



CEQA Referral

Initial Study and Notice of Intent to Adopt a Negative Declaration

Date: February 8, 2016
To: Distribution List (See Attachment A)
From: Jeremy Ballard, Assistant Planner, Planning and Community Development
Subject: REZONE & MERGER APPLICATION NO. PLN2015- 0113 – DERREL’S MINI STORAGE - EQUITYBAK, LP
Comment Period: February 8, 2016 – March 14, 2016
Respond By: March 14, 2016
Public Hearing Date: April 21, 2016

You may have previously received an Early Consultation Notice regarding this project, and your comments, if provided, were incorporated into the Initial Study. Based on all comments received, Stanislaus County anticipates adopting a Negative Declaration for this project. This referral provides notice of a 30-day comment period during which Responsible and Trustee Agencies and other interested parties may provide comments to this Department regarding our proposal to adopt the Negative Declaration.

All applicable project documents are available for review at: Stanislaus County Department of Planning and Community Development, 1010 10th Street, Suite 3400, Modesto, CA 95354. Please provide any additional comments to the above address or call us at (209) 525-6330 if you have any questions. Thank you.

Applicant: Dennis Wilson – Horizon Consulting, Equitybak LP dba Derrel’s Mini Storage
Project Location: 5038 Tunson Road, north of State Route 219/Kiernan Ave, east of Carver and west of State Route 108/ McHenry Ave.
APN: 004-057-003, 004-057-004, 004-057-005
Williamson Act Contract: None
General Plan: Planned Development (P-D)
Current Zoning: P-D (202)

Project Description: This is a request to rezone expired P-D (202) to a new P-D to allow for 100 spaces of RV Storage on a 3± acre site. The project site consists of 3 separate parcels of .39± acres, .36± acres and 2.25± acres but as part of the project request the applicant will also merge three parcels into one parcel 3± acres in size. The proposed development will be a standalone P-D but will be operated by the existing Derrel’s Mini Storage located on the west side of Tunson. The proposed project will include 78 enclosed and 22 open storage spaces, a 20’ pole sign, fencing and a landscaped perimeter. The operation will be unstaffed and is anticipated to generate an average of 5-10 vehicle trips per day. The previous land use permit for this site was approved for 236 spaces of RV storage spaces.

Full document with attachments available for viewing at:

<http://www.stancounty.com/planning/pl/act-projects.shtm>

REZONE & MERGER APPLICATION NO. PLN2015-0113 – DERREL’S MINI STORAGE – EQUITYBAK, LP
Attachment A

Distribution List

X	CA DEPT OF CONSERVATION Land Resources		STAN CO ALUC
X	CA DEPT OF FISH & WILDLIFE		STAN CO ANIMAL SERVICES
	CA DEPT OF FORESTRY (CAL FIRE)	X	STAN CO BUILDING PERMITS DIVISION
X	CA DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION DIST 10	X	STAN CO CEO
X	CA OPR STATE CLEARINGHOUSE		STAN CO CSA
X	CA RWQCB CENTRAL VALLEY REGION	X	STAN CO DER
	CA STATE LANDS COMMISSION	X	STAN CO ERC
	CEMETERY DISTRICT		STAN CO FARM BUREAU
	CENTRAL VALLEY FLOOD PROTECTION	X	STAN CO HAZARDOUS MATERIALS
X	CITY OF: MODESTO		STAN CO PARKS & RECREATION
	COMMUNITY SERVICES/SANITARY DIST	X	STAN CO PUBLIC WORKS
X	COOPERATIVE EXTENSION		STAN CO RISK MANAGEMENT
	COUNTY OF:	X	STAN CO SHERIFF
X	FIRE PROTECTION DIST: SALIDA	X	STAN CO SUPERVISOR DIST 4: MONTEITH
	HOSPITAL DIST:	X	STAN COUNTY COUNSEL
X	IRRIGATION DIST: MID	X	StanCOG
X	MOSQUITO DIST: EASTSIDE	X	STANISLAUS FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU
X	MOUNTIAN VALLEY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES	X	STANISLAUS LAFCO
	MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL:	X	SURROUNDING LAND OWNERS (on file w/the Clerk to the Board of Supervisors)
	PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRIC		TELEPHONE COMPANY:
	POSTMASTER:		TRIBAL CONTACTS (CA Government Code §65352.3)
X	RAILROAD: UNION PACIFIC		TUOLUMNE RIVER TRUST
X	SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY APCD		US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
X	SCHOOL DIST 1: MODESTO UNION		US FISH & WILDLIFE
X	SCHOOL DIST 2: STANISLAUS UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT	X	US MILITARY (SB 1462) (7 agencies)
	STAN ALLIANCE		USDA NRCS
X	STAN CO AG COMMISSIONER		WATER DIST:

**STANISLAUS COUNTY
CEQA REFERRAL RESPONSE FORM**

TO: Stanislaus County Planning & Community Development
1010 10th Street, Suite 3400
Modesto, CA 95354

FROM: _____

SUBJECT: REZONE & MERGER APPLICATION NO. PLN2015-0113 – DERREL’S MINI STORAGE – EQUITYBAK, LP

Based on this agencies particular field(s) of expertise, it is our position the above described project:

- _____ Will not have a significant effect on the environment.
- _____ May have a significant effect on the environment.
- _____ No Comments.

Listed below are specific impacts which support our determination (e.g., traffic general, carrying capacity, soil types, air quality, etc.) – (attach additional sheet if necessary)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Listed below are possible mitigation measures for the above-listed impacts: *PLEASE BE SURE TO INCLUDE WHEN THE MITIGATION OR CONDITION NEEDS TO BE IMPLEMENTED (PRIOR TO RECORDING A MAP, PRIOR TO ISSUANCE OF A BUILDING PERMIT, ETC.):*

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

In addition, our agency has the following comments (attach additional sheets if necessary).

Response prepared by:

Name Title Date



DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

1010 10th Street, Suite 3400, Modesto, CA 95354
Phone: 209.525.6330 Fax: 209.525.5911

CEQA INITIAL STUDY

Adapted from CEQA Guidelines APPENDIX G Environmental Checklist Form, Final Text, December 30, 2009

1. **Project title:** Rezone & Merger Application No. PLN 2015-0113 – Derrel’s Mini Storage – Equitybak, LP
2. **Lead agency name and address:** Stanislaus County
1010 10th Street, Suite 3400
Modesto, CA 95354
3. **Contact person and phone number:** Jeremy Ballard, Assistant Planner
4. **Project location:** 5038 Tunson Road, north of State Route 219/Kiernan Ave, east of Carver and west of State Route 108/ McHenry Ave. APN: 004-057-003, 004-057-004, 004-057-005
5. **Project sponsor’s name and address:** Dennis Wilson Horizon Consulting, Equitybak, LP dba Derrel’s Mini Storage
3265 Ashlan Avenue
Fresno, CA 93722
6. **General Plan designation:** Planned Development (P-D)
7. **Zoning:** P-D (202)
8. **Description of project:**

This is a Request to rezone expired P-D (202) to a new P-D and to merge three adjoining parcels into one 3.0+/- parcel to allow for 100 spaces of RV storage. The proposed project will include 78 enclosed and 22 open storage spaces, a 20’ pole sign, perimeter fencing and landscaping. The project site is located 5038 Tunson Road, north of the State Route 219/Kiernan Avenue, east of Carver and west of State Route 108/McHenry Avenue. The Planning Commission will consider adoption of a CEQA Negative Declaration for the project.
9. **Surrounding land uses and setting:** To the west, existing Derrel’s Mini Storage development, to the east Vacant industrial buildings and business park, north vacant land and agriculture, to the south SR 219 and commercial development
10. **Other public agencies whose approval is required (e.g., permits, financing approval, or participation agreement.):** Stanislaus County Department of Public Works, Caltrans District 10 and Modesto Irrigation District.

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 & Forestry Resources Air Quality
- Biological Resources Cultural Resources Geology / Soils
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions Hazards & Hazardous Materials Hydrology / 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 effect on the environment, and a **NEGATIVE DECLARATION** will be prepared.
- 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 on the environment, and an **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT** is required.
- I find that the proposed project **MAY** have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT** is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
- 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 EIR 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.

Signature

Date

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

- 1) A brief explanation is required for all answers except “No Impact” answers that are adequately supported by the information sources a lead agency cites in the parentheses following each question. A “No Impact” answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A “No Impact” answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards (e.g., the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis).
- 2) All answers must take account of 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.
- 3) Once the lead agency has determined that a particular physical impact may occur, than the checklist answers must indicate whether the impact is potentially significant, less than significant with mitigation, or less than significant. “Potentially Significant Impact” is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant. If there are one or more “Potentially Significant Impact” entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.
- 4) “Negative Declaration: Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated” applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from “Potentially Significant Impact” to a “Less Than Significant Impact.” The lead agency must describe the mitigation measures, and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level (mitigation measures from Section XVII, “Earlier Analyses,” may be cross-referenced).
- 5) Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or negative declaration.

Section 15063(c)(3)(D). In this case, a brief discussion should identify the following:

- a) Earlier Analysis Used. Identify and state where they are available for review.
 - b) Impacts Adequately Addressed. Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of and adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.
 - c) Mitigation Measures. For effects that are “Less than Significant with Mitigation Measures Incorporated,” describe the mitigation measures which were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.
- 6) Lead agencies are encouraged to incorporate into the checklist references to information sources for potential impacts (e.g., general plans, zoning ordinances). References to a previously prepared or outside document should, where appropriate, include a reference to the page or pages where the statement is substantiated.
 - 7) Supporting Information Sources: A source list should be attached, and other sources used or individuals contacted should be cited in the discussion.
 - 8) This is only a suggested form, and lead agencies are free to use different formats; however, lead agencies should normally address the questions from this checklist that are relevant to a project’s environmental effects in whatever format is selected.
 - 9) The explanation of each issue should identify:

- a) the significant 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 significant.

ISSUES

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

Discussion: The site itself is not considered to be a scenic resource or unique scenic vista. The site is currently vacant. The applicant will install landscaping along the perimeter and entrance of the site. A condition of approval will be added to require the landscaping to meet State standards. The proposed project will also include a 20-foot-high pylon information sign. A condition of approval will be added as well to the project requiring all exterior lighting be aimed down to provide adequate illumination without a glare effect.

Mitigation: None

References: Application material, Stanislaus County General Plan and Support Documentation¹.

II. AGRICULTURE AND FOREST RESOURCES: In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Department of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment project; and forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board. -- Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Included	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?			X	
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?			X	
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))?			X	
d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?				X

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?				X
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Discussion: The project site and its surrounding area is classified as “Semi-agriculture and Rural Commercial Land” and by the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program and soils include Tujunga Sandy Loam. The site does not appear to have been farmed for some time. The most recent land use consisted of single family dwellings on each of the three parcels. The site was previously approved for automobile and R-V storage but was never developed. If approved, the proposed rezone and resulting merger will not convert any farmland to non-agriculture uses as it is nearly surrounded by light industrial and commercial uses.

Mitigation: None

References: California State Department of Conservation Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program - Stanislaus County Farmland 2014, Department of Conservation California Farmland Finder; USDA – NRCS Web Soil Survey Stanislaus County General Plan and Support Documentation¹.

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 Included	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?			X	
b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?			X	
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)?			X	
d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?			X	
e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?			X	

Discussion: The proposed project is located within the San Joaquin Valley Air Basin (SJVAB) and, therefore, falls under the jurisdiction of the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (SJVAPCD). In conjunction with the Stanislaus Council of Governments (StanCOG), the SJVAPCD is responsible for formulating and implementing air pollution control strategies. The SJVAPCD’s most recent air quality plans are the 2007 PM10 (respirable particulate matter) Maintenance Plan, the 2015 for the 1997 PM2.5 standard (fine particulate matter), and the 2007 Ozone Plan (The District has also adopted similar ozone plans such as 2014 RACT SIP and 2013 Plan for the Revoked 1-Hour Ozone Standard). These plans establish a comprehensive air pollution control program leading to the attainment of state and federal air quality standards in the SJVAB, which has been classified as “extreme non-attainment” for ozone, “attainment” for respirable particulate matter (PM-10), and “non-attainment” for PM 2.5, as defined by the Federal Clean Air Act.

The primary source of air pollutants generated by this project would be classified as being generated from "mobile" sources. Mobile sources would generally include dust from roads, farming, and automobile exhausts. Mobile sources are generally regulated by the Air Resources Board of the California EPA which sets emissions for vehicles and acts on issues regarding cleaner burning fuels and alternative fuel technologies. As such, the District has addressed most criteria air pollutants through basin wide programs and policies to prevent cumulative deterioration of air quality within the Basin. The project will increase traffic in the area and, thereby, impacting air quality. The applicant estimates that there will be an average of 5-10 vehicle trips generated per day by this project.

Construction activities associated with new development can temporarily increase localized PM10, PM2.5, volatile organic compound (VOC), nitrogen oxides (NOX), sulfur oxides (SOX), and carbon monoxide (CO) concentrations a project's vicinity. The primary source of construction-related CO, SOX, VOC, and NOX emission is gasoline and diesel-powered, heavy-duty mobile construction equipment. Primary sources of PM10 and PM2.5 emissions are generally clearing and demolition activities, grading operations, construction vehicle traffic on unpaved ground, and wind blowing over exposed surfaces.

Construction activities associated with the proposed project would consist primarily of paving the entire site, construct 78 new covered temporary RV storage spaces, and installing a storm drainage basin. These activities would not require any substantial use of heavy-duty construction equipment and would require little or no demolition or grading as the site is presently unimproved and considered to be topographically flat. Consequently, emissions would be minimal. Furthermore, all construction activities would occur in compliance with all SJVAPCD regulations; therefore, construction emissions would be less than significant without mitigation.

A comment referral received from the SJVAPCD confirmed that the project would have less than significant adverse impact on air quality. The comment letter also stated the proposed project will be subject to District Rule 9510 as well as possibly subject to Rules 4102, 4601 and 4641. Based on these comments the applicant will be responsible for an Air Impact Assessment, contacting air district to determine if subject for Authority to Construct permit, and any other mitigation or fees prescribed by the air district. Conditions of approval will be added to the project to address these comments.

Mitigation: None

References: Referral response from the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District dated November 19, 2015; San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District - Regulation VIII Fugitive Dust/PM-10 Synopsis; Stanislaus County General Plan and Support Documentation¹

IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES -- Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Included	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 Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?			X	
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 Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?			X	
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?			X	
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?			X	
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?			X	

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?			X	
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Discussion: It does not appear this project will result in impacts to endangered species or habitats, locally designated species, or wildlife dispersal or mitigation corridors. There are no known sensitive or protected species or natural communities located on the site and/or in the surrounding area which is almost entirely built up with urban uses. While the parcel is currently undeveloped, it can be considered in-fill as the surrounding area has been developed with light industrial and commercial uses. If approved, the development would have a less than significant impact on biological resources.

Mitigation: None

References: Application material, California Natural Diversity Database, Stanislaus County General Plan and Support Documentation¹

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

Discussion: It does not appear this project will result in significant impacts to any archaeological or cultural resources. A records search formulated by the Central California Information Center (CCIC) indicated that there was a low probability of discovery of prehistoric or historic resources onsite; nor have any cultural resources been discovered or reported in the immediate vicinity. The project was referred to the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) but no response was received to date. A condition of approval will be added to the project that requires that if any archaeological or cultural resources are found, construction activities will halt at that time until a qualified survey is performed.

Mitigation: None

References: Central California Information Center (CCIC) report dated November 04, 2015; Stanislaus County General Plan and Support Documentation¹

VI. GEOLOGY AND SOILS -- Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Included	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.			X	
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?			X	

iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?			X	
iv) Landslides?			X	
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?			X	
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?			X	
d) Be located on expansive soil creating substantial risks to life or property?			X	
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?			X	

Discussion: As contained in Chapter Five of the General Plan Support Documentation, the areas of the County subject to significant geologic hazard are located in the Diablo Range, west of Interstate 5; however, as per the California Building Code, all of Stanislaus County is located within a geologic hazard zone (Seismic Design Category D, E, or F) and a soils test may be required as part of the building permit process. Results from the soils test will determine if unstable or expansive soils are present. If such soils are present, special engineering of the structure will be designed and built according to building standards appropriate to withstand shaking for the area in which they are constructed. Any earth moving is subject to Public Works Standards and Specifications which consider the potential for erosion and run-off prior to permit approval. Likewise, any addition of a septic tank or alternative waste water disposal system would require the approval of the Department of Environmental Resources (DER) through the building permit process, which also takes soil type into consideration within the specific design requirements.

Mitigation: None

References: California Building Code, Stanislaus County General Plan and Support Documentation¹

VII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS -- Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Included	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?				

Discussion: The principal Greenhouse Gases (GHGs) are carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), nitrous oxide (N₂O), sulfur hexafluoride (SF₆), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), and water vapor (H₂O). CO₂ is the reference gas for climate change because it is the predominant greenhouse gas emitted. To account for the varying warming potential of different GHGs, GHG emissions are often quantified and reported as CO₂ equivalents (CO₂e). In 2006, California passed the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (Assembly Bill [AB] No. 32), which requires the California Air Resources Board (ARB) to design and implement emission limits, regulations, and other measures, such that feasible and cost-effective statewide GHG emissions are reduced to 1990 levels by 2020. As a requirement of AB 32, the ARB was assigned the task of developing a Climate Change Scoping Plan that outlines the state's strategy to achieve the 2020 GHG emissions limits. This Scoping Plan includes a comprehensive set of actions designed to reduce overall GHG emissions in California, improve the environment, reduce the state's dependence on oil, diversify the state's energy sources, save energy, create new jobs, and enhance public health. The Climate Change Scoping Plan was approved by the ARB on December 22, 2008. According to the September 23, 2010, AB 32 Climate Change Scoping Plan Progress Report, 40 percent of the reductions identified in the Scoping Plan have been secured through ARB actions and California is on track to its 2020 goal.

Although not originally intended to reduce GHGs, California Code of Regulations (CCR) Title 24, Part 6: California’s Energy Efficiency Standards for Residential and Nonresidential Buildings, was first adopted in 1978 in response to a legislative mandate to reduce California’s energy consumption. Since then, Title 24 has been amended with recognition that energy-efficient buildings require less electricity and reduce fuel consumption, which in turn decreases GHG emissions. The current Title 24 standards were adopted to respond to the requirements of AB 32. Specifically, new development projects within California after January 1, 2011, are subject to the mandatory planning and design, energy efficiency, water efficiency and conservation, material conservation and resources efficiency, and environmental quality measures of the California Green Building Standards (CALGreen) Code (California Code of Regulations, Title 24, Part 11).

The proposed project would result in short-term emissions of GHGs during construction. These emissions, primarily CO2, CH4, and N2O, are the result of fuel combustion by construction equipment and motor vehicles. The other primary GHGs (HFCs, PFCs, and SF6) are typically associated with specific industrial sources and are not expected to be emitted by the proposed project. As described above in Section III - Air Quality, the use of heavy-duty construction equipment would be very limited; therefore, the emissions of CO2 from construction would be less than significant.

The project would also result in direct annual emissions of GHGs during operation. Direct emissions of GHGs from operation of the proposed project are primarily due to vehicles trips. This project would not result in emission of GHGs from any other sources. Consequently, GHG emissions are considered to be less than significant.

Mitigation: None

References: Application materials, Stanislaus County General Plan and Support Documentation¹

VIII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS -- Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Included	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?			X	
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?			X	
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?			X	
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?			X	
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?				X
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?				X
g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?				X

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?				X
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Discussion: The proposed project will consist of the storage of recreational vehicles in open and enclosed spaces. Per the application, the operation will not include or generate of any unique wastes associated with the project. Operation of this site will be unstaffed and will be sporadically affected by activity. DER is responsible for overseeing hazardous materials and has not indicated any particular concern. The site is currently an expired planned development and is currently vacant. The project site is not within the vicinity of any airstrip or wildlands.

Mitigation: None

References: Application, Stanislaus County General Plan and Support Documentation¹

IX. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY -- Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Included	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?			X	
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)?				X
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?			X	
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?				X
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?			X	
f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?				
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?				X
h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?				X
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?			X	
j) Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?			X	

Discussion: Run-off is not considered an issue because of several factors which limit the potential impact. These factors include the relatively flat terrain of the subject site, and relatively low rainfall intensities in the Central Valley. Areas subject to flooding have been identified in accordance with the Federal Emergency Management Act. The project site

itself is located in Zone X (outside the 0.2% floodplain) and, as such, exposure to people or structures to a significant risk of loss/injury/death involving flooding due levee/dam failure and/or alteration of a watercourse, at this location is not an issue with respect to this project.

By virtue of the proposed paving for the parking and driveways, the current absorption patterns of water upon this property will be altered; however, current standards require that all of a project's stormwater be maintained on site and, as such, a Grading and Drainage Plan will be included in this project's conditions of approval. As a result of the development standards required for this project, impacts associated with drainage, water quality, and runoff are expected to have a less than significant impact. The project design indicates that stormwater runoff generated by the development of this site will be kept on site and retained via a drainage basin. This project was referred to the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) which responded with standards of development and requirements that will be incorporated into this project's conditions of approval. West of the project site is an existing Derrel's Mini Storage facility. This applicant plans to extend a 2 inch water line to the propose project site. Primary use of water for the proposed project will consist of landscaping and storage for fire suppression. The landscaping associated with the project will need to meet State standards for water efficiency but is not expected have significant effects on groundwater supplies.

Mitigation: None

References: Application Material; referral response from the Regional Water Quality Control Board dated November 19, 2015, Stanislaus County General Plan and Support Documentation¹

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

Discussion: The project site has a General Plan Designation of Planned Development and is zoned P-D (Planned Development) 202, which is expired. P-D (202) was originally approved for a 236 space R-V storage facility. However, the project site was never developed and thus became expired in terms of entitlements. The request to rezoning the property to a new Planned Development would be required to develop the site. The project will not physically divide an established community nor conflict with any habitat conservation plans.

Mitigation: None

References: Stanislaus County General Plan and Support Documentation¹

XI. MINERAL RESOURCES -- Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Included	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?				X

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?				x
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Discussion: The location of all commercially viable mineral resources in Stanislaus County has been mapped by the State Division of Mines and Geology in Special Report 173. There are no know significant resources on the site, nor is the project site located in a geological area known to produce resources.

Mitigation: None

References: Stanislaus County General Plan and Support Documentation¹

XII. NOISE -- Would the project result in:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Included	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?			x	
b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?			x	
c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?				x
d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?				x
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?				x
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?				x

Discussion: The Stanislaus County General Plan identifies noise levels up to 70 dB Ldn (or CNEL) as the normally acceptable level of noise for commercial uses. On-site grading and construction resulting from this project may result in a temporary increase in the area’s ambient noise levels; however, noise impacts associated with on-site activities and traffic are not anticipated to exceed the normally acceptable level of noise. The site itself is impacted by the noise generated from existing SR 219; however, the proposed used will be unstaffed and only temporary access of the site for the storage of RV’s by customers. Therefore, the commercial development of the proposed project will have less than significant impacts of exposure of noise levels. The site is not located within an airport land use plan.

Mitigation: None

References: Application Materials, Stanislaus County General Plan and Support Documentation¹

XIII. POPULATION AND HOUSING -- Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Included	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)?			X	
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				X
c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				X

Discussion: The proposed use of this site will not create significant service extension or new infrastructure which could be considered as growth inducing. No housing or persons will be displaced by this project. This project is surrounding State Route 219, industrial and agriculture uses. No housing or persons will be displaced by the project site's development.

Mitigation: None

References: Application material, Stanislaus County General Plan and Support Documentation¹

XIV. PUBLIC SERVICES --	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Included	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the project result in the 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?			X	
Police protection?			X	
Schools?				X
Parks?				X
Other public facilities?			X	

Discussion: The County has adopted Public Facility Fees, as well as Fire Facility Fees on behalf of the appropriate fire district, to address impacts to public services from the development of the site. Such fees are required to be paid at the time of building permit issuance. Conditions of approval will be added to this project to ensure the proposed development complies with all applicable fire department standards with respect to access and water for fire suppression. The project will feature a 15,000 gallon fire suppression storage tank, a secondary access point for emergency services and gated. A Comment referral was received from the Salida Fire Protection District requiring the applicant to form or annex into the services district to provide for operational services. A condition of approval added to the project requiring the applicant to perform this prior issuance of any building permit.

A referral response was received from the Modesto Irrigation District (MID) locating irrigation facilities within the project site. The 36 inch Brown improvement district pipeline runs along the center of the project site and serves downstream users. The comment letter stated that MID will not permit any permanent structures within the easement area. MID has

requested the pipeline be relocated along the property line. Even though the applicant is not proposing any permanent structures, a condition of approval will be added to the project for the applicant to relocate all irrigation facilities and constitute a new 30 foot irrigation easement along the center of the pipeline.

Mitigation: None

References: Application Material; referral response from the Salida Fire Protection District dated November 23, 2015; Referral response from Modesto Irrigation District dated November 23, 2015; Stanislaus County General Plan and Support Documentation¹

XV. RECREATION --	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Included	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?				X
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?				X

Discussion: The proposed project does not have a residential element and is not anticipated to significantly increase demand for any recreational activities or facilities.

Mitigation: None

References: Application Material, Stanislaus County General Plan and Support Documentation¹

XVI. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC -- Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Included	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?			X	
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?			X	
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?			X	
d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?			X	
e) Result in inadequate emergency access?			X	

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?			X	
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Discussion: The project will have access via Tunson Road. No access will be granted to State Route 219 and any traffic generated will be minimal due to the nature of the project’s intended use. State Route 219 is managed by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). No comment letter has been received to date from CalTrans regarding this project. The applicant is anticipating, 5-10 RV’s to access the site per day. A comment referral was received from the County’s Public Works Department and is requesting improvements on Tunson Road for the development of the site. This will include building out the southbound lane of Tunson road with a 12 foot wide travel lane and 4 foot asphalt shoulder. Conditions of approval will be added to the project to address this request.

Mitigation: None

References: Referral response from the Stanislaus County Department of Public Works dated December 1, 2015, Stanislaus County General Plan and Support Documentation¹

XVII. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS -- Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Included	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?			X	
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?			X	
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?			X	
d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?			X	
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?			X	
f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project’s solid waste disposal needs?			X	
g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?			X	

Discussion: Limitations on providing services have not been identified. The site will be served by an extension of 2 inch water line from the westerly parcel, also a Derrel’s Mini Storage, will not have the need for septic facilities, and on-site drainage of stormwater. Referral responses from Public Works and DER have not indicated any concerns in these areas. A referral response from DER indicated that the project could result in the water well supply for the proposed project being defined by the State as a public water system. Conditions of approval will be added to the project requiring the owner to certify to DER that the property does not qualify as a public water system or submit a public water supply permit application to DER accompanied by a public water system technical report, financial and managerial and technical information, and obtain a public water supply permit to operate a public water system. Conditions will also be added to record an irrevocable user agreement for the use of the water line for any future tenets.

Mitigation: None

References: Application material; referral response from the Stanislaus County Department of Environmental Resources dated November 18, 2015; Stanislaus County General Plan and Support Documentation¹

XVIII. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE --	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Included	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?			X	
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.)			X	
c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?			X	

Discussion: Review of this project has not indicated any features which might significantly impact the environmental quality of the site and/or surrounding area.

¹Stanislaus County General Plan and Support Documentation adopted in October 1994, as amended. Optional and updated elements of the General Plan and Support Documentation: **Agricultural Element** adopted on December 18, 2007; **Housing Element** adopted on August 28, 2012; **Circulation Element** and **Noise Element** adopted on April 18, 2006.

NEGATIVE DECLARATION

NAME OF PROJECT: Rezone & Merger Application No. PLN2015-0113 – Derrel's Mini Storage – Equitybak, LP

LOCATION OF PROJECT: 5038 Tunson Road, north of State Route 219/Kiernan Ave, east of Carver and west of State Route 108/ Mc Henry Ave. APN: 004-057-003, 004-057-004, 004-057-005.

PROJECT DEVELOPERS: Equitbak LP dba Derrel's Mini Storage
3256 W Ashlan Avenue
Fresno, CA 93722

DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT: Request to rezone expired P-D (202) to a new P-D and to merge three adjoining parcels into one 3.0+/- parcel to allow for 100 spaces of RV storage. The proposed project will include 78 enclosed and 22 open storage spaces, a 20' pole sign, perimeter fencing and landscaping. The project site is located 5038 Tunson Road, north of the State Route 219/Kiernan Avenue, east of Carver and west of State Route 108/McHenry Avenue. The Planning Commission will consider adoption of a CEQA Negative Declaration for the project.

Based upon the Initial Study, dated **January 29, 2016**, the Environmental Coordinator finds as follows:

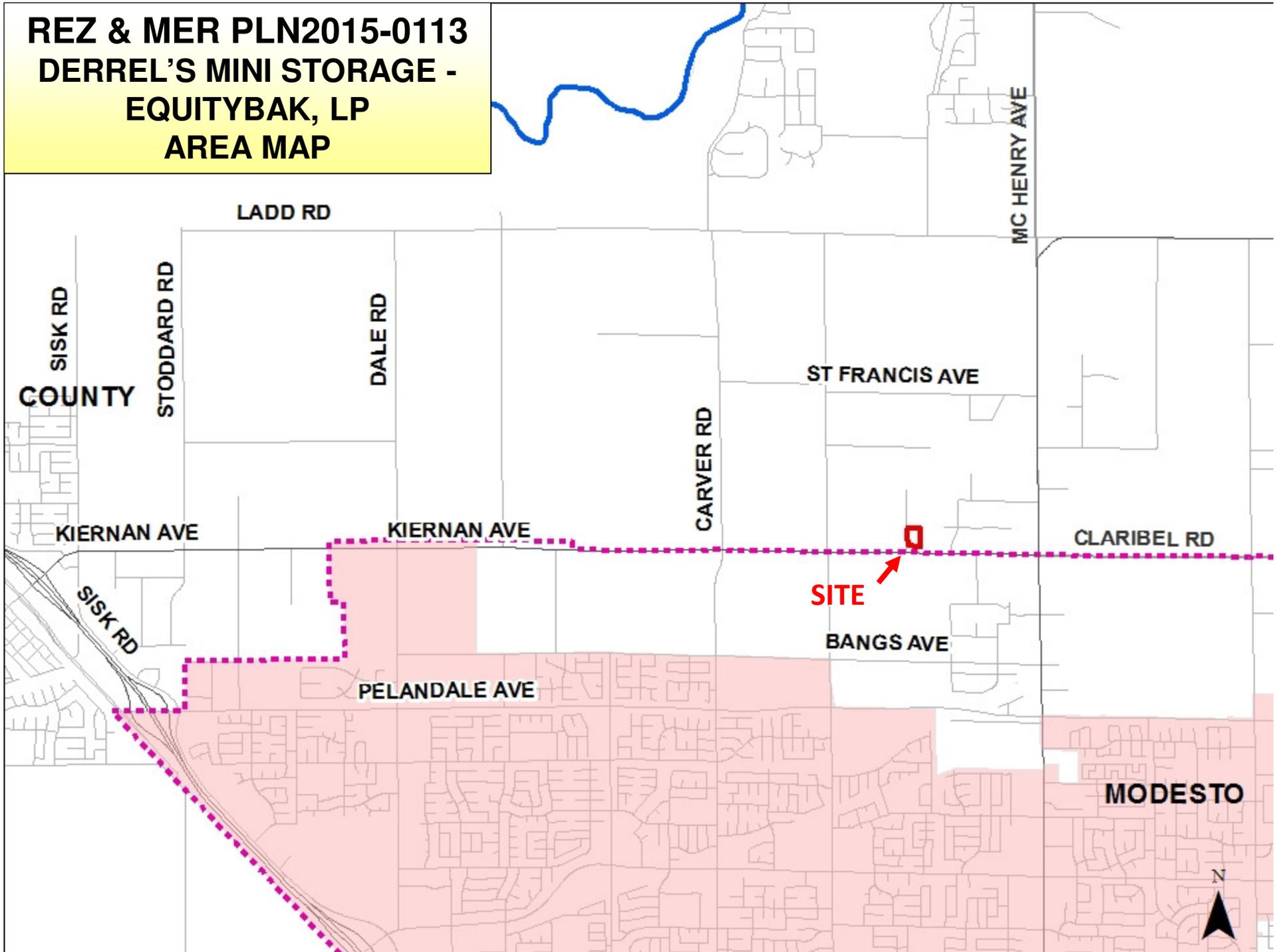
1. This project does not have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, nor to curtail the diversity of the environment.
2. This project will not have a detrimental effect upon either short-term or long-term environmental goals.
3. This project will not have impacts which are individually limited but cumulatively considerable.
4. This project will not have environmental impacts which will cause substantial adverse effects upon human beings, either directly or indirectly.

The Initial Study and other environmental documents are available for public review at the Department of Planning and Community Development, 1010 10th Street, Suite 3400, Modesto, California.

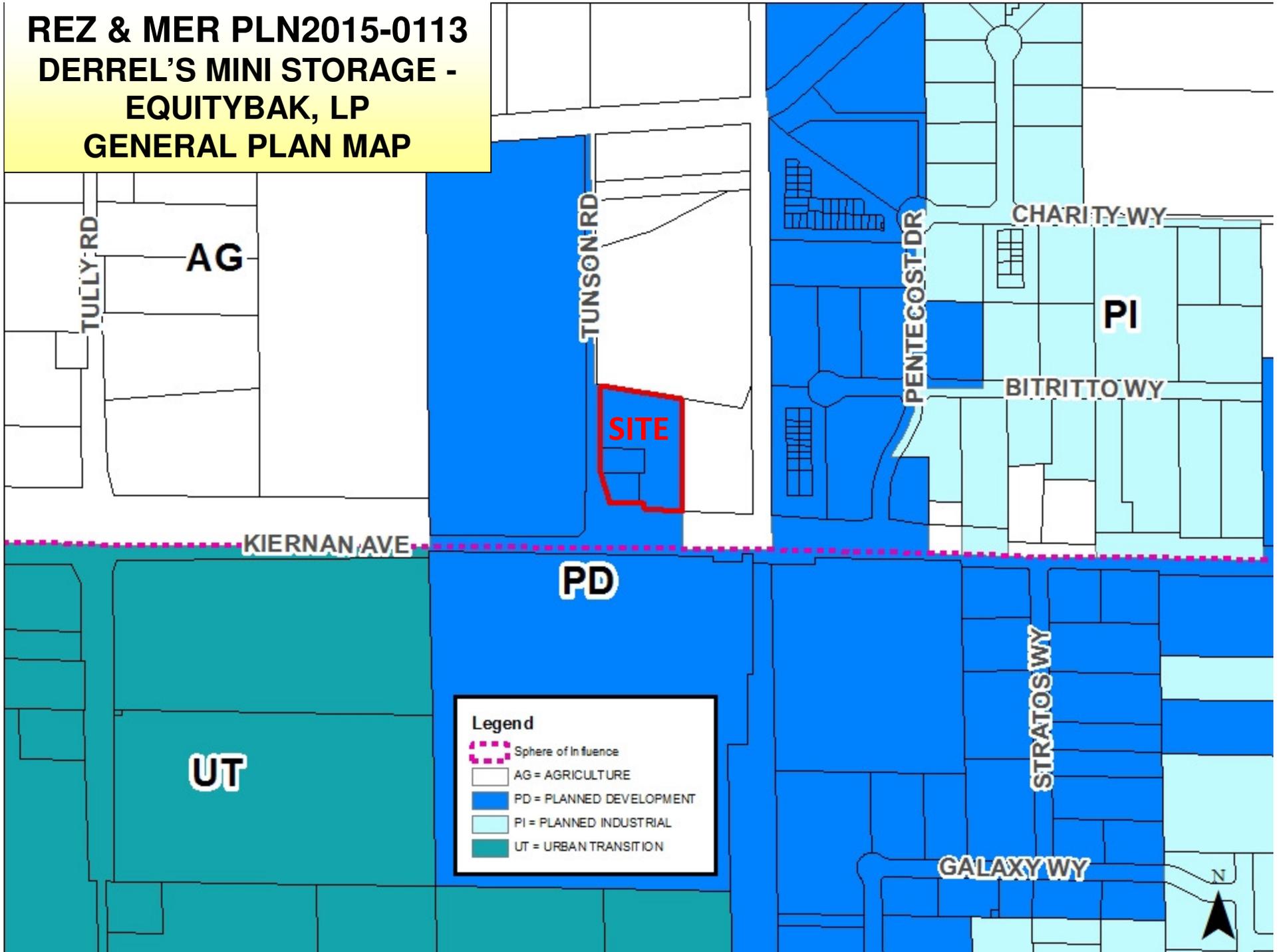
Initial Study prepared by: Jeremy Ballard, Assistant Planner

Submit comments to: Stanislaus County
Planning and Community Development Department
1010 10th Street, Suite 3400
Modesto, California 95354

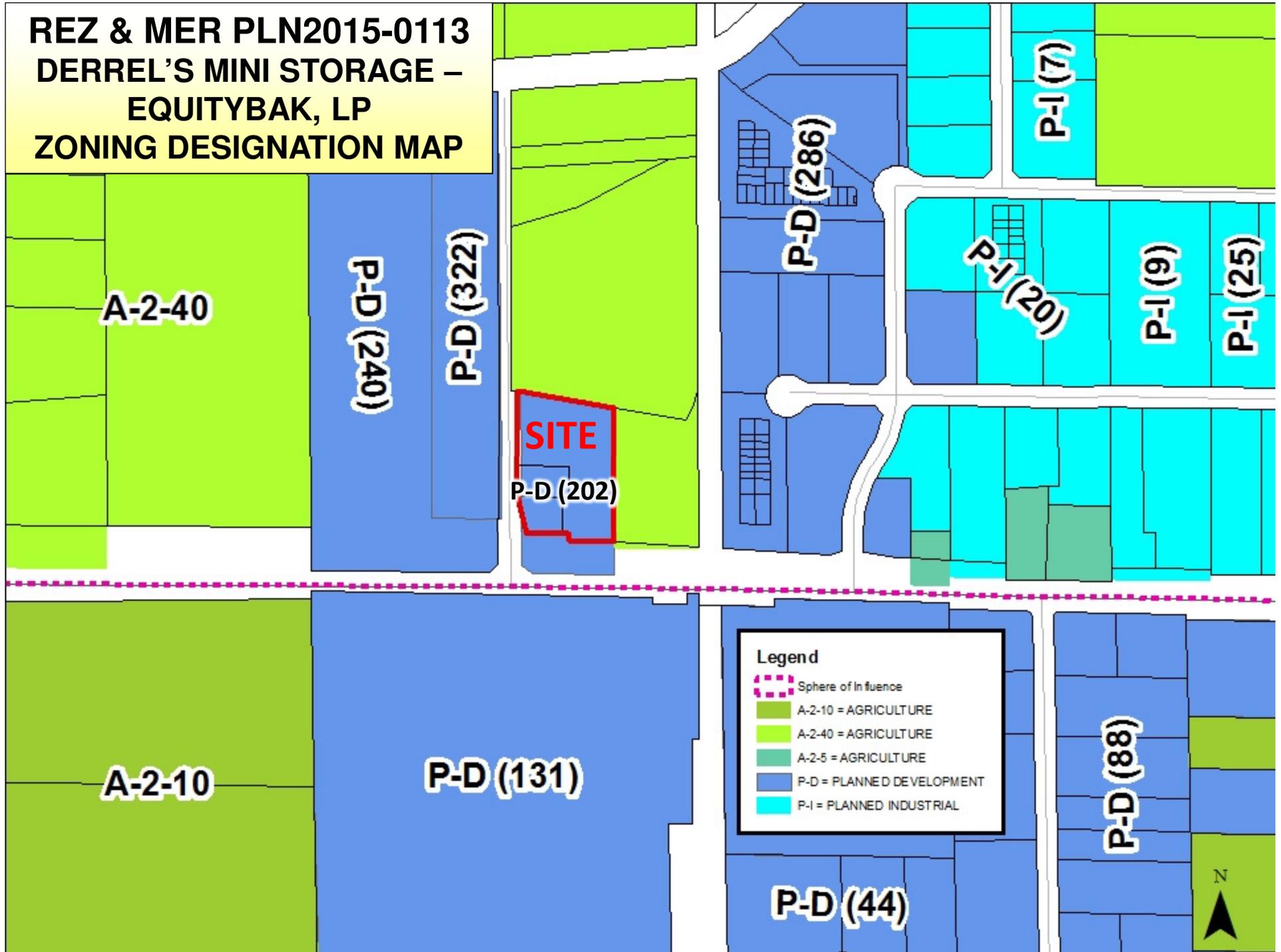
**REZ & MER PLN2015-0113
DERREL'S MINI STORAGE -
EQUITYBAK, LP
AREA MAP**



**REZ & MER PLN2015-0113
DERREL'S MINI STORAGE -
EQUITYBAK, LP
GENERAL PLAN MAP**



**REZ & MER PLN2015-0113
DERREL'S MINI STORAGE -
EQUITYBAK, LP
ZONING DESIGNATION MAP**



**REZ & MER PLN2015-0113
DERREL'S MINI STORAGE –
EQUITYBAK, LP
2013 COUNTY AERIAL MAP**



**REZ & MER PLN2015-0113
DERREL'S MINI STORAGE –
EQUITYBAK, LP
ACREAGE MAP**

