Plans for San Andreas hotel, restaurant moving forward

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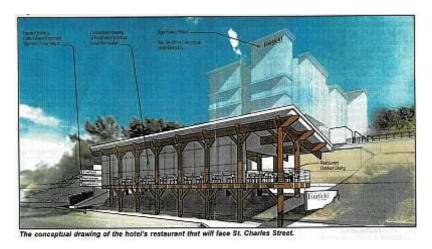


A proposal to construct a restaurant and 79-room hotel in San Andreas is working its way through the Calaveras County Planning Department.

RK Hospitality Development out of Davenport, Fla., and Mercury Ranch LP based in Los Gatos two years ago began the process to place the restaurant and hotel at 236 and 300 E. St. Charles St., adjacent to El Dorado Savings Bank.

The applicant is now requesting approval of a zoning amendment on a vacant 2.96-acre parcel from Multiple-Family Residential to General Commercial.

The developer wants to merge that parcel with an adjacent one already zoned General Commercial to construct the proposed 45,220-square-foot hotel and separate 2,527-square-foot restaurant on the combined 4.14-acre site. The applicant is also requesting a height variance to allow the hotel to encroach 8 feet, 1 inch into a 45-foot height limitation.



The Calaveras County Planning Department has prepared a Mitigated Negative Declaration, pursuant to the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act for the proposed project.

A 30-day public review period for the Mitigated Negative Declaration began today and will continue until Sept. 16. Written comments on the Mitigated Negative Declaration must be received at the Calaveras County Planning Department, 891 Mountain Ranch Road in San Andreas or the Project Planner Katherine Stefani, via email at kstefani@calaverascounty.gov, within the 30-day review period.

Comments can also be made during the public hearing. Copies of the Mitigated Negative Declaration and Initial Study are available for review at the Planning Department during normal working hours from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday except county holidays, and on the county's website at https://planning.calaverasgov.us/Projects, or by contacting the Planning Department.

Conceptual drawings submitted in the pre-application process showed the hotel as a Fairfield by Marriott. The developers plan for the building facades to be modified to fit within the historic context of San Andreas. Fairfield is a franchised economy to mid-scale hotel brand of Marriott International.

The properties target guests willing to accept fewer amenities for lower prices. Cost-saving measures include standardized building architecture and bedding, and the absence of a full-service restaurant, but a complimentary hot breakfast.

Amenities at most properties include a pool, whirlpool, health club, same-day dry cleaning, vending machines, meeting rooms, free Wi-Fi, an ergonomic desk and chair, business center with printing capabilities, in-room television, mini-refrigerator and microwave.

There are approximately 1,200 Fairfield by Marriott hotels worldwide.