RESOLUTION NO. 14-__


WHEREAS, on May 1, 2013, Santa Barbara County Trails Council (“SBTC”) submitted an application for the Ellwood Mesa Coastal Trails and Habitat Restoration Project (“Project”) located within the City of Goleta, which consists of improvements to approximately 2.1 miles of coastal trail; construction of a culvert (Gully A) and boardwalk style crossings over Drainage A and Devereux Creek; improvements to two beach access points, including drainage improvements at both locations, as well as the removal of asphalt at Beach Access Point E and construction of steps at Beach Access Point F; and habitat restoration, including vegetation removal and planting of native plant species along the trail corridor;

WHEREAS, the project application was deemed complete on May 31, 2013;

WHEREAS, the property has a Regional Open Space (OS-PR) land use designation and Recreation (R) zoning designation;

WHEREAS, the City reviewed the Project’s environmental impacts under the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code §§21000, et seq., CEQA), the regulations promulgated there under (14 Cal. Code of Regulations §§15000, et seq., CEQA Guidelines), and the City’s Environmental Thresholds and Guidelines Manual (Thresholds Manual);

WHEREAS, after preparing an Initial Study pursuant to CEQA Guidelines §15063, the Director of Planning and Environmental Review determined that a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Project should be prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines §§15063 and 15070;

WHEREAS, the MND for the Project concludes that the Project will not have a significant effect on the environment with the inclusion of mitigation measures;

WHEREAS, the Draft MND for the Project was prepared in full compliance with CEQA, the CEQA Guidelines, and the City’s Thresholds Manual and was released for public review from March 26, 2014 to April 24, 2014;

WHEREAS, on April 16, 2014, properly noticed hearing was held to take comment on the Draft MND, at which three (3) people presented comments on the document;

WHEREAS, a total of 15 letters or written statements and three (3) verbal statements were received on the Draft MND; and
WHEREAS, in response to public comments received, responses to comments were prepared and the Final MND (SCH #2014031069) was released on June 6, 2014, pursuant to the requirements of the CEQA Guidelines;

WHEREAS, on June 16, 2014, the Planning Commission of the City of Goleta held a duly noticed hearing at which time all persons wishing to offer testimony on the Final MND and Development Plan for the Project were heard;

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission has considered the entire administrative record, including the staff report, Final MND, Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, and oral and written testimony from interested parties.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Planning Commission of the City of Goleta, California, does hereby resolve as follows:

SECTION 1: Recitals. The Planning Commission hereby finds and determines the foregoing recitals, which are incorporated herein by reference, are true and correct.

SECTION 2: Findings. The Planning Commission makes the following findings:

A. The Final MND for the Project, referred to as Exhibit 1 of Attachment 1, was prepared in full compliance with CEQA, the CEQA Guidelines, and the City’s Environmental Review Guidelines. The Planning Commission finds, in light of the whole record, that the Project will not have a significant effect on the environment with the implementation of mitigation measures as enumerated in the Final MND.

B. The required findings for the Project’s Development Plan can be made pursuant to the City of Goleta Coastal Zoning Ordinance (Sec. 35-174 Development Plans, Sec. 35-174.7. Findings Required for Approval), as referred to in Exhibit 2 of Attachment 1.

C. The Project’s Development Plan Conditions of Approval are appropriate for implementation of the Project, as referred to in Exhibit 3 of Attachment 1.

D. The Project is consistent with the City of Goleta General Plan/Coastal Land Use Plan, as referred to in Exhibit 4 of Attachment 1.

E. The Project is consistent with the City of Goleta Coastal Zoning Ordinance (Sec. 35-89 REC Recreational District, Sec. 35-89.8. Development Standards), as referred to in Exhibit 5 of Attachment 1.

SECTION 3: Action. The Planning Commission takes the following actions:

A. Adopts the Final MND and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, attached in Exhibit 1 of Attachment 1 and incorporated into this Resolution by reference, as required by Public Resources Code §21081(a) and CEQA Guidelines §15074.

B. Approves the Project’s Development Plan subject to the Conditions of Approval in Exhibit 3 of Attachment 1, and incorporated herein by reference,
pursuant to Goleta Municipal Code §§ 35-174 and 35-172 (Coastal Zoning Ordinance).

SECTION 4: Reliance on Record. Each and every one of the actions in this Resolution is based on the competent and substantial evidence, both oral and written, contained in the entire record relating to the project. The findings and determinations constitute the independent findings and determinations of the Planning Commission in all respects and are fully and completely supported by substantial evidence in the record as a whole.

SECTION 5: Limitations. The Planning Commission's analysis and evaluation of the project is based on the best information currently available. It is inevitable that in evaluating a project that absolute and perfect knowledge of all possible aspects of the project will not exist. One of the major limitations on analysis of the project is the Planning Commission's lack of knowledge of future events. In all instances, best efforts have been made to form accurate assumptions. Somewhat related to this are the limitations on the City's ability to solve what are in effect regional, state, and national problems and issues. The City must work within the political framework within which it exists and with the limitations inherent in that framework.

SECTION 6: Summaries of Information. All summaries of information in the findings, which precede this section, are based on the substantial evidence in the record. The absence of any particular fact from any such summary is not an indication that a particular finding is not based in part on that fact.

SECTION 7: This Resolution will remain effective until superseded by a subsequent resolution.

SECTION 8: A copy of this Resolution must be mailed to Mark Wilkinson on behalf of Santa Barbara Trails Council and to any other person requesting a copy. The documents and other materials, which constitute the record of proceedings upon which this decision is based, are in the custody of the City Clerk, City of Goleta, 130 Cremona Drive, Suite B, Goleta, California, 93117.

SECTION 9: This resolution shall become effective upon adoption.
PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 16TH of June, 2014.

Brent Daniels, Chair
City Of Goleta Planning Commission

ATTEST:

Deborah Lopez
City Clerk

Winnie Cai
Deputy City Attorney

STATE OF CALIFORNIA )
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA ) ss.
CITY OF GOLETA )
I, DEBORAH LOPEZ, City Clerk of the City of Goleta, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Resolution No. 14-___ was duly adopted by the Planning Commission of the City of Goleta at a meeting, held on the ____ day of ______, 2014, the following vote of the Planning Commission:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

(SEAL)

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DEBORAH LOPEZ
CITY CLERK