1 INTRODUCTION

This draft environmental impact report (Draft EIR) evaluates the environmental impacts of the proposed Roseville Environmental Utilities Operations Center Project. This Draft EIR has been prepared under the direction of the City of Roseville (City) in accordance with the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Public Resources Code [PRC] Section 21000 et seq.) and the State CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations [CCR], Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Sections 15000 et seq.). The City is the lead agency for consideration of this EIR and potential project approval.

1.1 PURPOSE AND INTENDED USES OF THE DRAFT EIR

CEQA requires that public agencies consider the potentially significant adverse environmental effects of projects over which they have discretionary approval authority before taking action on those projects (PRC Section 21000 *et seq*.). CEQA also requires that each public agency avoid or mitigate, wherever feasible, the significant adverse environmental effects of projects it approves or implements. If a project would result in significant and unavoidable environmental impacts (i.e., significant effects that cannot be feasibly mitigated to less-than-significant levels), the project can still be approved, but the lead agency's decision-maker, in this case the City of Roseville City Council, must prepare findings and issue a "statement of overriding considerations" explaining in writing the specific economic, social, or other considerations that they believe, based on substantial evidence, make those significant effects acceptable (PRC Section 21002, CCR Section 15093).

According to CCR Section 15064(f)(1) and PRC 21080(d), preparation of an EIR is required whenever a project may result in a significant adverse environmental impact. An EIR is an informational document used to inform public agency decision makers and the general public of the significant environmental effects of a project, identify possible ways to mitigate or avoid the significant effects, and describe a range of reasonable alternatives to the project that could feasibly attain most of the basic objectives of the project while substantially lessening or avoiding any of the significant environmental impacts. Public agencies are required to consider the information presented in the EIR when determining whether to approve a project.

Because it has the principal authority over approval or denial of the project, the City is the lead agency, as defined by CEQA, for this EIR. Other public agencies with jurisdiction over the project are listed below in Section 1.3, "Agency Roles and Responsibilities."

1.1.1 Program- and Project-Level Environmental Review

This EIR is both a project level EIR and a program EIR. The degree of specificity in an EIR corresponds to the degree of specificity in the underlying activity described in the EIR (State CEQA Guidelines Section 15146). For this reason, an EIR for a specific project (where the precise location of development is known) will be more detailed than an EIR that addresses a larger scale or longer term plan or project with elements that have not been precisely designed. A project EIR is prepared for those projects where the development footprint and timing is known, and a program EIR is typically prepared for conceptual plans or a series of related actions where timing and locations of components have yet to be fully determined. A program EIR is not required to provide the same level of detail as a project-level EIR; rather, it may address potential impacts and a range of mitigation approaches at a broader, more conceptual level, with specific mitigation requirements triggered, in some cases, only if and when individual project elements are implemented. This EIR evaluates Phase 1 of the Roseville Environmental Utilities Operations Center Project at a project level in this EIR because overall planning and design of Phase 1 has been developed and the timing of the initial components is known with reasonable certainty. Phase 2 of the Roseville Environmental Utilities Operations Center Project includes two primary components: expansion of Phase 1 project facilities, which is evaluated at a project-level, and the addition of a potential future organics processing facility, which has not been fully designed (e.g., type of

organics processing and location of facilities within a general area) and is therefore evaluated at a program level in this EIR for the reasons described below.

As described in Chapter 2, "Project Description," the City may develop a potential future compost facility and/or biomass to energy facility (biomass facility) to accommodate the combined quantities of the City's forecasted organic wastes and organic wastes from sources outside the City. However, the necessity of this function in terms of both economics and technical viability is not known at this time and will be evaluated by the City at a later time. The potential future compost and/or biomass facility operations would be located at the northernmost portion of the development area of the project site (see Figure 2-3 in Chapter 2, "Project Description").

Due to the lack of detailed design information, in accordance with State CEQA Guidelines Section 15168, this document provides a programmatic analysis for Phase 2. A programmatic analysis enables a lead agency to examine the overall effects (direct, indirect, and cumulative) of a proposed project or course of action and to consider broad policy alternatives and program-wide mitigation measures at an early time in the decision-making process, when the agency has greater flexibility. A program EIR under the provisions of State CEQA Guidelines Section 15168 evaluates the impacts of a series of actions that can be characterized as one large project and are:

- related geographically;
- related as logical parts in a chain of contemplated actions;
- connected with issuances of rules, regulations, plans, or other general criteria to govern the conduct of a continuing program; or
- related as individual activities carried out under the same authorizing statutory or regulatory authority that have generally similar environmental effects that can be mitigated in similar ways.

The Phase 2 analysis (presented in Chapter 3, "Environmental Impacts and Mitigation Measures," under a separate heading from Phase 1) assesses and documents the range of potential environmental effects of the potential construction and operation of the expanded Phase 1 facilities and the Potential Future Organics Processing Facility and provides mitigation of significant effects where it is feasible to do so. If Phase 2 components are approved and constructed in the future, in accordance with State CEQA Guidelines Section 15168(c), the City would evaluate the potential changes in conditions/impacts that may occur with the proposed components compared to the analysis and determinations provided in this EIR (e.g., through preparation of an environmental checklist). If there are any significant effects associated with implementation of Phase 2 components that are not addressed within the scope of this EIR, subsequent CEQA documentation would be prepared at that time to disclose the new or substantially more severe significant impacts.

Therefore, Phase 1 of the Roseville Environmental Utilities Operations Center Project as well as a portion of Phase 2 (i.e., expansion of Phase 1 project facilities), with its greater level of detail and certainty, is evaluated in this EIR at a project level. After a project-level EIR is certified, no further CEQA analysis is required for that project (if approved) prior to construction.

1.2 SCOPE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

Pursuant to CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines, a lead agency shall focus an EIR's discussion on significant environmental effects and may limit discussion on other effects to brief explanations about why they are not significant (PRC Section 21002.1, CCR Section 15128). A determination of which impacts would be potentially significant was made based on a review of the project; review of applicable planning documents and CEQA documentation; field work; comments received as part of the public scoping process (Appendix A); and additional research and analysis of relevant project data during preparation of this Draft EIR.

The City has determined that the project has the potential to result in significant environmental impacts on the following resources, which are addressed in detail in this Draft EIR:

- aesthetics and visual resources;
- land use planning and agricultural resources;
- air quality;
- greenhouse gas emissions;
- biological resources;
- cultural resources;
- tribal cultural resources;
- energy;
- geology and soils;
- hazards and hazardous materials;
- hydrology and water quality;
- noise;
- population, employment, and housing;
- public services;
- public utilities;
- transportation and circulation; and
- wildfire.

1.2.1 Effects Found Not to be Significant

CEQA allows a lead agency to limit the detail of discussion of the environmental effects that are not considered potentially significant (PRC Section 21100, CCR Sections 15126.2[a] and 15128). CEQA requires that the discussion of any significant effect on the environment be limited to substantial, or potentially substantial, adverse changes in physical conditions that exist within the affected area, as defined in PRC Section 21060.5 (statutory definition of "environment").

Based on a review of the information presented in the notice of preparation (NOP) prepared for the project and comments received as part of the public scoping process (Appendix A), as well as additional research and analysis of relevant project data during preparation of this Draft EIR, the following were identified as resources that would not experience any significant environmental impacts from the project. Accordingly, these resources are not addressed further in this Draft EIR but are identified below with a brief explanation as to why significant impacts to each resource are not anticipated, as required by CEQA:

- forestry resources,
- mineral resources, and
- recreation.

FORESTRY RESOURCES

The project site does not include forest land or timberlands and is not zoned for such uses. Therefore, the project would not result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use, nor would it conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land, timberland, or timberland zoned Timberland Production. The project would not result in significant impacts related to forestry resources, and this issue is not discussed further.

MINERAL RESOURCES

The City of Roseville does not overlie any known deposits of economically valuable mineral resources (City of Roseville 2020: 4.7-1), and the City does not have a Surface Mining and Reclamation Act permit. No mining activities are currently underway nor does the City anticipate that any mining activities will take place in the future. Due to the lack of known mineral deposits within the project site, project implementation would not result in a loss of availability of locally important mineral resources or a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state. Thus, no significant impacts to mineral resources would occur, and this issue is not discussed further.

RECREATION

Generally, residential uses increase demand for and use of parks and recreation facilities. The project is not expected to result in substantial, direct population growth, and indirect impacts related to population growth are addressed in Section 5.1, "Growth Inducement." The project includes development of a solid waste facility and corporation yard on undeveloped, agricultural land in the northwest corner of Roseville. At full buildout, the project would employ up to 531 new employees and 165 existing employees that would be relocated from the existing Hilltop Circle Corporation Yard. It is anticipated that the majority of these new employees would be hired from the local population base. Therefore, the project would not increase the use of existing or approved recreational facilities—the closest being Audrey Huisking Park (6485 Garland Way) and Sierra Crossing Park (4251 Brookstone Drive)—such that substantial physical deterioration of these facilities would occur or be accelerated. The project would not involve any changes to permitted uses of existing recreational facilities, nor would it require the construction of new recreational facilities or the expansion of existing ones that might have an adverse physical effect on the environment. Thus, no significant impacts to recreation would occur, and this issue is not discussed further. The project's potential to affect availability, service level, and/or capacity of other public services, including fire protection services and police protection services, is addressed in Section 3.14, "Public Services."

1.3 AGENCY ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

This Draft EIR will be used by the City and CEQA responsible and trustee agencies to ensure that they have met their requirements under CEQA before deciding whether to approve or permit project elements over which they have jurisdiction. It may also be used by other state and local agencies, which may have an interest in resources that could be affected by the project, or that have jurisdiction over portions of the project. In addition, federal agencies may use information included in the EIR to assist in their environmental evaluation in connection with permits they would need to issue.

As the lead agency pursuant to CEQA, the City is responsible for considering the adequacy of the EIR and determining if the project should be approved.

Under CEQA, a responsible agency is a public agency, other than the lead agency, that has responsibility to carry out or approve a project (PRC Section 21069). A trustee agency is a state agency that has jurisdiction by law over natural resources that are held in trust for the people of the State of California (PRC Section 21070).

The following agencies may serve as responsible and trustee agencies for the project:

1.3.1 State

- California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Region 2
- California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery
- State Water Resources Control Board and Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

1.3.2 Local

- Placer County
- Placer County Air Pollution Control District

1.3.3 Federal

- Federal Emergency Management Agency
- US Army Corps of Engineers

- US Environmental Protection Agency
- US Fish and Wildlife Service

1.4 CEQA PUBLIC REVIEW PROCESS

1.4.1 Notice of Preparation

In accordance with PRC Section 21092 and CCR Section 15082, the City issued an NOP on June 21, 2024 to inform agencies and the general public that an EIR was being prepared and to invite comments on the scope and content of the document (Appendix A). The NOP was submitted to the State Clearinghouse, which then distributed the NOP to potential responsible and trustee agencies; posted on the City's website; and posted with the Placer County Clerk. In addition, the NOP was distributed directly to public agencies (including potential responsible and trustee agencies), traditionally and culturally affiliated California Native American Tribes that have requested notice, and individuals requesting to be notified. The NOP was circulated for a 30-day review period, with comments accepted through July 22, 2024.

In accordance with CCR Section 15082(c), a noticed scoping meeting for the EIR occurred on July 10, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at the Martha Riley Library, 1501 Pleasant Grove Blvd., Roseville, CA.

The purpose of an NOP is to provide sufficient information about a project and its potential environmental impacts to allow agencies and interested parties the opportunity to provide a meaningful response related to the scope and content of the EIR, including mitigation measures that should be considered and alternatives that should be addressed (CCR Section 15082[b]). Comments submitted in response to the NOP are used by the lead agency to identify broad topics to be addressed in the EIR. Comments on environmental issues received during the NOP public comment period are considered and addressed in this Draft EIR. Appendix A contains the NOP and comment letters submitted during the NOP public comment period.

1.4.2 Public Review of this Draft EIR

This Draft EIR is being circulated for public review and comment for a period of 45 days, from May 7, 2026 to June 22, 2026.

During the public comment period, written comments from the public as well as organizations and agencies on the Draft EIR's accuracy and completeness may be submitted to the City. Written comments (including via email) must be received by 5:00 p.m. on April 27, 2026. Written comments should be addressed to:

City of Roseville Development Services – Planning
Jessica Lynch, Environmental Coordinator
311 Vernon Street, Roseville, CA 95678
Telephone: (916) 774-5352; Fax: (916) 774-5129; Email: JJLynch@roseville.ca.us

Agencies that will need to use the EIR when considering permits or other approvals for the project should provide the name, phone number, and email address of a contact person. Comments provided by email should include "Roseville Environmental Utilities Operations Center Project Draft EIR Comment" in the subject line, and the name and physical address of the commenter in the body of the email.

The Draft EIR is available for review during normal business hours at the City of Roseville Development Services – Planning (311 Vernon Street, Roseville). The Draft EIR is also available online at: https://www.roseville.ca.gov/development_services/planning/environmental_documents_public_notices.php.

1.4.3 Final EIR

Following public review of the Draft EIR, a Final EIR will be prepared that will include both written and oral comments on the Draft EIR received during the public review period, responses to comments that raise significant environmental issues, and any revisions to the Draft EIR. The Draft EIR and Final EIR will comprise the EIR for the project.

Before taking action on the project, the City is required to certify that the EIR has been completed in compliance with CEQA, that the City's decision-making body reviewed and considered the information in the EIR, and that the EIR reflects the independent judgment of the City.

1.5 ORGANIZATION OF THE DRAFT EIR

This Draft EIR is organized as follows:

- The "Executive Summary" introduces the proposed project; provides a summary of the environmental review process, effects found not to be significant, and key environmental issues; and lists significant impacts and mitigation measures to reduce significant impacts to less-than-significant levels.
- Chapter 1, "Introduction," describes the purpose of the EIR, the scope of the environmental analysis, agency roles and responsibilities, the CEQA public review process, organization of this Draft EIR, and standard terminology.
- Chapter 2, "Project Description," describes the location, background, and objectives for the proposed project, and describes the project elements in detail, and the Phase 2 elements generally.
- Chapter 3, "Environmental Impacts and Mitigation Measures," evaluates the expected environmental impacts generated by the proposed project, arranged by subject area (e.g., Aesthetics and Visual Resources, Land Use Planning and Agricultural Resources, etc.). Within each subsection of Chapter 3, the regulatory setting, environmental setting, methodology, and thresholds of significance are described. The anticipated changes to the existing conditions after development of the project are then evaluated for each subject area. For any significant or potentially significant impact that would result from project implementation, mitigation measures are presented along with the remaining level of significance. Environmental impacts are numbered sequentially within each section (e.g., Impact 3.1-1, Impact 3.1-2, etc.). Any required mitigation measures are numbered to correspond to the impact numbering; for example, the mitigation measure for Impact 3.1-2 would be Mitigation Measure 3.1-2.
- Chapter 4, "Cumulative Impacts," provides information regarding the potential cumulative impacts that would result from implementation of the proposed project together with other past, present, and probable future projects.
- Chapter 5, "Other CEQA Sections," provides a discussion of potential growth-inducing impacts, significant and unavoidable impacts, and significant and irreversible environmental changes.
- Chapter 6, "Alternatives," evaluates alternatives to the proposed project, including alternatives considered but eliminated from further consideration. The environmentally superior alternative is identified.
- Chapter 7, "Report Preparers," identifies the individuals who contributed to preparation of this Draft EIR.
- Chapter 8, "References," identifies the references used in preparation of this Draft EIR.

1.6 STANDARD TERMINOLOGY

This Draft EIR uses the following standard terminology:

- "No impact" means no change from existing conditions (no mitigation is needed).
- "Less-than-significant impact" means no substantial adverse change in the physical environment (no mitigation is needed).

- "Potentially significant impact" means an impact that might cause a substantial adverse change in the environment (mitigation is recommended because potentially significant impacts are treated as significant).
- "Significant impact" means an impact that would cause a substantial adverse change in the physical environment (mitigation is recommended).
- "Significant and unavoidable impact" means an impact that would cause a substantial adverse change in the physical environment and that cannot be avoided or substantially lessened, even with the implementation of feasible mitigation measures.

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