

MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW BOARD (ERB)
Unincorporated Coastal Zone, Santa Monica Mountains, Los Angeles County
In-Person Meeting of November 18, 2024

Present:

ERB Members

Travis Longcore, Ph.D.
Katherine Pease, Ph.D.
Dan Cooper, Ph.D.
Richard Ibarra
Leana Setian

Regional Planning Staff

Joseph Decruyenaere, Senior Biologist
Karla Moreno, Biologist
Tyler Montgomery, Principal Planner
Iris Chi, ERB Coordinator

PART I: PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

1. Roll call.
2. Coordinator's Report – DRP will release 2025 ERB meeting dates.

PART II: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3. July 15, 2024 ERB meeting minute approval. Vote: Unanimous consent to approve the minutes.

PART III: OLD BUSINESS

PART IV: NEW BUSINESS

4. **Project No.:** 2017-003698-(3)
Permit No.: Minor CDP RPPL2017008419

ERB Comments:

- ERB requests correction to one typo on the report regarding the export and import amounts. Recommended correction is to change '596 CY export' to '596 CY import'.
- ERB requests a landscape plan be prepared and submitted by Planning prior to approval. The landscape plan should include all existing vegetation, a plant list and legend for the revegetation of any disturbed areas, and vegetation within fuel modification zones. In terms of fire hazard, ensure fuel ladders are mitigated by keeping the understory at ground level.
- ERB supports the Biologist recommendation to provide a more accurate assessment of habitat impacts, either in the biological report or memo attachment. ERB recommends updating the mitigation based on the updated impacts.

ERB Motion:

- Move to accept the Biologist recommendation on the report as presented with the addition of a forth coming landscape plan.

Motion by Cooper, Vote – Ayes: Unanimous

5. **Project No.:** 2023-001003-(3)
Permit No.: Minor CDP RPPL2023001410, Variance RPPL2023001417, Lot Line Adjustment RPPL2023001914

ERB Comments:

- ERB questioned if off-site brush thinning would be exercised beyond the 200 ft. area, as is reported in one of the figures on the applicant's report. The applicant's biologist clarified it was highlighted to show the general area; however, the practice of off-site brush thinning will not exceed 200 ft. ERB recommends removing the green hatched polygon labeled Off-Site Brush Thinning.
- ERB agreed that the proposed development is properly sited.
- ERB recommends the planting locations of the mitigation walnuts be anywhere within fuel modification zone B and C, off the slope, and ideally on flatter areas that could be closer to the road.
- ERB recommends limiting landscaping to within 5-30 ft. from development. In addition, leave the area downslope to the west of the proposed development alone or with limited native plantings and drip irrigation.

ERB Motion:

- Move to accept the recommendation of the County to remap according to the post-fire mapping in determining H1, H2, and H3 and all subsequent calculations that come from the update; remove the off-site brush thinning green hatch labeling from the figure [Figure 4 of the Biological Assessment]; concur with staff recommendations that it meets the required findings; and plant walnuts in accessible places within Zone B and C.

Motion by Longcore, Vote – Ayes: Unanimous

PART V: PUBLIC COMMENT

6. Public comment pursuant to Section 54954.3 of the Government Code. No request for public comments.

PART VI: ADJOURNMENT: Adjournment to 1:00 pm, December 16, 2024.