

Attachment 2



**CITY OF RIO VISTA
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

One Main Street
Rio Vista, CA 94571
Phone # (707) 374-6451 x 116

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

DISTRIBUTED TO:

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street
P.O. Box 3044
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | County of Solano
County Administrator's Office
675 Texas Street
Fairfield, CA 94533-6375 |
|--------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|---|

Project Title: General Plan Amendment of the City of Rio Vista amending the Circulation and Mobility Element of the Rio Vista General Plan deleting any reference to the text and/or policies of the General Plan proposing the realigning of Highway 12 to Airport Road (GPA 12-001).

Project Location: City of Rio Vista

Project Description: Since the 2001 Rio Vista General Plan was adopted on July 18, 2002, pages 8-53 and 8-54 have stated that:

Rio Vista Bridge

...“The City shall support an alignment along Airport Road as the preferred alternative, until further information is obtained.”

And Policy 8.11.B of the General Plan states:

“ The City shall conduct a new bridge study that focuses on a bypass and new bridge aligned with the present Airport Road as a supplement to the Caltrans (1992) study and Highway 12 Major Investment Study and Project Study Report evaluation (Korve Engineering, 2001).

Since the Rio Vista General Plan was adopted in 2002 there have been four major corridor/bridge studies completed that fully studied the future needs and design concepts for the Helen Madere (Rio Vista Bridge) and developed various possible alternative alignments for Highway 12 through Rio Vista. These included the Rio Vista Bridge and SR 12 Realignment Study and the Church Road/Hwy 12 Project Study Report, both completed in 2010 and the SR 12 Corridor Study and the SR 12 Corridor and Economic Studies completed in 2012.

These studies addressed various alternative alignments for the Rio Vista Bridge and potential future alignments for the Highway 12 Corridor including:

- Northern of Airport Road Bypass
- Airport Road

- Existing SR 12 Alignment
- Tunnel Variation of Existing SR 12 Alignment
- Drainage way Bypass Alternative
- Southern Bypass
- No Build Alternative

During the Rio Vista Bridge and the SR 12 Realignment Study noted the various pros and cons of the each of the alternatives and the Northern Bypass alignment was deleted from further study

The Airport Road alignment was noted as the 2002 General Plan recommended this alignment but noted the impacts (such as noise) that it would have on the Trilogy, Brann and Gibbs Ranch developments. It also noted that future study of the Airport Road alignment would be needed "to assure that the High level bridge is compatible with future airport expansion."

The City is also concerned that impacts to existing businesses such as Paul Graham Drilling, Airport Mini-Storage and access conflicts at intersections such as Airport Road/St. Francis Way, Airport Road/Church Road and Airport Road/Liberty Island Road would be difficult for the City to resolve with limited impact fees and mixing too much local traffic with inter-regional traffic.

Also, with the STA and the City of Rio Vista commencing with the preliminary assessment and possible EIR for the future Church Road/ Highway 12 intersection improvements, it seems very unlikely now that Airport Road would ultimately become the future realigned Highway 12 Corridor.

Although further review of the other remaining alternatives, staff believes that the recent studies revealed major impacts (such as noise, truck and traffic impacts, and costly right-of way impacts on entitled developments) that would be caused by a realigned Highway 12 on Airport Road, particularly affecting the Trilogy, Gibbs and Brann Ranch subdivisions.

Before any final alignment is adopted a complete CEQA/NEPA document would be prepared. But the City has determined that it is no longer has the intention of supporting the realignment of SR 12 to Airport Road, and the City, STA and Caltrans would save time, costs and concerns from the general public and adjoining businesses of realigning Highway 12 to Airport Road.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: City of Rio Vista

Name of Person or Agency Carrying-out Project: City of Rio Vista

Exempt Status (check one):

- Ministerial (Section.21080 (b)(1); 15268
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a)
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c)
- Categorical Exemption-pursuant to section numbers 15061(b)(4)*
- Statutory Exemption-pursuant to section number _____

Reason why project is exempt:

Based on until further information that has been obtained by the City of Rio Vista regarding the further potential alternative alignments of S.R. 12 through Rio Vista, the City has determined that the Airport Road alignment is rejected and will no longer be the preferred alignment in any future studies.

Lead Agency Contact Person: _____
Signature

David S. Melilli, Community Development and Public Works Director
Print Name, Title and Phone number
(707) 374-6451 x 116

Date: November 1, 2012