NOTICE OF INTENT TO CONSIDER ADOPTION OF A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

County Clerk Please Stanip Here

Project Name:

The Reserve at Woodland Hills

Application No(s).:

AP-14-1029 (GP, RZ, DR)

Date:

May 22, 2015

Notice is hereby given that the City of Pittsburg finds that no significant effect on the environment, as prescribed by the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970 (CEQA), as amended, will occur for the following proposed project:

- 1. <u>Project Proponent</u>: Louis Parsons, Discovery Builders, Inc., 4061 Port Chicago Highway, Suite H, Concord, CA 94520, Phone: 925-682-6419
- 2. <u>Project Description</u>: The proposed project consists of: 1) an amendment to the General Plan land use designation for the site from Business Commercial to Medium Density Residential; 2) rezoning of the site from CO (Office Commercial) to an RM (Medium Density Residential) District; and 3) design review to convert the existing office building on site into 18 apartment units.
- 3. <u>Project Location</u>: The subject site is located at 4300 Railroad Avenue, at the southwest corner of the intersection of Buchanan Road and Kirker Pass Road, in the City of Pittsburg. Assessor's Parcel No. 089-010-016.
- 4. <u>Findings</u>: The Initial Study prepared for the project identified potentially significant impacts in the category of Air Quality, and identified mitigation measures to reduce each of the potentially significant impacts to a less-than-significant level.
 - All other impacts in the categories of Aesthetics, Agricultural Resources, Cultural Resources, Geology and Soils, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Hydrology and Water Quality, Land Use and Planning, Noise, Mineral Resources, Population and Housing, Transportation and Traffic, Utilities/Service Systems, Public Services, Recreation, and Mandatory Findings of Significance were found to be less than significant. Based on the Initial Study, the Planning Manager has determined that preparation of a Mitigated Negative Declaration is appropriate for the project described above.
- 6. <u>Initial Study</u>: The Initial Study, proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration, and project plans may be reviewed during normal business hours at the City of Pittsburg Planning

Division, located at 65 Civic Avenue, Pittsburg, CA 94565, or on the City's website via the Environmental Review page at http://www.ci.pittsburg.ca.us/index.aspx?page=225. As noted in the Initial Study, background or reference materials related to the Initial Study can be reviewed upon request to the City of Pittsburg Planning Division.

- 7. <u>Public Review</u>: The public comment period for this environmental determination will begin on Friday, May 22, 2015. Anyone who wishes to comment on the findings of this environmental analysis must submit these comments in writing to Jordan Davis, Associate Planner with the Planning Division, at the address noted above, by email to jdavis@ci.pittsburg.ca.us, or by fax to (925) 252-4015. **Comments must be received by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, June 12, 2015**.
- 8. Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration: Notice is hereby given that the Pittsburg Planning Commission is currently scheduled to consider this proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration and to make a recommendation to the City Council on the requested General Plan and Zoning Map amendments at a public hearing scheduled for June 9, 2015, at 7:00 p.m., in the third floor Council Chamber at 65 Civic Avenue in Pittsburg.

This proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration does not signify approval or disapproval of this project by City decision-making bodies. The Planning Commission and City Council will consider the proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration together with any comments received during the public review process to determine whether the project will have a significant impact on the environment.

Kristin Pollot, AICP Planning Manager



Civic Center, 65 Civic Avenue Pittsburg, CA 94565

Telephone: (925) 252-4920 • FAX: (925) 252-4814

CEQA INITIAL STUDY CHECKLIST

- 1. **Project title:** The Reserve at Woodland Hills, Rezoning and General Plan Amendment, AP-14-1029 (GP, RZ, DR)
- 2. Lead agency name and address: City of Pittsburg, 65 Civic Avenue, Pittsburg, CA 94565
- 3. Contact person and phone number: Jordan Davis, Associate Planner, 925-252-4015
- 4. **Project location:** The subject site is located at 4300 Railroad Avenue, which is at the southwest corner of the intersection of Buchanan Road and Kirker Pass Road, in the City of Pittsburg. Assessor's Parcel No. 089-010-016.
- 5. **Project sponsor's name and address:** Louis Parsons, Discovery Builders, Inc., 4061 Port Chicago Hwy, Ste. H, Concord, CA 94520
- 6. **General plan designation (existing):** Business Commercial

General plan designations (proposed): Medium Density Residential

7. **Zoning (existing):** CO (Office Commercial)

Zoning (proposed): RM (Medium Density Residential)

8. **Description of project:** The project site is located on a 1.51 acre parcel that has been previously developed as a small office complex (see Exhibit A below). The site currently includes an approximate 13,591 square foot commercial office building located in the center of the site, with a fully paved parking lot surrounding the building that includes 56 total parking spaces, a trash enclosure at the southwest corner, and perimeter landscaping surrounding the entire site. The existing parking lot currently includes two vehicular access points, including one fully accessible access point onto Buchanan Road (to the north) and one right in/right out access to Kirker Pass Road (to the east).

The current project proposal is to: 1) amend the General Plan designation for the site from Business Commercial to Medium Density Residential; and 2) rezone the site from CO (Office Commercial) to an RM (Medium Density Residential) District. The developer has submitted a conceptual plan to convert the existing building into 18 residential units with approximately 3,516 square feet of

The Reserve at Woodland Hills, General Plan Amendment & Rezoning

additional square footage, 3,292 of which would be for residential use, with the remaining 224 to be used as an on-site laundry facility. A proposed conceptual site plan, which includes several small building additions, is included as Exhibit B, below.

9. Surrounding land uses and setting:

The project site is primarily surrounded by existing residential development. Located to the north, northwest and northeast, across Buchanan Road, there are existing single family homes of various ages. To the immediate west, south and southwest, there is an existing apartment complex, Woodland Hills, with additional single family homes beyond. To the east across Kirker Pass Road, there two single family homes located on two separate parcels totaling just over one and a half acres. Both properties include primary access onto Kirker Pass Road. While there are existing single family homes on these two parcels, the area has a General Plan land use designation of Business Commercial and is zoned PD (Planned Development, Ordinance No. 96-1114) District. The PD zoning allows for flexible use of the two residential parcels (allowing either residential or commercial office uses).

10. Discretionary approval authority and other public agencies whose approval is required (e.g., permits, financing approval, or participation agreement.)

For future development of the site in accordance with the proposed General Plan and zoning designations, the following subsequent approvals would be necessary:

Design review

EXHIBIT A: SITE LOCATION

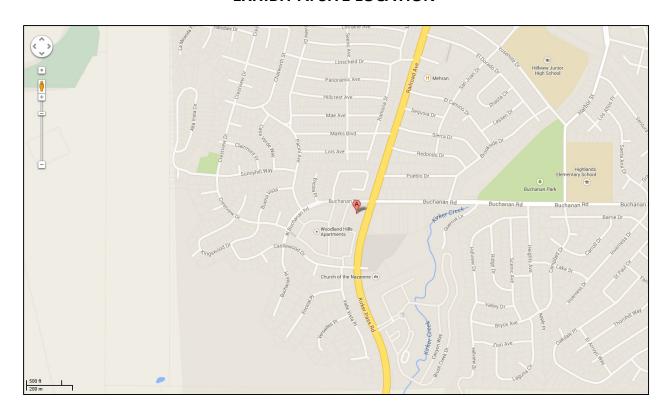
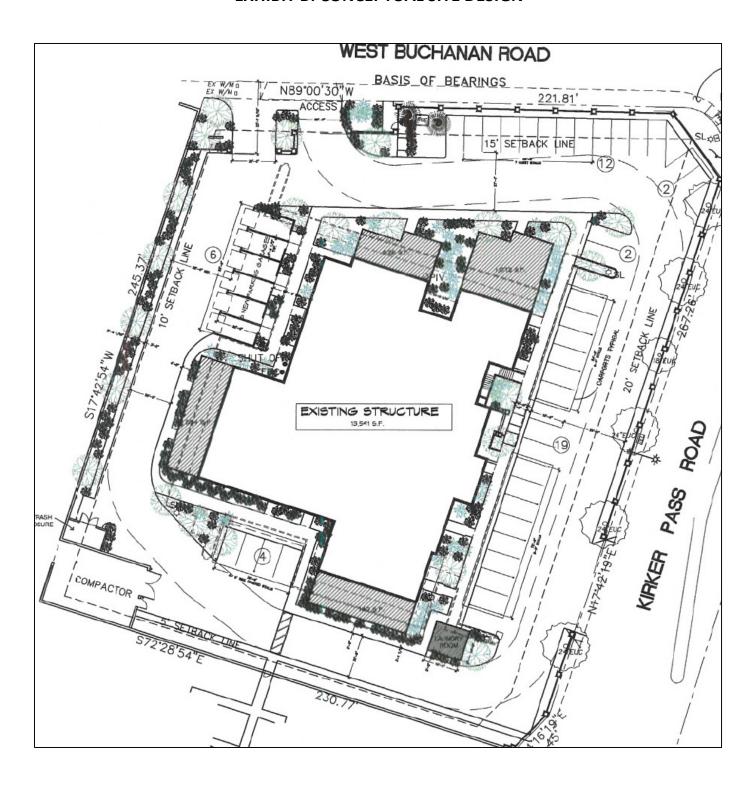




EXHIBIT B: CONCEPTUAL SITE DESIGN



ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:

nvironmental factors checked be ted by the following symbol: $oldsymbol{ olimits}$,	ould be potentially affected by	this pr	oject. Check marks are
Aesthetics		Agriculture and Forest Resources	V	Air Quality
Biological Resources		Cultural Resources		Geology/Soils
Greenhouse Gas Emissions		Hazards and Hazardous Materials		Hydrology and Water Quality
Land Use/Planning		Mineral Resources		Noise
Population/Housing		Public Services		Recreation
Transportation/Traffic		Utilities/Service Systems		Mandatory Findings of Significance

DETERMINATION: (To be completed by the Lead Agency)

On the	basis of this initial evaluation:				
	I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant eff a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.	ect on the environment, and			
V	I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.				
	I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect of ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.	on the environment, and ar			
	I find that the proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is require the effects that remain to be addressed.	least one effect 1) has beer le legal standards, and 2) has r analysis as described or			
	I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIF or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required				
Prepa	red By: <u>Jordan Davis, Associate Planner</u>				
	CERRAN	5/22/15			
Signat	rure	Date			
Revie	wed By: Kristin Pollot, AICP, Planning Manager				
	- Knopal	5/22/15.			
Signat	ture	Date			

I. Aesthetics:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the project have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?			V	

The project involves: 1) amending the General Plan designation for the site from Business Commercial to Medium Density Residential; 2) rezoning the site from CO (Office Commercial) District to RM (Medium Density Residential) District; and 3) converting the existing 13,591 square foot single-story office building into 18 new residential units with an additional 3,516 square feet of apartment space and laundry room facilities (17,107 total square feet). As proposed, the 18 new units would operate as an extension of the Woodland Hills apartment complex to the south and west of the site. Since only minor additions to the existing building would be required for the conversion, the site would substantially retain its existing character and result in no impact to any nearby scenic vistas.

As a result of the proposed General Plan amendment and rezoning, the maximum building height allowable on site would increase from 34 feet to 40 feet (Pittsburg Municipal Code [PMC] schedule 18.50.105 and Table 18.52.115), thereby slightly increasing the potential for the project to have an adverse impact on scenic vistas. However, the proposed project site is not identified in the Viewshed Analysis as having any importance as a scenic vista or as the site from which to view a scenic vista; and would therefore have no impact related to adverse effects on a scenic vista (City of Pittsburg General Plan, Figures 4-1 and 4-2). Therefore, this is a less than significant impact.

b) Would the project substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?				Ø
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There are no rock outcroppings or historic buildings in the vicinity of the project site (City of Pittsburg General Plan, Figure 9-3). In addition, according to the California Department of Transportation, there are no state scenic highways in the vicinity of the project (California Scenic Highway Mapping System, www.dot.ca.gov/hq/LandArch/scenic_highways/index.htm, accessed March 18, 2015).

1	Would the project substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?			Ø	
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The proposed project site is surrounded by existing single family residential development to the north, northwest, and northeast. To the immediate west, south, and southwest, there is an existing apartment complex, Woodland Hills, with additional single family homes beyond. To the east, across Kirker Pass Road, there are two single family homes located on two separate parcels totaling just over one and one-half acres. The existing 13,591 square foot single-story office building is proposed to be converted into 18 new residential units to be operated as an extension of the Woodland Hills apartment complex to the south and west of the site. An additional 3,516 square feet of apartment space and laundry room facilities would be constructed in conformance with the existing building design, and would be subject to a separate site specific design review application, in which findings would need to be made by the Planning Commission to ensure the development does not substantially degrade the existing visual character of the site and its surroundings (PMC chapter 18.36, Article III). Since only minor additions to the existing building would be required for the conversion, the site would substantially retain its existing character and result in a less than significant impact to the areas visual character and its surroundings.

d)	Would the project create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?		Ø

The proposed project would involve the conversion of an existing 13,591 square foot commercial building with an addition of 3,516 square feet of floor space construction (17,107 square feet total), into 18 apartments. The project involves a change in land use from business commercial to medium density residential, and a rezoning from CO (Office Commercial) to RM (Medium Density Residential). No additional security lighting is proposed at this time, and therefore there would be no change in the amount of lighting that may potentially spillover from the proposed project into nearby residences. If at a future time additional lighting is proposed it shall be required to meet the performance standards of Pittsburg Municipal Code (PMC) Section 18.82.030(G), which contains performance standards requiring that all security lighting be indirect or diffuse and shielded or directed away from any R (Residential) District within 100 feet, and would result in no impact.

Under the proposed zoning, no more than 22 residential units could be constructed on the 1.51 acre parcel, which are fewer than that which could potentially be built under the current zoning.

Additionally, as described in detail in section XVI.a, below, the proposed project would result in fewer residential units and vehicular trips than what would be allowed under current land use regulations, and would eliminate the potential for any vehicular trips associated with a commercial development on the

The Reserve at Woodland Hills, General Plan Amendment & Rezoning

site. Therefore, potential light or glare from vehicle headlights during nighttime hours would be reduced, and would cause no impact.

II. AGRICULTURE AND FOREST RESOURCES:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the project convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to nonagricultural use?				Ø
The proposed project site is currently develo Earth, 2015). There are no agricultural or farr Costa County Habitat Conservation Plan, Figur	nlands on or ir	n the vicinity of th	ne project site	e (East Contra
b) Would the project conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?				I
See Section II.a, above. There are no propertie project site (ftp://ftp.consrv.ca.gov/pub/dlrp/				•
c) Would the project conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)) or timberland (as defined in Public Resources Code section 4526)?				√

See Section II.a, above. There is no land identified as forest or timberland on or in the vicinity of the

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project site (City of Pittsburg General Plan, Figure 2-2).							
d) Would the project result in the forest land or conversion of forest use?					V		
See Sections II.a and II.c, above.							
e) Would the project involve other in the existing environment we to their location or nature, co in conversion of Farmland, agricultural use or conversion land to non-forest use?	hich, due uld result to non-				☑		
See Section II.a, above. There is no land set aside for agricultural uses on or in the vicinity of the proposed project site and the proposed change in land use would not result in a conversion of farmland to a non-agricultural use (General Plan, Figure 2-2). There is no impact.							

III. AIR QUALITY:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
 a) Would the project conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan? 			Ø	

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) is charged with developing regional air quality management plans for the Bay Area. Air quality management plans are based on air emissions inventories that are in turn based on data for existing and foreseeable future land uses from local general plans. The most recent plan adopted by the BAAQMD is the 2010 Clean Air Plan (CAP) and is based on assumptions and forecasts contained in the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) Regional Transportation Plan 2030 (RTP 2030) for traffic growth and on population growth projections found in the Association of Bay Area Government (ABAG) growth projections.

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The proposed project involves a General Plan amendment and rezoning from commercial to medium density residential use to allow for the conversion of an existing 13,591 square foot commercial building with an addition of 3,516 square feet of floor space construction (17,107 square feet total) into 18 apartment units. Because the proposed project involves a land use change, it was not considered, as it is proposed, in MTC's RTP 2030 or ABAG's projections on which the RTP is based, and would therefore not be reflected in BAAQMD's 2010 CAP.

Despite the fact that the BAAQMD 2010 CAP did not account for the proposed land use change and subdivision, the City of Pittsburg General Plan and zoning ordinance allow multi-family residential uses above or adjacent to ground floor office and retail uses in the CO (Office Commercial) Zone District with an increase in the allowable Floor Area Ratio (FAR) of up to 0.25 (25%) over that allowed in the applicable base district (0.50, or 50% in the CO District), provided that the residential floor area comprises no less than 25% and no more than 75% of the total square footage of all building(s) developed on site (City of Pittsburg General Plan, 2-19; and PMC section 18.52.010).

At full build-out under the current General Plan and zoning ordinance designations, the project site would be permitted up to a 0.75 FAR (or up to a 49,005 total square feet of development) with between 25% and 75% (12,251-36,753 square feet) of the total allowed square footage devoted to residential uses. This could potentially result in between 14 and 44 multi-family residential units (assuming an average 843 square foot unit based on the average unit of the proposed) (PMC Table 18.52.115; Staff Determination based on project plans submitted March 19, 2015). Under the proposed zoning, the minimum lot area per unit is 3,000 square feet (PMC Table 18.50.105); this means that under the proposed zoning, no more than 22 units could be constructed on the 1.51 acre parcel. Therefore, if the BAAQMD 2010 CAP was based on the City's General Plan and zoning, the operational and construction-related emissions associated with the proposed 18-unit multi-family project would result in fewer emissions than that which could potentially be permitted under current regulations, and the proposed project would result in a less than significant impact related to the conflicts with or obstruction of the BAAQMD 2010 CAP.

b) Would the project violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?		Ø		
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The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) is the agency that sets forth thresholds for acceptable levels of air quality emissions. On June 2, 2010, the BAAQMD's Board of Directors unanimously adopted new thresholds of significance to assist local jurisdictions during the review of projects that are subject to CEQA. These thresholds of significance were designed to establish the level at which the BAAQMD believed air pollution emissions would cause significant environmental impacts under CEQA. On March 5, 2012, the Alameda County Superior Court issued a judgment finding that the

BAAQMD had failed to comply with CEQA when it adopted the thresholds. The court did not determine whether the thresholds were valid on their merits, but found that the adoption of the thresholds was a project under CEQA. The court issued a writ of mandate ordering the BAAQMD to set aside the thresholds and cease dissemination of them until the BAAQMD had complied with CEQA. The BAAQMD appealed the Alameda County Superior Court's decision, and the Court of Appeal of the State of California, First Appellate District, reversed the trial court's decision. However, the Court of Appeal's decision has since been appealed to the California Supreme Court, where the matter is currently pending (Bay Area Air Quality Management District Updated CEQA Guidelines, http://www.baaqmd.gov/Divisions/Planning-and-Research/CEQA-GUIDELINES/Updated-CEQA-Guidelines.aspx, accessed on March 17, 2015).

In view of the court's order, which remains in place pending final resolution of the case, the BAAQMD is no longer recommending that the 2010 significance thresholds be used as a generally applicable measure of a project's significant air quality impacts. Lead agencies must determine appropriate air quality thresholds of significance based on substantial evidence in the record. Given that the court's judgment does not pertain to the scientific soundness of the significance thresholds contained in the BAAQMD 2010 CEQA Guidelines, and given that these thresholds are supported by substantial evidence, as provided by the BAAQMD in Appendix D of the Air Quality Guidelines, these thresholds are used in this Initial Study as a guide for determining the significance of potential air quality impacts associated with the proposed land use change and conversion/construction activities.

Section 3 of the BAAQMD 2010 CEQA Guidelines, "Screening Criteria," provides a conservative (worst-case) indication of whether the proposed project could result in potentially significant air quality impacts and is representative of new development on greenfield sites without any form of mitigation measure taken into consideration (BAAQMD 2010 CEQA Air Quality Guidelines, 3-1). If the project proposal remains below the established threshold identified within the Screening Criteria, it is not necessary to perform a detailed air quality assessment of the proposed project's air pollutant emissions. According to, "Table 3-1: Operational-Related Criteria Air Pollutant and Precursor Screening Level Sizes," the proposed project to convert the existing commercial building into 18 apartment units with an additional 3,516 square feet of construction would fall well under the operational screening criteria for reactive organic gases (ROG, up to 451 multifamily residential dwelling units) and greenhouse gases (GHG, up to 78 multifamily residential dwelling units) and for the construction related screening size for ROG (up to 240 multifamily residential dwelling units). This provides a conservative estimate based on brand new construction; however, the proposed project site has previously been developed, and the proposed project would only convert the existing commercial structure into a multifamily residential structure, with 3,516 square feet of additions.

The proposed conversion project following the proposed General Plan Amendment and Rezone would include a 3,516 square foot addition, as well as modifications to the existing structure's interior. The Screening Criteria does not provide a level at which particulate matter ($PM_{2.5}$ and PM_{10}) can be released during construction activities at less than significant levels. Because the region is in non-attainment for $PM_{2.5}$ and PM_{10} at the state and federal levels, construction-related activity could result in a potentially significant impact unless mitigated, and therefore any measures available to reduce construction related

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emissions should be incorporated into the project (Bay Area Air Quality Management District, Air Quality Standards and Attainment Status, http://hank.baaqmd.gov/pln/air_quality/ambient_air_quality.htm, accessed on March 4, 2015).

Impacts and Mitigation Measures

- Air Quality Impact 1: On-site construction activities created by the remodeling and expansion of the existing structure could release varying levels and sizes of fugitive dust which could result in a significant environmental impact and could result in a net increase of particulate matter, a criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under applicable federal or state ambient air quality standards. Incorporation of, "Basic Construction Mitigation Measures Recommended for all Proposed Projects," as described in Table 8-2 of the BAAQMD CEQA Air Quality Guidelines would reduce the project construction emissions to a level of less than significant.
- Air Quality Mitigation Measure 1: The project shall comply with the following BAAQMD basic construction mitigation measures:
 - A. Any exposed surfaces (e.g., unpaved parking areas, staging areas, soil piles, graded areas) shall be watered two times per day.
 - B. Any haul trucks transporting soil, sand, or other loose material off-site shall be covered.
 - C. Any visible mud or dirt track-out onto adjacent public roads shall be removed using wet power vacuum street sweepers at least once per day. The use of dry power sweeping is prohibited.
 - D. Building pads shall be laid immediately after grading unless seeding or soil binders are used.
 - E. Idling times shall be minimized either by shutting equipment off when not in use or reducing the maximum idling time to five minutes (as required by the California airborne toxics control measure Title 13, Section 2485 of California Code of Regulations [CCR]). Clear signage informing workers of this provision shall be provided for construction workers at all access points.
 - F. All construction equipment shall be maintained and properly tuned in accordance with manufacturer's specifications. All equipment shall be checked by a certified mechanic and determined to be running in proper condition prior to operation.
 - G. Post a publicly visible sign with the telephone number and person to contact at the Lead Agency regarding dust complaints. This person shall respond and take corrective action within 48 hours. The Air District's phone number shall also be visible to ensure compliance with applicable regulations.

c) Would the project result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?				
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The San Francisco Bay Area Air Basin is in nonattainment of state and federal standards for ozone and PM_{2.5}, and in nonattainment of the state standard for PM₁₀ (BAAQMD, Air Quality Standards and Attainment Status, http://hank.baaqmd.gov/pln/air_quality/ambient_air_quality.htm, accessed on March 17, 2015).

The BAAQMD 2010 CEQA Air Quality Guidelines state that BAAQMD emissions thresholds were developed such that emissions from an individual project that exceed the threshold would result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of that criteria pollutant for which the project region is designated as nonattainment. As noted in Section III.b, above, construction impacts associated with the proposed project would fall under the Screening Criteria set forth in the 2010 BAAQMD CEQA Air Quality Guidelines for criteria pollutant for which the area in in non-attainment.

Implementation of **AQ MM 1** would reduce the emissions of PM during construction activities to levels of less than significant. Therefore, no further analysis is required and no additional mitigation measures are required beyond the basic construction mitigation measure (AQ MM 1) previously discussed.

d)	Would the project expose receptors to substantial		V	
	concentrations?			

Sensitive receptors are defined as facilities (schools, hospitals) or land uses (residential neighborhoods) that include members of the population (children, the elderly, and people with illnesses) that are particularly sensitive to the effects of air pollutants. While the project site would have the potential to locate new sensitive land use receptors to the area, and it is proximate to existing sensitive receptors in nearby residential neighborhoods (staff determination), as noted in Section III.b, above, construction impacts associated with the proposed project would fall under the Screening Criteria set forth in the 2010 BAAQMD CEQA Air Quality Guidelines for criteria pollutant for which the area is in non-attainment.

Implementation of **AQ MM 1** would reduce the construction emissions of PM to levels of less than significant. Therefore, no further analysis is required and no additional mitigation measures are required beyond the basic construction mitigation measure previously discussed, and potential impacts to

CEQA Initial Study Checklist The Reserve at Woodland Hills, General Plan Amendment & Rezoning
sensitive receptors would be considered a less than significant impact.

e) Would the project create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?				abla
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Land uses primarily associated with odorous emissions include waste transfer and recycling stations, wastewater treatment plants, landfills, composting operations, petroleum operations, food and byproduct processes, factories, and agricultural activities, such as livestock operations. The proposed change in land use from Business Commercial to Medium Density Residential, rezoning from CO (Office Commercial) to RM (Medium Density Residential), and the conversion of an existing commercial building into 18 multifamily residential dwelling units, would eliminate the possibility of any intensive, odor causing commercial uses from locating at the site, thereby resulting in no impact.

IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES:

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Would the project have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?				

The proposed project is currently developed, with development on all sides (site visit and Google Earth). The proposed project would involve the conversion of an existing 13,591 square foot commercial building with an addition of 3,516 square feet of floor space construction (17,107 square feet total), into 18 apartment units. The additional building square footage would be located on land that has previously been developed. Therefore, there is no impact.

See Section IV.a, above.

wildlife nursery sites?

the

project

substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or

wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native

interfere

d) Would

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Potentially Significant with Impact Significant with Impact Impact a) Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a

defined in

historical

'15064.5?

resource as

The proposed project site is currently developed, with existing development on all sides (Site Visit and Google Earth). The proposed project would involve the conversion of an existing 13,591 square foot commercial building with an addition of 3,516 square feet of floor space construction (17,107 square feet total), into 18 apartment units. According to Chapter 8-2 from the Pittsburg General Plan Update: Existing Conditions and Planning Issues Report (June 1998), there are no known sensitive historic, archeological or cultural areas located in proximity to the project site. Since the entire 1.51 acre parcel is currently developed and does not contain a historical resource as defined in Government Code Section 15064.5, there would be no impact.

See Section V.b, above.

VI. GEOLOGY AND SOILS:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact				
a) Would the project expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:								
1) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault?			Ø					
There are no Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zones located in the City of Pittsburg; however, the project site is located within a seismically active region. The project involves a change in land use from business commercial to medium density residential, and the conversion of an existing structure with only minor expansions (3,516 square feet of new floor area). As a result, the proposal would not contribute to geologic and seismic hazards, geologic problems, such as fault rupture, seismic ground shaking & failure, landslides, etc. However, because the project site is located within a seismically active region (California Department of Conservation, California Geological Survey, Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zones, http://www.consrv.ca.gov/cgs/rghm/ap/affected.htm, accessed on March 4, 2015), potential impacts associated with the proposed development would be considered less than significant.								
2) Strong seismic ground shaking?			V					
See Section VI.a.i, above.								
Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?			V					

See Section VI.a.i, above.

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4) Landslides?				$\overline{\checkmark}$	
The project site is flat and is not located in a would have no impact related to landslides (C		•		therefore, it	
b) Would the project result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?				V	
The entire 1.51 acre parcel is currently develor Google Earth). Construction activities due to project would not require any grading active erosion by water or wind. The disturbance triggers the National Pollutant Discharge Eimplement a storm water pollution prevention impact.	to the remode vities, and wou footprint woullimination Syst	and expansion ald therefore no d not exceed the em (NPDES) re	element of took subject expended the one-acre the quirement to	the proposed osed soils to nreshold that prepare and	
c) Would the project be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in			V		

According to the USDA Soil Survey (websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/WebSoilSurvey.aspx, accessed March 4, 2015), the northern half (approximate) of the site primarily consists of Capay Clay soils with a 2% to 9% slope, while the southern half (approximate) of the site primarily consists of Rincon Clay Loam soils with a 9% to 15% slope. Both soil types have a high shrink-swell potential and the expansion or contraction of underlying soils can cause heaving and/or cracking of slabs-on-grade, pavements and structures on shallow foundations. The entire 1.51 acre project site has previously been developed, with existing development on all sides (Site Visit and Google Earth). However, the project includes an additional 3,516 square feet of building space to be constructed, 3,292 of which would be for residential use. This additional building square footage creates a minor increase in the potential for the heaving and/or cracking of slabs-on-grade, pavements and structures on shallow foundations. Since the project site has been previously developed and the proposed building expansion areas have been previously paved, this would be a less than significant impact.

on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or

collapse?

disposal systems; therefore, the project would have no impact in this area.

VII. **GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS:**

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the project generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?			Ø	

The BAAQMD has developed thresholds of significance and methodologies for assessing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions impacts in its CEQA Air Quality Guidelines (2010). According to the BAAQMD, the significance thresholds are designed to enable the Bay Area to meet its emissions reduction goals to comply with Assembly Bill (AB) 32, the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006. As described in Air Quality Section III.b, above, although the BAAQMD CEQA thresholds are effectively set aside pursuant to a legal challenge, the thresholds have been used to evaluate the potential impacts of this project because they are supported by substantial evidence and because they represent the best information available to measure potential impacts related to Air Quality and GHGs.

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BAAQMD's approach to developing a Threshold of Significance for operational GHG emissions is to determine the emissions level for which a project would not be expected to substantially conflict with existing California legislation adopted to reduce statewide GHG emissions needed to move us towards climate stabilization. If a project would generate GHG emissions at or above this threshold level, it would be considered to contribute substantially to a cumulative impact, and would be considered significant. The Thresholds of Significance for operational-related GHG emissions for land use development projects are: compliance with a qualified GHG Reduction Strategy (see Section 4.3 of *BAAQMD CEQA Air Quality Guidelines* (2010)); or annual emissions less than 1,100 metric tons per year (MT/yr) of CO2e; or 4.6 MT CO2e/SP/yr (residents + employees). Land use development projects include residential, commercial, industrial, and public land uses and facilities.

The screening criteria identified in this section of the *BAAQMD CEQA Air Quality Guidelines* are not thresholds of significance. The Air District developed screening criteria to provide lead agencies and project applicants with a conservative indication of whether the proposed project could result in potentially significant air quality impacts. These screening levels are generally representative of new development on greenfield sites without any form of mitigation measures taken into consideration in order to plan for a worst case scenario; for projects that are mixed-use, infill, and/or proximate to transit service and local services, emissions would be less than the greenfield type project that these screening criteria are based on. As described in Section III.b, above, the proposed project includes the adaptive reuse of an existing commercial building with an additional 3,516 square feet of new construction, to be converted into 18 apartment units. This size residential development would be below the operational screening criteria for GHGs (up to 78 single family residential dwelling units; Section 3, Table 3-1, Operational-Related Criteria Air Pollutant and Precursor Screening Level Sizes).

Additionally, the City of Pittsburg General Plan and zoning ordinance allow multi-family residential uses above or adjacent to ground floor office and retail uses in the CO (Office Commercial) Zone District with an increase in the allowable Floor Area Ratio (FAR) of up to 0.25 (25%) over that allowed in the applicable base district (0.50, or 50% in the CO District), provided that the residential floor area comprises no less than 25% and no more than 75% of the total square footage of all building(s) developed on site (City of Pittsburg General Plan, 2-19; and PMC section 18.52.010). At full build-out under the current General Plan and zoning ordinance designations, the project site would be permitted up to a 0.75 FAR (or up to a 49,005 total square feet of development) with between 25% and 75% (12,251-36,753 square feet) of the total allowed square footage devoted to residential uses. This could potentially result in between 14 and 44 multi-family residential units (assuming an average 843 square foot unit based on the average unit of the proposed) (PMC Table 18.52.115; Staff Determination based on project plans submitted March 19, 2015). Under the proposed zoning, the minimum lot area per unit is 3,000 square feet (PMC Table 18.50.105); this means that under the proposed zoning, no more than 22 units could be constructed on the 1.51 acre parcel, half the number of units that could potentially be constructed under the current zoning. Therefore, GHG emissions associated with the proposed project would be considered a less than significant impact.

See Section VIII.a, above.

environment?

through reasonably foreseeable upset

and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the

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The project site is not located within an airport land use plan nor is it located within two miles of an

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not been adopted, within two miles of a

public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in

the project area?

are intermixed with wildlands?

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airport; therefore, there would be no impact re (Contra Costa County Airports, http://www.ccco		-		-
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?				Ø
The project site is not located within an airpo private airstrip; therefore, there would be no in airport (Contra Costa County Airports, http://s.2015).	mpact relate	ed to safety hazar	ds within the	vicinity of ar
g) Would the project impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?				V
The City of Pittsburg Emergency Operations PI 10223). The EOP outlines procedures for educa establishes procedures for responding to communication systems, provision of medical a and government leadership roles in the after project would not modify any provision of the Ethe emergency evacuation or response plan. h) Would the project expose people or	emergencessistance, a	olic about emerge y situations, in nd maintenance o significant emerge	ncy prepared cluding man f local financi ency event. T	ness and also nagement o ing structures The proposed
 h) Would the project expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences 				Ø

The project involves a change in land use from Business Commercial to Medium Density Residential, and the conversion of an existing structure with only minor expansions. The project site is approximately

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one-quarter mile from areas identified as large open spaces where wildland fires would likely occur (City of Pittsburg General Plan, 11-17). However, the proposed project site is currently developed, and is surrounded by existing development on every side, and does not abut grasslands which pose the threat of wildland fires (City of Pittsburg General Plan, 11-17; Google Earth). In addition, the project site is located within the 1.5 mile response radius for fire services (General Plan Figure 11-2). Therefore, there would be no impact anticipated relative to wildland fires.

IX. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the project violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?			Ø	

The entire 1.51 acre parcel is currently developed, with existing development on all sides (Site Visit and Google Earth). Construction activities of the proposed project would not require any grading activities, and the disturbance footprint would not exceed the one-acre threshold that triggers the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) requirement to prepare and implement a storm water pollution prevention plan (SWPPP) (PMC section 15.88).

Additionally, the proposed project includes a Stormwater Control Plan, which specifies how stormwater run-off from the site during and post-construction would be treated and minimized (The Reserve at Woodland Hills Stormwater Control Plan, February 2015).

As stated under section VII.a above, under the proposed new zoning for the site, no more than 22 units could be constructed on the 1.51 acre parcel, which is half the number of units that could potentially be constructed under the current zoning.

Since fewer residential units may be permitted under the proposed zoning, potential sources of stormwater pollutants, including: heavy metals and oils/greases from routine vehicle storage, potential dumping of wash water or other liquids into storm drain inlets, sidewalks and parking lots, indoor and outdoor pest control chemicals, fertilizers and pesticides used in home and garden maintenance, and spillage within outdoor trash enclosure and trash compactor areas, are estimated to be reduced. Therefore, the impact would be considered less than significant.

b)	Would the project substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?			Ø	
the 1.5 Ear sup	e project involves a change in land use from conversion of an existing structure with on 1 acre parcel is currently developed, with th). The proposed project site does not supplies, which are taken from groundwater we no: Existing Conditions and Planning Issues, 20	lly minor bu existing dev ubstantially ells in City P	ilding expansions a elopment on all s contribute to the	and remodelir ides (Site Visi recharge of	ng. The entire t and Google groundwater
app we 66, acc less zon and	e proposed 18 new residential lots have the proximately 56 people, and thus, theoreticalls. The total population for the City of Pitts 2703 (U.S. Census 2013 American Communessed on March 9, 2015). The proposed prost than one percent (see Section XIII.a, beloning would reduce the potential number of reducing designations (see Section VII.a, about ity's population.	Ily may incrourg based on the survey oject would ow); howevesidential un	rease water demand on the most recent 1-Year Estimates potentially increa wer, the change in the could be be	nd and pumpind and pumping U.S. Census end, http://www.se the City's pland use despuilt under cur	ng at existing estimates was accensus.gov/, copulation by signation and crent land use
for	ditionally, the project would increase the an more areas where water may penetrate to ject would have a less than significant impac	provide gro	oundwater recharg	e. Therefore,	the proposed
c)	Would the project substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a				

There are no streams or rivers on or within the boundaries of the project site (site visit, General Plan,

manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or

off-site?

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Figure 2-2). The project involves a change in land use from business commercial to medium density residential, and the conversion of an existing structure with only minor building expansions and remodeling. The entire 1.51 acre parcel is currently developed, with existing development on all sides (Site Visit and Google Earth). Roof stormwater runoff would be directed to pervious landscaped areas surrounding the perimeter of the building. All other water would continue to drain into existing storm water drainage facilities (*The Reserve at Woodland Hills Preliminary Drainage Plan*, March 2015). In addition, the proposed project includes a Stormwater Control Plan, which specifies how stormwater runoff from the site during and post-construction would be treated and minimized (The Reserve at Woodland Hills Stormwater Control Plan, February 2015). Therefore, development of the project site as proposed would not substantially change existing drainage patterns or alter existing rivers or streams on site or in the vicinity resulting in substantial erosion, and would induce no impact.

d)	Would the project substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner that would result in flooding on- or off-site?			Ø
See	e Section IX.c, above.			
e)	Would the project create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?			
See	e Section IX.c, above.			
f)	Would the project create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?		Ø	

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See Section IX.a-b, above. The project involves a change in land use from commercial to medium density residential, and the conversion of an existing structure with only minor building expansions and remodeling. The entire 1.51 acre parcel is currently developed, with existing development on all sides (Site Visit and Google Earth). The proposed change in land use and building remodel and conversion would not create additional impervious surfaces that would increase stormwater runoff to an extent that would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff. Additionally, the project would increase the amount of pervious surface by 1,778 square feet, allowing for more areas where water may penetrate to provide groundwater recharge.

The proposed project includes a Stormwater Control Plan, which specifies how stormwater run-off from the site during and post-construction would be collected, treated, and minimized (The Reserve at Woodland Hills Stormwater Control Plan, February 2015). Therefore, the project is not expected to result in additional stormwater runoff that would exceed the capacity limitations of the existing system and the impact would be considered less than significant.

g)	Would the project place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?		☑
in ı	e project site is located outside of the 100-year no impact relative to flooding (Flood and Insura , 2009). There is no impact.		
h)	Would the project place within a 100- year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?		7
See	e Section IX.g, above.		
i)	Would the project expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?		Ø

The project site is located within Flood Hazard Area Zone X, an area with a minimal flood hazard, as

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shown on the June 16, 2009 FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM). There are no levees or dams located upstream of the project site with the potential to inundate the site as the result of failure, resulting in no impact (Bay Area Dam Failure Inundation Maps, Association of Bay Area Governments, http://www.abag.ca.gov/bayarea/eqmaps/dfpickc.html, accessed on March 9, 2015).

j)	Would the project lead to inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?				
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The project site is not vulnerable to inundation by a seiche or tsunami in that the project site is approximately 2¾ miles away from the Suisun Bay, where there is only a slight possibility of small events impacting the area (Pittsburg General Plan Update: Existing Conditions and Planning Issues, 285). In addition, the project site is generally flat and surrounded by development, and would therefore not be subject to mudflow (Pittsburg General Plan Update: Existing Conditions and Planning Issues, 285). Therefore, the project would have no impact relative to inundation by seiche, tsunami or mudflow.

X. LAND USE AND PLANNING:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the project physically divide an established community?				

The project involves a change in land use from business commercial to medium density residential, and the conversion of an existing structure with only minor building expansions and remodeling. The entire 1.51 acre parcel is currently developed, with existing development on all sides (Site Visit and Google Earth). The project site is primarily surrounded by existing residential development. Located to the north, northwest and northeast, and across Buchanan Road, there are existing single family homes of various ages. To the immediate west, south and southwest, there is an existing apartment complex, Woodland Hills, with additional single family homes beyond. To the east across Kirker Pass Road, there two single family homes located on two separate parcels totaling just over one and one-half acres. Both properties include primary access onto Kirker Pass Road. While there are existing single family homes on these two parcels, the area has a General Plan land use designation of Business Commercial and is zoned PD (Planned Development, Ordinance No. 96-1114) District. The PD zoning allows for flexible use of the two residential parcels (allowing either residential or commercial office uses).

The land use change to allow medium density residential at the site would not be out of character for

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the neighborhood and would not physically divide the community (Staff determination). As such, the proposed project would result in no impact related to physically dividing an established community.

b) Would the project conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?			V	
-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--	--	---	--

As stated in the project description, the applicant is seeking a General Plan amendment and Rezoning to designate the project site as medium density residential. The property is currently designated within the General Plan as Business Commercial and zoned CO (Office Commercial). Multifamily residential is a permitted use in the CO District, provided the residences are located above or adjacent to ground floor office, restaurant or retail use on the same site, subject to design review (PMC Section 18.52.010). The applicant is seeking this General Plan amendment and rezoning to allow medium density residential to be permitted on the project site without the establishment of a commercial or office use.

The project site has a General Plan land use designation of Business Commercial, which is intended to be developed to a maximum 1.0 FAR and to provide sites for commercial developments such as administrative, financial, business, professional, medical, research and development, and public offices, as well as light industrial uses such as custom manufacturing, limited assembly, light manufacturing, warehousing, and distribution (Pittsburg General Plan, 2-20). Multiple General Plan goals and policies call for the retention of existing Business Commercial land for economic and job development purposes within the City (General Plan Goal 2-G-2; Policy 2-P-10; Policy 2-P-11; and, Policy 2-P-48). Specifically, General Plan Policy 2-P-11 requires that the city not allow sites designated for Business Commercial uses to be changed to another land use designation unless it is determined that adequate sites are available elsewhere to meet the City's office and business development objectives (General Plan Page 2-30). These policies were adopted during the Pittsburg General Plan Update in 2001, and at that time, approximately 300 acres within the city limits were devoted to Business Commercial land uses (Page 2-41). Therefore, the baseline by which policy 2-P-11 can be measured would be a minimum of 300 acres of land that must be maintained with a Business Commercial designation in order to ensure there are adequate available sites in the city. The Railroad Avenue Specific Plan (RASP), adopted by the City Council in 2009, designated an additional approximate 8.53 acres of land as Business Commercial (Railroad Avenue Specific Plan, Page 67), and specified that these areas allow up to 1.0 FAR, and permit light industrial, commercial and retail uses (Railroad Avenue Specific Plan, Page 89). While the RASP designated this additional Business Commercial acreage within its boundaries, these areas have been identified within the General Plan Land Use Map as Mixed-Use, and were therefore not counted toward

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the approximate 300 acres of existing devoted Business Commercial land. The development standards and permitted uses of the RASP's Business Commercial land use designation are in clear alignment with those of the General Plan's Business Commercial designation; however, even though these uses are aligned, the RASP's Business Commercial description is also considered consistent with the underlying general plan designation for the entire RASP project area, as Mixed Use. The RASP is consistent with the General Plan; however, the discrepancy between the RASP Business Commercial designations and the General Plan's overall Mixed Use designation has resulted in an unaccounted for surplus of approximately 8.53 acres of Business Commercial land within the city.

The proposed General Plan Amendment and rezoning project would re-designate 1.51 acres of Business Commercial to Medium Density Residential. In addition, on October 13, 2013, the Pittsburg City Council adopted Ordinance No. 13-1378, approving a General Plan Amendment to re-designate a 4.40 acre parcel from Business Commercial to Medium Density Residential. Both of these projects combined would total 5.91 acres of land removed from the existing general plan Business Commercial land bank. However, according to the discussion provided above, there is an existing surplus of 8.53 acres. Removal of 5.91 acres from the existing surplus would still leave a surplus of 2.62 acres. Therefore, the proposed General Plan Amendment does not conflict with General Plan Policy 2-P-11.

Additionally, the Business Commercial designation for this site is generally intended for economic and job development purposes rather than for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating environmental impacts. The current land use designation and zoning does allow medium density residential development as part of a mixed use development; therefore, the proposed project would not conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect. This is a less than significant impact.

c) Would the project conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?				
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See Section IV.a, above.

XI. MINERAL RESOURCES:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the project result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	e П			V
There are no known mineral resources or d the proposed project would have no important planning Issues, Figure 12-3).	-		-	
b) Would the project result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery sit delineated on a local general plant specific plan or other land use plan?	nt e 🗆			V
See Section XI.a, above.				
XII. NOISE:				
	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the project exposure of person to or generation of noise levels in exces of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, capplicable standards of other agencies?	ss al 🗆 or			Ø

The project involves a change in land use from business commercial to medium density residential, and the conversion of an existing structure with only minor building expansions and remodeling. Residential uses are generally identified as noise sensitive uses, not noise generating uses (Pittsburg General Plan, Chapter 12.1, Noise Measurement), so the land use change proposed would actually have a beneficial

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impact on surrounding ambient noise levels since the possibility of siting an intensive, noise generating commercial use would be eliminated. Therefore, there is no impact.

b)	Would the project result in exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?				Ø
Se	e Section XII.a, above.				
c)	Would the project result in a substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?				Ø
Se	e Section XII.a, above.				
d)	Would the project result in a substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?			V	
de wit ap int zoi wo	e proposed project involves a General Plan and insity residential use to allow for the conversion the an addition of 3,516 square feet of floor artment units. The proposed conversion would erior. As described in Section VII.a, fewer residing, resulting in a reduction in potential soluted be considered a less than significant imparts.	on of an exist space con ald also requisidential un sidential un urces of an	sting 13,591 square struction (17,107 s uire modifications its would be perm	e foot comme square feet to to the existinated under to	ercial building total) into 18 ng structure's the proposed
G)	land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?				Ø

The project site is not located within an airport land use plan nor is it located within two miles of an

f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the		

The project site is not located within an airport land use plan nor is it within two miles of an airport (Contra Costa County Airports, http://www.cccounty.us/4694/Airports, accessed on March 9, 2015).

XIII. POPULATION AND HOUSING:

project area to excessive noise levels?

2015).

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the project induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?			Ø	

The project involves a change in land use from business commercial to medium density residential, and the conversion of an existing structure with only minor building expansions and remodeling. The proposed project would result in 18 new multifamily residential units. The most recent Census estimates for average household size for renter-occupied units in the City of Pittsburg is 3.11 persons (U.S. Census 2013 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, http://www.census.gov/, accessed on March 9, 2015), which means the proposed 18 new residential units have the potential to increase the population of Pittsburg by approximately 56 people. The total population for the City of Pittsburg based on the most recent U.S. Census estimates was 66,703 (U.S. Census 2013 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, http://www.census.gov/, accessed on March 9, 2015), which means the proposed project would potentially increase the City's population by less than one percent.

As discussed under Section VII.a above, the proposed the maximum number of units that could be constructed under the current land use regulations would be 44 units, which would equate to approximately 137 people. Since the potential population increase associated with this project would be less than what would be permitted under the current land use regulations, the impact on potential population growth would be considered less than significant.

The proposed project is located within the 1.5 mile response radii of Fire Station 84 located at 1903 Railroad Avenue (General Plan, Figure 11-2). While the proposed multifamily residence could result in increased risk of fire in the area due to additional people residing on the site, the proximity of the site to

1) Fire protection?

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the fire station would ensure that the project would not cause an increase in response times and would not significantly impact acceptable service ratios for the surrounding fire stations (Staff Determination).

2) Police protection?			Ø	
The proposed project site is within development would potentially reassumed to be associated with this than what would be permitted unabove); therefore, the impact would	esult in additional popular proposed project (56 peo der the current land use	ation; however ople, see section	the number XIII.a above)	of resident would be les
3) Schools?				
Development under the proposed dictated by state law, prior to the Pittsburg Unified School District construction and \$0.47 per square Government Code Section 65996, punder CEQA. Therefore, any result payment of the PUSD's development	issuance of a building per currently collects are \$2 e foot for new commercia payment of such fees cons ting increase in school er	mit. The maxim 2.97 per square Il and industrial titutes full mitig arollment would	um developer e foot for ne construction. gation of any so	fees that the w residentia According to chool impact
4) Parks?				

The conversion of the project site from commercial uses to residential uses would result in additional people living in the City, thereby increasing demand for park services. Each multifamily rental housing project is subject to the park land dedication requirements prescribed by PMC 17.32.020 because apartments contribute to increased demand for community and neighborhood parks in the same manner as condominiums and single-family housing. The applicant must dedicate land or pay a fee, or dedicate land and pay a fee in combination as provided by PMC 17.32.020(G). Fees required pursuant to this subsection are calculated according to a schedule adopted by the City Council by resolution or ordinance and are payable at the time a building permit is issued. Developer compliance mandated by these requirements is adequate to mitigate impacts relative to provision of parks, and this impact is considered less than significant.

The project involves a change in land use from business commercial to medium density residential, and the conversion of an existing structure with only minor building expansions and remodeling. The

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b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or

effect on the environment?

expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical

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proposed project would result in 18 new multifamily residential units, and does not propose new or expanded recreational facilities.

XVI. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC:

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Would the project exceed the capacity of the existing circulation system, based on an applicable measure of effectiveness (as designated in a general plan policy, ordinance, etc.), taking into account all relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit?				V

The proposed project contains a requested General Plan amendment and rezoning from commercial to residential uses to allow for the conversion of an existing 13,591 square foot commercial building with an addition of 3,516 square feet of floor space construction (17,107 square feet total), into 18 apartments. As described in section VII.a, the proposed project would result in fewer residential units than what would be allowed under current land use regulations and would eliminate the potential for any vehicular trips associated with a commercial development on the site.

At full build-out under the current General Plan and zoning ordinance designations, the project site would be permitted up to a 0.75 FAR (or up to a 49,005 total square feet of development) with between 25% and 75% (12,251-36,753 square feet) of the total allowed square footage devoted to residential uses. This could potentially result in between 14 and 44 multi-family residential units (assuming an average 843 square foot unit based on the average unit of the proposed) (PMC Table 18.52.115; Staff Determination based on project plans submitted March 19, 2015). According to the trip generation rates identified by the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE), the possible development of 44 apartment units (ITE Code 220) together with 12,252 square feet of general office building space (ITE Code 710) would potentially result in maximum daily trip generation totals of 295.68 and 134.89, respectively.

Under the proposed zoning, the minimum lot area per unit is 3,000 square feet (PMC Table 18.50.105); this means that under the proposed zoning, no more than 22 units could be constructed on the 1.51 acre parcel. According to the trip generation rates identified by the ITE, the development of 22 apartment units (ITE Code 220) would potentially result in a maximum of 147.84 daily trips.

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Since the proposed land use change would result in a net reduction of the maximum potential daily trips associated with the site, it is anticipated that impacts on the existing circulation system associated with the land use change proposed would be proportionately reduced and therefore there would be no impact.

b)	Would the project conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including, but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards standard established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?		Ø	
See	e Section XVI.a, above.			
c)	Would the project result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that result in substantial safety risks?			Ø
	e project site is not located within an airport ontra Costa County Airports, http://www.cccou	•		•
d)	Would the project substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?			Ø

The project involves a change in land use from business commercial to medium density residential, and the conversion of an existing structure with only minor building expansions and remodeling. Vehicular access to and from the site would utilize the same access points that are currently present, and which were designed in accordance with the City's standard details for site development. Since there will be no change from current conditions, there would be no impact.

f)	Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or		
	programs supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?		

The proposed project is located at the southwest corner of Railroad Avenue and Buchanan Road. There are existing sidewalks adjacent to the site and there are two Tri-Delta Transit lines that pass this intersection: Weekday Route 380 and Weekend Routes 393 (Tri-Delta Transit System Map, http://www.trideltatransit.com/local_bus.aspx, accessed on March 9, 2015). Redevelopment of the proposed project would not modify any existing sidewalks, bike lanes or conflict with existing bus transit facilities or routes. Rather, locating additional residential units at the site in close proximity to the routes would provide a benefit to a greater number of potential residents under the proposed new land use designation for the site, thereby resulting in a beneficial impact for existing alternate transportation systems.

XVII. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the project exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?			Ø	

The project involves a change in land use designation, from business commercial to medium density

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residential. Future wastewater that may be generated on the site would be conveyed to and treated at the Delta Diablo Sanitation District (DDSD) wastewater treatment plant, located north of the Pittsburg-Antioch Highway in the City of Antioch (City of Pittsburg General Plan, 11-9). Due to the change in land use proposed, future wastewater would include sanitary flow only and would not include flows from heavy commercial or manufacturing operations that generate large wastewater flows. Therefore, potential future flows are not anticipated to result in the treatment plant exceeding its treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB).

b) Would the project require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?			abla	
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Water Facilities:

Raw (untreated) water supplies for the City of Pittsburg are provided by the Contra Costa Water District (CCWD) and supplemented by two municipal wells (City of Pittsburg General Plan, 11-3). Raw water supplies are treated at the City's Water Treatment Plant. The most recent Pittsburg Water System Master Plan (2010) considered development of the site under the Business Commercial General Plan land use classification and determined that the existing treatment plant has the capacity to serve the project site (Water System Master Plan, Akel Engineering Group, 2010, Figure 3.1, General Plan Land Use). The proposed project contains a requested General Plan amendment and rezoning from commercial to residential uses to allow for the conversion of an existing 13,591 square foot commercial building with an addition of 3,516 square feet of floor space (17,107 square feet total), into 18 apartments. Because the proposed project involves a land use change, it was not considered, as it is proposed, in the City' Water System Master Plan.

Despite the fact that the Water System Master Plan did not account for the proposed land use change, the City of Pittsburg General Plan and Zoning allow multi-family residential uses above or adjacent to ground floor office and retail uses in the CO (Office Commercial) Zone District with an increase of up to 0.25 FAR over that allowed in the applicable base district, provided, that the residential floor area comprises no less than 25% and no more than 75% of the total square footage of building developed on site (City of Pittsburg General Plan, 2-19; PMC section 18.52.010). At full build-out under the current General Plan and Zoning designations, the project site would be permitted up to a 0.75 FAR (or up to a 49,005 total square feet of development) with between 25% and 75% of the total allowed square footage (12,251-36,753 square feet) devoted to residential uses. This would potentially result in between 14 and 44 multi-family residential units (assuming an average 843 square foot unit based on the average unit of the proposed) (PMC Table 18.52.115; Staff Determination based on project plans submitted March 19, 2015). Therefore, the City' Water System Master Plan based on the current

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General Plan and Zoning designations have identified that there is adequate water supply for up to 44 units or 36,753 square feet of residential space. Since the proposed project includes construction of 18 residential units, with a maximum of 22 allowed, anticipated water usage would be less than what was assumed in the City's Water System Master Plan, resulting in a less than significant impact related to water demand.

Wastewater Facilities:

Wastewater generated in the City of Pittsburg is conveyed to and treated at DDSD's wastewater treatment plant, which has an average dry weather flow capacity of 16.5 million gallons per day (mgd). DDSD collects Capital Facility Capacity Charges to build capacity as new connections are added to its conveyance system. Capacity is provided through facilities constructed by DDSD as prescribed in the Conveyance and Treatment Master Plans, which use General Plan land use data for the communities in the DDSD service area. The project site is identified in the City of Pittsburg 2007 Wastewater Collection System Master Plan (Amendment No. 2) as sewer sub-basin DP421 (Figure 2.1). The proposed project contains a requested General Plan amendment and rezoning from commercial to residential uses to allow for the conversion of an existing 13,591 square foot commercial building with an addition of 3,516 square feet of floor space (17,107 square feet total), into 18 apartments..

The anticipated sewer flow from commercial development is 1,000 gallons per day per acre (gpd/ac) and the anticipated sewer flow from residential development is 220 gallons per day per unit (General Plan, Table 11-2, Wastewater Flow Projections). Existing flows associated with the current commercial structure equate to 1,510 gallons per day; however, maximum development of the site under current zoning, as described in paragraph two of Section XVII.b, above, could result in 9,961 gallons per day (assuming 12,252 sq. ft. of commercial development and 44 multi-family residential units). Since the proposed project would result in less sewer flow than what could be permitted under current land use regulations, the impact would be less than significant related to wastewater treatment facilities.

c)	Would the project require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?			Ø	
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As noted in Section IX (Hydrology/Water) above, the proposed project would have a footprint substantially the same as existing conditions and would be covered under a Stormwater Control Plan to provide treatment and source control measures (The Reserve at Woodland Hills Stormwater Control Plan) as appropriate. Therefore, the proposed project would not result in significant environmental effects necessitating the expansion of or construction of new wastewater facilities.

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d) Would the project have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?			Ø	
See Section XVII.b, above.				
e) Would the project result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?			V	
See Section XVII.b, above.				
f) Would the project be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to				

accommodate the project's solid waste

disposal needs?

The proposed project would be served by Pittsburg Disposal Service, which provides solid waste pick-up and disposal services to most of Pittsburg. Solid waste generated within the City of Pittsburg is disposed of at the Potrero Hills landfill (General Plan, 11-12). The Potrero Hills landfill has a permitted capacity of 83.1 million cubic yards, with approximately 13.9 million cubic yards remaining (CalRecycle, Facility and Site Summary Details, http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/SWFacilities/Directory/48-AA-0075/Detail/accessed on July 30, 2014).

As described in Section XIII.a, above, the proposed land use change has the potential to increase the population of Pittsburg by approximately 56 people. Based on a solid waste generation rate of 12 pounds per person per day, the proposed land use change could generate approximately 672 pounds of solid waste per day, representing a very small fraction of the remaining capacity of the Potrero Hill landfill (CalRecycle, Residential Development: Estimated Solid Waste Generation Rates http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/wastechar/wastegenrates/Residential.htm, accessed on March 9, 2015). Thus, solid waste generated by the proposed project could be accommodated by the remaining capacity at the Potrero Hills landfill. This impact is considered less than significant.

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g)	Would the project comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?			Ø

The proposed project is not of a class of project that is generally recognized as having a potential to violate applicable statutes and regulations related to solid waste; therefore, there would be no impact.

XVIII. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE:

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?				Ø

The project involves a change in land use from business commercial to medium density residential, and the conversion of an existing structure with only minor building expansions and remodeling. The site is identified as part of the urban development area (East Contra Costa County Habitat Conservation Plan, Figure 3-3 and 9-1), and is not located on a potential infill development site that could support wildlife (East Contra Costa County Habitat Conservation Plan, Figure 9-1). In addition, there are no species identified as candidate, sensitive or special status known to occur in the immediate area (City of Pittsburg General Plan, Figure 9-1 and Table 9-1).

The proposed project site is currently developed, with existing development on all sides (Site Visit and Google Earth), and there is no evidence that there are important examples of major periods of California history on the proposed site. Therefore, there are no overall environmental impacts associated with the proposed project.

effects which will cause substantial

adverse effects on human beings, either

directly or indirectly?

ŕ	Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively Considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?			Ø	
The proposed project does not have impacts that are individually limited, but would be cumulatively considerable. The proposed project site is currently developed and surrounded by existing development on all sides, and would not require expansion of existing utilities beyond the boundaries of existing urbanized areas. The proposed project is not anticipated to contribute to cumulative traffic impacts in the vicinity of the site; would increase the amount of pervious surface and mitigate any stormwater related impacts from the change in land use as outlined in the proposed Stormwater Control Plan; and, would not be expected to contribute significantly to Air Quality or Greenhouse Gas emissions due to the small size of the project. The project would not require an expansion of emergency response service areas or contribute to an incremental decrease in an agricultural or mineral resource; therefore, these cumulative impacts related to the project would be mitigated to a level of less than significant.					
c) Does the project have environmental					

The project involves a change in land use from business commercial to medium density residential, and the conversion of an existing structure with only minor building expansions and remodeling. The project would not generate Hazardous Materials, would not emit odors and would not interfere with approved emergency services response times. In addition, the site is not located in an area that is susceptible to floods, landslides or earthquakes. No other impacts were identified due to the project that would have a substantial adverse effect on human beings.

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