RESOLUTION NO. 4324

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SAN ANSELMO SUPPORTING THE INCLUSION OF CERTAIN AREAS IN THE TOWN GENERAL PLAN OPEN SPACE MAP AS REGIONAL PRIORITY CONSERVATION AREAS

WHEREAS, the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) Executive Board has adopted over 165 Priority Conservation Areas (PCAs) that recognize the vitality of the Bay Area’s natural systems, rural economy and the health of all residents and include areas of natural landscapes, agricultural lands, urban greening and regional recreation of regional significance; and

WHEREAS, ABAG has requested nominations for new PCA; and

WHEREAS, projects located within PCAs are eligible for regional grant programs for protection or enhancement of these areas; and

WHEREAS, adoption of a PCA does not change the zoning, general plan, or other land use designations of the geographic area encompassed by the PCA and the local jurisdiction retains full land use control over these areas;

WHEREAS, the Town of San Anselmo desires to enhance the possibility of future regional funding to preserve and protect areas it has identified on its General Plan Open Space, Zoning and General Plan Land Use maps for open space that also have regional significance; and

WHEREAS, the areas adjacent to existing ABAG PCAs 20 and 21, shown on Exhibits A and B, known locally as the Bald Hill, Kite Hill and Hawthorn Hills open space areas, are of regional significance and have natural landscapes and environments critical to the ecosystems of sensitive wildlife and plants, that provide recreational opportunities, and contain or drain to creeks and streams; and

WHEREAS, each proposed PCA provides significant regional recreational opportunities as the land contains existing trails used by the public that are connected to other existing regional trail systems, such as the Bay Area Ridge Trail, the Marin County Open Space District trail system, and Town of San Anselmo and Fairfax trails, which allow access to the trail systems in Golden Gate National Recreational Area, Point Reyes, and Mt. Tam State Park (amongst others); and

WHEREAS, the designation of these lands as PCAs is consistent with goals contained in the Town of San Anselmo General Plan; and

WHEREAS, this action does not involve any commitment to a specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment, as contemplated by Title
14. California Code of Regulations, Section 15378(b)(4) and is, therefore, not subject to CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15060(c)(3); and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED based on the findings set forth above, the Town Council of the Town of San Anselmo endorses the inclusion of the areas adjacent to PCAs 20 and 21, identified in Exhibit A and B, as regional Priority Conservation Areas and agrees to accept the PCA designation if granted by ABAG.

The foregoing Resolution was adopted at the regular meeting of the San Anselmo Town Council held on January 28, 2020, by the following vote:

AYES: Greene, Colbert, Fineman, Burdo
NOES: None
ABSENT: Wright
ABSTAIN: None

Ford Greene, Mayor

ATTEST:

Carla Kacmar, Town Clerk
Exhibit B
Expansion of PCA-20

Fairfax

Sky Ranch
Open Space Area

San Anselmo

Current PCA Area

Bald Hill
Open Space Area

Potential Future PCA Area

Legend

Proposed PCA Expansion Area

Jurisdiction Boundary

County of Marin
Unincorporated Area
(Water District Land)

0.00 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4
Miles