



# County of Sonoma

## State of California

---

Date: December 3, 2024

Item Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Resolution Number: \_\_\_\_\_

---

4/5 Vote Required

---

**Resolution Of The Board Of Supervisors Of The County Of Sonoma, State Of California,  
Decertifying the Sonoma Developmental Center Specific Plan Environmental Impact Report  
and Setting Aside the Sonoma Developmental Center Specific Plan and Associated General  
Plan and Zoning Code Amendments**

**Whereas**, the Sonoma Developmental Center site (the Property) consists of a developed campus covering approximately 180 acres and approximately 765 acres of agriculture, recreation, and ecologically valuable natural areas adjacent to the Sonoma Valley Regional Park and the Jack London State Historic Park; and

**Whereas**, in 2018, the State of California officially closed the Sonoma Developmental Center facility. Thereafter, in 2019, the California State Legislature enacted Government Code Section 14670.10.5 (SDC special legislation), outlining the State's goals and objectives for the ultimate disposition of the Property and authorizing the Director of the State Department of General Services (DGS) to enter into an agreement with Sonoma County to lead an environmental review and planning process, resulting in the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the development of the proposed Sonoma Developmental Center Specific Plan (SDC Specific Plan) as well as corresponding amendments to the County's General Plan and zoning ordinance (collectively, the Project); and

**Whereas**, the Planning Commission held a public hearing on the Project on October 27, 2022, and continued deliberations on November 3rd, 4th, and 7th, 2022, and on November 7, 2022, adopted Resolutions Nos. 20-06 and 20-08 recommending that the Board of Supervisors certify the EIR and approve the Project; and

**Whereas**, the Board of Supervisors held a public hearing on December 16, 2022, after which the Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution No. 22-0555 certifying the Final EIR and adopting findings pursuant to CEQA and statements of overriding consideration, Resolution No. 22-0556 amending the General Plan, adopting the SDC Specific Plan, and approving zoning code and map amendments, and Ordinance No. 6400 amending the zoning code; and

**Whereas**, on January 18, 2023, a lawsuit challenging the Project and EIR was filed against the County and DGS as real party in interest alleging noncompliance with CEQA (*Sonoma Community Advocates for a Livable Environment (SCALE) v. County of Sonoma*, Case No. SCV-272539); and

**Whereas**, following briefing on the merits and after a hearing and argument of counsel on April 26, 2024, the Court confirmed its tentative ruling that the County did not comply with CEQA. The court issued its final judgment, notice of which was served on the County on October 23, 2024, and issued a writ of mandamus on October 22, 2024; and

**Whereas**, the writ requires the County to void certification of the EIR and set aside all related project approvals within 90 days of service of the writ; and

**Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved** that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Sonoma as follows:

1. Resolution No. 22-0555 is hereby repealed and the EIR is decertified.
2. Resolution No. 22-0556 is hereby repealed and approvals of the SDC Specific Plan and related General Plan and zoning amendments are set aside.

**Be It Further Resolved** that the Board of Supervisors designates the Clerk of the Board as the custodian of the documents and other material which constitute the record of proceedings upon which the decision herein is based. These documents may be found at the office of the Clerk of the Board, 575 Administration Drive, Room 100-A, Santa Rosa, California 95403.

**Supervisors:**

Gorin:

Coursey:

Gore:

Hopkins:

Rabbitt:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Abstain:

**So Ordered.**