



CLOVERDALE

City of
Cloverdale

**Initial Study/Negative Declaration
*Local Hazard Mitigation Plan / Public Health
and Safety Element***



May 2021

**City of Cloverdale
Local Hazard Mitigation Plan/
Public Health and Safety Element**

**Initial Study/Negative Declaration
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Lead Agency:



CLOVERDALE

Prepared By:

City of Cloverdale
Community Development Department
123 N. Cloverdale Blvd.
Cloverdale, CA 95425

Contact: Mark Rincon, City Engineer/Public Works Director
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1. SUMMARY

Pursuant to the California Code of Regulations, Title 14 section 15071, this summary of findings and the attached Initial Study constitute the Negative Declaration as proposed for the Project described below:

1. Project title	City of Cloverdale Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) and General Plan Public Health and Safety Element (Safety Element)
3. Project location	The LHMP and Safety Element would apply to the entire incorporated area of the City of Cloverdale.
4. Lead agency name and address	City of Cloverdale 124 N. Cloverdale Boulevard Cloverdale, CA 95425
5. Contact person and phone number	Mark Rincon, PE City Engineer/Public Works Director Ph: (707) 894-1723 E-mail: mrincon@ci.cloverdale.ca.us
6. Decision Making Body	Cloverdale City Council
7. Project Sponsor	City of Cloverdale
Environmental Finding	Based on the Initial Study, there is no substantial evidence that the proposed LHMP and Safety Element would have a significant effect on the environment.

1.1 DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT

The project under consideration consists of the City of Cloverdale Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) and the General Plan Public Health and Safety Element (Safety Element), which—as explained below—have been prepared in concert with one another to address overlapping requirements of Federal and State law. The adoption and implementation of the LHMP and Safety Element would not involve any changes in land use or development entitlements and would not lead directly to any activities that would cause any physical change in the environment. While the LHMP and Safety Element do identify actions that would involve construction of improvements that would reduce Cloverdale’s vulnerability to hazards, these projects would be subject to separate environmental review once the City secures funding for their design and implementation.

1.1.1 LOCAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

In 2000, Congress passed the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA 2000), updating and amending the Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to include new requirements linking hazard mitigation planning and funding of hazard mitigation projects. In particular, Section 322 of DMA 2000 requires local governments to have a hazard mitigation plan (HMP) as a condition of receiving federal disaster mitigation funds. As further explained in Chapter 5 of this report, the law specifies that the HMP should describe the process for assessing hazards, risks, and vulnerabilities; identify and prioritize mitigation actions; and solicit input from the community, key stakeholders, and adjacent jurisdictions (42 U.S.C. § 5165(a)).

The intent of hazard mitigation is to reduce and/or eliminate loss of life and property. Hazard mitigation is defined by FEMA as “any action taken to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk to human life and property from natural hazards.” A “hazard” is defined by FEMA as “any event or condition with the potential to cause fatalities, injuries, property damage, infrastructure damage, agricultural loss,



environmental damage, business interruption, or other loss.” The hazard mitigation planning process, as promoted by FEMA, encourages communities to commit to activities or projects that will reduce risk and increase resilience.

The overall purpose of the City of Cloverdale LHMP is to reduce the impacts of future natural and human-caused disasters on people and property in Cloverdale. It is the first FEMA-approved mitigation plan for the City, although the City has participated in regional hazard mitigation planning processes in the past. While completely eliminating risk from future natural disasters is neither technologically nor economically feasible, the City can substantially reduce the negative impacts of future disasters with ongoing implementation of risk reduction measures.

This LHMP is organized into eight sections to reflect the logical procession of activities undertaken to develop the plan and includes all relevant documentation required to meet the necessary criteria for FEMA approval. Each section is briefly described below.

- Chapter 1. Introduction describes the background and purpose of the plan, as well as the authority for development of the plan.
- Chapter 2. Community Profile describes Cloverdale’s history, geography, topography, climate, population, economy, housing, and land use and development trends.
- Chapter 3. Plan Adoption and Points of Contact simply describes the authority by which the City has prepared and adopted this plan and the primary point of contact for follow-up or questions concerning the plan.
- Chapter 4. What’s New provides background to the 2005 and 2010 LHMP and the 2016 LHMP Update and details the process undertaken by the LHMP Update Planning Committee to review, assess, and update the 2016 LHMP. This Chapter also describes the changes and additions that have been identified to develop the updated plan.
- Chapter 5. Planning Process describes the 10-Step HMP Planning Process, as well as the meetings and outreach activities undertaken to engage City officials, staff, and the public.
- Chapter 6. Risk Assessment identifies and prioritizes natural hazards affecting Cloverdale, and assesses the city’s vulnerability from the identified hazards.
- Chapter 7. Mitigation Strategy identifies mitigation goals, assesses the City’s capabilities to implement mitigation actions, reviews the status of previously identified mitigation actions, and identifies and prioritizes new mitigation actions.
- Chapter 8. Plan Implementation and Maintenance discusses plan adoption and implementation, as well as the process to monitor, evaluate, update, and maintain the LHMP. This Chapter also includes a discussion on continued public involvement.

1.1.2 GENERAL PLAN PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY ELEMENT

The State of California has long recognized the need for local governments to conduct their planning with an awareness of hazards that could affect the people and property within their jurisdiction. Accordingly, State Planning Law requires that all local government general plans include “safety elements” that include documentation of such hazards and goals, policies, and programs to protect against their consequences. Following the institution of Federal requirements for the preparation of hazard mitigation plans, the California legislature established a series of requirements to strengthen the linkage between safety elements. This includes substantive requirements that are triggered by the preparation or update of a mitigation plan, most recently through Senate Bill 379, which requires safety elements to include climate adaptation and resiliency content, including a vulnerability assessment, adaptation and resilience goals, policies, and objectives, and feasible implementation measures. Consistent with these requirements, the City of Cloverdale decided to update its General Plan Public

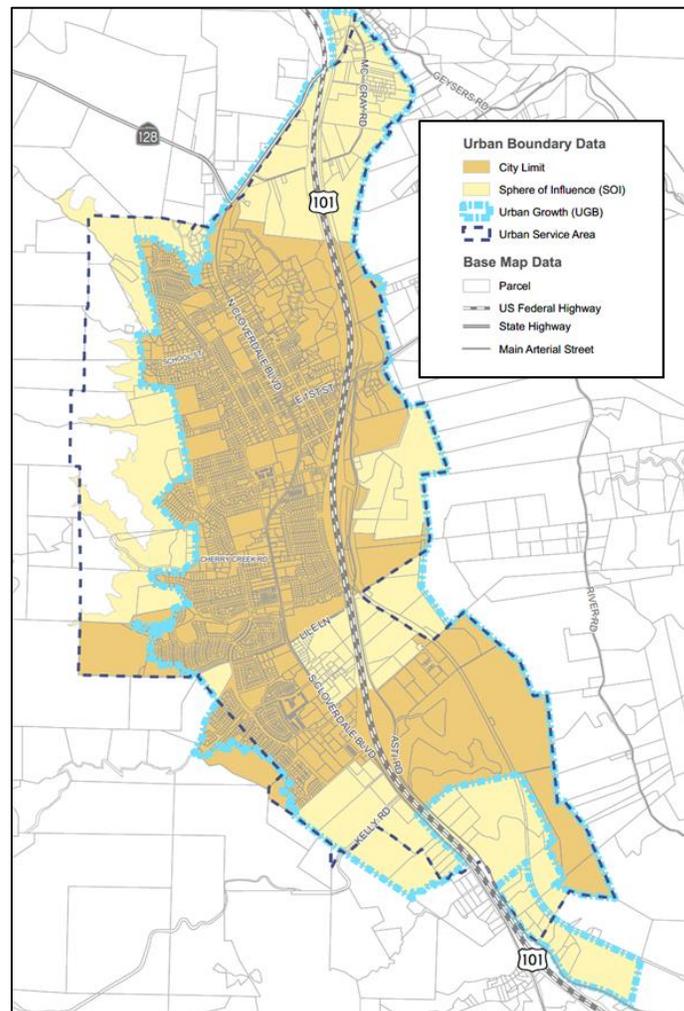


Health and Safety Element simultaneously with the preparation of its LHMP. This process included updating the Chapter 10 of the City’s General Plan Background Report and Chapter 8 of the General Plan Policy Document, both of which had been adopted in 2009. These updates focused on establishing consistency with the descriptive and analytical content of the LHMP (through the Background Report) and the policy and programmatic commitments of the LHMP (through the Policy Document). In doing so, the City addressed State law enacted since 2009 that established requirements for coordination of hazard mitigation plans and general plans (e.g., SB 379).

1.2 CITY OF CLOVERDALE SETTING

Cloverdale is located in Sonoma County at the northern end of the Alexander Valley, approximately three miles south of the border with Mendocino County. The city’s geographical area extends from the Russian River on the east to the hills on the west and from the intersection of Oat Valley Road and North Redwood Highway to the north to Chrome Iron Road and Highway 128 to the south. The area is characterized by sloping landscapes from the hills on the western side of the city down to the Russian River to the east. As shown in Figure 1, the incorporated city covers approximately 2.8 square miles, with an additional 2.0 square miles within the City’s sphere of influence (SOI).

FIGURE 1: CLOVERDALE LHMP PLANNING AREA





1.3 OTHER PUBLIC AGENCIES WHOSE APPROVAL IS REQUIRED

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has the authority and responsibility to review and approve or disapprove hazard mitigation plans for their compliance with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000. The California Office of Emergency (Cal OES) also has responsibility to review mitigation plans prior to submittal to FEMA for review and approval.

According to the California Government Code (§65302.5(a)), prior to adoption, local governments must provide drafts of the safety elements to the California Geological Survey of the Department of Conservation for review to determine if all known seismic and other geologic hazards have been addressed. Cities or counties that contains a state fire responsibility area or a very high fire hazard severity zone must also provide drafts of their safety elements to the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection for review, and the Board may recommend changes regarding uses of land, policies, or strategies for reducing fire risk (Gov. Code §65302.5(b)).

Prior to adopting the Public Health and Safety Element, the City must refer the proposed action to all the following entities, as locally relevant (Gov. Code §65352):

- Any city or county, within or abutting the area covered by the proposal, and any special district which may be significantly affected by the proposed action, as determined by the planning agency.
- Any elementary, high school, or unified school district within the area covered by the proposed action.
- Sonoma Local Agency Formation Commission (Sonoma LAFCO).
- Any areawide planning agency whose operations may be significantly affected by the proposed action, as determined by the planning agency.
- Any federal agency if its operations or lands within its jurisdiction may be significantly affected by the proposed action, as determined by the planning agency.
- Any public water system with 3,000 or more service connections, that serves water to customers within the area covered by the proposal.
- The Bay Area Air Quality Management District for a proposed action within the boundaries of the district.
- A California Native American tribe that is on the contact list maintained by the Native American Heritage Commission and that has traditional lands located within the city's or county's jurisdiction.

In accordance with Government Code Section 65352, the City has notified or will notify the appropriate locally relevant entities prior to adopting the Safety Element Update.



2. ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST AND ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION

2.1 ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "potentially significant impact" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Aesthetics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Agricultural Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Air Quality
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Biological Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cultural Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Geology/Soils
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Greenhouse Gas Emissions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hazards/Hazardous Materials	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hydrology/Water Quality
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Land Use/ Planning	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mineral Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Noise
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Population/Housing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Recreation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Transportation/ Circulation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Utilities/Service Systems	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Findings of Significance

2.2 DETERMINATION

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
<input type="checkbox"/>	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 project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
<input type="checkbox"/>	I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
<input type="checkbox"/>	I find that the proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated impact" on the environment, but at least one effect (1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and (2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
<input type="checkbox"/>	I find that although the proposed project COULD have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (1) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (2) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

Signature: _____

Date: May 11, 2021

Printed name: Mark Rincon, PE
Public Works Director/City Engineer
City of Cloverdale



2.3 EXPLANATION OF INITIAL STUDY EVALUATION

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines recommend that lead agencies use an Initial Study Checklist to determine potential impacts of the proposed project to the physical environment. The Initial Study Checklist provides a list of questions concerning a comprehensive array of environmental issue areas potentially affected by this project. This structure of this section of the Initial Study follows the Appendix "G" Environmental Checklist Form, contained in the CEQA Guidelines.

There are four (4) possible answers to the Environmental Impacts Checklist on the following pages. Each possible answer is explained herein:

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



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- 8) This is a suggested form, and lead agencies are free to use different formats; however, lead agencies should normally address the questions from this checklist that are relevant to a project's environmental effects in whatever format is selected.
 - 9) The explanation of each agency should identify: (a) the significance criteria or threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question; and (b) the mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to a less than significant level.

2.4 ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION

The following sections describe the impacts of the proposed project, as detailed in the Project Description. Potential environmental impact conclusions are as follows:

Potentially Significant Impact: An environmental impact that could be significant and for which no feasible mitigation is known. If any potentially significant impacts are identified in this Checklist, an Environmental Impact report (EIR) must be prepared.

Potentially Significant Unless Mitigated: An environmental impact that requires the incorporation of mitigation measures to reduce that impact to a less-than-significant level.

Less-Than-Significant-Impact: An environmental impact may occur, however, the impact would not be considered significant based on CEQA environmental standards.

No Impact: No environmental impacts would occur.



2.4.1 AESTHETICS

Environmental Setting

Cloverdale is situated in a general north and south axis primarily west of the Russian River. Most the community has developed west of the Russian River as a mix of residential, commercial, civic, industrial, and similar uses. The town is framed by wooded hillsides on all sides. In addition to the Russian River, a number of smaller tributary creeks flow through Cloverdale.

The City is located in largely agricultural northern Sonoma County, which is dominated by vineyards surrounding Cloverdale. A number of oak trees, other native trees and introduced landscape trees are found in the community with provide additional scenic qualities.

The segment of State Route 128 from where it enters the city and converges with Cloverdale Boulevard to its intersection with Highway 101 is a designated state scenic highway.

Would the Project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?				X
b. Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?				X
c. If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?				X
d. Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?				X

Discussion

- a-b. The LHMP and the Safety Element do not include specific proposals for new development, nor would they result in physical modifications to existing development or the environment. Therefore, no aesthetic impacts will occur as a result of the proposed LHMP or the Safety Element include damage the scenic qualities of SR 128.
- c. The City's General Plan Conservation, Design, and Open Space Element and the Municipal Code (Zoning and Subdivision) include various provisions to protect Cloverdale's scenic resources. Neither the LHMP nor the Safety Element would conflict with any of these provisions.
- d. Neither the LHMP nor the Safety Element proposes any actions that would introduce a new source of light or glare.



2.4.2 AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTRY RESOURCES

Environmental Setting

Most of the developed area of Cloverdale is classified as “Urban and Built-Up Lands” by the State Department of Conservation, although a small number of properties are determined to be “Prime Farmland,” “Farmland of Statewide Importance,” or “Unique Farmland.” The predominance of agricultural operations are found on the periphery of Cloverdale, in unincorporated Sonoma County. These properties are generally devoted to vineyards. A small number of Williamson Act Land Conservation Agreements exist in the northern portion of the planning area, outside of current City limits.

Would the Project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigated	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 and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?				x
b. Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?				x
c. Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of forest land (as defined by PRC Sec. 12220(g), timberland (as defined in PRC Sec. 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined in PRC Sec. 51104 (g))?				x
d. Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?				x
e. Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of farmland to a non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to a non-forest use?				x

Discussion

a-e. The LHMP and the Safety Element do not include specific proposals for new development, nor would they result in physical modifications to existing development or the environment. Thus, the proposed LHMP and the Safety Element update will not impact agricultural activities or agricultural operations and would, therefore, have no adverse impact on agricultural resources.



2.4.3 AIR QUALITY

Environmental Setting

The City of Cloverdale is located at the northern end of Sonoma County and lies within the Northern Sonoma County Air Pollution Control District (NoSoCo Air) jurisdiction. NoSoCo Air develops rules and regulations, and establishes permitting requirements, inspects emissions sources, and enforces such measures through educational programs or fines when necessary. Major air pollutants regulated by federal, state and local air quality authorities include ozone, particulate matter (PM 10 and 2.5), toxic air contaminants (airborne substances that may cause cancer) and odors.

Would the Project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?				x
b. Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?				x
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)?				x
d. Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?				x
e. Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?				x

Discussion

a-e. Because the LHMP and the Safety Element do not include proposals for new development, no activities resulting in emissions that would affect air quality would result from the project.



2.4.4 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Environmental Setting

Most of the area within the Cloverdale city limits consists of urban, developed properties that do not contain unique biological resources. Other portions of the community contain wetland and riparian habitat, generally adjacent to the Russian River and other small tributaries, coniferous forests and oak woodland, generally on hillsides. Some areas of Cloverdale have the potential to contain special-status or protected wildlife species, including but not limited to Coho and Chinook salmon in the Russian River, red-legged frog, and protected raptors and mammal species. The area could also contain suitable habitat for 23 plant species, of which two are classified as special-status plants: Colusa layai and Rincon Ridge ceanothus. Parts of the area also contain wetlands and other waters protected by state and federal regulations. None of Cloverdale is covered by a habitat conservation plan (HCP) or natural community conservation plan (NCCP).

Would the Project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigated	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 Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?				x
b. Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?				x
c. Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?				x
d. Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?				x
e. Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?				x



f. Conflict with the provisions of an adopted habitat conservation plan, natural community conservation plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?				x
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Discussion

- a-d. Because the LHMP and the Safety Element do not include proposals for new development, no physical changes to the environment, including any effects on biological resources, would occur as a result of their adoption or implementation.
- e-f. Neither the LHMP nor the Safety Element includes provisions that would conflict with existing policies and programs, including the City’s General Plan Conservation, Design, and Open Space Element. Since there are no HCPs or NCCPs within the city limits, no conflicts with the provisions of such plans could result.



2.4.5 CULTURAL RESOURCES

Environmental Setting

There are three recorded historic resources in Cloverdale: the Isaac Shaw Building (219 N. Cloverdale Blvd.), the Simon Pinschower House (302 N. Main St.), and the Gould-Shaw House (215 N. Cloverdale Blvd). Based on a records search at the University of California, Berkeley Museum of Paleontology, there are no paleontological resources in Cloverdale.

Although the General Plan EIR did not identify the presence of buried prehistoric resources or Native American resources in or near Cloverdale, the city's proximity to the Russian River may result in a moderate to high potential to encounter such resources. Typically, Native American settlements were located near major bodies of water, such as rivers, creeks and streams.

Would the Project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to § 15064.5?				x
b. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to § 15064.5?				x
c. Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries?				x

Discussion

- a-c. Because the LHMP and the Safety Element do not include proposals for new development, no physical changes to the environment, including any effects on cultural resources, would occur as a result of their adoption or implementation.



2.4.6 ENERGY

Environmental Setting

Residents of Cloverdale receive their electricity and natural gas service from Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E).

Would the Project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?				x
b. Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?				x

Discussion

- a. Because the LHMP and the Safety Element do not include proposals for new development, their adoption and implementation would not result in a wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy.
- b. Adoption and implementation of the LHMP and the Safety Element would not obstruct or interfere with any state or local plans for renewable energy or energy efficiency.



2.4.7 GEOLOGY AND SOILS

Environmental Setting

In the Cloverdale area, geological hazards are evident either in hilly areas (landslides, mudflows) or along the Russian River (liquefaction). Landslide risk within the city limits is concentrated mostly to the Vista View Drive area, although there are also smaller areas that are susceptible to landslides in the Clover Springs and Furber Ranch neighborhoods at the western edge of the city and in the Alexander Valley Specific Plan area. The hillsides in the unincorporated areas to the northwest, west, and southwest of the city limits are all highly susceptible to landslides, as are the hillsides east of River Road.

Within the city limits, susceptibility to liquefaction is principally concentrated along the Russian River. Outside of the city limits, in addition to the river corridor, the areas immediately north of Highway 128 are also susceptible.

According to the United States Geological Survey (USGS) and the California Geological Survey (CGS), several faults cross Sonoma County, including three that run through the entire county. The Northern Segment of the San Andreas Fault crosses Sonoma County at Bodega Bay and continues northward offshore before crossing again at Fort Ross and continuing through to the county's northern border. At its nearest point, the San Andreas Fault is 22 miles southwest of Cloverdale. The Rodgers Creek-Healdsburg Fault, the northern extent of which is located approximately three miles south of Cloverdale, connects southward to other faults that merge into the San Andreas Fault. The Maacama Fault lies to the east of the Rodgers Creek-Healdsburg Fault and continues northward, passing approximately three miles east of Cloverdale. Other locally known faults include the Chianti Fault, Hunting Creek-Berryessa Fault, Collayomi Fault, Geyser Peak Fault, and the Mercuryville Fault. All of these faults are right lateral strike-slip faults, meaning that the land on the western side of the fault moves northward in an earthquake. Seismic activity along other active regional faults or unknown faults in the area could also affect Sonoma County.

The LHMP utilized two mapping tools for understanding the frequency and probability of an earthquake occurring at different faults near Cloverdale: (1) the Uniform California Earthquake Rupture Forecast, Version 3 (UCERF3) and (2) the Earthquake Shaking Potential based on the USGS National Seismic Hazard Model. These probabilistic mapping tools were used to determine Cloverdale's vulnerability to earthquakes. In the case of Cloverdale, both tools pointed to the Maacama Fault, and specifically to the Maacama-Garberville M7.4 scenario, because it is the scenario with the highest likelihood of severe shaking within 30 years.

Would the Project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Directly or indirectly cause 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 or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault?				x



ii) Strong seismic ground shaking? iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction? iv) Landslides?				
b. Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?				X
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?				X
d. Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property?				X
e. Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?				X
f. Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?				X

Discussion

- a. The LHMP and the Safety Element do not include proposals for new development or construction, so they would not result in adverse effects related to seismic shaking. On the contrary, the adoption and implementation of the LHMP and Safety Element would enhance awareness of the risk of such effects and commit the City to actions that would mitigate such risk.
- b. Because adoption and implementation of the LHMP and the Safety Element would not directly result in construction, they would not cause soil erosion.
- c-e. The LHMP and the Safety Element would not involve location of any structures on unstable soils or soils incapable of supporting infrastructure improvements, including wastewater disposal systems.
- f. Because the LHMP and the Safety Element would involve development or construction that would result in physical changes to the environment, they would not destroy any paleontological resources or unique geological features.



2.4.8 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

Environmental Setting

Greenhouse gases include carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxides, perfluorocarbons, sulphur hexafluoride and hydrofluorocarbons. It is generally recognized that greenhouse gases trap heat and moisture near the earth's surface, increasing the ambient temperature, also known as global warming. Effects of global warming, include changing of ocean circulation patterns, a reduction of global ice coverage and general changes to climatic conditions.

In 2016, the Sonoma County Regional Climate Protection Authority (RCPA) completed Climate Action 2020 and Beyond as the County's climate action plan and greenhouse gas reduction implementation program. RCPA was formed in 2009 to provide a formal collaborative structure on climate protection for the county's nine cities, including Cloverdale, and multiple countywide agencies. The RCPA helps its stakeholders work collaboratively to set goals, pool resources, and create partnerships. It is governed by a board of 12 elected officials — nine representing cities and three from the County Board of Supervisors — and provides an invaluable forum for in-depth discussions on climate planning, program management, and project delivery. In 2016, in addition to completing Climate Action 2020, RCPA produced a set of Climate Adaptation forums to educate and broaden support for building resilience and created Shift Sonoma County (transportation greenhouse gas reduction).

Would the Project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?				x
b. Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?				x

Discussion

- a. The LHMP and the Safety Element do not include proposals for new development that might generate greenhouse gas emissions.
- b. Neither the LHMP nor the Safety Element includes provisions that would conflict with existing policies and programs, including Climate Action 2020 or any other plans, policies, or regulations intended to reduce greenhouse gases.



2.4.9 HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Environmental Setting

Natural Hazards: The Cloverdale area falls within in an area of Sonoma County that is subject to a variety of natural hazards, although the city has not suffered considerably from past events. As documented in the LHMP and the General Plan Background Report (Chapter 10, Public Health and Safety), the hazards of greatest concern are wildfire and earthquake, both of which could pose significant risk. Other concerns include drought, flooding, geological hazards, and health epidemics. Many of these natural hazards are exacerbated by the effects of climate change.

Hazardous Materials: The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) maintains a Hazardous Waste and Substance Sites List, also known as the "Cortese List." The Cortese List records contaminated or potentially contaminated hazardous waste sites, leaking underground storage tank sites, and sanitary landfills that have evidence of groundwater contamination. As of October 2020, there were no Cortese List sites in the Cloverdale city limits. DTSC's web site (www.dtsc.ca.gov) does, however, identify two superfund sites based on historic use and past or ongoing cleanup activity. These are the MGM Brakes Superfund site and the Masonite Corporation site. In December 2018, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9 (EPA), prepared the Final Close Out Report (FCOR) for the MGM Brakes indicating that no further response is needed to protect human health and the environment. The Masonite site, which is included with the boundaries of the proposed Alexander Valley Resort, has been the subject of considerable remediation, including soil excavation and removal and groundwater monitoring and treatment. As of October 2018, the site had not qualified for closure because contaminant levels in some monitoring wells exceeded required thresholds.

Airport Safety: The Cloverdale Municipal Airport is located in the southern portion of the community, east of the 101 Freeway off Asti Road. The City has prepared a Master Plan for the airport and the Sonoma County Airport Land Use Commission has identified safety zones within the vicinity of the airport. In both cases, the focus is on land use compatibility, with safety considered from the perspectives of people who may live or work in the area around the airport and of pilots, passengers, and aircraft.

Would the Project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigated	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?				X
b. Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?				X
c. Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?				X



d. Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code §65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?				X
e. For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area?				X
f. Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?				X
g. Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires?				X

Discussion

- a-d. Because the LHMP and the Safety Element do not include proposals for new development that might generate or handle hazardous materials, their adoption and implementation would pose no risk.
- e. The LHMP and the Safety Element do not include proposals for new development at all, let alone with proximity of the Cloverdale Municipal Airport. Thus, the project would not result in any airport safety-related concerns.
- d. The LHMP and Safety Element will enhance the City’s emergency management capabilities and, in doing so, will not impair or interfere with the implementation of emergency response or evacuation plans.
- e-f. The adoption of the LHMP and Safety Element will help the City avoid risk of property damage and potential harm to Cloverdale’s residents, employees, and visitors.



2.4.10 HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

Environmental Setting

The Cloverdale Planning Area is transected by the Russian River, a major regional coastal river, and three significant tributary creeks. These creeks are names Cloverdale Creek to the north, Porterfield Creek to the south and Cherry Creek in central Cloverdale.

The City of Cloverdale relies on wells under direct influence of surface water from the Russian River, per its pre-1914 water rights, as its sole water source. The City’s Water Master Plan addresses its increasing population and development and evaluates the sufficiency and reliability of the Russian River as its source. The City’s pre-1914 water rights are expected to be sufficient to meet all foreseeable demand, regardless of water year type (e.g., average year, single dry year, multiple dry years). While the City has assessed potential alternative supplies, none of them have been deemed necessary to meet demand.

Although the City’s water rights position it well to meet any future demands, the City has enacted plans for future water conservation programs, ordinances, and changes to the Municipal Code that would reduce its drought vulnerability. These measures should keep total water use relatively stable even as the population grows. Furthermore, the City’s Urban Water Management Plan (2016) includes a Water Shortage Contingency Plan that lays the foundation for the City’s response to reductions in water availability. Additionally, the City’s demand management measures, which are in place regardless of water supply availability, are presented in the Urban Water Management Plan.

The areas in Cloverdale that are most prone to flooding, as identified on the FEMA Flood Insurance Rate map (FIRM), include Cloverdale Creek, Cherry Creek, Porterfield Creek, and the Russian River. In addition to the areas identified by FEMA, Downtown Cloverdale is subject to localized flooding caused by a drainage system made up of open channels and aging, under-sized pipes that do not have sufficient capacity to carry runoff during heavy rainfall events. The system includes a partially-piped “captured creek” underneath both public and private properties in the Downtown area, including directly beneath residential structures. Storm events that exceed an inch per day of rainfall frequently overwhelm the “captured creek,” even when the Russian River is flowing well below flood stage. These events often result in overflows onto surface streets and into adjacent businesses and homes.

Would the Project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality?				X
b. Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?				X
c. Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or				X



<p>river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would:</p> <p>i) result in a substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site;</p> <p>ii) substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or offsite;</p> <p>iii) create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff; or</p> <p>iv) impede or redirect flood flows?</p>				
d. In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?				X
e. Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?				X

Discussion

- a-b. Because the LHMP and the Safety Element do not include proposals for new development, no physical changes to the environment, including any effects on surface or groundwater resources, would occur as a result of their adoption or implementation.
- c-d. The LHMP and the Safety Element include specific recommendations that would result in improvements to the functioning of both natural and engineered drainage and flood control systems.
- e. Neither the LHMP nor the Safety Element includes provisions that would conflict with implementation of any water quality control plans. Cloverdale does not fall within an area covered by a sustainable groundwater management plan.



2.4.11 LAND USE

Environmental Setting

Cloverdale is a balanced semi-rural community in northern Sonoma County. It is focused on a historic downtown area with surrounding residential neighborhoods interspersed with schools, parks, and other support uses. The main north-south arterial roadway, Cloverdale Boulevard, is characterized by a mix of service commercial uses, public and quasi-public uses, and multi-family development. A major node of highway-oriented commercial is located at the southern end of Cloverdale Boulevard adjacent to the US 101 freeway interchange. East of Downtown, along the Russian River, uses consist of open space and public uses (e.g., City water and wastewater treatment plants). The Cloverdale Municipal Airport is located southeast of the community.

According to the Sonoma County Assessor, approximately 1,122 of the 1,608 net acres (69.7 percent) in Cloverdale's city limits are currently developed (based on property assessment categories). Most of the developed land in the city consists of residential development (726.4 acres /64.8 percent). The next highest share is for public or open space uses, including the City's water and wastewater treatment plants, the airport, city parks, Cloverdale River Park, and Cloverdale Springs Preserve. Together these properties account for over 260 acres and 23.4 percent of the developed land in the city limits. Commercial and industrial uses account for only 7.3 and 4.6 percent of the developed land, respectively.

Of the approximately 487 acres of land classified as vacant by the Assessor, 259 are within the Alexander Valley Specific Plan and another 90 are in areas designated for public or open space uses. Of the remaining vacant land, 64 acres are designated for residential uses, 19 for commercial uses, and 51 for industrial uses.

Would the Project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Physically divide an established community?				x
b. Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?				x

Discussion

- a. Because the LHMP and the Safety Element do not include proposals for new development or changes in existing development, their adoption and implementation would not result in physically dividing the city or any its communities.
- b. Neither the LHMP nor the Safety Element includes provisions that would conflict with any existing land use plan, policy, or regulation, including the City's General Plan Land Use and Conservation, Design, and Open Space Elements, which include provisions to avoid or mitigate the environmental effects of development.



2.4.12 MINERAL RESOURCES

Environmental Setting

The southeastern area of Cloverdale may contain some deposits of Portland Cement Concrete (PCC) quality aggregate, but such presence is only inferred and has not been confirmed by field investigation.

Would the Project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be a value to the region and the residents of the state?				x
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?				x

Discussion

a-b. Because the LHMP and the Safety Element do not include proposals for new development or any physical changes to the environment, their adoption and implementation would not result in the loss of any mineral resources.



2.4.13 NOISE

Environmental Setting

Major sources of noise in Cloverdale transportation noise, primarily from the US 101 freeway and Cloverdale Boulevard; noise generated by aircraft operations at Cloverdale Municipal Airport; and operational noise from industrial and commercial land uses. Future potentially significant noise could be generated by planned operations of the Sonoma-Marín Area Rail Transit (SMART) trains.

Would the Project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?				X
b. Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?				X
c. For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?				X

Discussion

- a-c. Adoption and implementation of the LHMP and Safety Element would not result in any noise-or vibration-generating activity.



2.4.14 POPULATION AND HOUSING

Environmental Setting

According to the California Department of Finance, the Cloverdale population was 9,213 as of 2020. The Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) projects continued growth in the city, with relatively high annual growth rates through 2030, followed by considerably lower rates between 2030 and 2040. The total population is projected to be 13,625 in 2040. According to the most recent Census Bureau estimates (2018), Cloverdale's housing stock consists predominantly of single-unit buildings, with 75.0 percent of the dwelling units in the city. Of the remaining units, 9.6 percent area in two- to four-unit buildings, 5.5 percent are in five- to nine-unit buildings, and 6.3 percent are in buildings with ten or more units. The remaining units (3.6 percent) are mobile homes.

Would the Project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?				x
b. Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				x

Discussion

a-b. Because the LHMP and the Safety Element do not include proposals for new development, their adoption will not result in inducement of population growth or displacement of any housing.



2.4.15 PUBLIC SERVICES

Environmental Setting

Essential public services to the project area are provided as follows:

- **Fire Protection:** Fire protection services are provided by the Cloverdale Fire Protection District, which is headquartered at 451 S. Cloverdale Boulevard. A fire station is located at the district headquarters. The District also provides emergency rescue and fire code inspection services and maintains a variety of fire suppression apparatus at the headquarters Fire Station. The District maintains automatic aid agreements with the Geyserville Fire District and City of Healdsburg Fire Department (source: B. Elliott, Cloverdale Fire Protection District, 5/24/17).
- **Law Enforcement:** Police and security protection is provided by City of Cloverdale Police Department currently headquartered in downtown Cloverdale adjacent to City Hall. The Department currently maintains 12 sworn and one reserve officer and seven civilian staff (source: S. Cramer, Cloverdale Police Department, 5/26/17).
- **Public Schools:** Public educational services for residents of the project site are provided by the Cloverdale Unified School District. The District provides K-12 educational services for residents of Cloverdale and the surrounding unincorporated area. Private schools are also available in the greater Cloverdale area. Local schools serving the project site include Jefferson Elementary School, Washington Middle School, and Cloverdale High School.
- **Library Service:** Sonoma County Library provides library service to Cloverdale as well as the greater Sonoma County. Numerous branch libraries are located in both incorporated cities and unincorporated communities throughout the County. The library administrative headquarters is located in Santa Rosa. The branch library within the community is located at 401 N. Cloverdale Boulevard in Cloverdale.
- **Roadway and Infrastructure Maintenance:** Maintenance of local streets, roads and other governmental facilities within the unincorporated portion of the County are the responsibility of the County of Sonoma.
- **Energy:** Residents of Cloverdale receive electrical power from Pacific Gas & Electric Company (PG&E), a regulated public utility serving northern and central California.
- **Communication facilities:** Major communication facilities in Cloverdale are provided by AT&T although other providers are also available..

Would the Project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. 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:				x



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

Discussion

- a-d. Because the LHMP and the Safety Element do not include proposals for new development, no physical changes to the environment, including any effects on biological resources, would occur as a result of their adoption or implementation.

- e-f. Neither the LHMP nor the Safety Element includes provisions that would conflict with existing policies and programs, including the City’s General Plan Conservation, Design, and Open Space Element. Since there are no HCPs or NCCPs within the city limits, no conflicts with the provisions of such plans could result.



2.4.16 RECREATION

Environmental Setting

Parks maintained by the City of Cloverdale include City Park is located at 450 W. Second Street, Clover Springs park in southwestern Cloverdale, Furber Park located at 298 Elbridge Avenue, Tarman Park located at 45 Clark Street, Vintage Meadows Park, and the City pool is located at 205 West First Street. The City of Cloverdale and Sonoma County Regional Parks Department operate Cloverdale River Park located at 31820 McCray Road on the west bank of the Russian River.

Would the Project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigated	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?				x
b. Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment??				x

Discussion

a-b. The adoption and implementation of the LHMP and the Safety Element would not result in any development that would increase demand for recreational facilities or services. do not include proposals for new development, no physical changes to the environment, including any effects on biological resources, would occur as a result of their adoption or implementation.



2.4.17 TRANSPORTATION

Environmental Setting

Regional access to Cloverdale is provided by Highway 101, which links northern and Southern California and continues north to Oregon.

Locally, major north-south streets include Cloverdale Boulevard, Asti Road, Franklin Street and Foothill Boulevard. Major east-west streets include First Street, Third Street, Healdsburg Avenue, Brookside Drive and Treadway Boulevard. Existing bicycle lanes are found along Asti Road, Foothill Boulevard, Treadway Drive and Citrus Fair Drive.

Public transportation to the City of Cloverdale is provided by the Sonoma County Transit Agency (SCTA). SCTA provides regional service to communities to the south and an intercity Cloverdale Shuttle for local trips. Existing railroad tracks are located just west of Asti Road, these tracks are presently not in use but are planned for future SMART train operations. A station has been constructed along the tracks but is not currently used.

Would the Project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Conflict with a program, plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?				x
b. Conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines §15064.3, subdivision (b)?				x
c. Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?				x
d. Result in inadequate emergency access?				x

Discussion

- a. The LHMP and the Safety Element do not call for any development or construction activities that would conflict with any transportation programs, plans, ordinances, or policies.
- b. The LHMP and the Safety Element would not result in any development that would affect demand for transportation services, so there would be no effect on VMT or any other measure of transportation system impacts.
- c. Adoption and implementation of the LHMP and Safety Element would not involve any roadway improvements at all, let alone projects that would introduce geometric design hazards.
- d. In concert with other efforts undertaken by the City and Sonoma County, the Safety Element would enhance emergency access by increasing awareness of evacuation zones and routes.



2.4.18 TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES

Environmental Setting

Tribal Cultural Resources are defined as either: (1) sites, features, places, cultural landscapes, sacred places, or objects with cultural value to a California Native American tribe listed, or determined to be eligible for listing, on the national, state, or local register of historic resources, or (2) resources that the lead agency (e.g., the City) chooses, in its discretion, to treat as a Tribal Cultural Resource.

In April 2021, the City requested a Sacred Lands File search through the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) and in May 2021, the City sent follow-up correspondence to six Native American tribes identified by the NAHC as having affiliation with the Cloverdale area. The results of the Sacred Lands File search revealed no known "Native American cultural resources" in the city. As of ____, 2021, no responses had been received from any of the six Native American tribes contacted.

Would the Project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code § 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k)? or ii) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code § 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resource Code § 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe? 				x

Discussion

- a. Adoption and implementation of the LHMP and Safety Element would not result in any physical change to the environment, including disturbance of any tribal cultural resources.



2.4.19 UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS

Environmental Setting

Properties in Cloverdale receive public utilities from the following sources:

- Water supply: City of Cloverdale.
- Wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal: City of Cloverdale
- Storm drainage: City of Cloverdale.
- Solid waste & recycling service: Republic Industries.

Would the Project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?				x
b. Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry, and multiple dry years?				x
c. Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider, which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?				x
d. Generate solid waste in excess of state or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?				x
e. Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?				x

Discussion

- a. The LHMP and the Safety Element would not result in the relocation of existing or construction of new public utility facilities. While the LHMP does call for reconstruction of outdated and undersized drainage and flood control facilities, the implementation of these projects would be subject to project-level environmental review and analysis.
- b-d. Adoption and implementation of the LHMP and Safety Element would not result in development that would cause population and/or employment growth. Thus, there would be no effect on the ability of providers to meet demand for water, wastewater, or solid waste services.



2.4.20 WILDFIRE

Environmental Setting

The unincorporated areas to the west of Cloverdale, which are generally characterized by steep slopes, difficult fire suppression access, spotty water supply, and high fuel loads, contain the major wildland fire hazard risks for residential structures and other development in the area. According to CAL FIRE’s Fire Hazard Severity Zone (FHSZ) mapping, some areas on the western edge of the city are classified as “Very High” (VHFHSZ). These areas are on the eastern margins of a much larger VHFHSZ area that extends well in the unincorporated hills west of Cloverdale. This margin is Cloverdale’s most defined wildland urban interface (WUI). Most of the rest of the city is classified as “Moderate,” except for a few spots on the western edge of the city and in the Vista View area that are classified as “High.” The fact that all of Cloverdale is designated as Moderate Fire Hazard or high underscores the point the entire city is subject to wildfire encroachment.

Would the Project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?				x
b. Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?				x
c. Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?				x
d. Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?				x

Discussion

- a. One of the key objectives of the LHMP and the Safety Element is to bolster the City’s commitment to emergency management in all its dimensions. The LHMP is supportive of efforts to strengthen emergency response by increasing awareness of risk. Per recently adopted State requirements, the Safety Element has been updated to include documentation concerning evacuation zones and routes.
- b-d. Because the LHMP and the Safety Element do not include proposals for new development, no physical changes to the environment would occur as a result of their adoption or implementation. There, thus, would be no increased exposure of people or property and no exacerbation of risk.



2.4.21 MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

Environmental Setting

Parks maintained by the City of Cloverdale include City Park is located at 450 W. Second Street, Clover Springs park in southwestern Cloverdale, Furber Park located at 298 Elbridge Avenue, Tarman Park located at 45 Clark Street, Vintage Meadows Park and the City pool is located at 205 West First Street.

The City of Cloverdale and Sonoma County Regional Parks Department operate Cloverdale River Park located at 31820 McCray Road on the west bank of the Russian River.

Would the Project:

Environmental Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Does the project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?				X
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.)?				X
c. Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?				X

Discussion

- a. The project does not 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.
- b-c. The project would not result in any individual or cumulative environmental impacts or any environmental effects that would affect human beings, either directly or indirectly.



3. INITIAL STUDY PREPARERS

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Cloverdale Fire Protection District: Jason Jenkins



4. REFERENCES

City of Cloverdale, Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, Public Review Draft, May 2021

City of Cloverdale, Public Health and Safety Element (Chapter 8 of the Cloverdale General Plan), Public Review Draft, May 2021.

City of Cloverdale, Chapter 10 of the General Plan Background Report (Public Health and Safety), Public Review Draft, May 2021.