MEETING DATE: September 19, 2022 **PREPARED BY**: Cindy Nash, City Planner **PRESENTED BY**: Cindy Nash, City Planner

AGENDA ITEM: 5.2

OBJECTIVE:

Ranch of Credit River Rural Residential Subdivision - Make finding regarding need for Environmental Impact Statement

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Adopt Resolution	finding that the proposed development does not have the potential
for significant environmental	impacts

BACKGROUND:

An Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) is a process that lays out basic facts about a project to determine if an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is required for the proposed project. It consists of a form that provides information needed to determine if the project will have the potential for significant environmental impacts. In addition to the legal purpose of the EAW, it also provides permit information, informs the public about the project, and helps identify ways to protect the environment.

Projects that meet or exceed certain thresholds in Minnesota Rules 4410.4300 are required to complete an EAW. The proposed project triggered the threshold for an EAW based on the number of acres of land being permanently converted.

A copy of the EAW was available on the City website and may be reviewed here: Ranch of Credit River EAW. Public and agency comment was accepted through August 25, 2022.

After a review of the comments, a Record of Decision and Findings of Fact was prepared for the Council's consideration. This includes an analysis and response to the comments received on the EAW. The City Council must make a determination on whether an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be required for this project. If one will not be required, a negative declaration on the need for an EIS is made which then completes the environmental review for this project. If a positive declaration is made, then an EIS would need to be prepared.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Not applicable.

ALTERNATIVES:

- 1. Adopt resolution as included in packet, which combined with the Record of Decision makes a negative declaration on the need for an Environmental Impact Statement.
- 2. Table action, and ask staff to prepare a resolution and findings that an Environmental Impact Statement does need to be prepared. Note that no agency comments have suggested that this would be required.

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1. Resolution
- 2. Record of Decision and Findings of Fact