Feather River Air Quality Management District (FRAQMD). The FRAQMD is part of the Sacramento Valley Air Basin (SVAB) that includes Butte, Colusa, Glen, Tehama, Shasta, Yolo, Sacramento, Yuba, Sutter, and parts of Placer and Solano Counties. California and the federal government have established air quality standards for various pollutants. The standards are used to determine attainment of State and federal air quality goals and plans. Generally, State regulations are more strict standards than federal regulations. Air quality standards are set at concentrations that provide a sufficient margin of safety to protect public health and welfare. FRAQMD has adopted thresholds of significance for various pollutants intended to maintain attainment of federal and State air quality standards.

The proposed project is a policy-level document intended to establish an adopted and published set of design goals, objectives, and standards that would assist developers in understanding the level of architectural design that is required in Wheatland. In addition, the proposed project would aid City staff’s evaluation process of development applications for architectural review, and would not cause development or redevelopment of specific projects within the City. Furthermore, the proposed project includes standards that promote vehicle circulation and pedestrian connectivity, which would reduce the need for future vehicle trips and associated air emissions. As such, implementation of the proposed project would not have a substantial adverse effect air quality. In addition, future development would be required to adhere to General Plan goals and policies related to air quality, as well as federal, State, and regional air quality plans.

Because the proposed project is a policy-level document, site-specific designs or proposals are not included, nor does the project grant any entitlements for development.

Furthermore, all future development within the City of Wheatland would be subject to CEQA and additional environmental review. Therefore, impacts related to air quality resulting from the adoption of the proposed project would result in a *less-than-significant* impact.

- e. Typical sources of objectionable odors include industrial or intensive agricultural uses. The proposed project does not involve any industrial or intensive agricultural development, and therefore would not include any odor-producing uses. Thus, the project is a policy document and would not be expected to create any objectionable odors, and *no impact* related to production of odors would occur.

**IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES.**

*Would the project:*

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, and regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Interfere substantially with the movement of any resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of wildlife nursery sites?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f. Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Conservation Community Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion

- a-d. The proposed project is a policy-level document intended to establish an adopted and published set of design goals, objectives, and standards that would assist developers in understanding the level of architectural design that is required in Wheatland. In addition, the proposed project would aid City staff’s evaluation process of development applications for architectural review, and would not cause development or redevelopment of specific projects within the City. Furthermore, the proposed project includes standards that promote the incorporation and protection of natural features (e.g., creeks, mature trees, rock outcroppings, etc.) into the site design. As such, implementation of the proposed project would not impact local rivers or streams.

Because the proposed project is a policy-level document, site-specific designs or proposals are not included, nor does the project grant any entitlements for development. Furthermore, all future development within the City of Wheatland would be subject to CEQA and additional environmental review. In addition, future projects would be subject to federal, State, and local regulations, such as the Federal Endangered Species Act, the California Endangered Species Act, and Policies 8.C.2 and 8.D.3 found in the General Plan. Therefore, impacts related to aesthetics and visual character resulting from the adoption of the proposed project would result in a *less-than-significant* impact.

- e-f. The City of Wheatland is not subject to a Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Conservation Community Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan. In addition, improvements associated with the proposed project would comply with the General Plan and applicable City ordinances. The proposed project is a policy-level document and would not cause physical development of specific projects within the City. Furthermore, all future development within the City of Wheatland would be subject to CEQA and additional environmental review. As a result, *no impact* would occur.

**V. CULTURAL RESOURCES.**

*Would the project:*

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in Section 15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a unique archaeological resource pursuant to Section 15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource on site or unique geologic features?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. 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)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. 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 Resources Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Discussion

- a. As stated in the Wheatland General Plan EIR, a number of historical resources have either been formally designated as properties listed on the National Register of Historical Places (NRHP), State Historic Landmark (SHL), California Points of Historical Interest, and/or California Historical Resources Inventory. However, a comprehensive historic resources inventory has not been prepared for either the City of Wheatland or the surrounding planning area and a high probability of additional unrecorded historic properties exists. The City has a formal review process to evaluate proposed demolition or alteration of historic buildings.

In addition, the proposed project includes standards that require the preservation of existing historical sites as well as promoting building design that is consistent with the City’s small town rural heritage and historic qualities. The proposed project is a policy-level document that does not include any specific development proposals, nor does the project grant any entitlements for development. As such, implementation of the proposed project would not have a substantial adverse effect on historical resources.



Because the proposed project is a policy-level document, site-specific designs or proposals are not included, nor does the project grant any entitlements for development. Furthermore, all future development within the City of Wheatland would be subject to CEQA and additional environmental review. Therefore, impacts related to historical resources resulting from the adoption of the proposed project would result in a *less-than-significant* impact.

- b-d. As stated in the City's General Plan, little of the General Plan planning area has been surveyed for the presence of archaeological resources. Nevertheless, prehistoric sites have been found in the Wheatland Planning Area to date. However, the proposed project is a policy-level document intended to establish an adopted and published set of design goals, objectives, and standards that would assist developers in understanding the level of architectural design that is required in Wheatland. In addition, all future development projects would be required to adhere to federal and State regulations associated with protection of cultural resources and implement General Plan goals and policies associated with cultural resources.

Because the proposed project is a policy-level document, site-specific designs or proposals are not included, nor does the project grant any entitlements for development. Furthermore, all future development within the City of Wheatland would be subject to CEQA and additional environmental review. Therefore, impacts related to archaeological or paleontological resources resulting from the adoption of the proposed project would result in a *less-than-significant* impact.

- e,f. Tribal cultural resources are generally defined by Public Resources Code 21074 as sites, features, places, cultural landscapes, sacred places, and objects with cultural value to a California Native American tribe. In compliance with Assembly Bill (AB) 52 (Public Resources Code Section 21080.3.1), a project notification letter was distributed to the United Auburn Indian Community of the Auburn Rancheria. The letter was distributed on December 23, 2015. The mandatory 30-day response period closed on January 21, 2016 and requests for consultation were not received. As such, the project would result in a *less-than-significant* impact to tribal cultural resources.

**VI. GEOLOGY AND SOILS.**

*Would the project:*

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death 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 based on other substantial evidence of a known fault?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ii. Strong seismic ground shaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iii. Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iv. Landslides?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1B of the Uniform Building Code?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion

ai-iv. According to the Wheatland General Plan EIR, the City of Wheatland lies within a moderately seismic region. The City is not located within an Alquist-Priolo Special Study Zone (AP Zone) nor is any active fault near the City. The closest AP Zone is the Bangor Quadrangle, including the AP Zone for the Cleveland Hill Fault to which the 1975 Oroville earthquake is attributed. The Bangor Quadrangle zone is located 27 miles north of the City. The next nearest active fault is the Dunnigan Hills fault, located 35 miles southwest of the City. The closest branches of the seismically active San Andreas Fault system are the Green Valley and Rodgers Creek faults located approximately 60 to 70 miles southwest of the City. The San Andreas Fault is located approximately 100 miles to the west.

Liquefaction, settlement, ground lurching, ground displacement along the fault line, and landslides are often the secondary effects of earthquakes. Areas found throughout the City of Wheatland may be more susceptible to liquefaction during seismic events if perched ground water conditions are present. The degree of liquefaction would in part

depend on groundwater conditions at specific sites. In addition, the Wheatland General Plan Background Report states that a portion of the County, which includes the Wheatland area, is potentially susceptible to liquefaction because the area underlain by unconsolidated sands and finer grained materials. Water-saturated, clay-free sediments in the most recent Holocene unit are generally expected to have a high susceptibility to liquefaction. However, according to the General Plan EIR, Wheatland is not susceptible to landslides due to the predominant flat topography and the cohesive nature of the soils. Although the City of Wheatland is subject to the hazards associated with a seismically active region, adherence to the most recent construction and maintenance practices, such as the Uniform Building Code, for development projects would lessen impacts from known geologic hazards.

The proposed project is a policy-level document that does not include site-specific development proposals. All future development would be subject to additional environmental review. In addition, future projects would have to comply with the goals and policies set forth in the City's General Plan relating to seismic hazards as well as other federal and State policies and the Uniform Building Code. Adherence to such regulations would reduce any potential impacts relating to groundshaking to a *less-than-significant* level.

- b. Policy 5.E.4 from the General Plan requires the preparation of erosion control plans for all development sites where grading would occur. All future development would be required to comply with such policies prior to construction. Therefore, substantial soil erosion and loss of topsoil are not anticipated. The proposed project is a policy-level document that does not include site-specific development proposals. As a result, impacts related to soil erosion would be *less than significant*.
- c,d. As stated in the City's General Plan EIR, impacts related to expansive soils in parts of the planning area may be eliminated when specific development projects are proposed by conducting engineering tests to determine the proper design criteria. Roadways and sidewalks can be designed in areas of clayey soils to accept the estimated degree of soil contraction, expansion, and settlement potential determined from on-site soils testing, according to standards provided by the Uniform Building Code. Any soil property impacts would likely be reduced to a level of insignificance with the implementation of the policies and programs contained in the City's General Plan, and when project-specific mitigation measures are implemented.

According to the City of Wheatland General Plan EIR, the possibility exists in the City for geologic hazards such as liquefaction and subsidence, as well as mudslides near the rivers and canals. However, the General Plan EIR states that through the implementation of mitigation measures and General Plan policies, the impacts would be reduced to a less-than-significant level. In addition, the proposed project is a policy-level document that does not include site-specific development proposals. All future development would be subject to additional environmental review, and would be required to comply with the General Plan goals and policies related to geologic hazards, as well as the regulations found in the Uniform Building Code. Therefore, impacts related to liquefaction, expansive soils, subsidence, and mudslides would be *less than significant*.

- e. The proposed project is a policy-level document intended to establish an adopted and published set of design goals, objectives, and standards and would not include the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems. Therefore, *no impact* would result.

<b>VII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS.</b> <i>Would the project:</i>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gasses?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Discussion

- a,b. The proposed project is a policy-level document that does not include site-specific development plans. The proposed project includes standards that promote vehicle circulation and pedestrian connectivity, which would reduce the need for future vehicle trips and associated greenhouse gas emissions. In addition, all future development would be subject to additional environmental review at the time of development. Furthermore, future projects would adhere to federal, State, and regional goals and regulations. Because the proposed project would be required to adhere to the City of Wheatland’s policies related to greenhouse gas emissions, future projects would be aligning with regional goals for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. As a result, a *less-than-significant* impact would occur.

**VIII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS.**

*Would the project:*

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the likely release of hazardous materials into the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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 for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
h. Expose people or structures to the risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Discussion

- a-d. The proposed project is a policy-level document and does not involve any physical development. As such, the proposed project would not involve the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials. In addition, all future development would be subject to additional environmental review. In addition, Cortese List sites do not exist in the City of Wheatland, and associated risks to the public or the environment would not occur. The proposed project is a policy-level document; therefore, the project's impacts associated with hazardous materials would be *less than significant*.

- e.f. Beale Air Force Base is located eight miles northeast of the City of Wheatland. The airport land use zones for Beale Air Force Base are located approximately six miles north of the Wheatland study area. The City of Wheatland is located at the edge of the Beale Air Force Base Overflight Zone; therefore, the City is subject to some development restrictions under the Land Use Compatibility Guidelines for Safety. According to the Beale Air Force Base Overflight Guidelines, the following types of development should be restricted: chemical and allied products manufacturing; petroleum refining; rubber and plastics manufacturing; regional shopping centers; colleges and universities; hospitals; jails and detention centers; motion picture theater complexes; professional sport developments; stadiums and arenas; auditoriums; concert halls and amphitheatres; fairgrounds and expositions; racetracks; and theme parks.

All future development would be subject to additional environmental, and would adhere to federal and State regulations, as well as General Plan goals and policies, related to airport land use plans. Therefore, implementation of the proposed project would result in a *less-than-significant* impact related to a conflict with any airport land use plans.

- g. The proposed project is a policy-level document that does not include site-specific development proposals, and any future development projects would be required to adhere to City regulations regarding emergency access. Thus, the project would not have an effect on any emergency plans within the City of Wheatland, and *no impact* would result.
- h. Structural and wildland fire hazards could threaten life and property in Wheatland. However, according to the City's General Plan EIR, the agricultural areas on the valley floor are the least fire-prone areas of the County, due to the presence of croplands, orchards, and irrigation. The relatively flat terrain of the proposed study area also makes the danger of wildland fires less hazardous. As wildland fires resulting from either natural or manmade causes occur in forest, brush, or grasslands, Wheatland is among the most fire secure areas in Yuba County. In addition, the proposed project is a policy-level document that does not include site-specific development, and any future development would be subject to additional environmental review. Because future projects would be required to adhere to the Wheatland General Plan policies and regulations, the project would have a *less-than-significant* impact related to wildland fires.

<b>IX. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY.</b> <i>Would the project:</i>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✘	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (i.e., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✘	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✘	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✘	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. 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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✘	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✘	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. Place housing within a 100-year floodplain, as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✘	<input type="checkbox"/>
h. Place within a 100-year floodplain structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✘	<input type="checkbox"/>
i. Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✘	<input type="checkbox"/>
j. Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✘

Discussion

- a,f. The proposed project is a policy-level document intended to establish an adopted and published set of design goals, objectives, and standards that would assist developers in understanding the level of architectural design that is required in Wheatland. In addition, the proposed project would aid City staff's evaluation process of development



applications for architectural review, and would not cause development or redevelopment of specific projects within the City. As such, implementation of the proposed project would not have a substantial adverse effect on water quality standards.

Because the proposed project is a policy-level document, site-specific designs or proposals are not included, nor does the project grant any entitlements for development. Furthermore, all future development within the City of Wheatland would be subject to CEQA and additional environmental review. Therefore, impacts related to water quality resulting from the adoption of the proposed project would result in a *less-than-significant* impact.

- b. According to the General Plan EIR, implementation of the goals and policies applicable to groundwater issues would reduce impacts related to buildout of the General Plan study area to a less-than-significant level. The proposed project is a policy-level document that does not include site-specific development proposals, and future projects would be required to implement General Plan goals and policies related to groundwater supplies and groundwater recharge. Therefore, because the proposed project does not include site-specific development and because buildout of the General Plan was determined to not have an adverse impact on groundwater levels, a *less-than-significant* impact would result.
- c-e. The General Plan EIR states that surface hydrology and the fluvial processes of erosion and deposition are central to the character of the landscape and are readily apparent throughout much of the study area. The Dry Creek-Bear River valley is primarily a level floodplain, with the City of Wheatland occupying an upland erosional remnant between the two watercourses. As shown in Figure 1-9 of the General Plan Background Report, Bear River, Dry Creek, North and South Grasshopper Slough, Best Slough, and a host of smaller, unnamed sloughs constitute natural edges and barriers within the pattern of human settlement and land use, as well as providing important visual features within the General Plan study area. Much of the General Plan study area falls roughly between the Bear River on the south and Dry Creek on the north, with Grasshopper Slough meandering through the central portion of the area. Unnamed remnant slough channels, also drained the area in recent times.

All future development would be subject to the General Plan policies (e.g., 5.E.1, 5.E.2, 5.E.5, 5.E.9, and more) and municipal regulations with respect to runoff management and low impact design.

Because the proposed project is a policy-level document that does not include site-specific development proposals, the potential impact of development on the existing drainage pattern of the area would be highly speculative. In addition, all future development would be subject to additional environmental review and would be required to implement General Plan goals and policies related to stormwater drainage systems. Therefore, the project would result in a *less-than-significant* impact.

- g-i. The proposed project does not propose the development of housing within a 100-year flood hazard area. The proposed project is a policy-level document and does not involve any physical change to the environment. In addition, all future development would be

subject to the General Plan policies (e.g., 8.D.2 and 9.C.7) and municipal regulations with respect to development along creeks and within floodplains. Furthermore, all future development would be consistent with all General Plan goals, objectives, and policies. Therefore, impacts associated with flooding would be *less than significant*.

- j. A tsunami is a sea wave caused by sub-marine earth movement. A seiche is an oscillation of the surface of a lake or landlocked sea. The City of Wheatland is not in close proximity to the ocean, a landlocked sea, or a lake; therefore, the City is not at risk of inundation from such phenomena. The Wheatland planning area is relatively flat and has a low risk of being impacted by mudslides. In addition, the proposed project is a policy-level document and does not involve any physical change to the environment. Therefore, the proposed project would have *no impact* associated with inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow.

<b>X. LAND USE AND PLANNING.</b>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
<i>Would the project:</i>				
a. Physically divide an established community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✘
b. Conflict with any applicable land use plans, policies, or regulations of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✘
c. Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural communities conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✘

Discussion

- a. The proposed project is a policy-level document intended to establish an adopted and published set of design goals, objectives, and standards for all future development in the City. The proposed project does not include site-specific designs or proposals, nor does the project grant any entitlements for development; therefore, the proposed project would not physically divide an established community. In addition, the standards included in the proposed project promotes integration and connection to existing communities. Furthermore, all future development within the City of Wheatland would be subject to CEQA and additional environmental review. As a result, ***no impact*** would occur.
- b. The proposed project is a policy-level document intended to establish an adopted and published set of design goals, objectives, and standards that would assist developers in understanding the level of architectural design that is required in Wheatland. In addition, the proposed project would aid City staff’s evaluation process of development applications for architectural review, and would not cause development or redevelopment of specific projects within the City. As such, implementation of the proposed project would not conflict with any adopted plans for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect. Future development would be required to be consistent with the goals, objectives, and standards set forth in the proposed project. Therefore, ***no impact*** would result.
- c. The City of Wheatland is not subject to a Habitat Conservation Plan or Natural Communities Conservation Plan. In addition, the proposed project is a policy-level document that does not include direct development. As a result, ***no impact*** would occur.

<b>XI. MINERAL RESOURCES.</b>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
<i>Would the project:</i>				
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✘
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✘

Discussion

- a.b. According to the Yuba County General Plan Environmental Setting and Background Report (ESBR) (p. 2-24), mineral resources present in the County include precious metals, copper, zinc, Fullers earth, sand and gravel, and crushed stone. However, the City of Wheatland is located outside of the recognized Mineral Land Classification Area as identified in the Yuba County General Plan ESBR. In addition, the proposed project is a policy-level document that does not include any specific development proposals, nor does the project grant any entitlements for development. Therefore, the City area does not contain known mineral resources and would not result in the loss of such. Therefore, *no impact* related to mineral resources would result.

**XII. NOISE.**

*Would the project result in:*

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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 expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Discussion

a-d. The proposed project is a policy-level document intended to establish an adopted and published set of design goals, objectives, and standards that would assist developers in understanding the level of architectural design that is required in Wheatland. In addition, the proposed project would aid City staff’s evaluation process of development applications for architectural review, and would not cause development or redevelopment of specific projects within the City. The proposed project includes design standards that promote the reduction of noise generating uses adjacent to surrounding sensitive receptors (e.g., screening). Furthermore, all future development projects would require compliance with General Plan policies related to noise standards and compliance with the City’s Municipal Code, and would be subject to CEQA and additional environmental review. Therefore, adverse impacts related to a temporary or permanent increase in noise levels would be *less than significant*.

e,f. The Community Noise Equivalent Level (CNEL), similar to L<sub>dn</sub>, is defined as the 24-hour average noise level with noise occurring during evening hours (7 - 10 PM) weighted by a factor of three and nighttime hours (10 PM - 7 AM) weighted by a factor of 10 prior to averaging. According to the Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP) for Beale Air

Force Base (adopted 1987, amended 1992), the 65 dB CNEL noise exposure contours extend into a portion of the Wheatland General Plan study area. The CLUP states that if development is proposed in areas between the 60 dB and 65 dB CNEL noise contours, affected cities and counties should evaluate the impact of aircraft noise on proposed development and consider requiring noise reduction measures, aviation noise easements, and buyer-renter notification. As discussed above, the proposed project is a policy-level document that does not include any specific development proposals, nor does the project grant any entitlements for development that would expose people to excessive noise levels. Thus, noise associated with Beale Air Force Base would not have a substantial effect on the proposed project. Therefore, the proposed project would have a *less-than-significant* impact related to a project's location with an airport land use plan or within the vicinity of a private airstrip.

<b>XIII. POPULATION AND HOUSING.</b>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
<i>Would the project:</i>				
a. Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (e.g., through projects in an undeveloped area or extension of major infrastructure)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✘	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✘	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✘	<input type="checkbox"/>

Discussion

a-c. The proposed project is a policy-level document intended to establish an adopted and published set of design goals, objectives, and standards that would assist developers in understanding the level of architectural design that is required in Wheatland. In addition, the proposed project would aid City staff’s evaluation process of development applications for architectural review, and would not cause development or redevelopment of specific projects within the City. As such, implementation of the proposed project would not induce population growth in the area, or displace a substantial number of housing or people.

Because the proposed project is a policy-level document, site-specific designs or proposals are not included, nor does the project grant any entitlements for development. Furthermore, all future development within the City of Wheatland would be subject to CEQA and additional environmental review. Therefore, impacts related to population and housing resulting from the adoption of the proposed project would result in a *less-than-significant* impact.

**XIV. PUBLIC SERVICES.**

*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:*

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Fire protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Police protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Other Public Facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Discussion

a.e. The proposed project is a policy-level document intended to establish an adopted and published set of design goals, objectives, and standards that would assist developers in understanding the level of architectural design that is required in Wheatland. In addition, the proposed project would aid City staff’s evaluation process of development applications for architectural review, and would not cause development or redevelopment of specific projects within the City. As such, the proposed project would result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services.

In addition, because the proposed project is a policy-level document, site-specific designs or proposals are not included, nor does the project grant any entitlements for development. Furthermore, all future development within the City of Wheatland would be subject to CEQA and additional environmental review. Therefore, impacts related to public services resulting from the adoption of the proposed project would result in a *less-than-significant* impact.



**XV. RECREATION.**

*Would the project:*

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>✘</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>✘</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Discussion

- a,b. The proposed project is a policy-level document intended to establish an adopted and published set of design goals, objectives, and standards that would assist developers in understanding the level of architectural design that is required in Wheatland. In addition, the proposed project would aid City staff’s evaluation process of development applications for architectural review, and would not cause development or redevelopment of specific projects within the City. As such, the proposed project would not increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities.

In addition, because the proposed project is a policy-level document, site-specific designs or proposals are not included, nor does the project grant any entitlements for development. Furthermore, all future development within the City of Wheatland would be subject to CEQA and additional environmental review. Therefore, impacts related to recreational facilities resulting from the adoption of the proposed project would result in a *less-than-significant* impact.

**XVI. TRANSPORTATION/CIRCULATION.**

*Would the project:*

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Cause an increase in traffic which is substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system (i.e., result in a substantial increase in either the number of vehicle trips, the volume to capacity ratio on roads, or congestion at intersections)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✘
b. Exceed, either individually or cumulatively, a level of service standard established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✘
c. Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✘
d. Substantially increase hazards due to a design features (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✘
e. Result in inadequate emergency access?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✘
f. Conflicts with adopted policies supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✘

Discussion

- a,b. The proposed project is a policy-level document intended to establish an adopted and published set of design goals, objectives, and standards that would assist developers in understanding the level of architectural design that is required in Wheatland. In addition, the proposed project would aid City staff's evaluation process of development applications for architectural review, and would not cause development or redevelopment of specific projects within the City. As such, the proposed project would not cause an increase in traffic, or exceed, either individually or cumulatively, a level of service standard.

In addition, because the proposed project is a policy-level document, site-specific designs or proposals are not included, nor does the project grant any entitlements for development. Furthermore, all future development within the City of Wheatland would be subject to CEQA and additional environmental review, as well as, local regulations, including the General Plan and Zoning Ordinance. For instance, Transportation and Circulation Element Policy 2.A.6 requires major development projects include an analysis of the effects of traffic. Therefore, implementation of the proposed project would result in *no impact* related to traffic level of service.

- c. The proposed project is a policy-level document and would not dramatically increase the use of airports in the vicinity. Therefore, ***no impact*** would occur relative to an increase in air traffic.
- d,e. As discussed above, the proposed project is a policy-level document that does not include any specific development proposals, nor does the project grant any entitlements for development that would affect the site design, emergency access, or parking of any developments. All future development projects would require compliance with General Plan policies related to traffic and circulation. Therefore, implementation of the proposed project would have ***no impact*** regarding roadway hazards or emergency services.
- f. As discussed previously, the proposed project does not include any specific development proposals, nor does the project grant any entitlements for development. The proposed project includes standards that promote pedestrian connectivity and circulation patterns. In addition, all future development would be required to comply with General Plan policies related to alternative transportation. For instance, Transportation and Circulation Element Goal 2.E and 2.F shows the City's desire to support alternative transportation through the enhancement of the City's system of transit facilities and pedestrian, equestrian, and bicycling paths and trails. Therefore, the proposed project would not conflict with any local policies or ordinances supporting alternative transportation and ***no impact*** would occur.

**XVII. TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES.**

*Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American Tribe, and that is:*

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-Than-Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
a. 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)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✘	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. 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 Resources Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✘	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Discussion**

a,b. As discussed in Section V, Cultural Resources, of this IS/MND, the proposed project is a policy-level document and would not impact any existing permanent structures or any other known resources 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 a known resources that could be considered historic pursuant to the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. As also discussed in Section V, Cultural Resources, of this IS/MND, the proposed project does not have the potential to impact unrecorded Native American resources.

In compliance with AB 52, a project notification letter was distributed to the United Auburn Indian Community of the Auburn Rancheria. The letter was distributed on December 23, 2015. The mandatory 30-day response period closed on January 21, 2016 and requests for consultation were not received. As such, the project would result in a *less-than-significant* impact to tribal cultural resources.

<b>XVIII. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS.</b> <i>Would the project:</i>	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than- Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✘	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✘	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✘	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✘	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. 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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✘	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✘	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✘	<input type="checkbox"/>

Discussion

a-g. The proposed project is a policy-level document intended to establish an adopted and published set of design goals, objectives, and standards that would assist developers in understanding the level of architectural design that is required in Wheatland. In addition, the proposed project would aid City staff's evaluation process of development applications for architectural review, and would not cause development or redevelopment of specific projects within the City. As such, the proposed project would not have a substantial adverse effect on wastewater treatment facilities, water supply, storm water drainage facilities, or solid waste.

In addition, because the proposed project is a policy-level document, site-specific designs or proposals are not included, nor does the project grant any entitlements for development. Furthermore, all future development within the City of Wheatland would be subject to CEQA and additional environmental review. Therefore, impacts related to utilities and service systems resulting from the adoption of the proposed project would result in a *less-than-significant* impact.

XIX. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE.	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-Than-Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Does the project have the potential to 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, 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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✘	<input type="checkbox"/>
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)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✘	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✘	<input type="checkbox"/>
a.c. The proposed project is a policy-level document intended to establish an adopted and published set of design goals, objectives, and standards, and does not include specific development proposals, nor does the project grant any entitlements for development that would have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment to adversely affect human beings. All future development occurring in the City would be required to comply with local regulations, including the General Plan and Zoning Ordinance. Future development projects would require compliance with General Plan policies and other City codes and ordinances intended to protect the environment. Therefore, the proposed project would result in <i>less-than-significant</i> adverse impacts to the environment or to human beings as a result of environmental degradation.				
b. As discussed above, the proposed project is a policy-level document that does not propose any specific development. All future development projects would be subject to additional environmental review, including a review of cumulative impacts. Therefore, impacts would be <i>less than significant</i> .				