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September 18, 2017

Scott Johnson
Planning Manager, at
City of Folsom, Community Development Department,
50 Natoma Street, Folsom, CA 95630.
generalplan@folsom.ca.us.

RE: Folsom 2035 General Plan NOP

Dear Mr. Johnson,

This letter provides comment from the Environmental Council of Sacramento (ECOS) and Habitat 2020 regarding the Notice of Preparation of and Environmental impact report for the City of Folsom's Draft 2035 General Plan.

The Environmental Council of Sacramento (ECOS), a 501c3 organization, and Habitat 2020, the Conservation Committee of ECOS, are partner coalitions dedicated to protecting the natural resources of the greater Sacramento region while building healthier, more equitable, economically thriving communities. ECOS-Habitat 2020 member organizations include: 350 Sacramento, AARP, Breathe California-Sacramento Emigrant Trails, Friends of Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge, International Dark-Sky Association, Los Rios College Federation of Teachers, Mutual Housing California, Physicians for Social Responsibility Sacramento Chapter, Sacramento Citizens' Climate Lobby, Sacramento Electric Vehicle Association, Sacramento Green Democrats, Sacramento Housing Alliance, Sacramento Natural Foods Coop, Sacramento Audubon Society, Sacramento Valley Chapter of the California Native Plant Society, Sacramento Vegetarian Society, Save Our Sandhill Cranes, Save the American River Association, Sierra Club Sacramento Group, Friends of the Swainson's Hawk, and the Sacramento Area Creeks Council.

ECOS and Habitat 2020 respect the City of Folsom's continued planning efforts to improve the city, but we are concerned with the potential urban expansion proposed by the "study areas" outlined in the Preliminary Draft General Plan along Lake Natoma and the American River, and south of White Rock Road. Urbanization of these two areas could pose serious impacts to natural habitat and habitat-connectivity, and we would like to see a full illustration of these impacts in environmental review of the General Plan update.

We are also very concerned about the availability of water for further expansion by the City. Based on previous environmental documentation by the City, we are under the impression that currently approved expansion will fully account for, if not exceed, current water supplies available to the City. As we have made clear in previous comments to the City, we are concerned that there is indeed *not* enough water for build out of Folsom's already approved growth plans.

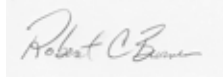
In environmental review, please illustrate exactly what the source of water would be for further expansion, and how impacts to current residents of the City and the region, as well as to ecological health of the American River, would be avoided.

Finally, we are concerned about the impacts to the region posed by further Folsom expansion with regard to the induced increase of vehicle miles travelled (VMT) inherent in such expansion remote from the City's and region's job centers. Further expansion would not be consistent with the Sacramento Council of Governments' Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy and would severely challenge the region's ability to meet mandated greenhouse gas reduction targets. In review, please fully illustrate the impacts of VMT increases in the proposed study areas to climate and air quality, traffic and the region's transportation system, and how those impacts would be mitigated.

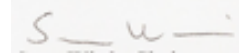
Thank you for your consideration and the opportunity to comment.
Sincerely,



Brandon Rose
ECOS Board President



Rob Burness
Co-Chair, Habitat 2020



Sean Wirth
Co-Chair, Habitat 2020