City of Chico Planning Commission



05/03/2018

4.1 Receive Comments on the

Draft Environmental Impact Report
for the Stonegate Project
State Clearinghouse #2016062049
Southeast Chico, CA

Mike Sawley, AICP Senior Planner

Application



Environmental Review



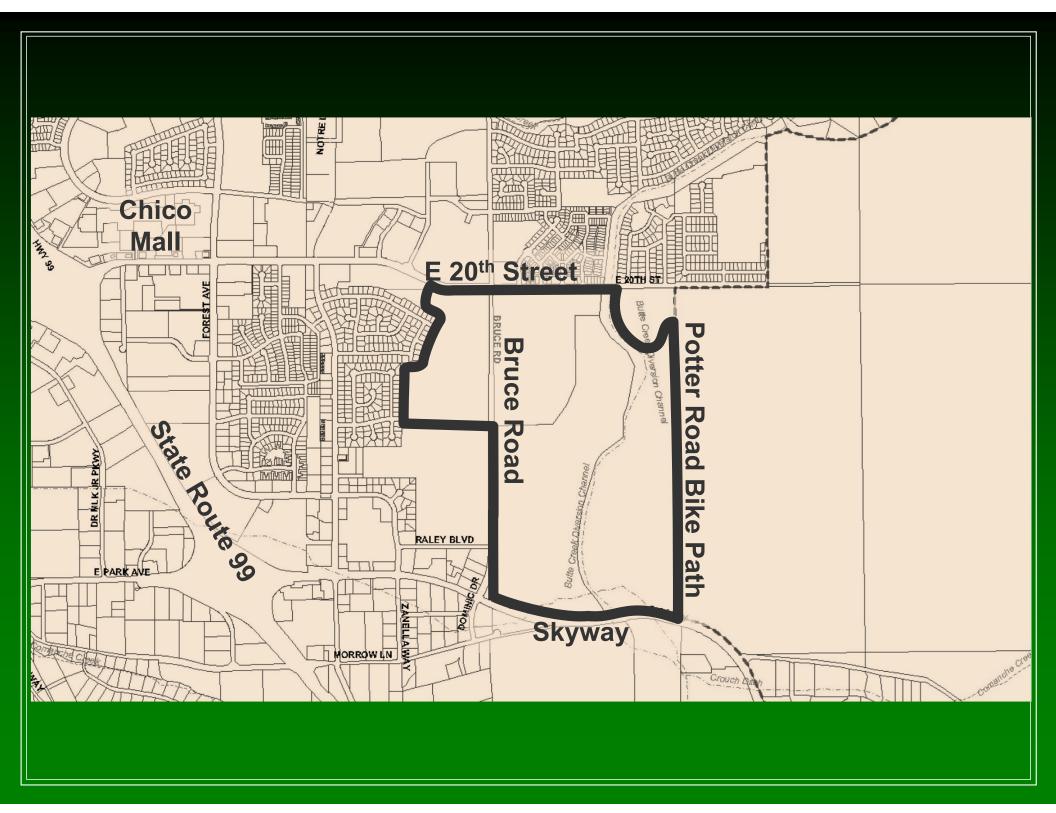
Hearings to Consider Project

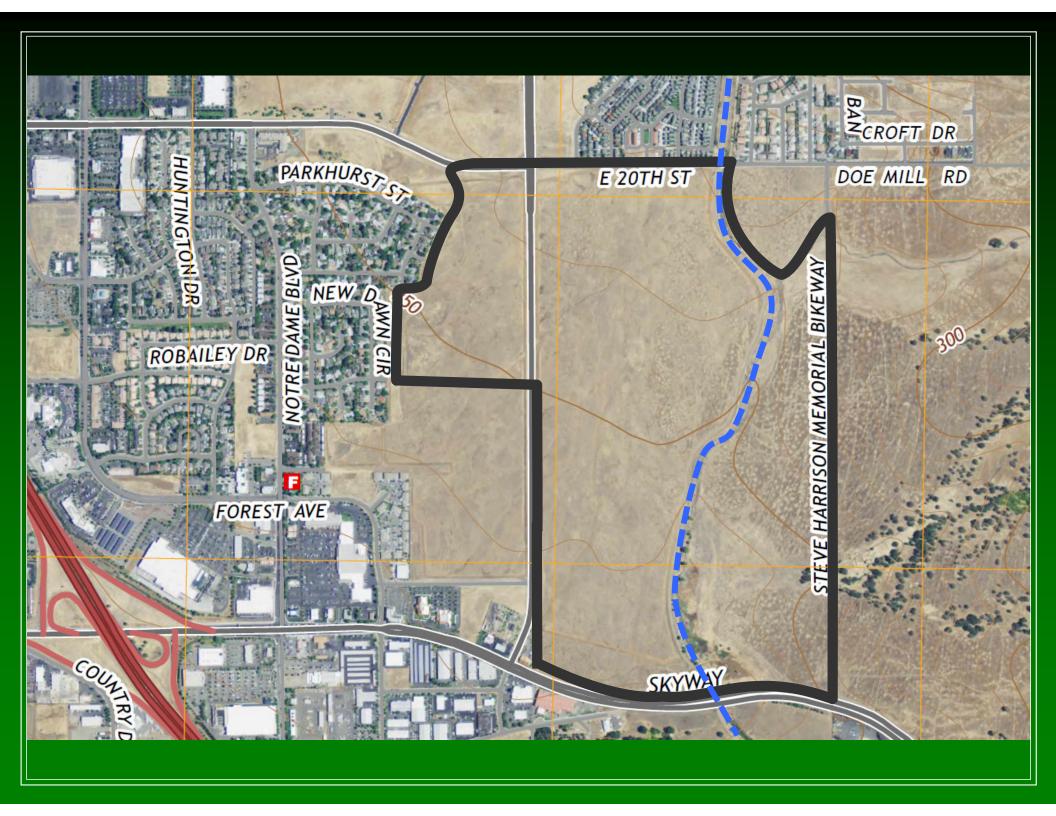
Prepare Draft EIR

45-Day Comment Period

Prepare Responses to Comments

Release Final EIR





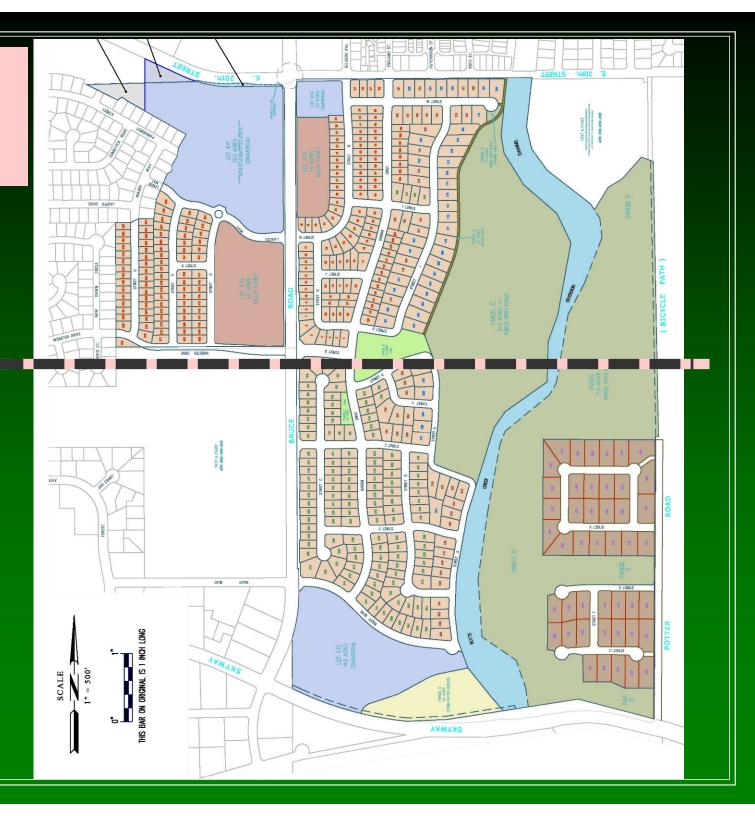
Project Summary

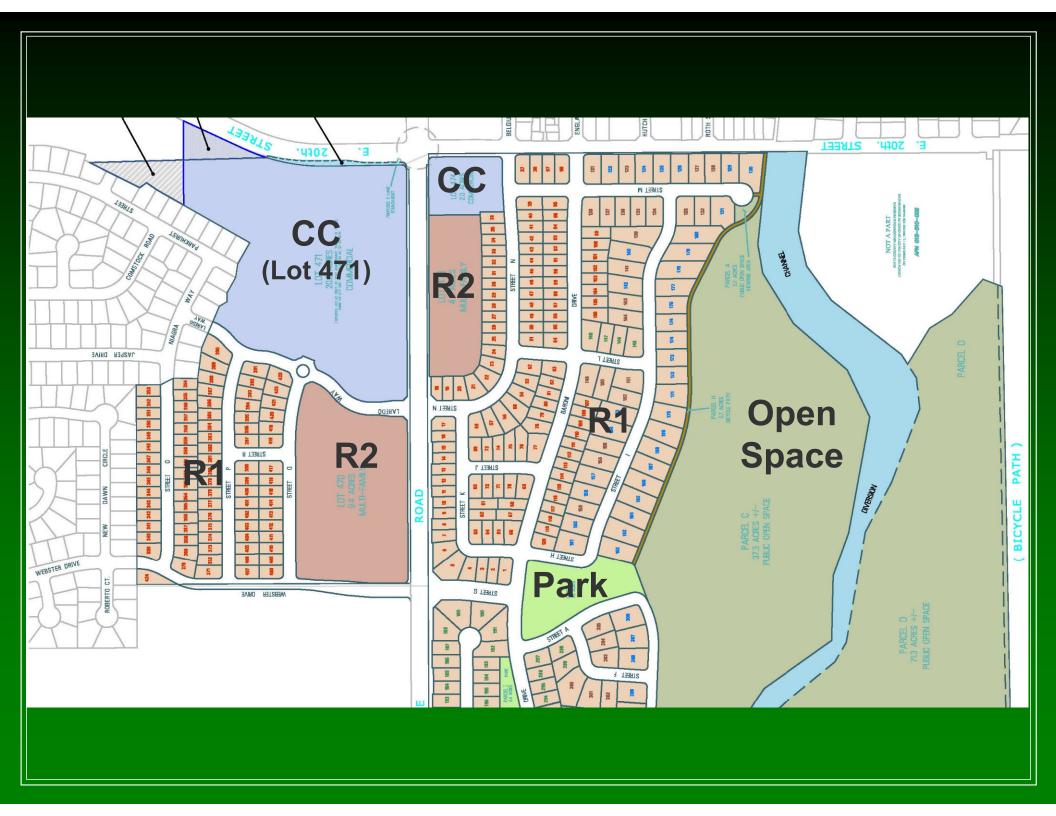
- □ Open Space: 109 acres
- ☐ Park: 3.3 acres
- ☐ Single-family residential (469 lots): 103 acres
- ☐ Multi-family residential (R2): 13.4 acres
- ☐ Commercial/Medical (CC): 36.6 acres
- Remaining area comprises street dedications, stormwater facilities, and bike path

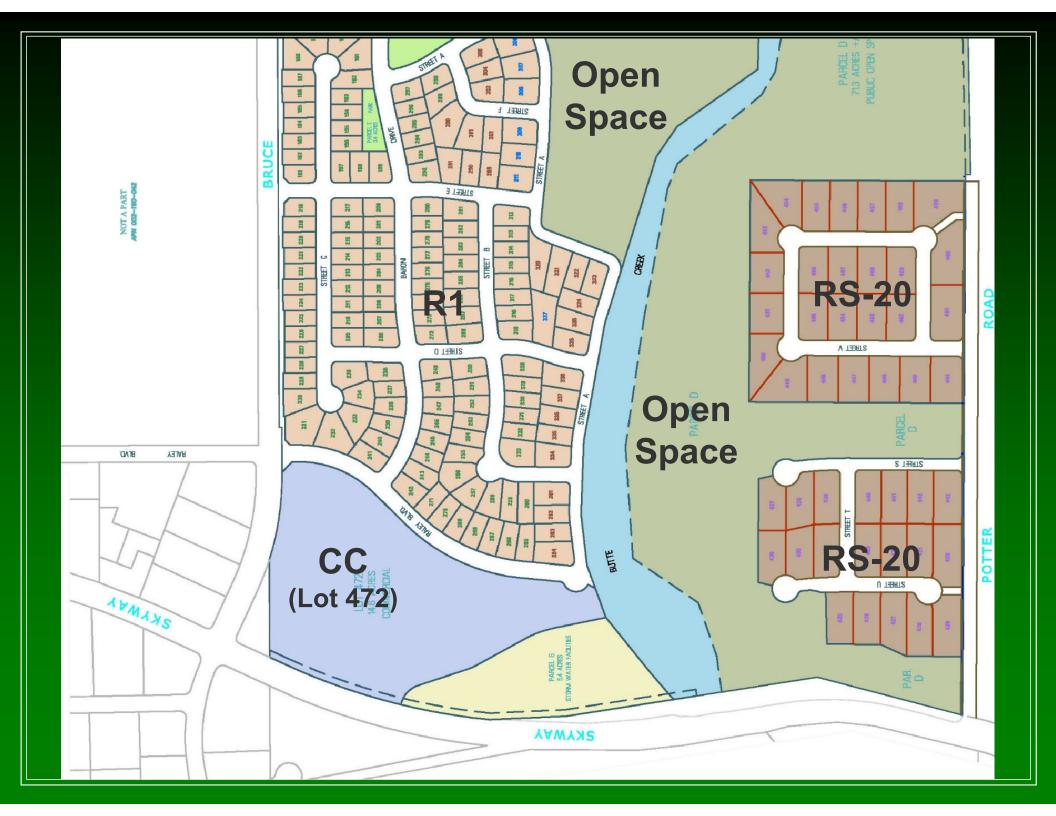
Project Overview

North

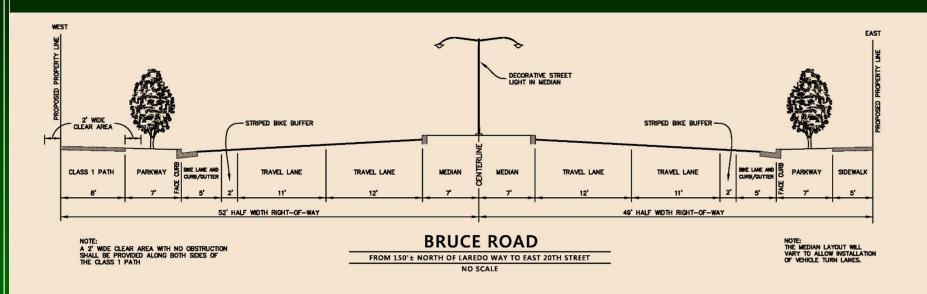
South

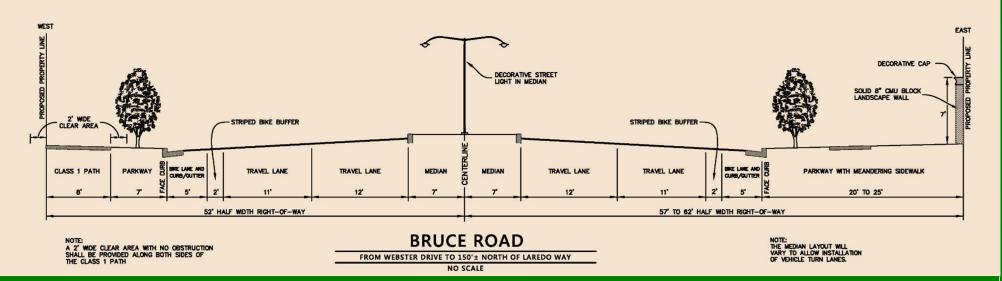






Example Street Cross-section





Environmental Review

- ☐ The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) is a law that applies to projects that require a discretionary approval by a state or local governmental agency.
- ☐ An Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is the highest level of CEQA review.
- ☐ The City of Chico is the Lead Agency for the Stonegate Project and oversees the EIR process.

Milestones

- □ Notice of Preparation issued: June 20, 2016
- ☐ Scoping Meeting held: July 12, 2016
- □ ~~~ Prepare Draft EIR ~~~
- ☐ Draft EIR Released: April 9, 2018
- ☐ Draft EIR Comment Session: May 3, 2018
- ☐ Close of Comment Period: May 24, 2018
- □ ~~~ Prepare Final EIR/staff reports ~~~
- ☐ Planning Commission/City Council Meetings

Draft EIR Summary

- ☐ Project Description: characteristics, objectives, required approvals
- ☐ 16 Topical Sections: Air Quality/GHG, Biological, Cultural, Hydrology, Traffic, etc.
- ☐ Cumulative Effects: project plus other growth
- ☐ Alternatives: No Project, Eliminate RS-20 Lots, and Existing General Plan
- ☐ Technical Appendices: Rare Plant Survey, Wetland Delineation, modeling data, etc.

Draft EIR Conclusions

- ☐ With the implementation of mitigation, all impacts except greenhouse gas emissions would be less than significant.
- □ Project impacts to Butte County Meadowfoam (BCM) can be mitigated through long-term habitat preservation and restoration efforts.
- ☐ Other biological impacts can be avoided, minimized or mitigated by purchasing off-site credits at approved mitigation banks.

Draft EIR Conclusions (cont.)

- ☐ Several street intersections would require improvements during build-out to maintain acceptable Levels of Service (LOS)
- ☐ Air Quality/GHG emissions reduced by incorporating Best Management Practices onsite and participation in off-site programs.
- Noise from streets and non-residential development mitigated using barriers, buffers and enhanced construction materials.

Next Steps

- ☐ Draft EIR comment period closes on May 24
- ☐ City prepares responses to all Draft EIR comments received (Final EIR)
- ☐ Final EIR will be available at least 10 days prior to the first public hearing
- Planning Commission to forward recommendation to City Council
- ☐ City Council to consider EIR certification and project approval

Tonight

- Speakers: fill out speaker cards and include your email or mailing address
- Speakers are encouraged to also submit their comments in writing
- The purpose of this meeting is to discuss Draft EIR's analysis and conclusions; project merits will be considered at future meetings.

Reminders:

• Please focus your comments on the Draft EIR document

• Comment sheets are provided for written comments

• Draft EIR comment period runs until May 24th at 5 p.m.