



1 WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 18.78.060E and Section 18.78.060F of the Rialto  
2 Municipal Code, the Planning Commission shall hold a public hearing for a proposed amendment  
3 to an adopted specific plan and forward a recommendation to the City Council for action; and

4 WHEREAS, on January 10, 2024, the Planning Commission of the City of Rialto  
5 conducted a duly noticed public hearing, as required by law, took testimony, at which time it  
6 received input from staff, the city attorney, and the Applicant; heard public testimony; discussed  
7 the proposed SPA; and closed the public hearing; and

8 WHEREAS, all legal prerequisites to the adoption of this Resolution have occurred.

9 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Planning Commission of the City of Rialto  
10 as follows:

11 SECTION 1. The Planning Commission hereby specifically finds that all of the facts set forth  
12 in the recitals above of this Resolution are true and correct and incorporated herein.

13 SECTION 2. Based on substantial evidence presented to the Planning Commission during  
14 the public hearing conducted with regard to the SPA, including written staff reports, verbal testimony,  
15 project plans, other documents, and the conditions of approval stated herein, the Planning  
16 Commission hereby determines that the SPA satisfies the requirements of Government Code Sections  
17 65358 and 65453 and Section 18.78.060I of the Rialto Municipal Code pertaining to the findings  
18 which must be made precedent to amending a Specific Plan. The findings are as follows:

- 19 1. That the proposed Specific Plan Amendment is consistent with the goals and policies  
20 of the General Plan and its purposes, standards and land use guidelines; and

21 *This finding is supported by the following facts:*

22 The Site has a General Plan designation of Specific Plan and a land use designation of  
23 Commercial – Mixed Use (C-MU) within the Foothill Boulevard Specific Plan. The Project  
24 will not affect the General Plan land use designation for the SPA.

25 Additionally, the Project is consistent with Goal 2-19 and Goal 2-21 of the Land Use Element  
26 of the General Plan, which encourages neighborhood preservation, stabilization, and property  
27 maintenance and ensure high-quality planned developments in Rialto. The change in the  
28 Specific Plan land use designation will facilitate a development of superior architectural  
quality.

- 1           2.       That the proposed Specific Plan Amendment will help achieve a balanced community  
2           of all races, age groups, income levels and ways of life; and

3           *This finding is supported by the following facts:*

4           The Proposed Foothill Central Specific Plan Project will entail updating and  
5           merging the existing City of Rialto Foothill Boulevard and Central Area Specific  
6           Plans into the Foothill Central Specific Plan (Proposed Project). The Proposed  
7           Project increases the allowable residential density within the Foothill Central Area  
8           and provides updates to the development guidelines for this area while preserving  
9           existing land uses. The amended specific plan will provide new housing  
10          opportunities at varying sizes and price points available to all races, age groups, and  
11          ways of life.

- 12          3.       That the proposed Specific Plan Amendment results in development of desirable  
13          character, which will be compatible with existing and proposed development in the  
14          surrounding neighborhood; and

15          *This finding is supported by the following facts:*

16          The revisions will simplify existing zoning, combine planning areas and the  
17          proposed zoning will allow for existing uses and additional appropriate land uses.  
18          The Specific Plan will incorporate the 6<sup>th</sup> Cycle Housing Element residential  
19          overlay to include all properties along Foothill Boulevard previously adopted by  
20          the City Council.

- 21          4.       That the proposed Specific Plan Amendment contributes to a balance of land uses that  
22          will enable local residents to work and shop in the community in which they live; and

23          *This finding is supported by the following facts:*

24          The City has identified seven (7) opportunity sites to be rezoned with potential to  
25          accommodate a total of 8,262 dwelling units. Two (2) of these opportunity areas  
26          fall within the Plan Area. The specific plan will incorporate 108 parcels totaling  
27          159 acres for rezone to a new zone which will accommodate an assumed density  
28          of 35 dwelling units/acre. The Central Area (downtown) portion of the specific  
29          plan will incorporate 60 parcels totaling 14 acres which will accommodate a  
30          maximum density of 48 dwelling units/acre. This will incentivize new retailer  
31          development and job opportunities for the area.

- 32          5.       That the proposed Specific Plan Amendment respects the environmental and aesthetic  
33          assets of the community consistent with economic realities; and

34          *This finding is supported by the following facts:*

1 The City reviewed the Initial Study – Mitigated Negative Declaration (Environmental  
2 Assessment EAR No. 2024-02) prepared for specific plan amendment and determined that  
3 the proposed Project would result in no significant impacts nor would the proposed Project  
4 cause a substantial increase in the severity of any identified environmental impacts. The  
5 potential impacts associated with proposed Project would be mitigated with measures  
6 identified in the initial study and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP)  
7 proposed for the Project.

8 Additionally, new and enhanced development standards, will exceed all aesthetic design  
9 guidelines required by the current Foothill Boulevard and Central Area Specific Plan and  
10 City’s Design.

- 11 6. That the proposed Specific Plan Amendment incorporates, where feasible, active and  
12 passive energy conservation measures.

13 *This finding is supported by the following facts:*

14 All projects in the Foothill Central Specific Plan will be required to meet or exceed  
15 California Building Code Title 24, Part 6 Energy Efficiency Standards. This will be  
16 achieved through the implementation of features such as, but not limited to, energy efficient  
17 windows, energy efficient heating and cooling systems, painting in light off-white colors  
18 to reflect heat away, and installation of photovoltaic solar electric systems for future  
19 projects in the specific plan.

20 SECTION 3. A Mitigated Negative Declaration (Environmental Assessment Review No.  
21 2024-002) has been prepared for the Project in accordance with the California Environmental Quality  
22 Act (CEQA), and it has been determined that the proposed Project would result in no new impacts  
23 that could not be addressed with mitigations, nor would the proposed Project cause a substantial  
24 increase in the severity of any previously identified environmental impacts, nor has any new  
25 information regarding the potential for new or more severe significant environmental impacts been  
26 identified. The Planning Commission hereby recommends that the City Council approve the  
27 Mitigated Negative Declaration prepared for the Foothill Central Specific Plan area.

28 SECTION 4. The Planning Commission hereby recommends that the City Council approve  
the SPA No. 2022-004 to and merging the existing City of Rialto Foothill Boulevard and Central  
Area Specific Plans into the Foothill Central Specific Plan (Proposed Project). The Proposed  
Project increases the allowable residential density within the Foothill Central Area and provides

1 updates to the development guidelines for this area while preserving existing land uses, subject to  
2 the following conditions:

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4 1. SPA No. 2022-004 for the Foothill Central Specific Plan Project will entail updating  
5 and merging the existing City of Rialto Foothill Boulevard and Central Area Specific  
6 Plans into the Foothill Central Specific Plan (Proposed Project). The Proposed Project  
7 increases the allowable residential density within the Foothill Central Area and  
8 provides updates to the development guidelines for this area while preserving existing  
9 land uses. The Foothill Central Specific Plan Area encompasses parcels adjacent to the  
10 north and south sides of Foothill Boulevard throughout the City of Rialto and is  
11 bounded by Maple Avenue to the west and Pepper Avenue to east. The project site also  
12 encompasses Merrill Avenue to the south, Foothill Boulevard to the north, Willow  
13 Avenue to the west, and Sycamore Avenue to the east.

14 2. All mitigations measures identified with the Initial Study shall be complied with.

15 SECTION 5. The Chairman of the Planning Commission shall sign the passage and  
16 adoption of this resolution and thereupon the same shall take effect and be in force.

17 PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 10th day of January, 2024.

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19 JERRY GUTIERREZ, CHAIR  
20 CITY OF RIALTO PLANNING COMMISSION  
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1 STATE OF CALIFORNIA )  
2 COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO ) ss  
3 CITY OF RIALTO )  
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5 I, Kim Dame, Administrative Analyst of the City of Rialto, do hereby certify that the  
6 foregoing Resolution No. **2024-02** was duly passed and adopted at a regular meeting of the Planning  
7 Commission of the City of Rialto held on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of January 2024.

8 Upon motion of Chair Jerry Gutierrez, second by Vice-Chair John Peukert, foregoing  
9 Resolution No. **2024-02** was duly passed and adopted.

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11 Vote on the motion:

12 AYES: 5 (Gutierrez, Peukert, Estvander, Gilbert, Gonzalez)

13 NOES: 0

14 ABSTENTION: 0

15 ABSENT: 0  
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17 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the Official Seal of the City of  
18 Rialto this 10<sup>th</sup> day of January 2024.

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22 \_\_\_\_\_ Kim Dame  
23 Administrative Analyst  
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