STANISLAUS COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

December 19, 2024

STAFF REPORT

USE PERMIT APPLICATION NO. PLN2024-0017 LAFOLLETTE TRUCKING

REQUEST: TO ALLOW AN EXISTING TRACTOR-TRAILER PARKING FACILITY TO OPERATE WITH UP TO TWELVE TRACTORS AND TRAILER COMBINATIONS, ON A 1.27± ACRE PORTION OF A 9.81± ACRE PARCEL, IN THE GENERAL AGRICULTURE (A-2-40) ZONING DISTRICT.

APPLICATION INFORMATION

Applicant/Property Owner: Agent: Location:

Section, Township, Range: Supervisorial District: Assessor's Parcel: Referrals:

Area of Parcel(s): Water Supply: Sewage Disposal: General Plan Designation: Community Plan Designation: Existing Zoning: Sphere of Influence: Williamson Act Contract No.: Environmental Review: Present Land Use:

Surrounding Land Use:

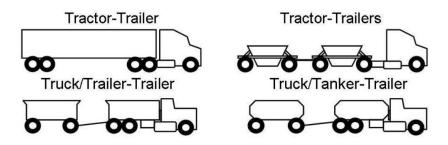
Chad A. & Janelle A. LaFollette N/A 5601 Pioneer Road, between East Grayson Road and East Keyes Road, in the Keyes area. 29-4-10 District 2 (Supervisor Chiesa) 045-035-053 See Exhibit G Environmental Review Referrals 9.81± acres Private well Private septic system Agriculture N/A General Agriculture (A-2-40) N/A N/A Negative Declaration Single-family dwelling, detached agricultural storage building, and fallow agricultural land. Orchards and scattered ranchettes in all directions; a nut storage facility to the southeast; Turlock Irrigation District (TID) Upper Lateral No. 2 1/2 to the north; and the Community of Keyes and State Route 99 to the west.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Planning Commission approve this request based on the discussion below and on the whole of the record provided to the County. If the Planning Commission decides to approve the project, Exhibit A provides an overview of the findings and actions required for project approval, which includes use permit findings.

BACKGROUND

On April 17, 2012, the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors adopted amendments to Chapter 21.94 - *Home Occupations* and Chapter 21.20 - *General Agriculture District (A-2)* of the Stanislaus County Zoning Ordinance, to allow tractor-trailer parking in the A-2 zoning district. Specifically, the amendment addressed parking facilities for tractors, trailers, and tractor-trailer combinations with a minimum of five (5) axles, capable of hauling a combined gross vehicle weight of 80,000 pounds (hereafter referred to as "trucks"), as illustrated by the following:



Prior to the ordinance amendments' adoption in 2012, truck parking in the A-2 zoning district was limited to trucks that were accessory and incidental to permitted agricultural operations, uses that are closely related to agriculture permitted by a Tier One use permit, such as a huller-sheller, or as part of an agriculturally-related business permitted by a Tier Two use permit, such as an agricultural service establishment or agricultural processing facility.

An "agricultural service establishment" is defined as meaning "a business engaging in activities designed to aid production agriculture". Generally, a trucking business could be considered an agricultural service establishment if exclusively engaged in the transport of raw and unprocessed produce. The transport of processed agricultural goods (e.g. bottled milk, frozen vegetables, cheese, etc.) or goods used in the processing or packaging of processed goods (e.g. cans, boxes, crates, etc.) may be permitted in the A-2 zoning district when accessory to a permitted agricultural processing facility; however, the A-2 zoning district did not provide an allowance for truck parking when not accessory to another on-site permitted use. Accordingly, prior to the 2012 ordinance amendment there were no pathways for permitting general freight trucking businesses who lease parking stalls to individual contract truck operators, or would be operated by an independent trucking business, and who hauled goods other than raw and unprocessed produce from locating in the A-2 zoning district.

The process to initiate the 2012 Ordinance Amendment began in response to an increase in code enforcement activity which intensified in 2008 when roughly 20 truck parking facilities were reported to the Stanislaus County Department of Environmental Resources (DER) Code Enforcement Division, and each were given a notice and order to abate. Following these code

enforcement efforts, a number of truck operators formed an informal group in order to bring the issues associated with the commercial truck parking before the County. Throughout the ordinance amendment process, residents, landowners, truck drivers, businesses, and County officials provided a variety of feedback on the issue, related to concerns and benefits of truck parking in the A-2, which shaped the amendment that was ultimately adopted by the Board of Supervisors. The resulting amendments allowed truck parking in the A-2 via two permitting pathways:

- 1. Option one, established Zoning Ordinance Section 21.94.020(J)(4), which allows a maximum of three tractors and three trailers to be parked on any single parcel at least one acre in size, provided all trucks are registered to the occupant, and a home occupation business license is issued by staff to an occupant of a dwelling on an A-2-zoned parcel.
- Option two, established by Zoning Ordinance Section 21.20.030(G), allows the parking of up to 12 tractors and 24 trailers, provided a use permit is granted by the Planning Commission, subject to the following limitations (see Exhibit D - *Tractor-Trailer Parking Excerpt of Zoning Ordinance Section 21.20.030(G) – General Agriculture District (A-2) – Uses Requiring a Use Permit*):
 - a. That the property owner owns one of the tractor-trailer combinations and lives onsite;
 - b. That the parcel on which parking occurs is at least one acre in size;
 - c. That the proposed parking facilities be no more than 50% of the parcel size, up to 1.5 acres;
 - d. That if an office is proposed it be no larger than 1,200 square-feet;
 - e. That the parking area be adequately graveled and physically delineated through fencing or landscaping;
 - f. That no storage of hazardous materials occur and no loading or unloading occur on-site; and
 - g. That any on-site maintenance be limited to windshield wiper replacements and oil changes.

Additionally, for truck parking requests via a use permit, the Planning Commission must find, in addition to the general finding required for approval of any use permit, that:

The establishment [of the use] as proposed will not create a concentration of commercial and industrial uses in the vicinity.

Since the ordinance amendment in 2012 to date, the Stanislaus County Planning Department has received 29 use permit applications for truck parking in the A-2 zoning district. The following is the status of those applications:

- Eight applications have been approved by the Planning Commission.
- Zero applications have been denied by the Planning Commission.
- Twelve applications have been withdrawn prior to public hearing due to either inability to meet the established criteria; often due to the business operators not living on-site as required, due to exceeding the number of trucks permitted, or due to costs associated with developing the facilities in accordance with County standards.
- Nine applications are in process to be considered by the Planning Commission.

Of the 29 total applications received, 22 were subject to code enforcement action for unpermitted truck parking facilities, including the subject application.

As of December 2024, there are 14 active code enforcement cases for unpermitted truck parking facilities which have yet to submit any type of application for a land use entitlement to legalize the non-permitted use. Most of the truck parking facilities with active code enforcement cases have a home occupation business license but are operating beyond the scope of the home occupation allowances for truck parking.

Upon an audit of the location of these various truck parking sites associated with code enforcement cases and land use entitlement applications, staff has noted that the majority of these facilities, permitted or otherwise, have developed in the unincorporated areas surrounding Keyes, south and west Turlock, and along major roadways feeding into the State Route 99 corridor. Due to the increase in cases resulting in complaints about truck parking facilities, the County has started the process to reconsider the allowance of parking facilities for trucks in the A-2 zoning district, which may include amendments to the current ordinances to reduce or eliminate the allowance. If the County's current allowance for truck parking in the A-2 zoning district is reduced or eliminated, the only option to pursue a land use entitlement for those in violation may be a General Plan amendment and rezone.

Since the adopted 2012 ordinance amendment, the County has received six applications for General Plan amendments and rezones of A-2 zoned lands to allow for the legalization or establishment of truck-parking facilities exceeding the twelve-truck maximum allowance by Use Permit. At the time this report was written: one application has been approved by the Board of Supervisors; two are pending consideration by the Board of Supervisors, with one application having received a recommendation from the Planning Commission that the Board of Supervisors approve the project, and one application receiving a recommendation of denial; and three applications are still under review and have yet to have any public hearings scheduled.

LaFollette Trucking has been in operation, under the ownership and operation of the applicant, since 2013. The Department of Transportation's Safety and Fitness Electronic Records System states that the company ships intrastate, nonhazardous materials, with cargo consisting of dry

bulk commodities, agricultural and farm supplies, and grain, feed, and hay. The applicant acquired the property in 2015 and the subject truck parking facility was established on the project site that same year without obtaining any land use entitlements. Prior to acquiring the property, the company operated from 3312 S Blaker Road in the Turlock area.

The subject application process was initiated following a code enforcement investigation (CE-23-0578) resulting from a complaint pertaining to the parking of a number of trucks on the property. Additional discussion on the subject project request and the required findings for approval are provided in the *Issues* and *Zoning Ordinance Consistency* sections of this report.

At the regularly scheduled General Plan Update Committee meeting on December 5, 2024, direction was provided to staff to seek formation of an ad hoc committee consisting of members of the County's Board of Supervisors and Planning Commission to further research and develop policy (including potential zoning ordinance amendments) related to community concerns regarding truck parking in the A-2 zoning district. Items relating to the formation of the ad hoc committee will be presented to the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors for consideration.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project is a request to allow for the operation of an existing tractor-trailer parking facility to operate with up to twelve tractors and trailer combinations, on a $1.27\pm$ acre portion of a $9.81\pm$ acre parcel, in the General Agriculture (A-2-40) zoning district. The applicant proposes to continue utilizing a $1.27\pm$ acre graveled area in the middle of the parcel for the parking of 12 employee parking stalls and 12 parking stalls for the tractor-trailer combinations.

Up to 12 employees could be employed by the business and would park their personal vehicles in the employee parking stalls on-site. Four of the tractors are registered to the applicant and property owner, who also lives on-site. The remaining tractors are owned by independent operators who the applicant employs to haul loads. Proposed hours of operation are Monday through Saturday, from 5:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., with up to 12 truck trips and 12 passenger trips per-day accessing the site within these hours. With exception of the business owner, who lives on-site, the facility is proposed to be unmanned. No office is proposed as part of the truck parking facility. The trucking business activities consist of the intrastate trucking of nonhazardous dry goods consisting of almond shells, walnut shells, and wood chips. No supply deliveries, loading, or unloading will occur on-site, and the trailers on-site will be empty. No washing of the trucks or trailers will take place on-site. Minor maintenance limited to tire changes, light and windshield wiper replacements, and checking fluids will be conducted on-site. No signage is proposed. One building-mounted light exists as part of the parking facility, which is attached to the existing singlefamily dwelling and is mounted 15 feet high aimed to the west, away from the roadway and nearby residences. No other exterior lighting is proposed for the facility. The applicant has also proposed to install frontage landscaping at the Pioneer Road entrance consisting of grass, trees, and flower beds and a six-foot-tall hedge and single row of redwood trees are proposed along the other boundaries of the parking area.

Access to the site is provided via County-maintained Pioneer Road via two existing graveled driveways; however, the truck parking facility proposes to utilize only the southern 20-foot-wide driveway, which will be required to be widened per Stanislaus County standards and

specifications. The estimated Pavement Condition Index (PCI) for Pioneer Road (from Keyes Road to Grayson Road) is 76, which is considered fair. The estimated Pavement Condition Index (PCI) for the nearest cross-street, Keyes Road (from Nunes Road to Pioneer Road), is 69, which is also considered fair. Stormwater will be handled via overland discharge into the on-site gravel and fallow farmland. A six-foot-tall chain link fence is proposed along the western boundary of the parking area. The existing on-site dwelling is served by an existing domestic well and septic system.

SITE DESCRIPTION

The 9.81± acre project site is located at 5601 Pioneer Road, between East Grayson and East Keyes Roads, in the Keyes area. The site is located just outside of the Keyes Community Plan area. The site is currently improved with a 3,842-square-foot single-family dwelling and a 4,800-square-foot detached agricultural storage building.

The project site is surrounded by orchards and rural ranchettes in all directions; a nut storage facility to the southeast; Turlock Irrigation District (TID) Upper Lateral No. 2 ¹/₂ to the north; and the Community of Keyes and State Route 99 to the west.

ISSUES

Community concerns relating to truck parking in the A-2 zoning district have been primarily focused on operations in the Keyes/Turlock area. As required by state law and County policy, notice of this project has been provided to surrounding landowners and no objections to the project have been received by the County. Notice of the Planning Commission's agenda was also provided to persons with an interest in the County potentially amending the current truck parking allowances.

As discussed in the *Zoning Ordinance Consistency* section of this report, staff believes the general use permit finding can be made for this use. If this use permit is approved the business would be operating in compliance with zoning requirements.

As outlined in the *Background* section and discussed in the *Zoning Ordinance Consistency* section of this report, use permits for truck parking in the A-2 are also required to meet a finding that a concentration will not occur.

It is staff's belief that based on the makeup of the area surrounding the project site, there is neither an existing commercial concentration, nor will the proposed project contribute to or create a concentration of similarly-situated commercial or industrial uses in the vicinity; however, the definition of a concentration is not defined in the County's Zoning Ordinance and, as such, the Planning Commission has discretion to apply a standard on a case-by-case basis.

The subject project is located approximately 1.3 miles north of the City of Turlock and approximately 0.25 miles east of the Keyes Community Plan boundary. Within a one-mile radius of the project site, land uses can be characterized primarily by agricultural production and concentrations of ranchettes, with residential uses in the Community of Keyes to the west and commercial development along State Route 99 to the southwest. Truck parking activities within this one-mile radius include two sites with a home occupation business license to park up to three

trucks, one 0.2± miles southwest of the site on East Nunes Road, and one 0.82± miles south of the site on West Barnhart Road (see Exhibit B-8 – *Maps and Site Plan*). If the subject application is approved, it would be the only truck parking facility permitted with a use permit within a onemile radius in the A-2 zoning district. The Planning Commission held a public hearing on December 5, 2024, to consider Use Permit Application No. PLN2023-0151- *Goblirsch Trucking Inc.*, which is located at 4361 Faith Home Road. On a vote of 9-0, the use permit was approved as proposed by the Planning Commission. Goblirsch is the nearest truck parking facility permitted with a use permit to the project site, which is located approximately 1.77± miles to the northwest (see Exhibit B-9 – *Maps and Site Plan*). Use Permit Application No. PLN2022-0148 – Juan M Torres Trucking, which is located approximately 1.67 miles away from the project site at 6130 East Service Road, will also be considered by the Planning Commission on December 19, 2024.

As discussed in the *Background* section of this report, this application was submitted on February 14, 2024, as the result of the Code Enforcement action (CE-23-0578). After Planning staff began processing the application, a subsequent complaint was received by the County on April 28, 2024, from a neighboring property owner stating that the number of trucks currently parked on the site exceeded their current allowances. The complainant was referred to Code Enforcement, but a formal complaint was not made and no inspection occurred due to the current use permit application being in progress. Aside from the above complaint and County-wide issues associated with truck parking in the A-2 zoning district no other project specific issues have been identified as a part of this request and standard conditions of approval have been added to the project.

GENERAL PLAN CONSISTENCY

The site is currently designated "Agriculture" in the Stanislaus County General Plan. The agricultural designation recognizes the value and importance of agriculture by acting to preclude incompatible urban development within agricultural areas. This designation establishes agriculture as the primary use in land so designated, but allows dwelling units, limited agriculturally related commercial services, agriculturally related light industrial uses, and other uses which by their unique nature are not compatible with urban uses, provided they do not conflict with the primary use.

As required by the General Plan's Land Use Element Sphere of Influence Policy, all discretionary projects within the sphere of influence (SOI) of a sanitary sewer district, domestic water district, or community services district, shall be forwarded to the district board for comment regarding the ability of the district to provide services. If the district serves an unincorporated community with a Municipal Advisory Council (MAC), the proposal shall also be referred to the MAC for comment. The proposed project is not within the SOI of a sanitary sewer, domestic water, or community services district; however, it is within the boundary of the Keyes MAC and, accordingly, was referred to the MAC for comment.

This project was presented to the Keyes MAC at a special MAC meeting on November 14, 2024. Community members at the meeting raised concerns regarding increased truck traffic on local roads as a result of the proposed project and other truck parking facilities in the area. Additional comments spoke to difficulties navigating the intersection between Pioneer Road and East Keyes Road, south of the project site; given the current grades and widths of both roads at that intersection concerns were also raised regarding the width of the driveway from the project site

onto Pioneer Road due to the turning radius required for tractor-trailers. In response to the applicant's comments at the meeting regarding his customers being primarily local agricultural producers, a MAC member in attendance spoke in favor of the project; stating he believed that the twelve tractor-trailers did not seem to be an excessive increase in traffic compared to more intensive operations not subject to the General Agriculture zoning district standards.

Ultimately, the MAC voted 3-1 to recommend project approval to the Planning Commission. Following the MAC meeting, staff discussed concerns related to driveway standards and turning movements at the Pioneer and East Keyes Roads intersection with the County's Public Works Department. Public Works staff relayed that County standards for commercial driveway approaches require that the project take into account the turning radius of trucks. Additionally, Public Works stated that they did not believe the project would result in safety or traffic impacts to the area because the maximum number of trucks proposed to park on-site would be restricted to twelve total.

Goal Two, Policy Fourteen, Implementation Measure 1 of the Land Use Element requires all development proposals that require discretionary action to be carefully reviewed to ensure that approval will not adversely affect an existing agricultural area and to ensure compatibility between land uses. Appendix A of the Stanislaus County General Plan Agricultural Element includes guidelines for the implementation of agricultural buffers applicable to new and expanding nonagricultural uses within or adjacent to the A-2 zoning district. The purpose of these guidelines is to protect the long-term health of agriculture by minimizing conflicts such as spray drift and trespassing resulting from the interaction of agricultural and non-agricultural uses. These guidelines state that all projects shall incorporate a minimum 150-foot-wide buffer setback; projects which propose people-intensive outdoor activities, such as athletic fields, shall incorporate a minimum 300-foot-wide buffer setback. Parking is a permitted use within the agricultural buffer and as this request is for an unmanned parking facility and involves no construction, unless otherwise determined by the Planning Commission, the project is not subject to agricultural buffers. The project was referred to the Stanislaus County Agricultural Commissioner, and no comments have been received to date.

Staff believes that with conditions of approval in place, the project is consistent with the County's General Plan.

ZONING ORDINANCE CONSISTENCY

The site is currently zoned General Agriculture (A-2-40). In accordance with Section 21.20.030(G) of the Stanislaus County Zoning Ordinance, the parking of tractor-trailer combinations may be allowed in the General Agriculture (A-2) zoning district if a use permit is first obtained. In order to approve the use permit, the Planning Commission must make the following findings:

1. The establishment, maintenance and operation of the proposed use or building applied for is consistent with the General Plan and will not, under the circumstances of the particular case, be detrimental to the health, safety and general welfare of persons residing or working in the neighborhood of the use and that it will not be detrimental or injurious to property and improvements in the neighborhood or to the general welfare of the County.

- 2. The establishment as proposed will not be substantially detrimental to or in conflict with agricultural use of other property in the vicinity.
- 3. The establishment as proposed will not create a concentration of commercial and industrial uses in the vicinity.

In addition to these required findings, the project must also meet project site and operations related requirements listed in Section 21.20.030(G)(3) of the A-2 Zoning Ordinance (see Exhibit D - *Tractor-Trailer Parking Excerpt of Zoning Ordinance Section 21.20.030(G) - General Agriculture District (A-2) - Uses Requiring a Use Permit*).

The County's Zoning Ordinance restricts parking facilities to parcels at least one acre in size, not to comprise a footprint larger than 50 percent of the total parcel area, up to a $1.5\pm$ acre maximum area that includes any required stormwater drainage facilities. In this case, the parcel is $9.81\pm$ acres in size, and the parking area is proposed to be located in the middle of the parcel on a $1.27\pm$ acre graveled area. Stormwater will be handled overland, and the site is proposed to remain graveled to maintain groundwater permeability. No signage or new lighting is proposed; however, the site has one existing building-mounted light as part of the parking facility, which is attached to the existing single-family dwelling, mounted at 15 feet high and facing west, away from the roadway and nearby residences. Condition of Approval No. 6 has been added to this project to ensure that any new on-site lights are aimed downward, and light spillage or glare are addressed from any new on-site lighting, which is not proposed at this time.

Additionally, subsection (i) of 21.20.030(G)(3) requires that the truck parking area be delineated through fencing or vegetative landscaping to distinguish the authorized parking area. A six-foot-tall chain link fence is proposed along the western boundary of the parking area, and a six-foot-tall hedge and single row of redwood trees are proposed along the other boundaries of the parking area. Based on application information, the project is consistent with the criteria established under 21.20.030(G)(3).

No impacts to agriculture are anticipated to occur as a result of this project as the proposal does not include any new construction and is in an existing topographically flat area that is not currently in agricultural production. Staff believes the establishment as proposed will not be substantially detrimental to or in conflict with agricultural use of other property in the vicinity. The project site was previously in agricultural production but has been left fallow in recent years, with the truck parking operation being the primary use of the site. There is no indication that this project, as proposed and conditioned, will be detrimental to the health, safety and general welfare of persons residing or working in the neighborhood of the use and that it will not be detrimental or injurious to property and improvements in the neighborhood or the general welfare of the County.

As discussed in the *Issues* section of this report, if the Planning Commission finds that the proposed project will not create a concentration of commercial or industrial uses in the vicinity, staff believes the project is consistent with the existing General Agriculture zoning.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

An environmental assessment for the project has been prepared in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The assessment included preparation of an Initial Study (see Exhibit E – *Initial Study*). Pursuant to CEQA, the proposed project was circulated to interested parties and responsible agencies for review and comment and no significant issues were raised (see Exhibit G – *Environmental Review Referrals*).

Conditions of Approval reflecting referral responses have been placed on the project (see Exhibit C - *Conditions of Approval*). A referral response received from the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (SJVAPCD) on November 27, 2024 stated that the project is not expected to exceed SJVAPCD significance thresholds related to NOx emissions. The Air District recommended measures, consistent with district regulations, be taken to reduce the idling of heavy trucks and potential emissions on-site, which have been added to the project as Conditions of Approval.

A Negative Declaration has been prepared for approval prior to action on the project itself as the project will not have a significant effect on the environment (see Exhibit F - *Negative Declaration*).

Note: Pursuant to California Fish and Game Code Section 711.4, all project applicants subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) shall pay a filing fee for each project; therefore, the applicant will further be required to pay <u>\$2,973.75</u> for the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (formerly the Department of Fish and Game) and the Clerk-Recorder filing fees. The attached Conditions of Approval ensure that this will occur.

Contact Person:

Marcus Ruddicks, Assistant Planner, (209) 525-6330

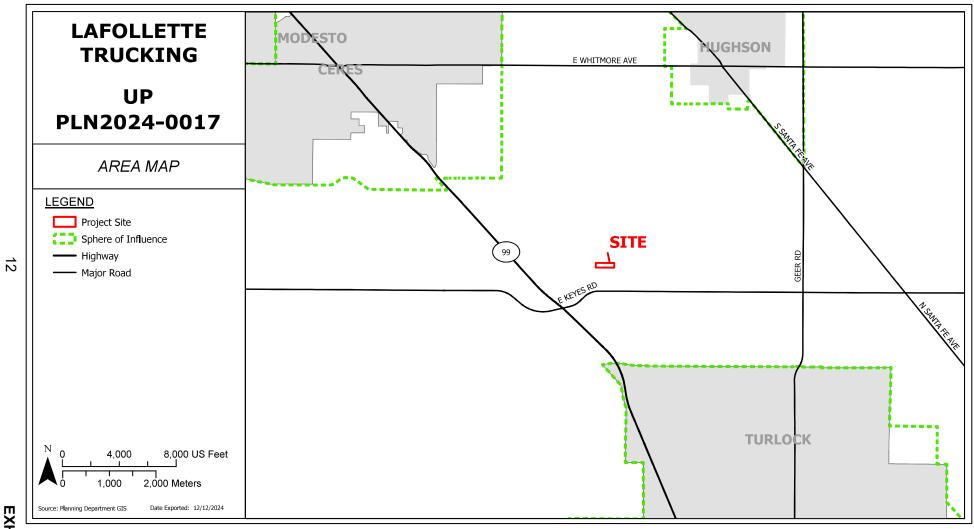
Attachments:

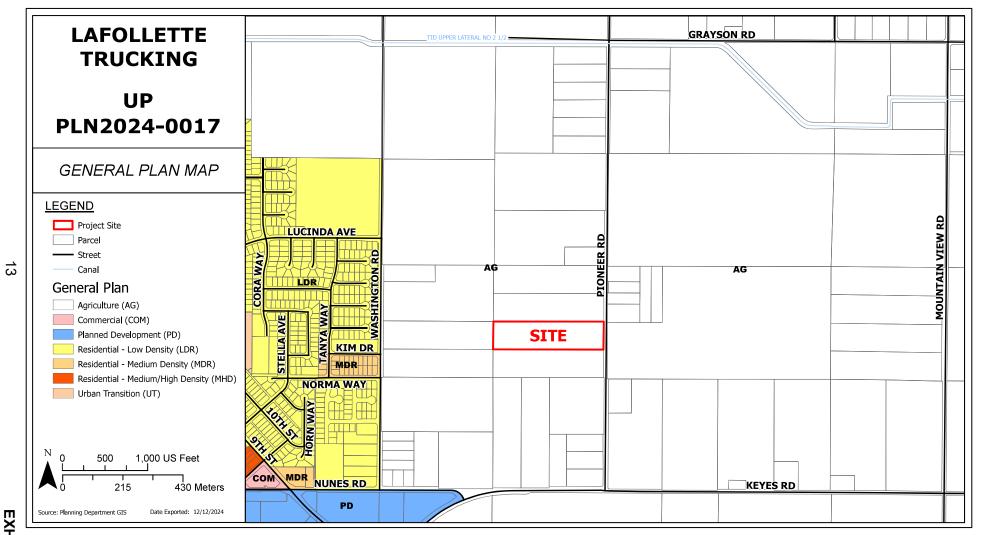
- Exhibit A Findings and Actions Required for Project Approval
- Exhibit B Maps and Site Plan
- Exhibit C Conditions of Approval
- Exhibit D Tractor-Trailer Parking Excerpt of Zoning Ordinance Section 21.20.030(G) General Agriculture District (A-2) Uses Requiring a Use Permit
- Exhibit E Initial Study
- Exhibit F Negative Declaration
- Exhibit G Environmental Review Referrals
- Exhibit H Levine Act Disclosure Statement

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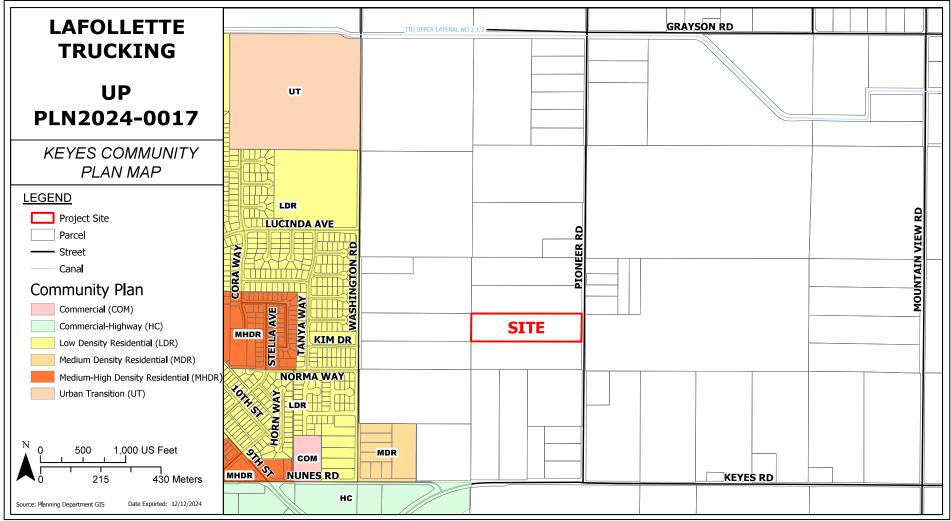
Findings and Actions Required for Project Approval

- 1. Adopt the Negative Declaration pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15074(b), by finding that on the basis of the whole record, including the Initial Study and any comments received, that there is no substantial evidence the project will have a significant effect on the environment and that the Negative Declaration reflects Stanislaus County's independent judgment and analysis.
- Order the filing of a Notice of Determination with the Stanislaus County Clerk Recorder's Office pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21152 and CEQA Guidelines Section 15075.
- 3. Find that:
 - a. The establishment, maintenance, and operation of the proposed use or building applied for is consistent with the General Plan and will not, under the circumstances of the particular case, be detrimental to the health, safety, and general welfare of persons residing or working in the neighborhood of the use and that it will not be detrimental or injurious to property and improvements in the neighborhood or to the general welfare of the County.
 - b. The establishment as proposed will not be substantially detrimental to or in conflict with agricultural use of other property in the vicinity.
 - c. The establishment as proposed will not create a concentration of commercial and industrial uses in the vicinity.
 - d. All the criteria listed under Stanislaus County Zoning Ordinance Section 21.20.030(G)(3) in effect at the time of approval are met.
- 4. Approve Use Permit Application No. PLN2024-0017 LaFollette Trucking, subject to the attached Conditions of Approval.



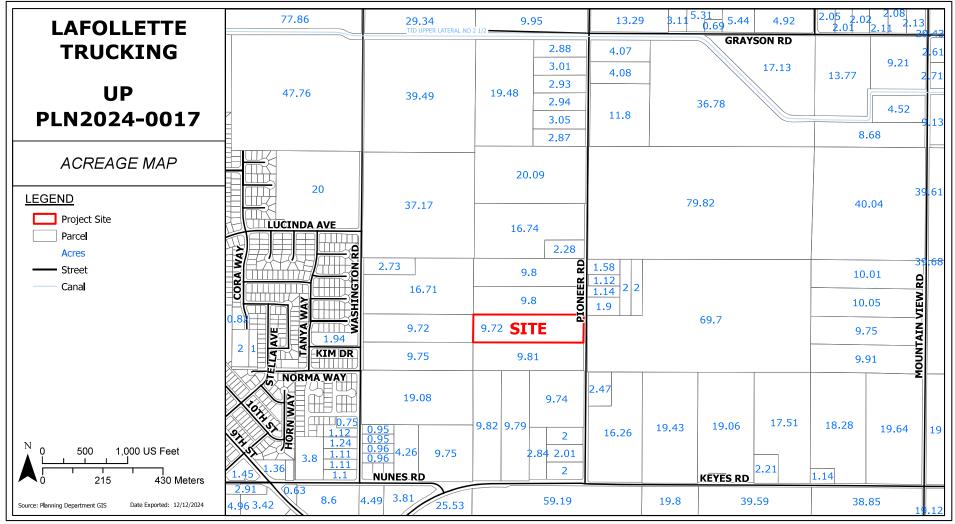


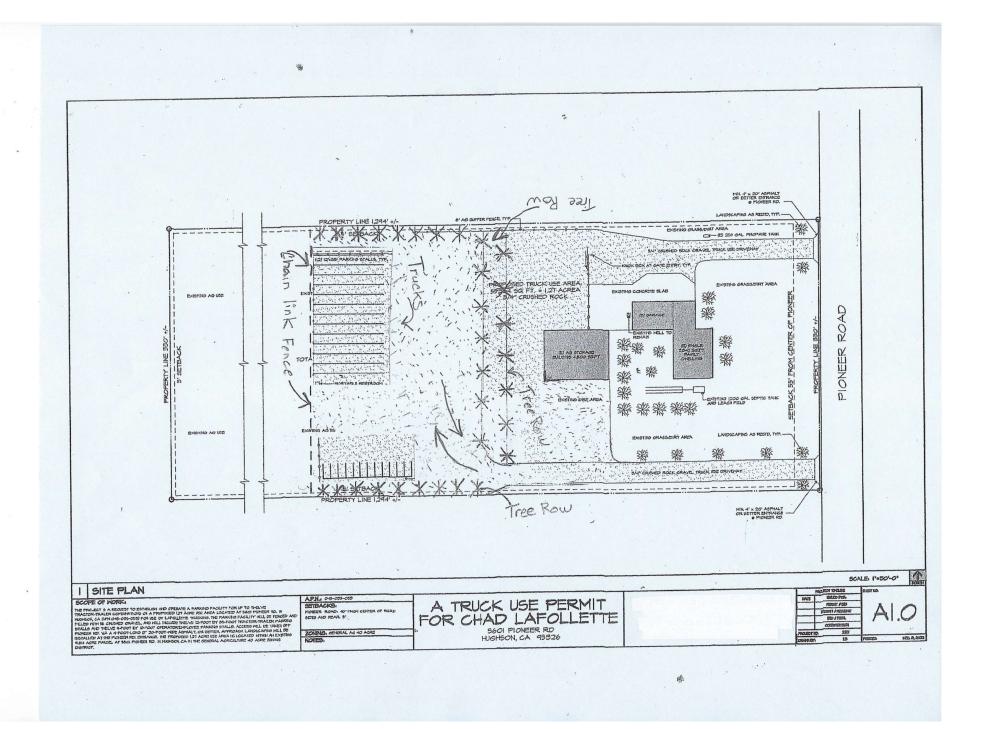






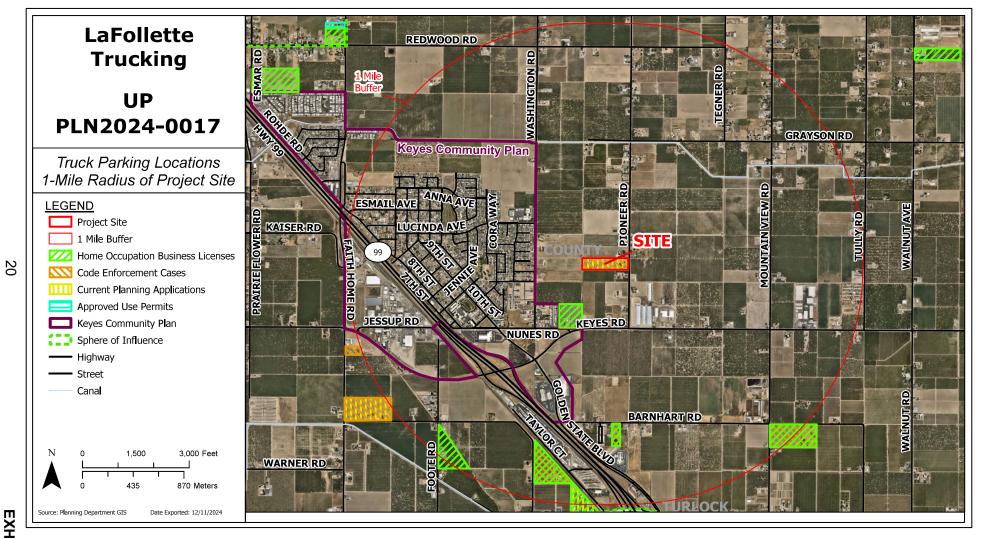


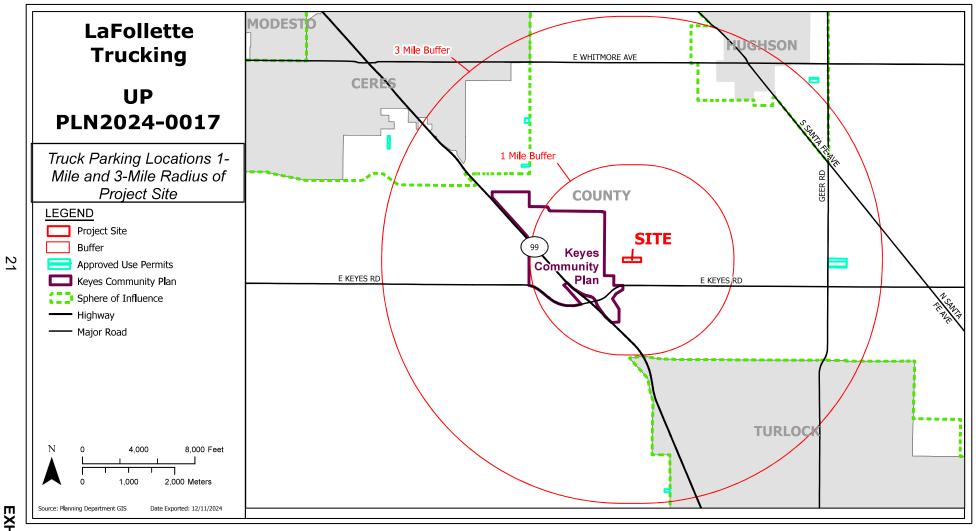




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EXHIBIT B-7





As Approved by the Planning Commission December 19, 2024

NOTE: Approval of this application is valid only if the following conditions are met. This permit shall expire unless activated within 18 months of the date of approval. In order to activate the permit, it must be signed by the applicant and one of the following actions must occur: (a) a valid building permit must be obtained to construct the necessary structures and appurtenances; or, (b) the property must be used for the purpose for which the permit is granted. (Stanislaus County Ordinance 21.104.030)

CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

USE PERMIT APPLICATION NO. PLN2024-0017 LAFOLLETTE TRUCKING

Department of Planning and Community Development

- 1. Use(s) shall be conducted as described in the application and supporting information (including the plot plan) as approved by the Planning Commission and/or Board of Supervisors and in accordance with other laws and ordinances.
- 2. The use shall cease at such a time that any of the criteria listed under Stanislaus County Zoning Ordinance Section 21.20.030(G)(3) in effect at the time of use permit approval is no longer met.
- 3. Pursuant to Section 711.4 of the California Fish and Game Code, the applicant is required to pay a California Department of Fish and Wildlife (formerly the Department of Fish and Game) fee at the time of filing a "Notice of Determination." Within five (5) days of approval of this project by the Planning Commission or Board of Supervisors, the applicant shall submit to the Department of Planning and Community Development a check for <u>\$2,973.75</u>, made payable to <u>Stanislaus County</u>, for the payment of California Department of Fish and Wildlife and Clerk-Recorder filing fees.

Pursuant to Section 711.4 (e) (3) of the California Fish and Game Code, no project shall be operative, vested, or final, nor shall local government permits for the project be valid, until the filing fees required pursuant to this section are paid.

- 4. Developer shall pay all Public Facilities Impact Fees and Fire Facilities Fees as adopted by Resolution of the Board of Supervisors. The fees shall be payable at the time of issuance of a building permit for any construction in the development project and shall be based on the rates in effect at the time of building permit issuance.
- 5. The applicant/owner is required to defend, indemnify, or hold harmless the County, its officers, and employees from any claim, action, or proceedings against the County to set aside the approval of the project which is brought within the applicable statute of limitations. The County shall promptly notify the applicant of any claim, action, or proceeding to set aside the approval and shall cooperate fully in the defense.
- 6. A photometric lighting plan for the existing and any proposed lighting shall be submitted for review and approval by the Planning Department. All exterior lighting shall be designed (aimed down and toward the site) to provide adequate illumination without a glare effect.

This shall include, but not be limited to, the use of shielded light fixtures to prevent skyglow (light spilling into the night sky) and the installation of shielded fixtures to prevent light trespass (glare and spill light that shines onto neighboring properties). The height of the lighting fixtures should not exceed 15 feet above grade.

- 7. Should any archeological or human remains be discovered during development, work shall be immediately halted within 150 feet of the find until it can be evaluated by a qualified archaeologist. If the find is determined to be historically or culturally significant, appropriate mitigation measures to protect and preserve the resource shall be formulated and implemented. The Central California Information Center shall be notified if the find is deemed historically or culturally significant.
- 8. The Department of Planning and Community Development shall record a Notice of Administrative Conditions and Restrictions with the County Recorder's Office within 30 days of project approval. The Notice includes: Conditions of Approval/Development Standards and Schedule; any adopted Mitigation Measures; and a project area map.
- 9. Pursuant to the federal and state Endangered Species Acts, prior to construction, the developer shall be responsible for contacting the US Fish and Wildlife Service and California Department of Fish and Game to determine if any special status plant or animal species are present on the project site and shall be responsible for obtaining all appropriate permits or authorizations from these agencies, if necessary.
- 10. No operations shall be conducted on any premises in such a manner as to cause an unreasonable amount of noise, odor, dust, smoke, vibration, or electrical interference detectable off the site.
- 11. Port-a-potties shall be made available on-site to truck drivers and any employee of the truck facility at all times. Placement of the port-a-potties shall be subject to Planning Department approval to ensure screening from public view and neighboring properties.

Department of Public Works

- 12. No parking, loading, or unloading of vehicles shall be permitted within the county road right-of-way.
- 13. The developer will be required to install or pay for the installation of any signs and/or markings, if warranted.
- 14. An encroachment permit shall be obtained within six months of project approval and finaled within 12 months of project approval for driveway approaches at all points of ingress and egress on the project site and any other work done within the County right-of-way. An extension may be granted at the discretion of the Director of Public Works provided sufficient justification is submitted illustrating the need for additional time.
 - a. Driveway location and design shall be reviewed and approved by Stanislaus County Public works prior to encroachment permit issuance.

- b. The southern driveway and approach for truck access shall meet Stanislaus County Standards Plate 3-G3.
- c. The northern driveway approach for residential access shall meet Stanislaus County Standards Plate 3-F5.
- d. A four-foot shoulder shall be installed along the parcel's frontage.
- 15. A grading, drainage, and erosion/sediment control plan for the project site shall be submitted for any building permit that will create a larger or smaller building footprint. The grading and drainage plan shall include the following information:
 - a. The plan shall contain drainage calculations and enough information to verify that runoff from the project will not flow onto adjacent properties and Stanislaus County road right-of-way. Public Works will review and approve the drainage calculations.
 - b. For projects greater than one acre in size, the grading drainage and erosion/sediment control plan shall comply with the current State of California National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Construction Permit. A Waste Discharge Identification Number (WDID) and a copy of the Notice of Intent (NOI) and the project's Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) shall be provided prior to the approval of any grading, if applicable.
 - c. The applicant of the grading permit shall pay the current Stanislaus County Public Works weighted labor rate for review of the grading plan.
 - d. The applicant of the grading permit shall pay the current Stanislaus County Public Works weighted labor rate for all on-site inspections. The Public Works inspector shall be contacted 48 hours prior to the commencement of any grading or drainage work on-site.

Department of Environmental Resources (DER) - Environmental Health Division

- 16. Prior to issuance of any future grading or building permit, the applicant shall submit a site plan that includes the location, layout and design of all-existing and proposed on-site wastewater treatment systems (OWTS), the Future 100% Expansion (Replacement) Areas, and water wells. Any new building requiring an on-site wastewater treatment system OWTS, shall be designed according to type and/or maximum occupancy of the proposed structure to the estimated waste/sewage design flow rate.
- 17. All applicable County Local Agency Management (LAMP) standards and required setbacks are to be met.
- 18. Prior to issuance of a grading, encroachment, or building permit or licenses to conduct business identified in this application, the property owner shall certify to the DER that the property use does not or will not constitute a public water system or submit an application for water supply permit and associated technical report to the State Water Boards.

Department of Environmental Resources (DER) - Hazardous Materials Division (HMD)

- 19. The applicant shall determine, to the satisfaction of the DER HMD, that a site containing (or formerly containing) residences or farm buildings, or structures, has been fully investigated (via Phase I study, and if necessary, Phase II study) prior to the issuance of any grading permit. Any discovery of underground storage tanks, former underground storage tank locations, buried chemicals, buried refuse, or contaminated soil shall be brought to the immediate attention of DER.
- 20. Prior to issuance of a grading, encroachment, or building permit, the applicant shall contact DER-HMD regarding regulatory requirements for hazardous materials and/or wastes.

San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (SJVAPCD)

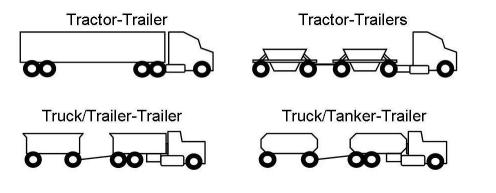
- 21. The proposed project may be subject to SJVAPCD Rules and Regulations in place at the time of operation. Prior to issuance of a grading, encroachment, or building permit, the applicant shall contact the SJVAPCD's Small Business Assistance Office to determine if any SJVAPCD permits or if any other SJVAPCD rules or permits are required, including but not limited to an Authority to Construct (ATC).
- 22. There shall be no idling of the primary diesel engine of truck-tractors parked on-site longer than five minutes at any time.

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

23. Prior to issuance of a grading, encroachment, or building permit, applicant/developer shall be responsible for contacting the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board and obtaining any necessary permits.

Please note: If Conditions of Approval/Development Standards are amended by the Planning Commission or Board of Supervisors, such amendments will be noted in the upper right-hand corner of the Conditions of Approval/Development Standards; new wording will be in bold font and deleted wording will be in strikethrough.

- **21.20.030** Uses requiring use permit
 - Such other limitations or conditions as may be imposed by the planning commission or board of supervisors. (Ord. CS 501 Section 1, 1992; Ord. CS 424 Section 1, 1991; Ord. CS 305 Section 1, 1988; Ord CS 294 Section 1, 1988; Ord. CS 260 Section 1, 1987; Ord. CS 141 Section 3 (part), 1985; Ord. CS 106 Section 2 (part), 1984).
- E. Repealed December 18, 2007 (Ord. CS 1020 Sec. 6, 2007).
- F. New confined animal facility and expansions of existing confined animal facility requiring a new or modified permit, waiver, order, or waste discharge requirements from the Regional Water Quality Control Board, where the issuance of such permit, waiver, order or waste discharge requirements requires compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act. Lagoons or ponds for the storage of animal wastes shall be located a minimum of fifty feet from any property line and three hundred feet from any dwelling on an adjacent property. (CS Ord. 861, Sec. 3, effective December 25, 2003)
- G. Parking of tractor-trailer combinations may be allowed when the Planning Commission finds that, in addition to the findings required under Section 21.96.050:
 - 1. The establishment as proposed will not be substantially detrimental to or in conflict with agricultural use of other property in the vicinity;
 - 2. The establishment as proposed will not create a concentration of commercial and industrial uses in the vicinity; and
 - 3. All the following criteria are met:
 - a) For the purpose of this ordinance, a tractor-trailer combination shall include a tractor-trailer, truck/trailer-trailer, or truck/tanker-trailer combination with a minimum of five (5) axles and capable of hauling a combined gross vehicle weight (GVW) of 80,000 pounds. The following illustrates the type of permitted combinations:



b) At least one of the combinations shall be registered to the property owner and the property owner shall live on the parcel.

21.20.030 Uses requiring use permit

- c) The total number of tractors, truck/trailers and truck/tankers shall not exceed twelve (12) and the total number of trailers shall not exceed two (2) per tractor, truck/trailer, or truck/tanker. For the purpose of this ordinance, a set of double trailers shall be equivalent to one trailer.
- d) The parcel on which parking will occur is one acre or more in size, the total area of the parcel used for the parking operation does not exceed 1.5 acres in size, and the area used for parking, including employee parking, shall not exceed fifty percent of the entire parcel.
- e) No off-loading of trailers shall occur on-site.
- f) All tractors, truck/trailers, truck/tankers and trailers parking on-site shall be in full operable condition for at least six consecutive months of every year.
- g) One on-site office, accessory to the parking operation, not to exceed 1,200 square feet in size, may be maintained within an on-site dwelling or within an accessory structure provided all applicable building permits are obtained and public facility fees paid, if applicable.
- h) Access to the site shall be available without violation of any state, county, or city roadway weight restrictions, and a driveway approach acceptable to the Department of Public Works is provided.
- i) Parking areas, including employee parking, and driveways shall be adequately graveled to reduce dust emissions and all parking areas shall be located outside any required front yard or corner lot side yard and delineated through fencing or vegetative landscaping to distinguish the authorized parking area.
- j) On-site maintenance shall be limited to oil and tire changes, light and windshield wiper replacements, and checking fluids.
- k) No signs advertising parking shall be placed on the property.
- I) On-site storage and use of related equipment may be considered by the Planning Commission as part of the application consideration.

This subsection is intended to allow for the parking of tractor-trailer, truck/trailer-trailer, and truck/tanker-trailer combinations used to transport goods and materials and requiring a California commercial A license for operation on a public roadway. This subsection is not intended to allow the parking of commercial vehicles used for the transportation of people or pick-up trucks, tow trucks, delivery trucks, box trucks, fleet vehicles or other similar vehicles. Trucks used solely for permitted agricultural operations on site are exempt from this provision. (Ord. CS 1117 Section 1, 2012)

H. Commercial cannabis cultivation or nursery activities and distribution activities (limited to permitted commercial cannabis product grown on-site) subject to Section 21.08.020(D) of this Title, may be allowed when conducted within a greenhouse or accessory agricultural storage building as permitted by Title 6 of the County Code. (Ord. CS 1205, Sec. 3, 2018).



 1010
 10TH Street, Suite 3400, Modesto, CA 95354

 Planning Phone: (209)
 525-6330
 Fax: (209)
 525-5911

 Building Phone: (209)
 525-6557
 Fax: (209)
 525-7759

CEQA INITIAL STUDY

Adapted from CEQA Guidelines APPENDIX G Environmental Checklist Form, Final Text, January 1, 2020

1.	Project title:	Use Permit Application No. PLN2024-0017 LaFollette Trucking
2.	Lead agency name and address:	Stanislaus County 1010 10 th Street, Suite 3400 Modesto, CA 95354
3.	Contact person and phone number:	Marcus Ruddicks, Assistant Planner (209) 525-6330
4.	Project location:	5601 Pioneer Road, between Pioneer Road and East Keyes Road, in the Keyes area. (APN: 045-035-053)
5.	Project sponsor's name and address:	Chad & Janelle LaFollette 5601 Pioneer Road Hughson, CA 95326
6.	General Plan designation:	Agriculture
7.	Zoning:	General Agriculture (A-2-40)

8. Description of project:

This is a request to establish a truck parking facility for 12 tractor-trailer combinations, on a 1.27± acre portion of a 9.81± acre parcel in the General Agriculture (A-2-40) zoning district. The project site is currently developed with a 3,842 square-foot single-family dwelling with an attached garage, and a 4,800 square-foot agricultural storage building that will not be used as part of the parking facility. The proposed truck parking facility will take place within a 1.27-acre graveled area with 12 employee parking stalls and 12 parking stalls for 12 tractors and 24 trailers. The site is presently used, without the required land use entitlements. Four of the tractor-trailer combinations proposed to be parked on-site are owned by the property owner, who also lives on-site. The proposed hours of operation are Monday through Saturday, from 5:00 am to 6:00 pm, with 24 truck trips (inbound and outbound trips for 12 trucks) and 24 passenger vehicle trips (inbound and outbound trips for 12 employees) per-day. The site will have 12 employees reporting to work on a maximum shift, one shift per-day. The trucks will transport nonhazardous dry goods consisting of almond shells, walnut shells, and wood chips. The trailers will be left empty when parked on-site between trips. Six of the trailers will be used primarily for the transport of field run almonds and walnuts during peak harvest season (approximately three to four months out of the year). The project site has two existing graveled driveways onto County-maintained Pioneer Road. The truck parking facility proposes to utilize only the southern 20-foot-wide driveway. A six-foot-tall chain link fence is proposed along the western boundary of the parking area, and a six-foot-tall hedge and single row of redwood trees are proposed along the other boundaries of the parking area. No fueling or major tractor-trailer maintenance or repairs, fluid changes, or washing will occur on-site. Minor maintenance limited to tire changes, light and windshield wiper replacements, and checking fluids will be conducted on-site. The parcel is served by an existing well, septic tank, and a 250-gallon propane tank. There will be no change to stormwater drainage, which will be maintained via overland runoff. No exterior lighting or signage is proposed. The applicant has also proposed to install frontage landscaping at the Pioneer Road entrance consisting of grass, trees, and flower beds.

9.	Surrounding land uses and setting:	Orchards and rural ranchettes in all directions; a dairy to the southeast; Turlock Irrigation District (TID) Upper Lateral No. 2 ½ to the north; the Community of Keyes and State Route 99 to the west.
10.	Other public agencies whose approval is required (e.g., permits, financing approval, or participation agreement.):	Caltrans Stanislaus County Department of Public Works Department of Environmental Resources
11.	Attachments:	None

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	□ Energy
□Geology / Soils	□ Greenhouse Gas Emissions	☐ Hazards & Hazardous Materials
☐ Hydrology / Water Quality	□ Land Use / Planning	☐ Mineral Resources
□ Noise	□ Population / Housing	□ Public Services
□ Recreation	□ Transportation	Tribal Cultural Resources
□ Utilities / Service Systems	□ Wildfire	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.

October 11, 2024 Date се

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, then 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

				-	
	THETICS – Except as provided in Public Resources Section 21099, could 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)	but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?			x	
c)	In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from publicly accessible vantage point). If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?			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 is currently improved with a single-family dwelling and an agricultural storage building, neither of which will be used as part of the parking area. The site previously had an almond orchard but is currently unfarmed. The gravel parking area will encompass approximately 1.27± acre of a 9.81± acre parcel and will be enclosed with a six-foot-tall chain link fence proposed along the western boundary of the parking area and a six-foot tall hedge and single row of redwood trees proposed along the other boundaries of the parking area to prevent trespass. The applicant has also proposed to install frontage landscaping at the Pioneer Road entrance consisting of grass, trees, and flower beds.

There is one building-mounted light existing as part of the parking facility, which is attached to the existing single-family dwelling 15-feet-high and facing west, away from the roadway and nearby residences. No other lighting is proposed for the facility. While no additional lighting is proposed, standard conditions of approval will be added to this project to require a building permit for the existing lighting ensuring that they are aimed downward, and light spillage or glare are addressed from any proposed on-site lighting.

The only scenic designation in the County is along Interstate 5, which is not near the project site. The site itself is not considered to be a scenic resource or unique scenic vista. Orchards and scattered rural ranchettes are located in all directions. A dairy is located to the southeast, Turlock Irrigation District (TID) Upper Lateral No. 2 ½ to the north, and the Community of Keyes and State Route 99 are located to the west. No adverse impacts to the existing visual character of the site or its surroundings are anticipated.

Mitigation: None.

References: Application information; Stanislaus County Zoning Ordinance (Title 21); Stanislaus County General Plan; and Support Documentation¹.

II. AGRICULTURE AND FOREST RESOURCES: In	Potentially	Less Than	Less Than	No Impact
determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are	Significant	Significant	Significant	-
significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer	Impact	With	Impact	
to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site	-	Mitigation	-	
Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California		Included		
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:				
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or				
Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as				
shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the			x	
Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the				
California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural				
use?				
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or			x	
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			x	
Public Resources Code section 4526), or				
timberland zoned Timberland Production (as				
defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?				
d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of			х	
forest land to non-forest use?			~	
e) Involve other changes in the existing environment				
which, due to their location or nature, could result			x	
in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use				
or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?				

Discussion: The eastern portion of the project site that has already been developed with a single-family dwelling and agricultural storage building is classified as "Rural Residential Land" by the California Department of Conservation's Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program, and the western portion previously used as an orchard is classified as "Prime Farmland" if irrigated. The United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA NRCS) Web Soil Survey indicates that approximately 100 percent of the project site is comprised of Grade 3 Dinuba sandy loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes (DtA), which has a California Revised Storie Index Rating of 47. The California Revised Storie Index is a rating system based on soil properties that dictate the potential for soils to be used for irrigated agricultural production in California. The 47 Index rating equates to Grade 3 soils which are considered to be fair soil that may be suitable for some crop production. Stanislaus County considers land that meets at least one of the following requirements to be prime farmland under the Uniform Rules: parcels comprised of Class 1 or Class 2 soils; parcels comprised of Grade 1 or Grade 2 soils: irrigated pastureland which supports livestock used for the production of food and fiber; and land used for unprocessed agricultural plant production with an annual gross value of not less than eight hundred dollars per acre. The project site does not meet any of these criteria and would not be considered prime farmland under the County's Uniform Rules. The parking area only comprises 1.27± acre of the 9.81± acre project site, and the portion of the site to be paved for the driveway apron is on Rural Residential Land rather than Prime Farmland. The remaining area of the project site would be left undeveloped and could be returned to agricultural production, and the existing gravel parking surface would not preclude the site from future agricultural production. The proposed project will not convert any Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance to non-agricultural use.

The surrounding area is comprised of scattered single-family dwellings and irrigated agriculture in all directions, the Community of Keyes and State Route 99 to the west, a dairy to the southeast, and the Turlock Irrigation District (TID) Upper Lateral No. 2 ½ to the north. The project site itself is not enrolled in a Williamson Act Contract; however, the nearest parcels enrolled in a Williamson Act Contract are a 9.81± acre farmed parcel directly to the south of the project site, and the parcel to the east across Pioneer Road. Non-contracted production agriculture exists to the north and west of the project site.

Buffer and Setback Guidelines are applicable to new or expanding uses approved in or adjacent to the General Agriculture (A-2-40) zoning district and are required to be designed to physically avoid conflicts between agricultural and nonagricultural uses. General Plan Amendment No. 2011-01 - Revised Agricultural Buffers was approved by the Board of Supervisors on December 20, 2011, to modify County requirements for buffers on agricultural projects. Facilities that may be located within a required agricultural buffer include parking lots. Based on the requested use consisting of an unmanned tractor-trailer parking facility, if the project is not considered people-intensive by the Planning Commission, the project is not subject to agricultural buffers. The facility will have 12 employees and no customer visits per-day. Up to 24 truck trips (inbound and outbound trips for 12 trucks) and 24 passenger vehicle trips (inbound and outbound trips for 12 employees) per-day are expected. Proposed hours of operation are Monday through Saturday from 5:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The project was referred to the Stanislaus County Agricultural Commissioner, and no comments have been received to date. Therefore, staff believes the project can be considered low people-intensive, thus not subject to the County's Agricultural Buffer requirements. However, the parking area will be enclosed with a six-foot-tall chain link fence proposed along the western boundary of the parking area and a six-foot tall hedge and single row of redwood trees proposed along the other boundaries of the parking area to prevent trespass. The request is not expected to result in any significant conversion of farmland to non-agriculture use. No impacts to agriculture are anticipated to occur as a result of this project as the project site is currently developed with residential and accessory structures and considered topographically flat.

The project site is currently served by the Turlock Irrigation District (TID) for irrigation water. The project was referred to TID, who responded with no comments.

Based on this information, staff believes that the proposed project will not conflict with any agriculturally zoned land or Williamson Act Contracted land, nor will the project result in the conversion of unique farmland, farmland of statewide importance, timberland or forest land to a non-agricultural or non-forest use.

No forest lands or timberland exist in Stanislaus County.

Mitigation: None.

References: Application information; Referral response received from Turlock Irrigation District (TID) dated June 5, 2024; Natural Resources Conservation Service Soil Survey; Stanislaus Soil Survey (1957); Stanislaus County Zoning Ordinance (Title 21); California State Department of Conservation Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program - Stanislaus County Farmland 2018; Stanislaus County General Plan and Support Documentation¹.

establi distric	R QUALITY: Where available, the significance criteria ished by the applicable air quality management t or air pollution control district may be relied upon 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)	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?			x	
c)	Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?			x	
d)	Result in other emissions (such as those odors adversely 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 2008 PM2.5 (fine particulate matter) Plan, and the 2007 Ozone Plan. 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 SJVAPCD has addressed most criteria air pollutants through basin wide programs and policies to prevent cumulative deterioration of air quality within the Basin. The facility will have 12 employees. Up to 24 passenger vehicle trips and 24 truck trips per-day are expected. Proposed hours of operation are Monday through Sunday, from 5:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

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. No structures are proposed to be constructed as part of the project. Consequently, emissions would be minimal. Furthermore, any future construction activities would occur in compliance with all SJVAPCD regulations; therefore, construction emissions would be less than significant without mitigation.

Potential impacts on local and regional air quality are anticipated to be less than significant, falling below SJVAPCD thresholds, as a result of the nature of the proposed project and project's operation after construction. Implementation of the proposed project would fall below the SJVAPCD significance thresholds for both short-term construction and long-term operational emissions, as discussed below. Because construction and operation of the project would not exceed the SJVAPCD significance thresholds, the proposed project would not increase the frequency or severity of existing air quality standards or the interim emission reductions specified in the air plans.

The project was referred to the SJVAPCD, who responded on August 6, 2024 with no comments.

Further, the SJVAPCD has published Guidance for Assessing and Mitigation Air Quality Impacts (GAMAQI) which has a Small Project Analysis Level (SPAL) screening tool. The SPAL establishes specific thresholds based on land use category with projects using various metrics corresponding to that land use type, including trips per-day, development size, number of students or dwelling units. Projects which fall under the respective threshold are presumed to have less than significant impact on air quality due to criteria pollutant emissions and are therefore excluded from quantifying criteria pollutants for CEQA purposes. For the general light industrial land use category, which is the closest category under which truck parking facilities would fall, 280,000 square feet in size and generating 550 one-way vehicle trips or less, or 70 one-way heavy-truck trips or less, would meet the screening the criteria. In this case, the project does not propose to utilize any structures; however, the project will utilize a 1.27± acre outdoor area for truck parking and a maximum of 24 heavy-truck trips per-day (total inbound and outbound), and a total of 24 passenger vehicle trips per-day (anticipated inbound and outbound trips by employees), for a total of 48 trips per-day, which are below the SJVAPCD thresholds of significance under SPAL.

Potential impacts to air quality from the proposed project are also evaluated by Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT). The calculation of VMT is the number of cars/trucks multiplied by the distance traveled by each car/truck. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15064.3, subdivision (a), defines VMT as the amount and distance of automobile travel attributable to a project. A technical advisory on evaluating transportation impacts in CEQA published by the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) in December of 2018 clarified the definition of automobiles as referring to on-road passenger vehicles, specifically cars and light trucks. While heavy trucks are not considered in the definition of automobiles for which VMT is calculated for, heavy-duty truck VMT could be included for modeling convenience. According to the same OPR technical advisory, many local agencies have developed a screening threshold of VMT to indicate when detailed analysis is needed. Absent substantial evidence indicating that a project would generate a potentially significant level of VMT, or inconsistency with a Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) or general plan, projects that generate or attract fewer than 110 trips per-day generally may be assumed to cause a less than significant transportation

impact. The proposed project will generate a low amount of vehicle trips with 24 passenger vehicle trips one-way per-day (inbound and outbound trips for 12 employees) and 24 truck trips one-way per-day (inbound and outbound trips for 12 trucks). As this is below the District's threshold of significance for vehicle and heavy truck trips, no significant impacts from vehicle and truck trips to air quality are anticipated.

Based on this information, the proposed project is expected to have a less than significant impact on air quality.

Mitigation:

References: Application information; San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District - Regulation VIII Fugitive Dust/PM-10 Synopsis; <u>www.valleyair.org</u>; San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District's Small Project Analysis Level (SPAL) Guidance dated November 13, 2020; Governor's Office of Planning and Research Technical Advisory, December 2018; Referral response received from San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District, dated August 6, 2024; Stanislaus County General Plan and Support Documentation¹.

	DLOGICAL 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)	federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?			x	
d)	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	

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 is no known sensitive or protected species or natural community located on the site. The project is located within the Ceres Quad of the California Natural Diversity Database.

Based on results from the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB), there are seven animal species (excluding fish and mollusk species for which there is no feasible or potential habitat on the project site due to the lack of hydrological features) which are state or federally listed, threatened, or identified as species of special concern or a candidate of special concern within the Ceres California Natural Diversity Database Quad. These species include Swainson's hawk, tricolored blackbird, burrowing owl, Crotch's bumble bee, valley elderberry longhorn beetle, and Townsends big-eared bat. There are no reported sightings of any of the aforementioned species on the project site, aside from Swainson's hawk. Within a 0.81mile radius of the site. Swainson's hawk, heartscale, and subtle orache have been spotted, but all three species are presumed extant in the area. However, the entire project site is already disturbed and improved with a single-family dwelling, and no rivers, creeks, ponds, or open canals exist on the project site. No construction is proposed as part of the project, and the project shall have no effect on Biological Resources.

An early consultation was referred to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (formerly the Department of Fish and Game), and no response was received. The project will not conflict with a Habitat Conservation Plan, a Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other locally approved conservation plans. Impacts to endangered species or habitats, locally designated species, or wildlife dispersal or mitigation corridors are considered to be less than significant.

Mitigation: None.

References: California Department of Fish and Wildlife's Natural Diversity Database Quad Species List; California Natural Diversity Database, Planning and Community Development GIS, accessed September 18, 2024; Stanislaus County General Plan and Support Documentation¹.

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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 pursuant to in § 15064.5?			X	
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to § 15064.5?			X	
c) 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. The parking area for the tractor-trailer combinations is already graveled, and the project site is developed with multiple structures. No construction of new structures is proposed; however, conditions of approval will be placed on the project, requiring that any future construction activities shall be halted, if any resources are found, until appropriate agencies are contacted, and an archaeological survey is completed.

Mitigation: None.

References: Application Materials; Stanislaus County General Plan and Support Documentation¹.

VI. ENERGY Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Included	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?			x	
b) Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?			x	

Discussion: The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Appendix F states that energy consuming equipment and processes, which will be used during construction or operation such as: energy requirements of the project by fuel type and end use, energy conservation equipment and design features, energy supplies that would serve the project, total estimated daily vehicle trips to be generated by the project, and the additional energy consumed per trip by mode, shall be taken into consideration when evaluating energy impacts. Additionally, the project's compliance with applicable state or local energy legislation, policies, and standards must be considered.

No construction is proposed as part of this project. The applicant is proposing to establish a 1.27± acre area for a truck parking facility. Energy consuming equipment and processes include the equipment to initially gravel the truck parking operation. These activities would not require any substantial use of heavy-duty construction equipment, or significant increase in Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) 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. However, should future construction occur, all construction activities shall be in compliance with all SJVAPCD regulations and with Title 24, Green Building Code, which includes energy efficiency requirements. Therefore, consumption of energy resources would be less than significant without mitigation for the proposed project.

The project was also referred to the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District, who responded with no comments on the project.

No construction is proposed; however, any future construction would be 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 project was referred to the Turlock Irrigation District (TID) who serves the project site and surrounding area for electrical service; however, no response related to electrical facilities has been provided to date. Additionally, any future construction activities will be required to occur in compliance with all SJVAPCD regulations.

Energy consuming equipment and processes include construction equipment, trucks, and the employee vehicle. As discussed in Section III – *Air Quality*, these activities would not significantly increase Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT), due to the number of vehicle trips not exceeding a total of 110 vehicle trips per-day. The proposed project will generate a low amount of vehicle trips with a total of 24 heavy-truck trips (inbound and outbound trips for 12 trucks) and 24 passenger vehicle trips (inbound and outbound trips for 12 employees) per-day. The trucks are the main consumers of energy associated with this project but will be subject to applicable Air District regulations, including rules and regulations that increase energy efficiency. Therefore, consumption of energy resources would be less than significant without mitigation for the proposed project.

It does not appear that this project will result in significant impacts to the wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources. Accordingly, the potential impacts to Energy are considered to be less than significant.

Mitigation: None.

References: Application information; Referral response received from San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District, dated August 6, 2024; San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District - Regulation VIII Fugitive Dust/PM-10 Synopsis; <u>www.valleyair.org</u>; San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District's Small Project Analysis Level (SPAL) guidance, November 13, 2020; Governor's Office of Planning and Research Technical Advisory, December 2018; Stanislaus County General Plan and Support Documentation¹.

	D SOILS Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Included	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
	indirectly cause potential substantial ects, including the risk of loss, injury, or ving:			x	
delinea Earthq State C substa to Div	re of a known earthquake fault, as ated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo uake Fault Zoning Map issued by the Beologist for the area or based on other ntial evidence of a known fault? Refer ision of Mines and Geology Special ation 42.			x	
	seismic ground shaking?			Х	
	c-related ground failure, including			x	
iv) Lands				Х	
b) Result in s topsoil?	substantial soil erosion or the loss of			x	
unstable, o of the proj site lands	I on a geologic unit or soil that is r that would become unstable as a result ect, and potentially result in on- or off- lide, lateral spreading, subsidence, n or collapse?			x	
d) Be located 18-1-B of creating su property?	on expansive soil, as defined in Table the Uniform Building Code (1994), bstantial direct or indirect risks to life or			x	
use of se disposal sy for the disp	incapable of adequately supporting the otic tanks or alternative waste water ystems where sewers are not available osal of waste water?			x	
	or indirectly destroy a unique gical resource or site or unique geologic			x	

Discussion: The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service's Eastern Stanislaus County Soil Survey indicates that the property primarily consists of Grade 3 Dinuba sandy loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes (DtA). As contained in Chapter 5 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 at building permit application. 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 required to compensate for the soil deficiency. Any structures resulting from this project 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 or expansion of a septic tank or alternative wastewater 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. A referral response received from DER stated that if any future structure will be built requiring an on-site wastewater treatment system (OWTWS), that the building shall be designed according to type and/or maximum occupancy of the proposed structure to the estimated waste/sewage design flow rate all applicable County Local Agency Management Program (LAMP) standards and setbacks are met. A referral response received from Public Works contained standard conditions of approval that will be applied to the project such as no parking, loading, or unloading of vehicles being permitted within the County road rightof-way, the developer being required to install or pay for the installation of any signs and/or markings (which are not

proposed), and an encroachment permit needing to be obtained for driveway approaches at all points of ingress and egress on the project site and any other work done within the County right-of-way. The project site is not located near an active fault or within a high earthquake zone. Landslides are not likely due to the flat terrain of the area.

DER, Public Works, and the Building Permits Division review and approve any building or grading permit to ensure their standards are met. Conditions of approval regarding these standards will be applied to the project and will be triggered when a building permit is requested. No construction is proposed as part of this project.

As the project will include the parking of up to 12 trucks and 24 trailers within a 1.27± acre graveled area, impacts to geology and soils are anticipated to be less than significant.

Mitigation: None.

References: Application information; United States Department of Agriculture NRCS Web Soil Survey; Referral response from the Department of Environmental Resources (DER), dated May 23, 2024; Referral response received from Public Works dated June 24, 2024; Stanislaus County General Plan and Support Documentation¹.

VIII. 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?			X	
b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?			X	

Discussion: The principal Greenhouse Gasses (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) 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. Two additional bills, SB 350 and SB32, were passed in 2015 further amending the states Renewables Portfolio Standard (RPS) for electrical generation and amending the reduction targets to 40% of 1990 levels by 2030.

The short-term emissions of GHGs during construction, primarily composed of CO2, CH4, and N2O, would be 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 future construction at this project site. 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 future construction would be less than significant. While no construction is proposed, any future construction resulting from the project would be required to meet 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) which includes minimum statewide standards to significantly reduce GHG emissions from new construction. Any future construction activities associated with this project are considered to be less than significant as they are temporary in nature and are subject to meeting San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (SJVAPCD) standards for emissions.

Direct emissions of GHGs from the operation of the proposed project are primarily due to the employee vehicle trips and truck trips. As required by California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines section 15064.3, potential impacts regarding Green House Gas Emissions should be evaluated using Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT). The calculation of VMT is the number of cars/trucks multiplied by the distance traveled by each car/truck. Total vehicle trips as a result of this project will not exceed 110 trips per-day. As discussed in Section III – *Air Quality*, the proposed project will generate a total

of 24 truck trips (inbound and outbound trips for 12 trucks) and 24 passenger vehicle trips (inbound and outbound trips for 12 employees) per-day, below the OPR threshold.

The project was referred to the SJVAPCD, who responded on August 6, 2024 and provided no comments. Staff will include a condition of approval on the project requiring that the applicant be in compliance with the SJVAPCD's rules and regulations. Consequently, GHG emissions are considered to be less than significant.

Less than significant impacts from greenhouse gas emissions occurring are anticipated as a result of this project.

Mitigation: None.

References: Application information; Referral Response received from San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District, dated August 6, 2024; San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District - Regulation VIII Fugitive Dust/PM-10 Synopsis; <u>www.valleyair.org</u>; San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District's Small Project Analysis Level (SPAL) guidance, November 13, 2020; Governor's Office of Planning and Research Technical Advisory, December 2018; Stanislaus County General Plan and Support Documentation¹.

projec		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?			х	
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 or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area?			x	
f)	Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?			х	
g)	Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires?			х	

Discussion: The County Department of Environmental Resources (DER) is responsible for overseeing hazardous materials. This project was referred to the Department of Environmental Resources – Hazardous Materials Division, which responded that the project will not have a significant effect on the environment and also provided standard conditions of approval requiring the applicant contact DER for any appropriate permitting requirements for hazardous materials and/or wastes and to conduct at least a Phase I study prior to the issuance of a grading permit. These comments will be reflected

through the application of a condition of approval. A referral response received from the Environmental Health Division of DER stated that any new building requiring an on-site wastewater treatment system (OWTS) shall be designed according to type and/or maximum occupancy of the proposed structure to the estimated waste/sewage design flow rate. All applicable County Local Agency Management Program (LAMP) standards and required setbacks are to be met, and prior to issuance of any grading or building permit, the applicant(s) shall submit a site plan that includes the location of the existing on-site water well(s), and the location, layout and design of all existing on-site wastewater treatment systems (OWTS) and the Future 100% Expansion (Replacement) Areas.

Pesticide exposure is a risk in areas located in the vicinity of agriculture. Sources of exposure include contaminated groundwater from drift from spray applications. Application of sprays is strictly controlled by the Agricultural Commissioner and can only be accomplished after first obtaining permits. Additionally, agricultural buffers are intended to reduce the risk of spray exposure to surrounding people. The nearest property in production agriculture with a record of pesticide use is on the adjacent parcel directly to the south of the project site. The project site itself also has a record of pesticide use but is not currently improved with production agriculture.

As Stated in Section II – *Agricultural and Forest Resources*, 12 individuals will be employed and generate up to 24 truck trips (inbound and outbound trips for 12 trucks) and 24 passenger vehicle trips (inbound and outbound trips for 12 employees) per-day. Proposed hours of operation are Monday through Saturday, from 5:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The project was referred to the Stanislaus County Agricultural Commissioner, and no comments have been received to date. Therefore, staff believes the project can be considered low people-intensive, thus not subject to the County's Agricultural Buffer requirements. However, the parking area is enclosed with a six-foot-tall chain link fence proposed along the western boundary of the parking area and a six-foot-tall hedge and single row of redwood trees proposed along the other boundaries of the parking area.

The project site is not listed on the EnviroStor database managed by the CA Department of Toxic Substances Control or within the vicinity of any airport. The site is located in a Local Responsibility Area (LRA) for fire protection and is served by Keyes Fire Protection District. The project was referred to the Keyes Fire Protection District, and no comments have been received to date.

The project is not anticipated to interfere with the Stanislaus County Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, which identifies risks posed by disasters and identifies ways to minimize damage from those disasters.

The project site is not within the vicinity of any airstrip, airport land use plan area, or wildlands. No significant impacts associated with hazards or hazardous materials are anticipated to occur as a result of the proposed project.

Mitigation: None.

References: Application information; Referral response from the Department of Environmental Resources (DER) Environmental Health Division dated May 23, 2024; Referral response received from Stanislaus County Department of Environmental Resources – Hazardous Materials Division dated June 4, 2024; Department of Toxic Substances Control's Data Management System (EnviroStar); Stanislaus County Zoning Ordinance (Title 21); Stanislaus County General Plan and Support Documentation¹.

X. 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 or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality?			x	
b) Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?			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 or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would:	x
 result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site; 	X
 substantially increase the rate of amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site. 	x
iii) 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; or	x
iv) impede or redirect flood flows?	X
d) In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?	X
e) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?	X

Discussion: Areas subject to flooding have been identified in accordance with the Federal Emergency Management Act (FEMA). The project site is located in FEMA Flood Zone X, which includes areas determined to be outside the 0.2% annual chance floodplains. All flood zone requirements will be addressed by the Building Permits Division during the building permit process. The project proposes to handle stormwater drainage via overland runoff, and the current absorption patterns of water upon this property will not be altered. A referral response received from the Environmental Health Division of DER stated that any new building requiring an on-site wastewater treatment system (OWTS) shall be designed according to type and/or maximum occupancy of the proposed structure to the estimated waste/sewage design flow rate. All applicable County Local Agency Management Program (LAMP) standards and required setbacks are to be met, and prior to issuance of any grading or building permit, the applicant(s) shall submit a site plan that includes the location of the existing on-site water well(s), and the location, layout and design of all existing on-site wastewater treatment systems (OWTS) and the Future 100% Expansion (Replacement) Areas. As part of the building permit review process, the Department of Environmental Resources (DER) will evaluate the existing wastewater treatment systems (OWTS), and the site's adherence to current Local Agency Management Program (LAMP) standards. LAMP standards include minimum setback from wells to prevent negative impacts to groundwater quality. The site is currently served by a private septic system and well. No new wells or septic tanks are proposed as part of this request. Any future wells constructed on-site will be subject to review under the County's Well Permitting Program, which will determine whether a new well will require environmental review. Any potential regulatory requirements regarding applicable County Local Agency Management Program (LAMP) standards and required setbacks can be enforced during the building permit review process. A referral response received from Public Works contained standard conditions of approval that will be applied to the project such as no parking, loading, or unloading of vehicles being permitted within the County road right-of-way, the developer being required to install or pay for the installation of any signs and/or markings (which are not proposed), and an Encroachment Permit needing to be obtained for driveway approaches at all points of ingress and egress on the project site and any other work done within the County right-of-way. Email correspondence received from Public Works on October 10, 2024 stated that no grading shall be performed without first obtaining a Grading Permit. An application for a Grading Permit shall be submitted to the Building Permits Division prior to the commencement of any grading, clearing, excavating, filling or other disturbance of natural terrain. New development and re-development projects shall contain all storm drainage on-site, and storm drainage facilities shall be designed using a 100-year, 24-hour storm. The drainage facility shall be capable of dewatering the 100-year, 24hour storm within 48 hours. Calculations for the storm drainage capacity and dewatering shall be submitted to the Engineer for approval. A comprehensive soils report shall be submitted for the proposed project, and the soils report shall be prepared, stamped, and signed by a licensed geotechnical engineer experienced in soil. It shall include R-values taken at the site with a map showing the locations and depths of the test samples. A completed Regulated Project Worksheet per the Stanislaus County 2015 Post-Construction Standards Plan will also be required, as will regulated Project Volume Reduction Calculations, signed and stamped by a registered civil engineer licensed to practice in California, for each drainage management area, which must include any control measure(s) that meet the volumetric sizing criteria. An Operation and Maintenance Plan and owner-signed and notarized Statement of Responsibility is required for all proposed treatment control measures. Dischargers of stormwater associated with construction activity that result in the disturbance

of one acre or more of land area shall apply for and obtain coverage under 2022 Construction General Permit. All applicable standards under Public Works and the DER will be addressed under the building permit review process for any future construction as well.

The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) was passed in 2014 with the goal of ensuring the long-term sustainable management of California's groundwater resources. SGMA requires agencies throughout California to meet certain requirements including forming Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSA), developing Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSP), and achieving balanced groundwater levels within 20 years. The site is located in the West Turlock Subbasin GSA. The East Turlock Subbasin GSA and West Turlock Subbasin GSA collaboratively developed one GSP to manage groundwater sustainably through at least 2042. The GSAs adopted the Turlock Subbasin GSP on January 6, 2022, and submitted the GSP to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) on January 28, 2022. On January 18, 2024, the California DWR provided comments on the Turlock Subbasin's Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) following a twoyear review period. The Turlock Subbasin's GSP was determined to be incomplete by DWR and is required to be revised within 180 days. The final revised GSP was subsequently submitted to DWR. The GSAs prepared their annual report for the Turlock Subbasin addressing groundwater and surface water conditions during Water Year (WY) 2023 and submitted the report to DWR on March 27, 2024. Total groundwater extractions in the Turlock Subbasin during WY 2023 were approximately 363,900 AF. This total is based on both direct measurements by local water agencies and estimates for private agricultural and domestic pumping. During WY 2023, agricultural groundwater extraction accounts for 90 percent (328,700 AF) of the total pumping in the Turlock Subbasin, while urban and industrial groundwater extraction accounted for the remaining 10% (35,200 AF). The proposed truck parking facility will be subject to the requirements of the GSP for the region which was adopted to minimize impacts to groundwater supplies. The project was referred to the West Turlock Subbasin GSA, and no comments were received regarding the proposed project.

Stanislaus County adopted a Groundwater Ordinance in November 2014 (Chapter 9.37 of the County Code, hereinafter, the "Ordinance") that codifies requirements, prohibitions, and exemptions intended to help promote sustainable groundwater extraction in unincorporated areas of the County. The Ordinance prohibits the unsustainable extraction of groundwater and makes issuing permits for new wells, which are not exempt from this prohibition, discretionary. For unincorporated areas covered in an adopted GSP pursuant to SGMA, the County can require holders of permits for wells it reasonably concludes are withdrawing groundwater unsustainably to provide substantial evidence that continued operation of such wells does not constitute unsustainable extraction and has the authority to regulate future groundwater extraction. The site has an existing private well and septic system. There are no additional wells proposed as part of this request.

A referral response received from DER's Groundwater Resources Division stated that the Groundwater Resources Division had no comments on the project because any additional water demand supplied by the existing well will be de-minimus and therefore not impact Stanislaus County Groundwater Resources.

The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) provided an Early Consultation referral response on May 30, 2024 outlining the regulatory setting and permitting requirements of the Central Valley RWQCB. A condition of approval will be added to the project requiring the applicant coordinate with the RWQCB prior to issuance of a building or grading permit to determine if any permits or Water Board requirements need to be obtained/ met prior to operation.

The project site is located within the service boundaries of the Turlock Irrigation District (TID). The project was referred to TID, who responded with no comments.

As a result of the conditions of approval required for this project, impacts associated with drainage, water quality, and runoff are expected to have a less than significant impact.

Mitigation: None.

References: Application information; Referral response from the Department of Environmental Resources (DER) Environmental Health Division dated May 23, 2024; Referral response received from Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board dated May 30, 2024; Referral response received from the Department of Environmental Resources (DER) Groundwater Resources Division dated June 7, 2024; Referral response received from Turlock Irrigation District (TID) dated June 5, 2024; Referral response from Stanislaus County Public Works Department dated June 24, 2024; Email correspondence received from Stanislaus County Public Works Department dated October 10, 2024; Stanislaus County Code Title 9 Chapter 9.37 Groundwater; West Turlock Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency and East Turlock Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency GSAs; Stanislaus County General Plan and Support Documentation¹.

XI. 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?			Х	
b) Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?			x	

Discussion: The project site is designated Agriculture by the Stanislaus County General Plan land use diagrams and zoned A-2-40 (General Agriculture). This is a request to establish a truck parking facility currently operating for up to 12 tractors and 24 trailers in a 1.27± acre graveled area on a 9.81± acre parcel.

Within the A-2 (General Agriculture) zoning district, the County has determined that certain uses not directly related to agriculture may be necessary to serve the A-2 district or may be difficult to locate in an urban area. The County allows the parking of tractor-trailer combinations if specific criteria can be met and if the establishment, as proposed, will not be substantially detrimental to, or in conflict with, the agricultural use of other property in the vicinity, that it will not create a concentration of commercial and industrial uses in the vicinity. In addition, the Planning Commission must find that the establishment, maintenance, and operation of the proposed use is consistent with the General Plan and will not be detrimental to the health, safety, and general welfare of persons residing or working in the neighborhood of the use and that it will not be detrimental or injurious to property and improvements in the neighborhood or to the general welfare of the County.

As allowed under Section 21.020.030G, the A-2 zoning district permits the parking of up to 12 tractor-trailer combinations with a use permit, provided that at least one of the combinations shall be registered to the property owner and the property owner shall live on the parcel, the total number of tractors shall not exceed 12 and the total number of trailers shall not exceed 2 per tractor, the parcel is at least one acre in size, and the parking area does exceed 1.5± acres nor exceed 50% of the total parcel. Based on the specific features and design of this project, it does not appear this project will impact the long-term productive agricultural capability of surrounding contracted lands in the A-2 zoning district. There is no indication this project will result in the removal of adjacent contracted land from agricultural use.

Buffer and Setback Guidelines are applicable to new or expanding uses approved in or adjacent to the General Agriculture (A-2-40) zoning district and are required to be designed to physically avoid conflicts between agricultural and nonagricultural uses. General Plan Amendment No. 2011-01 – Revised Agricultural Buffers was approved by the Board of Supervisors on December 20, 2011, to modify County requirements for buffers on agricultural projects. Facilities that may be located within a required agricultural buffer include parking lots. Based on the requested use consisting of an unmanned tractor-trailer parking facility, if the project is not considered people-intensive by the Planning Commission, the project is not subject to agricultural buffers. The facility will have 12 employees and no customer visits per-day. Up to 24 passenger vehicle trips and 24 truck trips per-day are expected. Proposed hours of operation are Monday through Saturday, from 5:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The project was referred to the Stanislaus County Agricultural Commissioner, and no comments have been received to date. Therefore, staff believes the project can be considered low people-intensive, thus not subject to the County's Agricultural Buffer requirements. However, the project area exceeds the prescribed 150-foot distance from the next nearest parcels to the east and west in production agriculture and will be enclosed with a six-foot-tall chain link fence along the western boundary of the parking area and a six-foot-tall hedge and single row of redwood trees along the other boundaries of the parking area to screen the project site and prevent trespass.

As the project is located within the Keyes Municipal Advisory Council boundary, the project was referred to them, and no comments have been received to date. However, the initial study will be referred and presented to them for discussion.

The project will not physically divide an established community nor conflict with any habitat conservation plans.

Mitigation: None.

References: Application information; Stanislaus County Zoning Ordinance (Title 21); Stanislaus County General Plan and Support Documentation¹.

XII. 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	

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 known 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.

XIII. NOISE Would the project result in:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Included	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
 a) Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies? 			x	
b) Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?			x	
c) For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or 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

Discussion: The Stanislaus County General Plan identifies noise levels up to 75 dB Ldn (or CNEL) as the normally acceptable level of noise for industrial and agricultural uses. The Stanislaus County General Plan identifies noise levels for residential or other noise-sensitive land uses of up to 55 hourly Leq, dBA and 75 Lmax, dBA from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. and 45 hourly Leq, dBA and 65 Lmax, dBA from 10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. Pure tone noises, such as music, shall be reduced by five dBA; however, when ambient noise levels exceed the standards, the standards shall be increased to the ambient noise levels. The proposed hours of operation are Monday through Saturday, from 5:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The nearest sensitive noise receptor is a residence 120-feet away. 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 traffic on Pioneer Road and farming operations in the surrounding area. Noise impacts associated with on-site activities will include trucks entering and exiting the property and the idling of engines. Such uses should be under the threshold established by the General Plan. Although the applicant would not be restricted on the number of truck trips for the operation, a condition of approval, prohibiting the idling of trucks for any period of time beyond the absolute minimum necessary to bring engines to safe operating conditions, will be added to the project to ensure that the operation does not exceed the 75 dB Ldn (or CNEL).

The site is not located within an airport land use plan. Noise impacts associated with the proposed project are considered to be less than significant.

Mitigation: None.

References: Application information; Stanislaus County Noise Control Ordinance (Title 10); Stanislaus County Health and Safety Ordinance (Title 9); Stanislaus County General Plan and Support Documentation¹.

XIV. P	OPULATION AND HOUSING Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Included	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Induce substantial unplanned 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 people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				x

Discussion: The site is not included in the vacant sites inventory for the 2016 Stanislaus County Housing Element, which covers the 5th cycle Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) or the draft 2023 6th cycle RHNA for the County and will therefore not impact the County's ability to meet their RHNA. No population growth will be induced, nor will any existing housing be displaced as a result of this project.

Mitigation: None.

References: Application information; Stanislaus County General Plan Draft 6th Cycle Housing Element, dated August 29, 2024; Stanislaus County General Plan and Support Documentation¹.

XV. 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: 			x	
Fire protection?			X	
Police protection?			X	
Schools?			Х	
Parks?			Х	
Other public facilities?			X	

Discussion: The project site is served by the Keyes Fire Protection District for fire protection, the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Office for police protection, Keyes Union School District for schools, Stanislaus County for parks, and Turlock Irrigation District for irrigation and electrical service. The project was referred to TID who responded with no comments.

The project was referred to these agencies, and no concerns were identified with respect to the proposed project. The County has adopted Public Facilities Fees, as well as Fire Facility Fees on behalf of the appropriate fire district, to address impacts to public services. No buildings are proposed as part of this project. However, should any construction occur on the property in the future, all adopted public facility fees will be required to be paid at the time of building permit issuance.

An early consultation referral response received from the Department of Public Works stated that no parking, loading, or unloading of vehicles shall be permitted within the County road right-of-way, the developer will be required to install or pay for the installation of any signs and/or markings (which are not proposed), and an Encroachment Permit will need to be obtained for driveway approaches at all points of ingress and egress on the project site and any other work done within the County right-of-way. Additionally, to prevent trees, shrubs, and vines from encroaching on County roads, it is unlawful to plant, or cause to be planted, a tree, shrub, or vine less than ten feet from the edge of the right-of-way to the trunk or stem of the tree, shrub, or vine.

The project was referred to the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (CVRWQCB) who responded with a list of the Board's permits and programs that may be applicable to the proposed project. The developer will be required to contact CVRWQCB to determine which permits/standards must be met prior to construction as a condition of approval.

This project was circulated to all applicable school, fire, police, irrigation, and public works departments and districts during the early consultation referral period, and no concerns were identified with regard to public services.

Mitigation: None.

References: Application information; Referral response received from the Turlock Irrigation District (TID) dated June 5, 2024; Referral response from Stanislaus County Public Works Department dated June 24, 2024; Referral response from the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (CVRWQCB) dated May 30, 2024; Stanislaus County General Plan and Support Documentation¹.

			T T	
XVI. 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: This project will not increase demands for recreational facilities, as such impacts typically are associated with residential development.

Mitigation: None.

References: Stanislaus County General Plan and Support Documentation¹.

XVII. TRANSPORTATION Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Included	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
 a) Conflict with a program plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities? 			x	
b) Would the project conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b)?			x	
c) Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?			x	
d) Result in inadequate emergency access?			Х	

Discussion: The project proposes to establish a truck parking facility for up to 12 tractor-trailer combinations tractor, and 24 trailers. The project site has two access driveways on County-maintained Pioneer Road. However, the facility will only utilize the southern 20-foot-wide driveway. The employees will leave their vehicles on-site. The trucks will run for thirteen hours per-day, from 5:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday, with a maximum of 12 employees per shift. The number of trucks on-site will not exceed 12, and six of the trailers will be used primarily for the transport of field run almonds and walnuts during peak harvest season (approximately three to four months out of the year). No customer service is proposed at the project site. No hauled materials will be brought back to the site, and the trucks will be left empty when parked on-site between trips. The project will receive access via County-maintained Pioneer Road. It is not anticipated that the project would substantially affect the level of service on Pioneer Road.

Potential impacts to transportation from the proposed project are also evaluated by Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT). The calculation of VMT is the number of cars/trucks multiplied by the distance traveled by each car/truck. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15064.3, subdivision (a), defines VMT as the amount and distance of automobile travel attributable to a project. A technical advisory on evaluating transportation impacts in CEQA published by the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) in December of 2018 clarified the definition of automobiles as referring to on-road passenger vehicles, specifically cars and light trucks. While heavy trucks are not considered in the definition of automobiles for which VMT is calculated for, heavy-duty truck VMT could be included for modeling convenience. According to the same OPR technical advisory, many local agencies have developed a screening threshold of VMT to indicate when detailed analysis is needed. Absent substantial evidence indicating that a project would generate a potentially significant level of VMT, or inconsistency with a Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) or General Plan, projects that generate or attract fewer than 110 trips per-day generally may be assumed to cause a less than significant transportation impact. The proposed project will generate 24 passenger vehicle trips one-way per-day, and 24 truck trips one-way per-day. As this is below the screening threshold of significance for vehicle and heavy truck trips, no significant impacts from vehicle and truck trips to transportation are anticipated.

This project was referred to the Stanislaus County Department of Public Works, Keyes Fire Protection District, Keyes Municipal Advisory Council, and the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). Only Public Works provided comments, which included standard conditions of approval that will be applied to the project such as no parking, loading, or unloading of vehicles being permitted within the County road right-of-way, the developer being required to install or pay for the installation of any signs and/or markings (which are not proposed), and an Encroachment Permit needing to be obtained for driveway approaches at all points of ingress and egress on the project site and any other work done within the County right-of-way. Additionally, to prevent trees, shrubs, and vines from encroaching on County roads, it is unlawful to plant, or cause to be planted, a tree, shrub, or vine less than ten feet from the edge of the right-of-way to the trunk or stem of the tree, shrub, or vine.

The proposed project is not anticipated to conflict with any transportation program, plan, ordinance or policy. Transportation impacts associated with the project are considered to be less than significant.

Mitigation: None.

References: Referral response from Public Works dated June 24, 2024; CEQA Guidelines; Stanislaus County General Plan and Support Documentation¹.

	Detentially		Less Then	No Immost
XVIII. TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES Would the	Potentially	Less Than	Less Than	No Impact
project:	Significant	Significant	Significant	
	Impact	With	Impact	
		Mitigation		
		Included		
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			х	
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:				
i) Listed or eligible for listing in the California				
Register of Historical Resources, or in a local			x	
register of historical resources as defined in				
Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or				
ii) A resource determined by the lead agency, in				
its discretion and supported by substantial				
evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria				
set for the in subdivision (c) of Public				
Resource Code section 5024.1. In applying the			Х	
criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public				
Resource Code section 5024.1, the lead				
agency shall consider the significance of the				
resource to a California Native American tribe.				

Discussion: It does not appear that this project will result in significant impacts to any archaeological or cultural resources. The project does not include any construction or ground-disturbance. In accordance with SB 18 and AB 52, this project was not referred to the tribes listed with the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) as the project is not a General Plan Amendment and no tribes have requested consultation or project referral noticing. A condition of approval regarding the discovery of cultural resources during any future construction process will be added to the project.

Mitigation: None.

References: Application information; Stanislaus County General Plan and Support Documentation¹.

XIX. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Included	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
 a) Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects? 			x	
b) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?			x	

treatmen project t project's	n a determination by the wastewater it provider which serves or may serve the hat it has adequate capacity to serve the projected demand in addition to the 's existing commitments?	x	
standaro infrastru	e solid waste in excess of State or local ls, or in excess of the capacity of local cture, or otherwise impair the attainment waste reduction goals?	x	
	with federal, state, and local management action statutes and regulations related to ste?	x	

Discussion: Limitations on providing services have not been identified. The project proposes to utilize an existing private well for water and an existing septic system. Although no new structures are proposed, the Department of Environmental Resources (DER) Environmental Health Division commented that any new building requiring an on-site wastewater treatment system (OWTS) shall be designed according to type and/or maximum occupancy of the proposed structure to the estimated waste/sewage design flow rate. All applicable County Local Agency Management Program (LAMP) standards and required setbacks are to be met, and prior to issuance of any grading or building permit, the applicant(s) shall submit a site plan that includes the location of the existing on-site water well(s), and the location, layout and design of all existing on-site wastewater treatment systems (OWTS) and the Future 100% Expansion (Replacement) Areas. Conditions of approval will be added to the project to reflect these requirements, which will be triggered when a building permit is applied for.

A referral response received from DER's Groundwater Resources Division on June 7, 2024 stated that the Groundwater Resources Division had no comments on the project because any additional water demand supplied by the existing well will be de-minimus and therefore not impact Stanislaus County Groundwater Resources.

No washing of trucks is proposed, and any maintenance on-site will be limited to tire changes, light and windshield wiper replacements, and checking fluids. Accordingly, additional wastewater discharge is not anticipated to occur as a result of this project. The Hazardous Materials Division of the DER provided a referral response on June 4, 2024 stating that the project will not have a significant effect on the environment and also provided standard conditions of approval requiring the applicant contact DER for any appropriate permitting requirements for hazardous materials and/or wastes and to conduct at least a Phase I study prior to the issuance of a grading permit. Conditions of approval will be added to the project to reflect these requirements.

A referral response received from Public Works stated that no parking, loading, or unloading of vehicles shall be permitted within the County road right-of-way, the developer will be required to install or pay for the installation of any signs and/or markings (which are not proposed), and an Encroachment Permit will need to be obtained for driveway approaches at all points of ingress and egress on the project site and any other work done within the County right-of-way.

The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (CVRWQCB) provided an Early Consultation referral response requesting that the applicant coordinate with their agency to determine if any permits or Water Board requirements be obtained/met prior to operation, which will be applied as conditions of approval.

The project site receives power and irrigation water from the Turlock Irrigation District (TID). The project was referred to TID, who responded with no comments.

The project is not anticipated to have a significant impact to utilities and service systems.

Mitigation: None.

References: Application information; Referral response from the Department of Environmental Resources (DER) Environmental Health Division dated May 23, 2024; Referral response received from Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board dated May 30, 2024; Referral response from Stanislaus County Public Works Department dated June 24, 2024; Referral response received from DER – Hazardous Materials Division dated June 4, 2024; Referral response received from DER- Groundwater Resources Division, dated June 7, 2024; Stanislaus County General Plan and Support Documentation¹.

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XX. WILDFIRE – If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project:	•	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Included	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?			x	
b) Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to, pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?			x	
c) Require the installation of maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?			x	
 d) Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes? 			x	

Discussion: The Stanislaus County Local Hazard Mitigation Plan identifies risks posed by disasters and identifies ways to minimize damage from those disasters. With the Wildfire Hazard Mitigation Activities of this plan in place, impacts to an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan are anticipated to be less than significant. The terrain of the site is relatively flat, and the site has access to County-maintained Pioneer Road. The site is located in a Local Responsibility Area (LRA) for fire protection and is served by Keyes Fire Protection District. The project was referred to Keyes Fire Protection District, and no response has been received to date. California Building and Fire Code establishes minimum standards for the protection of life and property by increasing the ability of a building to resist intrusion of flame and burning embers. No construction is proposed; however, any future construction will be subject to building permits and will be reviewed by the County's Building Permits Division and Fire Prevention Bureau to ensure all State of California Building and Fire Code requirements are met prior to construction.

A referral response received from Public Works stated that no parking, loading, or unloading of vehicles shall be permitted within the County road right-of-way, the developer will be required to install or pay for the installation of any signs and/or markings (which are not proposed), and an Encroachment Permit will need to be obtained for driveway approaches at all points of ingress and egress on the project site and any other work done within the County right-of-way. Additionally, to prevent trees, shrubs, and vines from encroaching on County roads, it is unlawful to plant, or cause to be planted, a tree, shrub, or vine less than ten feet from the edge of the right-of-way to the trunk or stem of the tree, shrub, or vine.

Wildfire risk and risks associated with postfire land changes are considered to be less than significant.

Mitigation: None.

References: Application information; California Fire Code Title 24, Part 9; California Building Code Title 24, Part 2, Chapter 7; Referral response from Stanislaus County Public Works Department dated June 24, 2024; Stanislaus County Local Hazard Mitigation Plan; Stanislaus County General Plan and Support Documentation¹.

XXI. M	ANDATORY 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 substantially 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, substantially 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: As was mentioned in *Section XI- Land Use and Planning*, the project site is designated Agriculture by the Stanislaus County General Plan land use diagrams and zoned A-2-40 (General Agriculture). Within the A-2 (General Agriculture) zoning district, the County has determined that certain uses not directly related to agriculture may be necessary to serve the A-2 district or may be difficult to locate in an urban area. The County allows the parking of tractor-trailer combinations if specific criteria can be met and if the establishment, as proposed, will not be substantially detrimental to, or in conflict with, the agricultural use of other property in the vicinity, that it will not create a concentration of commercial and industrial uses in the vicinity. In addition, the Planning Commission must find that the establishment, maintenance, and operation of the proposed use is consistent with the General Plan and will not be detrimental to the health, safety, and general welfare of persons residing or working in the neighborhood of the use and that it will not be detrimental or injurious to property and improvements in the neighborhood or to the general welfare of the County.

The eastern portion of the project site that has already been developed with a single-family dwelling and agricultural storage building is classified as "Rural Residential Land" by the California Department of Conservation's Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program, and the western portion previously used as an orchard is classified as "Prime Farmland" if irrigated. The United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA NRCS) Web Soil Survey indicates that approximately 100 percent of the project site is comprised of Grade Grade 3 Dinuba sandy loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes (DtA), which has a California Revised Storie Index Rating of 47. The California Revised Storie Index is a rating system based on soil properties that dictate the potential for soils to be used for irrigated agricultural production in California. The 47 Index rating equates to Grade 3 soils which are considered to be fair soil that may be suitable for some crop production. The project site does not the definition of prime farmland under the County's Uniform Rules. The site is not currently improved with any production agriculture.

The proposed project will not convert any Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance to nonagricultural use.

The project proposes to be served by an existing well and septic system; however, no impacts with respect to either have been raised. The project will be unmanned, and no construction is proposed.

The surrounding area is comprised of scattered single-family dwellings and irrigated agriculture in all directions, the Community of Keyes and State Route 99 to the west, a dairy to the southeast, and the Turlock Irrigation District (TID) Upper

Lateral No. 2 ½ to the north. Any development of the surrounding area would be subject to the permitted uses of the A-2 Zoning District or would require additional land use entitlements and environmental review.

Five additional projects are currently in process for truck parking (UP PLN2024-0075– *Farmers Transport Inc*, located at 4213 E Barnhart Road; GPA/REZ PLN2021-0052- *Pattar Trucking*, located at 4325 W Taylor Road; UP PLN2022-0148-*Juan M Torres Trucking*, located at 6130 E Service Rd; UP PLN2023-0151- Goblirsch Trucking Inc, located at 4361 Faith Home Road; and UP PLN2022-0129 – *Satnam S. Nagra*, located at 6630 Foote Road) within the A-2 zoning district, within a 2-mile radius of the project site. The other four Use Permit applications are limited to up to 12 tractor-trailer combinations each and would be held to the same standards as this project application. GPA/REZ PLN2021-0052- *Pattar Trucking* is a request to establish a new Planned Development zoning district for an 80-space commercial semi-truck parking facility. To approve the project, the Planning Commission will have to weigh these projects in total and determine if the necessary findings can be made.

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

Mitigation: None.

References: Initial Study; Stanislaus County General Plan and Support Documentation¹.

¹<u>Stanislaus County General Plan and Support Documentation</u> adopted in August 23, 2016, as amended. *Housing Element* adopted on April 5, 2016.



NEGATIVE DECLARATION

NAME OF PROJECT:	Use Permit	Application	No.	PLN2024-0017- LaFollette	Э
	Trucking				

LOCATION OF PROJECT: 5601 Pioneer Road, between East Grayson and East Keyes Roads, in the Keyes area. APN 045-035-053

PROJECT DEVELOPERS: Chad LaFollette 5601 Pioneer Road Hughson, CA 95326

DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT: Request to allow an existing tractor-trailer parking facility with up to twelve tractor-trailer combinations, on a $1.27\pm$ acre portion of a $9.81\pm$ acre parcel, in the General Agriculture (A-2-40) zoning district.

Based upon the Initial Study, dated <u>October 16, 2024</u>, 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:	Marcus Ruddicks, Assistant Planner
Submit comments to:	Stanislaus County Planning and Community Development Department 1010 10th Street, Suite 3400 Modesto, California 95354

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW REFERRALS

PROJECT: USE PERMIT APPLICATION NO. PLN2024-0017- LAFOLLETTE TRUCKING

REFERRED TO:			RESPONDED		RESPONSE			MITIGATION MEASURES		CONDITIONS		
	2 WK	30 DAY	PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE	YES	ON	WILL NOT HAVE SIGNIFICANT IMPACT	MAY HAVE SIGNIFICANT IMPACT	NO COMMENT NON CEQA	ХЕS	ON	YES	ON
CA DEPT OF CONSERVATION:												
Land Resources / Mine Reclamation		Х	Х		Х							
CA DEPT OF FISH & WILDLIFE	Х	Х	Х		Х							
CA DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION DIST 10	X	Х	Х		X							
CA OPR STATE CLEARINGHOUSE	Х	Х	Х		Х							
CA RWQCB CENTRAL VALLEY REGION	Х	Х	Х	Х		х				Х	Х	
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION	Х	Х	Х		Х							
FIRE PROTECTION DIST: KEYES FIRE	Х	Х	Х		Х							
GSA: WEST TURLOCK SUBBASIN	Х	Х	Х		Х							
IRRIGATION DISTRICT: TURLOCK	Х	Х	Х	Х				x		Х		Х
MOSQUITO DISTRICT: TURLOCK	Х	Х	Х		Х							
STANISLAUS COUNTY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES	x	x	x		x							
MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL: KEYES	Х	Х	Х		Х							
PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRIC	Х	Х	Х		Х							
POSTMASTER: KEYES	Х	Х	Х		Х							
RAILROAD: SOUTHERN PACIFIC	Х	Х	Х		Х							
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY APCD	Х	Х	Х	Х				Х		Х	Х	
SCHOOL DISTRICT 1: KEYES UNION	Х	Х	Х		Х							
SCHOOL DISTRICT 2: TURLOCK UNIFIED	Х	Х	Х		Х							
STAN CO AG COMMISSIONER	Х	Х	Х		Х							
STAN CO BUILDING PERMITS DIVISION	Х	Х	Х		Х							
STAN CO CEO	Х	Х	Х		Х							
STAN CO DER	Х	Х	Х	Х		х				Х	Х	
STAN CO FARM BUREAU	Х	Х	Х		Х							
STAN CO HAZARDOUS MATERIALS	Х	Х	Х	Х		х				Х	Х	
STAN CO PUBLIC WORKS	Х	Х	Х	Х		Х				Х	Х	
STAN CO SHERIFF	Х	Х	х		Х							
STAN CO SUPERVISOR DIST 2: CHIESA	Х	Х	х		Х							
STAN COUNTY COUNSEL	х	Х	х		х							
STANISLAUS FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU	х	Х	х		х							
STANISLAUS LAFCO	Х	Х	Х		х							
SURROUNDING LAND OWNERS	İ –	Х	Х		х							
TELEPHONE COMPANY: AT&T	х	Х	Х		х							
US FISH & WILDLIFE	x	х	х		х							

I:\Planning\Staff Reports\UP\2024\UP PLN2024-0017 LaFollette Trucking\Planning Commission\December 19, Staff Report\Exhibit G- Environmental Review Referrals.xls

COUNTY OF STANISLAUS CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION DISCLOSURE FORM PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Application Number:	PLN2024-0017 - LaFollette Trucking	
Application Title:	Use Permit	
Application Address:	5601 Pioneer Rd, Hughson, CA 95326	
Application APN:		

Was a campaign contribution, regardless of the dollar amount, made to any member of a decision-making body involved in making a determination regarding the above application (i.e. Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors, Planning Commission, Airport Land Use Commission, or Building Code Appeals Board), hereinafter referred to as Member, during the 12-month period preceding the filing of the application, by the applicant, property owner, or, if applicable, any of the applicant's proposed subcontractors or the applicant's agent or lobbyist?

Yes No

If no, please sign and date below.

If yes, please provide the following information:

Applicant's Name: N/A

Contributor or Contributor Firm's Name: N/A

Contributor or Contributor Firm's Address: N/A

Is the Contributor:

The Applicant The Property Owner The Subcontractor The Applicant's Agent/ Lobbyist

Yes	X	No		
Yes	X	No		
		No		
Yes		No	X	

Note: Under California law as implemented by the Fair Political Practices Commission, campaign contributions made by the Applicant and the Applicant's agent/lobbyist who is representing the Applicant in this application or solicitation must be aggregated together to determine the total campaign contribution made by the Applicant.

Identify the Member(s) to whom you, the property owner, your subcontractors, and/or agent/lobbyist made campaign contributions during the 12-month period preceding the filing of the application, the name of the contributor, the dates of contribution(s) and dollar amount of the contribution. Each date must include the exact month, day, and year of the contribution.

Name of Member:	N/A	
Name of Contributor:	N/A	•
Date(s) of Contribution(s):	N/A	
Amount(s):	N/A	

(Please add an additional sheet(s) to identify additional Member(s) to whom you, the property owner, your subconsultants, and/or agent/lobbyist made campaign contributions)

By signing below, I certify that the statements made herein are true and correct. I also agree to disclose to the County any future contributions made to Member(s) by the applicant, property owner, or, if applicable, any of the applicant's proposed subcontractors or the applicant's agent or lobbyist <u>after</u> the date of signing this disclosure form, and within 12 months following the approval, renewal, or extension of the requested license, permit, or entitlement to use.

11/21/24

Date

Signature of Applican

Print Firm Name if applicable

Chad LaFollette

Print Name of Applicant

UP PLN2024-0017

LAFOLLETTE TRUCKING

Planning Commission December 19, 2024

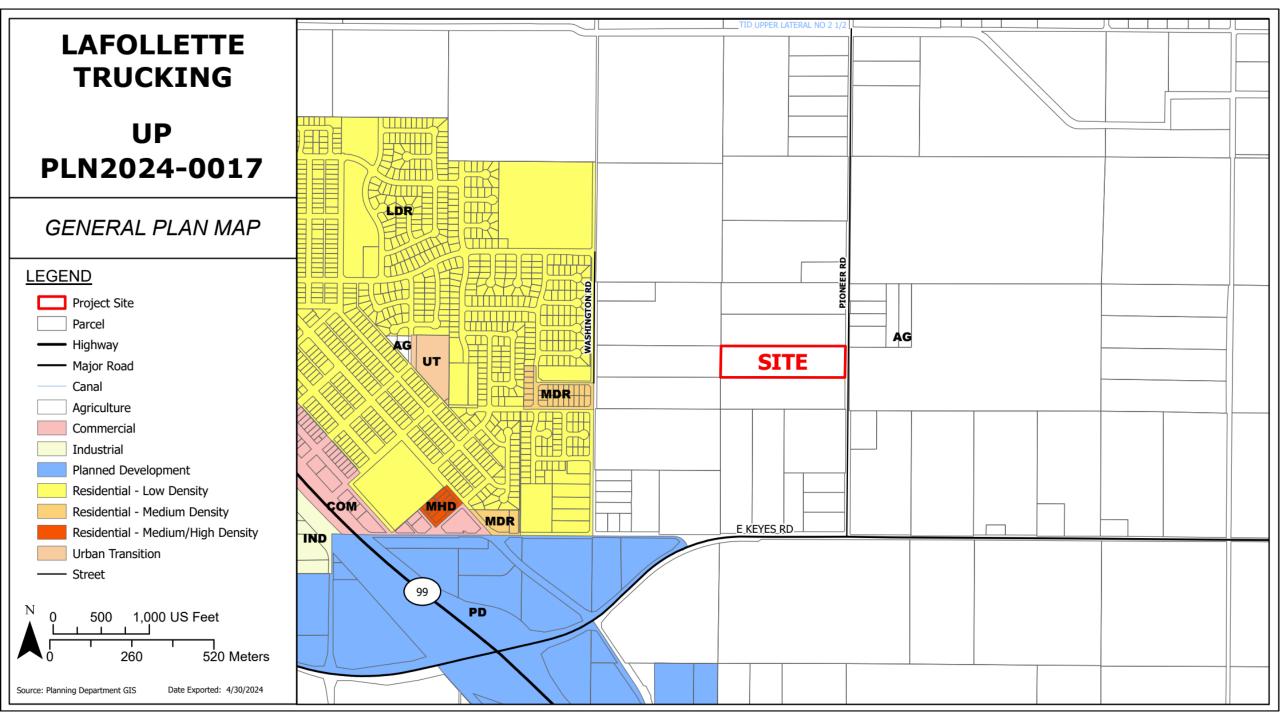


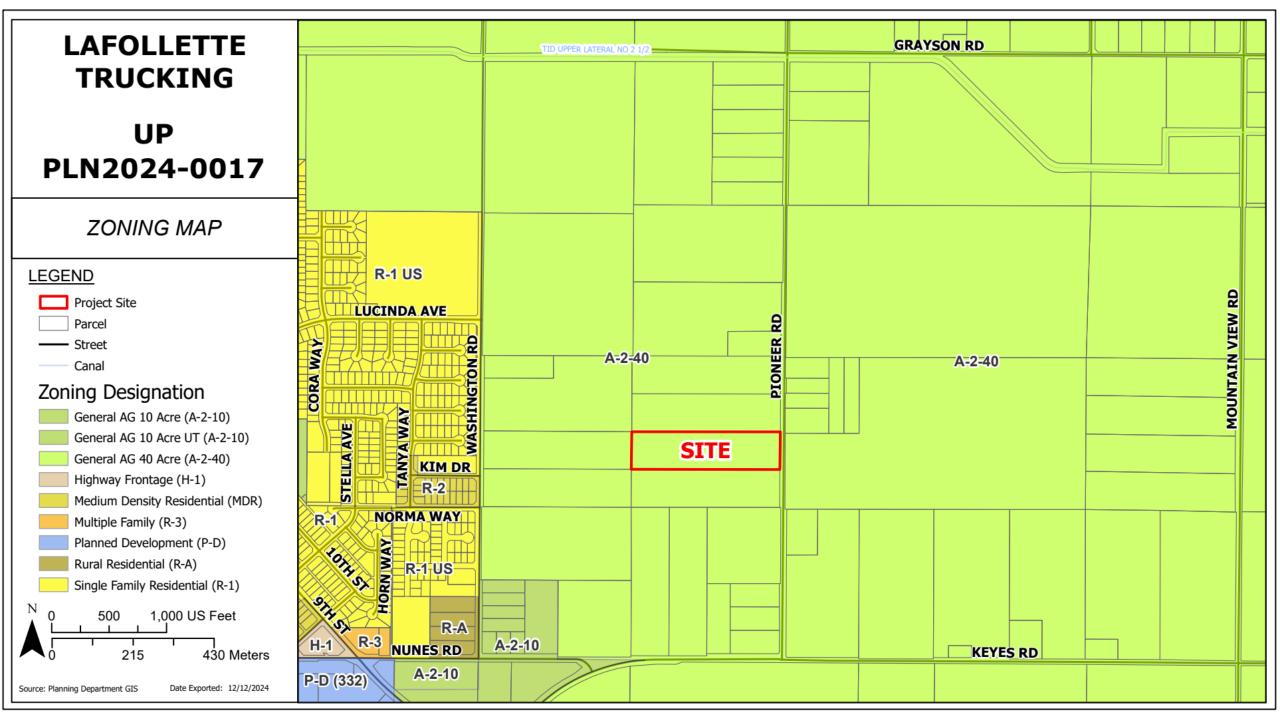
Overview

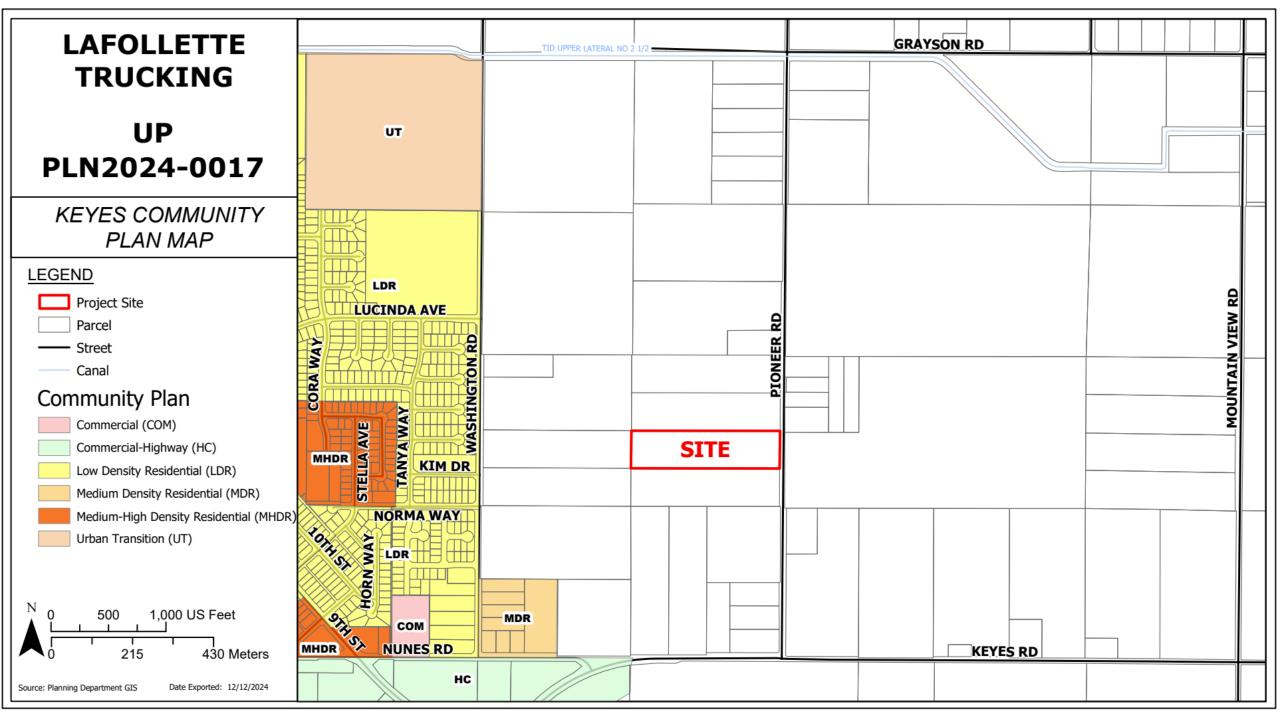
 Request to allow an existing truck parking facility to operate with up to 12 tractor-trailer combinations, on a 9.81± acre parcel, in the General Agriculture (A-2-40) zoning district.





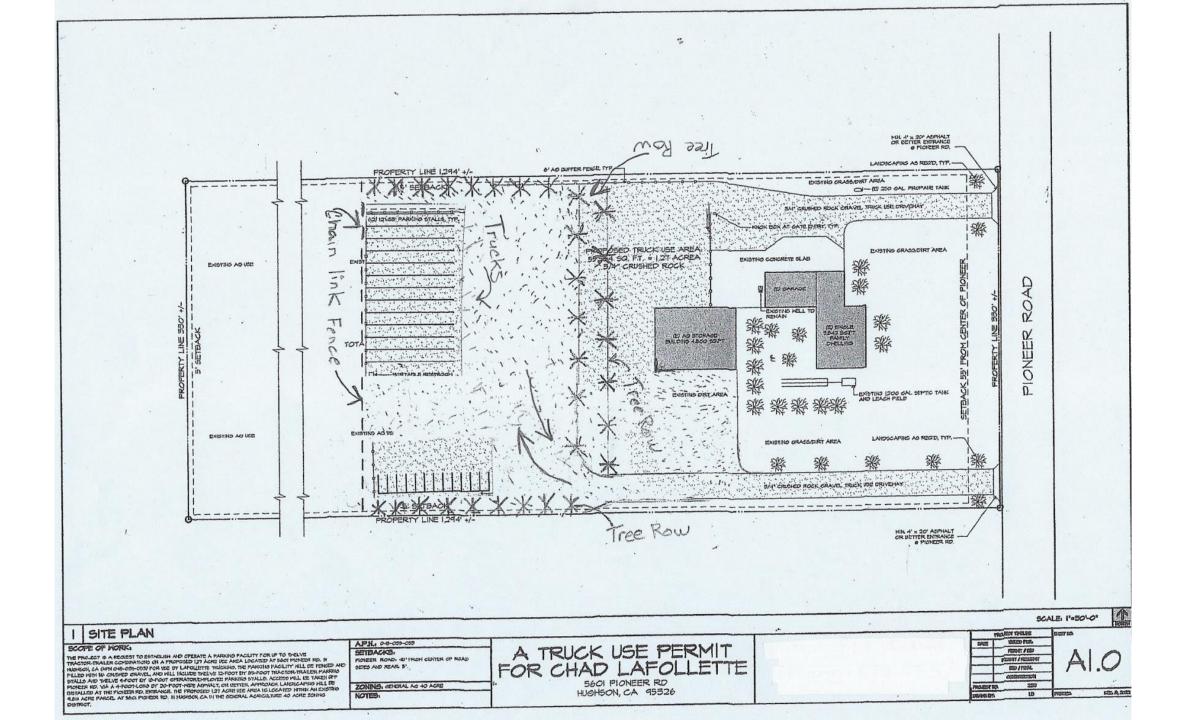




















Background – Truck Parking in the A-2

- 29 Use Permit applications received
 - 8 approved, 0 denied, 12 withdrawn
 - 9 concurrent applications currently in process
- 6 General Plan Amendments and Rezone applications for A-2 zoned parcels to allow truck parking which exceeds allowance:
 - 3 in review; Pending Planning Commission consideration
 - 2 pending Board of Supervisors (BOS) final consideration:
 - Planning Commission recommendation: one denial, one approval
 - Both continued by BOS on 12/17/24 to 8/19/25
 - 1 approved on August 19, 2014 located in the Riverbank area



Issues- Truck Parking in the A-2 Zoning District

- Community concerns relating to truck parking in the A-2 zoning district have been primarily focused on operations in the Keyes/Turlock area.
- Due to the increase in cases resulting in complaints surrounding this issue, the County has started the process to evaluate the allowance of parking facilities for trucks in the A-2 zoning district
- The General Plan Update Committee is working to form an ad hoc committee to work on a solution to address these concerns





Truck Parking Locations 1-Mile Radius of Project Site

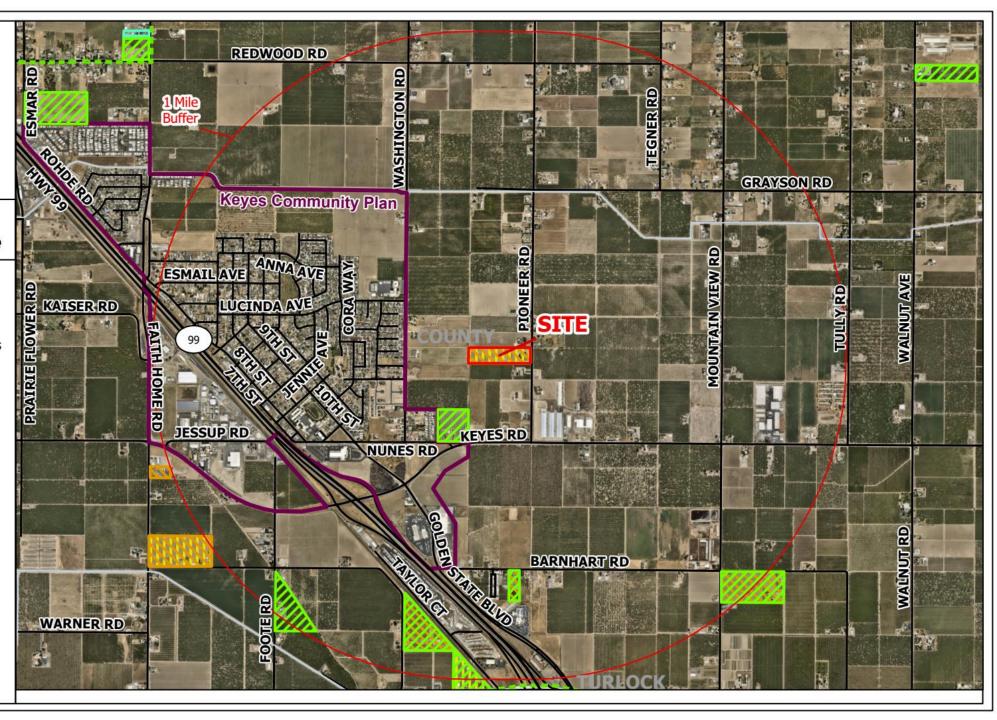


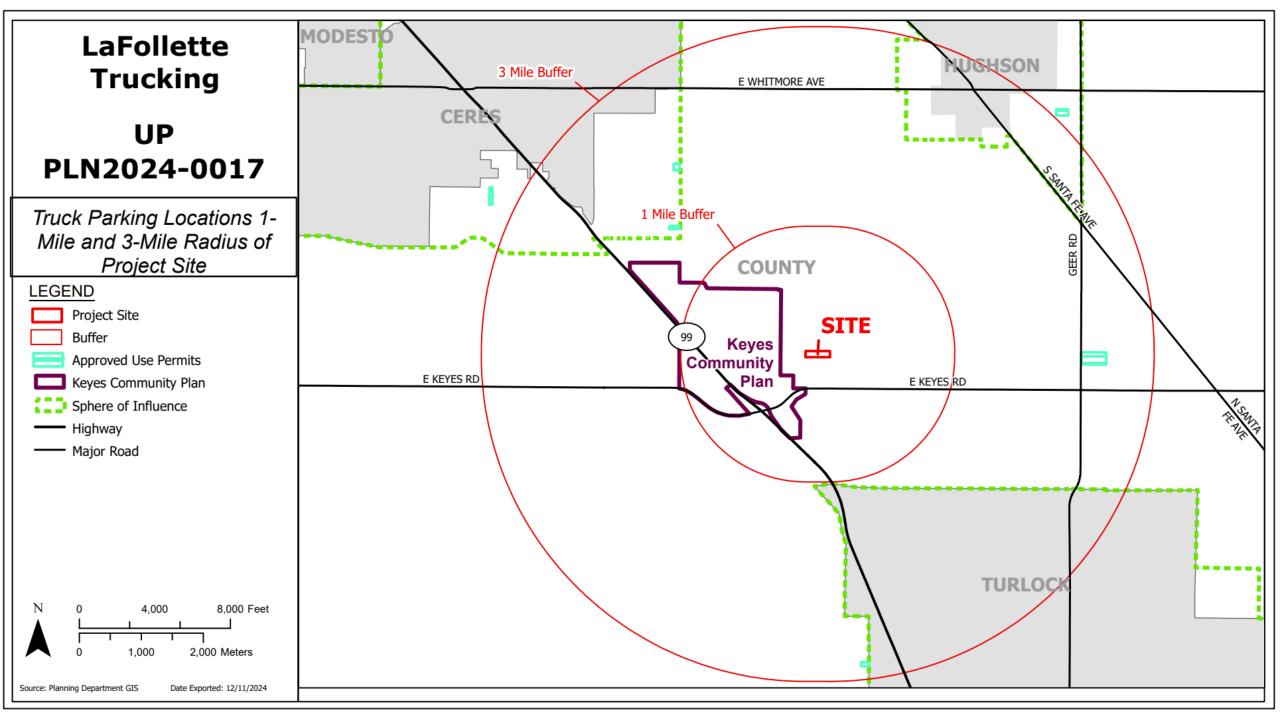
435

Source: Planning Department GIS

870 Meters

Date Exported: 12/11/2024





Complaints and Code Enforcement Action

- First complaint to Code Enforcement in September 2022
 - Resolved when property owner applied for home occupation business license to park three tractor-trailer combinations on-site
- Second complaint in December 2023
- Application was submitted in February 2024 as the result of Code Enforcement action
- Another complaint was received in April 2024 but was not formally reported to Code Enforcement



General Plan Consistency

General Plan

- Land Use Element designation
 - Agriculture
- Agricultural Element
 - Policy 1.10 Agricultural Buffers
- Keyes MAC Support
 - MAC voted 3-to-1 to recommend project approval to the Planning Commission at a special meeting on November 14, 2024.
 - Planning staff met with Public Works to discuss these concerns, who did not foresee safety or traffic impacts to the area.



County standards for commercial driveways required (C.o.A. No. 14)

Zoning Ordinance Consistency

Zoning

- General Agriculture (A-2-40)
 - Use Permit
 - Meets all Use Permit Criteria for Truck Parking



Environmental Review

- CEQA
 - Negative Declaration
 - Conditions of Approval



Planning Commission Determination

- Findings Exhibit A
 - Environmental Review
 - Use Permit findings
 - Concentration
 - Truck Parking Criteria met 21.20.030(G)
 - Agricultural buffer
 - Road dedication
 - Project Approval



Questions?

