

Notice of Determination

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

County Clerk
County of Merced
2222 M Street
Merced, CA 95340

FILED
2026 MAY 26 A 11:15
MERCED COUNTY CLERK

From: Merced County
2222 M Street
Merced, CA 95340

Contact: Project Planner
(209) 385-7654 ext. 1234
Project.Planner@countyofmerced.com

SUBJECT: *Filing of Notice of Determination in compliance with Section 21108 or 21152 of the Public Resources Code.*

State Clearinghouse Number: 2011041067

Project Title: Merced County Housing Element Update Project

Project Applicant: Merced County

Project Location: County Wide

Project Description:

The project consists of a comprehensive update to the County of Merced General Plan Housing Element (herein referred to as "Housing Element Update" or "the project"). The County's 2030 General Plan underwent extensive environmental review in the form of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR), which was certified in December 2013 by the Board of Supervisors (State Clearinghouse No. 2011041067). The Merced County General Plan EIR is a comprehensive document and includes discussion of alternatives and growth inducing impacts associated with development anticipated by the General Plan.

State law requires that housing elements be updated every eight years (California Government Code Sections 65580 to 65589.8). Each eight-year period is referred to as a "cycle." For the County of Merced, the current (6th) cycle planning period runs from December 2023 through December 2031. Each Housing Element cycle, the California Department of Housing and Community Development assigns each region a share of the state's housing need, and the regional government (in this case, the Merced County Association of Governments) assigns each jurisdiction a share of the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA).

The Housing Element Update must contain the following elements:

- Identification and analysis of existing and projected housing needs, resources, and constraints
- A statement of goals, policies, quantified objectives, and scheduled programs for preservation, improvement, and development of housing
- Assessment of the County's fair housing issues
- Adequate provision for existing and projected needs of all economic segments of the population
- A Site Inventory which demonstrates the County's ability to accommodate its share of the RHNA community

The project would bring the County's Housing Element into compliance with Housing Element Law, including legislation passed since the publication of the previous Housing Element (adopted in 2016).

The Housing Element is the County's plan for determining how to address existing and future housing needs and plan for future growth. The Housing Element Update will not directly result in environmental impacts as it does not propose to develop any projects nor would it result in land use changes or rezoning. Rather, it establishes objectives and policies designed to guide future development as the County works to achieve State-mandated housing goals.

The Site Inventory contains "opportunity sites" that are suitable for inclusion in the Site Inventory (pursuant to Housing Element Law) with their existing zoning and land use designations, and "rezone sites" that zoning and land use changes to qualify for inclusion. Housing Element policies and programs includes a commitment to future rezoning of the designated rezone sites, but the zoning and land use changes required to make those sites available for development are not analyzed as part of this environmental review. When a specific development proposal is considered for approval, that project would be subject to adopted development guidelines and standards and it must comply with the 2030 General Plan policies and actions listed in the certified 2030 General Plan EIR (herein called "General Plan EIR") in accordance with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15168(c)(3). If a subsequent activity (in this case, zoning or land use changes or a specific development proposal) would have effects not identified in the EIR (the 2013-2030 General Plan EIR and this Addendum), the lead agency must prepare additional CEQA documentation prior to project approval.

If a subsequent activity (in this case, zoning or land use changes or a specific development proposal) would have effects not identified in the EIR (the 2013-2030 General Plan EIR and this Addendum), the lead agency must prepare additional CEQA documentation prior to project approval.

This Addendum analyzes the development capacity of the opportunity sites and the sites to be rezoned (buildout of the proposed project) and compares it with the full-buildout scenario presented in the 2013 General Plan EIR. This Addendum assesses whether the Housing Element Update would result in impacts not addressed or previously analyzed in the General Plan EIR.

This is to advise that the County of Merced as the Lead Agency has approved the above project described on May 19, 2026, and has made the following determinations regarding the above-described project.

1. The project will will not have a significant effect on the environment.
2. An Addendum to the previously prepared Environmental Impact Report was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
 A Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
3. Mitigation measures were were not made a condition of the approval of the project.
4. A mitigation reporting or monitoring plan was was not adopted for this project
5. A Statement of Overriding Considerations was was not adopted for this project.
6. Findings were were not made pursuant to provisions of CEQA.

This is to certify that the final EIR with comments and responses and record of project approval, or the Negative Declaration, is available to the General Public at the County of Merced Community & Economic Development, 2222 "M" Street, 2nd Floor, Merced, CA 95340, Monday through Friday, between 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM.

**Signature &
Date:**

Mark E. Hamilton May 22, 2026

Title: Planner III

**Date Received
for Filing at OPR:**

Merced County Housing Element Update Project

Addendum Evaluation State Clearinghouse #2011041067

prepared by

County of Merced
222 Main Street
Merced, California 95340
Contact: Tiffany Ho, Deputy Director of Planning

prepared with the assistance of

Rincon Consultants, Inc.
7080 North Whitney Ave Suite #101
Fresno, California 93720

April 2025

4 Environmental Effects and Determination

4.1 Environmental Areas Determined to Have New or Substantially More Severe Significant Effects Compared to Those Identified in the Previous EIR

The subject areas checked below were determined to be new significant environmental effects or to be previously identified effects that have a substantial increase in severity either due to a change in project, change in circumstances, or new information of substantial importance, as indicated by the checklist and discussion on the following pages.

■ NONE

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics | <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture and Forestry Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Energy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Geology and Soils | <input type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse Gas Emissions | <input type="checkbox"/> Hazards and Hazardous Materials |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrology and Water Quality | <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use and Planning | <input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Noise | <input type="checkbox"/> Population and Housing | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | <input type="checkbox"/> Tribal Cultural Resources |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Utilities and Service Systems | <input type="checkbox"/> Wildfire | <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of Significance |

4.2 Determination

Based on this analysis:

- Substantial changes are proposed in the project or there are substantial changes in the circumstances under which the project will be undertaken that will require major revisions to the previous EIR due to the involvement of significant new environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects. Or, there is "new information of substantial importance," as that term is used in *CEQA Guidelines* Section 15162(a)(3). Therefore, a SUBSEQUENT or SUPPLEMENTAL EIR is required.
- No substantial changes are proposed in the project and there are no substantial changes in the circumstances under which the project will be undertaken that will require major revisions to the previous EIR due to the involvement of significant new environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects.

County of Merced
Merced County Housing Element Update Project

Also, there is no "new information of substantial importance" as that term is used in *CEQA Guidelines* Section 15162(a)(3). Therefore, the previously certified EIR is adequate and this evaluation serves as an ADDENDUM to the 2030 General Plan Final Environmental Impact Report (General Plan FEIR). State Clearinghouse Number 2013032015 dated May 2017.

Mark E. Hamilton

Signature

May 19, 2026

Date

Mark Hamilton

Printed Name

Planner III

Title

STATE OF CALIFORNIA - THE RESOURCES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
ENVIRONMENTAL FILING FEE CASH RECEIPT

Receipt # 2013000076

Lead Agency: MERCED COUNTY COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT Date: 12/11/2013

County Agency of Filing: 2222 M STREET, MERCED, CA 05340 Document No: 2013000076

Project Title: 2030 MERCED COUNTY GENERAL PLAN UPDATE (GENERAL PLAN TEXT AMENDMENT N)

Project Applicant Name: WILLIAM NICHOLSON Phone Number: (209) 385-7654

Project Applicant: LOCAL PUBLIC AGENCY

Env Impact Report (State)	\$	2995.25
Total Received	\$	2995.25

Signature and title of person receiving payment: *Lea Hernandez*



State of California - Department of Fish and Wildlife
2021 ENVIRONMENTAL FILING FEE CASH RECEIPT
 DFW 753.5a (REV. 01/01/21) Previously DFG 753.5a

RECEIPT NUMBER: 24-2021-139
STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER (if applicable) 2011041067

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE. TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY.

LEAD AGENCY SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY UNIFIED AIR POLLUTION CONTROL	LEAD AGENCY EMAIL	DATE 12/14/2021
COUNTY/STATE AGENCY OF FILING MERCED COUNTY	DOCUMENT NUMBER 24-2021-139	

PROJECT TITLE
NUNES DAIRY EXPANSION CUP 16-001, ANTONIO NUNES DAIRY PROJECT NO. N-1201452

PROJECT APPLICANT NAME MANNY SOUSA	PROJECT APPLICANT EMAIL	PHONE NUMBER (209) 238-3151
PROJECT APPLICANT ADDRESS P.O. BOX 1813	CITY OAKDALE	STATE CA
		ZIP CODE 95361

PROJECT APPLICANT (Check appropriate box)

Local Public Agency
 School District
 Other Special District
 State Agency
 Private Entity

CHECK APPLICABLE FEES:

<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Impact Report (EIR)	\$3,445.25	\$	<u>0.00</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Mitigated/Negative Declaration (MND)(ND)	\$2,480.25	\$	<u>0.00</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Regulatory Program (CRP) document - payment due directly to CDFW	\$1,171.25	\$	<u>0.00</u>

- Exempt from fee
 Notice of Exemption (attach)
 CDFW No Effect Determination (attach)
 Fee previously paid (attach previously issued cash receipt copy)

<input type="checkbox"/> Water Right Application or Petition Fee (State Water Resources Control Board only)	\$850.00	\$	<u>0.00</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County documentary handling fee	\$50.00	\$	<u>50.00</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Other		\$	<u>0.00</u>

PAYMENT METHOD:

- Cash
 Credit
 Check
 Other

TOTAL RECEIVED \$ 50.00

SIGNATURE X	AGENCY OF FILING PRINTED NAME AND TITLE Lea Z. H. Holguin Deputy Clerk
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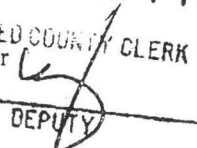
NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

TO:

- Office of Planning and Research
PO Box 3044
Sacramento CA 95812-3044
- County Clerk
County of Merced
2222 M Street
Merced, CA 95340

FROM:

Merced County, Community and Economic Development Department
2222 M Street
Merced, CA 95340
Contact: William Nicholson, Assistant Director
Phone: 209-385-7654

FILED
2013 DEC 11 PM 4:11
MERCED COUNTY CLERK
BY: 
~~DEPUTY~~

SUBJECT: *Filing of Notice of Determination in compliance with Section 21152 of the Public Resources Code*

State Clearinghouse Number: 2011041067

Project Title: 2030 Merced County General Plan Update (General Plan Text Amendment No. GPTA09-001)

Project Applicant: County of Merced

Project Location: Countywide

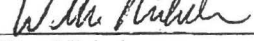
Project Description: A comprehensive update of the Merced County General Plan to revise and replace the 2010 General Plan, including all of the elements, the Land Use Diagram (text modification only), Circulation Diagrams, and other existing goals, policies and implementation programs as needed to reflect current law and matters for public interest and concern. The 2030 Merced County General Plan contains 11 elements, including; Economic Development, Land Use, Agricultural, Transportation and Circulation, Housing, Public Facilities and Services, Natural Resources, Recreation, and Cultural Resources, Health and Safety, Air Quality, and Water. The 2030 General Plan supersedes the current Merced County General Plan with the exception of the Housing Element, which was updated in 2010 in compliance with state law, and the adopted Community Plans.

This notice is to advise that the County of Merced as Lead Agency approved the above- described project on December 10, 2013 and has made the following determinations regarding the above described project:

1. The project will have a significant effect on the environment.
2. An Environmental Impact Report was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
3. Mitigation Measures were made a condition of approval of the project.
4. A Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program was adopted for this project.
5. A Statement of Overriding Considerations was adopted for this project.
6. Findings were made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

This is to certify that the Final EIR with comments and responses and record of project approval is available to the General Public at:

Merced County
Department of Community and Economic Development
2222 M Street
Merced, CA 95340

Signature (Public Agency):  Title: Assistant Director
William Nicholson

Date: December 11, 2013

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____

Authority cited: Sections 21083, Public Resources Code.
Reference Section 21000-21174, Public Resources Code

THANK YOU
PLEASE KEEP FOR REFERENCE

MATT H. MAY

MERCED

County Clerk - Recorder

2222 M STREET

MERCED, CA 95340

(209) 385-7627

Planning Department

Finalization No. : 202614756

Cashier: clerk2

Register: REC-COUNTER03

Date/Time: 05/26/2026 09:21 AM

Description	Fee
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NOD w/Fee Expt

Document No. : 2026-EIR-063

Transaction Time: 09:21 AM

Transaction Fee: \$50.00

Transaction Total: \$50.00

Total Amount Due: \$50.00

Total Paid

House Charge: \$50.00

Amount Due: \$0.00