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## MEMORANDUM

LSA

DATE:	February 18, 2019
То:	Jenny Liaw, Senior Planner, City of Stockton Kevin Colin, Planning Manager, City of Stockton
SUBJECT:	Tidewater Project: CEQA Guidelines Section 15183 Compliance Memorandum

### **INTRODUCTION**

The purpose of this memorandum documents compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15183 for the Tidewater Crossing Project (Project).

### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The proposed Project consists of approximately 428.74-acres located within the southeast portion of the City of Stockton in the Central Valley of California. **Attachment 1: Regional Location** and **Attachment 2: Project Vicinity** shows the location of the proposed Project on a regional and local scale, respectively. The Project site is generally bounded by the Stockton Metropolitan Airport to the north, agricultural parcels to the east, Union Pacific Railroad to the west and East French Camp Road to the south.

The Project proposes to amend the City of Stockton Zoning Map designations for the site to be consistent with the 2040 General Plan Land Use Map. The proposed Project follows adoption of the 2040 General Plan and the Envision Stockton 2040 General Plan Update and Utility Master Plan Supplements Environmental Impact Report (2040 GP EIR), both of which were approved and certified, respectively, in December 2018. **Attachment 3: Proposed Zoning Changes** shows the existing zoning classifications and proposed zoning classifications. The 2040 Stockton General Plan provides the Project site with the following land use designations: Industrial, Commercial, and Parks and Recreation.

Additional actions associated with the Project include: termination of an existing Development Agreement for the Tidewater Crossing Project and termination of the existing Tidewater Crossing Master Development Plan, both of which were approved by the City of Stockton for the Project site in 2008.

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#### Project Compliance with CEQA Section 15183

CEQA Guidelines Section 15183 mandates that projects, which are consistent with the development density established by existing zoning, community plan, or general plan policies for which an EIR was certified shall not require additional environmental review, except as might be necessary to examine whether there are project-specific significant effects, which are peculiar to the project or its site. This process allows for streamlining CEQA compliance for qualifying projects and reduces the need to prepare repetitive environmental studies. In fact, evaluation under CEQA Guidelines Section 15183 is compelled by subsection (i) which states,

"Where the prior EIR relied upon by the lead agency was prepared for a general plan or community plan that meets the requirements of this section, any rezoning action consistent with the general plan or community plan shall be treated as a project subject to this section."

In accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15183, the Project qualifies for an exemption because the following findings can be made:

# 1. The Project is consistent with the development density established by existing zoning, community plan or general plan policies for which an EIR was certified.

The proposed Project consists of an 428.74-acre site that would include the following Zoning Map designations: Industrial, Limited (IL), Commercial General (CG), and Parks and Recreation (see Attachment 3). These designations are consistent with the land use designations shown on the 2040 General Plan Land Use Map (see Attachment 4: Existing 2040 General Plan Land Use Map Designations).

The Industrial land use designation under the 2040 GP allows for a wide variety of industrial uses, including uses with nuisance or hazardous characteristics, warehousing, construction contractors, light manufacturing offices, retail sales, service and similar compatible uses. The maximum Floor Area Ratio (FAR) permitted for industrial uses under this designation is 0.6. The Commercial land use designation would allow for a wide variety of retail, service, and commercial recreational uses; businesses, medical, and professional office, and other similar uses. The maximum FAR permitted for Commercial uses outside of the Greater Downtown area is 0.3. The Parks and Recreation land use allows for city parks, and other similar and compatible uses. The maximum FAR for this land use is 0.2. The development intensity for each proposed Zoning Map designation is consistent with the these 2040 General Plan Land Use Map designations.

# 2. There are no project specific effects which are peculiar to the project or its site, and which the general plan update EIR failed to analyze as significant impacts.

The proposed Project consists of Zoning Map amendment. No physical development plan is proposed. Therefore, there are no project specific effects, which are peculiar to the Project or its site, relating to the Zoning Map amendments that have not already been analyzed in the 2040 General Plan EIR. The proposed Project and all impacts associated with the planned land uses established by the 2040 General Plan were adequately analyzed by the 2040 GP EIR.

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The Project could result in significant impacts associated with conversion of existing agricultural land to non-agricultural land, biological resources, traffic impacts, and air quality/greenhouse gas emission impacts; however, mitigation measures specified within the 2040 General Plan EIR have been identified to mitigate such impacts.

## 3. There are no environmental effects related to the Project that result in potentially significant offsite and/or cumulative impacts, which the general plan update EIR failed to evaluate.

The proposed Project would be consistent with the land use and zoning designations and classifications that were considered in the 2040 General Plan and 2040 General Plan EIR. The 2040 General Plan recognizes the Project site and considers the potential future industrial/commercial development that could occur there and forecasts that the Project would be implemented to provide future residents with employment opportunities in the City. The 2040 General Plan EIR has considered the incremental impacts of the proposed Project and the proposed Project would apply the 2040 General Plan EIR policies and mitigations measures as applicable. With the implementation of the 2040 General Plan EIR policies and mitigation measures, the proposed Project would not generate potentially significant off-site or cumulative impacts that have not been previously identified and analyzed in the 2040 General Plan EIR.

# 4. There is no substantial new information which was not known at the time the 2040 General Plan EIR was certified that indicates more severe impacts than discussed in the prior EIR.

No new information has been identified which would result in a determination of a more severe impact than had had been anticipated by the 2040 GP EIR. The potential impacts associated with the proposed Project have been fully analyzed and disclosed within the 2040 General Plan EIR. Where impacts have been identified, the 2040 General Plan EIR incorporates policies and mitigation measures to reduce such impacts.

## 5. The project will undertake feasible mitigation measures specified in the general plan update EIR.

When applicable, subsequent development after Project approval would implement feasible mitigation measures and policies as specified in the 2040 General Plan EIR. These mitigation measures and policies would be implemented by the Project through project design, compliance with regulations and ordinances.

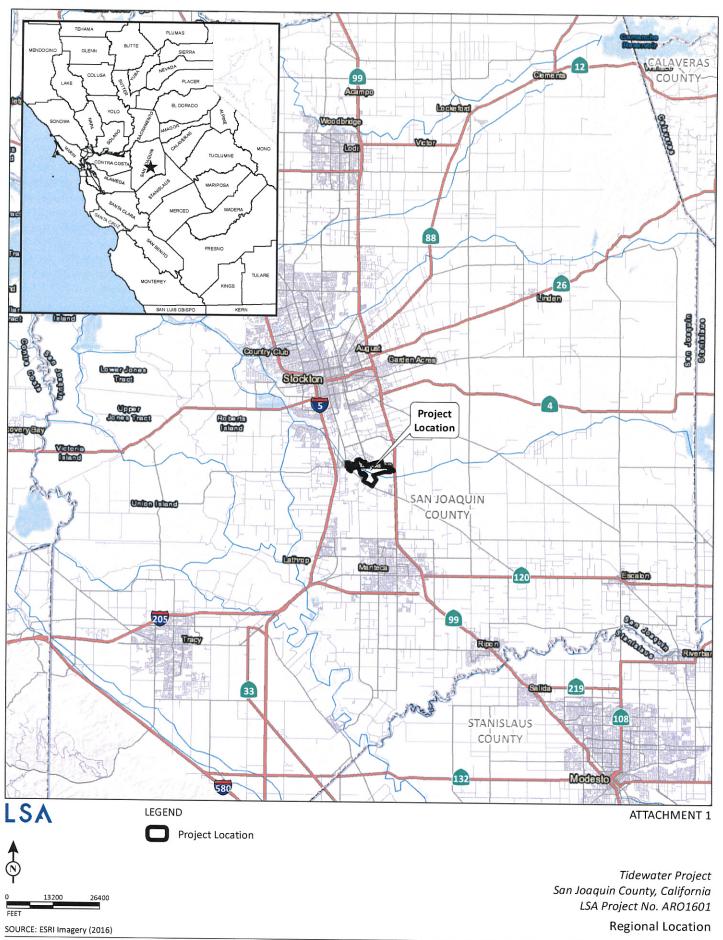
#### CONCLUSION

The proposed Project has been reviewed in compliance with CEQA guidelines and requirements. Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15183, the proposed Project is consistent and is covered by the City of Stockton 2040 General Plan EIR. The Project, as is, would not require further documentation to be cleared under CEQA.

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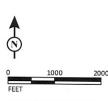
Attachments:

Attachment 1: Regional Location Attachment 2: Project Vicinity Attachment 3: Proposed Zoning Changes and Legal Description Attachment 4: Existing 2040 General Plan Land Use Map Designations



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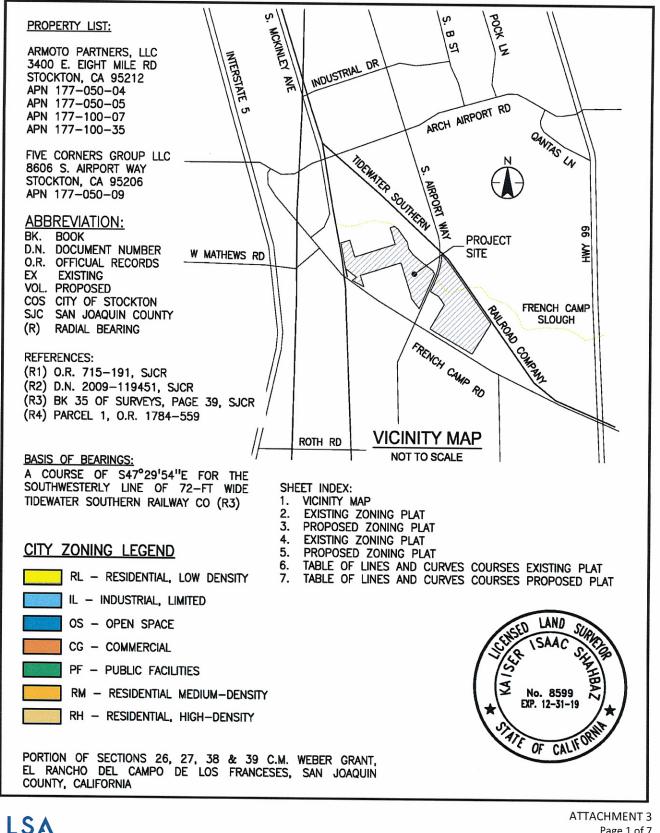


SOURCE: ESRI World Imagery (08/2016) I:\ARO1601\GIS\Reports\Memo\Attach2\_Prj\_vicin\_aerial.mxd (1/28/2019)

Project Boundary

ATTACHMENT 2

Tidewater Project San Joaquin County, California LSA Project No. ARO1601 Project Vicinity on Aerial Base

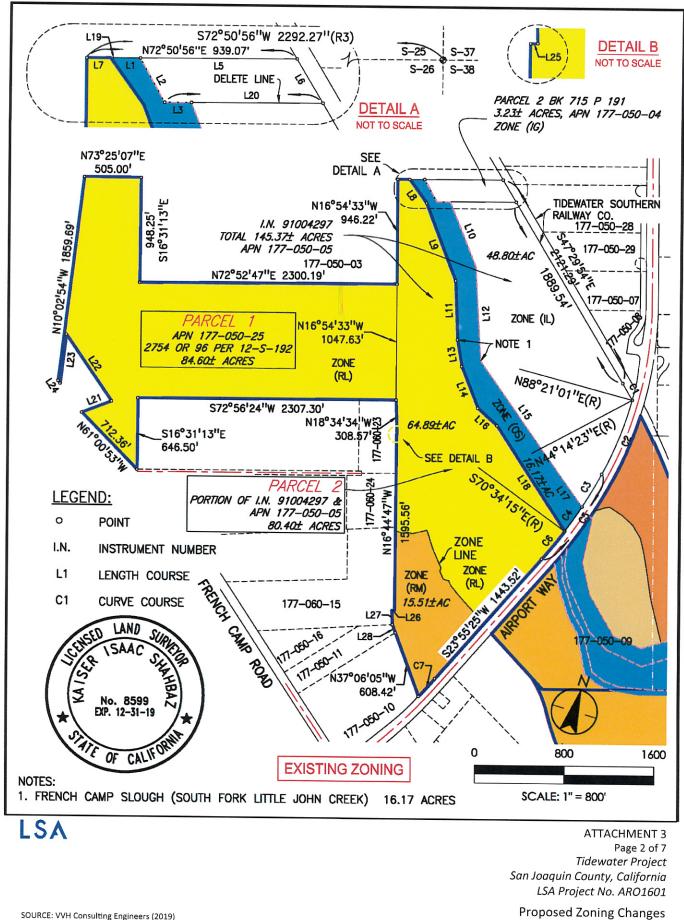


FITACHMENT 3 Page 1 of 7 Tidewater Project San Joaquin County, California LSA Project No. ARO1601

**Proposed Zoning Changes** 

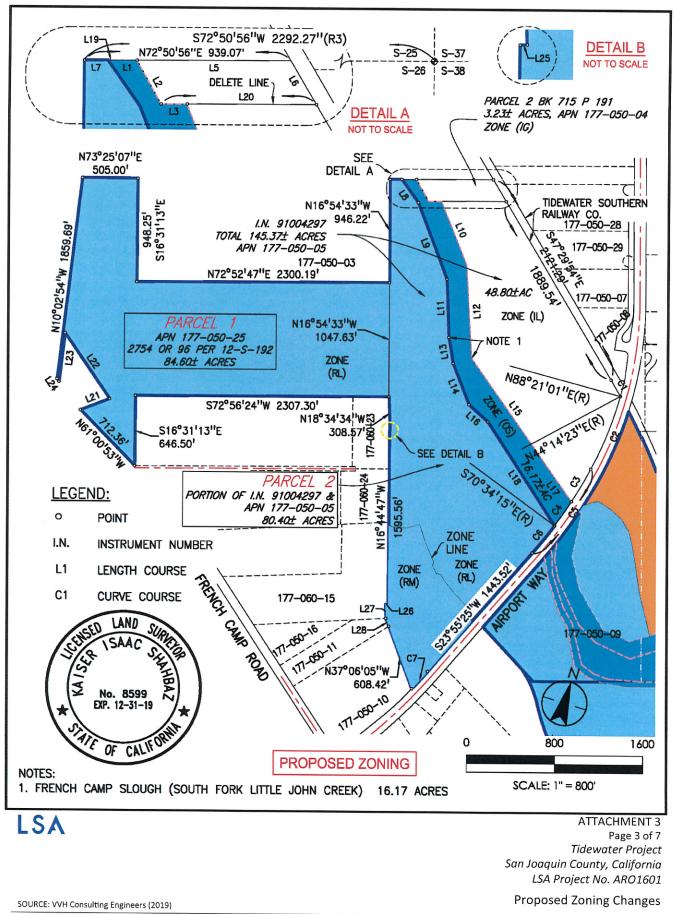
SOURCE: VVH Consulting Engineers (2019)

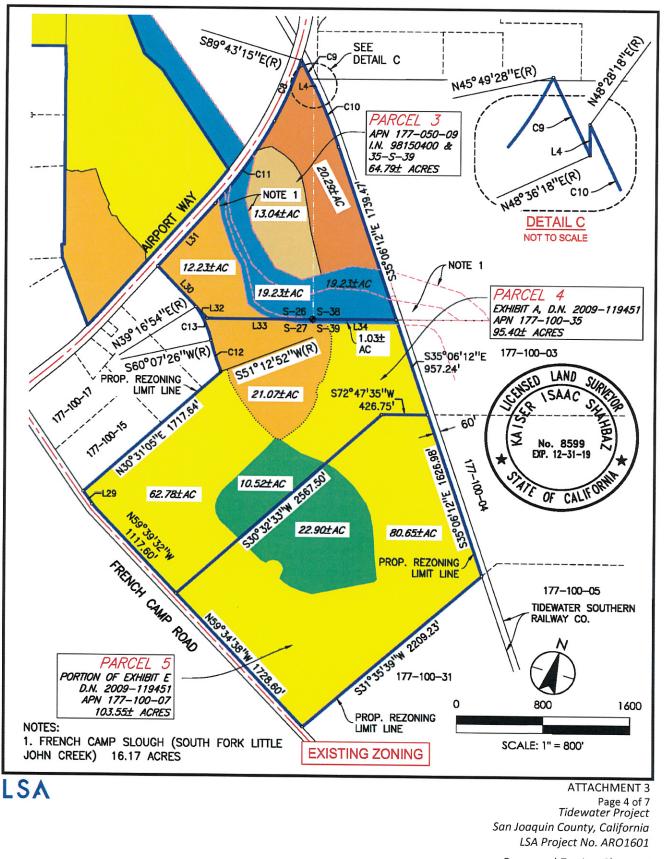
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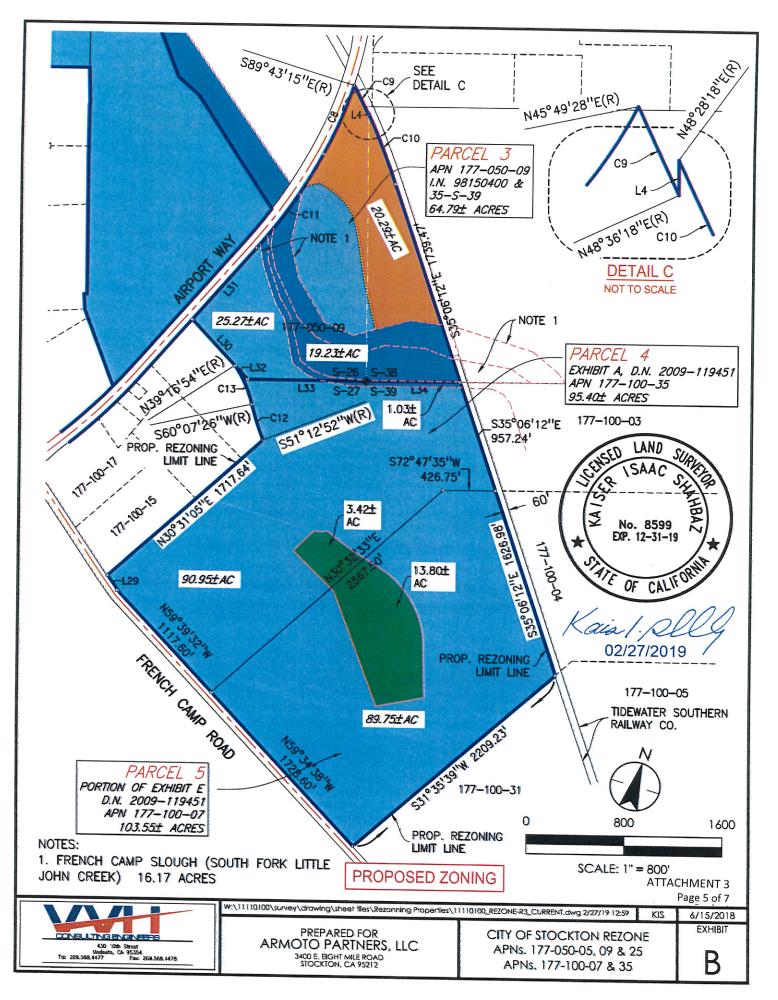
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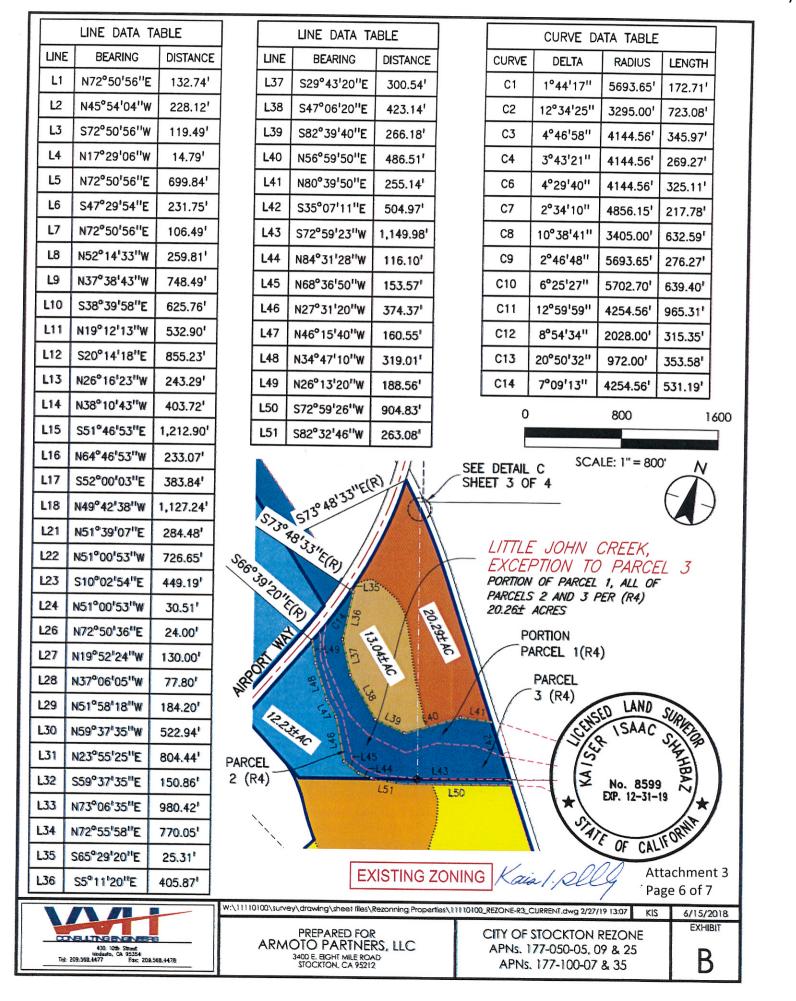


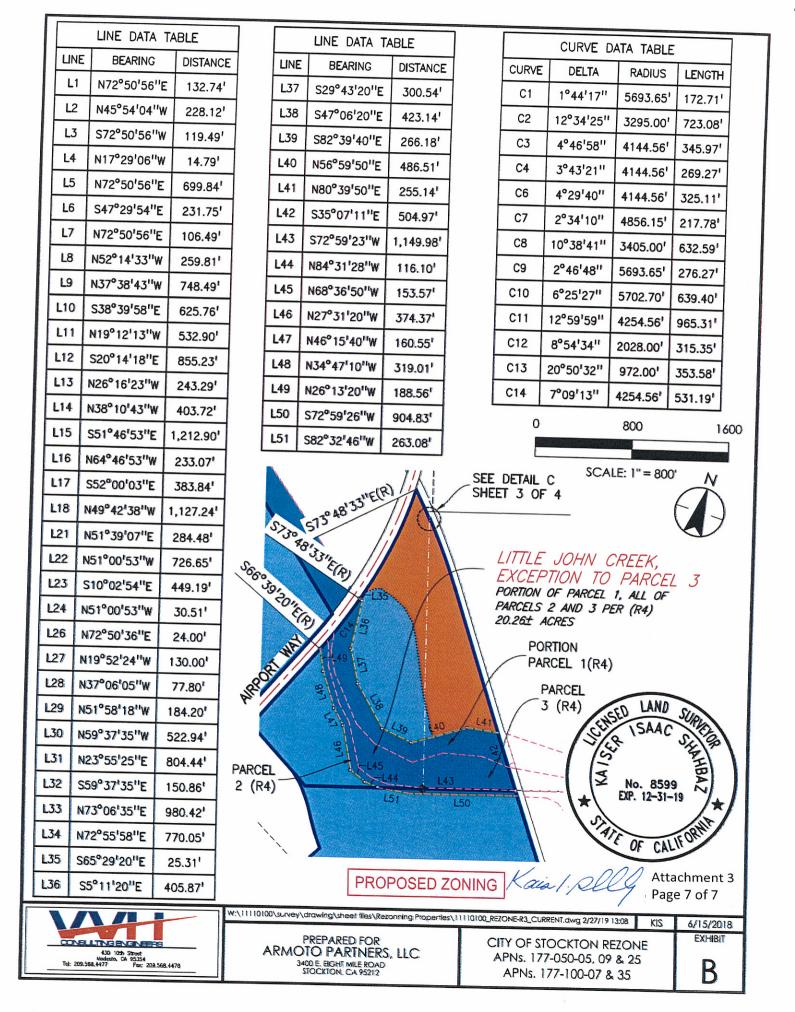


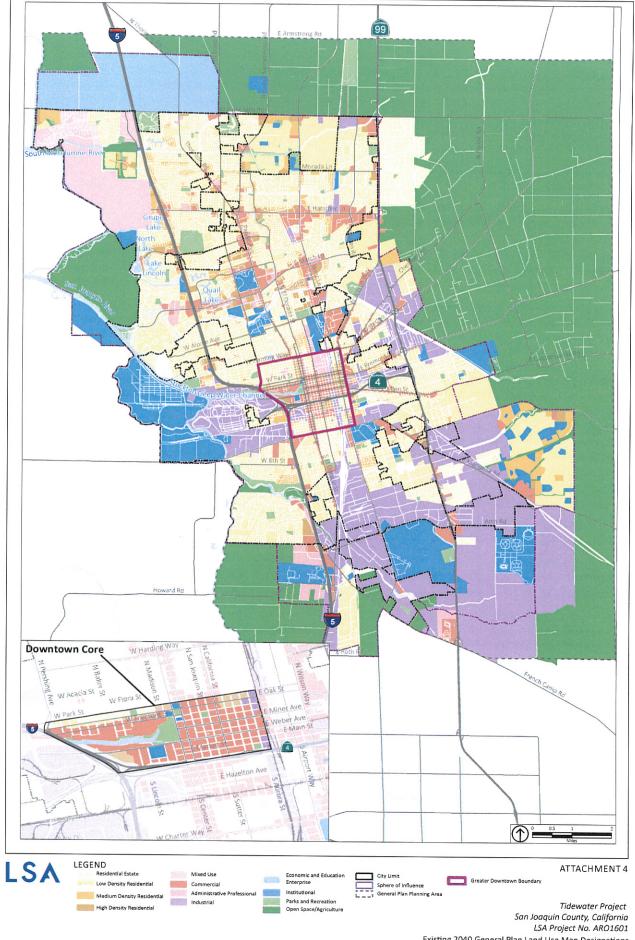
SOURCE: VVH Consulting Engineers (2019)

Proposed Zoning Changes









SOURCE: City of Stockton, 2017; PlaceWorks, 2017. [:\ARO1601\Al\Memo\Attach4.ai {02/14/19}

Existing 2040 General Plan Land Use Map Designations