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July 30, 2024

Ron Bess, Associate Planner  
City of Sacramento  
300 Richards Blvd  
Sacramento, CA 95811

Re: MTP/SCS Consistency for the Sacramento Bee North Project

Dear Mr. Bess:

You requested SACOG's confirmation that the proposed the Sacramento Bee North Project is consistent with the 2020 Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (MTP/SCS) and is located within a Transit Priority Area (TPA), pursuant to PRC § 21155.4. SACOG provides a consistency determination at the request of the lead agency. However, it is the responsibility of the lead agency to make the final determination on a project's consistency with the MTP/SCS. This letter concurs with the City's determination that the Sacramento Bee North Project is consistent with the MTP/SCS and is located within a TPA. SACOG reviewed the project description and SCS consistency analysis compared to the MTP/SCS assumptions for the project area in order to make our determination.

The Sacramento Bee North Project consists of 121 housing units, including 60 single-unit dwellings and 61 condominium units, on a 5.6-acre parcel within the Central City Specific Plan of the City of Sacramento. The project is located within a Transit Priority Area, pursuant to PRC § 21155.4. Transit Priority Areas are areas of the region within one-half mile of a major transit stop existing or planned (if the planned stop is scheduled to be completed within the planning horizon included in a Regional Transportation Plan adopted pursuant to Section 450.216 or 450.322 of Title 23 of the Code of Federal Regulations). The Project site is less than ¼-miles from the Sacramento Regional Transit's Blue, Green and Gold lines along R Street, which satisfies the definition of a transit priority area.

The Sacramento Bee North Project is an infill project within the Center/Corridor Community designation of the MTP/SCS for the City of Sacramento. Within the Center/Corridor Community, the MTP/SCS forecasts a range of low to high density residential, commercial, office, and industrial uses (MTP/SCS Appendix D). The project's land uses fall within this range of general uses, densities, and building intensities. With respect to consistency with the MTP/SCS policies, the applicable policies are embedded in the metrics and growth forecast assumptions of the MTP/SCS. For the purposes of determining SCS consistency, projects consistent with the growth forecast assumptions of the MTP/SCS are consistent with these policies. The MTP/SCS housing forecast for the Center/Corridor Communities was based not only on the City's land use plans and policies, but also on the following: an assessment of past building activity, current project entitlement activity, and consideration of changing demographic and housing

Auburn  
Citrus Heights  
Colfax  
Davis  
El Dorado County  
Elk Grove  
Folsom  
Galt  
Isleton  
Lincoln  
Live Oak  
Loomis  
Marysville  
Placer County  
Placerville  
Rancho Cordova  
Rocklin  
Roseville  
Sacramento  
Sacramento County  
Sutter County  
West Sacramento  
Wheatland  
Winters  
Woodland  
Yolo County  
Yuba City  
Yuba County

market demand. Infill development and redevelopment is a strategy essential to the success of the Blueprint Preferred Scenario and the MTP/SCS. The Blueprint Preferred Scenario and the 2020 MTP/SCS achieve transportation, air quality, and other quality of life benefits by relying in part on infill and redevelopment projects such as this one. The proposed project is consistent with MTP/SCS growth forecast assumptions.

Thank you for inviting SACOG's input as to the consistency of Sacramento Bee North Project with the MTP/SCS. Our confirmation of the project's consistency with the MTP/SCS is not intended to express any opinion on the site design or the appropriate conditions of approval of the project. If you have further questions or need further assistance, please don't hesitate to contact me at (916) 340-6246.

If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Clint Holtzen', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Clint Holtzen  
Planning Manager

# DETERMINATION OF MTP/SCS CONSISTENCY WORKSHEET

*As of October 27, 2020<sup>i</sup>*

**Background:** Pursuant to SB 375 and SB 743, streamlined CEQA review and analysis is available to certain land use projects that are consistent with the Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS). The SCS was adopted by the Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) Board as part of the 2020 Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (MTP/SCS) on November 18, 2019. The California Air Resources Board (CARB) provided an Acceptance of GHG Quantification Determination for the SACOG SCS in October 2020.

**Purpose:** The purpose of this worksheet is to provide lead agencies with guidance to determine whether a project is consistent with the general land use designation, density, intensity, and applicable policies of the 2020 MTP/SCS adopted by SACOG.

**The lead agency has responsibility to make the final determination on these matters and to determine the applicable and appropriate CEQA streamlining, if any.**

**Directions:** This worksheet should be completed by the lead agency, relying on the project description of the proposed project and [Appendix C and D of the MTP/SCS](#). Regardless of whether this optional worksheet is used to assist in determining consistency with the MTP/SCS, a project can only be consistent with the MTP/SCS if it is consistent with the general land use designation, density, building intensity, and applicable policies specified for the project area in the adopted MTP/SCS. This worksheet only applies to the 2020 MTP/SCS (adopted November 18, 2019); subsequent MTP/SCS adoptions may require updates to this form.

Lead agencies are welcome to contact SACOG for assistance in completing this worksheet. For assistance, contact Dov Kadin at [dkadin@sacog.org](mailto:dkadin@sacog.org).

<b>Project Title</b>	Sac Bee North	
<b>Proposed Project is Located In (city/county name)</b>	City of Sacramento	
<b>Applicable Community Type Proposed Project is Located in</b>  The MTP/SCS land use forecast is illustrated using Community Types. In order to determine the general use designation, density and intensity of the Project area within the MTP/SCS, the Project must be located within a Community Type designated in the MTP/SCS. Use the map on page 4 of <a href="#">Appendix C of the MTP/SCS</a> to identify the Community Type for the Project.	<input checked="checked" type="checkbox"/>	Center and Corridor Community
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Established Community
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Developing Community (list the specific name of the Developing Community as identified in <a href="#">Appendix C of the MTP/SCS</a> beginning on page 5):
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rural Residential Community

# DETERMINATION OF MTP/SCS CONSISTENCY WORKSHEET

As of October 16, 2020

## Required Consistency with the SCS: General Use Designation, Density and Intensity, and Applicable MTP/SCS Policies (PRC § 21155(a) and PRC § 21159.28(a))

**General Use Designation, Density and Building Intensity.** The foundation of the land use designations for the MTP/SCS is adopted and proposed local general plans, community plans, specific plans and other local policies and regulations. A project is consistent with the MTP/SCS if its uses are identified in the applicable MTP/SCS Community Type *and* its uses meet the general density and building intensity assumptions for the Community Type. The proposed project does not have to include all allowed uses in the MTP/SCS.

**Applicable MTP/SCS Policies.** For the purposes of determining SCS consistency, the policies of the MTP/SCS are embedded in the metrics and growth forecast assumptions of the MTP/SCS. Projects consistent with the growth forecast assumptions of the MTP/SCS, as determined by the criteria below, are consistent with the MTP/SCS and its policies.

Determine consistency of the Project using **one** of the four methods below:

Consistency Option	Criteria
<b>Option A</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	The Project is located in a <b>Center and Corridor Community or an Established Community</b> and the Project uses are consistent with the allowed uses of the applicable adopted local land use plan as it existed in 2019 and are at least 80 percent of the maximum allowed density or intensity of the allowed uses of the applicable local land use plans. Therefore, the Project is consistent with the MTP/SCS. <sup>ii</sup>
<b>Option B</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The Project is located in a <b>Center and Corridor Community or an Established Community</b> and the Project uses have been reviewed in the context of, and are found to be consistent with, the general land use, density, and intensity information provided for this Community Type in <a href="#">Appendix D of the MTP/SCS</a> (beginning on page 30). Therefore, the Project is consistent with the MTP/SCS.
<b>Option C</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	The Project is located in a <b>Rural Residential Community</b> and the Project residential density does not exceed the maximum density of one unit per acre as specified in the MTP/SCS, and employment development in the Project is at least 80 percent of the maximum allowed density or intensity of the applicable local land use plans. Therefore, the Project is consistent with the MTP/SCS.
<b>Option D</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	The Project is located in a <b>Developing Community</b> and the Project's average net density meets or exceed the average net density described for this specific Developing Community (as referenced by name of applicable specific plan, master plan, or special plan in <a href="#">Appendix D of the MTP/SCS</a> ) and employment development in the Project is consistent with the general employment land uses described for this specific Developing Community. <sup>iii</sup> In addition, development from the project when added to other entitled projects will not exceed the MTP/SCS build out assumptions for the area within this Community Type, which are: <div style="margin-top: 10px;"> New Housing Units: <span style="border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 200px; height: 20px; vertical-align: middle;"></span>  New Employees: <span style="border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 200px; height: 20px; vertical-align: middle;"></span> </div>

# DETERMINATION OF MTP/SCS CONSISTENCY WORKSHEET

As of October 16, 2020

Conclusion	
The proposed project is consistent with the General Use Designation, Density and Intensity, and Applicable MTP/SCS Policies for the following reasons  <i>(summarize findings on use designation, density and intensity for the Project evaluation completed above):</i>	The Project proposes a ~21.7 du/ac residential development on a vacant, infill parcel in the Central City area of Sacramento, a block away from a light rail stop. The MTP/SCS forecasts 26,000 new homes in this area, more than doubling its existing housing stock. The R street corridor, which the Project is in, is also identified in Appendix D as one of the opportunity areas identified by the City.

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<sup>i</sup> This document may be updated as users provide feedback on its utility.

<sup>ii</sup> The MTP/SCS general land use, density and intensity in Center and Corridor Communities and Established Communities is based on 80 percent of the maximum allowed density or intensity of the land use designations in applicable local land use plans as they existed in 2016, unless otherwise noted in [Appendix C and D](#).

<sup>iii</sup> The MTP/SCS land use forecast in Developing Communities was modeled according to adopted and proposed specific plans, master plans, and special plans as they existed in 2016, and is based on the housing and employment totals and the average net density of these plans, as outlined in [Appendix C and D](#).

## Transit Priority Project and Residential or Mixed-use Residential Project Determination Worksheet

**Background:** Pursuant to SB 375, streamlined CEQA review and analysis is available to certain projects that qualify as either a transit priority project or a residential or mixed-use residential project.

**Purpose:** The purpose of this worksheet is to provide lead agencies with assistance on two issues:

1. Whether a proposed project qualifies as a Transit Priority Project (TPP), as defined in PRC § 21155.1 (SB 375); and
2. Whether a proposed project qualifies as a residential or mixed-use residential project (at least 75 percent of the total building square footage is residential).

In addition, projects that qualify as one of the above must demonstrate consistency with the Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) in order to pursue streamlined CEQA review. For more information on SCS consistency, please see the SACOG Determination of MTP/SCS Consistency Worksheet.

Streamlined CEQA review available to TPPs consists of one of the following:

1. A Sustainable Communities Environmental Assessment (SCEA) pursuant to Public Resources Code (PRC) § 21155.2(b), or
2. An EIR pursuant to PRC § 21155.2(c).<sup>1</sup>

Streamlined CEQA review available to residential or mixed-use residential projects includes any findings or other determinations for an exemption, a negative declaration, a mitigated negative declaration, a sustainable communities environmental assessment, an environmental impact report, or addenda prepared or adopted for a project pursuant to PRC § 21159.28(a).

**The lead agency has responsibility to make the final determination on these matters and to determine the applicable and appropriate CEQA streamlining, if any.**

**Directions:** This worksheet should be completed by the lead agency, relying on the project description of the proposed project and [Appendix C and D of the MTP/SCS](#). Lead agencies are welcome to contact SACOG for assistance in completing this worksheet. For assistance, contact Dov Kadin at [dkadin@sacog.org](mailto:dkadin@sacog.org).

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<sup>1</sup> If a TPP complies with an additional series of requirements set forth in PRC § 21155.1, it qualifies as a Sustainable Communities Project and becomes eligible for a complete exemption from CEQA. This worksheet does not address Sustainable Communities Projects.

## 1. Transit Priority Project Designation (PRC § 21155(b))

Finding			Calculation	
1.A	<input type="checkbox"/>	The Project has a minimum net density <sup>2</sup> of 20 dwelling units per acre.	Total housing units proposed in Project:	121
			Total Project parcel area (in net <sup>2</sup> acres):	~5.57
			Net Density:	~21.7
1.B	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	At least 50 percent of the Project's total building square footage is in residential use.	Total Project residential square footage:	242,545
				÷
			Total Project building square footage	242,545
			=	1.00
	AND			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	The total building square footage of the Project has 25 percent or less non-residential use, or, if it has between 26 and 50 percent in non-residential use, has a minimum FAR of 0.75.	Percent of building sqft that is non-residential	0
			Total Project building square footage	273,095
				÷
			Total Project parcel(s) area square footage	242,545
			FAR =	~1.12
1.C	<input type="checkbox"/>	The Project is located within an MTP/SCS High Frequency Transit Area. <sup>3</sup>	Existing or planned transit route name/applicable street name/number or light rail stop name:	23rd St. Station Light Rail Stop
1.D	<input type="checkbox"/>	No more than 25 percent of the area of the Project parcels are farther than one-half mile from the High Frequency Transit Area. <sup>3</sup>	Project area outside of ½ mile High Frequency Transit Area <sup>3</sup> :	0
				÷
			Total Project area:	~5.57 ac
			=	0
	AND			
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No more than 10 percent of the residential units or 100 units, whichever is less, in the project are farther than one-half mile from the High Frequency Transit Area. <sup>3</sup>	Project residential units outside of ½ mile High Frequency Transit Area <sup>3</sup> :	0
				÷
			Total Project units:	121
=			0	
Conclusion: The proposed project meets the requirements of 1.A, 1.B, 1.C, and 1.D and therefore qualifies as a Transit Priority Project.				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

<sup>2</sup> Net density is not defined in PRC §2115(b). In the MTP/SCS, net density is defined as follows: Housing units divided by the acres on which housing is built, exclusive of public rights-of-ways, parks, schools and public areas.

<sup>3</sup> High Frequency Transit Areas can be found in the map on page 60 of [Appendix D in the MTP/SCS](#) or on the [SACOG Open Data Portal](#).

## 2. Residential or Mixed-Use Residential Project Designation for Projects Located Outside of an MTP/SCS High Frequency Transit Area<sup>4</sup> 21159.28(a)

Finding			Calculation	
2.A	<input type="checkbox"/>	At least 75 percent of the total building square footage of the project consists of residential use.	Total Project residential square footage:	273,095
				÷
			Total Project building square footage:	273,095
			=	1.00
<b>Conclusion:</b> The proposed project meets the requirements of 2.A and therefore qualifies as a residential or mixed-use residential project.				
			<input type="checkbox"/>	

<sup>4</sup> High Frequency Transit Areas can be found in the map on page 60 of [Appendix D in the MTP/SCS](#) or on the [SACOG Open Data Portal](#).