

SANTA CLARA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT FACILITY DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

1889 Lawrence Road, Santa Clara, CA 95051

Main: (408) 423-2000 | [Facility Development and Planning/ Department Homepage](#)
(santaclarausd.org)

Notice of Preparation Draft Environmental Impact Report and Public Scoping Meeting for the Santa Clara Unified School District Peterson Laurelwood Master Plan

TO: Agencies, Organizations, and Interested Parties

DATE: June 27, 2022

The Santa Clara Unified School District (School District) Facility Development and Planning, as the Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), is preparing an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the proposed Peterson Laurelwood Master Plan and the existing Laurelwood Elementary School Campus (“Proposed Master Plan”). The School District is requesting identification of environmental issues and information that you or your organization believes should be considered in the EIR. The Proposed Master Plan includes the development of a master plan for the Patrick Henry Campus, Peterson Site (fields, tennis courts, parking lots/drop-off areas, and the environmental center), SCUSD Farm, the new Laurelwood Elementary School and the future programs at the existing Laurelwood Elementary School Campus.

PROJECT LOCATION

The CEQA Plan Area includes the Patrick Henry Campus, Laurelwood Elementary School, SCUSD Farm, and portions of the Peterson Middle School, encapsulating 79.35 acres in the City of Sunnyvale and the City of Santa Clara as shown in **Figure 1, Regional Context**. The Plan Area boundaries include parking to the north of Peterson Middle School and the Farm to south, connected by Peterson fields. The Plan Area is bound to the south by Dunford Way, to the west by a block east of Norman Drive, to the north by Rosalia Avenue and Bryant Way, and to the east by Roadrunner Terrace – connected through Castleton Terrace and Teal Drive (see **Figure 2**, Peterson Laurelwood Master Plan Area). The Plan Area would serve a maximum capacity of 3,375 students.

The existing Laurelwood Elementary School serves grades K-5 and is located at 955 Teal Drive in the City of Santa Clara. The school site fronts on Teal Drive to the west and is bound by Kensington Avenue to the south, and residences to the north, east and along the southwestern corner of the site.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

In 2018, SCUSD voters approved General Obligation Bond Measure BB which authorized \$720 million to fund critically needed safety, modernization, and new construction projects. Some of Measure BB bond funds will be used to design and build a new Laurelwood Elementary on a portion of the Patrick Henry Campus and new fields at the existing Peterson Middle School. In order to create a plan that encompasses all of the District's assets, the SCUSD is creating a Master Plan for the area within the plan's boundaries.

The Proposed Master Plan consists of the entire Patrick Henry Campus, the Peterson Middle School Site, and the future use of the existing Laurelwood Elementary School Site. The District's Master Plan includes construction of the new Laurelwood Elementary School, Peterson fields, relocated District storage area, and yet to be determined uses on the closed Patrick Henry Middle School Site; improvements to Peterson Middle School including the new fields and a fieldhouse; relocation of the existing tennis courts; new vehicular and pedestrian access; expanded administration and media center, a new environmental education center, outdoor learning areas and amphitheater. Program improvements will be made to the SCUSD Farm and compost areas. It also provides an opportunity for an additional school to be built on the property. The purpose of the Proposed Master Plan is to provide a long-term planning document that provides a visionary site plan to guide future expansion with enhanced student and community access to the sites.

Currently, funding is identified for only the new Laurelwood Elementary School and the Peterson track and field facility. The bleachers, baseball and multiuse fields, tennis courts, and other improvements are not currently funded. The other improvements identified in the Master Plan will be completed as funding is secured. Once the Master Plan is complete in summer 2022, the design of the new Laurelwood Elementary School and the Peterson field facility will begin.

ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED IN THE EIR

Based on the project description and the Lead Agency's understanding of the environmental issues associated with the Proposed Master Plan, it is anticipated that implementation of the Proposed Master Plan has the potential to result in significant environmental effects associated with some or all of the following topics, consistent with Appendix G of the *CEQA Guidelines* and analyzed in detail in the EIR:

- Aesthetics
- Agriculture and Forestry Resources
- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Energy
- Geology and Soils
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Land Use and Planning
- Mineral Resources

- Noise
- Population and Housing
- Public Services
- Recreation
- Transportation
- Tribal Cultural Resources
- Utilities and Service Systems
- Wildfire

The EIR will analyze the reasonably foreseeable indirect physical changes to the environment in the above topic areas caused by the Proposed Master Plan. Pursuant to *CEQA Guidelines* Section 15060(d), no initial study was prepared.

Alternatives to be analyzed in the EIR are to be defined and analyzed consistent with the requirements of *CEQA Guidelines*, Section 15126.6. The alternatives to be evaluated in the EIR may include, but are not limited to, the "No Project" Alternative, as required by CEQA and alternative land use configurations.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

Pursuant to California Public Resources Code Sections 21083.9, 21092.2, and California Code of Regulations, Title 14 (*CEQA Guidelines*) Sections 15082 and 15083, the School District, as the Lead Agency, will conduct a Scoping Meeting for the purpose of soliciting oral and written comments from interested parties requesting notice; responsible agencies; agencies with jurisdiction by law; trustee agencies; and involved federal agencies, including transportation agencies, as to the appropriate scope and content of the EIR.

The Scoping Meeting will be virtual on July 19, 2022 at 6:00 P.M.

RESPONSIBLE AND TRUSTEE AGENCIES

The Santa Clara Unified School District requests your agency's views on the scope and content of the environmental information relevant to your agency's statutory responsibilities in connection with the Proposed Master Plan, in accordance with *CEQA Guidelines* Section 15082(b). Your agency will need to use the EIR prepared by the School District when considering any permits or other project approvals that your agency must issue. As such, your responses to this Notice of Preparation (NOP), at a minimum, should identify: (1) significant environmental issues and reasonable alternatives and mitigation measures that your agency will need to have explored in the EIR.

REVIEW AND RESPONSE PERIOD

In accordance with *CEQA Guidelines* Section 15082, this NOP is being circulated for a 30-day comment period. Responses to this NOP must be provided during this response period as outlined below:

June 27 through July 28, 2022

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY

The NOP can be viewed on the Santa Clara Unified School District, Facility Development and Planning website at <https://www.santaclarausd.org/PetersonLaurelwoodmasterplan>. A physical copy of the NOP will also be available at the School District's Facility Development and Planning Department at 3350 Brookdale Drive, Santa Clara, CA 95050. For more information about this EIR, please visit <https://www.santaclarausd.org/PetersonLaurelwoodmasterplan>.

If you have questions or would like to be added to the listserv for this project, please email PetersonLaurelwoodPlan@scusd.net. If you have previously requested to be on the listserv you will automatically receive all notifications related to the project.

SUBMITTAL OF WRITTEN COMMENTS

The Lead Agency solicits comments regarding the scope, content, and specifics of the EIR from all interested parties requesting notice, responsible agencies, agencies with jurisdiction by law, trustee agencies, and involved agencies. The Santa Clara Unified School District requests that written comment be provided at the earliest possible date, but **no later than July 28, 2022**.

Please submit comments electronically through the project website or send a hard copy via mail (including name and contact information) to the following:

Project Website: <https://www.santaclarausd.org/PetersonLaurelwoodmasterplan>

Mail: ATTN: Michal Healy - Facility Development and Planning Director
Santa Clara Unified School District, Facility Development and Planning
1889 Lawrence Road
Santa Clara, CA 95051

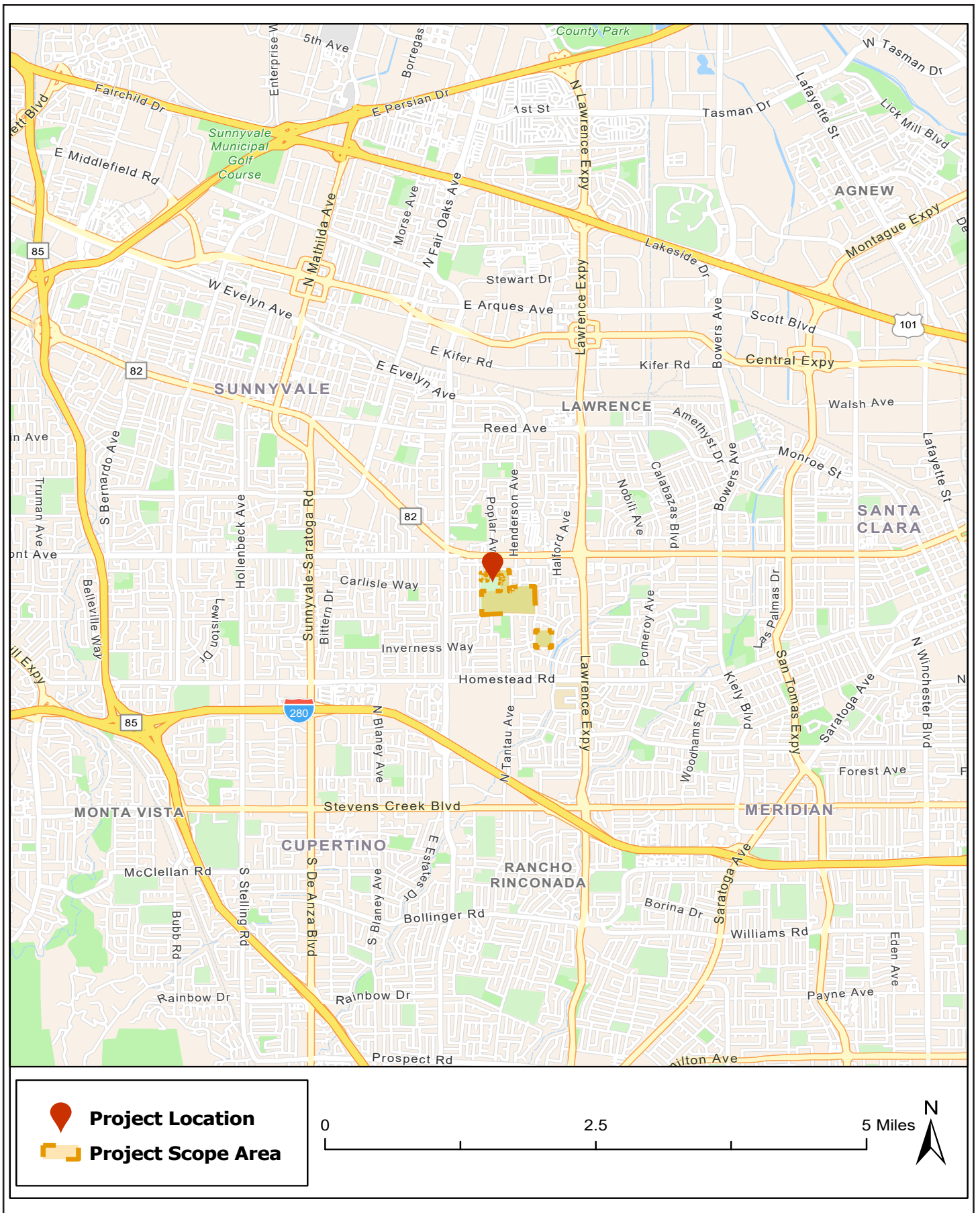
30-DAY NOP COMMENT PERIOD: June 27 through July 28, 2022	SCOPING MEETING: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 6:00 P.M. Link to meeting is on the Project website
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Michal Healy - Facility Development and Planning Director

Santa Clara Unified School District

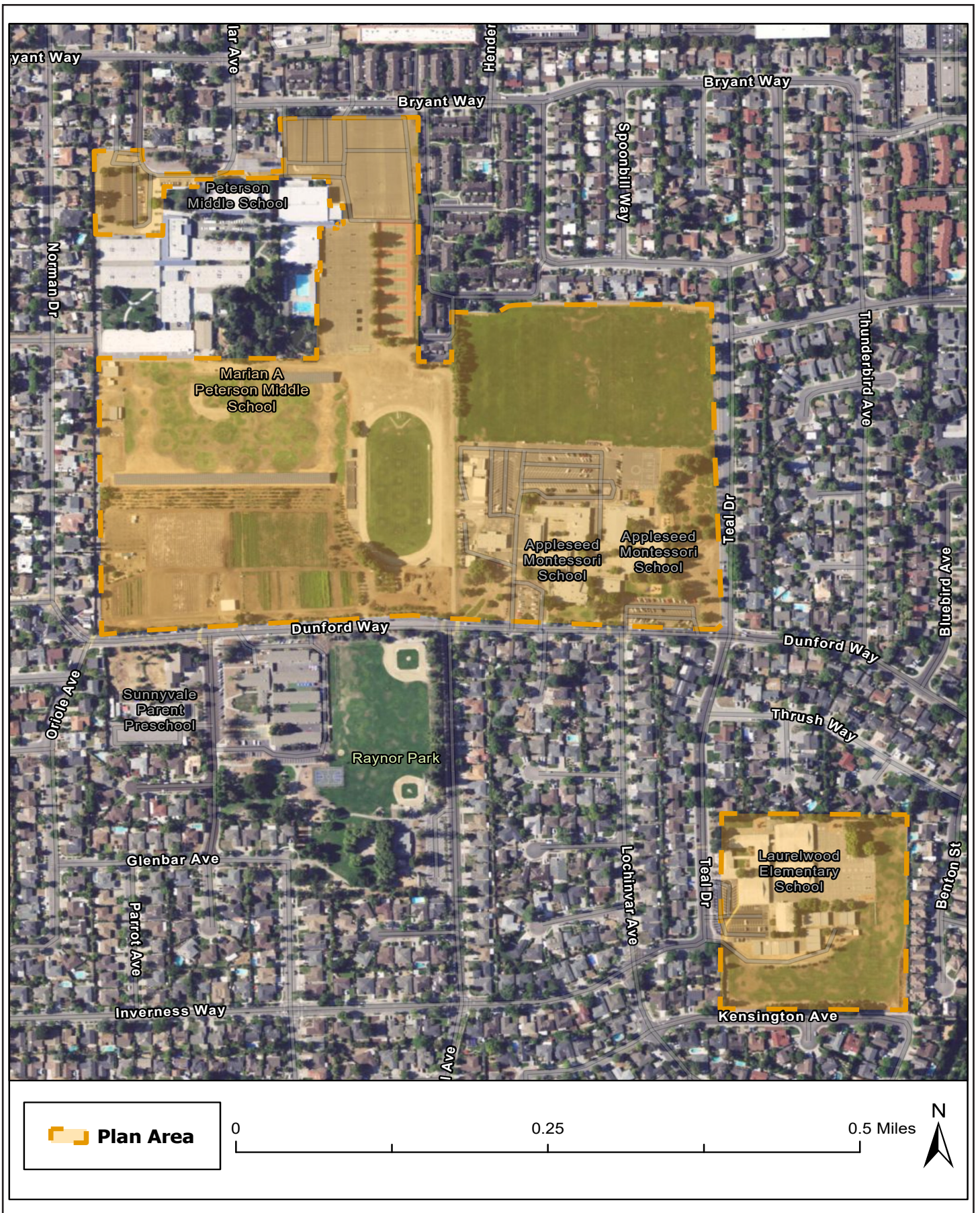
Attachments:

- Figure 1, Regional Context
- Figure 2, Peterson Laurelwood Master Plan Area



SOURCE: Esri, 2022

FIGURE 1



SOURCE: Esri, 2022

FIGURE 2