

RESOLUTION NO. 2742-10

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WINDSOR
ADOPTING THE OLD REDWOOD HIGHWAY (DOWNTOWN)
STREETSCAPE DESIGN GUIDELINES
(FILE NO. 10-16)**

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Windsor, on May 5, 2010 initiated the preparation of a preliminary design for the Downtown segment of Old Redwood Highway from Windsor River Road to Windsor Road; and

WHEREAS, this purpose of this design effort is to provide a blueprint for pending private and public development projects along this ½ mile corridor, with an emphasis on “Complete Streets” design techniques to provide safe, attractive, and comfortable access and travel for all users. As a “Complete Street”, the design of Old Redwood Highway will ensure that pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists and public transit users of all ages and abilities would be able to navigate this corridor easily and securely; and

WHEREAS, the Town contracted with the design firm of Quadriga Landscape Architecture & Planning Inc. to prepare the Old Redwood Highway (Downtown) Streetscape Design Guidelines plan in conjunction with the Town’s Traffic Engineer, W-Trans; and

WHEREAS, a presentation of Preliminary Design Alternatives for Old Redwood Highway was presented to a joint meeting of the Town Council and Planning Commission on August 10, 2010 which included two plans with different prioritizations: Alternative 1 emphasized protection of existing oak trees, while Alternative 2 emphasized provision of on-street parking; and

WHEREAS, following consideration of the Preliminary Design Alternatives and with the input of the Planning Commission, the Town Council directed the preparation of a “Preferred Plan” which struck a better balance between parking and tree protection efforts; and

WHEREAS, a “Preferred Plan” was prepared by Quadriga in conjunction with W-Trans and Town staff to address the direction of the Town Council; and

WHEREAS, on October 7, 2010 and at a duly noticed public meeting the Town Council, along with members of the Planning Commission, consultants, staff and the general public, conducted a walking tour of the Old Redwood Highway corridor. Based on the “Preferred Plan”, remaining trees to be preserved were marked along with representative curb line locations to illustrate the proposed improvements; and

WHEREAS, the “Preferred Plan” has been incorporated into a final planning document entitled the “Old Redwood Highway (Downtown) Streetscape Design Guidelines” (herein “Guidelines”), and includes plan views, cross-sections, design details, and text describing design criteria and administration; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council considered this item at a duly noticed public hearing on October 20, 2010 at which time all interested parties were given an opportunity to be heard; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Guidelines are determined to be exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (Statutory Exemptions – Section 15262 Feasibility and Planning Studies); and

WHEREAS, the Town Council determines that the proposed Guidelines are consistent with the Town of Windsor General Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council finds that the proposed Guidelines successfully incorporate “Complete Streets” design objectives, including the following:

- Pedestrian oriented design includes use of wider sidewalks, curb extensions and bulbouts, textured crosswalks, and creation of public gathering spaces.
- Cyclists will benefit from improved safety resulting from colored bike lanes, reverse angle parking, and “escape paths” (for the casual cyclist) at roundabouts.
- Vehicles will experience smoother movement of traffic through use of roundabouts, which will improve intersection capacities.
- All users will benefit from improved safety resulting from lowered vehicle speed in this corridor, assisted through the use of roundabouts, on-street parking, as well as visual and physical narrowing of the roadway through design; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council finds that resulting tree preservation efforts included in the Guidelines will result in a reasonable and aesthetic blending of this corridor’s historic character with urban design.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council of the Town of Windsor hereby adopts the Old Redwood Highway (Downtown) Street Design Guidelines (document dated October 20, 2010) as recommended, subject to the following modifications:

1. Retain the existing oak on the east side of Old Redwood Highway immediately north of Richardson Street and remove one adjacent parking space to accommodate tree protection zone.
2. Retain cross-section for Old Redwood Highway in front of Town Hall as presented, but explore possible benefits of reverse angle parking for this block segment.
3. Remove Tree #124 and 126 at the north end of the Bell Village frontage as recommended and replace with appropriate corner focal point and alternative street tree program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Council hereby directs that these Guidelines be incorporated into future private and public development projects along this segment of the Old Redwood Highway corridor between (and including) its intersections with Windsor River Road and Windsor Road.


PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 20th day of October 2010 by the following vote:

**AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS ALLEN, FUDGE, GOBLE, SCHOLAR AND
MAYOR SALMON**

NOES: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: NONE



SAM SALMON, MAYOR

ATTEST:



MARIA DE LA O, TOWN CLERK