



RESOLUTION NO. _____

OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF NEVADA

RESOLUTION ADOPTING A NEGATIVE DECLARATION IN CONNECTION WITH THE ADOPTION OF THE GREATER HIGGINS AREA PLAN AND ASSOCIATED ACTIONS PURSUANT TO SECTION 15074 OF THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT GUIDELINES (PLN22-0190; GPA22-0002; RZN22-0002; ORD22-3; EIS22-0014)

WHEREAS, on November 14, 1995, the County of Nevada adopted a General Plan for the County of Nevada, through Resolution 95-530; and

WHEREAS, on January 25, 2000, the County of Nevada adopted an Area Plan for Higgins Corner, through Resolution No. 00-572; and

WHEREAS, The General Plan Chapter 1: Land Use Elements identifies that in 2000 the existing Higgins Corner Area Plan was adopted; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors has directed the Planning Department to update and prepare a new Area Plan for the community of Higgins Corner; and

WHEREAS, properties have been added to the Area Plan through community input to help protect the rural quality of life in the Greater Higgins Area; and

WHEREAS, the Land Use Element of the County General Plan (Chapter 1) includes several references to the 2000 Area Plan including in the Supporting Planning Documents section and Policy 1.4.3 that require updating; and

WHEREAS, the County prepared a project specific Initial Study and Negative Declaration (IS/ND) and circulated it for review by responsible and trustee agencies, and the public for a review and comment period between September 23, 2022, and January 3, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the ND analyzes all of the potential environmental impacts of the proposed Project and found that no significant impacts would result from the approval of the Project; and,

WHEREAS, on January 12, 2023, the Planning Commission held a public hearing on the proposed Project in which the Commission reviewed the proposed ND together with all comments received during the public review period, and recommended on a unanimous vote the adoption of this same Negative Declaration.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Nevada County Board of Supervisors has reviewed and considered the recommendation of the Planning Commission and has independently reviewed the Initial Study and proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration (EIS22-0014), together with all comments received during the public review period, and pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines Section 15074 hereby finds and determines as follows:

1. The above recitals are true and correct.

2. On the basis of the whole record before the Board of Supervisors, there is no substantial evidence that the proposed Project will have a significant effect on the environment;

3. That the proposed Negative Declaration reflects the independent judgment of the Board of Supervisors;

4. That the location and custodian of the documents which constitute the record of these proceedings is the Nevada County Planning Department, 950 Maidu Avenue, Nevada City, California.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors hereby adopts the Mitigated Negative Declaration (EIS22-0014) for the ***Greater Higgins Area Plan*** Project, to allow for the adoption of the Area Plan.