

HOUSING ELEMENT UPDATE

Addendum to the Final EIR



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September 2013

ADDENDUM TO THE FINAL EIR
FOR THE
HOUSING ELEMENT UPDATE
CITY OF RANCHO CORDOVA, CALIFORNIA



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TABLE OF CONTENTS
1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1	Background and Purpose of the EIR Addendum.....	1-1
1.2	Basis for Decision to Prepare Addendum	1-1
1.3	Organization and Scope	1-3

2.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

2.1	Project Location and Setting	2-1
2.2	Overview of the Rancho Cordova General Plan and its Associated EIR	2-2
2.3	Proposed Housing Element Update Project.....	2-2

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

- -	Introduction.....	3-1
3.1	Land Use	3-2
3.2	Agriculture	3-3
3.3	Population/Housing/Employment	3-4
3.4	Hazards and Human Health.....	3-4
3.5	Transportation and Circulation	3-5
3.6	Air Quality	3-6
3.7	Noise	3-8
3.8	Geology and Soils.....	3-9
3.9	Hydrology and Water Quality	3-10
3.10	Biological Resources	3-11
3.11	Cultural and Paleontological Resources.....	3-13
3.12	Public Services and Utilities	3-14
3.13	Visual Resources/Light and Glare.....	3-16
- -	References	3-18

SECTION 1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This addendum was prepared in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the CEQA Guidelines. This document has been prepared to serve as an addendum to the previously certified Rancho Cordova General Plan Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR), which consists of the Draft EIR and the Final EIR. The City of Rancho Cordova (City) is the lead agency for the environmental review of the proposed Housing Element update (the project).

1.1 BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE OF THE EIR ADDENDUM

The Rancho Cordova General Plan FEIR (State Clearinghouse No. 2005022137) was certified in June 2006 by the Rancho Cordova City Council. The General Plan EIR is a program EIR (CEQA Guidelines Section 15168). Subsequently, the City prepared an addendum to the FEIR in November 2009 to process a Housing Element update. The adoption of an updated Housing Element is in keeping with the state law requirement that each city and county update the housing element of its general plan every five years in order to establish and update housing and land use strategies reflective of changing needs, resources, and conditions. Minor text changes are proposed to the City's adopted General Plan Housing Element. The proposed changes necessitate the need to determine if further environmental review is required under CEQA. Please refer to Section 2.0, Project Description, for a detailed description of the proposed changes.

In determining whether an addendum is the appropriate document to analyze the modifications to the project and its approval, State CEQA Guidelines Section 15164 (Addendum to an EIR or Negative Declaration) states:

- (a) *The lead agency or a responsible agency shall prepare an addendum to a previously certified EIR if some changes or additions are necessary but none of the conditions described in Section 15162 calling for preparation of a subsequent EIR have occurred.*
- (b) *An addendum to an adopted negative declaration may be prepared if only minor technical changes or additions are necessary or none of the conditions described in Section 15162 calling for the preparation of a subsequent EIR or negative declaration have occurred.*
- (c) *An addendum need not be circulated for public review but can be included in or attached to the final EIR or adopted negative declaration.*
- (d) *The decision-making body shall consider the addendum with the final EIR or adopted negative declaration prior to making a decision on the project.*
- (e) *A brief explanation of the decision not to prepare a subsequent EIR pursuant to Section 15162 should be included in an addendum to an EIR, the lead agency's required findings on the project, or elsewhere in the record. The explanation must be supported by substantial evidence.*

1.2 BASIS FOR DECISION TO PREPARE ADDENDUM

Since the General Plan Program EIR has been certified, the environmental impacts of subsequent activities must be examined in light of the impact analysis in the certified EIR to determine if additional CEQA documentation must be prepared. One of the standards that apply

1.0 INTRODUCTION

is whether, under Public Resources Code Section 21166 and State CEQA Guidelines Sections 15162 and 15163, there are new significant effects or other grounds which require preparation of a subsequent EIR or supplemental EIR in support of further agency action on the project. Under these guidelines, a subsequent or supplemental EIR shall be prepared if any of the following criteria are met.

- (a) *When an EIR has been certified or negative declaration adopted for a project, no subsequent EIR shall be prepared for that project unless the lead agency determines, on the basis of substantial evidence in the light of the whole record, one or more of the following:*
- (1) *Substantial changes are proposed in the project which will require major revisions of the previous EIR or negative declaration due to the involvement of new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects;*
 - (2) *Substantial changes occur with respect to the circumstances under which the project is undertaken which will require major revisions of the previous EIR or negative declaration due to the involvement of new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects; or*
 - (3) *New information of substantial importance, which was not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the previous EIR was certified as complete or the negative declaration was adopted, shows any of the following:*
 - (A) *The project will have one or more significant effects not discussed in the previous EIR or negative declaration;*
 - (B) *Significant effects previously examined will be substantially more severe than shown in the previous EIR;*
 - (C) *Mitigation measures or alternatives previously found not to be feasible would in fact be feasible and would substantially reduce one or more significant effects of the project, but the project proponents decline to adopt the mitigation measure or alternative; or*
 - (D) *Mitigation measures or alternatives which are considerably different from those analyzed in the previous EIR would substantially reduce one or more significant effects on the environment, but the project proponents decline to adopt the mitigation measure or alternative.*

As demonstrated in the environmental analysis provided in Section 3.0, Environmental Analysis, of the addendum to the Rancho Cordova General Plan Final EIR (addendum), the proposed changes do not meet the criteria for preparing a subsequent or supplemental EIR. The project may be approved as an activity covered within the scope of the program EIR. An addendum is appropriate here because, as explained in Section 3.0, none of the conditions calling for preparation of a subsequent EIR have occurred.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.3 ORGANIZATION AND SCOPE

SECTION 1.0 – INTRODUCTION

Section 1.0 provides an introduction and overview describing the intended use of the EIR Addendum.

SECTION 2.0 – PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This section provides a detailed description of the proposed project.

SECTION 3.0 – ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

This section contains an analysis of environmental topic areas that were addressed in the Rancho Cordova General Plan Final EIR.

SECTION 2.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

2.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This section provides a detailed description of the proposed changes to the Rancho Cordova General Plan Housing Element. The reader is referred to Section 3.0, Environmental Analysis, for the analysis of environmental effects of this project in relation to the previous analysis provided in the Rancho Cordova General Plan Final EIR (State Clearinghouse No. 2005022137).

2.1 PROJECT LOCATION AND SETTING

PROJECT LOCATION

The project location consists of all areas within the incorporated boundaries of the City of Rancho Cordova.

PROJECT SETTING

The City of Rancho Cordova and its General Plan Planning Area are located in Sacramento County in the north-central portion of California. The city is located entirely within the eastern portion of Sacramento County and covers approximately 20,000 acres. The Planning Area consists of the existing incorporated city and a larger study area (combined area of approximately 58,190 acres). The northern boundary of the Planning Area is the American River, and the eastern edge of the Planning Area is the Cosumnes floodplain and the Urban Services Boundary for Sacramento County. The Planning Area ends at Prairie City Road, which is the western boundary of the Folsom Sphere of Influence. The communities of Rosemont and Gold River were included in the Planning Area because of their close proximity to Rancho Cordova and the interaction between these communities and future land uses in the city. The Planning Area boundary extends west to Watt Avenue (to include Rosemont) and extends south of Jackson Highway by at least 1 mile to include entire parcels.

The Planning Area is predominantly flat, with undulating topography near the Cosumnes River floodplain to the south and the American River to the north. The American River Parkway is located on the northern boundary of the Planning Area. Other waterways in the Planning Area include Morrison Creek, Laguna Creek, Elder Creek, Buffalo Creek, Frye Creek, Rebel Hill Ditch, and the Folsom South Canal. The southern portion of the Planning Area includes one of the largest complexes of vernal pools in California. Other natural features in the Planning Area include riparian habitat (primarily located along the American River), oak trees and oak woodlands, grasslands, and land areas substantially disturbed from historic gold dredging activities (specifically in the northern and eastern portions of the Planning Area).

US Highway 50 traverses east to west through the northern portion of the Planning Area, while State Route 16 passes through the southern portion of the Planning Area. Sunrise Boulevard, a major thoroughfare running north and south, bisects the Planning Area. Folsom Boulevard, running northeast to southwest, is located in the Planning Area's northern portion.

The Planning Area currently comprises, but is not limited to, land uses such as residential, commercial, office, industrial, and agricultural. The majority of developed area is located in the northern portion of the Planning Area, with approved and proposed urban development south of Highway 50 and east of Sunrise Boulevard in the south-central portion of the Planning Area. While the northern portion of the Planning Area is developed, vast regions to the south and east are primarily undeveloped. The reader is referred to Rancho Cordova General Plan Draft EIR Section 4.1, Land Use, for a description of land use and applicable land use plans throughout the Planning Area.

2.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Located in the Planning Area, but outside of the existing city limits, is the site of the existing Aerojet/GenCorp operations. This area has been used for rocket testing and development operations since the 1950s that resulted in soil and groundwater contamination through much of the area. Also located within the Planning Area, but outside of current city limits, is the former site of Mather Field Air Force Base. The former air base includes the still operational Mather Field Airport.

2.2 OVERVIEW OF THE RANCHO CORDOVA GENERAL PLAN AND ITS ASSOCIATED EIR

PURPOSE OF A GENERAL PLAN

California law requires each city to adopt a comprehensive, long-term general plan to guide the physical development of the incorporated city and land outside city boundaries that bears a relationship to its planning activities. The general plan serves as a blueprint for future growth and development. As such, the plan contains policies and programs designed to provide decision-makers with a solid foundation for land use and development decisions. The Rancho Cordova General Plan organizes the desires of city residents with respect to the physical, social, economic, and environmental character of the city.

In accordance with California Government Code Section 65302, a general plan must address the issues of land use, circulation, housing, noise, safety, conservation, and open space. The general plan can also address topics of special and unique interest, including urban design, economic development, air quality, historic and cultural resources, infrastructure, services, and finance. These topics are optional but often reflect issues that are important to the community. California Government Code Section 65300.5 specifically requires that the elements and associated policy provisions are internally consistent and that no one element or provision of a general plan carries greater weight than another.

According to state law, the General Plan is the primary document the City of Rancho Cordova utilizes to regulate land use. Consequently, the Zoning Ordinance, specific plans, and individual public and private development proposals must be consistent with General Plan goals, policies, and action items. The General Plan is the policy guide for the development (both public and private) of Rancho Cordova. It is the basis for all land use decisions, including subdivisions, capital improvements, development agreements, and many other actions that must be consistent with the General Plan. The General Plan identifies the City's land use, circulation, environmental, economic, and social goals and policies. It provides a basis for local government decision-making. Additionally, it informs citizens, developers, and decision-makers, as well as other jurisdictions and public agencies, of the ground rules that guide development within the city.

BACKGROUND OF THE RANCHO CORDOVA GENERAL PLAN AND ITS EIR

The City of Rancho Cordova commenced preparation of the General Plan in May 2004. Preparation of the General Plan included development of technical reports on land use, circulation and services, demographics, economic conditions, and natural resource conditions of the Planning Area. The City developed the General Plan vision, policies, and land use map through several public workshops and meetings held before the General Plan Advisory Committee, Planning Commission, and City Council. The General Plan was adopted by the City Council at a public hearing held June 26, 2006. The adopted General Plan includes the State-required elements (Land Use, Housing, Circulation, Conservation, Open Space, Safety, and Noise) as well as five optional elements (Agriculture, Air Quality, Hydrology and Water Quality,

2.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Cultural and Paleontological Resources, and Visual Resources/Light and Glare). The long-term vision for the development of Rancho Cordova is illustrated by the General Plan Land Use Map (see General Plan Land Use Element pages 15 and 16) and the associated 16 Planning Area conceptual land plans (see General Plan Land Use Element pages 49 through 94) as well as the Roadway System and Sizing Map (see General Plan Circulation Element page 11) for roadway improvements, the Bikeways and Trails Plan (see General Plan Circulation Element page 15) and the Transit System Map (see General Plan Circulation Element page 19).

The environmental effects of the adoption and implementation of the General Plan were disclosed and analyzed in the Rancho Cordova General Plan Draft and Final EIR (State Clearinghouse No. 2005022137). The Draft EIR identified General Plan policies and action items that provide mitigation of identified significant environmental impacts and included mitigation measures in the form of additional policies and action items for significant environmental impacts (see Draft EIR pages 2.0-7 through -52). Some General Plan policies, action items, and mitigation measures were refined as a result of input during public review as identified in the Final EIR (see Final EIR pages 2.0-8 through -57). However, several significant environmental effects were identified in the Final EIR as significant and unavoidable in the areas of land use, agriculture, population/housing/employment, traffic, air quality, noise, aggregate resources, water supply, biological resources, cultural resources, wastewater, and visual resources. Consequently, the Rancho Cordova City Council adopted a Statement of Overriding Considerations with the adoption of the General Plan, which identified specific benefits that outweighed these significant impacts, including the following (see City of Rancho Cordova Resolution No. 116-2006):

- Provision of needed residential dwelling units to meet regional housing needs and provide diverse housing opportunities.
- General Plan provides comprehensive land use and transportation planning that maintains a compact urban form inside the Planning Area and implements Smart Growth principles.
- Economic benefits from the implementation of the General Plan through retention of existing businesses and jobs as well as attracting new jobs and businesses.
- The General Plan would accommodate regional growth by proposing a concentrated development pattern that balances employment, residential, retail, and recreational uses, linked to transportation system improvements. Benefits include reduction in vehicle miles traveled in the region.
- Provision of significant park acreage as well as establishment of open space for mitigation of impacts to natural resources.

2.3 PROPOSED HOUSING ELEMENT UPDATE PROJECT

A housing element does not propose development of any residential uses, nor does it require that any residential uses be constructed. The purpose of the Rancho Cordova General Plan Housing Element is to establish local goals, policies, and actions (programs) the City will implement and/or facilitate to solve identified housing issues. As mandated by state law, the Housing Element must be updated every five years in order to establish and update housing and land use strategies reflective of changing needs, resources, and conditions, including strategies to address climate change and the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.

2.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

As part of the Housing Element update process, the City has reviewed the goals and policies contained in the current Housing Element and analyzed the need for any changes. Other components of the Housing Element update have included an assessment of existing and future housing needs, constraints on housing, housing programs, and quantified objectives. The Housing Element also provides the framework for the City to meet its obligation to demonstrate the ability to accommodate Rancho Cordova's share of the regional housing needs, known as the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA).

The proposed project consists of the following key elements:

HOUSING ELEMENT NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Appendix A of the Housing Element update includes a Housing Element Needs Assessment. This assessment analyzes population and housing characteristics, identifies special housing needs among certain population groups, evaluates housing conditions, and provides other important information to support the goals, policies, and programs that will meet the needs of current and future Rancho Cordova residents. According to the City's projections, there will be surplus capacity of 280 units affordable to very low- and low-income households. The City also expects to have surplus capacity of 1,169 units affordable to moderate-income households and 9 surplus units affordable to above moderate-income households. Therefore, the City has the ability to meet the RHNA requirements, and no changes to the City's Land Use Map and/or Zoning Map are required.

HOUSING ELEMENT TEXT UPDATE

Appendix B of the Housing Element update contains a review of the previous Housing Element, how that Housing Element is meeting its goals and policies, and any changes and or modifications that should be implemented via the Housing Element update. Based on City review of the goals and policies contained in the current Housing Element, various text modifications/additions/deletions have been proposed in order to establish and update housing and land use strategies reflective of changing needs, resources, and conditions present in the city and the region.

SECTION 3.0
ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

INTRODUCTION

This section of the addendum provides analysis and cites substantial evidence that supports the City's determination that the proposed Housing Element update project is covered by the General Plan EIR and no further CEQA environmental review is required. The adoption of an updated Housing Element is in keeping with the state law requirement that each city and county update the housing element of its general plan every five years. The Rancho Cordova Housing Element update is an activity within the scope of the General Plan Program EIR. No further environmental review is required because the proposed project does not meet the criteria for preparing a subsequent or supplemental EIR under State CEQA Guidelines Section 15162. The analysis in this chapter focuses on the criteria under Section 15162.

First, as addressed in the analysis below, the proposed project does not constitute substantial changes to the existing policies and actions in the General Plan. The Housing Element update is consistent with the General Plan. Overall, the project would not cause a new significant impact or substantially increase the severity of a previously identified significant impact from the General Plan Final EIR (State CEQA Guidelines Section 15162[a][1]) that would require major revisions to the General Plan Final EIR. All impacts would be equivalent to the impacts previously analyzed in the General Plan Final EIR.

Second, there are no substantial changes in the circumstances that would cause a new significant impact or substantially increase the severity of a previously identified significant impact requiring major revisions to the General Plan EIR (State CEQA Guidelines Section 15162[a][2]). There have been no changes in the environmental conditions in the City of Rancho Cordova Planning Area not contemplated and analyzed in the General Plan EIR that would result in new or substantially more severe environmental impacts.

Third, as documented below, there is no new information of substantial importance (which was not known or could not have been known at the time of the General Plan adoption in June 2006) that identifies a new significant impact (condition "A" under State CEQA Guidelines Section 15162[a][3]); a substantial increase in the severity of a previously identified significant impact (condition "B" State CEQA Guidelines Section 15162[a][3]); mitigation measures or alternatives previously found infeasible that would now be feasible and would substantially reduce one or more significant effects of the General Plan; or mitigation measures or alternatives which are considerably different from those analyzed in the General Plan EIR which would substantially reduce one or more significant effects on the environment (conditions "C" and "D" State CEQA Guidelines Section 15162[a][3]). The reader is referred to City Resolution No. 116-2006 regarding findings on the feasibility of alternatives evaluated in the Draft EIR. None of the "new information" conditions listed in State CEQA Guidelines Section 15162[a][3] are present here to trigger the need for a subsequent or supplemental EIR.

State CEQA Guidelines Section 15164 states, "The lead agency or a responsible agency shall prepare an addendum to a previously certified EIR if some changes or additions are necessary but none of the conditions described in Section 15162 calling for preparation of a subsequent EIR have occurred." An addendum is appropriate here because, as explained above, none of the conditions calling for preparation of a subsequent EIR have occurred.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

3.1 LAND USE

PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED IMPACTS IN THE RANCHO CORDOVA GENERAL PLAN FINAL EIR

- Impact 4.1.1 Implementation of the Rancho Cordova General Plan would not result in the physical division of established communities because the General Plan was designed to focus on redevelopment of existing urbanized areas and siting new development in vacant portions of the Planning Area, rather than developing in a way that might divide established communities. The “building block” concept in the proposed General Plan, and relevant policies and action items, would ensure that such division does not occur. Accordingly, adoption of the General Plan is considered a less than significant impact.
- Impact 4.1.2 Implementation of the General Plan could result in incompatibilities or conflicts between existing and future land uses in the Planning Area, including land located outside of the Rancho Cordova city limits. However, implementation of policy provisions of the General Plan would reduce this potential impact to less than significant.
- Impact 4.1.3 Implementation of the proposed General Plan has the potential to conflict with applicable land use plans, policies or regulations of agencies with jurisdiction over parts of the Planning Area that provide for environmental protection. This is considered a significant and unavoidable impact.
- Impact 4.1.4 The Rancho Cordova General Plan has the potential to conflict with the South Sacramento Habitat Conservation Plan, which is the only applicable habitat conservation plan in the Planning Area. This is considered a less than significant impact.
- Impact 4.1.5 When considered with existing, proposed, planned and approved development in the region, implementation of the Rancho Cordova General Plan has the potential to contribute to cumulative land use conditions in the region that result in significant impacts to the physical environment. This is considered a cumulatively considerable and significant and unavoidable impact.

These impacts were addressed on Draft EIR pages 4.1-36 through -64 (division of established communities, incompatibilities between land uses, conflicts with relevant land use plans, policies or regulations, conflicts with an applicable habitat conservation plan, and cumulative impacts) with minor refinements to the impact analysis made in the Final EIR (Final EIR page 4.0-4).

PROPOSED HOUSING ELEMENT UPDATE

The proposed project would not result in new or increased severity of significant land use impacts beyond what was addressed in the General Plan Final EIR. The minor modifications to the Housing Element are consistent with the development assumptions under the General Plan. The proposed project does not include any rezoning of properties that would result in increased development potential over what is currently shown on the City’s Zoning Map. All potential residential sites identified in the proposed Housing Element were considered in the General Plan EIR, so there would be no change from the General Plan EIR regarding land use incompatibilities or conflicts. While there are no physical improvements proposed as part of the

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

proposed project, all future development projects would be subject to applicable City requirements pertaining to land use, as well as to further CEQA analysis of project-specific impacts.

3.2 AGRICULTURE

PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED IMPACTS IN THE RANCHO CORDOVA GENERAL PLAN FINAL EIR

- Impact 4.2.1 Implementation of the proposed General Plan would result in the loss of important farmlands (Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, and Farmland of Statewide Importance, etc) as designated by the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program. This is considered a significant and unavoidable impact.
- Impact 4.2.2 Implementation of the proposed General Plan could result in the placement of urban uses adjacent to agricultural uses within and adjacent to the City. This is considered a significant and unavoidable impact.
- Impact 4.2.3 Implementation of the proposed General Plan could result in a conflict with existing Williamson Act contracts. This is considered a significant and unavoidable impact.
- Impact 4.2.4 Implementation of the General Plan Land Use Map Book along, with other proposed development in Sacramento County, would contribute to the additional conversion of important farmlands to other uses and may increase agriculture/urban interface conflicts. This is a cumulatively considerable and a significant and unavoidable impact.

These impacts were addressed in detail on Draft EIR pages 4.2-17 through -26 (loss and conversion of agricultural land, agricultural/urban interface conflicts, Williamson Act contracts, and cumulative agricultural resource impacts).

PROPOSED HOUSING ELEMENT UPDATE

The proposed project would not result in new or increased severity of significant agricultural resource impacts beyond what was addressed in the General Plan Final EIR. The minor modifications proposed by the Housing Element update are consistent with the development under the General Plan. All potential residential sites identified in the proposed Housing Element were considered in the General Plan EIR, so there would be no change from the General Plan EIR regarding the loss and/or conversion of agricultural land; agricultural/urban interface conflicts; Williamson Act contract conflicts; or cumulative agricultural resource impacts. As such, the potential impacts to agricultural resources associated with the proposed project would not be greater than those analyzed in the General Plan EIR, nor would the proposed project result in any agricultural resource impacts not identified in the EIR.

While there are no physical improvements proposed as part of these changes to the Housing Element, all future development projects would be subject to applicable City requirements pertaining to agricultural resources, as well as to further CEQA analysis of project-specific impacts.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

3.3 POPULATION/HOUSING/EMPLOYMENT

PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED IMPACTS IN THE RANCHO CORDOVA GENERAL PLAN FINAL EIR

- Impact 4.3.1 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Land Use Map would include land uses that promote the increase in population, housing, and employment to the area, and thus include substantial growth. This is a significant and unavoidable impact.
- Impact 4.3.2 Implementation of the General Plan may result in the displacement of housing and/or persons due to the construction of infrastructure necessary to serve new development or revitalization efforts. This is considered a less than significant impact.
- Impact 4.3.3 Buildout in the planning area, under the proposed General Plan Land Use Map, would include substantial population, housing unit and employment increases. This is considered a cumulatively considerable and a significant and unavoidable impact.

These impacts were addressed in detail on Draft EIR pages 4.3-10 through -20 (population, housing and employment increases, the displacement of a substantial number of persons or housing, and cumulative impacts).

PROPOSED HOUSING ELEMENT UPDATE

The proposed project would not result in new or increased severity of significant population/housing/employment impacts beyond what was addressed in the General Plan Final EIR. The amendments to the Housing Element are consistent with the development under the General Plan. While there are no physical improvements proposed as part of these changes to the Housing Element, all future development projects would be subject to applicable City requirements pertaining to population/housing/employment, as well as to further CEQA analysis of project-specific impacts.

3.4 HAZARDS AND HUMAN HEALTH

PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED IMPACTS IN THE RANCHO CORDOVA GENERAL PLAN FINAL EIR

- Impact 4.4.1 Implementation of the General Plan would include the routine transportation of hazardous materials on Planning Area roadways. Implementation of proposed General Plan policies and action items would result in a less than significant impact.
- Impact 4.4.2 The Planning Area consists of land uses having the potential to result in an increased risk of release of hazardous materials. This is considered a potentially significant impact, but mitigated to less than significant.
- Impact 4.4.3 Implementation of the proposed General Plan would locate development within an airport land use plan, potentially resulting in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the area. This impact is considered less than significant.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

- Impact 4.4.4 Implementation of the proposed General Plan could impair implementation or physically interfere with the Sacramento County Multi-Hazard Disaster Plan (SCMDP). This is considered a less than significant impact.
- Impact 4.4.5 Persons could be exposed to contaminated soil or groundwater during development of previously contaminated sites or sites undergoing remediation. Implementation of the General Plan policies and action items as well as existing regulatory requirements and standards would reduce impacts so that they are considered less than cumulatively considerable.

These impacts were addressed in detail in Draft EIR pages 4.4-22 through -32 (transportation of hazardous materials, release and exposure to hazardous materials, airport safety hazards, conflicts with emergency response plans, and cumulative impacts) with minor refinements made in the Final EIR (see Final EIR pages 4.0-4 and -5).

PROPOSED HOUSING ELEMENT UPDATE

The proposed project would not result in new or increased severity of significant hazard and human health impacts beyond what was addressed in the General Plan Final EIR. The amendments to the Housing Element are consistent with the development assumptions under the General Plan. The potential residential sites identified in the proposed Housing Element were considered in the General Plan EIR, so there would be no change from the General Plan EIR regarding generation of hazardous materials or exposure to existing or new sources of hazardous materials or other hazards. While there are no physical improvements proposed as part of the changes to the Housing Element, all future development projects would be subject to all applicable local, state, and federal regulations regarding the transportation, use, and disposal of hazardous materials, and to regulations regarding sites with contaminated soil or groundwater, as well as to further CEQA analysis of project-specific impacts. Thus, no new or increased severity of significant hazard impacts would occur beyond what was addressed in the General Plan Final EIR.

3.5 TRANSPORTATION AND CIRCULATION

PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED IMPACTS IN THE RANCHO CORDOVA GENERAL PLAN FINAL EIR

- Impact 4.5.1 Implementation of the proposed General Plan would result in an increase in traffic volumes that would result in deficient level of service conditions in year 2030. This would be a significant and unavoidable impact.
- Impact 4.5.2 Implementation of the proposed General Plan would exacerbate unacceptable operations on eastbound and westbound U.S. 50 during the a.m. and p.m. peak hours. This is considered a significant and unavoidable impact.
- Impact 4.5.3 Implementation of the proposed General Plan would result in an increase in traffic volumes, which could increase the potential opportunities for safety conflicts as well as potential conflicts with emergency access. This is considered a less than significant impact.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

- Impact 4.5.4 Implementation of the proposed General Plan would result in an increase in the demand for public transit service (e.g., bus and light rail service). This is considered a less than significant impact.
- Impact 4.5.5 Implementation of the proposed General Plan would result in an increase in the demand for pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure. This is considered a less than significant impact.
- Impact 4.5.6 When considered with existing, proposed, planned and approved development in the region, implementation of the Rancho Cordova General Plan would contribute to cumulative traffic volumes in the region that result in significant impacts to level of service and operations. This is considered a cumulatively considerable and a significant and unavoidable impact.
- Impact 4.5.7 Implementation of the proposed General Plan would contribute to the cumulative demand for public transit service (e.g., bus and light rail service). The General Plan's contribution is considered less than cumulatively considerable.
- Impact 4.5.8 Implementation of the proposed General Plan would contribute to cumulative demands for pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure. The General Plan's contribution is considered less than cumulatively considerable.

These impacts were addressed in detail on Draft EIR pages 4.5-22 through -76 (study roadway segments, study freeway segments, roadway safety and emergency access, transit system, bicycle and pedestrian system, and cumulative impacts) with minor refinements made in the Final EIR on page 4.0-5.

PROPOSED HOUSING ELEMENT UPDATE

The proposed project would not result in new or increased severity of significant traffic impacts beyond what was addressed in the General Plan Final EIR. The amendments to the Housing Element are consistent with the development assumptions under the General Plan. The Housing Element update identifies potential sites for residential development at the same densities as previously considered in the General Plan EIR. Therefore, there would be no change with respect to overall traffic generation or local traffic impacts.

While there are no physical improvements proposed as part of the changes to the Housing Element, all future development projects would be subject to applicable City requirements pertaining to transportation and circulation, as well as to further CEQA analysis of project-specific impacts.

3.6 AIR QUALITY

PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED IMPACTS IN THE RANCHO CORDOVA GENERAL PLAN FINAL EIR

- Impact 4.6.1 Implementation of the proposed City of Rancho Cordova General Plan land uses would conflict with the land use assumptions used 1994 SMAQMD Regional Ozone Attainment Plan. This is considered a significant and unavoidable impact to air quality.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

- Impact 4.6.2 Implementation of the proposed General Plan would result in short-term emissions generated by construction and demolition activities that would affect local air quality and could result in health and nuisance-type impacts in the immediate vicinity of individual construction sites as well as contribute to particulate matter and regional ozone impacts. This is considered a significant and unavoidable impact to air quality.
- Impact 4.6.3 Implementation of the proposed General Plan would increase air pollutant emissions from operational activities of land uses within the Planning Area and will exceed thresholds for ROG and NO_x, and other federal or state emissions standards. This is considered a significant and unavoidable impact.
- Impact 4.6.4 Implementation of the proposed General Plan would include sources of toxic air contaminants that may affect surrounding land uses. Sensitive land uses may also be located near existing sources toxic air contaminants. This impact is considered significant and unavoidable.
- Impact 4.6.5 Implementation of the proposed General Plan would include sources that may expose sensitive receptors to construction and long-term odorous emissions. This impact is considered a potentially significant impact, but mitigated to less than significant.
- Impact 4.6.6 Implementation of the proposed General Plan along with potential development of the Planning Area would exacerbate existing regional problems with ozone and particulate matter. The proposed General Plan's contribution to these conditions is considered cumulatively considerable and a significant and unavoidable impact.

These impacts were addressed in detail in Draft EIR pages 4.6-14 through -38 (conflicts with attainment plan, construction air pollutants, operational air pollutants, toxic air contaminants, odor impacts, and cumulative impacts) with minor refinements made in the Final EIR (see Final EIR pages 4.0-5 through -7).

PROPOSED HOUSING ELEMENT UPDATE

The proposed project would not result in new or substantially increased severity of significant air quality impacts beyond what was addressed in the General Plan Final EIR. The amendments to the Housing Element are consistent with the development assumptions under the General Plan. Because there would be no additional housing or other development associated with the proposed Housing Element update, no new or substantially increased severity of air quality impacts would occur beyond what was addressed in the General Plan Final EIR.

While there are no physical improvements proposed as part of the changes to the Housing Element, all future development projects would be subject to applicable local, state, and federal regulations pertaining to air quality, as well as to further CEQA analysis of project-specific impacts.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

3.7 NOISE

PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED IMPACTS IN THE RANCHO CORDOVA GENERAL PLAN FINAL EIR

- Impact 4.7.1 Implementation of the proposed General Plan would result in subsequent development projects and cause an increase in construction noise levels that would exceed City of Rancho Cordova noise standards. This is considered a significant and unavoidable impact.
- Impact 4.7.2 Implementation of the proposed General Plan would result in increases in traffic noise levels that would be in excess of City of Rancho Cordova noise standards. This is considered a significant and unavoidable impact.
- Impact 4.7.3 Implementation of the proposed General Plan could result in future stationary noise sources that generate noise levels in excess of applicable noise standards for non-transportation noise sources. This is considered a significant and unavoidable impact.
- Impact 4.7.4 Implementation of the proposed General Plan would result in the creation of new noise-sensitive land uses within the 65 dB CNEL noise contours contained within the Mather Airport CLUP. Additionally, the implementation of the General Plan would result in the creation of new noise-sensitive land uses within over-flight areas of Mather Airport, thereby presenting the potential for annoyance from single event noise. This is considered a significant and unavoidable impact.
- Impact 4.7.5 Implementation of the General Plan could expose future land uses and residents to light rail and public transit related noise. This is considered a less than significant impact.
- Impact 4.7.6 Implementation of the proposed General Plan in combination with regional growth and traffic conditions (pass-through traffic) would increase transportation noise along area roadways. This would be a cumulatively considerable and a significant and unavoidable impact.
- Impact 4.7.7 Implementation of the proposed General Plan, in combination with regional growth in surrounding communities outside of the Planning Area, would increase stationary noise. This is considered a cumulatively considerable and a significant and unavoidable impact.
- Impact 4.7.8 Implementation of the proposed General Plan in combination with regional growth in the Planning Area and surrounding communities would subject more noise-sensitive land uses to airport noise. This is considered a less than cumulatively considerable impact.

These impacts were addressed in detail in Draft EIR pages 4.7-18 through -41 (construction noise, traffic noise, stationary noise, airport noise, light rail and transit noise, and cumulative impacts) with minor refinements made in the Final EIR (see Final EIR page 4.0-7).

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

PROPOSED HOUSING ELEMENT UPDATE

The proposed project would not result in new or increased severity of significant noise impacts beyond what was addressed in the General Plan Final EIR. The amendments to the Housing Element are consistent with the development assumptions under the General Plan. The amount and location of residential uses would be the same as that analyzed in the General Plan EIR, so there would be no change with regard to noise generation or location of noise-sensitive land uses.

While there are no physical improvements proposed as part of the changes to the Housing Element, all future development projects would be subject to applicable City noise standards, as well as to further CEQA analysis of project-specific impacts.

3.8 GEOLOGY AND SOILS

PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED IMPACTS IN THE RANCHO CORDOVA GENERAL PLAN FINAL EIR

- Impact 4.8.1 Implementation of the proposed General Plan, and the resulting increase in population, employment, and development activity within the Planning Area, may expose people, structures, and development to ground shaking and seismic hazards as a result of fault activity. This is considered a less than significant impact.
- Impact 4.8.2 Implementation of the proposed General Plan would include substantial construction and site preparative activities. These activities increase soil erosion, especially from wind and water, and siltation of local drainages during construction, excavation and grading activities. Implementation of the proposed General Plan policies and future development's compliance with the City's NPDES Permit and the City's Erosion Control Ordinance would reduce these impacts to less than significant.
- Impact 4.8.3 Implementation of the proposed General Plan may place development in areas with unstable soils. This impact is considered a less than significant impact.
- Impact 4.8.4 Implementation of the proposed General Plan could impact areas where soils may be incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems. This would be a less than significant impact.
- Impact 4.8.5 Implementation of the proposed General Plan would result in the loss of availability of aggregate resources, which are locally important due to their use by the construction community in development of the area. This is considered to be a significant and unavoidable impact.
- Impact 4.8.6 Implementation of the proposed General Plan, in combination with existing, planned, proposed and reasonably foreseeable development, would not contribute to cumulative geologic and soil impacts, as the impacts would be site-specific and not additive in character. Thus, the General Plan's contribution would be less than cumulatively considerable.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

Impact 4.8.7 Implementation of the proposed General Plan, together with past, present, and probable future projects in the area, would result in a cumulatively significant loss of mineral resources in the region. The General Plan's incremental contribution to the loss of mineral resources is cumulatively considerable and a significant and unavoidable impact.

These impacts were addressed in detail in Draft EIR pages 4.8-18 through -30 (seismic events, soil erosion, soil stability, septic system operation, mineral resources, and cumulative impacts).

PROPOSED HOUSING ELEMENT UPDATE

The proposed project would not result in new or increased severity of significant geology and soils impacts beyond what was addressed in the General Plan Final EIR. The amendments to the Housing Element are consistent with the development assumptions under the General Plan. All future development projects would be subject to applicable City requirements, including, but not limited to, the requirements of the City's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit and the City's Erosion Control Ordinance. As such, the potential impacts to geology and soils associated with the amendments would not be greater than those analyzed in the General Plan EIR, nor would the proposed project result in any geology and soils impacts not identified in the EIR.

3.9 HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED IMPACTS IN THE RANCHO CORDOVA GENERAL PLAN FINAL EIR

Impact 4.9.1 Implementation of the proposed General Plan could result in the discharge of polluted runoff, discharge that could cause harm to the biological integrity of waterways, adversely impact water quality standards, or otherwise substantially degrade surface water quality. This is considered a potentially significant impact, but was mitigated to less than significant.

Impact 4.9.2 Implementation of the proposed General Plan could result in the degradation of groundwater quality resulting from future land uses. This is considered a potentially significant impact, but was mitigated to less than significant.

Impact 4.9.3 Implementation of the proposed General Plan would increase impervious surfaces and alter drainage conditions and storm water runoff rates throughout the Planning Area, which could result in potential flooding impacts. However, the General Plan contains adequate General Plan policies and action items that address drainage and flooding issues. This is considered a less than significant impact.

Impact 4.9.4 Implementation of the proposed General Plan would increase demand for water supply and require increased groundwater production and the use of surface water supplies. This additional water supply demand would result in significant effects on the physical environment. This is considered a significant and unavoidable impact.

Impact 4.9.5 Implementation of the proposed General Plan and potential development of the Planning Area would include substantial grading, site preparation, and an increase in urbanized development. Increased development would contribute

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

to cumulative water quality impacts and is considered cumulatively considerable, but was mitigated to less than significant.

Impact 4.9.6 Implementation of the proposed General Plan would increase impervious surfaces and alter drainage conditions and rates in the Planning Area, which could contribute to cumulative flood conditions along the American River, Sacramento River, Cosumnes River, and local waterways. However, the General Plan contains adequate General Plan policies and action items that address drainage and flooding issues. This is considered a less than cumulatively considerable impact.

Impact 4.9.7 Implementation of the proposed General Plan would contribute to an increased demand for water supply requiring increased groundwater production and the use of surface water supplies that could result in significant environmental impacts. This is considered a cumulatively considerable and a significant and unavoidable impact.

These impacts were addressed in Draft EIR pages 4.9-33 through -66 (surface water quality, groundwater quality, flooding, increased water supply demand, and cumulative impacts) with minor refinements made in the Final EIR (see Final EIR pages 4.0-7 through -11).

PROPOSED HOUSING ELEMENT UPDATE

The proposed project would not result in new or increased severity of significant hydrology and water quality impacts beyond what was addressed in the General Plan Final EIR. The amendments to the Housing Element are consistent with the development assumptions under the General Plan, and the proposed Housing Element update does not assume development in locations not previously considered for development in the General Plan EIR. While there are no physical improvements proposed as part of the changes to the Housing Element, all future development projects would be subject to applicable City requirements pertaining to hydrology and water quality. As such, the potential impacts to hydrology and water quality associated with these amendments would not be greater than those analyzed in the General Plan EIR, nor would the proposed project result in any hydrology and water quality impacts not identified in the General Plan EIR.

3.10 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED IMPACTS IN THE RANCHO CORDOVA GENERAL PLAN FINAL EIR

Impact 4.10.1 Implementation of the proposed General Plan would result in direct and indirect loss of habitat and individuals of endangered, threatened, rare, proposed, and candidate status as well as plant species identified by the California Native Plant Society with a rating of List 1B (i.e. rare, threatened or endangered plants). This would be a significant and unavoidable impact.

Impact 4.10.2 Implementation of the proposed General Plan would result in direct and indirect loss of habitat and individuals of animal and plant species of concern and other non-listed special status species. This would be a significant and unavoidable impact.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

- Impact 4.10.3 Implementation of the proposed General Plan would result in the loss of foraging habitat for raptors, migratory birds, and other wildlife. This would be a significant and unavoidable impact.
- Impact 4.10.4 Implementation of the proposed General Plan would result in substantial adverse impacts to and the potential loss of jurisdictional waters of the U.S. This would be a significant and unavoidable impact.
- Impact 4.10.5 Implementation of the proposed General Plan would interfere substantially with the movement of several special status and common wildlife species. This would be a significant and unavoidable impact.
- Impact 4.10.6 Implementation of the proposed General Plan would result in the loss of native and landmark trees. This would be a significant and unavoidable impact.
- Impact 4.10.7 Implementation of the proposed General Plan would not conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or any adopted biological resources recovery or conservation plan of any Federal or State agency. This would result in no impact.
- Impact 4.10.8 Implementation of the proposed General Plan, together with past, present, and probable future projects in the Planning Area and larger regional context would result in a cumulatively significant loss of biological resources in the region. The General Plan's incremental contribution to this cumulative impact is cumulatively considerable and a significant and unavoidable impact.

These impacts were addressed in detail in Draft EIR pages 4.10-32 through -68 (endangered species, threatened species, other listed species, species of concern, non-listed special-status species, loss of habitat, jurisdictional waters, wildlife movement corridors, trees, adopted federal and state conservation and recovery plans, and cumulative impacts) with refinements made in the Final EIR on pages 4.0-11 through -13.

PROPOSED HOUSING ELEMENT UPDATE

The proposed project would not result in new or increased severity of significant biological resource impacts beyond what was addressed in the General Plan Final EIR. The amendments to the Housing Element are consistent with the development assumptions under the General Plan. The proposed project would not result in the new land disturbance compared to that analyzed in the General Plan EIR, so impacts to biological resources would not differ from those analyzed in the General Plan EIR. No additional conversion of open space lands (that could support protected species) or resource disturbance would result. Thus, no new or increased severity of significant biological impacts would occur beyond what was addressed in the General Plan Final EIR.

While there are no physical improvements proposed as part of the changes to the Housing Element, all future development projects would be subject to applicable local, state, and federal regulations pertaining to biological resources, as well as to further CEQA analysis of project-specific impacts.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

3.11 CULTURAL AND PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES

PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED IMPACTS IN THE RANCHO CORDOVA GENERAL PLAN FINAL EIR

- Impact 4.11.1 Adoption of the City of Rancho Cordova General Plan could result in the potential disturbance of cultural resources (i.e., prehistoric sites, historic sites, and isolated prehistoric/historic artifacts and features) and human remains. This is considered a significant and unavoidable impact.
- Impact 4.11.2 Adoption of the Rancho Cordova General Plan could result in the potential disturbance of paleontological resources (i.e., fossils and fossil formations). This is considered a potentially significant impact, but was mitigated to less than significant.
- Impact 4.11.3 Adoption of the Rancho Cordova General Plan along with foreseeable development in the region could result in the disturbance of cultural resources (i.e., prehistoric sites, historic sites, and isolated artifacts and features) and human remains. This contribution is considered cumulatively considerable and a significant and unavoidable impact.
- Impact 4.11.4 Adoption of the Rancho Cordova General Plan along with any foreseeable development in the region could result in the potential disturbance of paleontological resources (i.e., fossils and fossil formations). This is considered a less than cumulatively considerable impact.

These impacts were addressed in detail on Draft EIR pages 4.11-8 through -19 (prehistoric resources, historic resources, human remains, paleontological resources, and cumulative impacts) with minor refinements in the Final EIR on page 4.0-13.

PROPOSED HOUSING ELEMENT UPDATE

Overall, the proposed project would not result in new or increased severity of significant cultural and paleontological impacts beyond what was addressed in the General Plan Final EIR. The amendments to the Housing Element are consistent with the development assumptions under the General Plan. No additional conversion of open space lands (that could contain cultural or paleontological resources) is proposed. The proposed project would not result in the new land disturbance compared to that analyzed in the General Plan EIR, so impacts to cultural resources would not differ from those analyzed in the General Plan EIR. Thus, no new or increased severity of significant cultural or paleontological impacts would occur beyond what was addressed in the General Plan Final EIR.

While there are no physical improvements proposed as part of the changes to the Housing Element, all future development projects would be subject to applicable local, state, and federal regulations pertaining to cultural and paleontological resources, as well as to further CEQA analysis of project-specific impacts.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

3.12 PUBLIC SERVICES AND UTILITIES

PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED IMPACTS IN THE RANCHO CORDOVA GENERAL PLAN FINAL EIR

Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services

- Impact 4.12.1.1 Implementation of the General Plan would result in the need for additional fire protection and emergency medical equipment and facilities that could result in physical environmental impacts. This would be a less than significant impact.
- Impact 4.12.1.2 Implementation of the proposed General Plan could result in safety hazards associated with wildland fires in residential areas adjacent to open space and natural areas. This is considered a less than significant impact.
- Impact 4.12.1.3 Implementation of the General Plan in combination with other reasonably foreseeable development (based on Sacramento County, and the cities of Folsom, Elk Grove, Citrus Heights, Galt, Lodi, and Sacramento General Plans land use projections), would increase the population within the SMFD service area, requiring additional fire and emergency medical services and related facilities. The City's contribution to the need for expanded fire protection services is considered less than cumulatively considerable.

Law Enforcement

- Impact 4.12.2.1 Implementation of the General Plan would increase the Planning Area population and would result in additional commercial, industrial and recreational uses in the Planning Area uses, which may result in additional law enforcement protection facilities that could result in physical environmental impacts. This would be a less than significant impact.
- Impact 4.12.2.2 The neighborhood design, home design, street design, and other features associated with implementation of the General Plan could reduce the ability of the City of Rancho Cordova Police Department to enforce the law and respond to crime and other emergencies in the project area. This is a less than significant impact.
- Impact 4.12.2.3 Implementation of the General Plan and other reasonably foreseeable development in southeastern Sacramento County (based on Sacramento County land use projections) would increase the population within the Planning Area and surrounding area and would require additional law enforcement services and related facilities under cumulative conditions. This is a less than cumulatively considerable impact.

Water Service

- Impact 4.12.3.1 Implementation of the General Plan would require additional treatment capacity, storage capacity, and other conveyance facilities to meet the projected water demands. This is considered a significant and unavoidable impact.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

Impact 4.12.3.2 Implementation of the General Plan would contribute to the need for additional treatment capacity, storage capacity, and other conveyance facilities to meet cumulative water demands with SCWA, GSWC and Cal-Am. The General Plan's contribution would be cumulatively considerable and a significant and unavoidable impact.

Wastewater Service

Impact 4.12.4.1 Implementation of the Rancho Cordova General Plan would substantially increase wastewater flows and require additional infrastructure and may require additional treatment capacity to accommodate anticipated demands that would result in a physical effect on the environment. This impact is considered significant and unavoidable.

Impact 4.12.4.2 Implementation of the proposed General Plan, in addition to other reasonably foreseeable development in the eastern Sacramento County (based on the land use projections established in the Sacramento County General Plan), would substantially increase in wastewater flows and require additional infrastructure and treatment capacity that would result in a physical effect on the environment. This is considered cumulatively considerable and a significant and unavoidable impact.

Solid Waste

Impact 4.12.5.1 Implementation of the General Plan would increase solid waste generation and the demand for related services. This is considered a significant impact, but was mitigated to less than significant.

Impact 4.12.5.2 The proposed project, in addition to proposed and approved projects in the region area, would generate solid waste that would require expanded collection and disposal services. The project's contribution would be less than cumulatively considerable.

Public Schools

Impact 4.12.6.1 Implementation of the project would increase student enrollment in the Planning Area and require the construction of new schools and related facilities to serve the anticipated demand. This impact is considered less than significant.

Impact 4.12.6.2 Implementation of the General Plan in combination with other reasonably foreseeable development (based on General Plan land use projections for Sacramento County, Folsom, and Elk Grove) proposed in eastern Sacramento County would result in a cumulative increase in student enrollment and require additional schools and related facilities to accommodate the growth. This is a less than cumulatively considerable impact.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

Parks and Recreation

- Impact 4.12.7.1 Implementation of the General Plan would increase the demand for existing facilities and require additional parks and recreational facilities to accommodate the anticipated growth associated with the General Plan. This would be a less than significant impact.
- Impact 4.12.7.2 Implementation of the General Plan in combination with other reasonably foreseeable development would require additional park and recreation facilities within the Planning Area boundaries and CRPD's service area boundaries. This would be a less than cumulatively considerable impact.

Electrical, Natural Gas, and Telephone Services

- Impact 4.12.8.1 Implementation of the General Plan would substantially increase demand for electrical, natural gas, telephone and related infrastructure. This is considered a less than significant impact.
- Impact 4.12.8.2 Implementation of the proposed project as well as potential development in the surrounding areas (based on Sacramento County General Plan land use projections) would result in cumulative utility service impacts. The project's contribution would be less than cumulatively considerable.

These impacts were addressed in detail in Draft EIR pages 4.12-5 through -105 (fire protection, emergency medical services, law enforcement, water service, wastewater service, solid waste, public schools, parks and recreation, electrical service, natural gas service, telephone service, and cumulative impacts) with refinements made in the Final EIR on pages 4.0-13 through -21.

PROPOSED HOUSING ELEMENT UPDATE

The proposed project would not result in new or increased severity of significant public services and utilities impacts beyond what was addressed in the General Plan Final EIR. The amendments to the Housing Element are consistent with the development assumptions under the General Plan. Therefore, demand for services and utilities would not change from that analyzed in the General Plan EIR.

While there are no physical improvements proposed as part of these changes to the Housing Element, all future development projects would be subject to applicable City requirements pertaining to public services and utilities, as well as to further CEQA analysis of project-specific impacts.

3.13 VISUAL RESOURCES/LIGHT AND GLARE

PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED IMPACTS IN THE RANCHO CORDOVA GENERAL PLAN FINAL EIR

- Impact 4.13.1 Implementation of the proposed General Plan Land Use Map will not result in substantial damage to scenic resources within a state scenic highway. There is no impact.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

- Impact 4.13.2 Implementation of the General Plan will encourage new development and redevelopment activities that could potentially degrade existing scenic vistas. This is considered a less than significant impact.
- Impact 4.13.3 Implementation of the General Plan will encourage new development and redevelopment activities that could degrade the existing visual character or quality of the Planning Area. This is considered a significant and unavoidable impact.
- Impact 4.13.4 Implementation of the General Plan Land Use Map would create new sources of daytime glare, and substantially change nighttime lighting and illumination levels in the Planning Area, associated with new and redevelopment activities. This is considered a less than significant impact.
- Impact 4.13.5 Implementation of the General Plan will encourage new development and redevelopment activities that would contribute to the cumulative alteration of existing landscape characteristics of the region. This impact is cumulatively considerable and a significant and unavoidable impact.

These impacts were addressed in Draft EIR pages 4.13-5 through -18 (alteration of scenic resources within a scenic highway, degradation of a scenic vista, alteration of visual character, daytime glare and nighttime lighting, and cumulative impacts).

PROPOSED HOUSING ELEMENT UPDATE

The proposed project would not result in new or increased severity of significant visual and light and glare impacts beyond what was addressed in the General Plan Final EIR. The amendments to the Housing Element are consistent with the development assumptions under the General Plan. Housing would be developed in the same locations and at the same densities as assumed in the General Plan EIR. All future development projects would be subject to applicable City requirements pertaining to visual resources, as well as to further CEQA analysis of project-specific impacts.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

REFERENCES

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