

# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Quincy Yaley, AICP Director

Land Use and Natural Resources - Housing and Community Programs - Environmental Health - Building and Safety - Code Compliance

Date: February 13, 2024

To: Interested Stakeholder

From: Tuolumne County Community Development Department

RE: Conditional Use Permit LUNR-23-14

Assessor's Parcel Number: 066-250-045

48 Yaney Avenue, Sonora Mailing: 2 S. Green Street Sonora, CA 95370 (209) 533-5633 (209) 533-5616 (Fax) (209) 533-5909 (Fax – EHD) www.tuolumnecounty.ca.gov

The Community Development Department thanks you for your participation in the land development process in Tuolumne County. We value your comments and look forward to your continued participation in our planning process. This process provides information on your requirements and concerns to the applicant early in the review process. Involvement on your part can eliminate or minimize problems that could arise later.

Applicant(s): Robert Boyer Owner: Robert Boyer

**Project:** The Community Development Department (CDD) has received an application for the following:

Conditional Use Permit LUNR-23-14 to allow the construction of a resort development including:

- The facilitation of a Lot Line Adjustment between Firefall Lodge and Smith Station properties to provide preferred cabin expansion layout on Smith Station property.
- 56 new guest rooms (30,000 sq ft).
- Road network associated with the development.
- New septic system for new development, with sewer lines and pumps.
- Expand existing water, power, data utilities throughout property as required.
- New Residence with garage, pool, and septic system.
- A pedestrian walking trail throughout the Smith Station property, connected to the Firefall Lodge. Sections of the walkway to be raised decking through the meadow. Walkway passes through proposed Open Space and crosses multiple drainages.
- Up to 8 crossings of the main drainage are anticipated which will incorporate pedestrian, utility and small vehicle crossings as needed. The final location of crossings to be determined during construction.
- Employee housing buildings and a utility barn with potential artist loft spaces.
- Commercial area at the intersection of Smith Station Rd and HWY 120 that includes:
  - Removal of existing house
  - o Brewery (Bar area, retail, restrooms, and outdoor seating)

- Access onto Smith Station Rd
- New well, water treatment, and storage tank
- Renovation of existing historical barn into a functional space
- Dedication of Open Space zoning along the main drainage. Providing a continuation of Open Space from Firefall project.
- Team Building Recreation Facilities (Ropes Challenge Course): Location TBD

**Location:** The project site is located approximately ±500ft southeast of the intersection of State Highway 120 and Smith Station Road, in the community of Groveland. Within a portion of Section 33, Township 1 South, Range 17 East Mount Diablo Baseline and Meridian. The project site is located within Supervisorial District 4. Assessor's Parcel Number 066-250-045.

Lot Size: 158.10± Acres

**Zoning:** Exclusive Agricultural, 37-Acre Minimum (AE-37) and Public (P)

**General Plan:** Agricultural (AG)

Access: HWY 120 / Smith Station Rd

Sewage Disposal Method: Septic

Water Source: Well

Fire District: Smith Station #63

School District: Groveland Elementary & Tioga Highschool

Fire Hazard Rating: Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone

Lot Elevation: ±3,030' - ±3.290'

#### Additional Information:

1. Agricultural uses are proposed to continue on the property: livestock grazing in the meadow

Please return your comments to the CDD by March 5, 2023.

Staff Contact: Clark Sintek Phone: (209) 533-5614 Email: <u>csintek@co.tuolumne.ca.us</u>

#### AGENCY/INDIVIDUAL: Groveland Community Services District

#### COMMENTS: See attached.


Per Tuolumne County Ordinance Code, the CDD will only be notifying property owners within 1000 feet via mail of future public hearings and will not notify individuals or agencies via email. The notification link below is the only way to request and receive email notifications.

To ensure future public hearing notifications are received, please utilize the link below to sign up in the Tuolumne County Notify Me Page to receive notices via email:

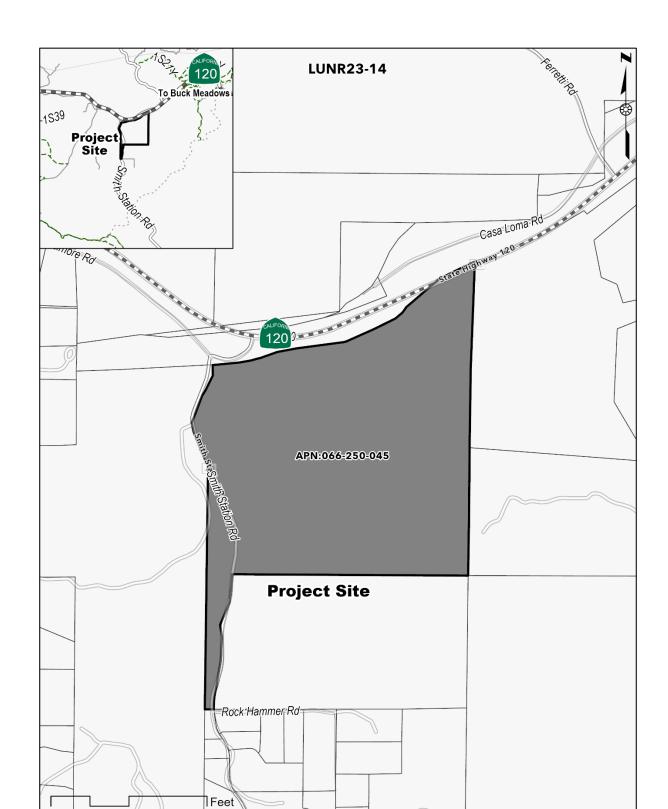
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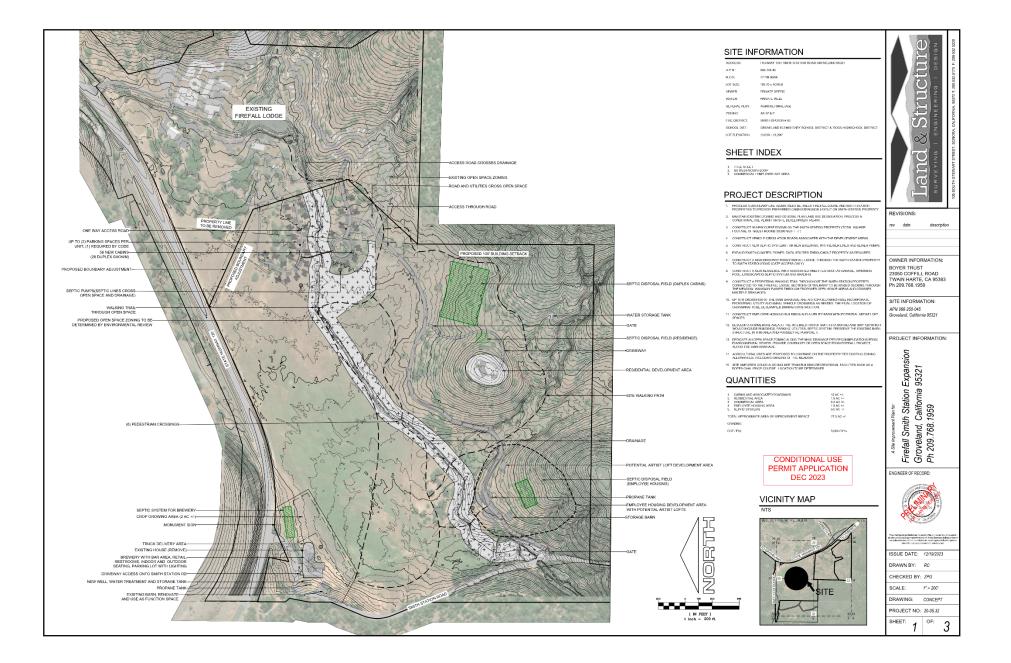
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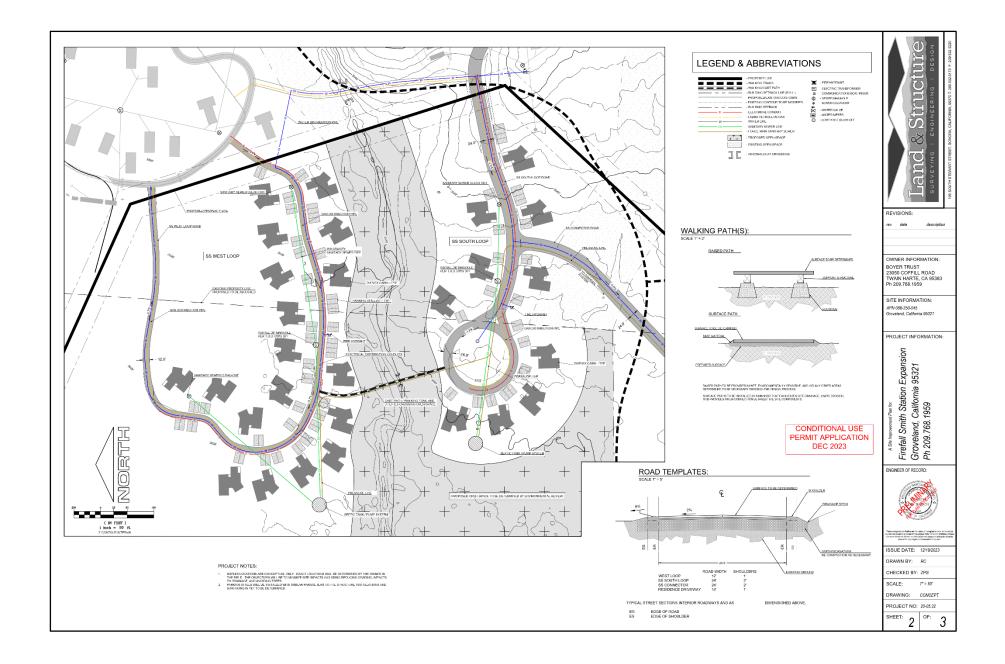
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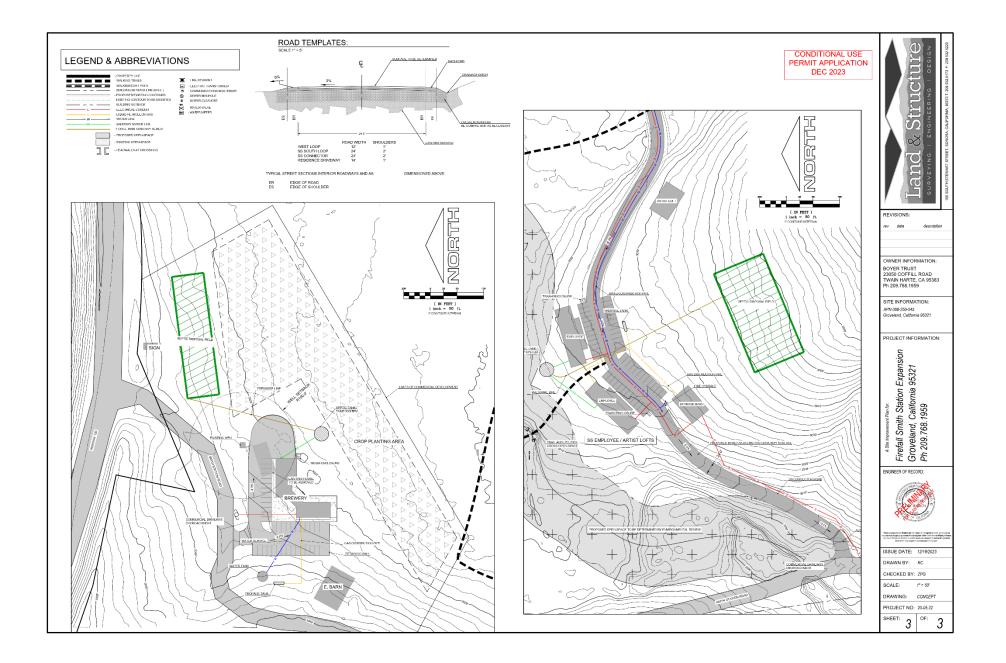
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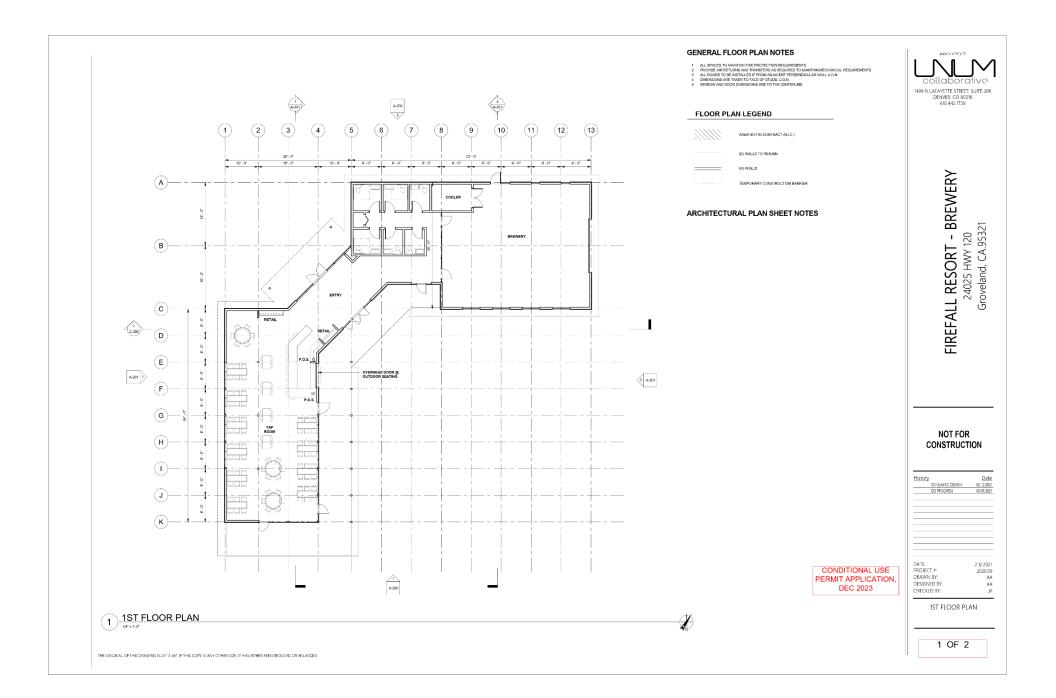
Please utilize the following link, or scan QR code to sign up and receive future notices that may include the above-mentioned project:	Planning Stakeholder Notification letters are posted at the following link:
https://www.tuolumnecounty.ca.gov/list.aspx	https://www.tuolumnecounty.ca.gov/1512/Planning- Stakeholder-Notifications



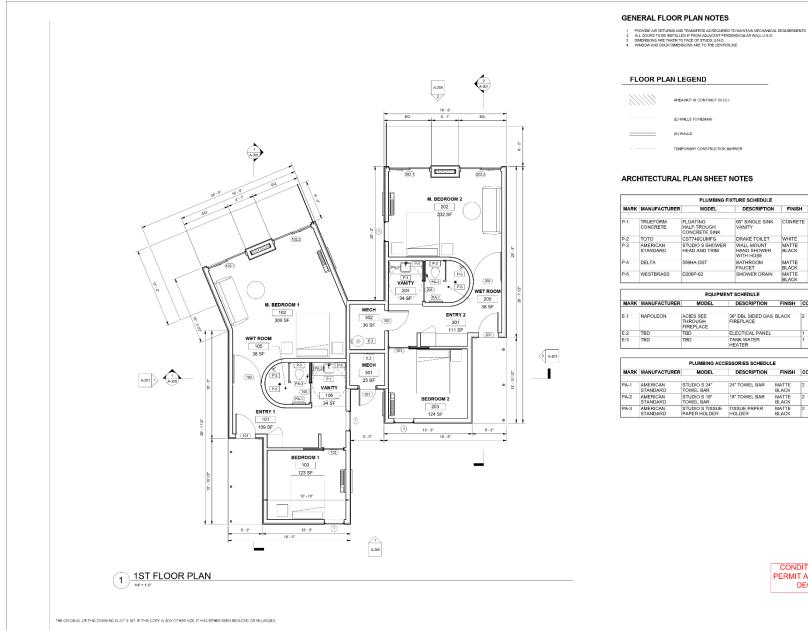


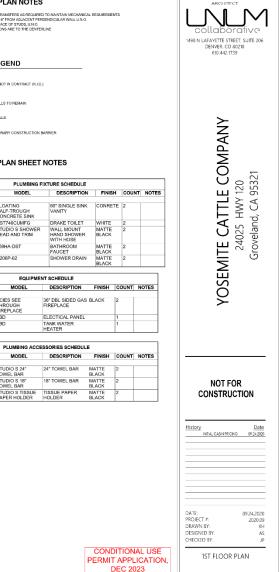






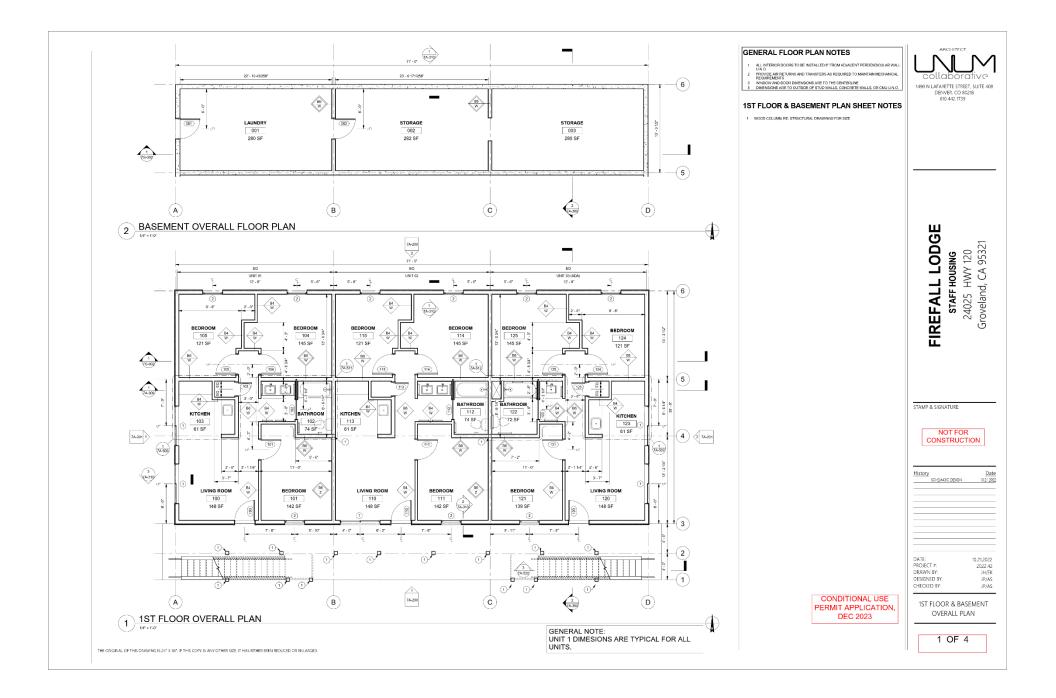


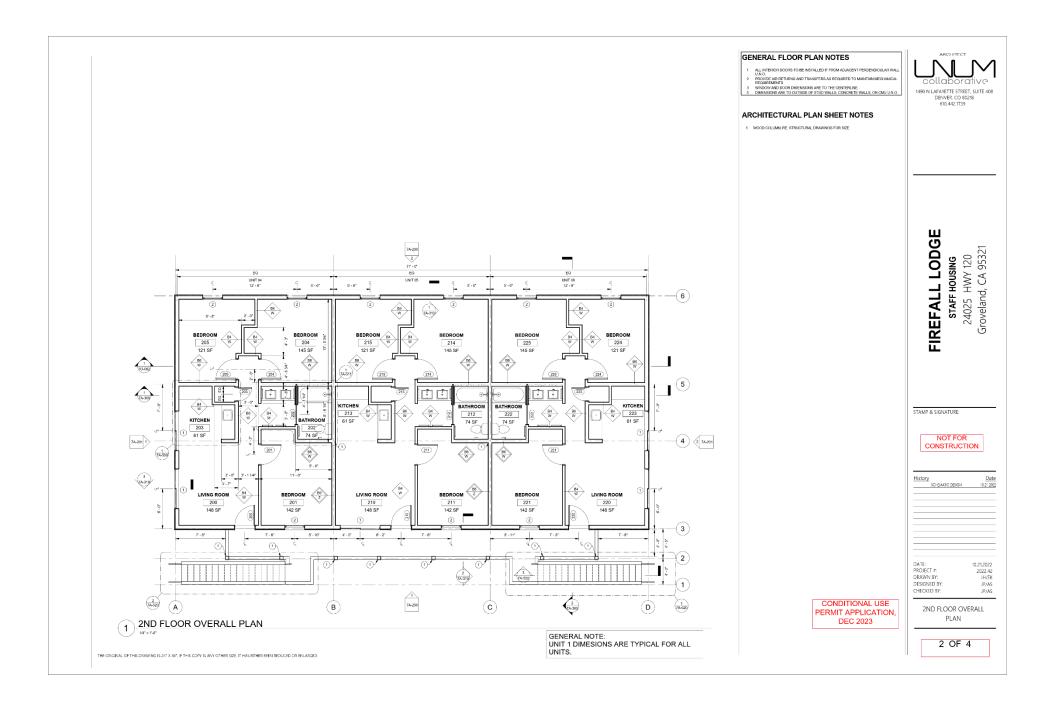


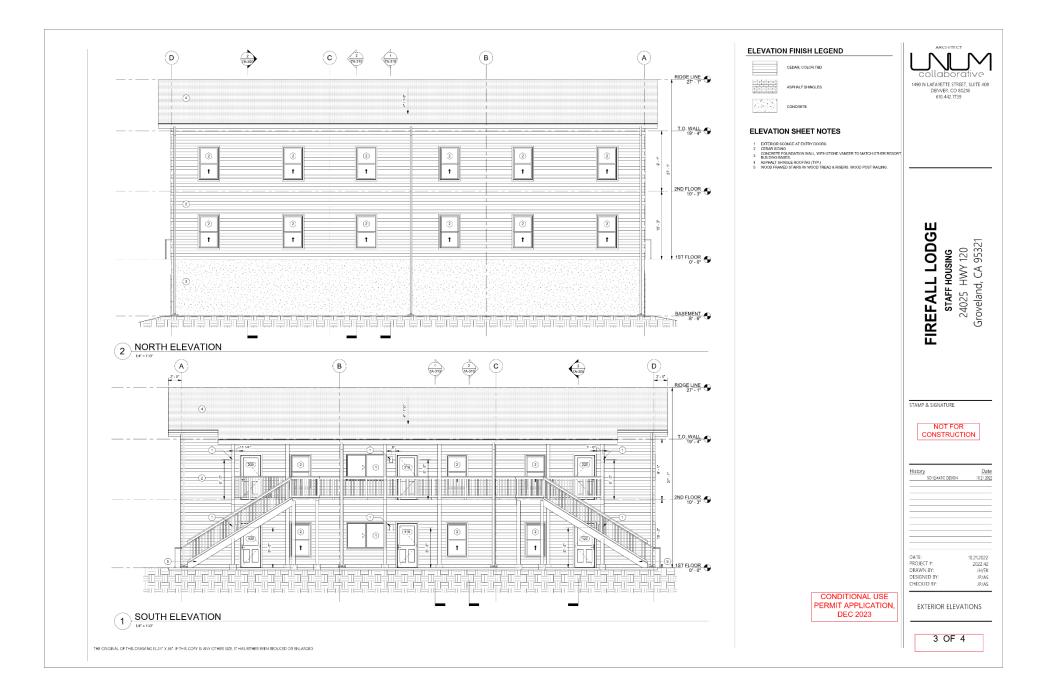


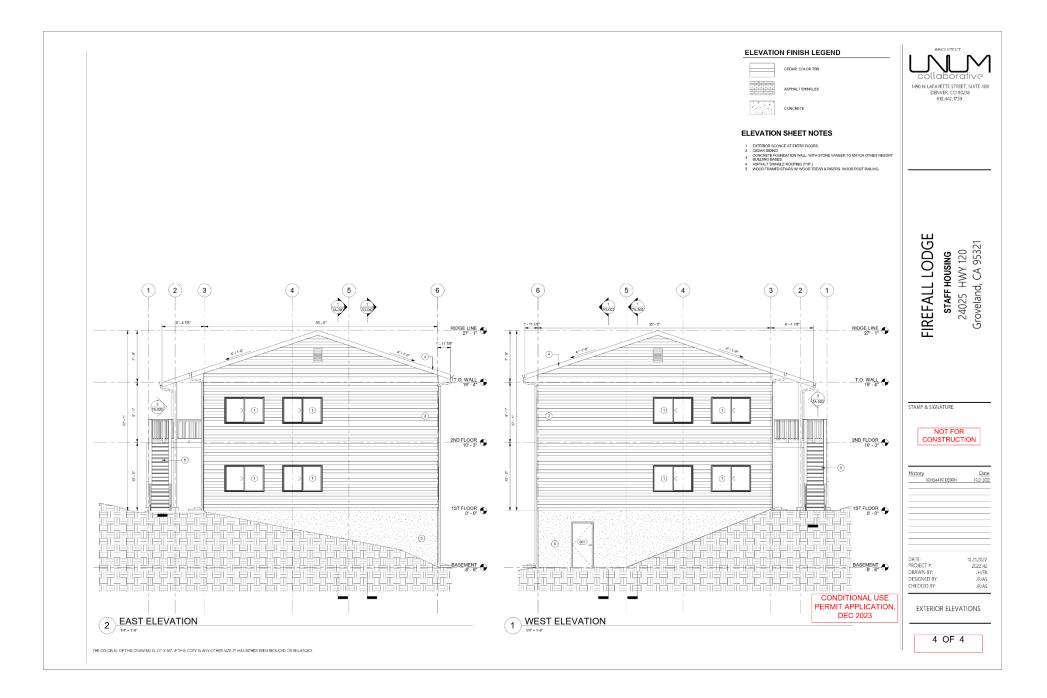
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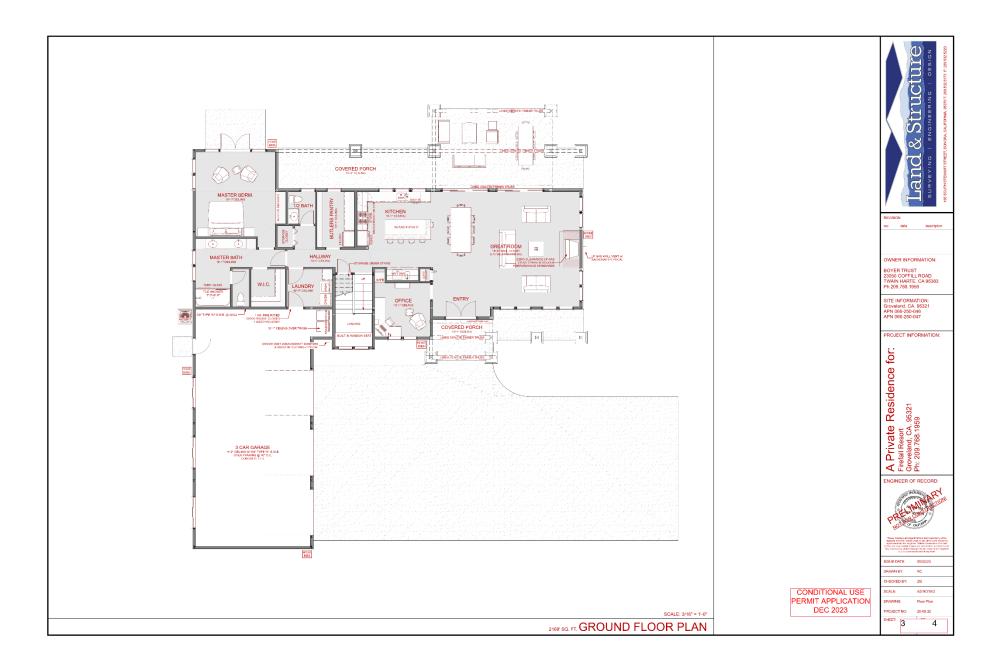


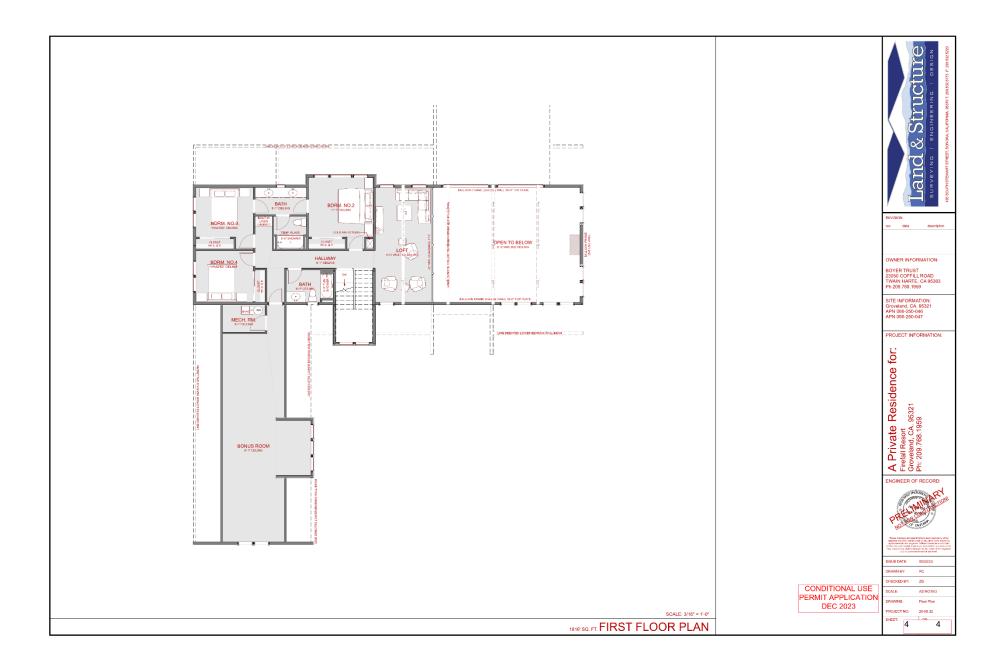














### COUNTY STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION RESPONSE FORM

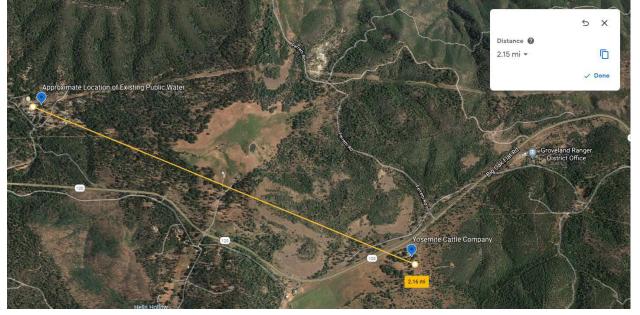
### COUNTY PROJECT NUMBER: LUNR-23-14

#### PROJECT APPLICANT: Robert Boyer

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Construction of Resort Adjacent to Firefall Resort

#### **District Response:**

The Groveland Community Services District is the local government entity and utility provider of water, sewer, fire protection and recreational park services. The proposed project is located outside of the district's boundaries, and located approximately 2.2 miles from the District's public water system as shown on the diagram below:



For the project site to receive services from the district, including public water service, fire protection and emergency response services, the property will be required to annex to the Groveland Community Services District.

The initial study for the project to needs to evaluate and document the ability of the Groveland Community Services District Fire Department (GCSD or District) to meet its

adopted emergency response standards for emergency calls occurring within the District boundaries when an emergency call occurs at the project location. If the District Fire Department were to respond to an emergency call at the project site, the ability to implement its own emergency response plan standard would be impaired and creates a hazard to life and property.

There is no fire station, other than GCSD Station 78, within 45 minutes travel time of the project location, with a guaranteed fire engine, staffed full time, year round and able to respond to emergency calls at the project site. The Tuolumne County Fire engine currently collocated at the GCSD Station 78 is only contracted to be in that location until August 2024.

The CEQA document must evaluate and document the ability of the Groveland Community Services District Fire Department (GCSD or District) to meet its adopted emergency response standards for wildland fire calls occurring within the District boundaries when an emergency call occurs at the project location. If the District Fire Department were to respond to an emergency call at the project site located outside the District boundaries, the ability of the District would be impeded to respond to an evolving wildfire scenario within the District boundaries, indirectly exposing people to a significant risk of loss, injury or death while the fire burns unchecked until the single District engine and crew can respond back from the project location to the incident scene.

Ensure that County Policy 9.A.1 is followed: Actively involve fire protection agencies within Tuolumne County in land use planning decisions.

Ensure that County Policy 9.E.3 is followed: *Require new development to be consistent with State and County regulations and policies regarding fire protection.* 

The District, who is, after August 2024 the only fire department that would respond to emergency calls on the project site, must be consulted to discuss the need for emergency responses to the project site and their potential impact on the emergency call response times and adopted standards of the Groveland Fire Department or its ability to even respond to the project site.

The County of Tuolumne does not operate a fire station in the Groveland area, nor does it currently fund the CAL FIRE Amador Plan in Groveland, which in prior years provided a non-fire season staffed engine to respond to 911 calls. The Tuolumne County Fire engine currently collocated at the GCSD Station 78 is only contracted to be in that location until August 2024. Fire and emergency response will obviously need to be provided to this site by the Groveland CSD Fire Department. Without a county fire station in the area and lacking a perpetual agreement for the staffed county fire engine to remain in Groveland, there is no assurance that the project will be provided fire protection services by the County. Without a County staffed engine within 45 minutes of the project site, they cannot provide effective mutual aid, and the District is left as the only responding fire department unless a staffed CAL FIRE engine is located in its

Merrell Road Station. The GCSD fire department will respond to the project site under the Mutual Aid Agreement, so long as a staffed County fire engine is located permanently in Groveland. The project must annex to the boundaries of GCSD or contract with them, for the District fire department to respond to emergency calls on the project site as the first-in, or only engine.

As stated above, the CEQA analysis must engage and review the impact on services provided by GCSD, or its ability to meet its adopted emergency response time standards should it respond to emergency calls at the project site. While on a call to the project site and with no County engine, a simultaneous call for a cardiac arrest in Big Oak Flat would render the District department unable to meet its service commitments and obligations to its taxpayers, unfairly risking the lives and property of our citizens, and those who pay for this service.

The project site is not served by the Groveland CSD because it is located outside its boundaries and sphere of influence (SOI). The project will require fire response services, and as there is no County Fire Department situated near the project, pursuant to Cortese-Knox, the Tuolumne County LAFCo must conduct a SOI study to determine the appropriate service provider. The County cannot simply assign responsibility for these services to GCSD as the project is located outside its statutory boundaries and SOI, and requires a contract or annexation to receive services.

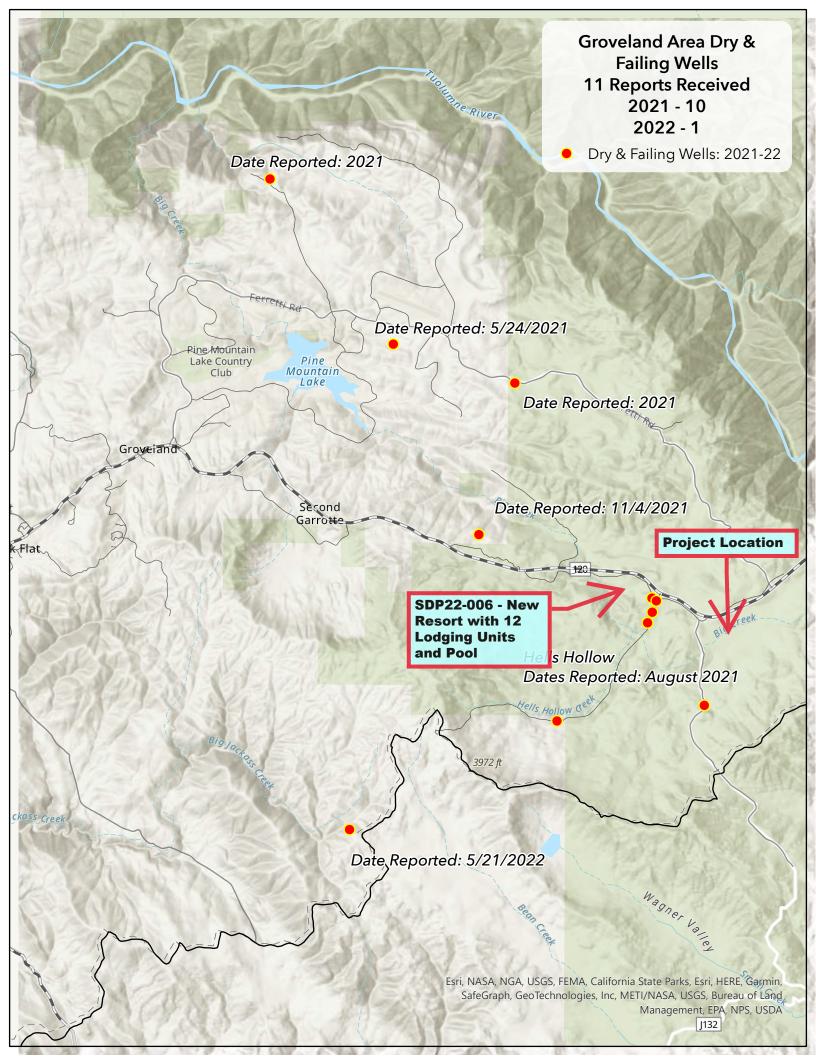
The project site currently receives fire services from the Tuolumne County Fire Department engine located at the GCSDS station until August 2024, and GCSD responds under mutual aid so long as a County funded engine and crew is permanently located in Groveland; in a new staffed County fire station or collocated with GCSD permanently (with station improvements).

Just as the Terra Vi and Under Canvas resort projects, approval of this project must be conditioned on the payment of its fair share of the cost of providing emergency response services. As the services exist today, without a permanent staffed County Fire engine in Groveland, the project will result in potentially significant impacts to the fire and emergency response services in Groveland. The placement of a permanent staffed County Fire Engine in Groveland will mitigate those impacts to a less than significant level.

The Project proponent reached out to GCSD in 2020 to determine the feasibility and requirements of connecting to the District public water system. Documentation submitted to the District relating to the project described site improvements as 55 villas, a main lodge, a pool/spa area with a snack bar, a restaurant/bar, brewery, and a barn. As required by state law, the Project was to contact the local water provider to determine if connection to the public system was possible, before a separate state water system permit can be issued without connection to the public system. At that time, with a smaller sized project, connection to the GCSD water system was not financially feasible.

This project application doubles the demand for water service on the project site, and given the failure rate of wells in the vicinity, as well as the requirement for a water treatment plant (WTP), the Project should be required to connect to the GCSD system. The County and state have a large shortage of state certified water treatment operators, which are required to operate the WTP and it will be difficult for the Project to comply with State regulations. The project must be required to secure a new or amended permit from the state Division of Drinking Water to include the additional water demand. In addition, an additional lodging project is being considered near the Project site, which could have partnered in installation of the water main extension, reducing the cost for both properties.

The project is located in the Big Creek drainage, which traverses the property. Big Creek is tributary to Pine Mountain Lake, which is also a source of public water supply for GCSD. The operation of a very large septic or wastewater treatment system directly adjacent to this creek should be closely evaluated.





# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Quincy Yaley, AICP Director

Land Use and Natural Resources - Housing and Community Programs - Environmental Health - Building and Safety - Code Compliance

Date: December 6, 2022

- To: Interested Stakeholder
- From: Tuolumne County Community Development Department
- RE: Site Development Permit SDP22-006 Assessor's Parcel Number: 066-260-039

48 Yaney Avenue, Sonora Mailing: 2 S. Green Street Sonora, CA 95370 (209) 533-5633 (209) 533-5616 (Fax) (209) 533-5909 (Fax – EHD) www.tuolumnecounty.ca.gov

The Community Development Department thanks you for your participation in the land development process in Tuolumne County. We value your comments and look forward to your continued participation in our planning process. This process provides information on your requirements and concerns to the applicant early in the review process. Involvement on your part can eliminate or minimize problems that could arise later.

**Owner:** Stephanie Wohlfiel

Applicant: Landon Blake, Redefined Horizons

**Project:** Site Development Permit SDP22-006 to allow a recreational development consisting of twelve guest cabins, swimming pool, yoga dome, and associated infrastructure on a 14.1± acre parcel zoned C-K (Commercial Recreation) under Title 17 of the Tuolumne County Ordinance Code (TCOC).

**Location:** The project site is located at 23003 and 23015 Sprague Road East in the Community of Groveland. Within a portion of Section 29, Township 1 South, Range 17 East Mount Diablo Baseline and Meridian and within Supervisorial District 4. Assessor's Parcel Numbers 066-260-039.

Access: Sprague Road East

Sewage Disposal Method: On Site Wastewater Treatment System

Water Source: Well

Fire Hazard Rating: Very High fire hazard severity zone

#### Additional Information:

1. The project would consist of twelve guest cabins rented out for overnight stays. The cabins would consist of prefabricated units. The yoga dome and other amenities on site would be for guests only. The facility proposes to be open year-round.

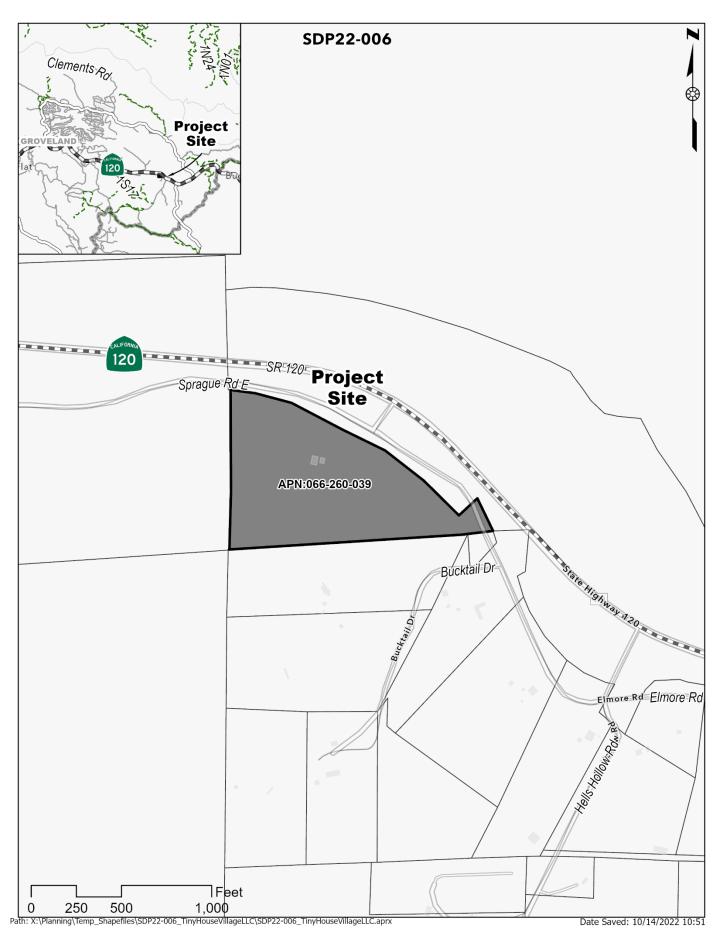
Please return your comments to the CDD by **January 6, 2023**. Comments may be emailed to Natalie Rizzi, <u>nrizzi@co.tuolumne.ca.us</u> Comments may also be mailed to: 2 South Green Street, Sonora, CA 95370 or brought to the Community Development Department at 48 Yaney Avenue during business hours.

Staff Contact: Natalie Rizzi Phone: (209) 533-5936 Email: nrizzi@co.tuolumne.ca.us

AGENCY: Groveland Community Services District	
COMMENTS: See attached.	
Please utilize the following link to sign up and receive future agenda notices that may include the a mentioned project: <u>https://www.tuolumnecounty.ca.gov/list.aspx</u> .	above-
Planning Stakeholder Notification letters are now posted at the following <u>https://www.tuolumnecounty.ca.gov/1512/Planning-Stakeholder-Notifications</u>	link:
Signed by:	
Agency: Groveland Community Services District Date: 12/07/2022	

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Vicinity Map





VERSION 1.80: ORIGINAL DRAWING CREATION

SCOTT LANDON BLAKE - PLS 8489 315 WEST F STREET, OAKDALE, CALIFORNIA

OWNER INFORMATION TINY HOUSE VILLAGE, LLC 23015 SPRAGUE ROAD, GROVELAND, CALIFORNIA SURVEYOR INFORMATION

OF THE SUBJECT PARCEL ALONG WITH THE PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS GRADE FOR A CAMPGROUND.

SCALE ORIGINAL DRAWING SCALE: 1" = 100"

THE PURPOSE OF THIS SITE PLAN IS TO SHOW THE EXISTING CONDITIONS 1) UAV ORTHOPHOTOGRAPHY FLOWN IN JULY 2022 AND IS SURVEY

- FOUND MONUMENT AS NOTED . CALCULATED
  - - RECORD R

THE PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS SHOWN ON THIS SITE PLAN ARE FOR THE PURPOSES OF LAND USE PLANNING. THE PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS ARE NOT THE RESULT OF CIVIL ENGINEERING ANALYSIS

#### OR DESIGN. THE TOTAL SQUARE FOOTAGE OF PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS IS APPROXIMATELY 7,800 SQUARE FEET.

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

HRC HELD RECORD

- MEASURED М
- PC PROPERTY CORNER POB POINT OF BEGINNING

O ALL DISTANCES SHOWN ARE IN US SURVEY FEET.
ALL ANGLES AND BEARINGS ARE SHOWN IN
DEGREES/MINUTES/SECONDS FORMAT.

3) DISTANCES SHOWN ARE GROUND (NOT GRID) DISTANCES.

#### LINETYPES

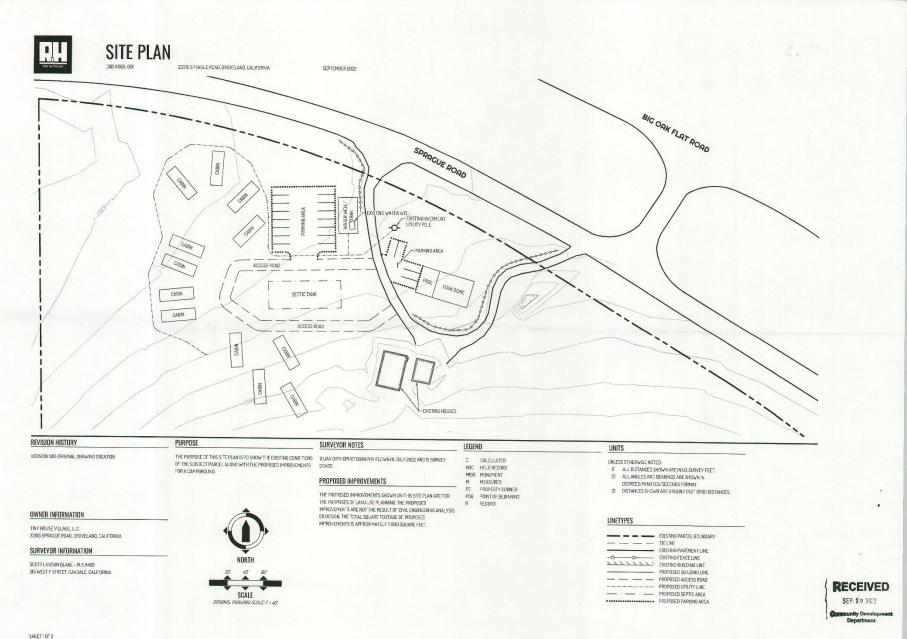
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111111.	EXISTING BUILDING LINE
	PROPOSED BUILDING LINE
	PROPOSED ACCESS ROAD
	PROPOSED UTILITY LINE
	PROPOSED SEPTIC AREA
	PROPOSED PARKING AREA

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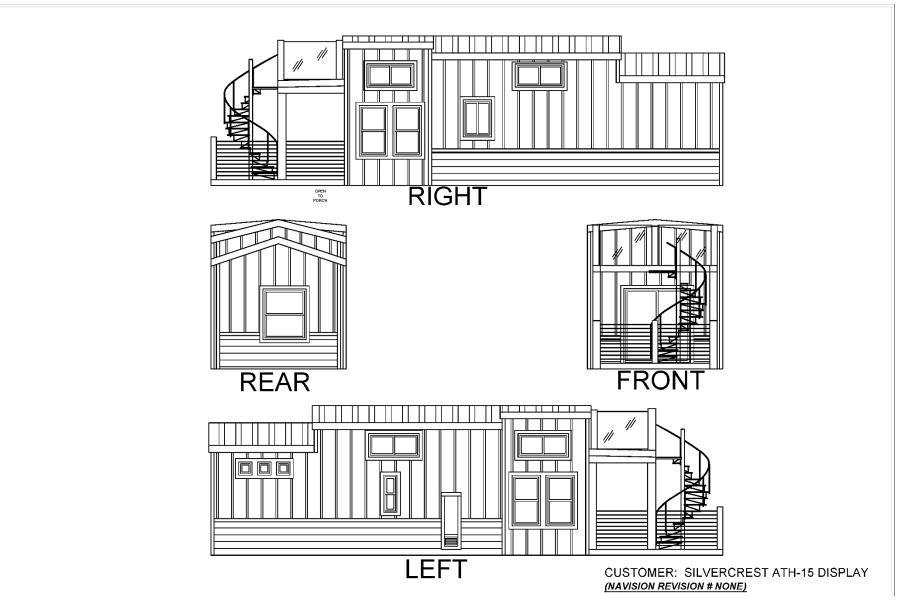
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Community Developmen Department





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## COUNTY STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION RESPONSE FORM

COUNTY PROJECT NUMBER: SDP22-006

PROJECT APPLICANT: Landon Blake, Redefined Horizons

<u>PROJECT DESCRIPTION:</u> Site Development Permit SDP22-006 to allow a recreational development consisting of twelve guest cabins, swimming pool, yoga dome, and associated infrastructure on a 14.1± acre parcel zoned C-K (Commercial Recreation) under Title 17 of the Tuolumne County Ordinance Code (TCOC).

#### **District Response:**

The Groveland Community Services District is the local government entity and utility provider of water, sewer, fire protection and recreational park services.

The proposed project is located outside of the district's boundaries, but within 4000 feet of the District's public water system as shown on the attached diagram. Also attached for reference is a groundwater well failure report compiled by Tuolumne County showing a high number of failed wells in the location of the proposed project. Creation of an additional transient-public water system serving the project could be problematic. Connection to the public water system should be encouraged.

For the project site to receive services from the district, including public water service, fire protection and emergency response services, the property will be required to annex to the Groveland Community Services District.

