RESOLUTION NO. 20-113

RESOLUTION OF THE MENDOCINO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ADOPTING A NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT, REZONE, AND MINOR USE PERMIT (GP_2019-0005/R_2019-0006/U_2019-0009) FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 43045 HIGHWAY 101, LAYTONVILLE (APN: 035-150-25)

WHEREAS, the applicant, TYLER PEARSON, filed an application for a General Plan Amendment, Rezone, and Use Permit with the Mendocino County Department of Planning and Building Services to amend the general plan to change a portion of the subject parcel from a Remote Residential (RMR) designation to a Rural Community (RC) designation, rezone a portion of the subject parcel from the Upland Residential (UR) zoning district to the Rural Community (RC) zoning district, and allow a use permit for retail, manufacturing (volatile and non-volatile), and distribution, 1.5± mi. south of the Laytonville center, on the east side of US Hwy. 101 (US 101), 0.2± mi. north of its intersection with Vincent Ln. (private), located at 43045 Hwy 101, Laytonville (APN: 035-150-25); General Plan RMR; Zoning UR:40; Supervisorial District 3; (the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, a Negative Declaration was prepared for the Project and noticed and made publicly available for agency and public review on November 21, 2019 in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the State and County CEQA Guidelines; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with applicable provisions of law, the Planning Commission held a public hearing on December 19, 2019, to solicit public comments on the proposed Negative Declaration and the Project, at which time the Planning Commission heard and received all relevant testimony and evidence presented orally and in writing regarding the Negative Declaration and the Project. All interested persons were given an opportunity to hear and be heard regarding the Negative Declaration and the Project; and

WHEREAS, on December 19, 2019, the Planning Commission adopted Resolution No. PC_2019-0029 making its report and recommendation to the Board of Supervisors on the Negative Declaration for the Project; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with applicable provisions of law, the Board of Supervisors held a public hearing on September 1, 2020, to solicit public comments on the proposed Negative Declaration and the Project, at which time the Board of Supervisors heard and received all relevant testimony and evidence presented orally and in writing regarding the Negative Declaration and the Project. All interested persons were given an opportunity to hear and be heard regarding the Negative Declaration and the Project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, based upon the evidence in the record before it, that the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors makes the following determinations and findings:

- 1. The recitals set forth in the above resolution are true and correct and incorporated herein by this reference.
- 2. The Negative Declaration for the Project was prepared pursuant to CEQA and the State and County CEQA Guidelines.
- 3. The Board of Supervisors hereby certifies that the Negative Declaration has been completed, reviewed and considered, together with the comments received during the public review

process, in compliance with CEQA and the State and County CEQA Guidelines, and finds that the Negative Declaration reflects the independent judgment and analysis of the Board of Supervisors.

- 4. The Board of Supervisors hereby finds and determines, on the basis of the whole record before it, that there is no substantial evidence in the record that there is any significant environmental impact that might arguably be anticipated to occur as a result of the Project; therefore a Negative Declaration is adopted.
- 5. The Board of Supervisors hereby adopts the Negative Declaration attached to this resolution as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by this reference.
- 6. The Board of Supervisors designates the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors as the custodian of the documents and other materials, which constitutes the record of proceedings upon which the Board of Supervisors' decision herein is based. These documents may be found at the office of the Office of the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, 501 Low Gap Road, Room 1010, Ukiah, CA 95482.
- 7. The Board of Supervisors hereby directs the Department of Planning and Building Services to file a notice of determination following the adoption of the Project in accordance with CEQA and the CEQA Guidelines.

The foregoing Resolution introduced by Supervisor Brown, seconded by Supervisor McCowen, and carried this 1st day of September, 2020, by the following vote:

AYES:

Supervisors Brown, McCowen, Haschak, Gjerde, and Williams

NOES:

None.

ABSENT: None.

WHEREUPON, the Chair declared said Resolution adopted and SO ORDERED.

ATTEST:

CARMEL J. ANGELO

Clerk of the Board

Deputy

JOHN HASCHAK, Chair

Mendocino County Board of Supervisors

I hereby certify that according to the provisions of Government Code Section 25103, delivery of this document has been made.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

CHRISTIAN M. CURTIS

County Counsel

BY:

CARMEL J. ANGELO

Clerk of the Board

Deputy

Section I Description Of Project.

DATE: November 1, 2019 CASE#: GP_2019-0005 **DATE FILED:** 5/23/2019

OWNER: GOLD WEST LAND COMPANY LLC

APPLICANT: TLER PEARSON

REQUEST: The proposed project consists of three request components. 1) A general plan amendment to change a portion of the subject parcel from a Remote Residential (RMR) designation to a Rural Community (RC) designation; 2) a rezone to change a portion of the subject parcel from the Upland Residential (UR) zoning district to the Rural Community zoning district, with a contract rezone combining district to limit uses (RC:CR); and 3) a use permit to allow for retail, manufacturing (volatile and non-volatile), and distribution.

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: NEGATIVE DECLARATION

LOCATION: 1.5± mi. south of the Laytonville center, on the east side of US Hwy. 101 (US 101), 0.2± mi. north of its intersection with Vincent Ln. (private), located at 43045 Hwy 101, Laytonville (APN: 035-150-25). **STAFF PLANNER:** SAM VANDY VANDEWATER

Section II **Environmental Checklist.**

"Significant effect on the environment" means a substantial, or potentially substantial, adverse change in any of the physical conditions within the area affected by the project, including land, air, water, minerals, flora, fauna, ambient noise, and aesthetic significance. An economic or social change by itself shall not be considered a significant effect on the environment. A social or economic change related to a physical change, may be considered in determining whether the physical change is significant (CEQA Guidelines, Section 15382).

Accompanying this form is a list of discussion statements for all questions, or categories of questions, on the Environmental Checklist (See Section III). This includes explanations of "no" responses.

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

Aesthetics		Agriculture and Forestry Resources	Air Quality
☐Biological Resources		Cultural Resources	Geology /Soils
Greenhouse Gas Emissions	ПН	Hazards & Hazardous Materials	Hydrology / Water Quality
Land Use / Planning		Aineral Resources	Noise
Population / Housing		Public Services	Recreation
☐Transportation/Traffic		ribal Cultural Resources	Utilities / Service Systems
		Mandatory Findings of Significance	

An explanation for all checklist responses is included, and all answers take into account the whole action involved, including off site as well as on-site; cumulative as well as project level; indirect as well as direct; and construction as well as operational impacts. The explanation of each issue identifies (a) the significance criteria or threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question; and (b) the mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less than significance. In the checklist the following definitions are used:

"Potentially Significant Impact" means there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant.

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"Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated" means the incorporation of one or more mitigation measures can reduce the effect from potentially significant to a less than significant level.

"Less Than Significant Impact" means that the effect is less than significant and no mitigation is necessary to reduce the impact to a lesser level.

"No Impact" means that the effect does not apply to the Project, or clearly will not impact nor be impacted by the Project.

INITIAL STUDY/ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW: This section assesses the potential environmental impacts which may result from the project. Questions in the Initial Study Checklist are stated and answers are provided based on analysis undertaken.

I. AESTHETICS. Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
 a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista? 				×
 b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway? 				⊠
c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?				
 d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area? 				⊠

a-c) No Impact: The proposed project is not located on a scenic state highway as the only such road in Mendocino County is State Route 128, in addition to visual resources of the Coastal Zone. Thus, there is no potential for the project to damage any scenic resources or have adverse effects on any scenic vistas. Additionally, the project will not require the removal of any natural elements such as trees or rocks, thus there is no impact to those resources. Furthermore, there is no visual character or site quality that would be impacted and all structures are existing with downcast lighting, thus no impacts to nighttime views.

II. AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY RESOURCES. Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) 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 non-agricultural use?				
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?				
c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?				

II. AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY RESOURCES. Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	
d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?					
e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?					

a-e) No Impact: According to the California Department of Conservation (CDC) of Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program, the land on which the proposed project will be located is considered to be "Grazing Land" per the Important Farmland Map attachment, thus there will be no conversion of Prime, Unique, or state farmland to a non-agricultural use. The Williamson Act (officially the California Land Conservation Act of 1965) is a California law that provides relief of property tax to owners of farmland and open-space land in exchange for a ten year agreement that the land will not be developed or otherwise converted to another use. The lack of important or unique farmland means there is little to no conflict with any Williamson Act contract or other agricultural use, and there are no nearby parcels that are within a Williamson Act contract.

The Timberland Production Zone (TPZ) was established in 1976 in the California Government Code as a designation for lands for which the Assessor's records as of 1976 demonstrated that the "highest and best use" would be timber production and accessory uses. The proposed project is not located within or near a zoning district intended to be used for timber production. Furthermore, due to the proposed limitation of uses in the Contract Rezone, the harvesting and use of forest products on the subject parcel is prohibited.

III. AIR QUALITY. Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
 a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of any applicable air quality plan? 			П	
b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?				
c) 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)?				
d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?				
e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?				

a-e) **No Impact:** The proposed project was referred to the Mendocino County Air Quality Management District, who did not provide any comment regarding the intended uses; however a condition has been included to help reduce any impacts the project and potential future development might have on the

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subject parcel. The proposed project does not entail any activity that would create substantial pollution, or damage air quality in any way, thus the project would not conflict with any air quality plan, nor would it violate any air quality standards. Subsequently, there will be no considerable net increase of pollutants due to the project. As all activities will be occurring indoors, the proposed project would not expose any sensitive receptors to pollution, nor would any objectionable odors be created by the project.

IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES. Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) 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 Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?				
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or US Fish and Wildlife Service?				
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?				
d) Interfere 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 wildlife nursery sites?				
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?				
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?				

- a) Less Than Significant Impact: There are a number of nearby sensitive species identified by the California Natural Diversity Database and California Department of Fish and Wildlife. These species occur along the western parcel boundary abutting U.S. Highway 101. However, the proposed project does not propose any new ground disturbance or development, thus this impact is considered less than significant.
- b-f) **No Impact:** There are no identified riparian species within the project area, thus the project will not have an impact on any such resources. The proposed project is not located near any sensitive habitats, thus there is no potential for any substantial adverse impacts on a sensitive habitat such as a riparian zone, wetland, wildlife corridor, or any form of conservation land. Additionally, there are no conservation plans, policies, or ordinances with which the project conflicts, thus there will be no impacts to such protections. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife fee of \$2,404.75 will be required within five (5) days of the Board of Supervisors meeting.

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V. CULTURAL RESOURCES. Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
 a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in § 15064.5? 				⊠
 b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to § 15064.5? 				\boxtimes
c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?				
d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?				\boxtimes

a-d) No Impact: The County of Mendocino regulates cultural resources under Section 22.12 of the County Code which requires projects to be reviewed by the Northwest Information Center at Sonoma State University. The proposed project was referred to Sonoma State University, who responded with comments on July 9, 2019, recommending a survey. As requested, the survey was submitted to and reviewed by the Mendocino County Archaeological Commission at the October 9, 2019 meeting and the survey recommendations were accepted as conditions to the project. No cultural resources were identified within the project area, thus the Discovery Clause was included as a condition.

VI. GEOLOGY AND SOILS. Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				
i) 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? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.				⊠
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?				\boxtimes
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?				\boxtimes
iv) Landslides?				\boxtimes
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?				
c) 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 on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?				
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?				

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101	CDEENLOUICE CAS EMISSIONS	Potentially	Less Than	Less Than	N-
a-e)	No Impact: The proposed project is not structures to any substantial adverse get topsoil. As the proposed project is not loca a landslide or liquefaction, thus there is proposed project is located is not identified these issues are considered to have no system, there are no impacts with regards	ological effect, ted on a fault, t no impact in th I as expansive of impact. As the	or that would allow the project would no his regard. Furtherr or incapable of supp proposed project	of for soil erosion trigger any issonore, the soil operating a septic salready operate	n or loss of ues such as n which the system, thus so on septic
the disp	ave soils incapable of adequately supporting use of septic tanks or alternative waste water osal systems where sewers are not available ne disposal of waste water?	-			

VII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS. Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?				
b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?				

a-b) **No Impact:** The proposed project does not entail any activities that would generate any greenhouse gases, thus there is no impact in this regard. There are no identified plans, policies, or regulations that would be violated through any of the project activities, thus there is considered to be no impact.

VIII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS. Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?				
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?				
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?				
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?				
e) For a project located within an airport 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 result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?				
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private				\boxtimes

VIII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS. Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?				
g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?				
h) 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 are intermixed with wildlands?				

- a-b) Less Than Significant Impact While the proposed project does intend to use hazardous materials for the purpose of volatile manufacturing, the quantities shall remain at an insignificant level. Materials can include butane, alcohol, and other substances that allow for extraction and cleaning of equipment. Additionally, a condition has been included to ensure the applicant obtain all necessary permits from the Mendocino County Department of Environmental Health, including a Hazardous Material Management Plan should any hazardous materials exceed 55 gallons in quantity, or any other amounts identified by California Health and Safety Code. Therefore, the impact is considered to be less than significant.
- c) No Impact: While the closest school is located roughly 1.4 miles way from the subject location, the project does not propose any activities that would emit any hazardous emissions or expose people to any hazardous materials. All activities that will involve hazardous materials will occur within the existing structures, which are built for such activities. Thus, there is considered to be no impact in this regard.
- d) No Impact: The project site has not been identified as a hazardous materials site, thus there will be no significant hazard to the public or the environment in terms of exposure to on-site hazardous materials.
- e-f) **No Impact:** The proposed project is not located within an airport land use plan, though a small private airstrip exists across the highway; there are no concerns regarding public airstrips.
- g) No Impact: The proposed project gains access from US Hwy. 101 and allows for on-site parking, thus there will be no physical interference with an emergency response or evacuation plan.
- h) Less Than Significant Impact: The subject parcel is located within the Long Valley Fire Protection District, though under CalFire responsibility, the fire station being within two miles from the subject parcel, thus the impact is considered to be less than significant. Additionally, a CalFire station is located roughly 3 miles north on US Hwy. 101.

IX. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY. Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
 a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements? 				
b) 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)?				

IX. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY. Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
c) 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 manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?				
d) 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 which would result in flooding on- or off-site?				
e) 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?				
f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?				\boxtimes
g) 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?				
h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?				
i) 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?				
j) Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?				\square
k) Result in an increase in pollutant discharges to receiving waters considering water quality parameters such as temperature, dissolved oxygen, turbidity and other typical stormwater pollutants (e.g. heavy metals, pathogens, petroleum derivatives, synthetic organics, sediment, nutrients, oxygen-demanding substances, and trash)?				
 Have a potentially significant impact on groundwater quality? 				
m) Impact aquatic, wetland or riparian habitat?				M

- a, f) No Impact: The project will not violate any water quality standards or degrade water quality itself as there are no aspects of the proposed project that would affect water quality.
- b) No Impact: The proposed project uses an existing well and does not intend to exceed the provisions of said well for the foreseeable future, thus there is no impact to groundwater supplies or recharge.
- c-e) No Impact: The proposed project does not entail alterations to any drainage pattern that would result in erosion or siltation of the site or neighboring properties, thus this concern is considered to have no impact. Furthermore, it is unlikely the proposed project will alter any drainage pattern in terms of stream alterations as there is no stream or river located on the subject parcel. Lastly, the project is not located in an area with a stormwater drainage system, thus there would be no issue with regards to capacity.

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- g-h) No Impact: The proposed project is not located within a flood plain, thus there is considered to be no impact in terms of these issues. Additionally, the subject parcel is far enough away from the coastline that no ocean related flooding would occur.
- i-j) **No Impact:** The project is not located within a dam inundation zone, tsunami area, or area subject to potential mudflow, thus there are no impacts with regards to these issues.
- k-I) **No Impact:** The proposed project does not entail any large water discharging that would result in pollutant discharges or any activities that would significantly impact groundwater quality, thus there is considered no impact in terms of these issues.
- m) No Impact: The proposed project is not located within or near any aquatic, wetland, or riparian habitats, thus there is no potential for the project to have an impact on these types of environments.

X. LAND USE AND PLANNING. Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Physically divide an established community?				\boxtimes
b) 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?				
c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?				

- a) No Impact: The proposed project is not located within any established community or neighborhood. The access onto the parcel does not provide access to any additional parcels, thus the project would not physically divide any established community.
- b) No Impact: There are no land use plans, policies, or regulations, established by a jurisdictional agency to mitigate environmental impacts, with which the proposed project conflicts.
- c) No Impact: Habitat and Natural Community Conservation Plans are state and federal programs intended to protect extremely endangered species from anthropogenic impacts. There are no identified Habitat or Natural Community Conservation Plans within the project location, thus there is no possibility for the project to conflict with any such plans.

XI. MINERAL RESOURCES. Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) 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?				
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally- important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?				

a-b) No Impact: The proposed project is not located on or within any identified mineral resource lands, thus it will not result in the loss of any available mineral resource.

XII. NOISE. Would the project result in:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?				
 b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels? 				Ø
c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?				
d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?				
e) For a project located within an airport 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?				
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?				

- a-b) No Impact: Appendix C of the Mendocino County Zoning Code, Division I lists adopted allowable noise limit standards. These standards and the associated levels, which are not to be exceeded for a sustained period of time, can also be found in the County General Plan through Tables 3-J, 3-K, and 3-L. The proposed project will not exceed these standard noise levels as the proposed uses are not major sources of noise. Additionally, the proposed project will not expose persons to excessive groundborne vibration as there are no nearby businesses or activities to create such a disturbance, nor would the project itself cause any ground vibrations.
- c-d) Less Than Significant Impact: There is the potential that an increase in intensity, such as from equipment, could permanently and/or temporarily increase ambient noise levels. However, these noises are not expected to impact neighboring land uses or residences and will be contained within a structure.
- e-f) **No Impact:** The proposed project is not located near any airport zone or within any airport land use plan, thus it would not be exposing people to any level of noise regarding aircrafts or airstrips.

XIII. POPULATION AND HOUSING. Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) 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)?				
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				

XIII. POPULATION AND HOUSING. Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
 c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere? 				

a-c) No Impact: As the proposed project does not entail any new homes or housing infrastructure, it is unlikely that direct substantial population growth would occur. Both the Rural Community (RC) and Upland Residential (UR) zoning districts are typically limited to a single dwelling unit, as well as an accessory dwelling unit of less than 1,200 square feet. However, the applicants have not included residential use types in their Contract Rezone, and thus residential uses will be prohibited unless a new Contract Rezone is approved to change this prohibition. As the proposed project is a General Plan amendment, rezone and use permit for a cannabis facility, there would not be any substantial population growth. This lack of substantial development also means that no housing or people will be displaced because of the proposed project.

XIV. PUBLIC SERVICES.	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:				
Fire protection?				\boxtimes
Police protection?				\boxtimes
Medical Services?				\boxtimes
Schools?				\boxtimes
Parks?				\boxtimes
Other public facilities?				\boxtimes

 a) No Impact: The proposed project does not create any barrier for public service delivery as the parcel gains access from U.S. Highway 101, thus there is no impact.

XV. RECREATION.	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?				
b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?				

a-b) **No Impact:** The proposed project is not located near state or regional parks, thus it would be unlikely that recreational facilities would deteriorate from usage due to the proposed project. Additionally, the

proposed project does not entail the creation of any recreational spaces, thus it would be unnecessary to expand recreational facilities. It should be noted that the retained uses in the Contract Rezone include community recreation and commercial recreation, though the later would require a major use permit.

XVI. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC. Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit?				
b) Conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including, but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?				
c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?				
d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?				⊠
e) Result in inadequate emergency access?				\boxtimes
f) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?				

a-f) **No Impact:** There are no identified policies, plans, regulations, or programs which would be violated by the proposed project, thus these concerns are considered to be less than significant. The project does not entail any obstructions to emergency access and would not alter any movement patterns, nor increase traffic hazards to others within the surrounding area. The California Department of Transportation replied to referrals requesting permitting be undertaken should a new driveway be established, but noted the existing driveway complied with CalTrans standards; no new driveway is proposed by this project.

XVII. TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES. Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical				

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Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or		
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is a resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.		

a-d) No Impact: The County of Mendocino regulates cultural resources under Section 22.12 of the County Code which requires projects to be reviewed by the Northwest Information Center at Sonoma State University. The proposed project was referred to Sonoma State University, who responded with comments on July 9, 2019, recommending a survey. As requested, the survey was submitted to and reviewed by the Mendocino County Archaeological Commission at the October 9, 2019 meeting and the survey recommendations were accepted as conditions to the project. No cultural resources were identified within the project area, thus the Discovery Clause was included as a condition.

XVIII. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS. Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
 a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board? 				
b) 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?				
c) 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?				
d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?				
e) 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?				
f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?				

INITIAL STUDY/ DRAFT NEGATIVE DECLARATION	INITIAL	_ STUDY/	DRAFT NEG	ATIVE D	ECLA	RATIO
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g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?		\boxtimes

- a-b) **No Impact:** The proposed project does not entail the use of any water, though future development does, thus no wastewater will be created. Water that does eventually get used will be removed and enter the parcel's existing septic system. Future development would not exceed the capacity of any treatment facility as the proposed project is not located within a wastewater sanitation district. There is currently a septic system for the existing commercial development, thus the project will have no impact. The septic system is designed in accordance with the Mendocino County Department of Environmental Health.
- c) No Impact: The project will not create substantial enough stormwater to establish a new drainage facility, thus there is considered to be no impact. There is sufficient undeveloped land on and around the subject parcel that stormwater drainage will not be an issue.
- d) No Impact: The project operates on an existing well and the Department of Environmental Health had not concerns regarding this aspect, indicating no issues in terms of water supply.
- e-g) **No Impact:** The proposed project is not located within any wastewater district, thus there are no impacts with regard to these issues. Additionally, there is a transfer station and a solid waste removal business within a 5 mile proximity, thus there will be no impacts with regards to solid waste.

XVIV. 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?	П			\boxtimes
b) 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)?				
c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?				

a) No Impact: As noted in previous sections, the proposed project has mostly no impact on the quality of the environment and it would not 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, nor would the project eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory. Any impacts that would occur are considered to be less than significant and will be diminished through the Conditions of Approval. Furthermore, many uses of the Rural Community (RC) zoning district will be prohibited by the Contract Rezone, thus reducing the variety of possible developments.

EXHIBIT "A"

INITIAL STUDY/ DRAFT NEGATIVE DECLARATION

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- Less Than Significant: The proposed project will not create any cumulative impacts on the surrounding area and any impact that would occur is considered to be less than significant. Furthermore, the small impacts that will occur are almost exclusively limited to indoor activities and many of the potential outdoor uses have been limited by the Contract Rezone and will require additional permitting.
- No Impact: Due to the insignificant impacts on the environment, as indicated through this Initial Study, c) the proposed project would not have an effect on the environment that would have adverse impacts on

DETERMINATION: On the basis of this initial evaluation:	
☑ I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant proposed project COULD NOT have a significant proposed. □ I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant proposed. □ I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant proposed. □ I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant proposed. □ I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant proposed. □ I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant proposed. □ I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant proposed. □ I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant proposed. □ I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant proposed. □ I find that the proposed project proposed project proposed project proposed. □ I find that the proposed project project project proposed project pr	gnificant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE
☐ I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect in this case because revisions in the propoper. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be	ject have been made by or agreed to by the project
☐ I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant IMPACT REPORT is required.	effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL
☐ I find that the proposed project MAY have a "potential mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one e document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) he the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An EN must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.	ffect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier as been addressed by mitigation measures based on
☐ I find that although the proposed project could have potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequipursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been at NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigal project, nothing further is required.	lately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION voided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or
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