City of Los Angeles

Department of Recreation and Parks

221 N. Figueroa Street, Suite 100 • Los Angeles, CA 90012

INITIAL STUDY

HOLLYWOOD COMMUNITY PLAN AREA

Hollywood Central Park

Case No. NP-14-004-RP

Council District No. 13

THIS DOCUMENT COMPRISES THE INITIAL STUDY ANALYSIS AS REQUIRED UNDER THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

Project Address: US-101 Freeway (Hollywood Freeway), Santa Monica Boulevard overpass to a point just north of the Hollywood Boulevard overpass

Project Description: The proposed Project would involve the development and operation of the Hollywood Central Park (HCP or the Park), which would be an approximately 38-acre park and recreational facility constructed above the Hollywood Freeway on an engineered deck and support structure. The Project would be built in the air space above the Hollywood Freeway and thereby enclose the approximately one-mile below-grade portion of the Hollywood Freeway located between Bronson Avenue and Santa Monica Boulevard.

APPLICANT:

Friends of the Hollywood Central Park

PREPARED BY:

FirstCarbon Solutions

August 2014

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EXHIBITS

TABLES

1. INTRODUCTION

The Friends of the Hollywood Central Park (FHCP) is proposing to develop and operate the Hollywood Central Park (HCP or the Park). The HCP would be an approximately 38-acre park and recreational facility constructed above the Hollywood Freeway on an engineered deck and support structure (Project). FHCP would construct the Park within the air space above an approximately one-mile section of the Hollywood Freeway that extends from Santa Monica Boulevard to approximately 500 feet north of Hollywood Boulevard (Project Site). The Project Site is located in the Hollywood Community area of the City of Los Angeles (City). A more detailed description of the Project is contained in Section 2, Project Description of this Initial Study.

The City's Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) is the Lead Agency for the Project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and is preparing an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Project. This Initial Study evaluates potential environmental impacts and identifies environmental issues that will be evaluated in an Environmental Impact Report (EIR).

Since the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), in conjunction with the Federal Highway Administration, are responsible agencies for actions related to the Hollywood Freeway, environmental documentation will also be prepared to satisfy the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

Project Title: Hollywood Central Park

Project Location: Hollywood Freeway, Santa Monica Boulevard overpass to approximately 500 feet north of the Hollywood Boulevard overpass

Lead Agency:
City of Los Angeles
Department of Recreation and Parks
221 N. Figueroa Street, Suite 100
Los Angeles, California 90012
Phone: (213) 202-2682
Fax: (213) 202-2611
Darryl Ford, Principal Project Coordinator
E-mail: Darryl.ford@lacity.org

ORGANIZATION OF THE INITIAL STUDY

This Initial Study is organized into five sections as follows:

Section 1. Introduction: This section provides introductory information such as the project title, an overview of the Project, and identification of the Applicant and the Lead Agency.

Section 2. Project Description: This section provides a description of the environmental setting and the Project, including project characteristics and a list of discretionary actions.

Section 3. Initial Study and Checklist: This section contains the completed Initial Study Checklist.

Section 4. Environmental Impact Analysis: This section analyzes each environmental issue identified in the Initial Study Checklist.

Section 5. Preparers of the Initial Study: This section provides a list of City personnel and consultant team members that prepared the Initial Study.

2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

Project Location

The Project is located approximately 4 miles northwest of downtown Los Angeles along an alignment of the Hollywood Freeway that transects the community of Hollywood (see Exhibit 1). The Project encompasses the air space above approximately one mile of the Hollywood Freeway, extending from the Santa Monica Boulevard overpass to approximately 500 feet north of the Hollywood Boulevard overpass, along North Bronson Avenue (see Exhibit 2). The Project area is approximately 38 acres, and the width of the Project area varies between 200 and 300 feet within the existing Caltrans right-of-way along the Hollywood Freeway.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

The FHCP is proposing to develop and operate an approximately 38-acre park and recreational facility constructed above the Hollywood Freeway on an engineered deck and support structure. The Project would be built in the air space above the Hollywood Freeway and enclose the approximately one-mile below-grade portion of the Hollywood Freeway located between Bronson Avenue and Santa Monica Boulevard.

The purpose of the Project is to recreate community connectivity by developing an open space resource that serves as a focal point for recreation and civic life in the community. By constructing a cap over a portion of the existing Hollywood Freeway trench, the Project creates a street-level urban park that reunites communities that were separated by the Hollywood Freeway more than sixty years ago. The Project would adaptively transform unused air space into a community resource that contains a variety of engaging active and passive land uses, promotes economic stimulus, and creates jobs.

At its most basic level, and for environmental review purposes, the Project contains two major components. The first component is the usable areas and facilities within the Park. The second component is the engineered deck and the supporting infrastructure that will anchor the deck to land points within the Hollywood Freeway alignment and adjacent Caltrans right-of-ways.

Hollywood Central Park

The grade-level land uses are anticipated to include, but not be limited to landscaped open space, multi-purpose fields, active and passive pedestrian meadows, small retail facilities and kiosks (e.g., bike shops, seasonal markets, art galleries, etc.), restaurants, an amphitheater, a community center, plazas and terraces, water features, playgrounds, dog parks, and interactive community areas (see Exhibit 3a and 3b, and Exhibits 4a through 4f). The Park is anticipated to be open 7 days a week, 24 hours per day, without restrictions to pedestrian movement through the Park. Commercial facilities would generally be open as early as 7:00 a.m. and close by 2:00 a.m.; the Bed and Breakfast Inn would operate 24-hours per day.

Engineered Deck and Supporting Infrastructure

The Hollywood Freeway currently has seven bridges that cross over the Project Area. Construction of the Park would not demolish, improve, or otherwise modify the existing bridges. The supporting infrastructure would be constructed to utilize existing bridges and maintain all existing on and off ramps to the Hollywood Freeway. The bridges will continue to provide vehicular circulation and pedestrian pathways. The deck structure supporting the Park would be designed to ensure sufficient vertical clearance, from the existing grade of the Hollywood Freeway, for unimpeded travel by cars, trucks, and other motor vehicles that are currently allowed to travel on this Freeway.

The Park deck would also include a planted and landscaped "green bridge" over Hollywood Boulevard. The green bridge would increase the deck surface height to approximately 25 feet above Hollywood Boulevard. This area is the only location within the Project boundaries that would be substantially above grade. Pedestrians and vehicles crossing the Hollywood Freeway on Hollywood Boulevard would travel along a sky-lit corridor fronted on both sides by commercial and community serving storefront uses under this bridge structure. The toe of the hill would begin at street level, south of Bronson Avenue and rise towards its apex at Hollywood Boulevard. South of Hollywood Boulevard, the landscaped deck surface would descend and attain street level near Harold Way. From Harold Way to Santa Monica Boulevard the Park deck would be at street level in most areas.

Sustainability

Design features for the Park have been identified to promote sustainability and 'green' concepts, and that are being considered to reduce potential environmental impacts. These features include:

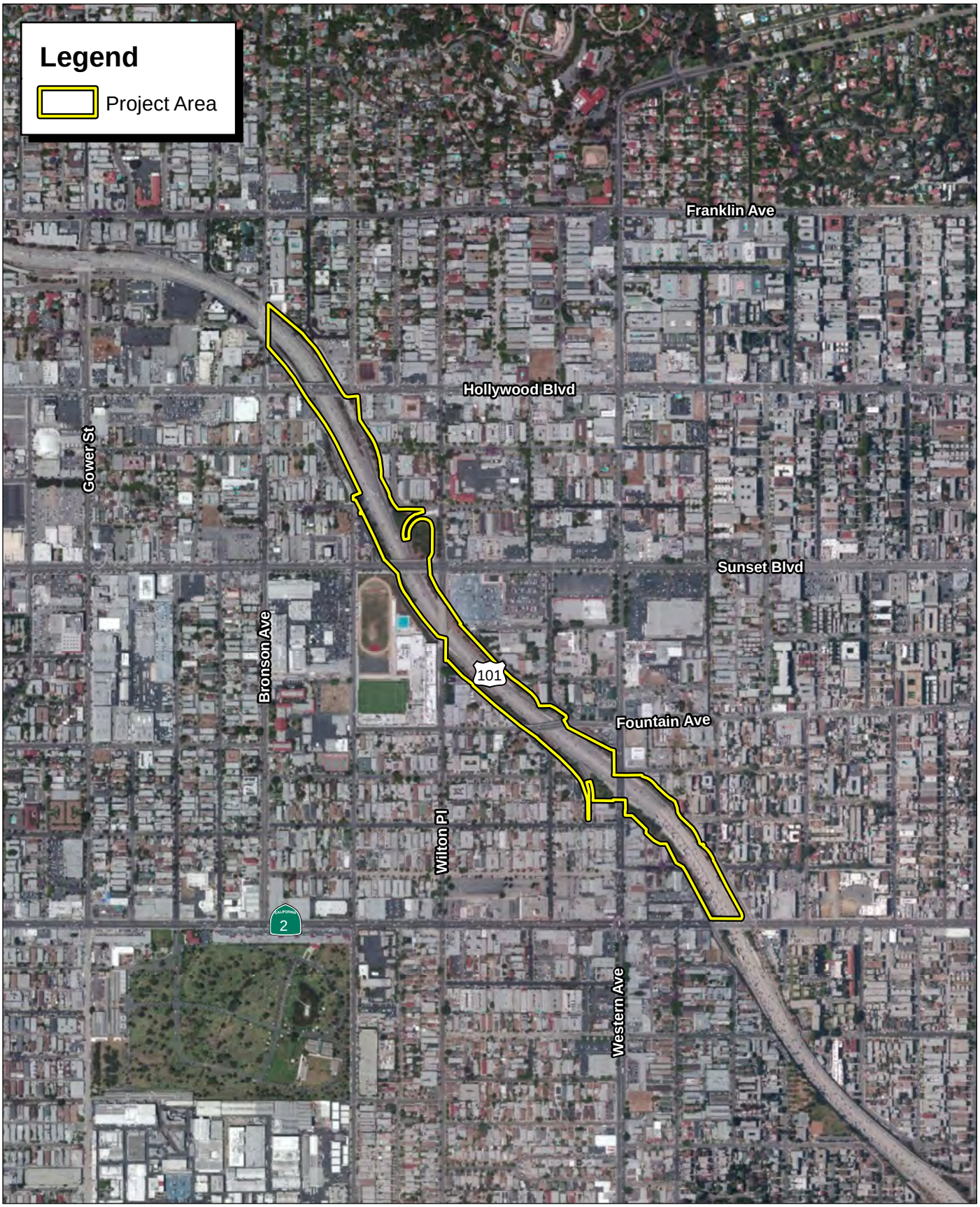
- The landscape palette will include low-maintenance trees, which reduce costs and use of resources, including energy.
- Facilities will incorporate energy and water conservation features such as smart irrigation and solar lighting, to minimize consumption of these resources.
- The replacement of predominantly paved surfaces with landscape planting, soil, and water consumptive turf will increase overall permeability, and reduce runoff.
- Trees, groves and other landscape elements will provide active and passive open space in the midst of an urban environment.
- Filtration best management practices will be implemented throughout the Park as a component of treatment of on-site storm water runoff.
- Recycling will be implemented throughout the Park.

Source: ESRI Street Map 2012

FirstCarbon SOLUTIONS

5 2.5 0 5 Miles

Exhibit 1
Regional Location Map



Source: ESRI Imagery 2013

FirstCarbon SOLUTIONS

1,000 500 0 1,000 Feet

Exhibit 2
Local Vicinity Map
Aerial Base

Source: Campbell & Campbell 2014

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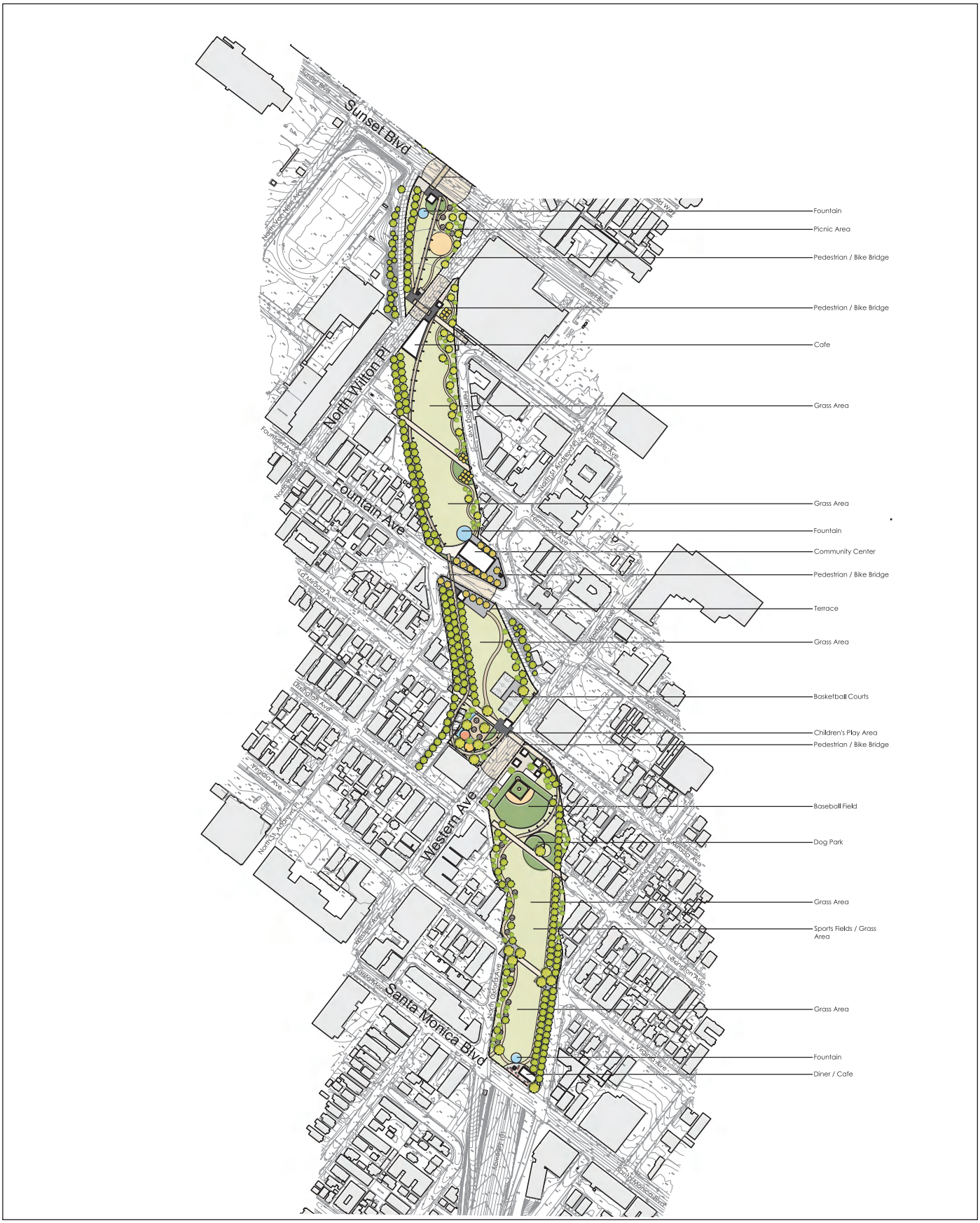
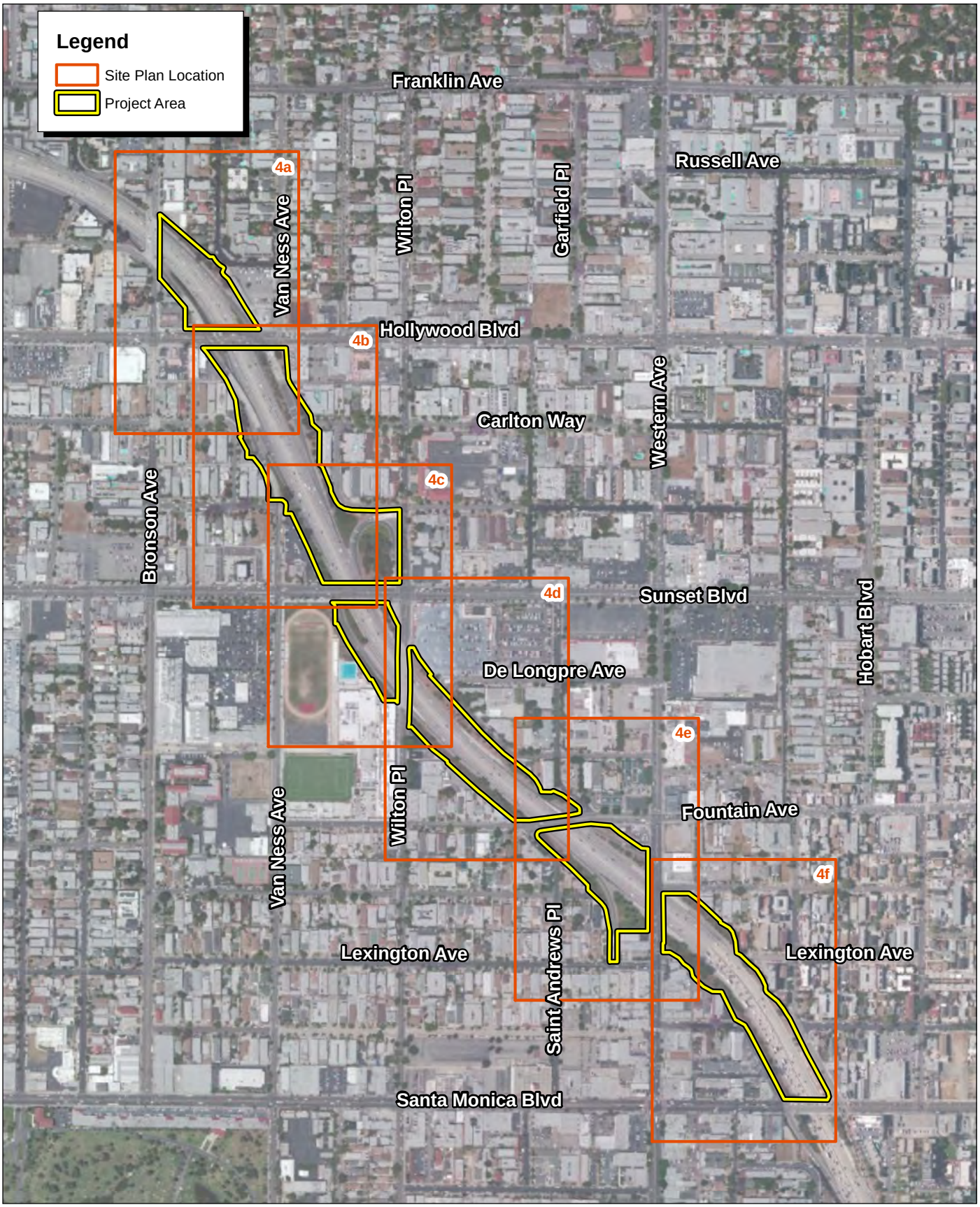
Exhibit 3a
Conceptual Site Plan



Source: Campbell & Campbell 2014

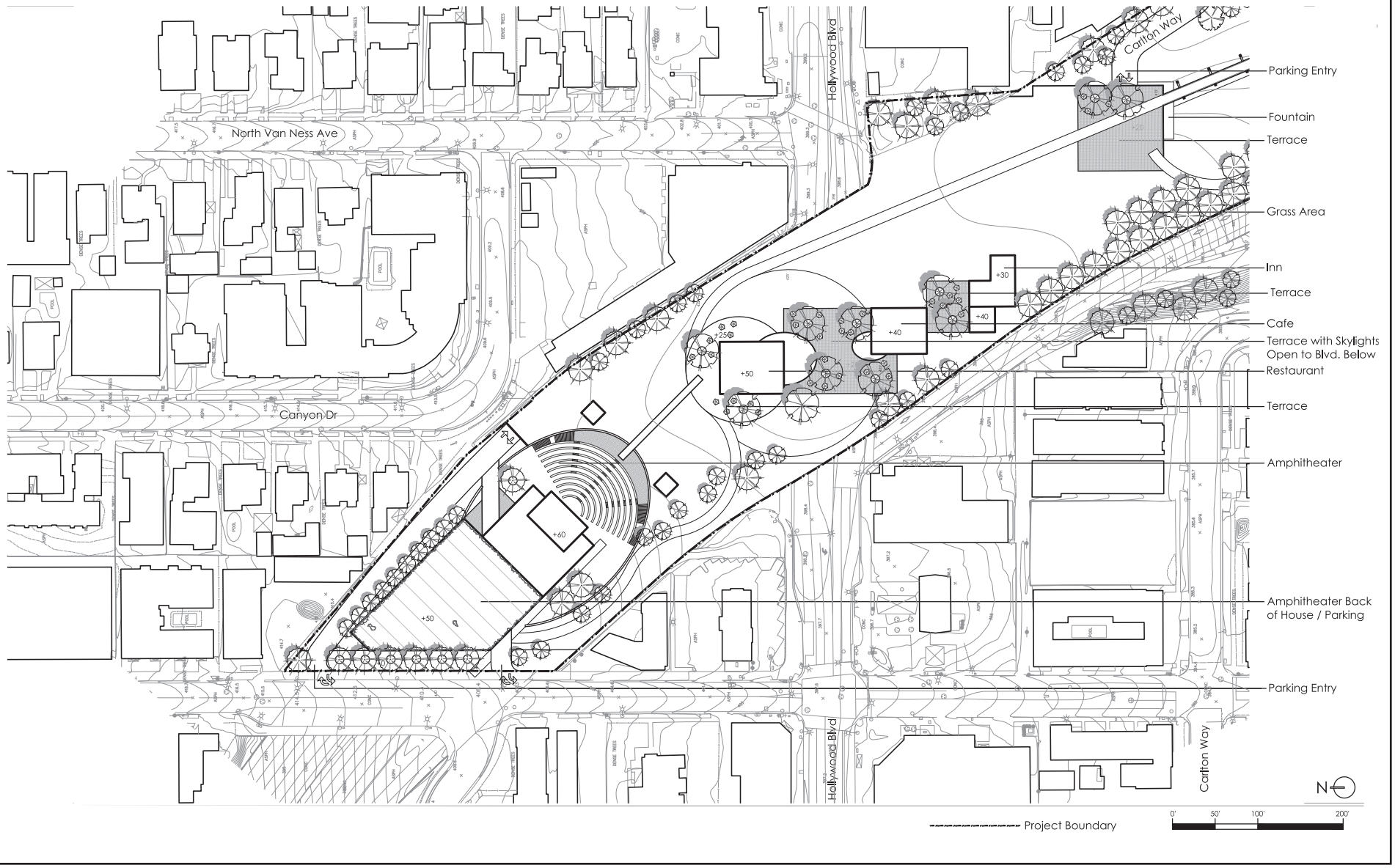
Exhibit 3b
Conceptual Site Plan



Source: ESRI Aerial Imagery.

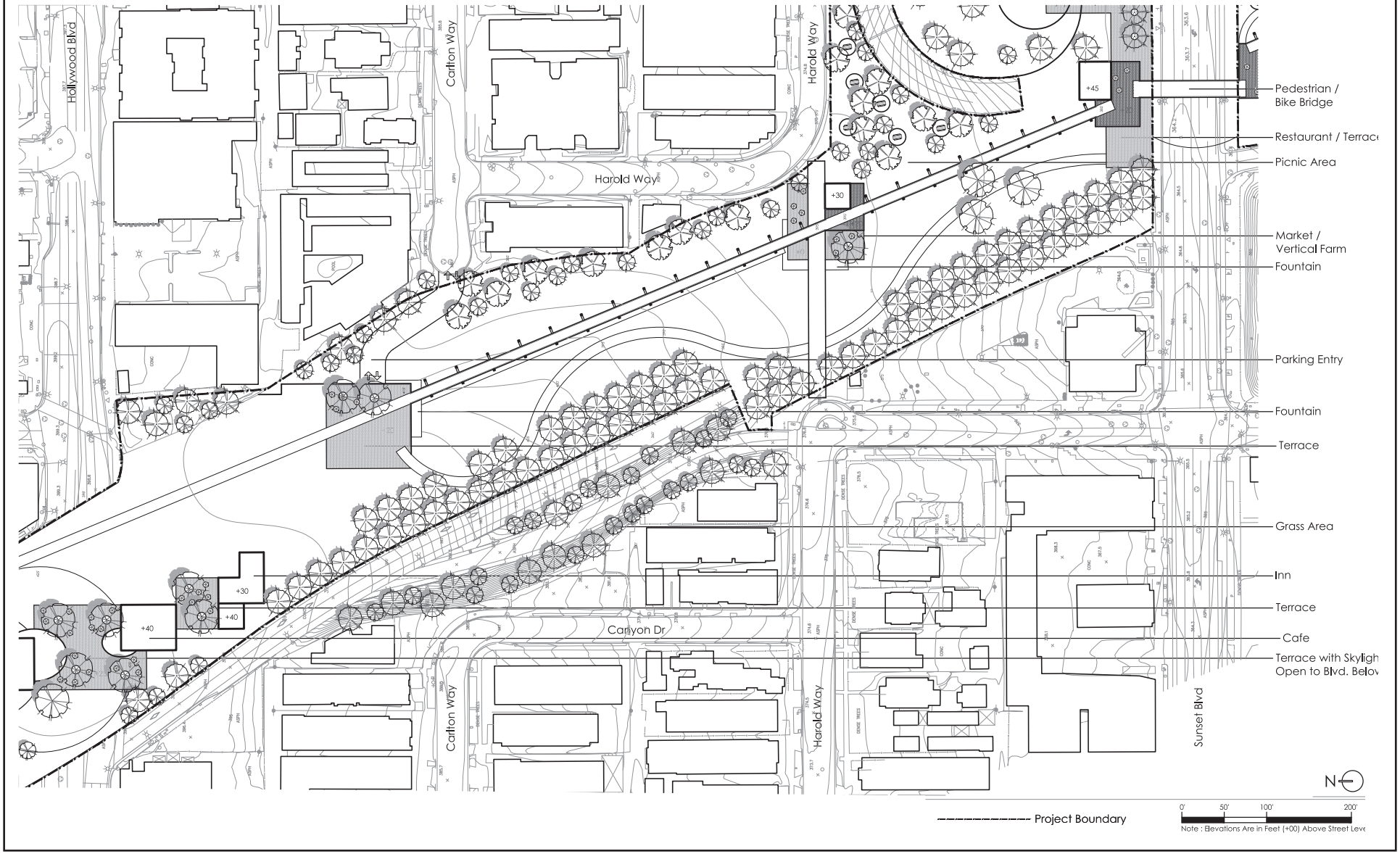
700 350 0 700 Feet

Exhibit 4
Conceptual Site Plan Index Map



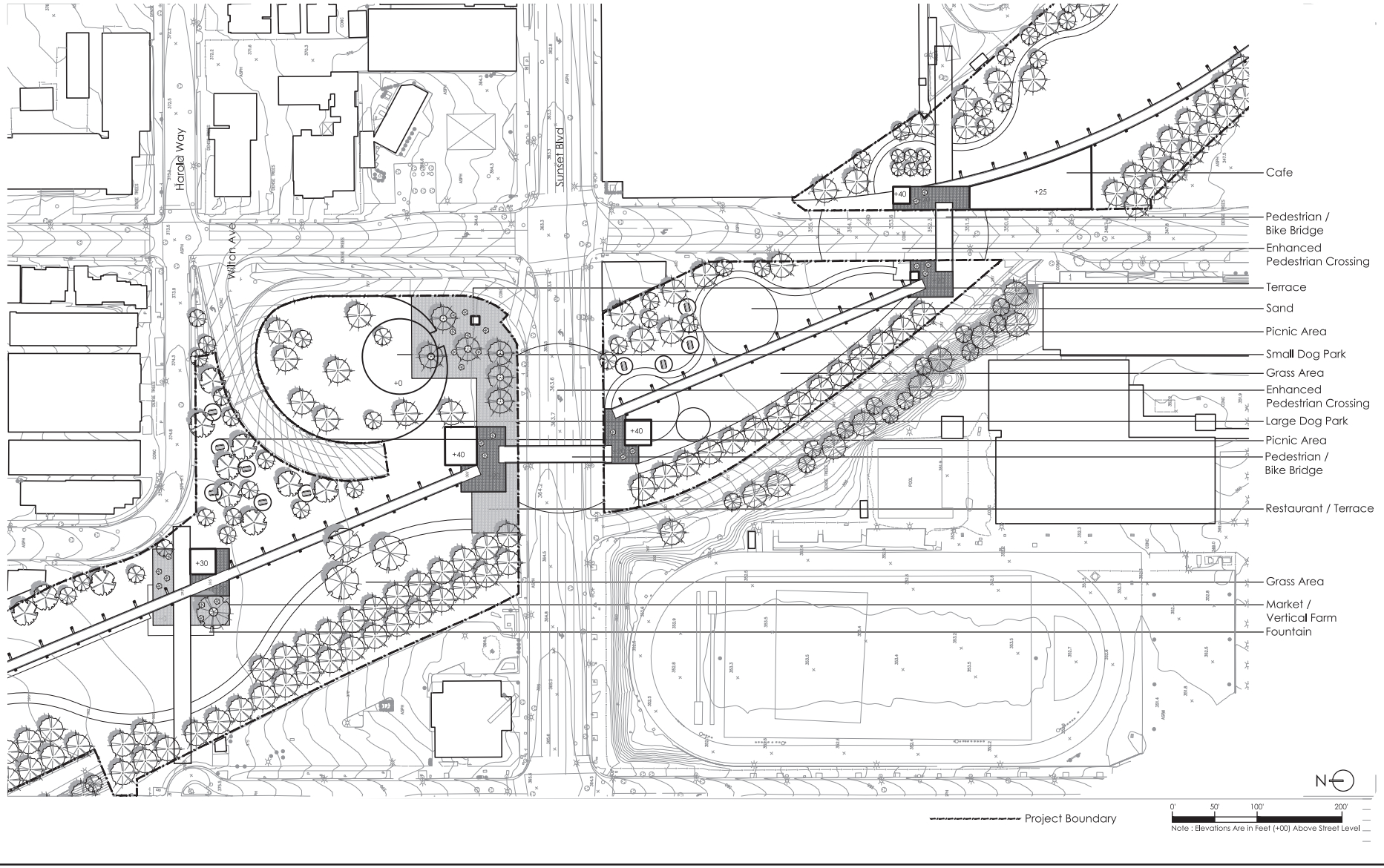
Source: Campbell & Campbell 2014

Exhibit 4a
Conceptual Site Plan



Source: Campbell & Campbell 2014

Exhibit 4b
Conceptual Site Plan



Source: Campbell & Campbell 2014

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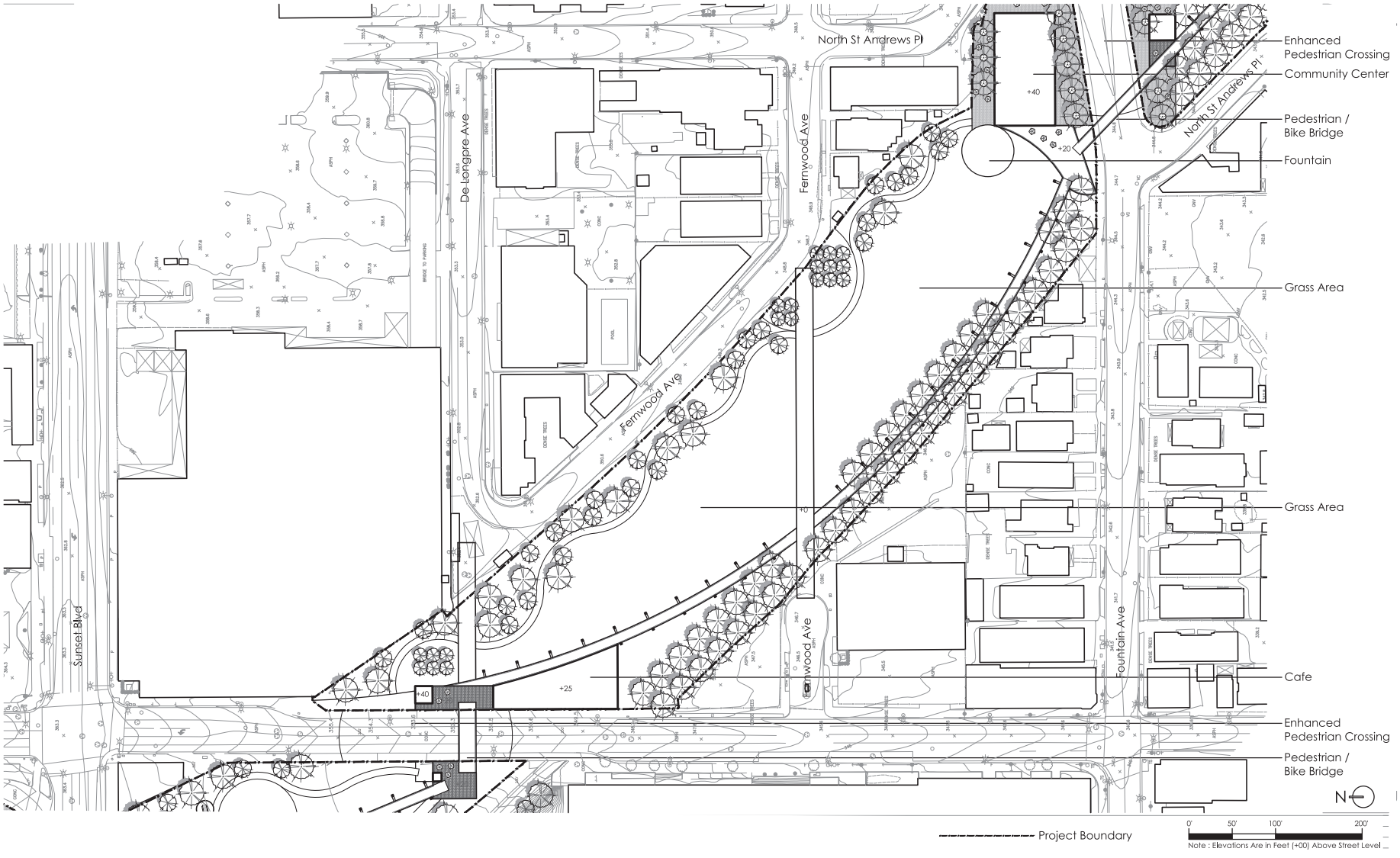
Exhibit 4c
Conceptual Site Plan



Source: Campbell & Campbell 2014

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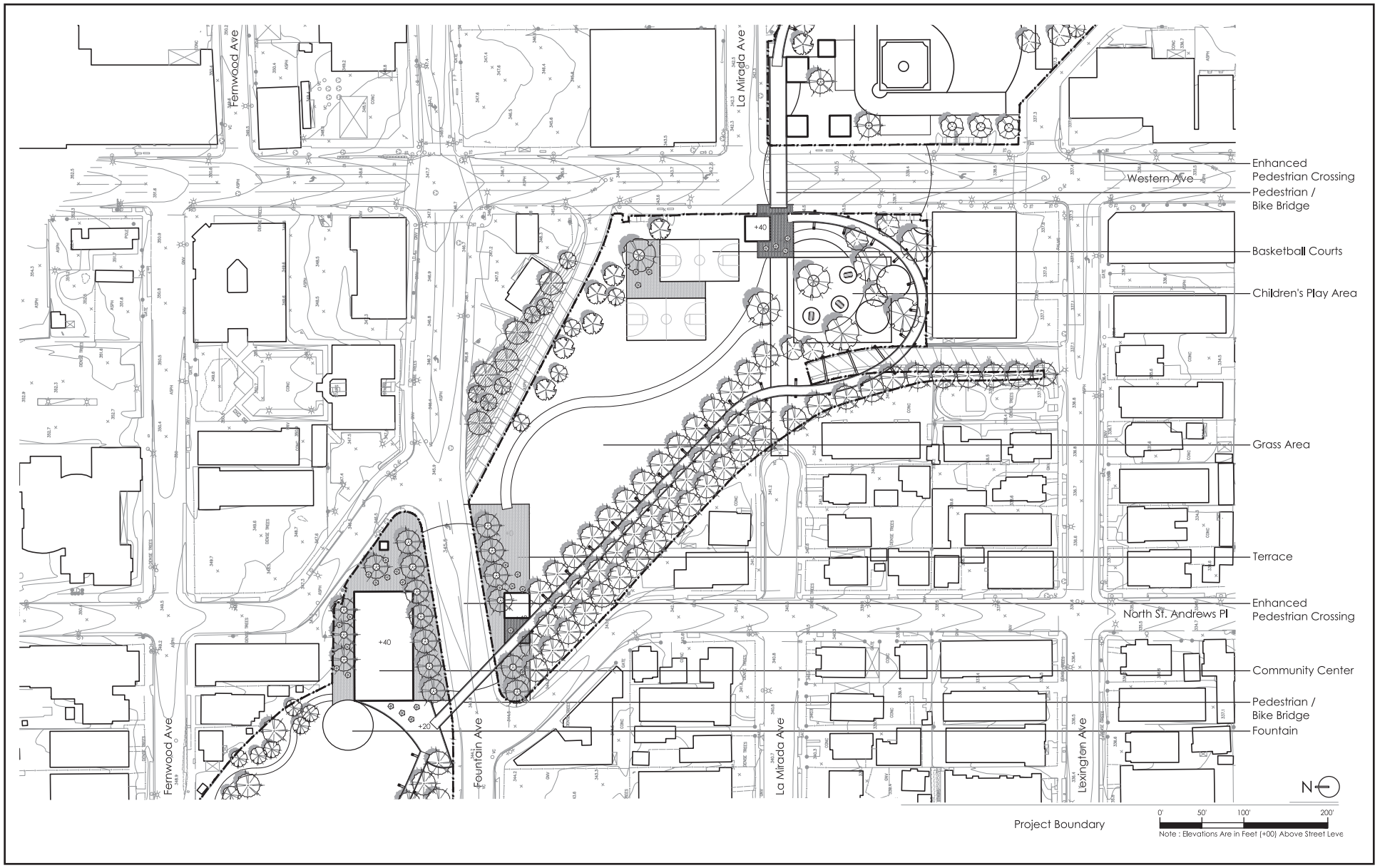
Exhibit 4d
Conceptual Site Plan



Source: Campbell & Campbell 2014

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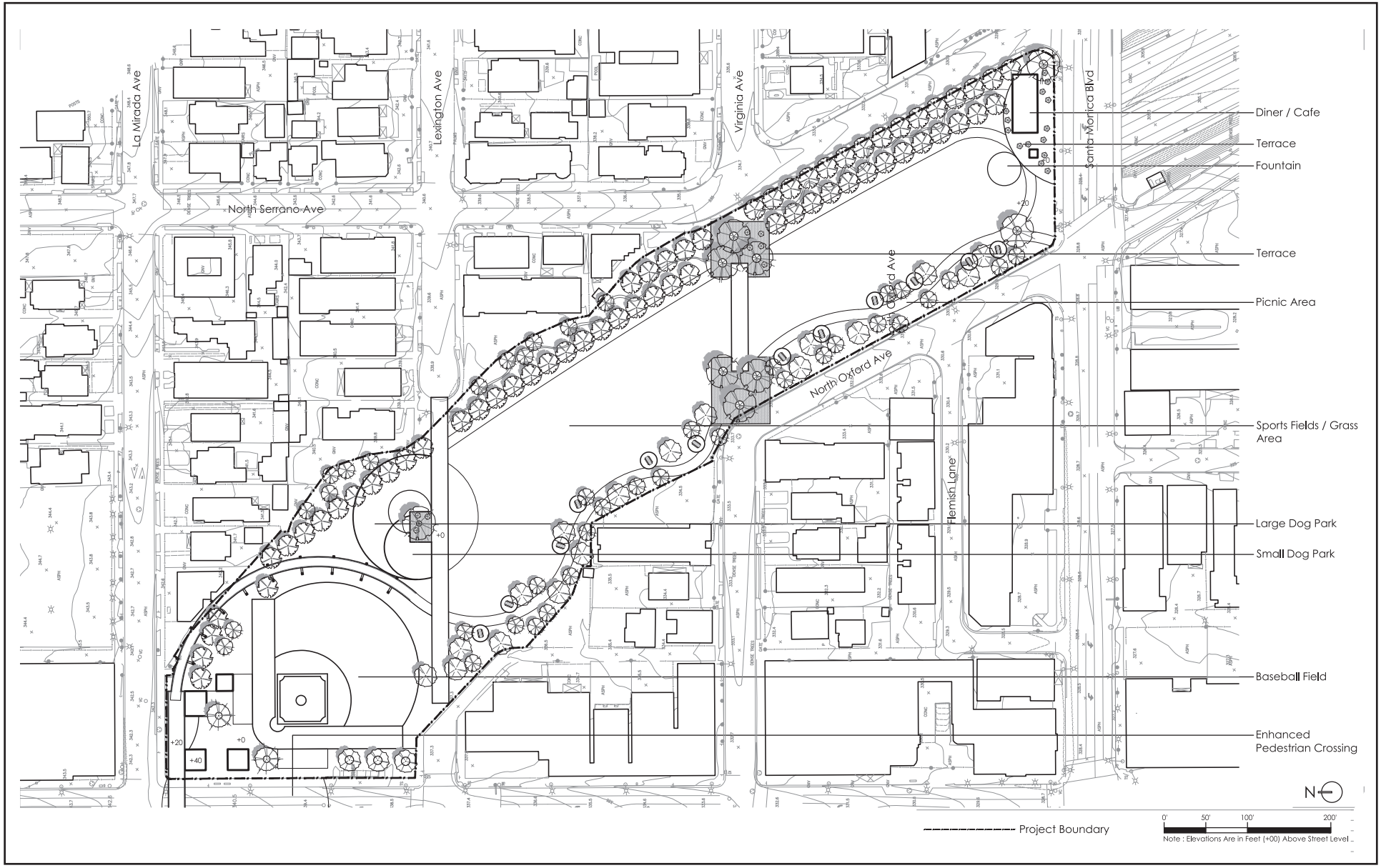
Exhibit 4e
Conceptual Site Plan



Source: Campbell & Campbell 2014

Exhibit 4f
Conceptual Site Plan

Project Components and Programming

As listed below, the Project would include a variety of community-serving structures and open space areas. The key components of the Project are provided below in Table 2-1: Proposed Land Use Program, which includes approximate square footage of structures and recreational areas, anticipated hours of operation, and notes defining usage assumptions for the Project. The Initial Study provides a preliminary analysis of the potential environmental impacts associated with the land use program and the physical footprint of the Park.

Table 2-1: Proposed Land Use Program

Programming	Area (sq ft)	Days / Hours of Operation (Maximum)	Notes
Amphitheater and Support/Parking Facilities at Hollywood Boulevard			
Amphitheater, with support facilities, back of house[1]	12,500	261 days: 4PM to 2AM 104 days: 4AM to 2AM	500 seat outdoor turf amphitheater
Offices, box office, concessions, and restrooms	7,500	—	
Parking structure (multi-story)	75,000	—	200 cars
Green Bridge and Interstitial[2] Parking at Hollywood Boulevard			
Parking structure (located below Park grade and above freeway)	35,000	—	100 cars
Commercial /support facilities under bridge	7,500	365 days: 9AM to 2AM	
Plaza and Signature Restaurant (Fine Dining) at Hollywood Boulevard			
Restaurant	3,500	365 days: 9AM to 2AM	100 seats
Grab and Go Café at Hollywood Boulevard			
Cafe	750	365 days: 9AM to 2AM	No seats
Great Meadow between Hollywood and Sunset Boulevards			
Overall	275,000	365 days: 7AM to 2AM	
Turf	120,000	—	
Trees	75,000	—	
Terraces	20,000	—	
Playgrounds	10,000	—	
Dog park	40,000	—	25,000 sq ft for large dogs; 15,000 for small dogs
Picnic areas	10,000	—	

[1] Back of House is the area of a theater not open to the public where the performance is prepared.
[2] Refers to parking provided on an interstitial deck that would be located below the Park and above the freeway.

Table 2-1 (cont.): Proposed Land Use Program

Programming	Area (sq ft)	Days / Hours of Operation (Maximum)	Notes
Bed and Breakfast Inn			
Inn	5,000	365 days: 24 hours	5 rooms
Plaza and Signature Restaurant (Organic Café/Market/Vertical Farm[3]) at Sunset Boulevard			
Restaurant	6,000	365 days: 9AM to 2AM	75 seats inside; 125 outside
Plaza and Café (Sports Restaurant) at Wilton Avenue			
Restaurant	6,000	365 days: 9AM to 2AM	75 seats inside; 125 outside
Green Overlook and Community Center at Fountain Avenue			
Community Center	30,000	-	Multi-purpose facility
Art gallery		260 days: 11AM to 8PM	
Offices		365 days: 7AM to 10 PM	
Community rooms		365 days: 7AM to Midnight	
Event space		365 days: 7AM to 2AM	
Catering kitchen		365 days: 7AM to 2AM	
LAPD substation		260 days: 3 hours/day	
Community classrooms		365 days: 8AM to 10PM	
Library		260 days: 10AM to 10PM 104 days 10AM to 6PM	
Plazas, Playground, Sports Courts and Fields at Fountain and Western Avenues			
Overall	100,000	365 days: 7AM to 2AM	
Turf lawns/multipurpose sports fields	30,000	—	
Trees and planted areas	20,000	—	
Terraces	10,000	—	
Playgrounds	20,000	—	
Picnic areas	10,000	—	
Basketball courts	10,000	—	
Great Meadow/Sports Fields between Western Avenue and Santa Monica Boulevard			
Overall	285,000	365 days: 7AM to 2AM	
Turf Lawns/multipurpose sports fields	150,000	—	
Trees and planted areas	50,000	—	
Terraces	15,000	—	

[3] Vertical farming herein refers to cultivating plants within a vertically inclined surface. Surfaces envisioned for vertical farming include the exterior wall of the pedestrian/bike bridge structure and the signature restaurant.

Table 2-1 (cont.): Proposed Land Use Program

Programming	Area (sq ft)	Days / Hours of Operation (Maximum)	Notes
Dog Park	10,000	—	6,000 sq ft for large dogs; 4,000 for small dogs
Picnic areas	10,000	—	
Baseball field	50,000	—	
Plaza and Diner Café at Santa Monica Boulevard			
Restaurant	6,000	365 days: 9AM to 2AM	125 seats inside; 125 outside
Sources: Friends of the Hollywood Central Park, Feasibility Study Community Meetings, and Campbell & Campbell.			

Project Phasing

The Project construction activities will occur in phases starting from the north and proceeding to the south. The first phase of development would involve the area north of Sunset Boulevard and would include an amphitheater, parking, terraces, restaurants, a bed-and-breakfast inn, grass area, and a dog park. The remainder of the Park, and its proposed features, would be developed over one or more subsequent phases as construction activities proceed.

DISCRETIONARY ACTIONS

The Project is unique because it would be built in the airspace above an existing freeway. Therefore, there is a unique set of land use and zoning considerations that will be analyzed in the EIR to ensure an adequate entitlement package applies to the Project. At this preliminary stage of analyses, the potential discretionary actions for the Project could include, but are not limited to the following:

- General Plan Amendment to ensure appropriate land use designations;
- Zone Change to establish appropriate zoning above a transportation public facility;
- Conditional Use Permit to allow uses and operations within the Park area;
- Site Plan Review for implementation of the Park site plan;
- City of Los Angeles, Department of City Planning Project review pursuant to Section 504 of the Hollywood Redevelopment Plan;
- B Permit for certain construction activities;
- Demolition, grading, excavation, foundation, and associated building permits;

- Haul route(s) approval, as necessary;
- Grant of Air Space and Development Rights from Caltrans;
- Encroachment Permit - US-101 (Caltrans) to allow for the development of the Project over the Hollywood Freeway right of way;
- Other federal, state, or local permits and ministerial approvals, as necessary, including but not limited to the State Department of Transportation (Caltrans), South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD), and Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region (RWQCB);
- Other entitlements, permits, and approvals that may be necessary to construct and operate the Park.

This list of entitlements is preliminary. The Project is unique, especially considering it will be built in air space over a transportation corridor. Therefore, the City will continue to work with its departments and other responsible agencies to develop a package of entitlements that apply to the Project. A full analysis of such requested entitlements will be provided in the forthcoming EIR.

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS

221 N. Figueroa Street, Suite 100
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

INITIAL STUDY
and CHECKLIST

(CEQA Guidelines Section 15063)

LEAD CITY AGENCY	**COUNCIL DISTRICT**	**DATE**
City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks	*CD13-Mitch O'Farrell*	*August 2014*

RESPONSIBLE AGENCIES

Caltrans

PROJECT TITLE/NO.	**CASE NO.**
Hollywood Central Park	*NP-14-004-RP*

PREVIOUS ACTIONS CASE NO.	❑ **DOES have significant changes from previous actions.** ❑ **DOES NOT have significant changes from previous actions.**

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

See Section 2 (Project Description)

ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING:

See Section 2 (Project Description) and Section 4 (Environmental Impact Analysis)

PROJECT LOCATION

See Section 2 (Project Description)

PLANNING DISTRICT	**STATUS:** ❑ **PRELIMINARY** ❑ **PROPOSED** ☒ **ADOPTED**
Hollywood (Council District 13)	*Hollywood Community Plan, December 1988*

EXISTING ZONING	**MAX. DENSITY ZONING**	☒ **DOES CONFORM TO PLAN**
PF-1XL	*Not defined in zoning.*	
PLANNED LAND USE & ZONE	**MAX. DENSITY PLAN**	❑ **DOES NOT CONFORM TO PLAN**
Project-specific use and zoning	*Not defined*	
SURROUNDING LAND USES	**PROJECT DENSITY**	❑ **NO DISTRICT PLAN**
Commercial, office, church, restaurant, auto-related, residential, educational, and associated parking uses	*0.12 : 1 FAR*	

☞ **DETERMINATION (To be completed by Lead Agency)**

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

☐ I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

☐ I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions on the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

☒ I find the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.

☐ I find the proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.

☐ I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

Principal Project Coordinator

SIGNATURE TITLE

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

1) A brief explanation is required for all answers except "No Impact" answers that are adequately supported by the information sources a lead agency cites in the parentheses following each question. A "No Impact" answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A "No Impact" answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards (e.g., the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants based on a project-specific screening analysis).

2) All answers must take account of the whole action involved, including off-site as well as on-site, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.

3) Once the lead agency has determined that a particular physical impact may occur, then the checklist answers must indicate whether the impact is potentially significant, less that significant with mitigation, or less than significant. "Potentially Significant Impact" is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant. If there are one or more "Potentially Significant Impact" entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.

4) "Negative Declaration: Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated" applies where the incorporation of a mitigation measure has reduced an effect from "Potentially Significant Impact" to "Less Than Significant Impact." The lead agency must describe the mitigation measures, and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level (mitigation measures from "Earlier Analysis," as described in (5) below, may be cross referenced).

5) Earlier analysis must be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR, or negative declaration. Section 15063 (c)(3)(D). In this case, a brief discussion should identify the following:

   a. Earlier Analysis Used. Identify and state where they are available for review.
   b. Impacts Adequately Addressed. Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of and adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.
   c. Mitigation Measures. For effects that are "Less Than Significant With Mitigation Measures Incorporated," describe the mitigation measures, which were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.

6) Lead agencies are encouraged to incorporate into the checklist references to information sources for potential impacts (e.g., general plans, zoning ordinances). Reference to a previously prepared or outside document should, where appropriate, include a reference to the page or pages where the statement is substantiated

7) Supporting Information Sources: A sources list should be attached, and other sources used or individuals contacted should be cited in the discussion.

8) This is only a suggested form, and lead agencies are free to use different formats; however, lead agencies should normally address the questions from this checklist that are relevant to a project's environmental effects in whichever format is selected.

9) The explanation of each issue should identify:
   a. The significance criteria or threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question; and
   b. The mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less than significance.

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

- ☒ Aesthetics
- ❑ Agricultural and Forest Resources
- ☒ Air Quality
- ❑ Biological Resources
- ☒ Cultural Resources
- ☒ Geology and Soils
- ☒ Green House Gas Emissions
- ☒ Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- ☒ Hydrology and Water Quality
- ☒ Land Use and Planning
- ❑ Mineral Resources
- ☒ Noise
- ☒ Population and Housing
- ☒ Public Services
- ☒ Recreation
- ☒ Transportation/Traffic
- ☒ Utilities and Service Systems
- ☒ Mandatory Findings of Significance

INITIAL STUDY CHECKLIST (To be completed by the Lead City Agency)

☞ **BACKGROUND**

PROPONENT NAME	**PHONE NUMBER**
Friends of the Hollywood Central Park	*(310) 274-8682*
PROPONENT ADDRESS	
1680 North Vine Street, Suite 1000, Hollywood, California 90028	
AGENCY REQUIRING CHECKLIST	***DATE SUBMITTED***
City of Los Angeles, Department of Recreation and Parks	*August 21, 2014*
PROPOSAL NAME (If Applicable)	

☞ **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS** (Explanations of all potentially and less than significant impacts are required to be attached on separate sheets)

		Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
1.	**AESTHETICS.**				
a.	Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	❑	❑	☒	❑
b.	Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings, within a state scenic highway?	❑	❑	☒	❑
c.	Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?	❑	❑	☒	❑
d.	Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	☒	❑	❑	❑
2.	**AGRICULTURAL AND FOREST RESOURCES.**				
a.	Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to nonagricultural use?	❑	❑	❑	☒
b.	Conflict the existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	❑	❑	❑	☒
c.	Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resource Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resource Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104 (g))?	❑	❑	❑	☒
d.	Result in the loss of forestland or conversion of forestland to non-forest use?	❑	❑	❑	☒
e.	Involve other changes in the existing environment, which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forestland to non-forest use?	❑	❑	❑	☒
3.	**AIR QUALITY.**				
a.	Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	☒	❑	❑	❑
b.	Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?	☒	❑	❑	❑
c.	Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?	☒	❑	❑	❑

		Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
d.	Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	☒	❑	❑	❑
e.	Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?	☒	❑	❑	❑
4.	**BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES.**				
a.	Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modification, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	❑	❑	❑	☒
b.	Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	❑	❑	❑	☒
c.	Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	❑	❑	❑	☒
d.	Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	❑	❑	❑	☒
e.	Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as tree preservation policy or ordinance?	❑	❑	❑	☒
f.	Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?	❑	❑	❑	☒
5.	**CULTURAL RESOURCES:**				
a.	Cause a substantial adverse change in significance of a historical resource as defined in §15064.5?	☒	❑	❑	❑
b.	Cause a substantial adverse change in significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?	☒	❑	❑	❑
c.	Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	☒	❑	❑	❑
d.	Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	☒	❑	❑	❑

		Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
6.	**GEOLOGY AND SOILS.**				
a.	Exposure of people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury or death involving: Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.	☒	❑	❑	❑
b.	Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving: Strong seismic ground shaking?	☒	❑	❑	❑
c.	Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving: Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	☒	❑	❑	❑
d.	Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving: Landslides?	❑	❑	☒	❑
e	Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	❑	❑	☒	❑
f.	Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potential result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse?	☒	❑	❑	❑
g.	Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?	☒	❑	❑	❑
h.	Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?	❑	❑	❑	☒
7.	**GREEN HOUSE GAS EMISSIONS**				
a.	Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	☒	❑	❑	❑
b.	Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	☒	❑	❑	❑
8.	**HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS**				
a.	Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials	☒	❑	❑	❑

		Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b.	Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	☒	❑	❑	❑
c.	Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	☒	❑	❑	❑
d.	Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	☒	❑	❑	❑
e.	For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	❑	❑	❑	☒
f.	For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for the people residing or working in the area?	❑	❑	❑	☒
g.	Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	☒	❑	❑	❑
h.	Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?	❑	❑	☒	❑
9.	**HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY.**				
a.	Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?	☒	❑	❑	❑
b.	Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned land uses for which permits have been granted)?	☒	❑	❑	❑
c.	Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?	☒	❑	❑	❑

		Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
d.	Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off site?	☒	❑	❑	❑
e.	Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?	☒	❑	❑	❑
f.	Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?	☒	❑	❑	❑
g.	Place housing within a 100-year flood plain as mapped on federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?	❑	❑	❑	☒
h.	Place within a 100-year flood plain structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?	❑	❑	❑	☒
i.	Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, inquiry or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?	❑	❑	☒	❑
j.	Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?	❑	❑	❑	☒
10.	**LAND USE AND PLANNING**.				
a.	Physically divide an established community?	❑	❑	☒	❑
b.	Conflict with applicable land use plan, policy or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	☒	❑	❑	❑
c.	Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?	❑	❑	❑	☒
11.	**MINERAL RESOURCES**.				
a.	Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	❑	❑	❑	☒
b.	Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan?	❑	❑	❑	☒
12.	**NOISE.**				
a.	Exposure of persons to or generation of noise in level in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	☒	❑	❑	❑

		Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b.	Exposure of people to or generation of excessive ground borne vibration or ground borne noise levels?	☒	❑	❑	❑
c.	A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	☒	❑	❑	❑
d.	A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	☒	❑	❑	❑
e.	For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	❑	❑	❑	☒
f.	For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	❑	❑	❑	☒
13.	**POPULATION AND HOUSING**.				
a.	Induce substantial population growth in an area either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	☒	❑	❑	❑
b.	Displace substantial numbers of existing housing necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	❑	❑	❑	☒
c.	Displace substantial numbers of people necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	❑	❑	❑	☒
14.	**PUBLIC SERVICES.**				
a.	Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services: Fire protection?	☒	❑	❑	❑
b.	Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services: Police protection?	☒	❑	❑	❑

		Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
c.	Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services: Schools?	☒	❑	❑	❑
d.	Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services: Parks?	☒	❑	❑	❑
e.	Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services: Other public facilities?	☒	❑	❑	❑
15.	**RECREATION.**				
a.	Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?	❑	❑	☒	❑
b.	Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	☒	❑	❑	❑
16.	**TRANSPORTATION/CIRCULATION**.				
a.	Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance, or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit?	☒	❑	❑	❑
b.	Conflict with and applicable congestion management program, including, but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?	☒	❑	❑	❑

		Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
c.	Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d.	Substantially increase hazards to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	☒	☐	☐	☐
e.	Result in inadequate emergency access?	☒	☐	☐	☐
f.	Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?	☒	☐	☐	☐
17.	**UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS.**				
a.	Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?	☒	☐	☐	☐
b.	Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	☒	☐	☐	☐
c.	Require or result in the construction of new stormwater drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	☒	☐	☐	☐
d.	Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resource, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?	☒	☐	☐	☐
e.	Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	☒	☐	☐	☐
f.	Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?	☒	☐	☐	☐
g.	Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	☒	☐	☐	☐
18.	**MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE.**				
a.	Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	☒	☐	☐	☐

		Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b.	Does the project have impacts which are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable?("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of an individual project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects).	☒	❑	❑	❑
c.	Does the project have environmental effects which cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	☒	❑	❑	❑

☞ **DISCUSSION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION (Attach additional sheets if necessary)**

PREPARED BY	TITLE	TELEPHONE #	DATE
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4. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

1. AESTHETICS

a) Would the project have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?

Less Than Significant Impact. Scenic vistas typically include panoramic views that provide visual access to large panoramic views of natural topography, unique terrain, or valued urban or historic features. The field of view is usually wide and extends far into the distance. As discussed below, the Project Site does not contain, or provide visual access to, any scenic vistas.

The Project Site is located within a highly urbanized area of the Hollywood Community. General visual resources of value in the vicinity of the Project Site include the Hollywood sign (a City-designated historic monument), and the Hollywood Hills, located approximately 0.4 mile to the north. However, because the Hollywood Freeway is located in an infrastructure trench below grade, the existing views from the freeway are largely obscured. The views from the Hollywood Freeway are largely limited to landscaped slopes, concrete retaining sidewalls and bordering structures of varied heights. Further, the surrounding community includes a range of office uses, retail and commercial uses, churches, restaurants, auto-related uses, residential uses, educational uses, and associated parking lots and structures that all contribute to the visual character of the area, but would not be considered scenic vistas.

The Project would be built in the airspace above the Hollywood Freeway. Existing views from the freeway would remain obscured. By design, the Project encloses (or "caps") an approximately one-mile segment of the below-grade portion of the Hollywood Freeway. As a result, views from vehicles traveling on the freeway, under the cap, would be completely obscured by the infrastructure supporting the Park. On the surface of the Park, north of Sunset Boulevard, the Park's deck would incorporate a hill, up to 25 feet above the street level at Hollywood Boulevard. From Harold Way to Santa Monica Boulevard, the Park deck would be at street level in most areas. This change in elevation in the northern portion of the Park would not impact any scenic vistas.

Furthermore, specific structures on the Park surface would add to the overall elevation of the Project. The tallest structure would be the support facilities/back of house[1] facility at the Amphitheater and would be approximately 60 feet above street level. The parking structure would be approximately 50 feet high, with a portion of the structure contained interstitially (i.e., below the grade of the Park but above the Hollywood Freeway). The balance of structures on the Park would be one and two-stories, ranging from 10 to 50 feet high. None of these changes would impact a scenic vista.

Importantly, the Project would enhance certain vantage points for distant vistas. By capping the freeway trench, the Project would provide surface area and new vantage points where patrons can observe natural view sheds of the Hollywood Hills and the distant urban viewshed of Downtown

[1] Back of house is the area of a theater not open to the public where the performance is prepared.

Los Angeles and beyond. Thus, the Project could provide beneficial impacts for certain scenic vistas by increasing the availability of views to scenic resources such as the Hollywood Sign, the Hollywood Hills, and the Griffith Observatory, among others. To assess both the potential adverse and beneficial impacts on scenic vistas, it is recommended that this issue be analyzed further in an EIR.

b) Would the project substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?

Less Than Significant Impact. The Project Site is located between Bronson Avenue and Santa Monica Boulevard along the alignment of the Hollywood Freeway. Although there is limited landscaping on the freeway edges, the Project Site does not contain any valued natural resources such as visually significant trees, rock outcroppings or historic buildings. The Project Site is not located within a designated state scenic highway. The closest scenic highway is Los Feliz Boulevard, which is located approximately one mile east of the northern portion of the Project Site. However, Santa Monica Boulevard, Sunset Boulevard, and Hollywood Boulevard all have scenic value to the City of Los Angeles due to the iconic nature of the streets and the historic resources and sites of interest in the area. In addition, Santa Monica Boulevard is the historic Route 66. The Project could affect (primarily with beneficial changes from current conditions) views from and to these valued and scenic streets.

In addition, the Project would include pedestrian and cyclist crossings over these streets to facilitate access and circulation in the Park. The Park would also include vegetation, recreational areas and facilities, and structures of varying heights. These Project features could also affect the scenic character in the vicinity and along the streets identified above. However, the Project is not expected to substantially damage scenic resources in the area. To assess the potential adverse or beneficial impact of the Park on such resources, it is recommended that this issue be analyzed further in an EIR.

c) Would the project substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?

Less Than Significant Impact. The Project includes building an engineered support structure and landscaped surface in the airspace above a portion of the Hollywood Freeway. The Project Site includes airspace, seven existing urban bridges, and multiple on-ramps and off-ramps that service the Hollywood Freeway. The visual character and quality of the Project Site is highly degraded because the existing condition is a freeway alignment and fringe right-of-way areas that are unsightly. In addition, the existing visual character of the Project Site is defined by dense urban development that generally lacks visual quality.

The Project is a park that would transform airspace into large landscaped open space, recreational facilities and meadows, meandering pedestrian and bicycle routes, and interspersed community spaces and structures. These components of the Park would enhance the existing visual character and quality of the Project Site and surroundings. The Project would, however, construct several structures (including an amphitheater, community center, and restaurants) of various massing and

heights on the Project Site. Construction activities could also temporary modify the existing visual character and setting of the Project Site and surroundings. The Project would represent a general improvement of the visual conditions on the Project Site, yet it would alter the visual character of the Project Site and surroundings. Therefore, it is recommended that this issue be analyzed further in an EIR.

d) Would the project create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?

Potentially Significant Impact. The context around the Project Site is highly urbanized and characterized by medium-to-high levels of artificial nighttime light. At night, the surrounding urban development contributes substantial sources of light from interior and exterior lighting of residential and commercial structures, street and security lighting, parking areas, illuminated billboards and signage, and architectural and landscape lighting. Moreover, the Hollywood Freeway is a high-volume freeway that has virtually constant vehicular travel. The vehicle headlights and taillights on the freeway are an intense source of nighttime light. The vehicles also contribute to significant levels of daytime glare from metallic and windshield reflections. Traffic on local streets also contributes to the overall ambient artificial light and glare levels in the area. The Project would cap the Hollywood Freeway within the Project Site boundaries. Accordingly, it would significantly reduce the level of nighttime lighting and daytime glare caused by vehicles on the freeway.

The Park would, however, introduce new sources of artificial lighting and potential sources of daytime glare. The Project would include nighttime illumination sources including, but not limited to, interior and exterior structure lights, lighted pedestrian pathways for security and way-finding purposes, potential lighting for recreation facilities, accent lighting for onsite signage for establishments and way finding, and accent lighting for architectural and landscape features. Illuminated identification signs would also be provided for various nighttime Park facilities and activities. In addition, the Project would include lighting and directional signage under the cap to ensure safe vehicular travel and emergency lighting in the capped portion of the Hollywood Freeway. The additional light and glare sources would contribute to the ambient conditions in the area. Therefore, it is recommended that this issue be analyzed further in an EIR.

In addition, shading impacts are influenced by the height and bulk of a structure, the time of year, the duration of shading during the day, and the sensitivity of the surrounding uses. The Project Site is the airspace above a portion of the Hollywood Freeway, and varies in width between 200 and 300 feet within the Caltrans right-of-way. The Project boundary would extend to the existing Caltrans right-of-way on the Hollywood Freeway, which includes paved surfaces, landscaped slopes, and concrete retaining sidewalls. Further, the surrounding community includes a range of office uses, retail and commercial uses, churches, restaurants, auto-related uses, residential uses, educational uses, and associated parking lots and structures. Shading of offsite uses currently occurs in the Project vicinity. As the Project would introduce several structures and recreational facilities of varying heights to the Project Site, additional shadows may be cast on land uses

surrounding the Project Site, potentially affecting nearby sensitive receptors. Therefore, it is recommended that this issue be analyzed further in an EIR.

2. AGRICULTURE AND FOREST RESOURCES

a) Would the project convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to nonagricultural use?

No Impact. The Project Site is not located on designated Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland) as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program (Important Farmland in California Map 2012). Therefore, the Project would not convert Farmland to non-agricultural uses. Further analysis of this issue is not necessary.

b) Would the project conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?

No Impact. The Project Site is aligned over the Hollywood Freeway. The Hollywood Freeway is designated as a public facility in the General Plan Land Use maps and is zoned PF-1XL. There are no agricultural uses or zones within the Project Site; and it is not under a Williamson Act contract. Further, no agricultural zoning is present in the surrounding area, and no nearby lands are covered by the Williamson Act. Therefore, the Project would not conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use or a Williamson Act contract. Further analysis of this issue is not necessary.

c) Would the project conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resource Code section 12220(g)) timberland (as defined by Public Resource Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104 (g))?

No Impact. As described in Checklist Question 2.b), the Project Site is zoned for public facilities. In addition, the zoning designations for the area surrounding the Project Site provide specific development and approval guidelines for projects located in their zone, none of which involves forestland or timberland. Therefore, the Project would not conflict with existing zoning, or cause the rezoning of forestland, timberland, or timberland production land. Further analysis of this issue is not necessary.

d) Would the project result in the loss of forestland or conversion of forestland to non-forest use?

No Impact. The Project Site is located within a built, urbanized area and no forestlands exist within the Project vicinity. Further analysis of this issue is not necessary.

e) Would the project involve other changes in the existing environment, which due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?

No Impact. No agricultural resources or operations currently exist on or near the Project Site. Therefore, the Project would not involve changes in the existing environment that would result in the conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural use or conversion of forestland to non-forest use. Further analysis of this issue is not necessary.

3. AIR QUALITY

a) Would the project conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?

Potentially Significant Impact. The Project Site is located within the 6,600 square mile South Coast Air Basin (Basin). The South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) together with the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) is responsible for formulation and implementing air pollution control strategies throughout the Basin. The current Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP) was adopted December 7, 2012 and outlines the air pollution control measures needed to meet federal particulate matter ($PM_{2.5}$) standards by 2015 and ozone (O_3) standards by 2024. The AQMP also proposes policies and measures currently contemplated by responsible agencies to achieve federal standards for healthful air quality in the Basin that are under SCAQMD jurisdiction. In addition, the current AQMP addresses several federal planning requirements and incorporates updated emissions inventories, ambient measurements, meteorological data, and air quality modeling tools from earlier AQMPs. The Project would introduce a substantial amount of landscaped open space and trees to the Project Site. These project features would help improve air quality in the immediate vicinity, and potentially in portions of the Basin. In addition, the Project would support and be consistent with several key policy directives set forth in the AQMP.

Notwithstanding these attributes, the Project has the potential to generate vehicle trips when people choose to drive instead of walking or riding bicycles to the Park. Trips would generally occur on surface streets between the Santa Monica Boulevard overpass on the south, to a point just north of the Hollywood Boulevard overpass, along North Bronson Avenue. These additional vehicle trips would generate operational air emissions. In addition, air emissions from construction of the Project would be subject to the AQMP.

The AQMP consistency analysis would assess the relevant population growth databases to analyze potential population and housing impacts. The Project would not develop new roadways or major utility infrastructure features that would directly induce population growth. The Project is expected to serve the existing community, but would provide some employment opportunities associated with new restaurants and other facilities. Potential changes to existing or proposed population trends would be evaluated against SCAG's AQMP-related growth projections. Therefore, it is recommended that this issue be analyzed further in an EIR.

b) Would the project violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?

Potentially Significant Impact. As indicated in Checklist Question 3.a) above, the Project Site is located within the Basin, which is characterized by relatively poor air quality. Due to the high level of ambient of air pollution, the Basin often exceeds State and federal air quality standards. For example, the Basin is currently in non-attainment for O_3, PM_{10}, and $PM_{2.5}$ based on federal and state air quality standards. Within the Basin, Los Angeles County has one of the highest levels on non-attainment of standards. As discussed in Checklist Question 3.a) above, the Project could result in increased air emissions associated with construction activities. Vehicle trips to and from the Park and onsite activities associated with the operational uses in the Park (i.e., structures, open spaces, recreational facilities, etc.) could generate additional air emissions. These limited air emissions associated with the Park could contribute to the existing air quality violations because of the Basin's non-attainment status. Therefore, it is recommended that this issue be analyzed further in an EIR.

c) Would the project result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions, which exceed quantitative threshold for ozone precursors)?

Potentially Significant Impact. As discussed in Checklist Questions 3.a) and 3.b) above, the Project would result in increases in air emissions from construction and operation in a Basin that is currently in non-attainment of federal and state air quality standards for O_3, PM_{10}, and $PM_{2.5}$. Therefore, it is recommended that this issue be analyzed further in an EIR.

d) Would the project expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?

Potentially Significant Impact. The Project is located in a mixed-use area with residential uses, schools, and other sensitive receptors interspersed throughout and at varying distances from the Project Site. Construction activities could expose sensitive receptors to dust and particulate matter associated with soil import and construction of the Park surface. In addition, vehicle trips to and from the Park and onsite activities could expose sensitive park patrons. Operation of the Park could have a beneficial impact on nearby sensitive receptors because the Park would introduce approximately 38-acres of green space and landscaped areas that could reduce existing air pollutant loads in the vicinity. Likewise, the Project caps the Hollywood Freeway, which is a source of substantial pollutants (including diesel particulate matter) from vehicles. Construction of the cap could also modify pollutant concentration and hot spot source locations. These characteristics could potentially affect park patrons and nearby sensitive receptors. Therefore, it is recommended that this issue be analyzed further in an EIR.

e) Would the project create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?

Potentially Significant Impact. Odors are typically associated with industrial projects involving the use of chemicals, solvents, petroleum products, and other strong-smelling elements used in manufacturing processes. Odors are also associated with such uses as sewage treatment facilities and landfills. The Park would not contain any of these uses. The Project would enclose a portion

of the Hollywood Freeway. Consequently, the Project could result in more concentrated odors at certain points within the Project Site where vehicle emissions from the Hollywood Freeway are vented. The Project would incorporate technologies to ensure adequate venting and air circulation to satisfy health and safety requirements. Temporary construction activities could also generate odors. Therefore, it is recommended that this issue be analyzed further in an EIR.

4. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

a) Would the project have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulation, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?

No Impact. A Biological Resources Technical Report was prepared to evaluate the potential resources that would be impacted by the Project (Psomas 2014). As part of the biological investigation, biologists surveyed the Project Site and researched relevant resource databases, and other references, to evaluate the potential for the Project Site to support biological resources, including sensitive species. The evaluation included a query and review of the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) for the Project and surrounding topographic quadrangles (Van Nuys, Burbank, Pasadena, Beverly Hills, Hollywood, Los Angeles, Venice, Inglewood, and South Gate). The Project Site encompasses unoccupied airspace above the Hollywood Freeway, existing bridge crossings, and adjoining Caltrans right-of-ways and ramps located in the highly urbanized Hollywood Community area. The Project Site includes paved surfaces, landscaped slopes, and concrete retaining sidewalls. Existing vegetation within the Project Site is limited to landscaped slopes along the Hollywood Freeway, classified as landscaped disturbed, landscaped maintained, vacant disturbed, and landscaped cultural woodland. The landscaped cultural woodland is located on the northwest corner of Sunset Boulevard and North Wilton Place, between the Hollywood Freeway and an existing off ramp to Sunset Boulevard. The area is highly impacted by noise and vehicular traffic. No protected plant communities, and no federally or state endangered, threatened, candidate, or otherwise designated sensitive species were observed during biological field surveys. In addition, there is no habitat present to support any special status species. Therefore, sensitive species are considered absent from the Project Site. Development of the Project would include the removal of some landscaping to accommodate the support structure for the Park surface. However, this landscaping and vegetation is not considered suitable habitat for special status species. Therefore, the Project would have no impact on sensitive species or habitat. Further analysis of this issue is not necessary.

b) Would the project have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, and regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

No Impact. The Project Site does not contain any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural habitat (Psomas 2014). The Project Site is airspace and urban infrastructure above and adjoining a portion of the Hollywood Freeway. No impacts to riparian and other natural sensitive

communities are possible considering the existing conditions and uses of the Project Site. Therefore, no impact would occur and no further analysis is required.

c) Would the project have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?

No Impact. The Project Site and surrounding area is highly urbanized. Neither the Project Site nor surrounding area contains wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (Psomas 2014). No federal or state waters or wetlands are present on the Project Site or within the vicinity. Therefore, the Project would not have any effect on federally protected wetlands. No impact would occur and no further analysis is required.

d) Would the project interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?

No Impact. There are no migratory corridors on the Project Site because it is airspace and urban infrastructure over the Hollywood Freeway. Based on the biological surveys, no migratory corridors suitable for use by wildlife are present at the Project Site. In addition, physical and aerial review of the surrounding area indicates there is no direct connectivity between the Project Site and any large areas of natural open space (Psomas 2014). On this basis, the biological investigation determined that migratory corridors are considered absent from the Project Site. As part of the development of the Project Site, vegetation associated with the existing landscaped slopes of the Hollywood Freeway would be removed. This would not substantially interfere with wildlife movement or impede native wildlife nursery sites because the existing vegetated areas are degraded by ambient conditions and are not considered suitable habitat. The Project Site is effectively a freeway alignment and therefore clearly lacks the required topographical features or avian attributes that could attract migratory land birds (or water birds). Therefore, the Project would not substantially interfere with the movement of any avian or wildlife species. No impacts would occur and no further analysis is required.

e) Would the project conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?

No Impact. The Project Site is located in an urbanized and fully developed area of the City. The biological investigation included a review of Project Site conditions, as well as a review of local policies and ordinances, related to biological resources including the City of Los Angeles General Plan, Protected Tree ordinance and the Hollywood Community Plan (Psomas 2013). The investigation determined that the Project would not conflict with any of the provisions of local policies or ordinances and did not identify any conflicts with provision of local policies. In addition, the Project would implement an extensive landscape plan that would provide potential new open space areas for local species.. The Project would comply with the City's Ordinance 177404, Protected Tree Ordinance. Therefore, there would be no conflicts with local policies or

ordinances protecting biological resources. No impacts would occur and no further analysis is required.

f) Would the project conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?

No Impact. The Project Site is located in an urbanized and fully developed area of the City. The Project Site is not located in a Habitat Conservation Plan or a Natural Community Conservation Plan (Psomas 2014). The Project would be consistent with local, regional, and state conservation plans because none apply to the Project Site. Therefore, no impact would occur and no further analysis is required.

5. CULTURAL RESOURCES

a) Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in §15064.5?

Potentially Significant Impact. The Project would be built in the air space above the Hollywood Freeway and thereby enclose the approximately one-mile below-grade portion of the Hollywood Freeway located between Bronson Avenue and Santa Monica Boulevard. The Project is located in the Hollywood Redevelopment Project Area. A recent Historic Resources Survey evaluated the 3,164 parcels located in the Hollywood Redevelopment area and identified 1,897 properties that are 45 years of age or older or that appear to be historically significant; many of these properties are located in the near vicinity of the Project Site. The portion of Hollywood Boulevard from Argyle Avenue to El Cerrito Place is approximately four blocks west of the project and is included in the "Hollywood Boulevard Commercial and Entertainment District" which is listed in the National Register of Historic Places and the California Register of Historical Resources (Chattel Architecture, Planning & Preservation, Inc., February 2010). Other historical resources listed in the national and state registers and/or designated as Los Angeles Historic-Cultural Monuments are on Santa Monica Boulevard and Sunset Boulevard.

The Project would not require the demolition of any historical resources. The Project Site would be developed with new open space and recreational uses, and a variety of structures including an interstitial[2] parking component, above ground parking structures, an amphitheater, community center, and restaurants. These facilities would be wholly within the Park boundaries, but nonetheless, could influence the context and setting of nearby historic resources. In addition, the Hollywood Freeway is over 60 years old and could have some historic significance. A historic resources report would be prepared as part of the environmental review for the Project. The introduction of the Park into a vicinity known to contain historic resources could potentially affect those historic resources. Therefore, this issue should be evaluated further in an EIR.

[2] Refers to parking provided on an interstitial deck that would be located below the Park and above the freeway.

b) Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to 15064.5?

Potentially Significant Impact. The Project Site is located within a highly urbanized area that has been subject to surface disruption and extensive paving over the years. Moreover, the Project would primarily occupy unused air space with support structures that would penetrate the ground surface. Thus, the foundations and footings for the infrastructure supporting the Park would require some grading and excavation. In most instances, the potential surficial archaeological resources that may have existed within the Project Site have been destroyed by previous disturbances and construction activities, including the construction of the Hollywood Freeway. However, the Project would require excavation that may extend into native soils. Thus, it is recommended that further analysis of this issue be included in an EIR.

c) Would the project directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?

Potentially Significant Impact. Paleontological resources are known to occur in the greater Project vicinity and within recent alluvial deposits that compose the subsurface around the terrestrial portions of the Project Site. As indicated above, the Project Site was previously disturbed by grading and paving, yet the Project would require additional grading that may involve excavation into native soils that could contain paleontological resources. Thus, it is recommended that further analysis of this issue be included in an EIR.

d) Would the project disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?

Potentially Significant Impact. The Project would primarily occupy unused air space, but the necessary support structures would result in grading and excavation. No known traditional burial sites or other type of cemetery usage has been identified within the vicinity of the Project Site. In addition, the surrounding area has been previously graded and developed. Nonetheless, as the Project would require excavation that may extend into native soils, it is recommended that this issue be evaluated in an EIR.

6. GEOLOGY AND SOILS

a) Exposure of people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving: Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.

Potentially Significant Impact. The seismically active region of southern California contains numerous active and potentially active faults. The California Geological Survey (CGS) has established earthquake fault zones known as Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zones around the surface traces of many of the known active faults to assist cities and counties in planning, zoning, and building regulation functions. These zones identify areas where potential surface rupture along an active fault could prove hazardous and identify where special studies are required to

characterize hazards to structures. In addition, the City of Los Angeles General Plan Safety Element has delineated fault rupture study zones that identify geographic areas that could have increased fault rupture likelihood. The Project Site is not located within an adopted Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone (CGS State of California Special Studies Zones, Hollywood Quadrangle, Revised Official Map 1986). However, the northern portion of the Project Site is located within a City-designated fault rupture study area (City of Los Angeles General Plan Safety Element, Exhibit A, 1996). A geotechnical study would be prepared as part of the environmental review for the Project. Thus, it is recommended that this issue be analyzed further in an EIR/EA.

b) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving: Strong seismic ground shaking?

Potentially Significant Impact. The Project is located approximately five miles north of the Newport-Inglewood fault zone according to the CGS Alquist-Priolo Fault Zone Maps. Portions of the Hollywood Fault are also in proximity to the Project Site according to the California Department of Conservation 2010 Fault Activity Map of California (DOC 2010), and City databases that identify fault locations. In addition, on January 8, 2014, the Department of Conservation, released a Preliminary Earthquake Fault Zone map for the Hollywood Quadrangle (DOC 2014). The map is for review purposes only at this time. The northernmost portion of the Project (i.e., between Hollywood Boulevard and Bronson Avenue) is within the preliminary earthquake fault zone on this 2014 draft map. For these reasons, the Project Site would potentially be subject to shaking during earthquake events. The level of ground shaking that would be experienced at the Project Site from any of the active faults in the region would be a function of several factors including earthquake magnitude, type of faulting, rupture propagation path, distance from the epicenter, earthquake depth, duration of shaking, site topography, and site geology. The Project design would be required to comply with State and City building regulations for the protection of public safety. The Project Site, like most other areas in Hollywood and the Southern California region may experience strong seismic ground shaking during a seismic event. Therefore, it is recommended that this issue be analyzed further in an EIR.

c) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving: Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?

Potentially Significant Impact. Liquefaction is a form of earthquake-induced ground failure that occurs primarily in relatively shallow, loose, granular, water-saturated soils. Liquefaction can occur when these types of soils lose their inherent shear strength due to excess water pressure that builds up during repeated movement from seismic activity. The State of California has prepared Seismic Hazard Zones Maps for areas that may be susceptible to liquefaction. The Project Site is not in a State of California Liquefaction Hazard Zone. The City of Los Angeles General Plan Safety Element, Exhibit B, Areas Susceptible to Liquefaction in the City of Los Angeles, has designated areas susceptible to liquefaction. Given that the Project Site is in a City

of Los Angeles liquefaction zone, and there is potential for seismic shaking, it is recommended that this issue be analyzed further in an EIR.

d) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving: Landslides?

Less Than Significant Impact. The City of Los Angeles General Plan Safety Element delineates Landslide Inventory and Hillside Areas. It identifies the land located north of the Project Site as a probable bedrock landslide area greater than 100 acres. However, the land adjacent to the Project Site is relatively flat and developed with existing structures and urban infrastructure. In addition, Park surface would be on constructed on an elevated deck above the Hollywood Freeway that presents no possibility of landslides. Therefore, given the urban setting of the area and the relatively flat Project Site, the Project would not expose people or structures to substantial adverse effects from landslides. No further analysis of this issue is required.

e) Would the project result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?

Less Than Significant Impact. The Project would include a continuous deck support that joins the existing ground at the top of the current freeway slopes, which would require a continuous abutment type of support. The support structure would require some excavation and grading on the freeway slopes, but the Park infrastructure would be constructed primarily in airspace. The structural supports for the Park will be secured to land points. Grading may also occur along the perimeter of the Project Site to create ingress and egress points. These construction activities have the potential to result in minor soil erosion during grading and soil stockpiling. These construction activities have the potential to create localized erosion impacts or stormwater runoff with siltation other pollutants that could discharge into municipal storm drains. However, construction activities are subject to erosion control requirements, including grading and dust control measures. The City would impose grading permit regulations that address these issues. Also, construction must comply with the Los Angeles Building Code that requires permits, plans, plan checks, and inspections that ensure the Project would reduce the sedimentation and erosion effects. Also, based on the size of the Project, it will require a General Construction Permit and a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) pursuant to the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit requirements. The SWPPP and Best Management Practices (BMPs) would be implemented during construction to reduce sedimentation and erosion levels. Also, contractors would be required to comply with grading permit regulations that reduce potential sedimentation and erosion impacts. Compliance with these regulatory requirements reduces potential impacts to less than significant. No further evaluation of this issue is required in an EIR.

f) Would the project be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?

Potentially Significant Impact. As discussed in Checklist Question 6.e) above, the Project Site is not susceptible to landslides. As mentioned in Checklist Question 6.d) above, the Project Site may be susceptible to liquefaction. Liquefaction potential and the likelihood for seismic events

could result in unstable soil conditions. The environmental review will analyze impacts regarding stability, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, and soil collapse. The analysis will also assess compliance with regulatory requirements for construction. Therefore, it is recommended that this issue be further analyzed in an EIR.

g) Would the project be located on expansive soil, as identified in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?

Potentially Significant Impact. Expansive soils are typically associated with fine-grained clayey soils that have the potential to shrink and swell with repeated cycles of wetting and drying. The soils on the Project Site would be identified and evaluated (in a geotechnical report) for appropriate design considerations for the Project. Therefore, it is recommended that this issue be further analyzed in an EIR.

h) Would the project have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?

No Impact. The Project would create a park surface on an engineered support deck that caps a portion of the Hollywood Freeway. The Project would not use septic systems or alternative wastewater disposal systems. Wastewater systems in the Park would connect to the existing wastewater infrastructure and treatment systems. Therefore, there would be no impact related to the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems, and no further evaluation is required.

7. GREEN HOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?

Potentially Significant Impact. Greenhouse gases (GHGs) are known to create climate change and are emitted from natural sources and human activities. The State of California has initiatives that address the effects of greenhouse gas emissions and has targets to reduce GHGs in California. Construction and operation of the Project would increase GHGs. Construction activities generate temporary increases in criteria air pollutants that contribute to GHG emission. Operational activities in the Park, including landscape maintenance, induced vehicle trips, and operation of the habitable structures have the potential – either individually or cumulatively – to result in significant greenhouse gas emissions. Conversely, the extensive landscaping and new open space areas associated with the Park may have the ability to offset the GHGs and have a beneficial effect in air quality. Nonetheless, it is recommended that further analysis of this issue be included in an EIR.

b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?

Potentially Significant Impact. The Project is subject to State Assembly Bill 32 and the City of Los Angeles Green Building Code, which address GHG reduction issues. As discussed above, construction and operation of the Project would result in GHG emissions. The environmental review for the Project would assess compliance with applicable plans, policies or regulations to reduce the emissions of GHGs. Thus, it is recommended that further analysis of this issue be included in an EIR.

8. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

a) Would the project create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?

Potentially Significant Impact. Construction of the Project would involve the temporary use of hazardous substances in the form of paint, adhesives, surface coatings and other finishing materials, and cleaning agents, fuels, and oils. Operation of the proposed onsite commercial uses would involve the use and storage of small quantities of potentially hazardous materials in the form of cleaning solvents and painting supplies, and may involve the use of commercial pesticides and fertilizers to maintain the Park landscaping. All materials would be used, stored, and disposed of in accordance with applicable laws, regulations and manufacturers' instructions.

The extent to which the capping of the freeway segment would affect the transport of hazardous waste in the area should be evaluated in coordination with responsible agencies and pursuant to applicable requirements. Thus, it is recommended that further analysis of these issues be included in an EIR.

b) Would the project create significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?

Potentially Significant Impact. As noted above in Checklist Question 8.a) construction would involve the temporary use, storage, transport, or disposal of hazardous materials. Short-term grading activities, including trenching and excavation, could expose construction workers or the public to unknown hazardous materials in site soil and/or groundwater should such materials be present. Fertilizers and pesticides may be used for landscaping and maintenance of the Park, which may result in hazardous runoff. The extent to which the capping of the freeway segment would affect emergency response related to an accident and the potential release of hazardous waste in the area, would be evaluated in coordination with applicable agencies (e.g. emergency responders). Thus, it is recommended that further analysis of this issue be included in an EIR.

c) Would the project emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?

Potentially Significant Impact. As mentioned above the construction and operation of the Project may result in the release of hazardous materials. The Academic Performance Excellence

Academy Helen Bernstein High School is located adjacent and to the west of the Project Site between Sunset Boulevard and Wilton Place. As shown in Table 4-1, Cheremoya Avenue Elementary School, Grant Elementary School, Kingsley Elementary School, Richard Alonzo Community Day School, Citizens of the World Charter School-Hollywood, Joseph LeConte Middle School, and ICDC College Hollywood Main Campus are all within one-quarter mile of the Project. Therefore, it is recommended that further analysis of this issue be included in an EIR.

Table 4-1: Schools within One-Quarter Mile of the Project Site

Name	Address	Distance	District/Type
Cheremoya Avenue Elementary School	6017 Franklin Avenue	0.25 miles northwest	Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD)
Grant Elementary School	1530 N. Wilton Place	0.1 mile east	LAUSD
Kingsley Elementary School	5200 Virginia Ave	0.15 miles east	LAUSD
Richard Alonzo Community Day School	5755 Fountain Ave	0.14 mile west	LAUSD; Public charter school (grades 8-12)
Academic Performance Excellence Academy Helen Bernstein High School	1309 North Wilton Place	0.1 mile west	LAUSD; Public (Grades 9-12)
Citizens of the World Charter School- Hollywood	1316 N. Bronson Ave. (co-located on the campus of LeConte Middle School)	0.23 mile west	LAUSD
Joseph LeConte Middle School	1316 N Bronson Ave	0.23 mile west	LAUSD
ICDC College-Hollywood Main Campus	5422 W Sunset Blvd	0.2 mile east	College
Jammie's Day Care	1660 N Wilton Place	0.12 mile east	Day Care
Foundation for Early Childhood Education (Head Start)	5637 La Mirada	0.1 mile west	Day Care/Preschool
Jewish Montessori School	6047 Carlton Way	0.25 mile west	Day Care/ Preschool
Source: LAUSD 2012a, 2012b, 2013.			

d) Would the project be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?

Potentially Significant Impact. The Project is located in a highly urbanized area with various historical and current land uses that may have handled hazardous materials. Existing surrounding uses include a Shell gas station, a Home Depot, a closed gas station, and an auto-repair shop. In addition, the Hollywood Freeway may contain debris that could be considered hazardous. .

Therefore, it is recommended that this issue be further analyzed in an EIR, including a records search and review of government databases (e.g. Cortese, leaking underground storage tanks, etc.), identification of any hazardous materials sites in the vicinity of the Project Site, and an assessment of potential impacts of these sites.

e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?

No Impact. The Project Site is not within an airport land use plan and is not within two miles of a public use airport. The nearest airport is the Burbank Bob Hope Airport located approximately eight miles north of the Project Site. Therefore, the Project would not result in an airport related safety hazard for people residing or working in the Project Area, and no impact would occur. Further analysis of this issue is not necessary.

f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?

No Impact. There are no private airstrips in the vicinity of the Project Site, and the Project Site is not located within a designated airport hazard area. Therefore, the Project would not result in airport-related safety hazards for the people residing or working in the area. Thus, no impact would occur. Further analysis of this issue is not necessary.

g) Would the project impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?

Potentially Significant Impact. The Project is located over the Hollywood Freeway. Freeways and major highways are often included in the routes used by emergency vehicles throughout Los Angeles County. The Project would include a continuous deck support that joins the existing ground at the top of the current freeway slopes and require a continuous abutment type of support. Travel lane and ramp closures due to construction activities could result in increased traffic that could interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. The Project would be subject to a construction management plan that addresses emergency access during construction periods. The Project would also cap a portion of the Hollywood Freeway that is currently open to the sky. By doing so, the Project would introduce infrastructure that could physically interfere with the certain methods of emergency response on the freeway. Thus, it is recommended that this issue be further analyzed in an EIR.

h) Would the project expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?

Less Than Significant Impact. According to the City of Los Angeles General Plan Safety Element Selected Wildfire Hazard Areas Map, the hills north of the Project Site are subject to hazardous wildfires. The most northern portion of the Project Site is designated as a wildfire buffer zone and does not contain wild lands. The buffer zone, combined with the urbanized and paved surfaces surrounding the Project Site, substantially reduce the likelihood of significant loss

due to wild land fires. Furthermore, the Project would include irrigated landscaping and meadows, low-fire risk plants palettes, and appropriate spaced trees to ensure a low fire potential. Therefore, impacts on people and structures from wildland fires would be less than significant, and no further analysis is required.

9. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

a) Would the project violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?

Potentially Significant Impact. The operation of equipment and vehicles during construction could introduce pollutants to surfaces that have the potential to be conveyed off-site by stormwater flows. The Project would also introduce a substantial amount of new soil to the Project Site during construction. Soil stockpiles, if not properly controlled, could result in sedimentation of stormwater during runoff events. However, the Project would be required to comply with a General Construction Permit, issued by the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), including the preparation and implementation of a site-specific SWPPP for construction activities. A SWPPP requires all onsite stormwater pollution sources to be addressed through the implementation of applicable stormwater quality Best Management Practices (BMPs). Furthermore, the Project would introduce new uses, infrastructure, and landscaped opens space that would impact long-term operational water quality. A Standard Urban Stormwater Mitigation Plan (SUSMP) would be prepared for all drainage areas. In addition, on-site BMPs, primarily consisting of Park landscaping, would be implemented. The new landscaped open space would also accommodate bioswales and other natural filtration mechanisms that improve water quality. In the current condition, the Hollywood Freeway (and most adjacent areas) sheet flow untreated stormwater into existing drainage infrastructure. The Park, thereby, could have a beneficial impact on water quality discharges within the Project Site. Nonetheless, it is recommended that the potential beneficial and adverse impacts of the Project on water quality standards and waste discharge requirements be further analyzed in an EIR.

b) Would the project substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?

Potentially Significant Impact. The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) is the water purveyor for the City. As indicated in the Urban Water Management Plan, water is supplied to the City by the Los Angeles Aqueducts (LAA), local groundwater, purchased water from the Metropolitan Water District (MWD), and the use of reclaimed wastewater. Local groundwater supply has provided the City with approximately 12 percent of its water supply in recent years (LADWP 2010). In 2009-2010, the demand for water within the City was approximately 555,000 acre-feet per year, of which approximately 76,900 acre-feet, or approximately 14 percent, came from local groundwater (LADWP 2010). The existing conditions around the Project Site are mainly impervious surfaces. For example, the paved

Hollywood Freeway, adjacent paved streets, and the paved bridges spanning the freeway. There are limited areas of natural earth within the freeway shoulders and right-of-way. The existing side slope areas abutting the freeway have marginal water penetration potential because of steep slopes that create fast runoff and limit infiltration. Therefore, neither the Project Site, nor surrounding, area provide substantial water filtration for groundwater recharge.

The Project would introduce an elevated and landscaped bridge structure over Hollywood Boulevard and would cap an approximately one-mile portion of the Hollywood Freeway. Consequently, portions of the existing natural side-slopes along the freeway (that currently have direct exposure to rainfall) would be covered by the cap structure. Although there would be a reduction in direct rainfall inundation on the freeway side slopes, there would be an increase in overall inundation potential generated by the Park due to its landscaped areas, filtration features, and potential to discharge rainfall in a controlled manner. The strata of the soil in the natural surface of the Park would collect and treat the rainfall runoff. Subsequently, the runoff could be directed to percolation areas adjacent to the freeway such as vegetated swales, dry wells, or other sub-surface infiltration storage and percolation mechanisms, as soil conditions allow. Accordingly, after construction of the Project, the amount of stormwater that percolates through the imported site soils could increase. A hydrology and stormwater quality report would be prepared with the environmental review of the Project and would further assess hydrologic impacts. Therefore, it is recommended that this issue be further analyzed in an EIR.

c) Would the project substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner, which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?

Potentially Significant Impact. There are no streams or rivers on the Project site to alter. However, the existing drainage system includes catch basins that collect drainages and route water through a series of underground pipes to the St. Andrews Place stormwater storage chamber and the Serrano Avenue stormwater storage chamber. These two stormwater storage chambers discharge into the City's storm drain network just west of the Project Site boundary. The Project Site consists of a paved surface surrounding the Hollywood Freeway and the airspace above it. There is minimal landscaping and most of the area is covered with impervious surfaces. With development of the Project, drainage from the Project Site could be channeled through landscaped areas, bioswales and a variety of water filtration mechanisms best suited for the particular locations and soil properties of the Project Site before discharge into the municipal stormwater system . As previously discussed, for Project construction, a SWPPP would be developed and implemented which would outline BMPs and other control measures to reduce the possibility of erosion and/or siltation. Construction activities would also occur in accordance with City grading permit regulations to reduce the impacts of sedimentation and erosion. As the Project would alter the existing drainage pattern, a SUSMP would be prepared. Based on the forthcoming hydrology technical analysis, it is likely that the Project could reduce the peak flow rates for storm events. Yet, the Project would alter the existing drainage patterns. Therefore, it is recommended that further analysis of the alteration of drainage patterns and changes to the impervious surface be analyzed in an EIR.

d) Would the project substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site?

Potentially Significant Impact. As noted above, there are no streams or rivers on the Project site to alter. However, the existing drainage system includes catch basins that collect drainages and route water through a series of underground pipes to the St. Andrews Place stormwater storage chamber and the Serrano Avenue stormwater storage chamber. These two stormwater storage chambers discharge into the City's storm drain network just west of the Project Site boundary.

With development of the Project, drainage from the Project Site could be channeled through new landscaped areas, bioswales and a variety of water filtration mechanisms best suited for the particular locations and soil properties of the Project Site before discharge into the municipal stormwater system. As the Project would alter the existing drainage pattern, a SUSMP would be prepared. Based on the forthcoming hydrology technical analysis, it is likely that the Project could reduce the peak flow rates for storm events and would therefore have a beneficial effect on the potential for flooding on- and off-site. Therefore, it is recommended that further analysis of the alteration of drainage patterns and potential changes to flooding on- and off-site be analyzed in an EIR.

e) Would the project create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?

Potentially Significant Impact. As previously discussed, there is an existing stormwater drainage system associated with the Hollywood Freeway and vicinity. The existing drainage system consists of a storm drain mainline located beneath the center median of the Hollywood Freeway which discharges into one of two existing storage basins within the Project Site boundary, the St. Andrews Place storage chamber or the Serrano Avenue storage chamber. Each of these chambers has a pumping plant where runoff is pumped to an existing manhole structure at a higher elevation, closer to the surrounding street level. From there, the pumping plants discharge the water into the existing City storm drain system. As previously stated, a SUSMP would be prepared for the drainage areas within the Project Site that requires calculation of runoff rates to assess impacts to the Municipal Separate Stormwater Sewer Systems (MS4). The City monitors the capacity of its storm drain system. The City would provide information during the environmental review process to determine the capacity of the existing stormwater infrastructure. The Project is not anticipated to either exceed stormwater drainage systems or produce substantial additional sources of polluted runoff. However, given the size of the Project and coverage, it is recommended that further analysis of this issue be provided in an EIR.

f) Would the project otherwise substantially degrade water quality?

Potentially Significant Impact. As stated above, the Project would require water quality control measures including a SWPPP, SUSMP and BMPs. The Project presents a substantial opportunity to enhance water quality by designing landscaping, open space, meadows, and recreation fields to facilitate improved water quality discharges. These opportunities and potential impacts to water quality impacts would be further analyzed during environmental review. Therefore, it is recommended that further analysis of this issue be provided in an EIR.

g) Would the project place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?

No Impact. According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) parcels 06037C1605F and 06037C1610F, the Project Site is in Zone X (FEMA 2010). Zone X is designated as an area determined to be outside of the 0.2 percent annual flood chance. As the Project does not include a residential component and is located outside the 100-year flood plain no impact would occur. Further analysis of this issue is not necessary.

h) Would the project place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?

No Impact. As discussed in Checklist Question 9.h) above the FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps do not place the Project Site in a 100-year flood hazard area. In addition, the City's General Plan Safety Element identifies the Project Site as being outside of both the 100-year and the 500-year floodplains (City of Los Angeles 1996). Therefore, the Project would not place structures that may impede or redirect flood flows within a 100-year flood hazard area. No impact would occur. Further analysis of this issue is not necessary.

i) Would the project expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?

Less Than Significant Impact. As previously discussed, the Project Site is not located within a FEMA-designated or City-designated 100-year flood zone or plain. However, the Project Site is located in a potential inundation area as indicated in the Safety Element of the City's General Plan and as a result, potential for flooding could occur (City of Los Angeles 1996). The Mulholland Dam is a Los Angeles Department of Water and Power dam located in the Hollywood Hills approximately three miles north of the Project Site. The Mulholland Dam was built in 1924 and designed to hold 2.5 billion gallons of water. This dam, as well as others in California, are continually monitored by various governmental agencies (such as the State of California Division of Safety of Dams and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers) to guard against the threat of dam failure. Current design and construction practices and ongoing programs of review, modification, or total reconstruction of existing dams are intended to ensure that all dams are capable of withstanding the maximum considered earthquake for the site. Pursuant to these regulations, the Mulholland Dam is regularly inspected and meets current safety regulations. In addition, the Department of Water and Power has emergency response plans to address any

potential impacts to its dams. Given the distance of the Mulholland Dam to the Project Site, the oversight by the Division of Safety of Dams, including regular inspections, and the Department of Water and Power's emergency response program, the potential for substantial adverse impacts related to inundation at the Project Site as a result of dam failure would be less than significant. Therefore, further analysis of this issue is not necessary.

j) Would the project expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?

No Impact. A seiche is an oscillation of a body of water in an enclosed or semi-enclosed basin, such as a reservoir, harbor, lake, or storage tank. A tsunami is a sea wave, commonly referred to as a tidal wave, produced by a significant undersea disturbance, such as a tectonic displacement of sea floor associated with large, shallow earthquakes. Mudflows occur because of down slope soil and/or rock under the influence of gravity. The Project Site is not in proximity to an enclosed or semi-enclosed body of water capable of creating significant risk of loss due to seiche. The Project Site is approximately 12 miles inland (northeast) from the Pacific Ocean and would not be subject to a tsunami. The Project Site is not identified as being in a designated tsunami hazard area (City of Los Angeles 1996). The Project Site is not surrounded by natural hillsides capable of produce significant mudflow and thus inundation by mudflow is unlikely. Therefore, no impacts would occur and further analysis of this issue is not necessary.

10. LAND USE AND PLANNING

a) Would the project physically divide an established community?

Less Than Significant Impact. The Project Site is located in the Hollywood Community Plan area, which is a highly urbanized area that includes a mix of commercial, office, church, restaurant, auto-related, residential, educational, and associated parking uses. The Project would cap the Hollywood Freeway between Santa Monica Boulevard to the south and just beyond Hollywood Boulevard to the north. The Park surface would be supported by an engineered structure that would span the air space over the Hollywood Freeway. As a result, the Park would physically connect the west and east sides of the community on each side of the Hollywood Freeway within the Project Site boundaries. The Project would reunite the surrounding communities that were divided by the Hollywood Freeway. The Project impacts related to this issue would likely be beneficial instead of adverse. Nevertheless, to analyze this issue comprehensively, it is recommended that potential impacts be analyzed further in an EIR.

b) Would the project conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?

Potentially Significant Impact. The Project Site is designated Public Facilities by the Hollywood Community Plan and by the City's General Plan Framework. The Los Angeles Municipal Code (City of Los Angeles 2014) identifies the zoning for the Hollywood Freeway to

be Public Facilities (PF) with a height limitation designation of 1XL (PF-1XL). Uses identified for the PF zone include agricultural, parking under freeways, fire and police stations, government buildings, public libraries, post offices, public health facilities, and public schools. The Project would include uses compatible with the PF zone including a library and police sub-station. The 1988 Hollywood Community Plan states that in the absence of public land, and where feasible, intensified use of existing facilities and joint use of other public facilities for recreational purpose be encouraged. The proposed commercial uses within the Park may conflict with the existing PF zoning designation.

In addition, the 1XL height limitation is an extra limited height district, in which no building or structure shall exceed two-stories, nor shall the highest point of the roof of any building or structure located in such a district exceed 30 feet in height (Los Angeles Municipal Code, Section 12.21.1). The Project consists of the engineered support structure and the Park surface. The elevation of the Park surface would vary between street level, and up to 25 feet above street level at Hollywood Boulevard to accommodate interstitial[3] parking below the Park surface and within the engineered support structure. Also, specific structures within the Park would add to the overall elevation points in the Project. The back-of-house[4] facility at the amphitheater would be approximately 60 feet in height, while the parking garage would be four levels and approximately 50 feet in height, with a portion of the structure contained interstitially within the topography below the grade of the Park. The balance of structures would range from one to two stories and from 10 to 50 feet in height. Thus, the Project could exceed the maximum height allowance under the existing zoning.

At this initial stage of environmental review, the City is considering the most effective mechanisms to include as components of the entitlements needed for the Project. Options include, but are not limited to, master planned development, project-specific ordinances, or a set of land use entitlements. For example, a package of land use entitlements is described in the Project Description section of this Initial Study. The City will continue to define the entitlements applicable to the Project as environmental review proceeds. The Park is a unique project that would ultimately be zoned and contain land uses that are consistent with the City's applicable plans and guidelines. Based on these considerations, it is recommended that this issue be analyzed further in an EIR.

c) Would the project conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?

No Impact. As previously discussed, the Project Site is urbanized and devoid of sensitive habitat or species. No habitat conservation plans or natural community conservation plans apply to the Project Site. Therefore, the Project would not conflict with any measures within an adopted conservation plan, and further analysis of this issue is not necessary.

[3] Refers to parking provided on an interstitial deck that would be located below the Park and above the freeway.

[4] Back of house is the area of a theater not open to the public where the performance is prepared.

11. MINERAL RESOURCES

a) Would the project result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?

No Impact. The Project Site contains airspace over a section of the Hollywood Freeway and minimal landmass in the freeway right-of-way. The Project Site does not contain any known mineral resources. In addition, the City's General Plan Safety Element, Exhibit E, Oil Field and Oil Drilling Areas, does not place the Project Site in a known oil drilling area (City of Los Angeles 1996). As the Project would be built in air space above an already developed area, mineral resources would not be expected to be uncovered during construction and grading. No impacts to mineral resources would occur, and further analysis of mineral resources is not necessary.

b) Would the project result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?

No Impact. As discussed in Checklist Question 11.a) above, the Project would be located in the air space above a portion of the Hollywood Freeway. Therefore, the land below the Project Site is already developed and the addition of the Project would not be expected to result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site. In addition, the Project Site is designated as Public Facilities in the Hollywood Community Plan and is not designated for mineral extraction use. Further analysis of mineral resource recovery sites is not necessary.

12. NOISE

a) Would the project result in exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?

Potentially Significant Impact. Project construction would require the use of heavy construction equipment (e.g., bulldozers, backhoes, cranes, loaders, etc.) to develop the infrastructure and engineered deck that would support the Park surface. Similar equipment would be used to develop the Park surface and facilities on it. Accordingly, it is anticipated that construction activity would increase noise levels temporarily. Additionally, operation of the Project would change existing noise levels in the surrounding community as a result of capping a segment of the Hollywood Freeway. The existing environmental setting around the Project Site has high levels of ambient noise, primarily because of the Hollywood Freeway. In essence, the Park would cap the freeway and thereby attenuate a substantial portion of the noise currently contributing to the high ambient noise levels. However, operation of the Park would introduce new project-related traffic, additional visitors to the area, recreational and community activities, and events at the amphitheater. Therefore, noise levels could impact nearby sensitive uses. Changes in noise levels at the freeway associated with capping would also be evaluated. Thus, it is recommended that the issues of construction and operational noise levels be analyzed further in an EIR.

b) Would the project result in exposure of persons to or generation of excessive ground borne vibration or ground borne noise levels?

Potentially Significant Impact. Construction of the Project would generate short-term ground borne vibration and noise from construction equipment. Therefore, the Project would have the potential to expose people to, or generate, excessive ground borne vibration or noise levels during short-term construction activities. Events at the amphitheater have the potential to generate excessive vibration and noise. Park facilities would not generate excessive ground borne vibration or ground borne noise levels, and in fact, the passive open space areas within the Park would have noise attenuating attributes. In addition, the freeway would not expose park users to excessive vibration, as rubber tired vehicles do not generate perceptible vibration unless they are traveling on rough roads (Caltrans 2013). However, construction activities and certain noise generating Park facilities warrant further analysis. Therefore, it is recommended that this issue be analyzed further in an EIR.

c) Would the project result in a substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?

Potentially Significant Impact. The Project Site currently experiences a substantial amount of traffic-related noise from the Hollywood Freeway. Street level traffic also contributes to the ambient noise condition. The Project would cap a segment of the Hollywood Freeway and would be expected to markedly reduce the ambient noise resulting from the freeway within the Project Site. Based on site visits, the traffic noise from the Hollywood Freeway is virtually constant and creates significant noise pollution. The Project will have a beneficial impact related to reduction of freeway noise. Street level traffic would remain a consideration, and the Project is likely to contribute to traffic noise in the form of vehicle trips to the Park. In addition, the future activities at the Park would permanently contribute to the overall ambient noise conditions. Therefore, it is recommended that potential impacts associated with a permanent increase in ambient noise levels be analyzed further in an EIR.

d) Would the project result in a substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?

Potentially Significant Impact. As discussed in Checklist Question 12.a) above, construction of the Project would result in the use of heavy construction equipment (e.g., bulldozers, backhoes, cranes, loaders, etc.) that would generate noise on a temporary basis. Events at the Park would also result in periodic increases in ambient noise levels. Therefore, it is recommended that potential impacts associated with a temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels be analyzed further in an EIR.

e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?

No Impact. The Project Site is not located within an airport land use plan or within the two miles of an airport. The closest airport to the Project Site is the Bob Hope Airport in Burbank located approximately eight miles north of the Project Site. In addition, the Santa Monica Municipal

Airport and the Los Angeles International Airport are located approximately 9 and 11 miles southwest. Therefore, the Project would not expose the population within the Project Area to excessive noise levels from airport use, and further analysis of this issue is not necessary.

f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?

No Impact. As the nearest airport is the Bob Hope Airport that is located approximately eight miles north of the Project Site, as stated above, the Project Site would not expose those working or residing within the Project Site to excessive noise levels. No impacts would occur, and further analysis of this issue is not necessary.

13. POPULATION AND HOUSING

a) Would the project induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?

Potentially Significant Impact. The environmental review process would assess the relevant population growth databases to analyze potential population and housing impacts. SCAG prepares population growth and development projections to inform regional planning efforts. Census data is also used to assess growth trend and anticipate urban planning needs. SCAG provides current and projected population, housing, and employment estimates for the region as a component of the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). SCAG bases its estimates, in part, on anticipated development by City jurisdictions based on their General Plans, Zoning and on-going development activity. The SCAG projections serve as the basis for providing infrastructure and public services by various jurisdictions and service agencies throughout the region. In addition, the Project overall could be expected to directly or indirectly induce new businesses and housing in the community area as it creates new and attractive land uses. The Project would not develop new roadways or major utility infrastructure features that would induce population growth. The Project is expected to serve the existing community, but would provide some employment opportunities associated with new restaurants and other facilities. Therefore, it is recommended that the potential for the Project to change existing or proposed population trends or affect the provision of housing in the area should be evaluated further in an EIR.

b) Would the project displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?

No Impact. The Project would be located in the air space above a portion of the Hollywood Freeway. Therefore, there is no existing housing located on the Project Site that could be displaced. No impacts would occur and further analysis of this issue is not necessary.

c) Would the project displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?

No Impact. The Project would be located in the air space above a portion of the Hollywood Freeway and within adjacent right-of-way areas. There is no existing housing, businesses, parks, or schools located on the Project Site. The Project would not displace a substantial number of people, and further analysis of this issue is not necessary.

14. PUBLIC SERVICES

a) Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered government facilities, or the need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objective for any of the following public services:

Fire protection?

Potentially Significant Impact. The Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) provides fire protection and emergency medical services within the City of Los Angeles. Three fire stations are located in the vicinity of the Project Site including Fire Station No. 82 at 5968 Hollywood Boulevard, Fire Station No. 52 at 4957 Melrose Avenue, and Fire Station No. 27 at 1327 North Cole Avenue. Fire Station 82 currently uses its old station facilities located at 1800 North Bronson Avenue for storage and other non-active fire station emergency relief uses. As the Project would introduce new structures and employees to the Project Site, greater demand on LAFD Fire protection and emergency medical services could be generated.

The Project is located over the Hollywood Freeway. Freeways and major highways are often included in the routes used by emergency vehicles throughout Los Angeles County. The Project would include a continuous deck support that joins the existing ground at the top of the current freeway slopes. The support structure would require some excavation and grading on the freeway slopes. In addition, some additional grading may occur along the perimeter of the Park to create easy access points. Construction of the Project may require temporary lane and on- and off-ramp closures. Lane and ramp closures often result in congestion that may interfere with emergency response plans or emergency evacuation plans. Likewise, the development of the Project would cap a segment of the Hollywood Freeway that is currently open to the sky. This could impact fire and life safety access to portions of the Hollywood Freeway. The Project would be designed to comply with all applicable fire (and emergency) access requirements. Nonetheless, it is recommended that potential impacts associated with fire protection and emergency medical services be analyzed further in an EIR.

b) Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered government facilities, or the need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objective for any of the following public services:

Police protection?

Potentially Significant Impact. The Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) is the local law enforcement agency responsible for providing police protection services to the Project Site and immediate Project vicinity. The LAPD is divided into four Police Station Bureaus: Central Bureau, South Bureau, Valley Bureau, and West Bureau. The Project Site is located within the West Bureau of the LAPD that serves the communities of Hollywood, Wilshire, Pacific and West Los Angeles, and within the West Traffic Division of LAPD.

Specifically, the Project Site is served by the Hollywood Community Police Station, located at 1358 N. Wilcox Avenue (approximately 0.9 miles west of the Project Site). Development of the Project would include a police substation. The police substation would provide local police service presence to the Project and its vicinity. 24-hour private security would also be included on the Project Site. As the Project would introduce new structures, employees and park patrons to the Project Site, greater demand on LAPD police protection services could be generated. Therefore, it is recommended that potential impacts associated with police protection services be analyzed further in an EIR.

c) Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered government facilities, or the need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objective for any of the following public services:

Schools?

Potentially Significant Impact. The Project Site is located within the jurisdiction of the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD). Based on the LAUSD Service Center map, the Project Site lies in the west educational service center (LAUSD 2012a). Specifically, the Project Site is located in the LAUSD District 4. As shown in Table 4-2, Cheremoya Avenue Elementary School, Grant Elementary School, Kingsley Elementary School, Richard Alonzo Community Day School, Citizens of the World Charter School-Hollywood, Joseph LeConte Middle School, and Academic Performance Excellence Academy Helen Bernstein High School are the closest LAUSD schools to the Project Site.

Because the Project does not involve the development of any housing, it would not directly generate any new students. Nonetheless, in accordance with California Government Code Section 65995, schools may collect fees associated with non-residential uses, such as commercial and industrial. As the Project would include commercial uses such as restaurants, a bed and

breakfast inn, and retail space, school development fees could be applicable to the Project. Therefore, it is recommended that potential impacts to nearby schools be further analyzed in an EIR.

Table 4-2: Public Schools within Two Miles of the Project Site

Name	Address	Distance	District/Type
Schools within 0.25 mile			
Cheremoya Avenue Elementary School	6017 Franklin Avenue	0.25 miles northwest	Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD)
Grant Elementary School	1530 N. Wilton Place	0.1 mile east	LAUSD
Kingsley Elementary School	5200 Virginia Ave	0.15 miles east	LAUSD
Richard Alonzo Community Day School	5755 Fountain Ave	0.14 mile west	LAUSD Public charter school (grades 8-12)
Academic Performance Excellence Academy Helen Bernstein High School	1309 North Wilton Place	0.1 mile west	LAUSD Public (Grades 9-12)
Citizens of the World Charter School- Hollywood	1316 N. Bronson Ave. (co-located on the campus of LeConte Middle School)	0.23 mile west	LAUSD
Joseph LeConte Middle School	1316 N Bronson Ave	0.23 mile west	LAUSD
Schools within 2 miles			
Ramona Elementary School	1133 N. Mariposa Ave.	0.37 miles east	LAUSD
Los Felix Elementary School	1740 N New Hampshire Ave	1.38 miles east	LAUSD
Harvard Preschool and Kindergarten	1311 N Harvard Blvd.	0.3 miles east	Kindergarten, preschool, and daycare facility
Los Angeles City College	855 N Vermont Ave	0.7 miles southeast	College
Dayton Heights Elementary School	607 N Westmoreland Ave	1.17 miles southeast	LAUSD
Alexandria Elementary School	4211 Oakwood Ave	1 mile south	LAUSD
Santa Monica Boulevard Community Charter School	1022 N Van Ness Ave	0.47 mile southwest	Public Charter School
Selma Avenue Elementary School	6611 Selma Ave	0.93 miles west	LAUSD

Table 4-2 (cont.): Public Schools within Two Miles of the Project Site

Name	Address	Distance	District/Type
Bancroft Middle School	929 N. Las Palmas Avenue	1.78 miles west	LAUSD
Larchmont Charter School West	6611 Selma Ave	0.94 miles west	LAUSD
Hollywood High School	1521 N Highland Ave	1.3 miles west	LAUSD
Frances Blend Elementary School	5210 Clinton St	0.86 miles southwest	LAUSD (Public School for the Blind)
Van Ness Avenue Elementary School	501 N Van Ness Ave	0.91 miles southwest	LAUSD
VISTA Charter Middle School	2900 W Temple St.	1.97 miles southeast	LAUSD
New Village charter High School	147 N Occidental Blvd	2 miles south	LAUSD
Camino Nuevo Charter Academy	3435 W Temple St	1.6 miles southwest	LAUSD
Hilltop Nursery School Inc.	3625 Marathon St	1.5 miles southeast	Preschool School
Central City Value High School	221 N Westmoreland Ave	1.52 miles southeast	LAUSD
Belmont Community Adult School	152 N Vermont Ave	1.53 miles southeast	Adult School
Virgil Middle School	152 N Vermont Ave	1.53 miles southeast	LAUSD
Lexington Avenue Primary Center School	4564 Lexington Ave	1 mile east	LAUSD
Lockwood Elementary	4345 Lockwood Ave	1 mile east	LAUSD
Source: LAUSD 2012a, 2012b, 2013.			

d) Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered government facilities, or the need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objective for any of the following public services:

Parks?

Potentially Significant Impact. RAP is responsible for the provision, maintenance, and operation of public recreational and park facilities within the City. Recreational and park facilities located within two miles of the Project Site, operated by RAP, include Seily Rodriguez Park, Barnsdall Art Park, Bellvue Recreation Center, Hollywood Recreation Center, Yucca Community Center, Selma Park, De Longpre Park, Runyon Canyon Dog Park, La Mirada Avenue Park, and Lemon Grove Recreation Center. The Project would include landscaped open space, multi-purpose fields, active and passive pedestrian meadows, an amphitheater, terraces, plazas, dog parks, and interactive community areas. These new facilities would dramatically increase available recreational and park facilities in the Hollywood community. The Park has a beneficial impact on the community and City's recreation and park facilities. To more fully assess its beneficial impacts, and determine whether there are any possible indirect adverse impacts, further evaluation is recommended in an EIR.

e) Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered government facilities, or the need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objective for any of the following public services:

Other public facilities?

Potentially Significant Impact. The Los Angeles Public Library (LAPL) provides library services to the City. Five libraries are located in the vicinity of the Project Site including: the Will and Ariel Durant Library located at 7140 W. Sunset Boulevard (approximately 1.7 miles west from the Project Site); Cahuenga Branch Library located at 4591 Santa Monica Boulevard (approximately 1 miles southeast of the Project Site); John C. Fremont Branch Library located at 6121 Melrose Avenue (approximately 1.6 miles southwest of the Project Site), Goldwyn Library at 1623 Ivar Avenue (approximately 0.35 mile west of the Project Site); and Fairfax Branch located at 161 S. Gardner Street (approximately 3 miles southwest of the Project Site). In addition, a library is proposed to be built within the Project Site based on input from the community. The existing and anticipated service level and impacts on the library system would be further evaluated. Therefore, it is recommended that potential impacts to nearby libraries be further analyzed in an EIR.

15. RECREATION

a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?

Less Than Significant Impact. Development of the Project does not include any residential units; therefore, the Project would not generate a direct increase in population. The Project would include landscaped open space, multi-purpose fields, active and passive pedestrian meadows, an amphitheater, a community center, viewing platform, plazas, dog parks, and interactive community areas. The Project would contribute to serving the need for recreation facilities in the larger area, and would not contribute to the use or deterioration of existing neighborhood, regional parks or other recreation facilities. These new facilities would dramatically increase available recreational and park facilities in the Hollywood community. The Park is a beneficial impact for recreational purposes. To more fully assess its beneficial impacts, and determine whether there are any possible indirect adverse impacts, further evaluation is recommended in an EIR.

b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?

Potentially Significant Impact. The Project would be a 38-acre recreational park including proposed features such as plazas, multi-purpose fields, meandering paths, a local-size amphitheater, an open meadow, multi-purpose sports fields, playgrounds, police sub-station and community center, kiosks, restaurants and cafes, picnic areas, a dog park, and a library. These new facilities would increase available recreational and park facilities in the Hollywood community. The Park is a beneficial impact for recreational purposes. To more fully assess its beneficial impacts, and determine whether there are any possible indirect adverse impacts, further evaluation is recommended in an EIR.

16. TRANSPORTATION AND TRAFFIC

a) Would the project conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance, or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit?

Potentially Significant Impact. The Project Site is subject to the Los Angeles Department of Transportation's (LADOT) standards and guidelines regarding trip generation and level of service (LOS) for the street system, as indicated in Traffic Study Policies and Procedures (City of Los Angeles 2013). The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is a responsible agency for the Project and thus Caltrans standards and guidelines would be considered. The Project would build a structure to support a recreational park and facilities in the air space above the section of the Hollywood Freeway that extends from just north of Hollywood Boulevard at

Bronson Avenue to Santa Monica Boulevard. Visitors to the new Park would add traffic trips to the existing circulation system that may adversely affect the existing capacity of the street system or exceed an established level of service (LOS) standard. In addition, construction may also result in a temporary increase in traffic and congestion due to construction-related truck trips, worker vehicle trips and temporary closures of the Hollywood Freeway. As the Project has the potential to adversely impact the circulation systems, it is recommended that this issue be analyzed further in an EIR.

b) Would the project conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including, but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?

Potentially Significant Impact. The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) is the local agency responsible for implementing the regulations and requirements set for in the CMP, consistent with the 2010 Congestion Management Program (MTA 2010). These requirements include the evaluation of any project that may add 50 or more trips into a CMP designated intersection during peak hours. The traffic study area includes a CMP designated intersection—Western Avenue and Santa Monica Boulevard. The closest CMP freeway segment is on the Hollywood Freeway between Santa Monica Boulevard and Melrose Avenue, just south of the Project. Impacts to freeways will be evaluated in accordance with the Freeway Impact Analysis Methodology described in the Agreement between the City and Caltrans District 7 on this subject (Caltrans, City of Los Angeles 2013). The Project would generate additional vehicle trips and could potentially add vehicle trips to a freeway segment or CMP intersection. Thus, it is recommended that this issue be analyzed further in an EIR.

c) Would the project result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?

No Impact. The nearest airport is the Burbank Bob Hope Airport located approximately eight miles north of the Project Site. The next closest airports are the Santa Monica Municipal Airport and the Los Angeles International Airport, located approximately 9 and 11 miles southwest. The Project would not result in the change of air traffic patterns. Furthermore, the Project is a local amenity and is not expected to be a statewide draw to the area. Therefore, the Project would not generate an increase in air traffic levels. The Project would not increase the number of flights in the area; it would not result in an increase in air traffic safety risks. No impact would occur in and further analysis is not necessary.

d) Would the project substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?

Potentially Significant Impact. The Project would introduce an engineered cap structure above the Hollywood Freeway. As a result, the portion of the Hollywood Freeway under the cap would be altered in design. The Project would not modify any on-ramps, off-ramps, or bridge structures that currently existing within the Project Site boundary. The Project would create new ingress and egress points to the Park. The site plan for the Park, and design features for the Park support

structure, would be analyzed during environmental review. The Project would adhere to building codes and applicable circulation requirements to reduce the likelihood of hazardous design features. Nonetheless, it is recommended that this issue be analyzed further in an EIR.

e) Would the project result in inadequate emergency access?

Potentially Significant Impact. Immediate access to the Project vicinity is provided by Hollywood Boulevard, Bronson Avenue, Sunset Boulevard, Wilton Place, Fountain Avenue, Western Avenue, and Santa Monica Boulevard. As noted above, the Project would not modify the on-ramps, off-ramps, or bridges that facilitate emergency access. Freeways and major highways are often included in the routes used by emergency vehicles throughout Los Angeles County. The Project would include a continuous deck support that joins the existing ground at the top of the current freeway slopes. The engineered cap over the Hollywood Freeway could constrain some methods of emergency access (including aerial) to the Project Site. In addition, construction of the Project may require temporary lane and on- and off-ramp closures. Lane and ramp closures often result in increased traffic, which may interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. Therefore, it is recommended that this issue be further analyzed in an EIR.

f) Would the project conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?

Potentially Significant Impact. The area surrounding the Project Site is well served by public transportation. The MTA and the LADOT provide bus services throughout the City. In addition, the Bicycle Plan, located within the City of Los Angeles Transportation Element of the General Plan, indicates that relatively high pedestrian and bicyclist activity is present within the Project area. The Project would include the development of bike bridges, developed park uses (landscaped open space, multi-purpose fields, active and passive pedestrian meadows), and commercial facilities (restaurants retail uses). Visitors to these new facilities would potentially increase the use of alternative transportation in the vicinity. Project impacts on alternative transportation should be evaluated for consistency with the implementation of policies, plans, and programs supporting alternative transportation. . Therefore, it is recommended that this issue be analyzed further in an EIR.

17. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS

a) Would the project exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?

Potentially Significant Impact. The Project would result in new sources of wastewater generated at the Project Site. Currently, wastewater within the City is treated at the Hyperion Treatment Plant, the Tillman Water Reclamation Plant, the Los Angeles Glendale Water Reclamation Plant, and the Terminal Island Treatment Plan (City of Los Angeles 1995). The incremental quantity of wastewater generated by the Project could have the potential to result in

impacts related to wastewater treatment. Therefore, it is recommended that this issue be analyzed further in an EIR.

b) Would the project require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?

Potentially Significant Impact. The Project consists of new park and recreational facilities and their related amenities, which would result in an increase in water demand and wastewater generation. The water purveyor of the City is the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP). Wastewater within the City may be treated at the Hyperion Treatment Plant, the Tillman Water Reclamation Plant, the Los Angeles Glendale Water Reclamation Plant, or the Terminal Island Treatment Plan (City of Los Angeles 1995). These potential increases in water demand and wastewater production may require upgrades to existing facilities. Therefore, it is recommended that this issue be analyzed further in an EIR.

c) Would the project require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?

Potentially Significant Impact. Refer to Checklist Section 9, Hydrology and Water Quality, above. The Project Site is aligned in the airspace over a portion of the Hollywood Freeway. Project development would include the connection of the proposed Park and recreational facilities to the existing drainage system at the Project Site. The new connections would convey all storm water from the Project surface to a new collection and treatment system before discharging into the existing storm drain system. Water quality treatment BMPs would include a variety filtration mechanisms best suited for the particular locations and soil properties of the Project Site. In addition, project features would be provided to treat or manage storm water flows that occur within the Project Site. The engineered support structure for the Park surface would be mostly impervious; however, the Park would have greater stormwater retention capabilities because of the increase in landscaped soils and vegetation in the Park. Environmental review for the Project would assess the interconnection and capacities of the existing drainage systems. Therefore, it is recommended that this issue be analyzed further in an EIR.

d) Would the project have significant water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?

Potentially Significant Impact. The City water purveyor is the LADWP. The existing water usage is limited to irrigation for Hollywood Freeway landscaping. The Project would increase water usage above existing conditions through more extensive landscaping, use water to serve restrooms, restaurants and other developed uses. Therefore, it is recommended that this issue be analyzed further in an EIR.

e) Would the project result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?

Potentially Significant Impact. The Department of Public Works is responsible for the operation, maintenance, inspection, design and building of the City's wastewater collection and treatment facilities. As detailed in response c) above, the City is served by four existing treatment plants. There is currently no wastewater use associated with the Project Site. The Project would require new wastewater service for restrooms, restaurants and other developed uses. Thus, the Project would result in an increase in overall wastewater production. The available capacity of the City's facilities to accommodate project wastewater would need to be further evaluated in conjunction with the Department of Public Works. Therefore, it is recommended that this issue be analyzed further in an EIR.

f) Would the project be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?

Potentially Significant Impact. The Project would provide approximately 38-acres of park and recreational facilities which would include proposed features such as plazas, multi-purpose fields, meandering paths, an amphitheater, an open meadow, multi-purpose sports fields, playgrounds, police sub-station and community center, kiosks, restaurants and cafes, picnic areas, a dog park and a library.

The Project would be expected to produce a considerable amount of debris during construction, and debris could also be produced during park operations. Recycling will be implemented throughout the Project during operation. All Project-related solid waste disposal would occur pursuant to City Ordinances requiring the use of certified haulers as well as the implementation of practices that recycle exported materials. As shown in Table 4-3, three landfills are available to serve the Project Site: Sun Valley Landfill, Burbank Landfill, and Scholl Canyon Landfill. As the Project may have an impact on landfill capacities, it would be required to demonstrate consistency with policies to divert waste from landfills and increase recycling of solid waste. The Project's impacts on policies and regulations regarding solid waste disposal, as well as any landfills that could be impacted by the Project, would be analyzed. Therefore, it is recommended that this issue be analyzed further in an EIR.

Table 4-3: Landfills that would Provide Waste Disposal Needs to the Project

Facility Name	Distance	Address	Remaining Capacity	Max. Daily Permitted Volume	Disposal Acreage	Capacity Date
Sun Valley Landfill	9.8 miles north	9436 Glenoaks Blvd Los Angeles, CA 91352	14,915,064 tons/year	1,823 tons	115	1/1/2026
Burbank Landfill Site No 3	7.17 miles northeast	1600 Lockheed View Drive Burbank, CA 91504	5,107,465 cubic yards	240 tons	48	1/1/2053

Table 4-3 (cont.): Landfills that would Provide Waste Disposal Needs to the Project

Facility Name	Distance	Address	Remaining Capacity	Max. Daily Permitted Volume	Disposal Acreage	Capacity Date
Scholl Canyon Landfill	7.68 miles northeast	3001 Scholl Canyon Road Glendale, CA 91206	9,900,000 cubic yards	3,400 tons	314	4/1/2030
Source: FCS, October 2013.						

g) Would the project comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?

Potentially Significant Impact. As discussed in Checklist Question 17.f) above, there are many state, county, and city plans that address landfill capacity and solid waste diversion that will be discussed in detail in an EIR/EA. Therefore, the Project's waste generation and consistency with plans and policies to increase diversion of wastes will be further analyzed in an EIR.

18. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?

Potentially Significant Impact. As discussed within this Initial Study, the Project does have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment. These environmental impacts include potential impacts to Aesthetics, Air Quality, Cultural Resources, Geology and Soils, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Hydrology and Water Quality, Land Use and Planning, Noise, Population and Housing, Public Services, Recreation, Transportation and Traffic, and Utilities and Service Systems. As discussed in the impact analysis above, the Project has the potential to enhance the quality of the environment in several ways. Nonetheless, an EIR will be prepared to analyze and document these potentially significant impacts.

b) As discussed in Section 4 Biological Resources, the Project would not have the potential to substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal. No further analysis of these issues is necessary. Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?

Potentially Significant Impact. The potential for cumulative impacts occurs when the independent impacts of the Project are combined with the impacts of related projects in proximity to the Project Site such that cumulative impacts occur that are greater than the Project alone. The surrounding area of the Project Site includes other past, current, or expected future projects whose development would contribute to potentially significant cumulative impacts in combination with the Project.

- The Project would have no impacts related to the following issues listed below, nor does the Project have an incremental effect with regard to these issues; therefore, the Project's contribution to these impacts would not be cumulatively considerable, on the following basis: Agriculture and forest resources. The Project Site is fully developed; has no existing agricultural or forest use; is not located on designated Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance; is not under a Williamson Act contract; is not zoned for agriculture, forest or timber; nor is the Project near or adjacent to any of these uses, features or designations. Therefore, the Project would not contribute impacts to agriculture or forest resources.
- Biological resources. Based on the biological resources investigation, the Project Site is highly developed and disturbed, and there is no riparian habitat or wetlands. The limited vegetation onsite does not include any sensitive habitats, plants, or plant communities, and does not support any sensitive wildlife species. Nesting birds and nursery sites are absent. There are no habitat conservation plans or natural community conservation plans applicable to the Project Site, and the Project would not conflict with the Protected Tree ordinance. In addition, the Project does not support any wildlife movement or serve as a wildlife corridor. Therefore, the Project would not contribute impacts to biological resources.
- Hazards, noise, transportation—airports. The Project Site is not within an airport land use plan, and is not within two miles of a public use airport of private airstrip. The Project would not result in any change to air traffic patterns or airport/flight usage. Therefore, the Project would not contribute to safety hazards related to airports or airport land use plans, would not expose people to excessive noise related to airport/plane operation, or contribute to changes in air traffic or patterns that would result in safety risks.
- Hydrology-floodplains. The Project Site is located outside the 100-year and 500-year flood hazards areas, and the Project does not include any housing. Therefore, the Project would not place housing or other structures within a flood hazard area.
- Hydrology—seiche, tsunami, or mudflow. The Project Site is too distant from any body of water capable of producing a seiche or tsunami, and is not within a designated tsunami hazard area. The Project Site is not adjacent to a hillside capable of producing significant mudflows. Therefore, the Project would not contribute to any impacts related to these phenomena.

- Land use—habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan. There are no habitat conservation plans or natural community conservation plans applicable to the Project Site. Therefore, the Project would not contribute to any conflicts with these plans.
- Mineral resources. The Project Site is already developed, is within an area designated as Public Facilities, is not designated for mineral extraction use, and is not known to contain any mineral resources. Therefore, the Project would not contribute any impacts to mineral resources.
- Housing. The Project Site does not have any housing, and would not directly impact any housing, such as through displacement. The Project does not create any housing. Therefore, the Project would not contribute to housing impacts.

Based on the above considerations, as supported by the analysis in the preceding sections, the Project's impacts to these issues would not be cumulatively considerable.

The Project would have less than significant impacts, but need further study, or potentially significant impacts related to the following issues, and therefore, the Project's contribution to related cumulative impacts would be further evaluated in an EIR:

- Aesthetics. The Project would introduce Park features to the airspace above the Hollywood Freeway, including multi-storing features, potentially changing the visual character and quality of the project site.
- Air quality and greenhouse gases. Project construction and operation would contribute to localized and regional air emissions, including greenhouse gases. The Project has the potential to contribute to cumulative air pollutant emissions.
- Cultural resources. The Project would introduce a park into an area known to contain historical resources, and potentially affect those resources. Project construction would potentially require excavation in native soils that could contain archaeological or paleontological resources.
- Geology and soils. The Project Site is within a seismically active region and in proximity to mapped faults. Therefore, further evaluation is needed to evaluate the geological implications of Project development.
- Hazards and hazardous materials. Capping of the Hollywood Freeway may affect emergency transport of hazardous waste, as well as the ability of emergency responders to access the site in response to a hazardous materials release. Project construction, operation, and maintenance would involve the use of potentially hazardous materials.
- Hydrology and water quality. Project construction has the potential to introduce surface pollutants to stormwater flows. The Project would change the permeability and hydrology of the Project Site, and introduce new water quality treatment and drainage infrastructure.
- Land use and planning. Proposed commercial uses may not be compatible with the existing PF zoning, and project-specific entitlements may be needed so that the Project would conform to applicable plans and guidelines. The Project would have a beneficial effect on the

division of an established community, by reconnecting areas that were divided when the Hollywood Freeway was originally constructed.

- Noise. Project construction would result in temporary noise impacts and vibration. The Project would buffer freeway noise, but would also introduce new sources of noise.
- Population. The Project has the potential to directly or indirectly induce new business and population in the region.
- Public Services. The Project would potentially increase the demand for public services including police, and fire services. A library and recreation services are included as Project components. The project would have a beneficial effect on recreational resources.
- Traffic. The Project would generate new trips in the area, potentially affecting circulation on local streets and the Hollywood Freeway.
- Utilities and service systems. The Project would require new utility connections including sewer, water, stormwater, and solid waste, and would result in an incremental increase in the demand for these resources/services.

c) Does the project have environmental effects, which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?

Potentially Significant Impact. As discussed in Checklist Question 18.a) above, the Project would result in potentially significant environmental impacts associated with Light/Glare, Air Quality, Cultural Resources, Geology and Soils, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Hydrology and Water Quality, Land Use and Planning, Noise, Population, Public Services, Recreation, Transportation and Traffic, and Utilities and Service Systems. These impacts could have potential adverse effects on human beings. Therefore, further analysis of these impacts will be provided in an EIR.

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ATTACHMENT – BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES TECHNICAL REPORT

BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES TECHNICAL REPORT
FOR
HOLLYWOOD CENTRAL PARK
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

May 15, 2014

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1.0 Introduction

This Biological Resources Technical Report (Report) documents the results of a biological resources study completed in support of the Hollywood Central Park Project (Proposed Project). The biological resources study included a review of the description of the Proposed Project, a review of published literature related to the Proposed Project, agency consultation, and field surveys. This Report describes the baseline extant biological resources that would potentially be affected by construction, operation, and maintenance of the Proposed Project; and provides substantial evidence necessary to analyze the potential environmental impacts related to biological resources.

The Report determined that no endangered, threatened, or otherwise sensitive species of plants or wildlife would be impacted from construction and operation of the Proposed Project. No waters of the United States, waters of the State, riparian habitats, or other sensitive habitats or plant communities are present within or adjacent to the Proposed Project's alignment; hence, no impacts to those resources would occur. The Proposed Project would not conflict with any City of Los Angeles ordinances or community plans with respect to biological resources, nor would it conflict with any regional plans protecting biological resources. These conclusions are based on the fact that the Proposed Project would be constructed primarily within the airspace above the high-volume U.S. 101 Freeway. Accordingly, there is minimal land mass within the project boundary, and all of the land within, or adjacent to, the project boundary is either transit infrastructure or highly disturbed urban areas.

1.1 Purpose of the Biological Resources Technical Report

The purpose of this Report is to document the analysis of the Proposed Project's potential to impact biological resources, and thus support the City of Los Angeles' decision-making process as Lead Agency pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

1.2 Project Location and Setting

The Proposed Project is located in the City of Los Angeles approximately 4 miles northwest of downtown Los Angeles, and approximately 14 miles east of the Pacific Ocean (Figure 1, *Regional Location*). The Proposed Project is located on the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5 minute-series Hollywood topographic quadrangle (Township 1S North; Range 14 W West [San Bernardino Base & Meridian]) within sections 11 (E ½ Section), 12 (SW ¼ Section), and 13(NW ¼ Section).

The Proposed Project area encompasses the air space above approximately one mile of US Highway 101 (referred to herein as the Hollywood Freeway), extending from the Santa Monica Boulevard overpass to a point just north of the Hollywood Boulevard

Date: 1/21/2014

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Hollywood Central Park
Los Angeles, CA

Legend

Study Area line

N

0 2.5 5 10

Miles

USGS Topographic 7.5 minute series Hollywood quadrangle; Township 1S North, Range 14W West

Regional Location

PSOMAS

Figure 1

overpass, along North Bronson Avenue. The width of the Proposed Project varies between 200 and 400 feet contiguous with Caltrans right-of-way (Figure 2, *Local Vicinity*). The Proposed Project will be approximately 38 acres in size.

The major feature of the existing site is the Hollywood Freeway, an eight-lane limited access highway that provides regional access between downtown Los Angeles and the western San Fernando Valley. Within the Proposed Project area, the Hollywood Freeway is located below the surrounding grade, with landscaped slopes or concrete retaining walls lining the edge of pavement. The environmental setting is composed of the infrastructure that is associated with the Hollywood Freeway, and the urban uses that fringe the freeway. There are minimal biotic resources in the existing condition because of the highly-disturbed environment on and adjacent to the Hollywood Freeway.

1.2.1 Surrounding Land Uses

The site of the Proposed Project lies within the Hollywood Community Planning Area within the City of Los Angeles. The Hollywood community is fully developed and includes residential, commercial, and industrial uses. Hollywood Boulevard, Sunset Boulevard, Western Avenue, and Santa Monica Boulevard are the Major Highway Class II arterials in the vicinity of the Proposed Project. Bronson Avenue, Wilton Place, and Fountain Avenue are the Secondary Roadways in the vicinity of the Project. Land uses surrounding the Proposed Project include a mix of commercial, office, church, restaurant, residential, educational, and associated parking uses. Single- and multi-family residential developments are located further to the north, while commercial and residential uses are located to the south.

1.3 Project Description

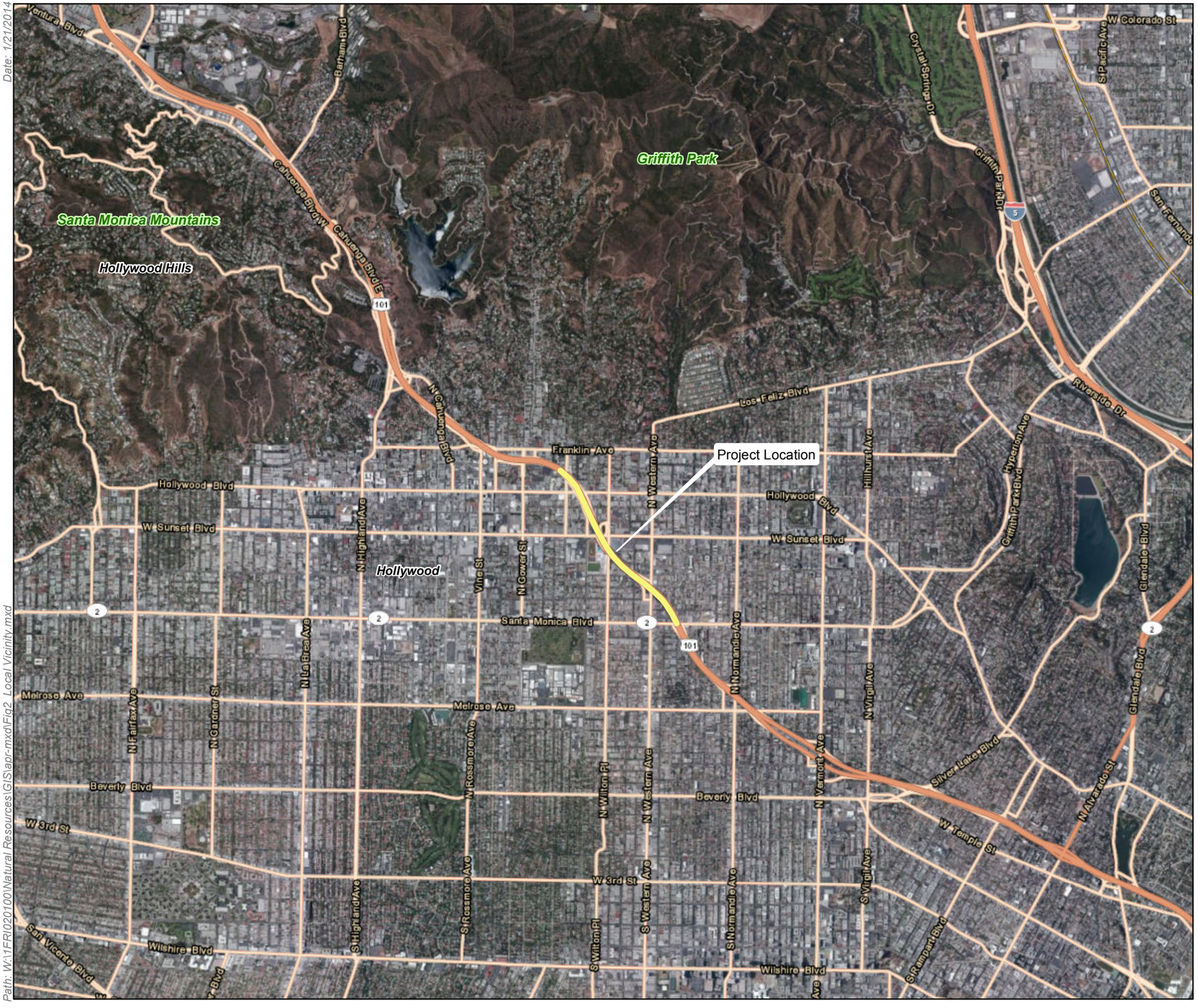
The Hollywood Central Park would be an approximately 38-acre park and recreational facility constructed above the Hollywood Freeway on an engineered deck and support structure. The Proposed Project would be built in the air space above the Hollywood Freeway and thereby enclose the approximately one-mile below-grade portion of the Hollywood Freeway located between Bronson Avenue and Santa Monica Boulevard.

The Proposed Project contains two major components. The first component is the usable area and facilities within the park. The second component is the engineered deck above the Hollywood Freeway and the supporting infrastructure.

- ***Hollywood Central Park*** **-** The grade-level land uses are anticipated to include, but not be limited to: landscaped open space, multi-purpose fields, active and passive pedestrian meadows, small retail facilities and kiosks (e.g., bike shops, seasonal markets, art galleries, etc.), restaurants, an amphitheater, a community center, plazas and terraces, water features, playgrounds, dog parks, and interactive community areas. The Park would be open to the public 7 days a week, 24 hours per day, without fences or walls that restrict pedestrian movement through the park.

Date: 1/21/2014

Path: W:\1FRI02100\Natural Resources\GIS\apr-mxd\Fig2_Local Vicinity.mxd



Hollywood Central Park
Los Angeles, CA

Legend

Project Location

N

0 0.5 1 Miles

Local Vicinity

PSOMAS

Figure 2

- ***Engineered Deck and Supporting Infrastructure*** **-** The Hollywood Freeway currently has seven bridges that cross over the Project Area. The bridges would be retained and continue to provide vehicular circulation. The deck structure supporting the Park would provide vertical clearance for cars and trucks travelling on the Hollywood Freeway. The supporting infrastructure would be constructed to utilize existing bridges and maintain all existing on and off ramps to the Hollywood Freeway.

2.0 Regulatory Framework

This section of the Report identifies the federal, state, and local statutes, ordinances, policies, and guidelines that govern the conservation and protection of biological resources. During the environmental review and decision-making process, the City (Lead Agency) will take into account the regulations discussed below to consider the potential for the Proposed Project to impact biological resources.

2.1 Federal

2.1.1 Endangered Species Act

The federal Endangered Species Act (1973, Title 16, U.S. Code Section 1531[ESA]) defines and lists species as "threatened" and "endangered" and provides regulatory protection for listed species. The federal ESA provides for conservation and recovery of threatened and endangered species; it also conserves designated "critical habitat" that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) has determined is required for the survival and recovery of these listed species. Section 9 of the federal ESA prohibits the "take" listed species. Take is defined as follows: "to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect or attempt to engage in such conduct." In recognition that take cannot always be avoided, Section 10(a) of the federal ESA includes provisions for take that is incidental to, but not the purpose of, otherwise lawful activities. Section 10(a)(1)(B) allows the Secretary of the Interior to issue incidental take permits if take is incidental and does not jeopardize the survival and recovery of the species.

Section 7(a)(2) of the federal ESA requires that all federal agencies, including the USFWS and the Bureau of Land Management, evaluate projects with respect to any species proposed for listing or already listed as endangered or threatened and any proposed or designated critical habitat for the species. Federal agencies must undertake programs for the conservation of endangered and threatened species and are prohibited from authorizing, funding, or carrying out any action that will jeopardize a listed species or destroy or modify its critical habitat.

As defined in the federal ESA, individuals, organizations, states, local governments, and other non-federal entities are affected by the designation of critical habitat only if their actions occur on federal lands; require a federal permit, license, or other authorization; or involve federal funding.

Consistency with the federal ESA was taken into consideration in the evaluation of biological resources for the Proposed Project.

2.1.2 Migratory Bird Treaty Act

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (1918, Title 16, U.S. Code Section 703-712 [MBTA]) makes it unlawful to pursue, capture, kill, or possess any migratory bird or part, nest, or

egg of any such bird listed in wildlife protection treaties between the United States, Great Britain, Mexico, Japan, and Russia (and the countries of the former Soviet Union). Similar to the federal ESA, the MBTA authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to issue permits for incidental take.

Because mature trees and potential roosting and nesting sites could exist within the study area, there is potential for resident and migratory birds to be present. Hence, compliance with the MBTA was considered in the evaluation of biological resources.

2.1.3 Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act

The federal Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1940 (BGEPA; 16 USC 668-668-668c, as amended [BGEPA]) charges the USFWS with protection of bald (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) and golden (*Aquila chrysaetos*) eagles, their nests, eggs, and parts. The BGEPA states that no person shall take, possess, sell, purchase, barter, offer for sale, transport, export, or import any bald or golden eagle alive or dead, or any part, nest or egg without a valid permit to do so. The BGEPA also prohibits the "take" of bald and golden eagles unless pursuant to regulations. Take is defined by the BGEPA as an action "to pursue, shoot, shoot at, poison, wound, kill, capture, trap, collect, molest, or disturb." Disturb is defined in the BGEPA as "to agitate or bother a bald or golden eagle to a degree that causes, or is likely to cause, based on the best scientific information available; (1) injury to an eagle; (2) a decrease in its productivity, by substantially interfering with normal breeding, feeding, or sheltering behavior; or (3) nest abandonment, by substantially interfering with normal breeding, feeding, or sheltering behavior." In addition to immediate impacts, this definition also covers impacts that result from human-caused alterations initiated around a previously used nest site during a time when eagles were not present.

Permits are issued to Native Americans to possess eagle feathers for religious purposes, and salvaged eagle carcasses can be sent to the National Eagle Repository in Colorado where they are redistributed to Native Americans. This effort is coordinated by a local USFWS office. Although the bald eagle was removed from the Endangered Species List in June 2007, it is still federally protected under the BGEPA and MBTA described above. In addition, the National Bald Eagle Management Guidelines were published in conjunction with delisting by the USFWS in May 2007 to provide provisions to continue to protect bald eagles from harmful actions and impacts.

Under the BGEPA, a final rule was published in May 2008 in the Federal Register that proposed authorization for take of bald eagles for those with existing authorization under the federal ESA where the bald eagle is covered in a Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) or the golden eagle is covered as a non-listed species. The final rule also established a new permit category to provide expedited permits to entities authorized to take bald eagles through section 7 incidental take permits. A proposed rule will later address authorization of take of (1) disturbance-type take of bald and golden eagles due to otherwise lawful activities and (2) eagle nests in rare cases where their location poses a risk to human safety or the eagles themselves.

Consistency with the BGEPA was taken into consideration in the evaluation of biological resources for the Proposed Project.

2.1.4 Clean Water Act

Section 404 of the federal Clean Water Act, which is administered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), regulates the discharge of dredged and fill material into "waters of the United States." The Corps has established a series of nationwide permits that authorize certain activities in waters of the United States, provided that a proposed activity can demonstrate compliance with standard conditions. Generally, the Corps requires an individual permit for an activity that will affect an area equal to or in excess of 0.3 acre of waters of the United States. Projects that result in impacts to less than 0.3 acre of waters of the United States can normally be conducted pursuant to one of the nationwide permits, if consistent with the standard permit conditions. The Corps also has discretionary authority to require an Environmental Impact Statement for projects that result in impacts to an area between 0.1 and 0.3 acre. Use of any nationwide permit is contingent on the activities that have no impacts to endangered species.

Any applicant for a federal license or permit to conduct any activity including, but not limited to, the construction or operation of facilities, which may result in any discharge into the navigable waters, shall provide the licensing or permitting agency a certification from the State in which the discharge originates or will originate pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act.

Sections 404 and 401 of the Clean Water Act were taken into consideration in the evaluation of biological resources for the Proposed Project.

2.2 State

2.2.1 California Endangered Species Act

The California ESA prohibits the take of listed species, except as otherwise provided in state law. "Take" is defined in California ESA as in the federal ESA; however, unlike the federal ESA, the California ESA applies take prohibitions to species petitioned for listing as state candidates rather than only listed species. State lead agencies are required to consult with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) to ensure that any actions undertaken by the lead agency are not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any state-listed species or result in destruction or degradation of required habitat. CDFW is authorized to enter into Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) with individuals, public agencies, universities, zoological gardens, and scientific or educational institutions to import, export, take, or possess listed species for scientific, educational, or management purposes.

The California ESA was taken into consideration in the evaluation of biological resources for the Proposed Project.

2.2.2 Native Plant Protection Act

The Native Plant Protection Act includes measures to preserve, protect, and enhance rare and endangered native plants. The list of native plants afforded protection pursuant to the Native Plant Protection Act includes those listed as rare and endangered under the California ESA. The Native Plant Protection Act provides limitations that no person will import into this state—or take, possess, or sell within the State of California—any rare or endangered native plant, except in compliance with provisions of the Act. Individual landowners are required to notify the CDFW at least 10 days in advance of changing land uses to allow the CDFW to salvage any rare or endangered native plant material.

The Native Plant Protection Act was taken into consideration in the evaluation of biological resources for the Proposed Project.

2.2.3 Section 3503 of the State Fish and Game Code

This section of the State Fish and Game Code provides regulatory protection to resident and migratory birds and all birds of prey within the State of California, including the prohibition of the taking of nests and eggs, unless otherwise provided for by the Code. Specifically, this section of the Code makes it unlawful to take, possess, or needlessly destroy the nest or eggs of any bird, except as otherwise provided by the Code.

Section 3503 Protection of Migratory Birds was taken into consideration in the evaluation of biological resources for the Proposed Project.

2.2.4 Section 1600 of the State Fish and Game Code

All diversions, obstructions, or changes to the natural flow or bed, channel, or bank of any river, stream, or lake in California are subject to the regulatory authority of the CDFW pursuant to Sections 1600 through 1603 of the State Fish and Game Code and require preparation of a Streambed Alteration Agreement. Pursuant to the Code, a stream is defined as a body of water that flows at least periodically, or intermittently, through a bed or channel having banks and supporting fish or other aquatic life. Based on this definition, a watercourse with surface or subsurface flows that support or have supported riparian vegetation is a stream and is subject to CDFW jurisdiction. Altered or artificial waterways valuable to fish and wildlife are subject to CDFW jurisdiction. CDFW also has jurisdiction over dry washes that carry water ephemerally during storm events.

Section 1600, et. seq., of the State Fish and Game Code was taken into consideration in the evaluation of biological resources for the Proposed Project.

2.3 Regional and Local Plans

2.3.1 City of Los Angeles General Plan

Two elements of the City of Los Angeles General Plan relate to biological resources: the Conservation Element and the Open Space Element.

2.3.1.1 Conservation Element

Chapter II (Resource Conservation and Management) of the Conservation Element of the City of Los Angeles General Plan addresses biological resources in Section 6, Endangered Species with the objective to "protect and promote the restoration, to the greatest extent practical, of sensitive plant and animal species and their habitats"; in Section 12, Habitats with the objective to "preserve, protect, restore and enhance natural plant and wildlife diversity, habitats, corridors and linkages so as to enable the healthy propagation and survival of native species, especially those species that are endangered, sensitive, threatened or species of special concern;" and in Section 17, Open Space/Parks. Each describes policies pertinent to biological resources:

Section 6, Endangered Species:

- Policy 1: continue to require evaluation, avoidance, and minimization of potential significant impacts, as well as mitigation of unavoidable significant impacts on sensitive animal and plant species and their habitats and habitat corridors relative to land development activities.
- Policy 2: continue to administer city-owned and managed properties so as to protect and/or enhance the survival of sensitive plant and animal species to the greatest practical extent.
- Policy 3: continue to support legislation that encourages and facilitates protection of endangered, threatened, sensitive and rare species and their habitats and habitat corridors.

Section 12, Habitats:

- Policy 1: continue to identify significant habitat areas, corridors and buffers and to take measures to protect, enhance and/or restore them.
- Policy 2: continue to protect, restore and/or enhance habitat areas, linkages and corridor segments, to the greatest extent practical, within city owned or managed sites.
- Policy 3: continue to work cooperatively with other agencies and entities in protecting local habitats and endangered, threatened, sensitive and rare species.
- Policy 4: continue to support legislation that encourages and facilitates protection of local native plant and animal habitats.

Section 17, Open Space/Parks:

The policies of the City of Los Angeles General Plan Conservation Element address various aspects of open space protection, conservation, or enhancement. While the general plan Open Space Element discusses the open space aspects of the City, including park sites and urbanized spaces, e.g., streets, and the Public Facilities Element will address the human use aspects of City park sites, the Conservation Element primarily addresses conservation aspects of the natural open spaces.

2.3.1.2 Open Space Element

Adopted in 1973, the current Open Space Element includes an objective to "identify, preserve and/or conserve ecologically important areas within the City witch are worthy of preservation and protection."

Policies pertinent to natural resources or this Project include:

- Ecologically important areas are generally considered as open space and shall be so designated.
- Freeways, major highways, and other transportation and public rights-of-way are sometimes determinants of urban form. They may serve, in some instances, to link elements of the open space system. Future design, location and improvement of these facilities should recognize these concepts.

The Conservation and Open Space Elements of the City General Plan were taken into consideration in the evaluation of biological resources for the Proposed Project.

2.3.2 Hollywood Community Plan

The Proposed Project is located within the Hollywood Community Planning Area, and within the Hollywood Redevelopment Plan Area of the former Community Redevelopment Agency of the City of Los Angeles (CRA). The Hollywood community is fully developed and includes residential, commercial, and industrial uses. Because of the density of development, there is only 0.5 acre of open space per 1,000 residents in the Hollywood community, compared to 1.2 acres of open space per 1,000 residents within the City of Los Angeles. The Hollywood Community Plan was taken into consideration in the evaluation of biological resources for the Proposed Project.

2.3.3 City of Los Angeles Ordinance 177404: Protected Tree Ordinance

This ordinance protects Southern California native trees excluding those trees grown or held for sale by a licensed nursery, or trees planted or grown as a part of a tree planting program. The following native trees are protected pursuant to the Protected Tree Ordinance:

- Oak tree including Valley Oak (*Quercus lobata*)
- California Live Oak (*Quercus agrifolia*), or
- Any other tree of the oak genus indigenous to California but excluding the Scrub Oak (*Quercus dumosa*).
- Southern California Black Walnut (*Juglans californica* var. *californica*)
- Western Sycamore (*Platanus racemosa*)

The City's Protected Tree Ordinance was taken into consideration in the evaluation of biological resources for the Proposed Project.

3.0 Methods

This section of the Report describes the methods employed in the evaluation and characterization of potential biological resources at the Proposed Project site. The study methods were designed to determine whether the Proposed Project site contains biological resources that would require further analysis in an Environmental Impact Report. The Report assessed the following items pursuant to the thresholds of significance in Appendix G of the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines:

- Those species designated by the USFWS and the CDFW including critical habitat
- Riparian and other state-designated sensitive habitats, including those requiring a Streambed Alteration Agreement pursuant to Section 1602 of the State Fish and Game Code
- Areas potentially subject to the jurisdiction of the Corps pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act
- Native resident or migratory species of fish and wildlife and associated movement corridors
- Consistency with the City of Los Angeles General Plan, Protected Tree
- Ordinance, and the Hollywood Community Plan
- Consistency with applicable federal, state, and regional conservation plans

3.1 Literature Review and Database Queries

The following literature and documents were reviewed to identify potentially occurring special status species including federal and state-designated endangered, threatened, or candidate species, designated or proposed critical habitat, sensitive species and locally important species that have the potential be present within the Proposed Project site and its vicinity:

- City of Los Angeles General Plan
- Hollywood Community Plan
- Hollywood Central Park Feasibility Report
- Hollywood Central Park Compass Blue Print
- Visualizing Hollywood Central Park
- California Native Plant Society Online Inventory
- Cal Flora Web site
- Avian flyway database
- National Wetland Inventory (on-line)
- California Natural Diversity Data Base (Van Nuys, Burbank, Pasadena, Beverly Hills, Hollywood, Los Angeles, Venice, Inglewood, and South Gate USGS 7.5 quadrangles)
- USFWS list of federally endangered species for Los Angeles County
- The Jepson Manual: Higher Plants of California (Hickman 1993)
- A Flora of Southern California (Munz 1974)
- A Field Guide to Western Reptiles and Amphibians, 3rd ed. (Stebbins 2003)

- California Reptiles and Amphibians (CaliforniaHerps.com website 2007)
- Field Guide to the Birds of North America, 4th Ed. (National Geographic Society
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- Hawks of North America (Clark, W. and B. Wheeler 2001)
- Mammals of California (Eder 2005)
- Mammals of North America (Kays et. al. 2002)
- The Smithsonian Book of North American Mammals (Wilson, D. and S. Ruff. 1999)
- Life on the Edge: A Guide to California's Endangered Natural Resources

The literature and databases were reviewed to identify the list of special-status plants and animals that have the potential to occur within the Proposed Project site. The CNDDB query and USFWS list of federally endangered and threatened species for Los Angeles County and/or Geographic Information System (GIS) spatial analysis provided a total list of special status species for analysis taking into consideration the known historic range of each species, previously recorded occurrences, or the presence of potentially suitable habitat. The list of special-status species potentially occurring within the Proposed Project site was further refined based on a review of published and unpublished literature, comparing each species' habitat and range to the characteristics present within the Proposed Project area.

The nearest known occurrences of the final list of special status wildlife and plant species were mapped to inform the biologists prior to performing site visits and surveys that occurred within the Proposed Project site. Appendix A, *Potentially Occurring Special Status Species*, provides the list of those species known to occur within the Proposed Project area and its vicinity. Prior to consulting with the resource agencies (and before conducting field surveys), Psomas biologists utilized the list in Appendix A to determine which species would have a high medium or low potential to occur within or adjacent to the Proposed Project site, or its area of impact.

3.1.1 Agency Consultation

Prior to conducting field surveys, Psomas consulted with the following resource agencies:

3.1.1.1 USFWS

Psomas contacted the USFWS (Mr. Jonathan Snyder) on April 29, 2013 via telephone. The purpose of the informal consultation was to discuss the Proposed Project and request a list of species of concern. Psomas was directed to the Automatic Species List Generator website: (http://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/) and reviewed the material found thereon.

3.1.1.2 CDFW

Psomas contacted CDFW (Mr. Scott Harris) on April 29, 2013 via telephone. The purpose of the informal consultation was to discuss the Proposed Project and request a list of species of concern. Mr. Harris made the following points: CNDDB may not be the best resource because the area has not been well researched/updated; assess existing

habitat, biota, and potential wildlife connections when considering the baseline condition; Look for Endangered, Threatened, Rare, Candidate species, CNPS 1B species, nesting birds, and drainages during surveys; Understand that urbanized zones may contain habitat for sensitive species and document findings accordingly.

3.1.2 Plant Community Mapping

Prior to conducting field surveys, Psomas biologists prepared detailed plant community maps of the Proposed Project site. The purpose of the plant community mapping was to characterize the plant communities within the Proposed Project and provide a basis for determining the presence or absence of state-designated sensitive plant communities, including federally and state-regulated wetland, aquatic, and riparian habitats. The plant community mapping also served as one source of information for making a determination with regard to the ability of the Proposed Project to provide suitable habitat for sensitive plant and wildlife species.

Plant communities were mapped in preliminary polygons on aerial photographs in the office. These maps were then ground-truthed during field surveys. Only plant communities larger than one acre were mapped. The results of the field mapping were digitized using geographic information system (GIS); acreages associated with each plant community were calculated and used to determine impacts based on the ground disturbance scenario provided in the description of the Proposed Project.

3.1.3 Federal/State Waters and Wetlands

Prior to conducting field surveys, Psomas biologists reviewed aerial photographs of the Proposed Project area for evidence of waters of the United States and State. Psomas biologists also reviewed the USGS 7.5 minute series Hollywood topographic quadrangle for blue line streams potentially regulated by the Corps and/or the CDFW. The National Wetlands Inventory was also reviewed on-line to determine the presence/absence of federal/state waters and wetlands.

3.2 Field Surveys

3.2.1 Methods

Psomas established a 156-acre survey area that included a 500-foot buffer surrounding the Proposed Project site consistent with survey protocols applicable to the site. Psomas biologists (Ms. Tanessa Hartwig and Ms. Courtney Rose) conducted three site visits (May 15, June 27, and July 1, 2013) to inventory all plants and wildlife observed and categorize plant communities present within the Proposed Project survey area consistent with survey protocols established by the CDFW and the California Native Plant Society (CNPS). The biologists surveyed the site for special status plant and wildlife species (including nesting birds) that could be present on the site or were identified as having the

potential to occur within the Proposed Project site and its vicinity as a result of the literature review and agency consultation.

Biologists assessed the Proposed Project survey area by driving within the project construction footprint and buffer zone to get a sense of the surrounding habitat communities, and then walking the length of the Proposed Project site along the Hollywood Freeway between Hollywood Boulevard and Santa Monica Boulevard. Surveys were conducted within vegetated areas and along medians, corridors, and street level bridges. Where survey areas were not safe (due to freeway conditions) or readily accessible, biologists used binoculars. Biologists recorded data including date, time, weather conditions, USGS 7.5 minute series topographic quadrangle, Area #, latitude/longitude, survey personnel, floristic data, wildlife observed, and other resource observations. All common plant and wildlife species were readily identified by visual characteristic and morphology in the field. Unusual and less familiar plants were later identified using taxonomical guides. Plant and wildlife field guides and photographs were used to assist with identification of plant and wildlife species during surveys.

4.0 Results

This section of the Report documents the results of the literature review and field surveys—it describes baseline conditions for biological resources within the Proposed Project area; evaluates the potential for the Proposed Project to result in significant direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts to biological resources; and identifies feasible measures capable of avoiding and reducing the impacts to biological resources at the Proposed Project site. These results provide the substantial evidence to address the scope of analysis recommended in Appendix G of the State of California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines (State CEQA Guidelines) for biological resources, including special-status species and designated critical habitat; areas potentially subject to the jurisdiction of the Corps pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act; riparian and other state-designated sensitive habitats, including those requiring a Streambed Alteration Agreement pursuant to Section 1602 of the State Fish and Game Code; native resident or migratory species of fish and wildlife; the City of Los Angeles General Plan, Protected Tree Ordinance and Hollywood Community Plan, as well as the consideration of federal, state, and regional conservation plans.

4.1 Existing Conditions

4.1.1 Plant Communities

The Project Site area consists of the five types of plant communities identified below in Table 1, *Plant Communities*; Figure 3, *Plant Communities*. None of the five plant communities identified in the Project Site area are considered natural communities; as such, none have any state-designated special status, nor are they afforded any regulatory protection.

Table 1
Plant Communities

Plant Community	Area (Acres)
Developed: Infrastructure & Urban Land	138.7
Landscaped: Disturbed	12.7
Landscaped: Maintained	2.6
Landscaped: Cultural Woodland	1.0
Disturbed: Vacant Disturbed Land	1.4

4.1.1.1 Developed

Developed portions of the Proposed Project study area include the existing Hollywood Freeway, roads and structures adjacent to the freeway, and strips of vegetation and trees that may border sidewalks and structures. Vegetation was considered a minor component of this plant community with developed hardscape being the predominant component (Figure 3). Developed areas comprise approximately 138.7 acres of the Proposed Project study area.

Date: 1/21/2014

Path: W:\1FRI020100\Natural Resources\GIS\apr-mxd\Fig3_Plant communities.mxd

Hollywood Central Park
Los Angeles, CA

Legend

- Project site
- Right of way
- Study area

Plant communities

- developed (dev) [138.7 ac]
- landscaped: disturbed (ld) [12.7 ac]
- landscaped: maintained (lm) [2.6 ac]
- landscaped: cultural woodland (lcw) [1.0 ac]
- disturbed habitat (dh) [1.4 ac]

N

0 250 500 1,000 1,500 Feet

Plant Communities

PSOMAS

Figure 3

4.1.1.2 Landscaped: Disturbed

The Landscaped: Disturbed plant community comprises 12.7 acres of landscaped vegetation that is not maintained as evidenced by vegetation that appeared unhealthy, dying, or dead, and the presence of many weedy species that were not considered components of an original Caltrans landscape plan.

4.1.1.3 Landscaped: Maintained

The Landscaped: Maintained plant community comprises 2.6 acres of vegetation that is maintained. It includes small, well-manicured gardens located at the western terminus of the Proposed Project area and sports fields located south of Sunset Boulevard and east of North Van Ness Avenue.

4.1.1.4 Landscaped: Cultural Woodland

The Landscaped: Cultural Woodland plant community is a 1-acre woodland comprised of planted sycamore trees with little understory development but extensive groundcover dominated by ivy. The cultural woodland is located on the northwest corner of Sunset Boulevard and North Wilton Place. This type of cultural woodland habitat is capable of providing potentially suitable roosting and nesting habitat for resident and migratory birds, yet no roosting or nesting behavior was identified in the 1-acre woodland area surveyed by the biologist. This woodland area is between the Hollywood Freeway and an existing off ramp to Sunset Boulevard. Thus, the area is highly impacted by noise and vehicular traffic.

4.1.1.5 Disturbed

Disturbed portions of the Proposed Project study area are areas of vacant land with sparse vegetation predominantly comprised of weedy and ruderal species of non-native grasses and forbs interspersed with open areas of compacted soils. Disturbed areas comprise approximately 1.4 acres of the Proposed Project study area.

Appendix A presents the list of special status species that have the potential to occur (based on database information) within the Proposed Project study area. It evaluates with the level of potential for each species to occur. As shown in Appendix A, there are no special status plant species that have the potential to occur on the Project Site.

In addition, no protected plant communities were observed during biological field surveys of the Proposed Project study area. No federally or state endangered, threatened, candidate, or otherwise designated sensitive species were observed during biological field surveys of the Proposed Project study area. No habitat suitable to support any of those special status species identified by the literature review was observed within or adjacent to the Proposed Project study area. Therefore, federally or state endangered, threatened, candidate, or otherwise designated sensitive species are considered absent from the Proposed Project study area.

4.1.2 Riparian and Other Natural Sensitive Communities

No riparian or other natural sensitive communities are located within or near the Proposed Project area. This was determined as a result of plant community mapping and field observations during biological surveys. Therefore, these communities are considered absent from the Proposed Project area.

4.1.3 Federal and State Waters and Wetlands

No waters or wetlands subject to the jurisdiction of the Corps or the CDFW are present within or adjacent to the Proposed Project study area. This was determined based on plant community mapping and field observations made during biological surveys. Therefore, jurisdictional waters are considered absent from the Proposed Project area.

4.1.4 Migratory Corridors

No migratory corridors suitable for use by wildlife species were observed during biological surveys. As a result of the field surveys and review of aerial photographs it was determined that there is no direct connectivity between the Proposed Project study area and any large areas of natural open space, such as Griffith Park. Therefore, migratory corridors are considered absent from the Proposed Project area.

4.1.5 Local Policies and Ordinances

As a result of a review of the Proposed Project description and the results of plant community mapping and biological field surveys in light of the guidance and policies of the City of Los Angeles General Plan, Protected Tree ordinance and Hollywood Community Plan, it was determined that the Proposed Project does not conflict with any of the provisions of the specified documents with respect to biological resources.

4.1.6 Local, Regional and State Conservation Plans

As a result of agency consultation and a review of the literature, it was determined that there are no local or regional biological resource conservation plans that cover the Proposed Project site and its immediate surroundings.

4.2 Impact Analysis

4.2.1 Plant Communities

Implementation of the Proposed Project would result in impacts to three types of plant communities as categorized in Table 2, Plant Community Impacts. Of the 138.7 acres of developed hardscape within the Proposed Project area, the Proposed Project would affect 25.7 acres that primarily consists of the Hollywood Freeway. Landscaped areas that are

currently located within the Hollywood Freeway right of way would also be affected, including 10.3 acres of disturbed landscaped areas and the 1-acre cultural woodland.

Table 2
Plant Community Impacts

Plant Community	Area (Acres)	Impact (Acres)
Developed: Infrastructure & Urban Land	138.7	25.
Landscaped: Disturbed	12.7	10.
Landscaped: Maintained	2.6	0.
Landscaped: Cultural Woodland	1.0	1.
Disturbed: Vacant Disturbed Land	1.4	0.

An impact to 25.7 acres of developed hardscape (primarily the Hollywood Freeway) is not considered a significant impact to biological resources because there are no species present on the developed hardscape. The Proposed Project would consist of an approximately 38-acre park and recreational facility constructed above the Hollywood Freeway on an engineered deck that encloses the Hollywood Freeway.

An impact to 10.3 acres of disturbed landscape located within the Hollywood Freeway right-of-way is not considered a significant impact. Disturbed landscape does not provide quality habitat for any protected species, and is not itself a protected plant community. In addition, the construction of the Proposed Project would itself provide ample opportunity for the creation of landscaped areas to compensate for the removal of 10.3 acres of disturbed landscaped vegetation.

An impact to one acre of cultural woodland currently located within the Hollywood Freeway right-of-way is not considered a significant impact. The field surveys of the cultural woodland area confirmed that it does not contain any special status species. The area is located between an off-ramp of the Hollywood Freeway and Sunset Boulevard, which is a high-volume arterial roadway. As a result, the area is exposed to high levels of ambient noise and vibration, air pollution, and vehicular traffic. Accordingly, it does not contain suitable nesting or foraging habitat for avian or other species. The construction of the Proposed Project would itself give ample opportunity for the creation of landscaped areas to compensate for the removal of acre of disturbed cultural woodland.

4.2.2 Riparian and Other Natural Sensitive Community

As a result of the literature review, plant community mapping, and biological field surveys, it was determined that no riparian or natural sensitive plant communities are present with or adjacent to the Proposed Project site and therefore; there would be no impact to these resources.

4.2.3 Federal and State Waters and Wetlands

As a result of the literature review, plant community mapping, and biological field surveys it was determined that no federal and state waters and wetlands are present within

or adjacent to the Proposed Project site and therefore, no impacts would occur to these resources.

4.2.4 Special Status Species

No special status species are present within or adjacent to the Proposed Project site and therefore, no impacts would occur to these resources.

4.2.5 Migratory Corridors

No migratory corridors are present within or adjacent to the Proposed Project area and therefore, no impacts would occur to these resources.

4.2.6 Local Policies and Ordinances

The Proposed Project was found to be consistent with local policies and ordinances for plant and wildlife species primarily because there are no sensitive plant or wildlife species on the Project Site. Therefore, there would be no impacts to local policies and ordinances as a result of implementation of the Proposed Project.

4.2.7 Local, Regional and State Conservation Plans

Because there are no local, regional, or state conservation plans in place in or near the proposed project area, implementation of the Proposed Project would not impact any such conservation plans.

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Appendix A
Potentially Occurring Special Status Species

TABLE 1
LISTED AND SENSITIVE PLANT SPECIES HAVING THE POTENTIAL TO OCCUR WITHIN THE PROPOSED PROJECT AREA

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	General Habitat Description	General Distribution	Potential For Occurrence
Listed Endangered, Threatened, Candidate and State Rare Plants					
Pentachaeta lyonii	Lyon's pentachaeta	FE SE CNPS: 1B.1	Found in openings of chaparral, coastal sage scrub and valley and foothill grasslands. Usually found at the ecotone between grassland and chaparral or edges of firebreaks and access roads. Blooming period: Mar – Aug.	Known from fewer than twenty extant occurrences in the coastal mountain region of the Santa Monica Mountains in northern Los Angeles County and western Simi Hills in southern Ventura County. Elevational range: 100 – 2,066 feet MSL.	**No Potential to Occur** The Project area lacks appropriate habitat for Lyon's pentachaeta. Therefore Project will not affect this species.
Berberis nevinii	Nevin's barberry	FE SE BLMS FSS CNPS: 1B.1	Nevin's barberry grows in two habitat types. In the alluvial scrub community it grows on sandy and gravelly substrates along the margins of dry washes. In the chaparral community, it grows on steep, north-facing slopes with coarse soils and rocky slopes. It has also been found in cismontane woodlands, riparian scrub, and coastal sage scrub. Blooming period: Mar – Apr.	The distribution of the Nevin's barberry includes dry washes below the foothill zone of the southern California Transverse and Peninsular Ranges in Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Riverside and San Diego counties. Nevin's barberry is endemic to southwestern cismontane southern California. It occurs in restricted localized populations from the interior foothills of the San Gabriel Mountains of Los Angeles County and San Bernardino County southeast to near the foothills of the Agua Tibia Mountains of southwestern Riverside County. Scattered naturalized populations have been established outside this range in San Diego County. Elevational range: 970 – 2,700 feet MSL.	**No Potential to Occur** The Project area lacks appropriate habitat for Nevin's barberry. Therefore Project will not affect this species.
Dithyrea maritima	beach spectaclepod	ST BLMS CNPS: 1B.1	The general habitat for this species is sandy areas in coastal dunes or coastal scrub. It is found in small transverse fore dunes within approximately 164 – 984 feet from the surf. Beach spectacle pod is usually found in areas of these fragile dunes where the sand is relatively unstable. Blooming period: Mar – May.	Known populations occur only in Santa Barbara County on the coast near Vandenberg Air Force Base and northward into the Nipomo area of San Luis Obispo County. Elevational Range: 9 – 165 feet MSL.	**No Potential to Occur** The Project area lacks appropriate habitat for beach spectaclepod. Project impacts Therefore Project will not affect this species.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	General Habitat Description	General Distribution	Potential For Occurrence
Nasturtium gambelii (=*Rorippa gambelii*)	Gambel's water cress	FE SE FSS CNPS: 1B.1	Gambel's watercress is found in freshwater and brackish marshes or swamps and grows on the margins of lakes and slowly flowing streams in or just above the water level and requires a permanent source of water, often where other vegetation is absent, but with bulrush, cattails or willows nearby. In drought, plants can be found growing on mud. Blooming period: Apr – Sept.	Gambel's water cress is nearly extinct in the U.S. It presently is known from San Luis Obispo County, one at Little Oso Flaco Lake and one at Oso Flaco Lake. Additionally there is one newly discovered population on Vandenberg Air Force Base in northern Santa Barbara County. Elevational range: 16 – 1,082 feet MSL.	**No Potential to Occur** The Project area lacks appropriate habitat for Gambel's watercress. Therefore Project will not affect this species.
Arenaria paludicola	marsh sandwort	FE SE FSS CNPS: 1B.1	It grows on saturated, acidic bog soils, freshwater marshes and swamps, bogs and fens, mostly sandy with a high organic content, and seems to prefer unshaded settings with dense undergrowth. Grows up through dense mats of Typha, Juncus, Scirpus, etc. in freshwater marshes. It occurs almost always under natural conditions in wetlands. Blooming period: May – Aug.	Today, the distribution of this species is limited to two locations in San Luis Obispo County on the Nipomo Mesa, and one recently discovered population in Mendocino County. In San Luis Obispo County, one population is in Black Lake Canyon, and one population was rediscovered in 1998 at Oso Flaco Lake. Elevational range: 9 – 557 feet MSL.	**No Potential to Occur** The Project area lacks appropriate habitat for marsh sandwort. Therefore Project will not affect this species.
Dudleya cymosa ssp. *marcescens*	marcescent dudleya	FT SR BLMS CNPS: 1B.2	This species grows on shaded, volcanic rock cliffs and on sheer rock surfaces in riparian corridors and above chaparral communities. It prefers partially-shaded areas. Blooming period: Apr - Jul.	Eight occurrences of marcescent dudleya are known in Ventura and Los Angeles counties in the Santa Monica Mountains. Some are on lands administered by the National Park Service and the California Department of Parks and Recreation in Little Sycamore Canyon; other populations are above Seminole Hot Springs on private land. Elevational range: 492 – 1,706 feet MSL.	**No Potential to Occur** The Project area lacks appropriate habitat for marcescent dudleya. Therefore Project will not affect this species.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	General Habitat Description	General Distribution	Potential For Occurrence
Dudleya cymosa ssp. *ovatifolia*	Santa Monica dudleya	FT FSS CNPS: 1B.2	Shaded, rocky slopes in chaparral and coastal sage scrub, typically on volcanic soils. The species is usually found in canyons on sedimentary conglomerates, primarily on north facing slopes. Blooming period: Mar - Jun.	This species grows on rocky volcanic cliffs and canyon walls in the Santa Monica Mountains from Hidden Valley to Malibu Creek State Park in Los Angeles County. It is also found at one site in the Santa Ana Mountains in Orange County. Elevational range: 492 – 5,495 feet MSL.	**No Potential to Occur** The Project area lacks appropriate habitat for Santa Monica dudleya. Therefore Project will not affect this species.
Dudleya verityi	Verity's dudleya	FT CNPS: 1B.2	Verity's dudleya grows on north-facing, rocky, volcanic outcrops in chaparral, cismontane woodlands, and coastal scrub. Blooming period: May - Jun.	Verity's dudleya is known from three locations: on the west and north slopes of Conejo Mountain and in Long Grade Canyon, Ventura County. Elevational range: 196 – 393 feet MSL.	**No potential to occur** The Project area lacks appropriate habitat for Verity's dudleya. Therefore Project will not affect this species.
Astragalus brauntonii	Braunton's milk-vetch	FE BLMS FSS 1B.1	The species occurs in recently-burned or disturbed chaparral areas particularly on limestone-derived soils. It is also found in valley grassland, coastal sage scrub, and closed-pine cone coniferous forest. It often occurs in disturbed areas along old graded roads, making access roads potential habitat. Blooming period: Feb - Jul.	The species is restricted to Los Angeles, Orange, and Ventura counties in the Santa Monica Mountains, foothills of the San Gabriel Mountains, and northern Santa Ana Mountains. Elevational range: 13 - 2100 feet MSL.	**No Potential to Occur** The Project area lacks appropriate habitat for Brauton's milk-vetch. Therefore Project will not affect this species.
Astragalus pycnostachyus var. *lanosissimus*	Ventura marsh milk-vetch	FE SE CNPS: 1B.1	Found on coastal back dune habitat and the edges of coastal salt marshes, brackish marshes, coastal meadows and seeps. Within reach of high tide or protected by barrier beaches, more rarely near seeps on sandy bluffs. Blooming period: Jun – Oct.	Ventura Marsh milk-vetch was believed extinct until re-discovered near Oxnard in Ventura County. The population occurs on disturbed coastal back dunes on fill material at a closed oil- waste dump site. Elevational range: 3 – 114 feet MSL.	**No Potential to Occur** The Project area lacks appropriate habitat for Ventura marsh milk-vetch. Therefore Project will not affect this species.
Astragalus tener var. *titi*	coastal dunes milk-vetch	FE SE CNPS: 1B.1	Coastal bluff scrub and coastal dunes. This plant grows in moist depressions on clay soils in coastal terrace grasslands and in coastal strand vegetation on sand dunes. Blooming period: Mar – May.	Known from only one occurrence on the Monterey Peninsula in Monterey County. Los Angeles and San Diego County occurrences have not been documented since the 1970's, despite rediscovery attempts. Elevational range: 3 – 164 feet MSL	**No Potential to Occur** The Project area lacks appropriate habitat for coastal dunes milk-vetch. Therefore Project will not affect this species.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	General Habitat Description	General Distribution	Potential For Occurrence
Phacelia stellaris	Brand's star phacelia (Brand's phacelia)	FC CNPS: 1B.1	Found on open areas in coastal dunes and coastal scrub. This species typically occurs in sandy openings, sandy benches, dunes, sandy washes, or flood plains of rivers. Blooming period: Mar – Jun.	Brand's phacelia was historically found in Los Angeles, Riverside, and San Diego counties and northern coastal Baja California, Mexico. This species has been observed on the Santa Margarita Dunes at Camp Pendleton in San Diego County. Within western Riverside County, Brand's phacelia is restricted to sandy benches along the Santa Ana River. Elevational range: 3 – 1,312 feet MSL.	**No Potential to Occur** The Project area lacks appropriate habitat for Brand's star phacelia. Therefore Project will not affect this species.
Navarretia fossalis	Moran's navarretia (spreading navarretia)	FT CNPS: 1B.1	The primary habitat for this species is vernal pools and depressions and ditches in areas that once supported vernal pools in saline-alkaline soils. It can also be found in artificial roadside ditches. It has been found in alkaline or saline scrubs (chenopod scrub) and playas, shallow freshwater marshes and swamps. Blooming period: Apr – Jun.	Fewer than 30 occurrences exist throughout its range in Los Angeles, Riverside and San Diego counties to Baja California, Mexico Most populations occur in three locations: on Otay Mesa, southwestern San Diego County; along the San Jacinto River in western Riverside County; and near Hemet also in Riverside County. Elevational range: 98 – 4,265 feet MSL.	**No Potential to Occur** The Project area lacks appropriate habitat for Moran's navarretia. Therefore Project will not affect this species.
Chorizanthe parryi var. *fernandina*	San Fernando Valley spineflower	FC SE FSS CNPS: 1B.1	Grows in sandy and gravelly places associated with sandstone, sometimes in washes, typically in open areas associated with mixed grassland, chaparral, and coastal sage scrub communities. Rediscovered in 1999. Blooming period: Apr – Jul.	Currently is known only from Laskey Mesa of Ahmanson Ranch in the Simi Hills, Ventura County; and from the Newhall Ranch and adjoining county land in the Santa Susana foothills, Los Angeles County. Elevational range: 492 – 4,002 feet MSL.	**No Potential to Occur** The Project area lacks appropriate habitat for San Fernando Valley spineflower. Therefore Project will not affect this species.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	General Habitat Description	General Distribution	Potential For Occurrence
Dodecahema leptoceras	slender-horned spineflower	FE SE BLMS FSS CNPS: 1B.1	This species grows on sandy soil of alluvium in flood plains and in washes. This spineflower is associated with the eastern-most occurrence of coastal sage scrub, known as alluvial fan sage scrub. Cryptogrammic crusts are frequently present in areas occupied by this plant. Blooming period: Apr – Jun.	Presently, records recognize nine to eleven populations of this species in Los Angeles, Riverside and San Bernardino counties on both private and federal land. Populations occur within eight watersheds: Santa Clara River, Big Tujunga Wash, Lytle Creek, Santa Ana River, San Jacinto River, Bautista Creek, Temescal Canyon, and Vail Lake. Most of these support only a small number of subpopulations. This species ranges from Tujunga Canyon at the eastern edge of the San Fernando Valley eastward to the Santa Ana Wash near Redlands and southward to the San Jacinto River flood plain near Hemet and Temescal Canyon near Elsinore. A new population was recently discovered on the Pechanga Indian Reservation along Pechanga Creek in Temecula, Riverside County. Elevational range: 660 – 2,500 feet MSL.	**No Potential to Occur** The Project area lacks appropriate habitat for slender-horned spineflower. Therefore Project will not affect this species.
Cordylanthus maritimus ssp. *maritimus*	salt marsh bird's-beak	FE SE CNPS: 1B.2	This species grows in portions of salt marshes subject to periodic inundation from high tides. Salt marsh bird's-beak grows in the higher reaches of coastal salt marshes to intertidal and brackish areas influenced by freshwater input. Some plants occur in non-tidal areas or in areas of perched water tables. It is parasitic on salt grass, alkali bulrush, cattail, and other individuals of its own species. Blooming period: May – Oct.	Known sites include Upper Newport Bay and Anaheim Bay in Orange County; Carpinteria Marsh in Santa Barbara County; Tijuana Marsh and Sweetwater Marsh in San Diego County; Morro Bay in San Luis Obispo County; and Ormond Beach and Mugu Lagoon in Ventura County. Elevational range: 0 – 98 feet MSL.	**No Potential to Occur** The Project area lacks appropriate habitat for salt marsh bird's - beak. Therefore Project will not affect this species.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	General Habitat Description	General Distribution	Potential For Occurrence
Brodiaea filifolia	thread- leaved brodiaea (threadleaf clusterlily)	FT SE BLMS FSS CNPS: 1B.1	This species typically occurs on gentle hillsides, valleys, and floodplains in semi-alkaline mudflats, vernal pools, mesic southern needlegrass grassland, mixed native-nonnative grassland and alkali grassland plant communities in association with clay, loamy sand, or alkaline silty-clay soils. This plant grows on various substrates ranging from clay to fine sand. It occurs in open valley and foothill grasslands, at the edge of vernal pools, flood plains, playas and openings in chaparral, cismontane woodlands or coastal scrub. Blooming period: Mar – Jun.	Thread-leaved brodiaea occurs in a few scattered localities within Los Angeles, Orange, western Riverside, and northwestern San Diego counties. Small populations of the species occur on Fish and Game's lands at the San Jacinto Wildlife Area in Riverside County and Carlsbad Highlands in San Diego County. A significant population occurs on The Nature Conservancy's Santa Rosa Plateau in western Riverside County and a smal population occurs in Aliso-Wood Canyons Regional Park in Orange County. Elevational range: 82 – 2,821 feet MSL.	**No Potential to Occur** The Project area lacks appropriate habitat for thread-leaved brodiaea. Therefore Project will not affect this species.
Orcuttia californica	California Orcutt grass	FE SE BLMS CNPS: 1B.1	California Orcutt grass grows in three kinds of vernal pools (seasonally wet depressions with unique flora and fauna): terrace pools on marine terraces, volcanic mesa pools, and valley pools. Occurs almost always under natural conditions in wetlands. Blooming period: Apr – Aug.	Within the northern portion of this species' range, three populations of Orcutt grass remain in Ventura and Los Angeles counties. A large population was discovered in 1992 near Moorpark. Two populations in northern Los Angeles County in the vicinity of Cruzan Mesa and Plum Canyon in the upper watershed of the Santa Clara River. The largest of these, at Cruzan Mesa. In San Diego County the only native occurrences are limited to Otay Mesa. Extant locations in Riverside County include Mesa de Burro, which is part of The Nature Conservancy's Santa Rosa Plateau Preserve, and on other privately owned lands. Elevational range: 50 – 2,165 feet MSL.	**No Potential to Occur** The Project area lacks appropriate habitat for California Orcutt grass. Therefore Project will not affect this species.
Sensitive and Locally Important Species					
Symphyotric hum greatae	Greata's aster	CNPS: 1B.3	Found in mesic canyons of broad leafed upland forest, chaparral, cismontane woodland, lower montane coniferous	Found in Los Angeles, Ventura and San Bernardino counties. Elevational range: 984 – 6,594 feet MSL.	**No Potential to Occur** The Project area lacks appropriate

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	General Habitat Description	General Distribution	Potential For Occurrence
			forest, and riparian woodland. Blooming period: Jun – Oct.		habitat for Greata's aster. Therefore Project will not affect this species.
Symphyotric hum defoliatum (=*Aster bernardinus*)	San Bernardino aster	FSS 1B.2	San Bernardino aster is found in cismontane woodlands, coastal scrub, lower montane coniferous forests, meadows and seeps, marshes and swamps, and vernally mesic valley and foothill grasslands. While this species usually occurs in meadows, springs and streams, it also occurs in upland habitats. Can be found near ditches, streams, springs or disturbed areas. Grows in seasonally moist fine alluvial soils. Blooming period: Jul – Nov.	San Bernardino aster has been documented in Kern, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, and San Diego counties. This plant is known from the San Gabriel and San Bernardino mountains, and from the Peninsular Ranges, southern California. Based on heritage records, this plant has been recorded in the following watersheds: South Fork Kern, Middle Kern-Upper Tehachapi, Estrella, Salinas, Central Coastal, Santa Monica Bay, San Gabriel, Seal Beach, San Jacinto, Santa Ana, Newport Bay, Aliso-San Onofre, Santa Margarita, San Luis Rey-Escondido, San Diego, Cottonwood-Tijuana, Antelope-Fremont Valleys, Mojave, Southern Mojave, and Salton Sea. Elevational range 6 – 6,691 feet MSL.	**No Potential to Occur** The Project area lacks appropriate habitat for San Bernardino aster. Therefore Project will not affect this species.
Chaenactis glabriuscula var. *orcuttiana*	Orcutt's pincushion (Orcutt's yellow pincushion)	CNPS: 1B.1	Found on sandy sites in coastal bluff scrub and coastal dunes. Blooming period: Jan – Aug.	Found in Los Angeles, Ventura, Orange, and San Diego counties. Elevational range: 10 – 328 feet MSL.	**No Potential to Occur** The Project area lacks appropriate habitat for Orcutt's pincushion. Therefore Project will not affect this species.
Pseudognaphalium leucocephalum (=*Gnaphalium leucocephal um*)	white rabbit-tobacco	CNPS: 2.2	Occurs in chaparral, cismontane woodlands, coastal scrub and riparian woodlands in sandy and gravelly sites. Blooming period: (Jul) Aug – Nov (Dec) Months n parentheses are uncommon.	Found in Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, Santa Barbara, San Diego, San Luis Obispo, and Ventura counties. Elevational range: 0 – 6,888 feet MSL.	**No Potential to Occur** The Project area lacks appropriate habitat for white rabbit-tobacco. Therefore Project will not affect this species.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	General Habitat Description	General Distribution	Potential For Occurrence
Helianthus nuttallii ssp. *parishii*	Los Angeles sunflower	FSS CNPS: 1A	Found in coastal salt and freshwater marshes and swamps. Usually occurs in wetlands, but occasionally found in non-wetlands. Blooming period: Aug – Oct.	Listed extinct, but possibly found in 2002 along the upper Santa Clara River on Newhall Ranch. Was once found in Los Angeles, Orange and San Bernardino counties. Elevational range: 32 – 5,495 feet MSL.	**No Potential to Occur** The Project area lacks appropriate habitat for Los Angeles sunflower. Therefore Project will not affect this species.
Centromadia parryi ssp. *australis*	southern tarplant	CNPS 1B.1	Occurs on marshes and swamps, valley and foothill grasslands and vernal pools. Blooming period: May - Nov.	Found in Ventura, Los Angeles, Orange, Santa Barbara and San Diego counties. Elevational range: 0 – 1,394 feet MSL.	**No Potential to Occur** The Project area lacks appropriate habitat for southern tarplant. Therefore Project will not affect this species.
Lasthenia glabrata ssp. *coulteri*	Coulter's goldfields	BLMS 1B.1	Coulter's goldfields are associated with low-lying alkali habitats along the coast and in inland valleys. The majority of the populations are associated with coastal salt marsh. Coulter's goldfields occur primarily in the alkali vernal plains community. These are floodplains dominated by alkali scrub, alkali playas, vernal pools, and, alkali grasslands. These habitats form mosaics that are largely dependent on salinity and micro-elevational differences. Blooming period: Feb – Jun.	Coulter's goldfields are distributed from coastal San Luis Obispo County south through coastal Santa Barbara County, Ventura County, Los Angeles to San Diego County and northwestern Baja California. Interior valley populations have been recorded from the Carrizo Plain of San Luis Obispo County south through Tehachapi (Kern County), Twenty Nine Palms (San Bernardino County), and cismontane western Riverside County, to the Ojos Negros Valley east of Ensenada, Mexico. Elevational range: 3 – 4,002 feet MSL.	**No Potential to Occur** The Project area lacks appropriate habitat for Coulter's goldfields. Therefore Project will not affect this species.
Lepidium virginicum var. *robinsonii*	Robinson's pepper-grass	CNPS: 1B.2	Dry soils on chaparral and coastal sage scrub. Blooming period: Jan – Jul.	Found in Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, and San Diego counties. Elevational range: 3 – 2,903 feet MSL.	**No Potential to Occur** The Project area lacks appropriate habitat for Robinson's pepper-grass. Therefore Project will not affect this species.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	General Habitat Description	General Distribution	Potential For Occurrence
Atriplex parishii	Parish's brittlescale (Parish's saltbush)	FSS CNPS: 1B.1	Occurs within alkali vernal pools, alkali annual grassland, alkali playa, and alkali chenopod scrub and alkali vernal plains. Usually found on drying alkaline flats with fine soils. Blooming period: Jun – Oct.	Found in western Riverside and San Diego counties. In Riverside, this plant is found at Salt Creek west of Hemet and the Winchester Valley. Elevational range: 80 – 6,230 feet MSL.	**No Potential to Occur** The Project area lacks appropriate habitat for Parish's brittlescale. Therefore Project will not affect this species.
Atriplex serenana var. *davidsonii*	Davidson's saltscale (Davidson's saltbush)	CNPS: 1B.2	Found in coastal bluff scrub and coastal scrub. In Riverside County, it is it found in alkali vernal pools, alkali annual grassland, alkali playa, and alkali scrub components of alkali vernal plains. Blooming period: Apr – Oct.	In California, it is found in Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, Santa Barbara, San Diego, San Luis Obispo, and Ventura counties. Elevational range: 32 – 656 feet MSL.	**No Potential to Occur** The Project area lacks appropriate habitat for Davidson's saltscale. Therefore Project will not affect this species.
Dudleya multicaulis	many-stemmed dudleya	BLMS, FSS, CNPS: 1B.2	Many-stemmed dudleya is often associated with clay soils in barrens, rocky places, and ridgelines as well as thinly vegetated openings in chaparral, valley and foothill grassland, and coastal sage scrub in heavy soils, often clay. Blooming period: Apr – Jul.	Many-stemmed dudleya is endemic to southwestern California from western Los Angeles County south through extreme southwestern San Bernardino, Orange, and western Riverside Counties south to extreme northern San Diego County. Elevational range: 50 – 2,591 feet MSL.	**No Potential to Occur** The Project area lacks appropriate habitat for many stemmed dudleya. Therefore Project will not affect this species.
California macrophylla (=*Erodium macrophyllum*)	round-leaved filaree (large-leaf filaree)	CNPS: 1B.1	Round-leaved filaree occurs in grasslands on friable clay soils, although it may historically have been common on other soil types. It has been found in non-native grassland on clay soils with relatively low cover of annual grasses. It most often occurs in foothill locations. Blooming period: Mar – May.	Round-leaved filaree ranges from southern Oregon through California into northern Mexico. In California, it is known from scattered occurrences in the Great	**No Potential to Occur** The Project area lacks appropriate habitat for round-leaved filaree. Therefore Project will not affect this species.
Ribes divaricatum var. *parishii*	Parish's gooseberry	CNPS: 1A	Parish's gooseberry was found in willow swales in riparian woodlands. Blooming period: Feb – Apr.	This species once occurred in San Bernardino and Los Angeles counties, but it is believed to be extirpated. Last seen in 1980 at Whittier Narrows Nature Center. Recent surveys unsuccessful. Known from fewer than five historical occurrences.	**No Potential to Occur** The Project area lacks appropriate habitat for Parish's gooseberry. Therefore Project will not affect this species

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	General Habitat Description	General Distribution	Potential For Occurrence
				Likely extirpated due to a combination of dry years, altered stream flows, human-caused fires, habitat loss, and invasive species. Elevational range: 213 – 984 feet MSL.	.
Nama stenocarpum	mud nama (mud fiddeleaf)	CNPS: 2.2	Found along marshes, swamps, lake shores, river banks, stream banks and intermittently wet areas. Blooming period: Jan – Jul.	Found in Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, Imperial and San Diego counties. Elevational range: 16 – 1,640 feet MSL.	**No Potential to Occur** The Project area lacks appropriate habitat for mud nama. Therefore Project will not affect this species.
Malacothamnus davidsonii	Davidson's bush- mallow	CNPS 1B.2	Found in sandy washes of chaparral, cismontane woodland, coastal scrub, and riparian woodland. Blooming period: Jun - Jan.	In southern California, this species is found in Los Angeles County. Elevational range: 606 – 2,805 feet MSL.	**No Potential to Occur** The Project area lacks appropriate habitat for Davidson's bush-mallow. Therefore Project will not affect this species.
Sidalcea neomexicana	salt spring checkerbloom (mountain sidalcea)	CNPS 2.2	Found in chaparral, coastal scrub, lower montane coniferous forest, Mojavean desert scrub, alkali playas, and brackish marshes. Blooming period: Mar – Jun.	Found in Kern, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, Santa Barbara, San Bernardino, San Diego, and Ventura counties. Elevational range: 50 – 5,018 feet MSL.	**No potential to occur** The Project area lacks appropriate habitat for salt spring checkerbloom. Therefore Project will not affect this species.
Navarretia prostrata	prostrate vernal pool navarretia (prostrate navarretia)	CNPS: 1B.1	Coastal sage scrub, valley and foothill grassland (alkaline washes), meadows and seeps, and vernal pools. Alkaline soils in grassland or in vernal pools. Blooming period: Apr. – Jul.	Occurs in Alameda, Los Angeles, Merced, Monterey, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Luis Obispo counties. Elevational range: 50 – 2,296 feet MSL.	**No Potential to Occur** The Project area lacks appropriate habitat for prostrate vernal pool navarretia. Therefore Project will not affect this species.
Chorizanthe parryi var. *parryi*	Parry's spineflower	FSS CNPS: 1B.1	Coastal scrub and chaparral. Dry slopes and flats. Sometimes found at an interface of two vegetation types such as chaparral and oak woodland. Found in dry sandy soils. Often associated with alluvial conditions. Blooming period: Apr – Jun.	This species is known from the flats and foothills of the San Gabriel, San Bernardino and San Jacinto Mountains within Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Riverside counties of southern California (possibly extirpated from Los Angeles County). Elevational range: 130 – 5,590 feet MSL.	**No Potential to Occur** The Project area lacks appropriate habitat for Parry's spineflower. Therefore Project will not affect this species.

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Horkelia cuneata ssp. *puberula*	mesa horkelia	FSS CNPS: 1B.1	Found in sandy or gravelly sites of chaparral, coastal scrub, and cismontane woodlands. Blooming period: Feb - Sept.	Found in San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura, Los Angeles and Orange counties. Elevational range: 229 – 2,657 feet MSL.	**No Potential to Occur** The Project area lacks appropriate habitat for mesa horkelia. Therefore Project will not affect this species.
Potentilla multijuga	Ballona cinquefoil	CNPS: 1A	Found in brackish meadows and seeps. Blooming period: Jun. – Aug.	Known only from one occurrence near Ballona; last seen in 1890 in Los Angeles County. Presumed extinct. Elevational range: 0 – 6 feet MSL.	**No Potential to Occur** The Project area lacks appropriate habitat for Ballona cinquefoil. Therefore Project will not affect this species.
Calochortus clavatus var. *gracilis*	slender mariposa lily	FSS CNPS: 1B.2	Found on shaded foothill canyons often on grassy slopes within other habitat such as chaparral and coastal sage scrub. Can be found after fire. Blooming period: Mar – Jun.	Known from only nine occurrences in the San Gabriel Mountains in Los Angeles County. Elevational range: 1,181 – 3,280 feet MSL.	**No Potential to Occur** The Project area lacks appropriate habitat for slender mariposa lily. Therefore Project will not affect this species.
Calochortus plummerae	Plummer's mariposa lily	FSS CNPS 4.2	This plant prefers openings in chaparral, foothill woodland, coastal sage scrub, valley and foothill grasslands, cismontane woodland, lower montane coniferous forest and yellow pine forest. They are found on dry, rocky slopes and soils and brushy areas. Can be very common after fire. Blooming period: May – Jul.	Found in Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, and Ventura counties. Elevational range: 330 – 5,580 feet MSL.	**No Potential to Occur** The Project area lacks appropriate habitat for Plummer's mariposa lily. Therefore Project will not affect this species.

TABLE 2
LISTED AND SENSITIVE WILDLIFE SPECIES HAVING THE POTENTIAL TO OCCUR WITHIN THE PROPOSED PROJECT AREA

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	General Habitat Description	General Distribution	Potential For Occurrence
Listed Endangered, Threatened, and Candidate Wildlife					
Insects					
Euphilotes battoides allyni	El Segundo blue butterfly	FE	Distribution of the ESB is dependent on the occurrence of its sole foodplant and host plan located in coastal sand dunes, the coast /dune buckwheat (*Eriogonum parviflorum*). This butterfly further appears limited to habitats with high sand content.	Once widespread on the El Segundo sand dunes. Currently restricted to 4 Los Angeles County locations: Ballona Wetlands, Airport Dunes, Chevron butterfly preserve, and at the Chevron USA refinery in the city of El Segundo; a 302 acre parcel not far to the north, on the western fringes of LAX; a 1 acre site at nearby Malaga Cove.	**No Potential to Occur** The project site does not contain suitable habitat to support El Segundo blue butterfly. Therefore; this Project would not affect this species.
Euphydryas editha quino	quino checkerspot butterfly	FE	Coastal sage scrub, open chaparral, juniper woodland, and native grassland that support larval host plants and a variety of adult nectar sources. Hilltops and ridgelines may be important habitat components. Preferred larval host plants are dwarf plantain (*Plantago erecta*), woolly plantain (*P. patagonica*), white snapdragon (*Antirrhinum coulterianum*), and thread-leaved bird's beak (*Cordylanthus rigidus*).	Historically distributed throughout the coastal slope of southern California. Extant populations are known from southwestern Riverside County, southern San Diego County, and, and northern Baja California, Mexico. Elevation range: 500 feet open areas in coastal sage scrub, chaparral, and sparse native woodlands from sea level to 5,000 feet MSL.	**No Potential to Occur** The project site does not contain suitable habitat to support quino checkerspot butterfly. Therefore; Project would not affect this species.
Glaucopsyche lygdamus palosverdesensis	Palos Verdes blue butterfly	FE	Coastal sage scrub habitat. Larval host plants are coast locoweed (*Astragalus trichopodus* var. *lonchus*) and deerweed (*Lotus scoparius*). The Palos Verdes blue butterfly is found on coastal scrub habitat and is dependent on southern California locoweed (*Astragalus trichopodus* var. *lonchus*) as its host plant.	Historic distribution throughout the Palos Verdes peninsula, southern Los Angeles County. It was once thought to be extinct. In all likelihood the sole remaining population of the PVB occurs at the U.S. Navy's Defense Fuel Supply Point at San Pedro (robust population) and Malaga Dune (low density population).	**No Potential to Occur** The project site does not contain suitable habitat to support Palos Verdes blue butterfly. Therefore; Project would not affect this species.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	General Habitat Description	General Distribution	Potential For Occurrence
			Birds		
Pelecanus occidentalis californicus	California brown pelican (nesting colony and communal roosts)	Delisted; Fully Protected	The brown pelican It is found on coastal salt water, beaches, bays, harbors, marshes and on the open ocean along the California coast. They are rarely seen either inland or far out at sea	Currently, their known nesting colonies are on the Anacapa Island, Santa Barbara Island and nearby Sutil Rock, Scorpion Rock near Santa Cruz Island which are all a part of the Channel Islands located off southern California's coast.	**No Potential to Occur** The project site does not contain suitable nesting or foraging habitat to support California brown pelican. Therefore; Project would not affect this species.
Gymnogyps californianus	California condor	FE, SE	Permanent resident of the semi-arid, pine or chaparral covered rugged mountain ranges. While breeding sites have been found at higher elevations, foraging habitat lies in foothills predominately covered by grasslands or oak- savannah habitats. They roost on cliffs and in large trees and snags	A permanent resident of the semi-arid, rugged mountain ranges surrounding the southern San Joaquin Valley, including the Coast Ranges from Santa Clara County south to Los Angeles County, the Transverse Ranges, Tehachapi Mountains, and southern Sierra Nevada.	**No Potential to Occur** The project site does not contain suitable nesting or foraging habitat to support California condor. Therefore; Project would not affect this species.
Falco peregrinus anatum	American peregrine falcon (nesting)	Delisted; Fully Protected	Peregrines are found in a large variety of open habitats, including tundra, marshes, seacoasts, savannahs and high mountains. The species breeds mostly in woodland, forest, wetlands, cities, agricultural areas and coastal habitats. Open ledges, caves, and potholes on high, vertical cliffs, generally 100 to 300 feet in height that overlook rivers, lakes, or the ocean provide peregrines with suitable nesting sites. Some pairs nest on city buildings and bridges. Mountain valleys and river gorges with precipitous cliffs also are preferred nest sites. Nest sites are usually located below 9,500 feet elevation. Riparian areas and coastal and inland wetlands are important habitats year-round, especially in non-breeding seasons.	The range includes most of California, except in deserts, during migrations and in winter. During the breeding season, the birds are most often sighted along the coastline of the entire state, in the Sierra Nevada, and in other mountains of northern California. In winter, found inland throughout the Central Valley, and occasionally on the Channel Islands. Migrants occur along the coast and in the western Sierra Nevada in spring and fall.	**Low Potential to Occur** No nesting habitat present at the Project site, however, suitable foraging habitat is present at the Project site. Therefore; Project would not affect this species..

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	General Habitat Description	General Distribution	Potential For Occurrence
Laterallus jamaicensis coturniculus	California black rail	ST, Fully Protected	Occurs in various habitats, from high coastal marshes to freshwater marshes along the lower Colorado River. Along the coast, they favor marshland with unrestricted tidal influence (estuarine, intertidal, emergent, and regularly flooded).	The California black rail is a rarely seen, scarce, yearlong resident of saline, brackish, and fresh emergent wetlands in the San Francisco Bay; in Bodega Bay in Sonoma County; Tomales Bay and Bolinas Lagoon, both in Marin County; and Morro Bay in San Luis Obispo County.	**No Potential to Occur** The project site does not contain suitable nesting or foraging habitat to support California black rail. Therefore; Project would not affect this species.
Rallus longirostris levipes	light-footed clapper rail	FE, SE, Fully Protected	The light-footed clapper rail is a year-round, non-migratory resident of coastal southern California. They generally live and nest year round in the lower intertidal zone of coastal salt marshes and brackish marshes, where dense stands of cordgrass and pickleweed are present	Disjunct populations breed in marsh vegetation of coastal wetlands from Santa Barbara County to San Diego County and northern Baja California. This rail has been absent from Los Angeles County since the 1960s.	**No Potential to Occur** The project site does not contain suitable nesting or foraging habitat to support light-footed clapper rail Therefore; Project would not affect this species.
Charadrius alexandrinus nivosus	western snowy plover (nesting)	FT (Pacific coastal population only), SSC (coastal and inland populations)	The Pacific coast population breeds above the high tide line on coastal beaches, sand spits, dune- backed beaches, sparsely-vegetated dunes, beaches at creek and river mouths, and salt pans at lagoons and estuaries.	The Pacific coast population of the snowy plover is defined as those individuals that nest adjacent to tidal waters of the Pacific Ocean, and includes all nesting birds on the mainland coast, peninsulas, offshore islands, adjacent bays, estuaries, and coastal rivers. The current known breeding range extends from Washington, to Baja California, Mexico.	**No Potential to Occur** The project site does not contain suitable nesting or foraging habitat to support western snowy plover. Therefore; Project would not affect this species.
Sternula antillarum browni	California least tern (nesting colony)	FE, SE, Fully Protected	They nest in colonies on bare or sparsely vegetated flat substrates, beaches or sandbars near the coast. They forage in nearby shallow water. Typical nesting sites are now on isolated or specially protected sand beaches or on natural or artificial open areas in remnant coastal wetlands. These sites are typically near estuaries, bays, or harbors where small fish are abundant.	Only from April to September, the breeding season, are these birds present in California and Baja Mexico. The nesting range is along the Pacific coast from San Francisco Bay to southern Baja California. The greatest concentrations of breeding pairs nest in Los Angeles, Orange, and San Diego Counties. They are sometimes seen around the Salton Sea as they migrate from coastal breeding sites.	**No Potential to Occur** The project site does not contain suitable nesting or foraging habitat to support California least tern. Therefore; Project would not affect this species.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	General Habitat Description	General Distribution	Potential For Occurrence
Empidonax traillii extimus	southwester n willow flycatcher (nesting)	FE SE	Southwestern willow flycatchers typically arrive in southern California at the end of April and adults depart from the breeding territory in mid-August to early September. They are restricted to riparian woodlands along streams, rivers, wetlands and marshes with mature, dense stands of willows, cottonwoods, or smaller spring fed or boggy areas with willows or alders. Riparian habitat provides both breeding and foraging habitat for the species.	It occurs from near sea level to over 8,500 feet MSL, but is primarily found in lower elevation riparian habitat in southern California. Breeds in California from the Mexican border north to Independence in the Owens Valley, the South Fork Kern River, and Santa Ynez River in Santa Barbara County. River systems where the flycatchers persists include the Colorado, Owens, Kern, Mojave, Santa Ana, Pilgrim Creek, Santa Margarita, San Luis Rey, San Diego, San Mateo Creek, San Timoteo Creek, Santa Clara, Santa Ynez, Sweetwater, San Dieguito, and Temecula Creek.	**No Potential to Occur** The project site does not contain suitable nesting or foraging habitat to support southwestern willow flycatcher. Therefore; Project would not affect this species.
Vireo bellii pusillus	least Bell's vireo (nesting)	FE SE	Least Bell's vireos primarily occupy riverine riparian habitats that typically feature dense cover within 1-2 m of the ground and a dense, stratified canopy. Typically it is associated with southern willow scrub, cottonwood-willow forest, mule fat scrub, sycamore alluvial woodland, coast live oak riparian forest, arroyo willow riparian forest, or mesquite in desert localities.	A spring and summer resident of southern California. Except for a few outlying pairs, the subspecies is currently restricted to southern California south of the Tehachapi Mountains, along the coast and the western edge of the Mojave Desert to northwestern Baja California below 2,000 feet in elevation. Breeding pairs have been observed in the counties of Monterey, San Benito, Inyo, Santa Barbara, San Bernardino, Ventura, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, and San Diego.	**No Potential to Occur** The project site does not contain suitable nesting or foraging habitat to support least Bell's vireo. Therefore; Project would not affect this species.
Riparia riparia	bank swallow (nesting)	ST	Currently, bank swallows are locally common only in restricted riparian and coastal portions of California where sandy, fine-textured vertical bluffs, cliffs or banks are available for the birds to dig their burrows and nest in colonies.	Bank swallows breed in California from April to August and spend the winter months in South America. Seventy-five percent of the State's population is concentrated on the banks of the Sacramento Valley streams, including several colonies on the upper Sacramento and Feather Rivers.	**No Potential to Occur** The project site does not contain suitable nesting or foraging habitat to support bank swallow. Therefore; Project would not affect this species.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	General Habitat Description	General Distribution	Potential For Occurrence
Polioptila californica californica	coastal California gnatcatcher	FT	A non-migratory, permanent resident of coastal sage scrub (css) habitat, which is a broad category of vegetation that includes the following plant communities: Venturan css, Diegan css, maritime succulent scrub, Riversidean sage scrub, Riversidean alluvial fan sage scrub, southern coastal bluff scrub, and coastal sage-chaparral scrub.	They are restricted to coastal slopes of southern California from Ventura and western San Bernardino counties south to northern Baja below 1,500 feet MSL. May still occur along lower, coastal slopes of San Gabriel and San Bernardino Mountains in Los Angeles and San Bernardino counties, but status is uncertain. Their breeding period is from February to August.	**No Potential to Occur** The project site does not contain suitable nesting or foraging habitat to support coastal California gnatcatcher. Therefore; Project would not affect this species.
Passerculus sandwichensis beldingi	Belding's savannah sparrow	SE	They are associated with coastal salt marshes in the upper intertidal marsh zone, which is above flood level except during very high spring tides. They forage on nearby mud flats, shorelines, and rock jetties.	It resides year-round in coastal southern California in scattered coastal salt marshes from Goleta Slough in Santa Barbara County to northern Baja California.	**No Potential to Occur** The project site does not contain suitable nesting or foraging habitat to support Belding's savannah sparrow. Therefore; Project would not affect this species.
Sensitive and Locally Important Wildlife					
Amphibians					
Taricha torosa torosa	Coast Range newt (California newt)	SSC (Monterey Co. south only)	The Coast Range newt lives in terrestrial habitats (grassland, woodland and forest), but breeds in ponds, reservoirs, and slow moving streams within coastal drainages. They can migrate over 1 Km to breeding areas.	The Coast Range newt ranges along the coastal drainages of California from Mendocino County, to the Mexican border. The known elevation range of this taxon extends from near sea level to 6,000 feet MSL. The Coast Range newt has been depleted in southern California, including extirpation of the southernmost populations in San Diego County.	**No Potential to Occur** The Project site is outside of the known range for this species. Therefore; Project would not affect this species.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	General Habitat Description	General Distribution	Potential For Occurrence
			Reptiles		
Actinemys marmorata	western pond turtle	SSC	Associated with permanent or nearly permanent water in a wide variety of habitat types. Individuals normally associate with permanent ponds, lakes, marshes, streams, rivers, irrigation ditches or permanent pools along intermittent streams. Found in areas that typically have a rocky or muddy bottom and grown to watercress, cattails, or other aquatic vegetation. Pond turtles require basking sites such as partially submerged logs, rocks, mats of floating vegetation, or open mud banks.	The western pond turtle is uncommon to common in suitable aquatic habitat throughout California, west of the Sierra-Cascade crest and absent from desert regions, except in the Mojave Desert along the Mojave River and its tributaries. Elevation range extends from near sea level to 4,690 feet MSL.	**No Potential to Occur** The Project site is outside of the known range for this species. Generally insufficient water on the Project site to support southwestern pond turtles. Therefore; Project would not affect this species.
Phrynosoma coronatum (*blainvillii* population)	coast (San Diego) horned lizard	SSC FSS	Found in a wide variety of vegetation types including coastal sage scrub, annual grassland, chaparral, oak woodland, riparian woodland and coniferous forest. In inland areas, this species is restricted to areas with pockets of open microhabitat, created by disturbance (e.g., floods, fire, roads, grazed areas, fire breaks).	It ranges from the Transverse Ranges in Kern, Los Angeles, Santa Barbara, and Ventura counties southward to the Mexican border west of the deserts, although the taxon occurs on scattered sites along the extreme western desert slope of the Peninsular Ranges.	**No Potential to Occur** The project site does not support suitable habitat for coast horned lizard. Therefore; Project would not affect this species.
Anniella pulchra pulchra	silvery legless lizard	SSC FSS	Has been described as a sand-swimmer that is common in several habitats, but especially in coastal dune, valley-foothill, chaparral, coastal sage scrub, oak woodland, pine- oak woodland, sycamores, cottonwoods, and pine forests. Legless lizards also occur in creosote desert scrub at the western edge of the Mojave Desert. A fossorial animal, it is found primarily in areas with sandy or loose organic soil or where there is plenty of leaf litter.	This California endemic ranges from Contra Costa County, south through the Coast, Transverse, and Peninsular ranges; parts of the San Joaquin Valley; and the western edge of the Sierra Nevada Mountains and Mojave Desert to northwestern Baja California, Mexico. It inhabits elevations from sea level along the coast to 6,000 feet MSL in the Sierra Nevada Mountains	**No Potential to Occur** The project site does not support suitable habitat for silvery legless lizard. Therefore; Project would not affect this species.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	General Habitat Description	General Distribution	Potential For Occurrence
Birds					
Athene cunicularia	burrowing owl	SSC BLMS	The burrowing owl occurs in shortgrass prairies, grasslands, lowland scrub, agricultural lands, rangelands, prairies, coastal dunes, desert floors, and some artificial, open areas as a year-long resident. They may also occur in forb and open shrub stages of pinyon-juniper and ponderosa pine habitats. They require large open expanses of sparsely vegetated areas on gently rolling or level terrain with an abundance of active small mammal burrows.	The burrowing owl is a year-round resident found throughout most of California and most if its islands, except the coastal counties north of Marin and mountainous areas. In California, burrowing owls are restricted to the central valley extending from Redding south to the Grapevine, east through the Mojave Desert and west to San Jose, the San Francisco Bay area, the outer coastal foothills area which extend from Monterey south to San Diego and the Sonoran desert. It is a resident in the open areas of the lowlands over much of the southern California region. Found as high as 5,300 feet MSL in Lassen County.	**No Potential to Occur** The project site does not support suitable habitat for burrowing owl. Therefore; Project would not affect this species.
Mammals					
Perognathus longimembris brevinasus	Los Angeles pocket mouse	SSC FSS	This species inhabits open ground of fine, sandy soils and may utilize these soil types for burrowing. The pocket mouse may be restricted to lower elevation grassland and coastal sage scrub and prefers sparsely vegetated habitats. Pocket mice usually avoid dense grass cover because of difficulty locomoting and finding seeds.	The geographic range of Los Angeles Pocket mice is restricted to lower elevation grasslands and coastal sage associations in the Los Angeles Basin, from approximately Burbank and San Fernando (Los Angeles County) on the northwest to San Bernardino (San Bernardino County) on the northeast, and Cabazon, Hemet, and Aguanga (Riverside County) on the east and southeast. .	**No Potential to Occur** The project site does not support suitable habitat for the pocket mouse. Therefore; Project would not affect this species.
Neotoma bryanti intermedia	San Diego desert woodrat	SSC	The San Diego desert woodrat is found in a variety of shrub and desert habitats primarily associated with rock outcroppings, boulders, cacti, or areas of dense undergrowth. Desert woodrats commonly inhabit Joshua tree woodlands, pinyon-juniper woodlands, mixed chaparral, coastal sage scrub, and desert habitats.	The San Diego desert woodrat occurs in coastal southern California from San Luis Obispo County south through the Transverse and Peninsular Ranges into Baja California.	**No Potential to Occur** The project site does not support suitable habitat for the desert woodrat. Therefore; Project would not affect this species.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	General Habitat Description	General Distribution	Potential For Occurrence
Sorex ornatus salicornicus	Southern California saltmarsh shrew	SSC	They are found in coastal marshes. They probably require fairly dense vegetation and woody debris for cover. Nest sites are above the mean high tide and free from inundation, and fairly moist surrounding.	Southern California Salt Marsh Shrews are confined to the coastal marshes in Los Angeles, Orange, and Ventura counties. Known occurrence extends from Point Mugo, Ventura County on the north to the salt marshes around Anaheim Bay and Newport Beach in Orange County, on the south.	**No Potential to Occur** The project site does not support suitable habitat for the saltmarsh shrew. Therefore; Project would not affect this species.
Eumops perotis californicus	western mastiff bat (western bonneted bat)	SSC, BLMS	Western mastiff bats are found in a variety of habitats, such as semi-arid to arid habitats, including conifer and deciduous woodlands, coastal scrub, annual and perennial grasslands, palm oases, chaparral, desert scrub, and urban, but the species' distribution may be geomorphically determined, occurring primarily where there are significant rock features offering suitable roosting habitat.	In California, they have been recorded from Butte County southward in the western lowlands through the southern California coastal basins and the western portions of the southeastern desert region. Uncommon resident in southeastern San Joaquin Valley and Coastal Ranges from Monterey County southward through southern California, from the coast eastward to the Mojave and Colorado Deserts.	**No Potential to Occur** The project site does not support suitable habitat for western mastiff bat. Therefore; Project would not affect this species.
Nyctinomops femorosaccus	pocketed free-tailed bat		Habitats used include pinyon-juniper woodlands, desert scrub, desert succulent shrub, desert riparian, desert wash, alkali desert scrub, Joshua tree, chaparral, and palm oasis. They are found in rocky, desert areas with relatively high cliffs, not far from riparian areas	Pocketed free-tailed bats are probably resident within the state. The pocketed free-tailed bat could be expected anywhere in southern California south of the San Bernardino Mountains. They have been found in Riverside County: Agua Caliente (Palm Springs), Painted Canyon (north of Mecca), Lake Mathews, Barker Dam Reservoir (Joshua Tree National Monument), Palm Canyon (near Palm Springs). San Diego County: Borrego Palm Canyon, vicinity of Suncrest, Anza Borrego State Park, Split Mountain, and Borrego Valley. Imperial County: mouth of Colorado River.	**No Potential to Occur** The project site does not support suitable habitat for pocketed free-tailed bat. Therefore; Project would not affect this species.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	General Habitat Description	General Distribution	Potential For Occurrence
Nyctinomops macrotis	big free-tailed bat	SSC	Mainly inhabits rugged and rocky terrain. They are a migratory species that travels seasonally from Mexico to the southwestern United States (Texas, Arizona, California, Nevada, Colorado) They prefer rocky cliffs in weathered rock fissures and crevices.	Has been found as far north as southwestern British Colombia and as far east as South Carolina. Ranges from southwestern North America, through northern and central Mexico, throughout South America.	**No Potential to Occur** The project site does not support suitable habitat for big free-tailed bat. Therefore; Project would not affect this species.
Lasiurus xanthinus	western yellow bat	SSC	The western yellow bat can be found in valley foothill riparian, desert riparian, desert wash, and palm oasis habitats. This bat roosts in dead palm tree fronds and other trees. It roosts and feeds in, and near, palm oases and riparian habitats. It forages over water and among trees. It is sometimes found in urban areas. This species occurs year-round in California.	The southwestern yellow bat is uncommon in California, known only in Los Angeles and San Bernardino counties south to the Mexican border. This species has been recorded below 2,000 feet MSL.	**No Potential to Occur** The project site does not support suitable habitat for western yellow bat. Therefore; Project would not affect this species.
Antrozous pallidus	pallid bat	SSC, BLMS FSS	A wide variety of habitats is occupied by pallid bats, including deserts, grasslands, shrublands, woodlands, and forests form sea level up through mixed conifer forests. They are most common in deserts, preferring areas of open, dry habitats, with rocky areas for roosting and water nearby. Night roosts may be in more open sites, such as porches and open buildings. Pallid bats day roosts in deep rock crevices, tree hollows, mines, caves, and a variety of man-made structures.	The pallid bat is a locally common species of low elevations in California. It occurs throughout California except for the high Sierra Nevada from Shasta to Kern counties and the northwestern corner of the state from Del Norte and western Siskiyou counties to northern Mendocino County. Local data suggest that this species may be most common at elevations below 6,000 feet MSL on both coastal and desert sides.	**No Potential to Occur** The project site does not support suitable habitat for pallid bat. Therefore; Project would not affect this species.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	General Habitat Description	General Distribution	Potential For Occurrence
Microtus californicus stephensi	south coast marsh vole	SSC	Occurs in a narrow band of wetland communities and associated grasslands in the immediate coastal zone.	From southern Ventura County to northern Orange County. *Terrestrial Mammal Species of Special Concern* 155 According to Hall (1981), *M. c. stephensi* occurs from the type locality at Point Mugu, Ventura County, south to Sunset Beach, Orange County. Museum records for intervening localities are known for Ballona Wetlands and adjacent Playa del Rey, Los Angeles County.	**No Potential to Occur** The project site does not support suitable habitat for south coast marsh vole. Therefore; Project would not affect this species.
Taxidea taxus	American badger	SSC	Badgers occur from alpine meadows to elevations as low as Death Valley, which is below sea level. Essentially the badger is an animal of open places. It shuns forests. In California, badgers occupy a diversity of habitats. The principal requirements seem to be sufficient food, friable soils, and relatively open, uncultivated ground. Grasslands, savannas, openings in desert scrub, and grassy mountain meadows near timberline are preferred.	In California, badgers ranged throughout the state except for the humid coastal forests of northwestern California in Del Norte County and the northwestern portion of Humboldt County. No current data exist on the status of badger populations in California, but they have obviously declined or disappeared in large sections of the state, particularly areas west of the Cascade-Sierra Nevada mountain axis and in coastal basins of southern California. The badger's altitudinal range extends from below sea level in Death Valley to over 12,000 feet MSL.	**No Potential to Occur** The project site does not support suitable habitat for American badger. Therefore; Project would not affect this species.