

# Notice of Exemption

To: Office of Planning and Research  
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044  
County Clerk  
County of: Placer

From: (Public Agency): Placer County Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC)  
299 Nevada Street, Auburn, CA 95603

(Address)

**Project Title:** Blue Canyon Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (ALUCP)

**Project Applicant:** Placer County Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC)

**Project Location - Specific:** Blue Canyon Airport, Latitude/Longitude: 39-16-29.9000N, 120-42-35.1000W

**Project Location - City:** Emigrant Gap (unincorporated Placer County) **Project Location - County:** Placer

**Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:**

The Blue Canyon Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (ALUCP) is intended to promote compatibility between airport operations and new surrounding land uses considering noise, safety, airspace protection and overflight effects. The ALUCP also serves as a tool for use by the Placer County Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC) in fulfilling its duties in reviewing plans, regulations, and certain other actions of local agencies for consistency with the ALUCP criteria. Neither the ALUC nor the ALUCP have authority over existing land uses or over the operation of Blue Canyon Airport..

The ALUC is updating sections of the current ALUCP adopted in February 2014. The need for the update arose primarily because of new airport layout plans (ALPs) for Auburn Municipal and Lincoln Regional Airports recently adopted by the cities of Auburn and Lincoln, respectively. These new ALPs necessitated modification to the compatibility zones and policies for these two airports. No changes to the airport-specific compatibility policies (Chapter 5) or background information (Chapter 8) for Blue Canyon Airport are included in the 2021 ALUCP update; these chapters reflect the adoption date of February 26, 2014.

The 2021 ALUCP update includes limited modifications to the countywide ALUCP policies. Minor modifications to Chapter 2, *Procedural Policies*, and Chapter 3, *Countywide Compatibility Policies*, of the ALUCP were made to define terms, clarify policies, and help with local agency implementation. For example, definitions have been added, terms have been revised to match state statutes, footnotes have been added for clarification, and policies have been revised to better reflect how the ALUC wishes to function.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** Placer County Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC)

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** David M. Melko, Senior Transportation Planner

**Exempt Status: (check one):**

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number:
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number:
- Other: Common Sense Exemption, California Code of Regulations, Section 15061(b)(3)

POSTED 9/22/2021  
Through DEC 13 2021  
RYAN RONCO, COUNTY CLERK  
By D. Chunfact  
Deputy Clerk

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81-0242

**Reasons why project is exempt:**

No changes are proposed to the airport-specific policies and background information for the Blue Canyon Airport. The proposed changes made to the countywide procedural policies and compatibility policies are administrative in nature and have no direct or indirect potential for causing a significant effect on the environment within the existing Blue Canyon Airport Influence Area. With certainty, there is no possibility that the proposed ALUCP could have a significant effect on the environment for the areas within the Blue Canyon Airport Influence Area; as such, this activity is deemed to be exempt from CEQA under the "Common Sense Rule" (Section 15061(b)(3)).

**Lead Agency**

**Contact Person:** David M. Melko **Area Code/Telephone/Extension:** 530.823.4090

**If filed by applicant:**

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project?  Yes  No

**Signature:**  **Date:** September 22, 2021 **Title:** Executive Director

Signed by Lead Agency  Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.  
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLACER COUNTY AIRPORT LAND USE COMMISSION**

**IN THE MATTER OF: RESOLUTION  
ADOPTING NEGATIVE DECLARATIONS FOR  
AUBURN MUNICIPAL AND LINCOLN REGIONAL  
AIRPORT LAND USE COMPATIBILITY PLANS AND  
APPROVING A NOTICE OF EXEMPTION FOR BLUE  
CANYON AIRPORT LAND USE COMPATIBILITY PLAN**

**RESOLUTION NO. 21-30**

The following resolution was duly passed by the Placer County Airport Land Use Commission at a regular meeting held September 22, 2021 by the following vote on roll call:

AYES: Amara, Baker, Broadway, Burruss, Holmes, Houdesheldt, Joiner, Jones, Wilkins

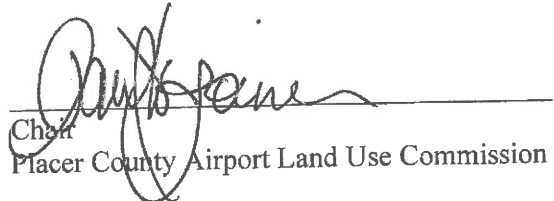
NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Signed and approved by me after its passage



Executive Director

  
Chair  
Placer County Airport Land Use Commission

**WHEREAS**, California Government Code, Title 7.91, Section 67910, created the Placer County Transportation Planning Agency as the local area planning agency to provide regional transportation planning for the area of Placer County, exclusive of the Lake Tahoe Basin; and

**WHEREAS**, California Government Code Section 29532.1(c) identifies Placer County Transportation Planning Agency as the designated Regional Transportation Planning Agency for Placer County, exclusive of the Lake Tahoe Basin; and

**WHEREAS**, Resolution No.97-10 designated Placer County Transportation Planning Agency as the Airport Land Use Commission for Placer County; and

**WHEREAS**, the Placer County Airport Land Use Commission is duly formed and operating under the State Aeronautics Act, California Public Utilities Code Section 21001 et seq.,

including Article 3.5, Sections 21670 – 21679.5 of the Act; and

**WHEREAS**, PCTPA acting on behalf of the Placer County Airport Land Use Commission has prepared draft Negative Declarations and Initial Studies to determine whether any potentially significant environmental impacts would result from implementation of the proposed Airport Land Use Compatibility Plans for Auburn Municipal and Lincoln Regional Airports; and

**WHEREAS**, PCTPA acting on behalf of the Placer County Airport Land Use Commission has prepared a Notice of Exemption for the Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan for Blue Canyon Airport; and

**WHEREAS**, ten days prior to the June 23, 2021 public workshop, a Notice of Public Workshop and a Notice of Intent to Adopt Negative Declarations was mailed to all property owners within the Auburn Municipal and Lincoln Regional airport influence areas and said notices were also placed on PCTPA's website (<http://pctpa.net/alucp/>) and made available to all known stakeholder groups and interested individuals; and

**WHEREAS**, PCTPA has circulated the draft Negative Declarations and Initial Studies for the Airport Land Use Compatibility Plans for Auburn Municipal and Lincoln Regional Airports for a 30-day public review period, including the State Clearinghouse, from June 24, 2021 to July 26, 2021, and during the public review period held two virtual workshops for Auburn Municipal and Lincoln Regional Airports respectively on July 14, 2021 and July 15, 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, a legal notice was placed in the Lincoln News Messenger and the Auburn Journal on September 9, 2021 and September 11, 2021 respectively regarding the September 22, 2021 adoption public hearing and document availability, and posted said notice on PCTPA's web site at <http://pctpa.net/alucp/> and social media, and emailed said notice to various stakeholder groups and interested individuals that commented on the draft Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, based upon written and oral comments received during the public review period, responses to comments were prepared to each such comments, which did not identify any new significant environmental impacts resulting from implementation of the Airport Land Use Compatibility Plans; and

**WHEREAS**, minor technical revisions were made to the draft Airport Land Use Compatibility Plans and Negative Declarations and the Initial Studies in the form of Addendums No. 1; and

**WHEREAS**, the Negative Declarations and the Initial Studies were revised to correct the summary table of environmental factors potentially affected compared to the environmental checklist and recirculation of the Negative Declarations and the Initial Studies is not required because the proposed corrections do not cause a substantial revision to the Negative Declarations and the Initial Studies; and

**WHEREAS**, the draft Airport Land Use Compatibility Plans were revised to update Federal Aviation Administration regulatory citations and recirculation of the Airport Land Use Compatibility Plans is not required because the proposed changes do not significantly change the Airport Land Use Compatibility Plans; and

**WHEREAS**, based on a review of the draft Airport Land Use Compatibility Plans for Auburn Municipal and Lincoln Regional Airports the California Department of Fish and Wildlife has determined that for purposes of the assessment of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) filing fees (Fish and Game Code § 711.4(c)) the project has no effect on fish, wildlife or their habitat and the project as described does not require payment of CEQA filing fees and therefore issued on August 25, 2021, "No Effect Determinations" for the Negative Declarations and the Initial Studies; and


**WHEREAS**, no other substantive comments on the draft Negative Declarations have been received; and

**WHEREAS**, the Placer County Airport Land Use Commission has considered all the written and oral comments received, staff reports, and all other materials in the record of the proceedings and is fully informed thereon; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Placer County Airport Land Use Commission that:

1. The foregoing recitals are true and correct and are hereby adopted.
2. The Negative Declarations and Initial Studies have been prepared in accordance with CEQA and provide sufficient assessment of the environmental impacts of the Airport Land Use Compatibility Plans for Auburn Municipal and Lincoln Regional Airports and none of the changes therein constitutes a 'substantial revision' requiring recirculation pursuant to the criteria set forth in CEQA Guidelines Section 15073.5.
3. Based on the written and oral comments received, staff reports, and all other materials in the record of the proceedings there is no substantial evidence that adoption of the Airport Land Use Compatibility Plans, nor their subsequent implementation by local agencies, will have a significant effect on the environment, including fish and wildlife resources as supported by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife "No Effect Determinations" issued for the Negative Declarations and the Initial Studies.
4. The Negative Declarations and the Initial Studies reflect the Placer County Airport Land Use Commission's independent judgment and analysis.
5. The Negative Declarations and the Initial Studies for the Airport Land Use Compatibility Plans for Auburn Municipal and Lincoln Regional Airports are hereby adopted.
6. No substantive changes have been made to the Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan for Blue Canyon Airport and as such this Plan is an activity exempt from further environmental review pursuant to CEQA Guidelines, Section 15061(b)(3), and a Notice of Exemption is hereby approved.
7. Pursuant to the CEQA Guidelines, documents and other materials that constitute the record of proceedings upon which the Placer County Airport Land Use Commission has based its decision are located and may be obtained from PCTPA, 299 Nevada Street, Auburn, California 95603.
8. The Executive Director is authorized to file with the Placer County Clerk-Recorder and the State Office of Planning and Research CEQA Clearinghouse, Notice of Determinations for the Negative Declarations for the Auburn Municipal and Lincoln Regional Airport Land Use Compatibility Plans and a Notice of Exemption for Blue Canyon Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan.

The foregoing instrument is a CORRECT COPY of the original on file in this office.  
Attest: SOLVI SABOL, Board Secretary  
Placer County Transportation Planning Agency  
Placer County Local Transportation Authority  
South Placer Regional Transportation Authority

  
19-22-01