



STAFF REPORT

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING

May 14, 2024

TO: Honorable Chair and Commissioners

FROM: David Loya, Director of Community Development

PREPARER: David Loya, Director of Community Development

DATE: April 29, 2024

TITLE: **Adopt Resolution PC-24-03 Recommending Certification of the Environmental Impact Report and Resolution PC-24-05 Recommending Adoption of the General Plan Comprehensive Update and the Gateway Code**

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the Planning Commission open the public hearing, receive a staff report and public comment, then adopt Resolution No. PC-24-03, A Resolution of the City of Arcata Planning Commission Recommending the City Council Certify the Environmental Impact Report Prepared for the General Plan Comprehensive Update and the Gateway Code; then adopt Resolution No. PC-24-05, A Resolution of the City of Arcata Planning Commission Recommending the City Council Adopt the General Plan Comprehensive Update and the Gateway Code.

INTRODUCTION:

The Planning Commission has had the General Plan update and the Gateway Code under review for over two years. The draft General Plan was finalized and released on December 12, 2023. The Draft Gateway Zoning Ordinance (the Gateway Code) was released on January 31, 2024. The Draft Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIR) was released on January 26, 2024, and the circulation period began on January 31, 2024. The Final Environmental Impact Report (Final EIR), along with the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (Monitoring Program) was released formally on May 10, 2024. This action will consider the whole of the record and make a formal recommendation to the City Council.

BACKGROUND:

The City has been conducting public engagement and outreach to develop the General Plan 2045 and the Gateway Code for over seven years. The majority of the engagement, work product, and the environmental record is located at the City's website at <https://www.cityofarcata.org/896/Strategic-Infill-Redevelopment-Program>.

Prior to adopting an amendment to the General Plan or the zoning ordinance, the Commission must review and recommend the changes to the City Council. Because the City Council is the final review authority, the Council will take final action to certify the EIR and adopt the amendments.

DISCUSSION:

The Planning Commission has made several minor amendments to the December 12, 2023, version of the General Plan and the January 31, 2024, version of the Gateway Code. These changes have been incorporated into the May 14, 2024, versions. The Council will review these changes on May 15 and accept or reject them. The Council will hold their first meeting to consider adoption on May 29, 2024.

The revised General Plan is located on the City's website at <https://www.cityofarcata.org/896/Strategic-Infill-Redevelopment-Program>. The revised Gateway Code is at <https://www.cityofarcata.org/965/Arcata-Gateway-Area-Plan>. The EIR, including both the Draft EIR and the Final EIR, as well as the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program and the Statement of Overriding Considerations is located at <https://www.cityofarcata.org/1067/Environmental-Impact-Report>.

Resolution No. PC-24-03, the resolution recommending certification of the EIR is Attachment A to this staff report. Resolution No. PC-24-05 recommending adoption of the General Plan and Gateway Code is Attachment B.

ATTACHMENTS:

- A. Res PC-24-03 GP EIR (PDF)
- B. Res PC-24-05 Project Approval (PDF)