### CITY MANAGER'S REPORT OCTOBER 12, 2020 CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

ITEM: 2021 SJMSCP DEVELOPMENT FEE ANNUAL

**ADJUSTMENT** 

**RECOMMENDATION:** Council to Consider the Following:

1. Hold a Public Hearing; and

2. Adopt a Resolution Approving an Annual Adjustment to the San Joaquin County Multi-Species Habitat Conservation and Open Space

Plan (SJMSCP) Development Fee for 2021.

### SUMMARY:

On August 27, 2020, the San Joaquin Council of Governments (SJCOG) Board approved the annual adjustment to the San Joaquin County Multi-Species Habitat Conservation and Open Space Plan (SJMSCP) development fees. With recommendation from the SJCOG staff, Financial Subcommittee, and Habitat Technical Advisory Committee, SJCOG Inc. Board approved the annual adjustment to the development fees and is requesting each participating jurisdiction to adopt the annual adjustment to the SJMSCP development fees. The new fee calculations will become effective on January 1, 2021.

The final calculation of the 2021 SJMSCP development fees shows an approximate overall increase of 35.4% in the most commonly impacted categories of Agricultural and Natural habitat classifications compared from 2020. The increase is due primarily to a rise in the land acquisition component for agricultural land price values of comparable sales and part of the endowment related to enhancement costs for preserves being updated to current costs.

The following table shows the habitat category, the current 2020 fees, and proposed 2021 fee adjustments.

YEAR	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021 (Proposed)
Multi-purpose	\$8,905	\$9,701	\$6,700	\$6,412	\$8,682
Agriculture/Natur al	\$17,808	\$19,400	\$13,399	\$12,822	\$17,363
Vernal Pool (grasslands)	\$66,437	\$72,523	\$54,576	\$52,833	\$71,544
Vernal Pool (wetted)	\$109,737	\$116,871	\$101,033	\$100,788	\$161,286

# CITY MANAGERS REPORT OCTOBER 12, 2020 CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING 2021 SJMSCP DEVELOPMENT FEES

Staff recommends adoption of the attached resolution approving an annual adjustment to the San Joaquin County Multi-Species Habitat Conservation and Open Space Plan (SJMSCP) development fees for 2021.

### **BACKGROUND:**

On November 6, 2001, the City Council adopted Ordinance No. 01-194, establishing the SJMSCP. The plan established a procedure to mitigate the impacts of new development on undeveloped land within the cities of Lathrop, Escalon, Tracy, Ripon, Manteca, Lodi, Stockton, and San Joaquin County. Each city and the County adopted the SJMSCP and the recommended fee schedule at that time. A Habitat Conservation Map (Attachment 2) identifies those areas within the City of Lathrop that are subject to a specific habitat fee category. Since its adoption, the developer paid SJMSCP fees have been adjusted annually on January 1st of each year.

The development fees were calculated using a formula which is adjusted annually [Fee = Category A (acquisition) + Category B (assessment & enhancement) + Category C (land management & administration)]. Each component of the formula is adjusted using a specific mechanism which relates to the individual component in the fees.

Projects which participate under the SJMSCP benefit from a pre-determined streamlined processing of the project rather than navigating through a very long and cumbersome regulatory process led by local jurisdiction staff outside the habitat plan. By opting for plan participation, the project can choose a number of ways to provide mitigation for the impacts of the project through the plan:

- 1. Pay a fee;
- 2. Redesign the project to avoid/minimize impacts;
- 3. Provide land in lieu of the SJMSCP fee which the project will negotiate the easement/fee title costs; or
- 4. Any combination of the above options.

Alternatively, the project proponent may choose to not participate in the SJMSCP and fulfill mitigation requirements on their own with state and federal permitting agencies.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that the City Council consider all information provided and submitted, take and consider all public testimony and, if determined to be appropriate, adopt a resolution approving the annual adjustment to the San Joaquin County Multi-Species Habitat Conservation and Open Space Plan development fees for 2021.

### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

The fee adoption has no fiscal impact to the City. Developers may participate in the SJMSCP plan or opt out and fulfill mitigation requirements with state and federal permitting agencies.

### **ATTACHMENT:**

- 1. Resolution to approve the 2021 San Joaquin County Multi-Species Habitat Conservation and Open Space Plan (SJMSCP) development fee.
- 2. SJMSCP Habitat Conservation Map
- 3. 2021 Habitat Fee Table

### **CITY MANAGERS REPORT** OCTOBER 12, 2020 CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING **2021 SJMSCP DEVELOPMENT FEES**

PAGE 4

### **APPROVALS:**

Rick Caguiat/ Principal Planner

10-1-2020 Date

Mark Meissner

Community Development Director

Cari James

Finance Director

10/5/2020

Date

Salvador Navarrete

City Attorney

10.5.2020

Date

Stephen J. Salvatore

City Manager

10.62020

Date

### **RESOLUTION NO. 20 -**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LATHROP TO APPROVE THE ANNUAL ADJUSTMENT TO THE SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY MULTI-SPECIES HABITAT CONSERVATION AND OPEN SPACE PLAN (SJMSCP) DEVELOPMENT FEE FOR 2021

**WHEREAS**, the City Council of the City of Lathrop adopted Ordinance No. 01-194 establishing the authority for collection of a Development Fee for the San Joaquin County Multi-Species Habitat Conservation and Open Space Plan (SJMSCP) for all new development pursuant to the SJMSCP within the City of Lathrop; and

**WHEREAS**, a "Fee Study" dated July 1, 2001 was prepared which analyzed and identifies the costs, funding, and cost-benefit of the San Joaquin County Multi-Species Habitat Conservation and Open Space Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the purpose of the SJMSCP development fee is to finance the goals and objectives of the SJMSCP that include, but are not limited to preserve land acquisition, preserve enhancement, land management, and administration that compensate for such lands lost as a result of future development in the City of Lathrop and in San Joaquin County; and

WHEREAS, after considering the fee study and the testimony received at the public hearing, the Lathrop City Council approved said report; and further found that the future development in the City of Lathrop will need to compensate cumulative impacts to threatened, endangered, rare and unlisted SJMSCP covered species and other wildlife and compensation for some non-wildlife related impacts to recreation, agriculture, scenic values and other beneficial open space uses; and

**WHEREAS**, an "Updated Fee Study" was prepared in 2006, 2011, 2016 and 2020 which analyzed and identified the costs and funding of the SJMSCP; and

**WHEREAS**, the SJMSCP development fees are divided into three categories: Category A – Acquisition; Category B – Enhancement; and Category C – Land Management/Administration; and

**WHEREAS**, the SJMSCP development fees for the different habitat types is shown on Attachment 3 of the staff report; and

**WHEREAS**, to ensure that the SJMSCP development fees keep pace with inflation, annual adjustments are made to the fees based on the method previously adopted by the Lathrop City Council; and

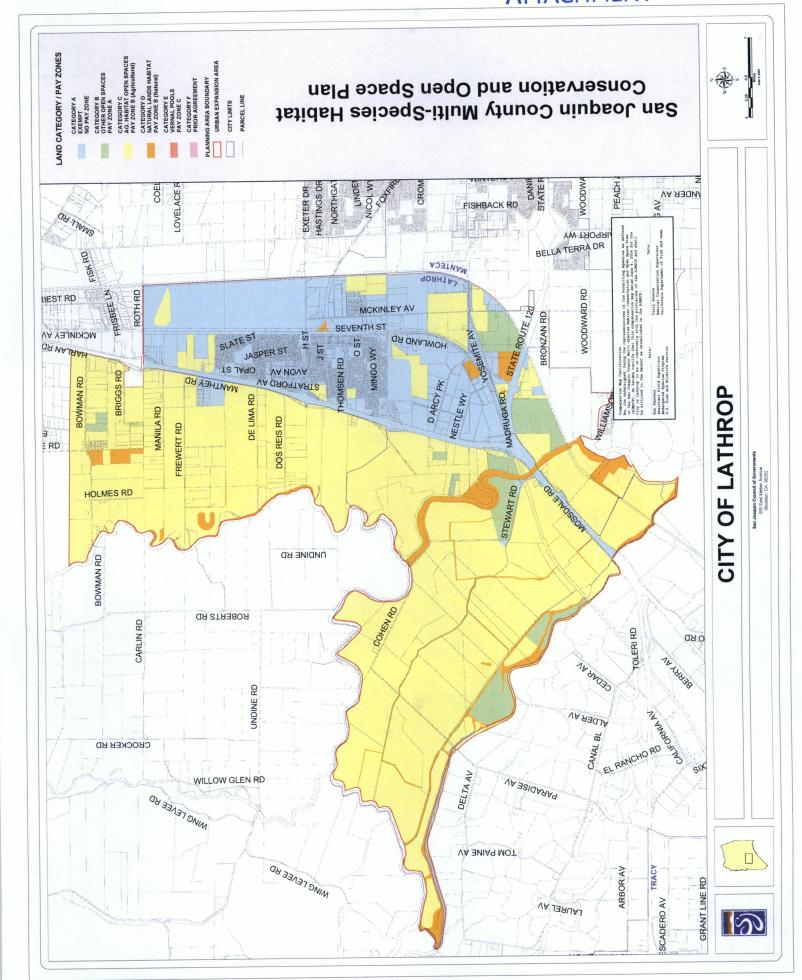
**WHEREAS**, the method of annual adjustments was modified in 2011, 2016, and 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2020 adjustment resulted in a minor change to category "A" with an adjustment to the easement to fee title percentage used in the fee model and category "C" with pivoting to a more robust diversified endowment investment for higher return on investment.

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**, by the City Council of the City of Lathrop, as follows:

- 1. The City Council finds and declares that the purposes and uses of the development fee, and the determination of the reasonable relationship between the fees' uses and the type of development project on which the fees are imposed, are all established in Ordinance No. 01-194, and remain valid, and the City Council therefore adopts such determinations.
- 2. The 2021 development fee for the three habitat types natural land and agricultural lands, vernal pool habitat, and multi-purpose open space conversion, shall be as set forth in Attachment 3 of the staff report, incorporated by reference herein.
- 3. The fee provided in this resolution shall be effective on January 1, 2021, which is at least sixty (60) days after the adoption of this resolution.

The foregoing resolution was passed and a the following vote of the City Council, to wi	adopted this 12 <sup>th</sup> day of October 2020, by it:
AYES:	
NOES:	
ABSENT:	
ABSTAIN:	
	Sonny Dhaliwal, Mayor
ATTEST:	APPROVED AS TO FORM:
Toroga Vargas City Clark	Em (
Teresa Vargas, City Clerk	Salvador Navarrete, City Attorney





Sol Jobrack

Leo Zuber

Andrew T. Chesley
PRESIDENT

Member Agencies

CITIES OF

ESCALON,

LATHROP,

LODI,

MANTECA,

RIPON,

STOCKTON,

TRACY,

AND

THE COUNTY OF

SAN JOAQUIN

## SJCOG, Inc.

555 East Weber Avenue ● Stockton, CA 95202 ● (209) 235-0600 ● FAX (209) 235-0438

# San Joaquin County Multi-Species Habitat Conservation & Open Space Plan (SJMSCP)

2021 Updated Habitat Fees\*

Habitat Type	Fee Per Acre \$8,682	
Multi-Purpose Open Space		
Natural	\$17,363	
Agriculture	\$17,363	
Vernal Pool - uplands	\$71,544	
Vernal Pool - wetted	\$161,286	

<sup>\*</sup> Effective January 1, 2021 - December 31, 2021

# 2021 Endowment Fees with In-lieu Land\*\*

Type of Preserve	Enhancement Cost/acre	Land Management Cost/acre	TOTAL PER ACRE ENDOWMENT
Agricultural Habitat Lands	\$4,942.00	\$681.00	\$5,623.00
Natural Lands	\$4,942.00	\$681.00	\$5,623.00
Vernal Pool Habitat			
Vernal Pool Grasslands	\$12,826.00	\$1,682.00	\$14,508.00
Vernal Pool Wetted	\$103,580.00	\$1,649.00	\$105,229.00

<sup>\*\*</sup> Effective January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021 in lieu of fees to be used as the endowment for the dedicated land preserves (Category B + C) based on impacted acres.

# **VELB Mitigation**

A special fee category shall apply when removal of the Valley Elderberry Long-horned Beatle (VELB) habitat of elderberry shrubs occurs. The fee shall be paid to SJCOG, Inc. or a VELB mitigation bank approved by the Permitting Agencies. The current fee, as established in the VELB Conservation Fund Account managed by the Center for Natural Lands Management, and approved by the USFWS, is \$1,800 per VELB Unit (one unit= one stem over 1" in diameter at ground level which is removed). Fees shall be established by the JPA during preconstruction surveys (i.e., counts of stems to be removed with and without exit holes shall be completed during preconstruction surveys) and shall be paid to the JPA prior to ground disturbance or stem removal, whichever comes first.

# PAGE LEFT INTENTIONALLY BLANK