



# City of Elk Grove NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

To:  Office of Planning and Research  
P.O. Box 3044, 1400 Tenth Street, Room 22  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

Sacramento County Clerk-Recorder  
Sacramento County  
PO Box 839, 600 8th Street  
Sacramento, CA 95812-0839

From: City of Elk Grove  
Development Services-Planning  
8401 Laguna Palms Way  
Elk Grove, CA 95758

County Recorder Filing	State Clearinghouse Received
(stamp here)	(stamp here)

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

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER: SCH# 2017062058

**PROJECT TITLE:** Rules for the Administration of Agricultural Preserves and the Implementation of the California Land Conservation Act, or Williamson Act (Government Code Section 51200 et seq.)

**PROJECT APPLICANT:** City of Elk Grove  
8401 Laguna Palms Way  
Elk Grove, CA 95758  
916-683-7111

**PROJECT LOCATION:** Elk Grove California, Sacramento County

**ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NUMBER(S):** Citywide

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** In 1965, the State legislature established the California Land Conservation Act, or Williamson Act (Government Code Section 51200 et. seq.). This action provides for the establishment of Rules for the Administration of Agricultural Preserves and the Implementation of the California Land Conservation Act. The Rules establish the procedures for initiating, filing, and processing requests to establish agricultural preserves and Williamson Act contracts.

Key provisions of the Rules include:

- Application is made to the Development Services Department on the standard planning application form.
- Applications may only be submitted between January and mid-December of each year, as required by State law.
- An application fee is required. This fee covers staff time in processing the application and completing the required public hearings and notices. This is an existing fee already in the City's fee schedule and is \$5,000.
- The Development Services Director (or designee) prepares a report and submits it to the Planning Commission for review and recommendation to the City Council. The City Council is the approval authority for preserves and contracts, consistent with State law.
- Criteria for agricultural preserves, which are consistent with State law. The preserve must be a minimum of 100 acres in size and can include one or more properties. The site(s) would also need to be designated Agriculture in the General Plan and have a zoning designation of AG-20 or AG-80.
- Procedures for the disestablishment or alteration of a preserve, consistent with State law, including review and recommendation by the Planning Commission and action by the City Council.

**PROJECT  
BACKGROUND:**

As part of the development and adoption of the 2019 General Plan the City prepared and certified the General Plan Update Environmental Impact Report (EIR) (SCH No. 2017062058). That document provides a programmatic review of the potential impacts associated with implementation of the overall General Plan, including amendments to the City's Municipal Code. The EIR is comprised of a Draft EIR (Draft EIR) and Final EIR (Final EIR). The Final EIR was released for public review on January 4, 2019 and certified by the City Council on February 27, 2019.

This is to advise that on September 8, 2021, the City of Elk Grove City Council determined that the proposed Rules are exempt from CEQA under to State CEQA Guidelines Sections 15183 (Projects Consistent with a Community Plan, General Plan, or Zoning) and 15162 (Subsequent EIRs and Negative Declarations). An EIR was prepared and certified for the General Plan in 2019 (SCH No. 2017062058). That document provides a programmatic review of the potential impacts associated with the implementation of the overall General Plan. The proposed Rules implement the Williamson Act and further the General Plan policies around preserving agricultural resources, which were analyzed in the General Plan EIR.

State CEQA Guidelines Section 15162 provides that no further review is required under CEQA when there are no substantial changes in the Project, there are no substantial changes with respect to the circumstances under which the Project is undertaken, and there is no new information of substantial importance, which was not known and could not have been known at the time of certification of the EIR. The proposed Rules are consistent with the analysis presented in the EIR and, pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15162, no subsequent analysis is required. Specifically, the Rules provide for the creation of agricultural preserves and the establishment of Williamson Act contracts on property designed in the General Plan for Agriculture.

Therefore, there are no substantial changes relative to the prior EIR; there are no substantial changes with respect to the circumstances under which the EIR is undertaken; and there is no new information of substantial importance, which was not known and could not have been known at the time of certification of the EIR. Based on this evidence, no further environmental review is required.

- The Project will have a significant effect on the environment.
- Mitigation measures were made a condition of approval of this project.
- A Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan was adopted for this project.
- Findings were made pursuant to the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

This is to certify that the Environmental Impact Report is available to the General Public at: City of Elk Grove, 8401 Laguna Palms Way, Elk Grove, CA 95758

CITY OF ELK GROVE  
Strategic Planning and  
Innovation

By:   
Christopher Jordan, AICP

Date: September 9, 2021