RESOLUTION NO 2016-23

A RESOLUTION OF THE ALBANY CITY COUNCIL ADOPTING THE
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT, GENERAL PLAN CEQA FINDINGS,
AND MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM

WHEREAS, pursuant to the requirements of Government Code Section 65300, et. seq., the City of Albany has completed an update of its General Plan; and

WHEREAS, a General Plan Update is defined as a “project” under the California Environmental Quality Act and is thus subject to environmental review; and

WHEREAS, the City of Albany determined that an Environmental Impact Report was required for the project and subsequently distributed a Notice of Preparation and conducted a noticed Scoping Session at Albany City Hall on March 26, 2014; and

WHEREAS, a 60-day review period was provided for public comments on the Notice of Preparation, and the comment letters were duly considered in the preparation of the Environmental Impact Report; and

WHEREAS, the City published a Draft Environmental Impact Report on November 25, 2016, provided copies to the State Clearinghouse, and followed required noticing and distribution protocol for the document; and

WHEREAS, the Draft Environmental Impact Report is incorporated by reference in this Resolution as Exhibit A; and

WHEREAS, a 60-day period was provided for public comment on the Draft Environmental Impact Report, during which time the Planning and Zoning Commission convened a public hearing in order to receive oral testimony on the document; and
WHEREAS, following the conclusion of the public review period on January 25, 2016, the City prepared annotated responses to all comments received, as well as line edits to the Draft Environmental Impact Report; and

WHEREAS, the Responses to Comments Document, including line edits, are incorporated by reference to this Resolution as Exhibit B; and

WHEREAS, the potential for significant impacts has been mitigated by policies in the General Plan itself, as well as mitigation measures specifically prescribed for the project and incorporated into this resolution by reference as Exhibit C; and

WHEREAS, the City has made findings for the General Plan Environmental Impact Report as required by Section 15091 and 15093 of the State CEQA Guidelines and Section 21081 of the Public Resources Code, and such findings are incorporated into this resolution as Exhibit D; and

WHEREAS, the Albany Planning and Zoning Commission conducted a public hearing on the Draft General Plan and EIR, including the attachments referenced above, on March 9, 2016; and

WHEREAS, the Albany Planning and Zoning Commission adopted Resolution 2016-01, recommending Council adoption of the EIR and related documents, including edits to pages 13 and 16 of the required CEQA Findings document (Exhibit D);

NOW THEREFORE, THE ALBANY CITY COUNCIL RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

1. The Albany 2035 General Plan Environmental Impact Report (EIR) provides a program-level evaluation of projected growth in Albany over the 2015-2035 period, following the policies, maps, and action programs of the General Plan.
2. The EIR has been prepared in compliance with CEQA, the State CEQA Guidelines, and the City’s local CEQA guidelines.

3. Notices of the public hearings on the General Plan Update, the Draft EIR, and the Final EIR were given as required and actions were conducted pursuant to State law.

4. All comments received on the Draft EIR, including those received at public hearings, were responded to adequately.

5. The EIR adequately identifies and addresses all of the potential environmental impacts and feasible mitigation measures have been incorporated into the 2035 General Plan in the form of goals, policies, and action items.

6. No changes to the General Plan or Draft EIR have been made that necessitate or involve significant new information as outlined in CEQA Guidelines Section 15088.5.

7. The EIR is adequate and complete for consideration in making a decision on the merits of the General Plan Update.

8. The Albany Planning and Zoning Commission has conducted required public hearings and recommended adoption of the Final EIR by the City Council.

Based on the foregoing findings, the City Council adopts the Albany 2035 General Plan Environmental Impact Report (Exhibit A), including the Response to Comments (Exhibit B), Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (Exhibit C); and Findings (Exhibit D).

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 18th day of April 2016 by the following vote:

AYES- Council Members Barnes, McQuaid, Mason, Pitch & Mayor

NOES-

ABSENT-

ABSTENTION-
Mayor, Peter Maass

ATTEST:

Nicole Almaguer, City Clerk
EXHIBIT A

DRAFT 2035 GENERAL PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

November 25, 2015

(SEPARATE PAGE)
EXHIBIT B
RESPONSE TO COMMENTS
(SEPARATE PAGE)
EXHIBIT C
MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM
(SEPARATE PAGE)
EXHIBIT D
CEQA-REQUIRED FINDINGS
(SEPARATE PAGE)
RESOLUTION NO. 2016-23

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ALBANY,
the 18th day of April, 2016, by the following votes:

AYES: Council Members Barnes, McQuaid, Nason, Pilch and Mayor Maass

NOES: none

ABSENT: none

ABSTAINED: none

RECUSED: none

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE CITY OF ALBANY, this
19th day of April, 2016.

Eileen Harrington
DEPUTY CITY CLERK

The City of Albany is dedicated to maintaining its small town ambiance, responding to the needs of a diverse community, and providing a safe, healthy and sustainable community.