Livermore Area Recreation and Park District

Staff Report

TO: Chair Furst and Board of Directors

FROM: Mathew Fuzie, General Manager

PREPARED BY: Patricia Lord, Assistant General Manager

DATE: June 26, 2019

SUBJECT: Certification of Mitigated Negative Declaration and Adoption of Zone 7 Trail

Project

<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>: That the Board of Directors adopt Resolution No. ____ certifying the Final Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration; adopting the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program and Findings; adopting the Zone 7 Trail Project, and authorizing the General Manager to enter into an agreement with Zone 7 Water Agency for the Project.

BACKGROUND: The Board approved the Patterson Ranch Trail Project, No. 719, also known as Zone 7 Trail Project with an approved total project budget of \$117,000 in FY 2018-2019. The funding was for installation of access gates and to conduct the IS/MND in compliance with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The project scope includes building a three to five foot wide multi-use looped trail with each end of the trail on LARPD property with the majority of the trail going through the Patterson Ranch property, now owned by Zone 7. The proposed trail begins roughly 0.2 miles south of the Veteran's Affairs Hospital, winds through the Zone 7 property for approximately 1.97 miles, and terminates approximately 0.7 miles southwest of the hospital.

Consistent with the objectives listed in the 2016 LARPD Parks, Recreation, and Trails Master Plan, the path would connect existing trails. To construct the proposed trail, various steps would be required, such as vegetation clearing, grading, and slope stabilization, most of which would be performed by volunteers with hand tools over the course of two dry seasons. New visitor amenities, including benches, would be installed intermittently along the trail. The trail would be aligned to minimize vegetation removal and grading requirements, following existing cattle trails and access roads for much of its path.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW: WRA Environmental Consultants prepared a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Zone 7 Trail. The draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration was circulated for a minimum of 30 days for public comment and closed on May 24, 2019. The State of California, Governor's Office of Planning and Research, State Clearinghouse and Planning Unit, confirmed no state agencies submitted comments by that date. See Attachment A – Final Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for Zone 7 Trail Project.

<u>ATTACHMENT</u>: A) Final Initial Study / Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Zone 7 Trail Project