Notice of Intent
To Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration

In accordance with Section 15072 of the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines, this notice is to inform agencies and the public that the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works has completed a Mitigated Negative Declaration/Initial Study (MND/IS) for the following proposed Project:

Project Title: Whittier Aquatics Facility

Project Description: The County of Los Angeles proposes to construct and operate a publicly accessible aquatics facility on an existing parking lot within the campus of Pioneer High School. The Project would include two swimming pools (i.e., 55-yard by 25-yard competitive pool, and 27-yard by 25-yard practice pool), an approximately 10,000-square foot pool building, and additional facilities such as a parking lot, spectator bleachers, shade structure, and electronic scoreboard.

The primary objective of the proposed Project is to construct a joint-use aquatics facility available for both student and public use. The community, the County of Los Angeles, and the Whittier Union School Board maintain a desire for a publicly accessible swimming facility at this location. The improvements are designed to meet the California Health and Safety Code Article 2.5 (Swimming Pool Safety Act) and Article 5 (Swimming Pool Sanitation and Safety), and the California Code of Regulations Title 22, Division 4 (Public Swimming Pools).

Project Location: The proposed Project would be constructed on the northern end of the Pioneer High School campus, located at 10800 Ben Avon Street, Whittier, in the unincorporated Los Angeles County community of West Whittier-Los Nietos.

Public Review Period: September 30, 2019 to October 29, 2019

Lead Agency: County of Los Angeles

Contact Person:
Tom Afschar, Senior Capital Projects Manager
900 South Fremont Avenue
Alhambra, California, 91803
Phone: (626) 300-3201
Email: TAfschar@dpw.lacounty.gov

Availability of MND/IS: The MND/IS will be available for public review online at:

https://parks.lacounty.gov/environmental-documents/

Method of Submitting Comments: Please submit any written comments on the MND/IS to Mr. Tom Afschar at the address or email listed above before 5:00 pm on October 29, 2019.

Mitigated Negative Declaration

County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Whittier Aquatics Facility

1. Introduction

The County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works has prepared this Mitigated Negative Declaration and Initial Study for the Whittier Aquatics Facility (proposed Project). The proposed Project would include two swimming pools (i.e., 55-yard by 25-yard competitive pool, and 27-yard by 25-yard practice pool), an approximately 10,000-square foot pool building, and additional facilities such as a parking lot, spectator bleachers, shade structure, and electronic scoreboard.

The improvements are designed to meet the California Health and Safety Code Article 2.5 (Swimming Pool Safety Act) and Article 5 (Swimming Pool Sanitation and Safety), and the California Code of Regulations Title 22, Division 4 (Public Swimming Pools).

Key Project Details

Project Title:	Whittier Aquatics Facility
Lead Agency:	County of Los Angeles 500 W. Temple Street Los Angeles, California 90012
Contact Person:	Tom Afschar Senior Capital Projects Manager County of Los Angeles, Public Works **Phone:** (626) 300-3201 **Email:** TAfschar@dpw.lacounty.gov
Project Sponsor:	Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation 1000 S. Fremont Ave. Unit #40 Alhambra, CA 91803

2. Project Location and Setting

The proposed project site would be constructed on the northern end of the Pioneer High School campus, located at 10800 Ben Avon Street, Whittier, in the unincorporated community of West Whittier-Los Nietos, neighboring the city of Pico Rivera. The project site is bordered on the north by Washington Boulevard, on the west by Pioneer Boulevard and commercial businesses, on the east by Danby Avenue and residential housing, and on the south by an existing parking lot used by Pioneer High School. The interstate 605 freeway is located approximately 250 feet west of the proposed project site.

The project would occupy approximately 2.3 acres of an existing parking lot utilized by Pioneer High School. Pioneer High School provides educational services to students from grades 9-12 and serves students from the Los Nietos, South Whittier, and Whittier City School Districts. Vehicular access to the project site is provided along Pioneer Boulevard on the western border of the proposed project site and Danby Avenue on the eastern border.

The project site is surrounded to the west by commercial businesses and the 605 Freeway, to the north and east by residential housing, and to the south by the Pioneer High School campus. The

High School is in session from Mid-August through early June each year, and also has a six-week summer school session that runs from early/mid-June to mid/late-July each year. Other events occur year-round at the high school campus, including the Pioneer High School's Market Place, which is a swap meet that currently takes place on the project site's existing parking lot on the 2nd and 4th Saturday each month. The school campus houses the following facilities; classrooms and administration offices, two gymnasiums and associated facilities, an outdoor swimming pool, parking areas, cafeteria, library, and athletic fields.

3. Project Objectives

The project would be part of a joint-use agreement between the County Department of Parks and Recreation and Pioneer High School. The school site currently contains an existing outdoor L-shaped pool, which would be retained and would not be a part of the joint-use agreement. The school's pool is located between existing buildings and is not large enough or sufficient in size to meet the needs of the school population and community. Currently, a large parking lot at the north end of the school site exists, which is of sufficient size to site the proposed project.

The main objective of the project is to construct an aquatics facility available for public use. The community, the County, and the Whittier Union School Board maintain a desire for a publicly accessible swimming facility at this location.

4. Project Details

The proposed project includes the construction of a new aquatics facility that would include the following main facilities:

- A 50-meter (55-yard) by 23-meter (25-yard) competitive swimming pool.
- A 25-meter (27-yard) by 23-meter (25-yard) practice pool.
- An approximately 10,000-square foot pool building.

Additional facilities include a parking lot, a perimeter fence/wall, spectator bleachers, a property monument sign, a shade structure, an electronic scoreboard, and perimeter landscaping. Security lighting would be incorporated throughout the facility, and both the pool deck and pool would utilize energy efficient LED fixtures. The facility would include benches as well as bleachers that are compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

5. Availability of Documents

The Mitigated Negative Declaration and Initial Study are available for public review online at:

https://parks.lacounty.gov/environmental-documents/

6. Environmental Determination

Consistent with the California Environmental Quality Act, this Mitigated Negative Declaration and Initial Study have been prepared to identify potential effects on the environment due to implementation of the proposed Project, and to evaluate the significance of these effects. As documented in the Initial Study, the proposed Project would have *less than significant* or *no impact* to the following issue areas:

- Aesthetics
- Agriculture and Forestry Resources
- Energy
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions

- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Land Use and Planning
- Mineral Resources
- Noise
- Population and Housing
- Public Services
- Recreation
- Transportation
- Utilities and Service Systems
- Wildfire

However, the Initial Study concludes that the proposed Project could have *potentially significant* impacts for the five issue areas, noted below, unless mitigation measures are applied that can effectively reduce or avoid potential impacts.

- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Geology and Soils
- Tribal Cultural Resources

Mitigation measures have been identified for the five issues noted above. With implementation of these measures, all potentially significant impacts would be reduced to a level of less than significant. These measures are presented in the next section of this Mitigated Negative Declaration and are also identified in the Initial Study. Based upon the impact analysis contained in Section 3 of the proposed Project's Initial Study and the mandatory findings of significance contained therein (Initial Study Section XXI), this Mitigated Negative Declaration documents the County's finding that with implementation of the identified mitigation measures there are no significantly adverse unavoidable impacts associated with the proposed Project.

7. Mitigation Measures

Implementation of the following mitigation measures would either avoid potentially significant impacts identified in the proposed Project's Initial Study, or reduce them to a level of less than significant:

Air Quality

AQ-1 **Off-Road Equipment Engine Standard.** Diesel fueled off-road equipment with engines larger than or equal to 75 horsepower used during project construction shall meet USEPA/ARB Tier 4 (interim Tier 4 or final Tier 4) engine standards. Diesel fueled off-road equipment with engines smaller than 75 horsepower used during project construction shall meet or exceed USEPA/ARB Tier 3 engine standards.

Biological Resources

BIO-1 **Conduct Pre-construction Surveys for Nesting and Breeding Birds and Implement Avoidance Measures.** If construction will occur during the bird breeding season (February 1 through August 31), prior to construction activities (i.e., mobilization, staging, grading) a qualified avian biologist shall be in place to conduct pre-construction surveys for nesting and breeding birds. Surveys for nesting birds will be conducted within all ornamental landscaping and trees on the project site. Measures intended to exclude nesting birds shall not be implemented without prior approval by CDFW and USFWS.

If breeding birds with active nests are found prior to or during construction, the qualified avian biologist shall establish a 300-foot buffer (500 foot for raptors) around the nest and no activities will be allowed within the buffer(s) until the young have fledged from

the nest or the nest fails. If birds are found to be nesting in construction equipment and the nests contain eggs or young, buffers as described above shall be implemented.

The prescribed buffers may be adjusted by the qualified avian biologist based on existing conditions around the nest, planned construction activities, tolerance of the species, and other pertinent factors. The qualified avian biologist shall conduct regular monitoring of the nest to determine success/failure and to ensure that project activities are not conducted within the buffer(s) until the nesting cycle is complete or the nest fails. The avian biologist shall be responsible for documenting the results of the surveys, nest buffers implemented, and presenting the results in ongoing monitoring reports.

If trees with nests are to be removed as part of proposed project construction activities, this will be done outside of the nesting season to avoid additional impacts to nesting birds. If removal during the nesting season cannot be avoided, all trees will be inspected for active nests by the avian biologist. If nests are found within these trees and contain eggs or young, no activities within a 300-foot buffer for nesting birds and/or a 500-foot buffer for nesting raptors shall occur until the young have fledged the nest.

Cultural Resources and Paleontology

CULT-1 A Cultural Resource Monitoring Plan (CRMP) will be prepared and include the following:

All grading and excavation activities into native soils identified as undisturbed shall be monitored by a Project archaeologist retained by the County of Los Angeles (County) or County Contractor. The Project archaeologist shall be cross trained in identifying paleontological resources. The Project archaeologist shall be present full-time during the disturbances of soils with potential to contain cultural and/or fossil deposits and will document all monitoring activity. The Project archaeologist shall be qualified for historic resource evaluation, as defined in CEQA and by the Office of Historic Preservation (OHP). The qualified archaeologist shall be listed, or be eligible for listing, in the Register of Professional Archaeologist (RPA).

The CRMP will include procedures for treatment of human remains and will follow direction by California Public Resources Code, Section 5097.98.

The CRMP will empower the Project archeologist to divert, direct, or temporarily halt ground-disturbing activities in an area in order to evaluate potentially significant archaeological resources.

The CRMP will identify what constitutes a discovery and identify the recovery procedures, if warranted, and level of appropriate documentation, preservation, conservation, and/or relocation of the find; and determine when grading/excavation activities may resume in the area of the find.

If the discovery is determined to be a “unique archaeological resource”, then the County, in conjunction with the recommendation of the Project archaeologist, shall comply with Section 21083.2, subdivisions (b) though (f). If at any time the Area of Potential Effect (APE), or a portion of the APE, is determined to be a “historical resource” as defined in California Code of Regulations Chapter 3, Article 1, Section 15064.5, subdivision (a), the Project archaeologist shall prepare and issue a mitigation plan in conformance with Section 15126.4, subdivision (b). If the Project archaeologist determines that continuation of the Project or Project-related activities will result in an

adverse impact on a discovered historical resource which cannot be mitigated, all further activities resulting in the impact shall immediately cease, and the County shall be contacted for further evaluation and direction. The County shall comply with the recommendations of the Project archaeologist with respect to the documentation, preservation, conservation, and/or relocation of finds.

Monitoring activities may cease when grading and excavation activities have concluded; or by written consent of the Project archaeologist agreeing that no further monitoring is necessary. At the conclusion of monitoring activities, and only if archaeological materials are not encountered, the Project archaeologist shall prepare and submit a report of the findings to the County and the South Central Coastal Information Center within 30 days. If discoveries are made, then a report of findings will be submitted within 90 days of the completion of monitoring.

Geology and Soils

GEO-1 **Retention of a Qualified Paleontologist and The Preparation of a Paleontological Resources Mitigation and Monitoring Plan (PRMMP).** A Qualified Paleontologist shall be retained before the initiation of construction activities to develop a PRMMP for the project. The function of the PRMMP will be to explain project geology, paleontological sensitivity, and procedures that will comply with State statutes and County of Los Angeles requirements so that potential impacts to significant paleontological resources are minimized or eliminated. The Qualified Paleontologist will draw on geotechnical reports, grading and excavation plans, and the construction schedule in order to formulate the proper monitoring methods, places, and times. The Qualified Paleontologist shall participate in a preconstruction meeting with project contractors so that an understanding of construction mitigation measures is ensured and so that clear communication procedures are formulated. Full-time paleontological monitoring is recommended when project earth-moving activities reach a depth of two (2) feet below original ground level. This minimum depth will be stipulated in the PRMMP.

Tribal Cultural Resources

TCR-1 **Retain a Native American Monitor/Consultant.** The Project Applicant shall be required to retain and compensate for the services of a Tribal monitor/consultant who is both approved by the Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians-Kizh Nation Tribal Government and is listed under the NAHC's Tribal Contact list for the area of the project location. This list is provided by the NAHC. The monitor/consultant will only be present on-site during the construction phases that involve ground disturbing activities. Ground disturbing activities are defined by the Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians-Kizh Nation as activities that may include, but are not limited to, pavement removal, pot-holing or auguring, grubbing, tree removals, boring, grading, excavation, drilling, and trenching, within the project area. The Tribal Monitor/consultant will complete daily monitoring logs that will provide descriptions of the day's activities, including construction activities, locations, soil, and any cultural materials identified. The on-site monitoring shall end when the project site grading and excavation activities are completed, or when the Tribal Representatives and monitor/consultant have indicated that the site has a low potential for impacting Tribal Cultural Resources.

TCR-2 **Unanticipated Discovery of Tribal Cultural and Archaeological Resources.** Upon discovery of any archaeological resources, cease construction activities in the immediate vicinity of the find until the find can be assessed. All archaeological resources unearthed by project construction activities shall be evaluated by the qualified archaeologist and tribal monitor/consultant approved by the Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians-Kizh Nation. If the resources are Native American in origin, the Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians-Kizh Nation shall coordinate with the landowner regarding treatment and curation of these resources. Typically, the Tribe will request reburial or preservation for educational purposes. Work may continue on other parts of the project while evaluation and, if necessary, mitigation takes place (CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5 [f]). If a resource is determined by the qualified archaeologist to constitute a "historical resource" or "unique archaeological resource", time allotment and funding sufficient to allow for implementation of avoidance measures, or appropriate mitigation, must be available. The treatment plan established for the resources shall be in accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(f) for historical resources.

Public Resources Code Sections 21083.2(b) for unique archaeological resources. Preservation in place (i.e., avoidance) is the preferred manner of treatment. If preservation in place is not feasible, treatment may include implementation of archaeological data recovery excavations to remove the resource along with subsequent laboratory processing and analysis. Any historic archaeological material that is not Native American in origin shall be curated at a public, non-profit institution with a research interest in the materials, such as the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County or the Fowler Museum, if such an institution agrees to accept the material. If no institution accepts the archaeological material, they shall be offered to a local school or historical society in the area for educational purposes.

TCR-3 **Unanticipated Discovery of Human Remains and Associated Funerary Objects:** Native American human remains are defined in PRC 5097.98 (d)(1) as an inhumation or cremation, and in any state of decomposition or skeletal completeness. Funerary objects, called associated grave goods in PRC 5097.98, are also to be treated according to this statute. Health and Safety Code 7050.5 dictates that any discoveries of human skeletal material shall be immediately reported to the County Coroner and excavation halted until the coroner has determined the nature of the remains. If the coroner recognizes the human remains to be those of a Native American or has reason to believe that they are those of a Native American, he or she shall contact, by telephone within 24 hours, the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) quid PRC 5097.98 shall be followed.

Resource Assessment & Continuation of Work Protocol: Upon discovery, the tribal and/or archaeological monitor/consultant/consultant will immediately divert work at minimum of 150 feet and place an exclusion zone around the burial. The monitor/consultant(s) will then notify the Tribe, the qualified lead archaeologist, and the construction manager who will call the coroner. Work will continue to be diverted while the coroner determines whether the remains are Native American. The discovery is to be kept confidential and secure to prevent any further disturbance. If the finds are determined to be Native American, the coroner will notify the NAHC as mandated by state law who will then appoint a Most Likely Descendent (MLD).

Kizh-Gabrieleno Procedures for burials and funerary remains: If the Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians - Kizh Nation is designated MLD, the following treatment measures shall be implemented. To the Tribe, the term "human remains" encompasses more than human bones. In ancient as well as historic times, Tribal Traditions included, but were not limited to, the burial of funerary objects with the deceased, and the ceremonial burning of human remains. These remains are to be treated in the same manner as bone fragments that remain intact. Associated funerary objects are objects that, as part of the death rite or ceremony of a culture, are reasonably believed to have been placed with individual human remains either at the time of death or later; other items made exclusively for burial purposes or to contain human remains can also be considered as associated funerary objects.

Treatment Measures: Prior to the continuation of ground disturbing activities, the land owner shall arrange a designated site location within the footprint of the project for the respectful reburial of the humus remains and/or ceremonial objects. In the case where discovered human remains cannot be fully documented and recovered on the same day, the remains will be covered with muslin cloth and a steel plate that cart be moved by heavy equipment placed over the excavation opening to protect the remains. If this type of steel plate is not available, a 24-hour guard should be posted outside of working hours. The Tribe will make every effort to recommend diverting the project and keeping the remains in situ and protected. If the project cannot be diverted, it may be determined that burials will be removed. The Tribe will work closely with the qualified archaeologist to ensure that the excavation is treated carefully, ethically and respectfully. If data recovery is approved by the Tribe, documentation shall be taken which includes at a minimum detailed descriptive notes and sketches. Additional types of documentation shall be approved by the Tribe for data recovery purposes. Cremations will either be removed in bulk or by means as necessary to ensure complete recovery of all material. If the discovery of human remains includes four or more burials, the location is considered a cemetery and a separate treatment plan shall be created. Once complete, a final report of all activities is to be submitted to the Tribe and the NAHC. The Tribe does NOT authorize any scientific study or the utilization of any invasive diagnostics on human remains.

Each occurrence of human remains and associated funerary objects will be stored using opaque cloth bags. All human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects and objects of cultural patrimony will be removed to a secure container on site if possible. These items should be retained arid reburied within six months of recovery. The site of reburial/repatriation shall be on the project site but at a location agreed upon between the Tribe and the landowner at a site to be protected in perpetuity. There shall be no publicity regarding any cultural materials recovered.

Professional Standards: Archaeological cued Native American monitoring and excavation during construction projects will be consistent with current professional standards. All feasible care to avoid any unnecessary disturbance, physical modification, or separation of human remains and associated funerary objects shall be taken. Principal personnel must meet the Secretary of Interior standards for archaeology and have a minimum of 10 years of experience as a principal investigator working with Native American archaeological sites in southern California. The Qualified Archaeologist shall ensure that all other personnel are appropriately trained and qualified.

Whittier Aquatics Facility

INITIAL STUDY

Los Angeles County Public Works
900 South Fremont Avenue
Alhambra, CA 91803

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:

Aspen environmental group

5020 Chesebro Road, Suite 200
Agoura Hills, CA 91301

September 2019

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Acronyms

§	Section
AB	Assembly Bill
ACM	Asbestos Containing Materials
AQMP	Air Quality Management Plan
AST	above-ground storage tank
BMP	Best Management Practices
CAAQS	California Ambient Air Quality Standards
Cal/ARP	California Accidental Risk Prevention
Cal-EPA	California Environmental Protection Agency
CAL FIRE	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
Cal/OSHA	California Occupational Safety and Health Administration
CARB	California Air Resources Board
CBC	California Building Code
CCH	Consortium of California Herbaria
CDFW	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
CDP	Coastal Development Permit
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CGS	California Geological Survey
CNDDB	California Natural Diversity Database
CNEL	Community Noise Equivalent Level
CNPS	California Native Plant Society
CH_4	Methane
CO	Carbon Monoxide
CO_2	Carbon Dioxide
CO_2e	Carbon Dioxide Equivalent
Commission	Los Angeles County Historical Landmarks and Records Commission
County	County of Los Angeles, Department of Public Works
CRHP	California Register of Historical Places
CRHR	California Register of Historical Resources
CRPR	California Rare Plant Rank
CUPA	Certified Unified Program Agency

CWA	Clean Water Act
cy	cubic yard(s)
dB	decibel
dBA	A-weighted decibel
DOC	Department of Conservation
DOGGR	Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources
DPR	Department of Pesticide Regulation
DTSC	Department of Toxic Substance Control
EFH	Essential Fish Habitat
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FMMP	Farmland Monitoring and Mapping Program
g	Gravity
GHG	Greenhouse Gases
GWP	Global Warming Potential
HCP	Habitat Conservation Plan
HSWA	Hazardous and Solid Waste Act
HVAC	Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning
HWCL	California Hazardous Waste Control Law
I-405	Interstate 405
I-605	Interstate 605
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
IWMB	Integrated Waste Management Board
LACDPW	Los Angeles County Department of Public Works
LACFCD	Los Angeles County Flood Control District
LACoFD	County of Los Angeles Fire Department
LACM	Museum of Los Angeles County
LBP	Lead Based Paint
LCP	Local Coastal Program
Ldn	Day/Night Average Noise Level
Leq	equivalent continuous noise level
LST	localized significance threshold
LUST	Leaking Underground Storage Tank
M	Moment Magnitude
MBTA	Migratory Bird Treaty Act
MLD	Most Likely Descendant

MND	Mitigated Negative Declaration
MRZ	Mineral Resource Zone
msl	mean sea level
MT	Metric Ton
$MTCO_2e$	Metric Tons of Carbon Dioxide Equivalent
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NAHC	Native American Heritage Commission
NCCP	Natural Community Conservation Plan
NCP	National Contingency Plan
ND	Negative Declaration
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NPL	National Priorities List
NRCS	National Resource Conservation Service
N_2O	Nitrous Oxide
NO_2	Nitrogen Dioxide
NOD	Notice of Determination
NOx	Nitrogen Oxides
O&M	Operation and Maintenance
OEHHA	Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment
PCE	passenger car equivalent
PERP	Portable Equipment Registration Program
PGA	Peak Ground Acceleration
PM10	particulate matter (less than 10 microns in diameter)
PM2.5	particulate matter (less than 2.5 microns in diameter)
PRC	Public Resources Code
PSHA	Probabilistic Seismic Hazard Assessment
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
RMP	Resource Management Plan
RWQCB	Regional Water Quality Control Board
SARA	Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act
SB	Senate Bill
SCAB	South Coast Air Basin
SCAG	Southern California Association of Governments
SCAQMD	South Coast Air Quality Management District
SMARA	California Surface Mining and Reclamation Act

SOx	Sulfur Oxides
sq. ft.	Square foot
SRA	Source Receptor Area
SR22	State Route 22
SVP	Society of Vertebrate Paleontology
SWPPP	Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan
SWRCB	State Water Resources Control Board
TAC	Toxic Air Contaminants
TCR	Tribal Cultural Resource
TWW	Treated Wood Waste
USACE	US Army Corps of Engineers
USEPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	United States Geological Survey
UST	Underground Storage Tank
VOC	Volatile Organic Compounds
WEAP	Worker Environmental Awareness Program

1. Introduction

1.1 Project Overview

This Initial Study analyzes the proposed Whittier Aquatics Facility (proposed project or project). The proposed project would be located on a 2.3-acre site that is situated at the northern end of the Pioneer High School campus, 10800 Ben Avon Street, Whittier, in the unincorporated community of West Whittier-Los Nietos. It is bordered on the north by Washington Boulevard, on the west by Pioneer Boulevard and commercial businesses, on the east by Danby Avenue and residential housing, and on the south by an existing parking lot used by Pioneer High School. The interstate 605 freeway is located approximately 250 feet west of the proposed project site. The proposed project consists of the construction of a new aquatics facility which would include the following: a pool building with offices, classrooms, restrooms and storage; an Olympic-size 55-yard (50-meter) by 25-yard competitive swimming pool; a 27-yard (25-meter) by 25-yard practice pool; and related improvements. The proposed programs would include various water exercises, recreational swimming, swim lessons, junior lifeguard training, synchronized swimming, water polo, and diving. The Olympic-size competition pool would also provide a venue for master swim teams and would be certified for hosting official swimming competitions and water polo events.

1.2 Purpose of an Initial Study

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) was enacted in 1970 for the purpose of providing decision-makers and the public with information regarding environmental effects of proposed projects; identifying means of avoiding environmental damage; and disclosing to the public the reasons behind a project's approval, even if it leads to environmental damage. The County of Los Angeles is the lead agency under CEQA and would be acting through the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works (LACDPW). The County has determined that the proposed project is subject to CEQA since it will result in environmental impacts and has also determined that an Initial Study (IS) shall be prepared.

An IS is a preliminary analysis conducted by the lead agency, in consultation with other agencies (responsible or trustee agencies, as applicable), to determine whether there is substantial evidence that a project may have a significant effect on the environment. If the IS concludes that the project may have a significant effect on the environment, an Environmental Impact Report must be prepared. If the IS identifies potentially significant effects on the environment, but mitigation measures included in the project can reduce the environmental effects of the project to a point where clearly no significant effect on the environment would occur, the lead agency may adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND).

This IS has been prepared in accordance with CEQA (Public Resources Code §21000 et seq.) and the State CEQA Guidelines (Title 14, California Code of Regulations, §15000 et seq.) and has determined that preparation of a Mitigated Negative Declaration would be appropriate under CEQA.

1.3 CEQA Process

Once an IS has been prepared, the public is notified of the County's intent to adopt an MND, and the IS and proposed MND are made available for a minimum 20-day public review and comment period. The purpose of this comment period is to provide public agencies and the general public an opportunity to review the IS and comment on the adequacy of the analysis and the findings of

the lead agency regarding potential environmental impacts of the project. If a reviewer believes the project may have a significant effect on the environment, the reviewer should (1) identify the specific effect, (2) explain why it is believed the effect would occur, and (3) explain why it is believed the effect would be significant. Facts or expert opinion supported by facts should be provided as the basis of such comments.

After close of the public review period for the proposed project, if approval of a project is recommended, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, the governing Board of the County of Los Angeles, would consider the MND, together with any comments received during the public review process and make a recommendation to the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors (Board of Supervisors) on whether to approve the project. The Board of Supervisors would consider the MND and supporting IS, together with any comments received during the public review process, in the final decision to approve or disapprove the project. During the decision process, persons and/or agencies may address either the LACPW or the Board of Supervisors regarding the project. The Board would also consider any recommended program of mitigation that is proposed to reduce impacts identified as a result of implementation of the proposed project.

If the project is approved, the LACPW would file a Notice of Determination (NOD) with the County Clerk within 5 days. The NOD would be posted by the County Clerk within 24 hours of receipt. This begins a 30-day statute of limitations on legal challenges to the approval under CEQA. The ability to challenge the approval in court may be limited to those persons who objected to the approval of the project, and to issues which were presented to the lead agency by any person, either orally or in writing, during the public comment period.

As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the County of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and, upon request, would provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services, and activities.

2. Project Description

2.1 Project Location and Setting

The proposed project site would be constructed on the northern end of the Pioneer High School campus, located at 10800 Ben Avon Street, Whittier, in the unincorporated community of West Whittier-Los Nietos, neighboring the city of Pico Rivera. The project site is bordered on the north by Washington Boulevard, on the west by Pioneer Boulevard and commercial businesses, on the east by Danby Avenue and residential housing, and on the south by an existing parking lot used by Pioneer High School. The interstate 605 freeway is located approximately 250 feet west of the proposed Project site. Figure 2-1 shows the regional location of the project site.

The project would occupy approximately 2.3 acres of an existing parking lot utilized by Pioneer High School, as illustrated in Figure 2-2. Pioneer High School first opened in 1959 and provides educational services to students from grades 9-12 and serves students from the Los Nietos, South Whittier, and Whittier City School Districts. The school's attendance boundary extends approximately six miles northeast to the City of Industry, and approximately three miles southeast to Santa Fe Springs. During the 2017-2018 school year, Pioneer High School had an enrollment of 1,303 students (Ed-Data, 2019). Vehicular access to the project site is provided along Pioneer Boulevard on the western border of the proposed project site and Danby Avenue on the eastern border.

The project site is surrounded to the west by commercial businesses and the 605 Freeway, to the north and east by residential housing, and to the south by the Pioneer High School campus. The High School is in session from Mid-August through early June each year and has a six-week summer school session that runs from early/mid-June to mid/late-July each year. Other events occur year-round at the high school campus, including the Pioneer High School's Market Place, which is a swap meet that currently takes place on the project site's existing parking lot on the 2nd and 4th Saturday each month. The school campus houses the following facilities; classrooms and administration offices, two gymnasiums and associated facilities, an outdoor swimming pool, parking areas, cafeteria, library, and athletic fields.

2.2 Background and Project Objective

The project would be part of a joint-use agreement between the County Department of Parks and Recreation and Pioneer High School (County of Los Angeles, 2018). The school site currently contains an existing outdoor L-shaped pool, which would be retained and would not be a part of the joint-use agreement. The school's pool is located between existing buildings and is not large enough or sufficient in size to meet the needs of the school population and community. Currently, a large parking lot at the north end of the school site exists, which is of sufficient size to site the proposed project.

The main objective of the project is to construct a joint-use aquatics facility available for public use. The community, the County, and the Whittier Union School Board maintain a desire for a publicly accessible swimming facility at this location.

2.3 Project Details

The proposed project includes the construction of a new aquatics facility that would include the following main facilities:

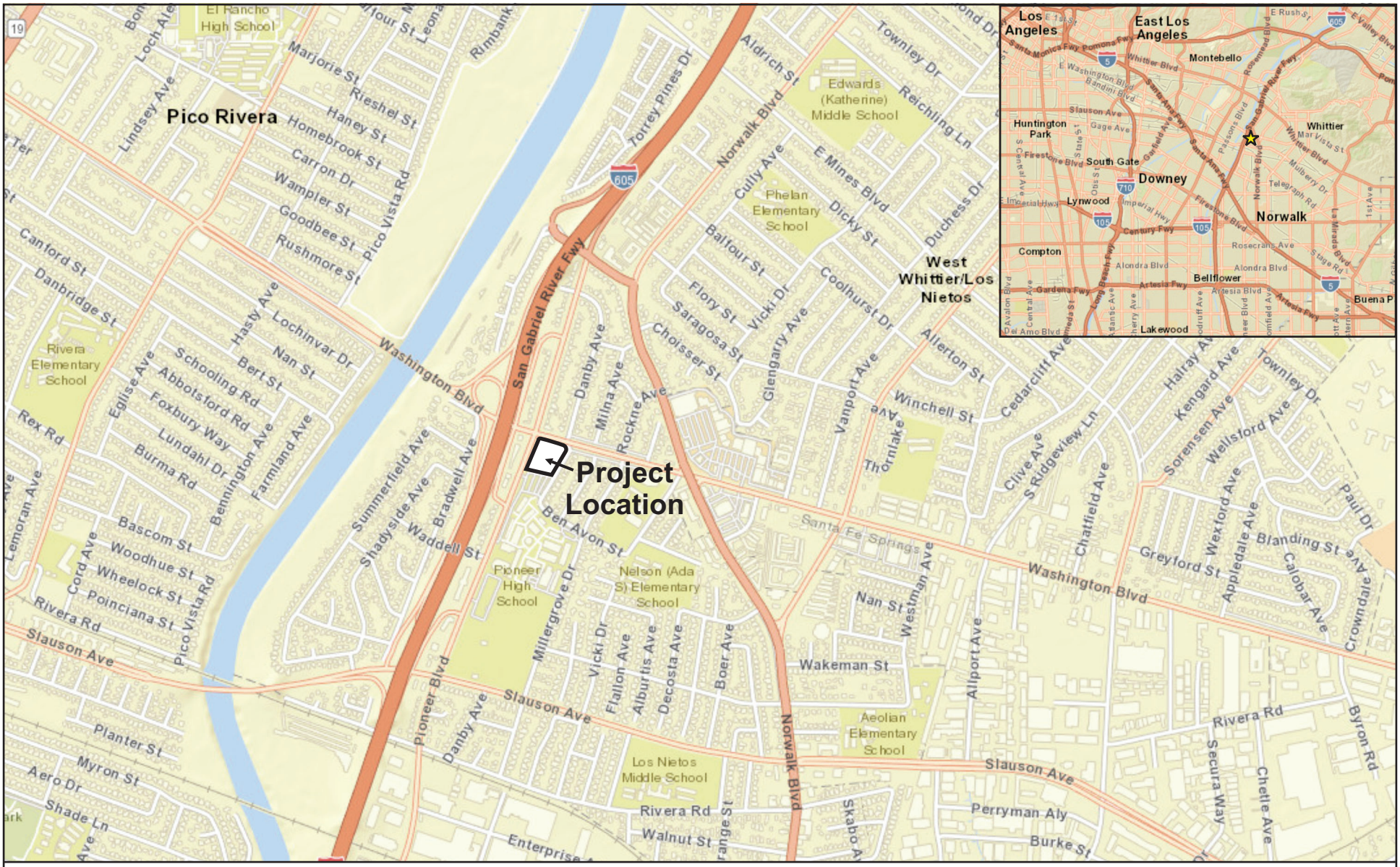
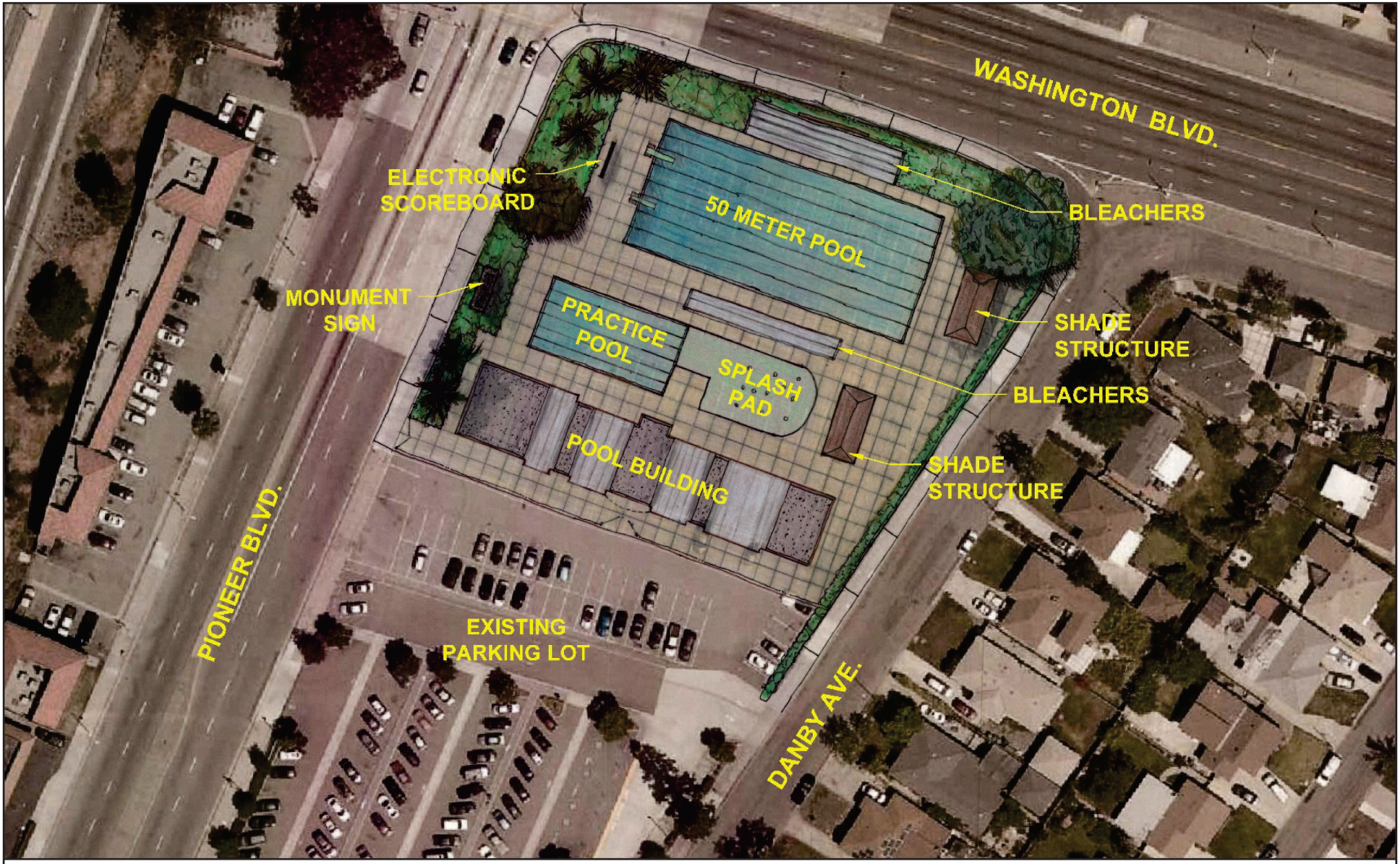


Figure 2-1
Project Vicinity

August 2019



Source: Development Division, Department of Parks and Recreation, County of Los Angeles, March 2018

0 25 50 100 Feet

N

Figure 2-2

Project Site Plan

Two swimming pools:

- A 55-yard (50-meter) by 25-yard competitive swimming pool. Depending on the final design, based on feedback from LA County Parks and Recreation, the depth of the pool could reach up to 15 feet deep at the deep end.
    - A 27-yard (25-meter) by 25-yard practice pool. Depending on the final design, based on feedback from LA County Parks and Recreation, the shallow end could be 3 to 4.5 feet deep and deep end of 13 feet deep.
- A 10,000 +/- square foot pool building.

Other facilities include a parking lot, a perimeter fence/wall, spectator bleachers, a property monument sign, a shade structure, an electronic scoreboard, and perimeter landscaping (see Figure 2-2). Security lighting would be incorporated throughout the facility, and both the pool deck and pool would utilize energy efficient LED fixtures. The facility would include benches as well as bleachers that are compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act. A more detailed list of the project features is provided in the County's Whittier Aquatics Facility Program (LACDPW, 2018).

2.3.1 Construction

Access and Right of Way

Access to the site would be through the existing northern parking area driveway on Danby Avenue and via a new access ramp built on Pioneer Boulevard that would lead to the project's operating parking area. Following construction, these two access ways would be maintained for public access to the aquatics facility. Temporary access during construction may also occur using the Pioneer Boulevard driveway to the Pioneer High School parking area south of the project site, if allowed by the High School. The work site would be securely fenced and protected at all times, during the construction phase.

Staging and Parking

The project site is large enough to provide construction materials and equipment staging and construction worker parking during most of the construction period. Additional parking exists just south of the site at Pioneer High School and on local streets to the east of the site.

Utilities

The project is located entirely within a LACDPW easement and does not interfere with utilities located within the public road right-of-way. Electricity is currently provided to the project site area by Southern California Edison, natural gas is provided by SoCalGas, potable water is provided by the San Gabriel Valley Water Company, sewer services are provided by the Los Angeles County Sanitation District, storm drain services are provided by Los Angeles County Flood Control District, telephone and internet is provided by Frontier California, Inc., or internet may be provided by Crown Castle Fiber. All of these utilities are located adjacent or nearby the site, requiring minimal construction efforts for interconnection.

Potable water from the closest hydrant would be used for South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) Rule 403 fugitive dust control requirements during construction.

Schedule

If the proposed project is approved, construction activity is tentatively expected to begin in November 2020 and conclude in approximately 24 months in June 2022. Table 2-1 identifies the

anticipated schedule for each construction phase and the associated equipment types. As shown in Table 2-1, the following construction phases would overlap:

- Building pad construction/ Footing construction;
- Footing construction/ Superstructure construction;
- Superstructure construction/ Building construction;
- Building construction/ Pool excavation;
- Building construction/ Pool construction;
- Pool construction/ Architectural coating; and
- Pool construction/ Site paving.

Table 2-1. Construction Phases

Phase Name	Off-road Equipment Type	Schedule
Demolition and Grading	Concrete/ Industrial Saws; Graders; Rubber Tired Dozers; Tractors/ Loaders/ Backhoes	December 1, 2020 to January 14, 2021
Building Pad	Generator Sets; Surfacing Equipment; Tractors/ Loaders/ Backhoes	January 15, 2021 to March 2, 2021
Footings	Excavators; Tractors/ Loaders/ Backhoes	February 15, 2021 to April 30, 2021
Superstructure	Cranes; Forklifts; Tractors/ Loaders/ Backhoes	March 15, 2021to June 14, 2021
Building Construction	Cranes; Forklifts; Generator Sets; Tractors/ Loaders/ Backhoes; Welders	May 17, 2021 to March 18, 2022
Pool Excavation	Excavators; Rubber Tired Dozers; Tractors/ Loaders/ Backhoes	November 15, 2021 to January 13, 2022
Pool Construction	Cranes; Forklifts; Pumps; Surfacing Equipment; Tractors/ Loaders/ Backhoes; Trenchers	January 14, 2022 to July 1, 2022
Architectural Coating	Air Compressors	March 21, 2022 to April15, 2022
Site Paving	Graders; Pavers; Rollers; Tractors/ Loaders/ Backhoes	June 16, 2022 to June 29, 2022

This construction schedule may differ slightly from the selected contractor's schedule depending on the approval and final engineering schedule as well as the contractor's equipment and personnel resources. The construction task level schedule is provided in Appendix A.

Workforce and Equipment

Project construction would utilize off-road equipment and on-road vehicle trucks for earthmoving activities and haul trips throughout the project construction phases. Table 2-1 includes a breakdown of the types of equipment that would be required for each phase of construction. Table 2-2 provides the frequency of off-road equipment use and anticipated trips for on-road vehicles that is currently anticipated for the construction activity phases.

Table 2-2. Daily Construction Equipment Use/Vehicle Trips Estimates			
Demolition/Grading Phase – 33 Days			
Off-Road Equipment Type	***Number***	***Horsepower***	***Hour/day***
Concrete/Industrial Saw	1	81	8
Grader	1	187	8
Rubber Tired Dozer	1	247	8
Tractors/Loaders/Backhoes	1	*97*	8
On-road Trips	***Vehicle Classification***	***Round Trips***	***Miles/Round Trip***
Employee Commute	Light Duty Auto Mix	10 per day	29.4
Vendor Trips	Heavy Duty Truck Mix	2 per day	13.8
Haul Trips	Heavy-Heavy Duty Truck	*124 total*	40
Building Pad Phase – 33 Days			
Off-Road Equipment Type	***Number***	***Horsepower***	***Hour/day***
Generator Set	1	84	7
Surfacing Equipment	1	50	7
Tractors/Loaders/Backhoe	1	97	7
On-road Trips	***Vehicle Classification***	***Round Trips***	***Miles/Round Trip***
Employee Commute	Light Duty Auto Mix	8 per day	29.4
Vendor Trips	Heavy Duty Truck Mix	2 per day	13.8
Haul Trips	Heavy-Heavy Duty Truck	*50 total*	40
Footings Phase – 55 Days			
Off-Road Equipment Type	***Number***	***Horsepower***	***Hour/day***
Excavator	1	158	8
Tractors/Loaders/Backhoes	2	*97*	7
On-road Trips	***Vehicle Classification***	***Round Trips***	***Miles/Round Trip***
Employee Commute	Light Duty Auto Mix	5 per day	29.4
Vendor Trips	Heavy Duty Truck Mix	1 per day	13.8
Haul Trips	Heavy-Heavy Duty Truck	*8 total*	40
Superstructure Phase – 66 Days			
Off-Road Equipment Type	***Number***	***Horsepower***	***Hour/day***
Crane	1	231	8
Forklifts	1	89	7
Tractors/Loaders/Backhoe	1	*97*	6
On-road Trips	***Vehicle Classification***	***Round Trips***	***Miles/Round Trip***
Employee Commute	Light Duty Auto Mix	8 per day	29.4
Vendor Trips	Heavy Duty Truck Mix	1 per day	13.8
Haul Trips	Heavy-Heavy Duty Truck	*25 total*	40
Building Construction Phase – 220 Days			
Off-Road Equipment Type	***Number***	***Horsepower***	***Hour/day***
Crane	1	231	8
Forklifts	2	89	7
Generator Set	1	84	8
Tractors/Loaders/Backhoe	1	*97*	6

Table 2-2. Daily Construction Equipment Use/Vehicle Trips Estimates			
Welders	3	46	8
On-road Trips	***Vehicle Classification***	***Round Trips***	***Miles/Round Trip***
Employee Commute	Light Duty Auto Mix	8 per day	29.4
Vendor Trips	Heavy Duty Truck Mix	2 per day	13.8
Haul Trips	Heavy-Heavy Duty Truck	*25 total*	40
Pool Excavation Phase - 44 Days			
Off-Road Equipment Type	***Number***	***Horsepower***	***Hour/day***
Excavator	1	158	8
Rubber Tired Loader	1	203	8
Tractors/Loaders/Backhoes	1	*97*	7
On-road Trips	***Vehicle Classification***	***Round Trips***	***Miles/Round Trip***
Employee Commute	Light Duty Auto Mix	8 per day	29.4
Vendor Trips	Heavy Duty Truck Mix	1 per day	13.8
Haul Trips	Heavy-Heavy Duty Truck	*1,000 total*	40
Pool Construction Phase - 121 Days			
Off-Road Equipment Type	***Number***	***Horsepower***	***Hour/day***
Crane	1	231	8
Pump	1	84	7
Forklift	1	89	6
Surfacing Equipment	1	50	4
Tractors/Loaders/Backhoes	1	*97*	6
Trencher	1	78	8
On-road Trips	***Vehicle Classification***	***Round Trips***	***Miles/Round Trip***
Employee Commute	Light Duty Auto Mix	8 per day	29.4
Vendor Trips	Heavy Duty Truck Mix	1 per day	13.8
Haul Trips	Heavy-Heavy Duty Truck	*24 total*	40
Paving Phase – 10 Days			
Off-Road Equipment Type	***Number***	***Horsepower***	***Hour/day***
Grader	1	187	6
Paver	1	130	8
Rollers	2	*80*	8
Tractors/Loaders/Backhoe	1	*97*	8
On-road Trips	***Vehicle Classification***	***Round Trips***	***Miles/Round Trip***
Employee Commute	Light Duty Auto Mix	15 per day	29.4
Haul Trips	Heavy-Heavy Duty Truck	*40 total*	40
Architectural Coating Phase - 20 Days			
Off-Road Equipment Type	***Number***	***Horsepower***	***Hour/day***
Air Compressor	1	78	6
On-road Trips	***Vehicle Classification***	***Round Trips***	***Miles/Round Trip***
Employee Commute	Light Duty Auto Mix	2 per day	29.4

*Actual equipment/trips may vary slightly during construction.

2.3.2 Operations and Maintenance

The project would operate as a community aquatics center seven days a week, year-round. The operating hours would be 6 a.m. to 9 or 10 p.m. weekdays, with shorter operating hours on weekends. The operating staff would number approximately 35 to 40 (full and part-time employees), covering two work shifts, with no more than 15 employees present at the same time. This workforce would consist of two dozen or so lifeguards; and four to six locker room attendants, two to four cashiers, and two to four shift managers to cover weekday and weekend operations.

The following is an estimate of total daily vehicle trips to and from the aquatics facility by patrons and employees, which would occur during the operational phase of the project (see Table 2-2for vehicle trips during construction):

- Weekday – 533 Trips
- Saturday – 168 Trips
- Sunday – 252 Trips

Normal daily operations would include daily periods of time for lap swimming, swim lessons, recreational swimming, novice sports, diving, and special programming (scuba certification, master teams, etc.). Operations would also include competitive swimming and diving meets, water polo matches, and synchronized swimming competitions.

Other everyday operation activities of the project include as necessary heating and cooling of the pool building, water heating for showers and restrooms, pool water recirculation pump operation, pool heater operation, and pool cover operation.

Ongoing normal maintenance activities include regular pool cleaning and equipment servicing, and pool building cleaning and maintenance activities that would all be outsourced to local vendors. Other irregular maintenance activities, such as pool draining and repair/major maintenance work and interior or exterior pool building painting, would be completed infrequently as necessary based on the long-term wear and tear of the facilities.

2.4 Project Design Features

The following project design features and best management practices would be implemented as part of the project:

- The project would be designed to meet all applicable building codes and standards, including:
  - County of Los Angeles Park Design Guidelines and Standards (2017)
  - California Building Code Title 24, with County of Los Angeles code amendments.
  - California Code of Regulations Title 22, Chapter 20 Public Swimming Pools
  - California Code of Regulations Title 20 Appliance Efficiency Regulations
  - California Health and Safety Code
  - Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act
- The pool building would be designed using *LEED v4, BD+C: New Construction* standards to allow the building to achieve a LEED Gold Certification.
- The pools would be designed to meet pool certification requirements of the following organizations:
  - FINA – Federation Internationale de Natation Amateur
  - U.S.A. Swimming Regulations (Rule 103.3.1.C through 104.2.2.C(4)(c))

  - U.S. Diving
  - U.S. Water Polo
  - U.S. Synchronized Swimming
  - NCAA – National Collegiate Athletic Association
  - NFSHSA – National Federal of State High School Associations
- Rule 403 fugitive dust control measures required by the SCAQMD, which requires reasonable precautions to be taken to prevent visible particulate matter from being airborne, under normal wind conditions, beyond the property from which the emission originates. Reasonable precautions include, but are not limited to the following:
  - Application of water on dirt roads, material stockpiles, and other unpaved surfaces that can give rise to airborne dusts; and
  - Maintenance of roadways in a clean condition.
- Construction contractor would implement an effective combination of sediment and erosion control Best Management Practices (BMP) as outlined in the LACDPW Construction Site BMP's Manual and as specified in the contract special provisions. Erosion control BMPs where necessary may include, but not be limited to, the following:
  - Minimizing the extent of disturbed areas and duration of exposure
  - Stabilizing and protecting disturbed areas
  - Keeping runoff velocities low
  - Retaining sediment within the construction area
  - Use of silt fences or straw wattles
  - Temporary soil stabilization
  - Temporary drainage inlet protection
  - Temporary water diversion around immediate work area
  - Minimizing debris from construction vehicles on roads providing construction access
- LACDPW would ensure all construction crews have fire-suppression equipment (such as fire extinguishers) on site to respond to the accidental ignition of a fire.
- Spill kits would be available onsite to safely address potential leaks or spills of hazardous materials during construction and operation.
- In addition to complying with the County Code of Ordinances (Title 12: Environmental Protection, Chapter 12.08: Noise Control) regarding construction work hours, LACDPW would minimize short-term construction noise through implementation of BMPs that may include, but not be limited to, the following:
  1. Proper maintenance and tuning of all construction equipment engines to minimize noise emissions;
  2. Proper maintenance and functioning of the mufflers on all internal combustion and equipment engines;
  3. Locate fixed and/or stationary equipment as far as possible from noise-sensitive receptors; and
  4. Appoint a public liaison for project construction that would be responsible for addressing public concerns about construction activities; including excessive noise. As needed, the

liaison would determine the cause of concern (e.g., starting too early, bad muffler) and implement measures to address the concern.

- LACDPW would work with local authorities to prepare a construction traffic notification procedure to minimize transportation and traffic effects.

Specific design requirements or design features that affect the environmental impact analysis are discussed in more detail in the impact analysis discussions in Section 3.4, as appropriate.

SWRCB Storm Water Program Construction General Permit (General Construction Storm Water Permit). The Construction General Permit, required by the federal Clean Water Act, regulates storm water runoff from construction sites of one acre or more in size. The Construction General Permit is a statewide, standing permit. Qualifying construction activities, which would include oil well projects where total disturbance is one acre or greater, must obtain coverage under the permit by filing a Notice of Intent with the RWQCB, and development of and compliance with a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) describing best management practices (BMPs) the discharger will use to protect storm water runoff. The SWPPP must contain a visual monitoring program, a chemical monitoring program for "non-visible" pollutants to be implemented if there is a failure of BMPs, and a sediment monitoring plan if the site discharges directly to a water body listed on the 303(d) list (described below) for sediment.

2.5 Permits and Other Approvals

The following Table 2-3 identifies the potential permits and/or approvals from other agencies that may be required prior to construction of the project.

Table 2-3. Anticipated Permits and Approvals

Agency	*Permit/Approval*
South Coast Air Quality District	*Rule 201/203 Permit to Construct/Permit to Operate or Rule 222 registration for the natural gas fired pool water heaters*
Regional Water Quality Control Board	*Construction General Permit*
Los Angeles County	*Conditional Use Permit and Building Permit*

2.6 Cumulative Projects

CEQA defines a cumulative impact as an effect that is created as a result of the combination of a proposed project together with other projects (past, present, or future) causing related impacts. Cumulative impacts of a project need to be evaluated when the project's incremental effect is cumulatively considerable and, therefore, potentially significant.

As discussed below in Section 3.4, the proposed project would create construction-related impacts that are primarily temporary and localized. Impacts from project operation (i.e., traffic) would be ongoing throughout the life of the aquatics facility. Cumulative impacts would occur if the effects of the proposed project's construction and operation combine with similar effects of other projects in the area. Table 2-4 provides a list of cumulative projects that are applicable to the proposed project given their similarity in schedule and/or location.

Table 2-4. Cumulative Projects

Project	Location	Schedule
Eastside Transit Corridor Phase 2: Washington Alternative- Metro has proposed this eastern extension of the Gold Line. One of the alternatives would construct the alignment along Washington Boulevard.	Extends east from the existing Atlantic Metro Station in East Los Angeles to Washington Boulevard, until just west of Lambert Road. Immediately adjacent to the proposed project along Washington Boulevard.	Currently in environmental review phase.
The Groves in Whittier- A 73-acre development of single- and multi-family housing, retail, and recreation facilities	11850 Whittier Boulevard Approximately 1.5 miles east of the proposed project.	Completion scheduled for Spring 2020
The Whole Child- Affordable housing development that includes 80 condominiums and 10 units of market-rate housing.	Northwest corner of Lakeland Road and Laurel Avenue Approximately 3.2 miles southeast of the proposed project.	Currently in planning phase.
Whittier Narrows Dam Flood Control Project- Proposed Risk Management Plan to improve dam safety through structural modifications.	Located at the "Whittier Narrows" between the Montebello Hills and the Puente Hills. Approximately 3.3 miles north of the proposed project.	Currently in environmental review phase. Final EIS was completed in May 2019.

Sources: Metro, 2019; Sprague, 2018 and 2019; USACE, 2019.

3. Environmental Checklist Form and Assessment

3.1 Key Project Details

Project title:	Whittier Aquatics Facility
Lead agency name and address:	County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works 900 South Fremont Avenue Alhambra, California, 91803
Contact person and phone number:	Leo Rosas Project Manager Los Angeles County Public Works Phone: (626) 300-3245 Email: LRosas@dpw.lacounty.gov
Project location	The proposed project would be located on a 2.3-acre site that is situated at the northern end of the Pioneer High School campus, 10800 Ben Avon Street, Whittier, in the unincorporated community of West Whittier-Los Nietos, California neighboring the city of Pico Rivera.
Project sponsor's name and address:	Los Angeles County Department of Public Works 900 South Fremont Avenue Alhambra, California, 91803
General plan designation:	Public-Semi Public (P)
Zoning:	Residential Agriculture (R-A)
Description of project:	The proposed project consists of the construction of a new aquatics facility located at Pioneer High School, 10800 Ben Avon Street, Whittier, in the unincorporated community of West Whittier-Los Nietos. The proposed aquatics facility will include the following: a pool building with offices, classrooms, restrooms and storage; an Olympic-size 55-yard (50-meter) by 25-yard competitive swimming pool; a 27-yard (25-meter) by 25-yard practice pool; benches and bleachers, parking lot, and related improvements. Security lighting would be incorporated throughout the facility. The proposed programs would include various water exercises, recreational swimming, swim lessons, junior lifeguard training, synchronized swimming, water polo, and diving. The Olympic-size competition pool would also provide a venue for master swim teams and would be certified for hosting official swimming competitions and water polo events.
Surrounding land uses and setting:	The proposed project site is situated on the campus of Pioneer High School, in a location that is bordered on the north by Washington Boulevard, on the west by Pioneer Boulevard and

commercial businesses, on the east by Danby Avenue and residential housing, and on the south by an existing parking lot used by Pioneer High School. The interstate 605 freeway is located approximately 250 feet west of the proposed project site.

Other public agencies whose approval is required:

South Coast Air Quality Management District

Regional Water Quality Control Board

Have California Native American tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project area requested consultation pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21080.3.1? If so, is there a plan for consultation that includes, for example, the determination of significance of impacts to tribal cultural resources, procedures regarding confidentiality, etc.?

The County initiated correspondence with five tribes on March 4, 2019 and provided notification of the project to each tribe. The County is currently in consultation with one tribe.

- The Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation
- The San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians
- The Fernandeño – Tataviam Band of Mission Indians
- The Tejon Indian Tribe, and
- The San Manuel Band of Mission Indians

The Kizh Nation requested consultation on the Project. The County has reached out to the tribe to project information on the Project and has received input from them regarding this Project.

3.2 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" and requiring implementation of mitigation as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

☐ Aesthetics	☐ Agriculture/Forestry Resources	☒ Air Quality
☒ Biological Resources	☒ Cultural Resources	☐ Energy
☒ Geology/Soils	☐ Greenhouse Gas Emissions	☐ Hazards/Hazardous Materials
☐ Hydrology/Water Quality	☐ Land Use/Planning	☐ Mineral Resources
☐ Noise	☐ Population/Housing	☐ Public Services
☐ Recreation	☐ Transportation	☒ Tribal Cultural Resource
☐ Utilities/Service Systems	☐ Wildfire	☒ Mandatory Findings of Significance

3.3 Environmental Determination

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 in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A **MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION** will be prepared.

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

☐ I find that 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 the 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 pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

2K

Tom Afschar, Architect
Senior Capital Projects Manager
Los Angeles County Public Works

9/25/19
Date

3.4 Evaluation of Environmental Impacts

I. AESTHETICS

Except as provided in Public Resources Code section 21099, would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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. In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings (Public views are those that are experienced from publicly accessible vantage point). If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d. Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect daytime or nighttime views in the area?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Discussion:

The Project site is currently developed as an existing parking lot within Pioneer High School. The Project site is surrounded to the west by commercial businesses and the 605 Freeway, and to the north, east, and south by residential housing and to the south by Pioneer High School. Interstate 605 freeway is located approximately 250 feet west of the proposed project site. Views of the site from adjacent viewsheds show a flat paved parking area surrounded by school buildings and athletic facilities. The site is only visible from roadways surrounding the site (Pioneer Boulevard, Washington Boulevard, and Danby Avenue) and from residences/uses located directly adjacent to the site along these roadways. The distances from these locations to the site varies from 200-600 feet. Beyond these viewsheds, the site is obstructed by other development (homes, businesses, Pioneer High School, I-605 freeway, etc.).

Impact Analysis:

a. HAVE A SUBSTANTIAL ADVERSE EFFECT ON A SCENIC VISTA?

The area surrounding the Project site is not characterized as containing scenic vistas. The nearest scenic area to the Project is the Arroyo Pescadero recreational area (located 2.5 miles east) and mountains within the Angeles National Forest (located 15 miles northeast). Neither of these scenic areas are readily visible from the Project site and the surrounding area is not known to provide views of these scenic areas. The Project site (i.e., Pioneer High School) serves as a public school that is compatible with the surrounding urban landscape.

CONSTRUCTION

NO IMPACT. Construction of the proposed Project would require temporary ground disturbance within the school. The presence of construction equipment and materials during Project construction may be visible from public vantage points. However, construction activities are not anticipated to extend beyond 24 months, with the school's existing aesthetics re-established and maintained upon completion of construction. No impacts to scenic vistas would occur.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

NO IMPACT. While the proposed new aquatics facility would increase structures and overall intensity of urban development within the school footprint, it would not create a new visual obstruction or visual contrast to the surrounding viewsheds. The school site currently contains an existing outdoor pool and facilities similar to those that would be constructed as part of the proposed Project. Additionally, as shown in Figure 2-2, the Project would include vegetative screening along all public boundaries. Given the lack of scenic vistas and because the Project would blend with existing buildings and facilities within the school, no impacts to scenic vistas would occur.

b. SUBSTANTIALLY DAMAGE SCENIC RESOURCES, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, TREES, ROCK OUTCROPPINGS, AND HISTORIC BUILDINGS WITHIN A STATE SCENIC HIGHWAY?

CONSTRUCTION

NO IMPACT. The Project site is currently developed as an existing parking lot utilized by the Pioneer High School. It does not contain any trees, rock outcroppings, or historic buildings. There would be no impact to these types of scenic resources.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

NO IMPACT. The nearest designated State Scenic Highway, Angeles Crest Highway (State Route 2), is located 18 miles north of the Project site (Caltrans, 2019). The site would not be visible from this scenic highway. A segment of Interstate 210 (I-210) and State Route 110 (SR 110) closer to the Project site are designated as a "Historical Parkway" (Caltrans, 2019). However, the nearest portion of this segment is located over 8 miles northwest of the site, which would not be visible or discernable from this historical parkway. No impacts would occur.

c. IN NON-URBANIZED AREAS, SUBSTANTIALLY DEGRADE THE EXISTING VISUAL CHARACTER OR QUALITY OF PUBLIC VIEWS OF THE SITE AND ITS SURROUNDINGS?

The proposed Project site is located at Pioneer High School, 10800 Ben Avon Street, Whittier, in the unincorporated community of West Whittier-Los Nietos, in West Whittier-Los Nietos, a census-designated place in unincorporated Los Angeles County. This is a highly urbanized area within the City of Los Angeles. The nearest non-urbanized area of note is the Arroyo Pescadero recreational area, located 2.5 miles east. This recreational area is not visible from the Project site, which is not known to provide views of this recreational area.

CONSTRUCTION

Construction of the proposed Project would require temporary ground disturbance within the school. The presence of construction equipment and materials during Project construction may be visible from public vantage points. However, construction activities are not anticipated to extend beyond 24 months, with the school's existing aesthetics re-established and maintained upon completion of construction. Construction would have no impact with respect to substantially degrading the existing visual character or quality of the parking lot and its surroundings.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

NO IMPACT. The Project would blend with existing buildings and facilities within the school. The project site is currently a vacant parking lot. Three mature trees located along the western perimeter of the site may require removal. However, these trees are not considered a

prominent visual feature of the site and their removal is not considered to substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the parking lot and its surroundings. No impacts would occur.

d. CREATE A NEW SOURCE OF SUBSTANTIAL LIGHT OR GLARE WHICH WOULD ADVERSELY AFFECT DAYTIME OR NIGHTTIME VIEWS IN THE AREA?

CONSTRUCTION

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. The Project site is currently a parking lot and does not contain any lighting. Construction would occur during daylight hours and would not require any lighting. Construction equipment would not contain reflective surfaces that could generate substantial glare. There would be no light or glare impacts during construction.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. The proposed Project would include security lighting and surfaces capable of generating glare (metal and water). as shown in Figure 2-2, the Project would include vegetative screening to along all public boundaries. This would ensure nighttime security light illumination and any daytime glare do not extend beyond the proposed aquatic facility boundary. Additionally, all security lighting would be directed downward and toward the aquatic facility, to ensure minimal light spillage outside the school boundary. Pioneer High School (located directly adjacent to the site) contains a number of nighttime security lighting sources throughout the campus. Additionally, due to the flat topography of the open parking lot, nighttime lighting from adjacent land uses is visible across the existing parking lot. Therefore, in the event any new nighttime lighting is visible, it is not expected to create a new sources of substantial light over existing conditions. Impacts would be less than significant and therefore no mitigation measures are necessary.

II. AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY RESOURCES

In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Department of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the State's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment Project; and forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board. **Would the project:**	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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 non-agricultural use?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b. Conflict with 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 Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d. Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	☐	☐	☐	☒
e. Involve other changes in the existing environment that, 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?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Discussion:

The California Department of Conservation (DOC) administers programs that support agricultural land conservation, which include the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program and the Land Conservation (Williamson Act) Program. The location of the project relative to Farmland and Williamson Act contracts is discussed below under Impacts II(a), II(b), and II(e). A discussion of project site relative to agricultural zoning and forest land is included under Impacts II(c), II(d), and II(e).

Impact Analysis:

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 NON-AGRICULTURAL USE?

CONSTRUCTION

NO IMPACT. According to the DOC Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program (FMMP), the project site is outside of the survey boundary for designated Farmland (DOC, 2017). No

designated Farmland would be converted as a result of project construction and there would be no construction impact under this criterion.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

NO IMPACT. As the project site is outside of the survey boundary for designated Farmland, project operations would not contribute to a long-term conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural use. No operation and maintenance impact would occur under this criterion.

b. CONFLICT WITH EXISTING ZONING FOR AGRICULTURAL USE, OR A WILLIAMSON ACT CONTRACT?

CONSTRUCTION

NO IMPACT. The project would not be located on designated Williamson Act land (DOC, 2016). The project site would occupy an existing parking lot that is surrounded by residential and commercial development to the west, north, and east, as well as a high school to the south. The site is zoned by the County as Residential Agriculture (R-A), which allows recreation facilities as a conditionally permitted use (County of Los Angeles, 2019a and 2019b). Construction of the project would not conflict with a Williamson Act contract nor would it conflict with agricultural zoning. There would be no construction impact under this criterion.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

NO IMPACT. As the project would not be located on, or in the vicinity of, designated Williamson Act land, project operations would not conflict with a Williamson Act contract. Furthermore, operation of the aquatics facility would be an allowable use (subject to a conditional use permit) within the site's current R-A zoning. There would be no conflict with agricultural zoning during operation and maintenance of the project.

c. CONFLICT WITH EXISTING ZONING FOR, OR CAUSE REZONING OF, FOREST LAND (AS DEFINED IN PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE SECTION 12220(G)), TIMBERLAND (AS DEFINED BY PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE SECTION 4526), OR TIMBERLAND ZONED TIMBERLAND PRODUCTION (AS DEFINED BY GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 51104(G))?

CONSTRUCTION

NO IMPACT. The project site is situated on an existing parking lot in an area that is zoned Residential Agriculture (R-A). The land surrounding the project site is fully developed with residential and commercial uses as well as a high school. No forest land or timberland is located at the project site or within the surrounding area. Project construction would not conflict with existing zoning for forest land or timberland, and there would be no construction impact under this criterion.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

NO IMPACT. Operation of the aquatics facility would be an allowable use (subject to a conditional use permit) within the site's current R-A zoning. No forest land or timberland zoning occurs within the area surrounding the project. As such, no operation and maintenance impact would occur under this criterion.

d. RESULT IN THE LOSS OF FOREST LAND OR CONVERSION OF FOREST LAND TO NON-FOREST USE?

CONSTRUCTION

NO IMPACT. As mentioned in Impact II(c) above, the project site is not located on any forest land. Project construction would not contribute to the loss of forest land, nor would project activities convert forest land to non-forest use. There would be no construction impact under this criterion.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

NO IMPACT. There is no forest land within the vicinity of the project site. Project operation and maintenance would not contribute to the long-term loss or conversion of forest land. There would be no operation and maintenance impact under this criterion.

e. INVOLVE OTHER CHANGES IN THE EXISTING ENVIRONMENT THAT, 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?

CONSTRUCTION

NO IMPACT. The project is not located within or adjacent to designated Farmland or forest land. There would be no construction impact under this criterion.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

NO IMPACT. The project is not located within or adjacent to designated Farmland or forest land. Operation and maintenance of the project would have no impact under this criterion.

III. AIR QUALITY

Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management district or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. **Would the project:**	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b. 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?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c. Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	☐	☒	☐	☐
d. Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Discussion:

Environmental Setting

The proposed Project site is in the unincorporated community of West Whittier-Los Nietos, west of the City of Whittier, within the South Coast Air Basin (SCAB) under the jurisdiction of the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD). Emissions from the construction and operation of the proposed Project would affect air quality in the immediate Project area and the surrounding areas.

The Project area has a climate that is characterized by hot, dry summers and cool winters with a moderate amount of seasonal precipitation that occurs primarily during the winter months. This inland area is less moderated by the Pacific Ocean, being warmer in the summer and cooler in the winter, than nearby coastal areas. The average summer (June to September) high and low temperatures in the Whittier area range from 90ºF to 61ºF. Average winter (December to March) high and low temperatures range from 74ºF to 47ºF. The average annual precipitation is approximately 15 inches with approximately 80 percent of the precipitation occurring between December and March (NOAA, 2019).

Regulatory Setting

Air quality is regulated at the federal (USEPA), state (CARB) and local level (SCAQMD). The SCAQMD is primarily responsible for planning, implementing, and enforcing federal and State ambient air quality standards within this portion of the SCAB. The USEPA, CARB, and the local air districts classify an area as attainment, unclassified, or nonattainment of the ambient air quality standards depending on whether the monitored ambient air quality data shows compliance, insufficient data available, or non-compliance with these standards; the National and California Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS and CAAQS). The SCAB is currently designated as nonattainment for the State and federal ozone and fine particulate matter (PM2.5) standards, the federal standard for lead, and the State respirable particulate matter (PM10) standard. The SCAB is designated as attainment, attainment/maintenance, or unclassified for all other State and federal standards (USEPA, 2019; CARB, 2019).

As part of its planning responsibilities, SCAQMD prepares Air Quality Management Plans and Attainment Plans as necessary based on the attainment status of the air basins within its jurisdiction. The SCAQMD is also responsible for permitting and controlling stationary source criteria and air toxic pollutants as delegated by the USEPA. The project does not include major

stationary sources, only small water heaters that would require registration but not stationary source permitting; therefore, the regulations that would apply to the project are limited. The specific CARB and SCAQMD rules and regulation that could apply to the project are as follows:

CARB Statewide Portable Equipment Registration Program (PERP) Regulation (CARB, 2011)

- This regulation applies to any portable stationary equipment, such as generators, that may be used during construction. The PERP establishes a uniform program to regulate portable engines and portable engine-driven equipment units. Once registered in the PERP, engines and equipment units may operate throughout California without the need to obtain individual permits from local air districts, as long as the equipment is located at a single location for no more than 12 months.

SCAQMD Rules and Regulations (SCAQMD, 2019)

- **Regulation 2 – Permits**. This regulation would apply to any stationary air pollutant emitting equipment constructed at the site that are not exempt from permitting under Rule 219 – Equipment not Requiring a Written Permit Pursuant to Regulation II. This regulation would also apply to portable stationary equipment not registered under the PERP program that might be used during construction. These stationary and portable equipment would need to obtain permits to construct and operate.
- **Rule 222 – Filing Requirements for Specific Emissions Sources Not Requiring a Written Permit Pursuant to Regulation II.** This rule requires that specific emissions sources, such as water heaters with heat input rates between 1,000,000 and 2,000,000 Btu per hour, file information for these emissions sources and provide annual use records.
- **Rule 401 – Visible Emissions**. This rule prohibits discharge of air contaminants or other materials that are as dark or darker in shade as designated No. 1 on the Ringelmann Chart, or at an equivalent opacity, for a period or periods greater than three minutes in one hour.
- **Rule 402 – Nuisance**. This rule prohibits discharge of air contaminants or other material that cause injury, detriment, nuisance, or annoyance to any considerable number of persons or to the public; or that endanger the comfort, repose, health, or safety of any such persons or the public; or that cause, or have a natural tendency to cause, injury or damage to business or property.
- **Rule 403 – Fugitive Dust**. The purpose of this rule is to control the amount of PM entrained in the atmosphere from man-made sources of fugitive dust. The rule prohibits emissions of fugitive dust from any active operation, open storage pile, or disturbed surface area to be visible beyond the emission source's property line. During Project construction, fugitive dust control measures identified in the rule would be required to minimize fugitive dust emissions from proposed earth moving, temporary storage pile(s), and unpaved vehicle travel activities. These measures would include watering as necessary to maintain sufficient soil moisture content, vehicle/equipment speed limits when on unpaved areas, bulk material haul truck freeboard or cover dust controls, and sediment track-out controls.
- **Rule 1113 – Architectural Coatings**. This regulation specifies the maximum volatile organic compound (VOC) content for various types of architectural coatings, such as flats, non-flats, and primers. This regulation would apply to all interior and exterior architectural coatings used at the site during construction and as needed later for site maintenance.
- **Rule 1146.2 – Emissions of Oxides of Nitrogen from Large Water Heaters and Small Boilers and Process Heaters**. This regulation covers water heaters and boilers that have a rated heat input capacity of 2,000,000 Btu/hr or less. The water heaters selected for the pool and other water heating are expected to be in this heat input capacity range. The regulation provides emissions standards for Type 1 and Type 2 units, where the heaters for this project

are expected to be Type 2 (>400,000 Btu/hr) heaters. For new Type 2-unit installations these emissions standards are:

- NO_X emissions level less than 14 nanograms of NO_X (calculated as NO_2) per joule of heat output or less than or equal to 20 ppm of NO_X emissions (at 3% oxygen, dry).
- CO emissions less than 400 ppm (at 3% oxygen, dry).

County of Los Angeles General Plan

In addition, the County of Los Angeles has several air quality[1] related goals and policies in the Air Quality Element of the General Plan (County of Los Angeles, 2015):

Goal AQ 1: Protection of exposure to harmful air pollutants

- **Policy AQ 1.1**: Minimize health risks to people from industrial toxic or hazardous air pollutant emissions, with an emphasis on local hot spots, such as existing point sources affecting immediate sensitive receptors.
- **Policy AQ 1.2**: Encourage the use of low or no volatile organic compound (VOC) emitting materials.
- **Policy AQ 1.3**: Reduce particulate inorganic and biological emissions from construction, grading, excavation, and demolition to the maximum extent feasible.
- **Policy AQ 1.4**: Work with local air quality management districts to publicize air quality warnings, and to track potential sources of airborne toxics from identified mobile and stationary sources.

Goal AQ 2: The reduction of air pollution and mobile source emissions through coordinated land use, transportation and air quality planning.

- **Policy AQ 2.1**: Encourage the application of design and other appropriate measures when siting sensitive uses, such as residences, schools, senior centers, daycare centers, medical facilities, or parks with active recreational facilities within proximity to major sources of air pollution, such as freeways.
- **Policy AQ 2.2**: Participate in, and effectively coordinate the development and implementation of community and regional air quality programs.
- **Policy AQ 2.3**: Support the conservation of natural resources and vegetation to reduce and mitigate air pollution impacts.
- **Policy AQ 2.4**: Coordinate with different agencies to minimize fugitive dust from different sources, activities, and uses.

Impact Analysis:

a. CONFLICT WITH OR OBSTRUCT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE APPLICABLE AIR QUALITY PLAN?

CONSTRUCTION

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. SCAQMD and Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) have developed air quality management plans (AQMPs) to meet the requirements of the Federal Clean Air Act. AQMPs were developed in 2003, 2007, 2012, and 2016 to address various federal non-attainment and attainment/maintenance planning

[1] Please see subsection VIII. Greenhouse Gas Emissions for the list of Climate Change policies that are included in the Air Quality Element of the General Plan.

requirements. These plans are incorporated into the State Implementation Plan by CARB and are then reviewed and approved or disapproved by USEPA. USEPA is currently reviewing the 2016 AQMP.

There are no applicable emissions reduction measures in these plans, that are not already part of approved regulations, that apply to the Project. There are no applicable emissions reduction measures in these plans, that are not already part of approved regulations, that apply to the Project. The Project does not include major stationary emissions sources, only small water heaters, so very few SCAQMD regulations apply to the Project, and the Project would comply with those applicable SCAQMD rules and regulations. Additionally, the proposed Project would not cause new growth during construction. Therefore, the proposed Project would not conflict with or obstruct the applicable air quality plans.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. There are no applicable emissions reduction measures in these plans, that are not already part of approved regulations, that apply to the Project. The Project does not include major stationary emissions sources, only small water heaters, so very few SCAQMD regulations apply to the Project, and the Project would comply with those applicable SCAQMD rules and regulations. Additionally, the proposed Project would not cause new growth during operation. Therefore, the proposed Project would not conflict with or obstruct the applicable air quality plans.

b. 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?

Pollutant emission calculations related to the proposed Project construction activities include the emissions from on-road vehicles and off-road equipment utilized during construction (see Project Description in Section 2); and include the fugitive dust emissions resulting from earthmoving activities, wind erosion, and vehicle travel. During operations project-direct emissions would come from the vehicles accessing the project site and from the water heaters.

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Works provided information used to estimate the proposed construction and operation activities. Air pollutant emissions from the proposed Project construction and operation were estimated using the SCAQMD approved CalEEMod program. The CalEEMod default assumptions for this project type (Recreational Swimming Pool Land Use Subtype) were used to help develop the construction schedule, off-road equipment needs, and vehicle trips. These default assumptions were amended as necessary and additional emissions source input assumptions (such as the water heater assumptions) were assigned within the program based on project specific assumptions determined from the information provided by the County, and to be consistent with operation vehicle trip assumptions used in the Transportation analysis that were updated to use the latest Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) Trip Generation Manual (the 10th edition versus the 9th edition used in CalEEMod). The specific assumptions regarding the construction phase schedule, equipment needs, and vehicle trips are provided in CalEEMod results output files that are attached as Appendix A. The CalEEMod mitigated emissions results, which are actually unmitigated emissions for the purposes of CEQA, only include applicable SCAQMD Rule 403 fugitive dust control requirements and the assumed applicable SCAQMD Rule 1146.2 emissions limit compliance for the pool/pool building water heaters. No other mitigation measures such as construction period off-road equipment or on-road vehicle tailpipe emissions mitigation are assumed.

CONSTRUCTION

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. Table 3-1 compares the maximum daily unmitigated construction emissions of the proposed Project with the SCAQMD regional emissions significance thresholds.

Table 3-1. Maximum Daily Unmitigated Construction Emissions

	VOC	CO	NO_X	SO_X	PM10	PM2.5
Total Maximum Daily Emissions (lbs/day)	6.17	25.47	30.03	0.07	2.78	1.39
SCAQMD Regional Significance Thresholds (lbs/day)	75	550	100	150	150	55
Exceeds Thresholds?	*No*	*No*	*No*	*No*	*No*	*No*

Source: Appendix A; SCAQMD, 2015

The maximum daily Project construction emissions have been determined to be below all SCAQMD regional significance thresholds, therefore Project construction impacts are less than significant.

While construction mitigation was not determined to be required under this impact, it was found to be necessary to reduce diesel particulate matter emissions during construction and to address potentially significant worst-case toxic air contaminant impacts which is evaluated below under Impact c. That mitigation will also affect the criteria pollutant emissions, so the worst-case daily mitigated emissions are presented below in Table 3-2.

Table 3-2. Maximum Daily Mitigated Construction Emissions

	VOC	CO	NO_X	SO_X	PM10	PM2.5
Total Maximum Daily Emissions (lbs/day)	5.10	27.97	22.50	0.06	1.99	0.66
SCAQMD Regional Significance Thresholds (lbs/day)	75	550	100	150	150	55
Exceeds Thresholds?	*No*	*No*	*No*	*No*	*No*	*No*

Source: Appendix A; SCAQMD, 2015

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. Table 3-3 compares the maximum daily unmitigated operation emissions of the proposed Project with the SCAQMD regional emissions significance thresholds.

Table 3-3. Maximum Daily Unmitigated Operation Emissions

Emissions Source	VOC	CO	NO_X	SO_X	PM10	PM2.5
Area Emissions	0.22	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mobile Emissions (incl. fugitive dust)	0.80	9.31	3.84	0.03	2.78	0.76
Stationary Source Emissions	0.78	13.84	3.46	0.08	1.07	1.07
Total Maximum Daily Emissions (lbs/day)	1.80	23.15	7.30	0.12	3.86	1.84
SCAQMD Regional Significance Thresholds (lbs/day)	55	550	55	150	150	55
Exceeds Thresholds?	*No*	*No*	*No*	*No*	*No*	*No*

Source: Appendix A; SCAQMD, 2015
Note: Maximum daily VOC, CO, SO_X, PM10, and PM2.5 emission occur during summer and maximum daily NO_X emissions occur during winter.

The maximum daily Project operation emissions have been determined to be well below all SCAQMD regional significance thresholds, therefore Project operation emissions impacts are less than significant.

c. EXPOSE SENSITIVE RECEPTORS TO SUBSTANTIAL POLLUTANT CONCENTRATIONS?

There are two specific impact issues that have been analyzed in regards to the proposed Project's potential to expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations, as follows:

- Localized short-term criteria pollutant concentration impacts
- Health-risk impacts from toxic air contaminant (TAC) emissions

SCAQMD Localized Significance Thresholds (LSTs) are used to determine if a project could exceed ambient air quality thresholds for nearby sensitive receptors. (see Project Description in Section 2). The LSTs were established by SCAQMD for each source receptor area (SRA) within their jurisdiction and represent on-site emission levels that could cause ambient air quality standard exceedances or substantial contributions to existing exceedances at given distances from the site to nearby receptor locations for four pollutants (CO, NO_2, PM10 and PM2.5). There are separate construction and operations thresholds for PM10 and PM2.5. The Project is located in SRA 5 (Southeast Los Angeles County), and the nearest sensitive receptors are residences located approximately 82 feet (25 meters) east of the project site across Danby Avenue, and there are a number of other residences and students and staff at Pioneer High School located as close as approximately 230 feet (70 meters) to the project site based on the nearest campus building.

CONSTRUCTION

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT WITH MITIGATION. Table 3-4 compares the maximum daily unmitigated construction emissions of the Project with the SCAQMD most conservative applicable LSTs. The LSTs were determined using the SCAQMD look up table (SCAQMD, 2009) for SRA 5 with the assumptions of the nearest receptors being located 82 feet (25 meters) from the construction site, where the active construction area at the time of the peak daily on-site emissions is conservatively assumed to be one acre in size (the entire project site is 2.3 acres). Appendix A includes detailed assumptions for the construction phases, including equipment and on-road vehicle use that are assumed to generate the maximum daily emissions.

Table 3-4. Maximum Localized Daily Unmitigated Construction Emissions

	CO	NO_X	PM10	PM2.5
Total Maximum Daily Emissions (lbs/day)	25.47	30.03	2.78	1.39
SCAQMD Localized Significance Thresholds (lbs/day)	571	80	4	3
Exceeds Thresholds?	*No*	*No*	*No*	*No*

Source: Appendix A; SCAQMD, 2009

Note: Maximum daily localized CO emissions occur during the building construction phase, and the maximum daily on-site construction NO_X, PM10, and PM2.5 emissions occur during the grading construction phase.

The maximum unmitigated daily localized Project construction emissions were determined to be below all SCAQMD localized significance thresholds. The maximum daily on-site emissions are a bit lower than the total daily emissions, as the total emissions includes off-site vehicle emissions.

While construction mitigation was not determined to be required under this impact, it was found to be necessary to address potential worst-case toxic air contaminant impacts. That mitigation will also affect the criteria pollutant emissions, so the worst-case daily mitigated emissions are presented below in Table 3-5.

Table 3-5. Maximum Localized Daily Mitigated Construction Emissions

	CO	NO_X	PM10	PM2.5
Total Maximum Daily Emissions (lbs/day)	27.97	22.50	1.99	0.66
SCAQMD Localized Significance Thresholds (lbs/day)	571	80	4	3
Exceeds Thresholds?	*No*	*No*	*No*	*No*

Source: Appendix A; SCAQMD, 2009
Note: Maximum daily localized CO and NO_X emissions occur during the pool construction phase (where when applying off-road equipment engine tier mitigation, the CO emissions increase marginally), and the maximum daily on-site construction PM10, and PM2.5 emissions occur during the grading construction phase.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. Table 3-6 compares the maximum daily unmitigated on-site construction emissions of the Project with the SCAQMD most conservative applicable LSTs. The LSTs were determined using the SCAQMD look up table (SCAQMD, 2009) for SRA 5 with the assumptions of the nearest receptors being located approximately 82 feet (25 meters) from the site, where the project site size of 2.3 acres is adjusted to the LST table input size of 2 acres. Appendix A includes detailed assumptions for the operations emissions estimate used to generate the maximum daily localized (on-site) emissions.

Table 3-6. Maximum Localized Daily Operations Emissions

	CO	NO_X	PM10	PM2.5
Stationary Source Emissions	13.84	3.46	1.07	1.07
SCAQMD Localized Significance Thresholds (lbs/day)	861	114	2	1
Exceeds Thresholds?	*No*	*No*	*No*	***YES***

Source: Appendix A; SCAQMD, 2009

The maximum unmitigated daily on-site localized Project operation emissions were determined to be below all SCAQMD localized significance thresholds, except for PM2.5 that is marginally above the SCAQMD LST.

The maximum daily PM2.5 emissions are conservatively estimated in two ways, first they assume full load for the project's water heaters for 24 hours, which would only occur when the pool is first heated or if it has to be reheated after a maintenance event. The average daily PM2.5 emissions, based on the CalEEMod annual PM2.5 emissions estimate derived from annual fuel use at similar County aquatics facilities would be 0.28 pounds per day. Second the CalEEMod program uses an old and generic USEPA emissions factor for PM2.5, where more recent information sources used in the European Environment Agency EMEP/EEA air pollutant emission inventory guidebook provides a more source type specific PM10/PM2.5 emissions factor for small natural gas fired boilers/heaters that is more than 5 times lower than the generic USEPA emissions factor used for all boiler types and sizes. Therefore, it is likely that the worst-case daily PM2.5 emissions would be below the LST threshold, and the average daily PM2.5 emissions would be well below the threshold.

However, even if the PM2.5 emissions are above the LST (which is a non-project specific screening level threshold), additional project specific impact analysis can be performed per

SCAQMD guidance to further assess the PM2.5 impact specifically for this project. The LST was designed to provide a conservative emissions value for all project types that would result in concentration impacts, the actual health based LST threshold, that are less than 2.5 µg/m^3 of PM2.5 for operation emissions. As noted in SCAQMD LST guidance (SCAQMD, 2008) if project emissions are above the LST table thresholds then project's emissions impacts can be further refined through more specific project-level emissions modeling. This modeling can be done at several levels from simple calculations to refined modeling using sophisticated modeling tools. Using the simplified calculation approach from the SCAQMD Risk Assessment Procedures guidelines (SCAQMD, 2017), this calculation can use table values for Chi/Q (a generic local area dispersion coefficient in the units of µg/m^3/(tons/year) multiplied by the emissions in terms of tons per year. Assuming full load operation year-round the PM2.5 emissions would be 0.195 tons/year, and the Chi/Q value for the local area (Pico Rivera) for this type of buoyant exhaust emissions source for receptors at approximately 82 feet (25 meters) from the source would be 11.03. The multiplied value of these two project specific inputs is 2.15 µg/m^3, which is less than the significance threshold of 2.5 µg/m^3. This simplified SCAQMD calculation approach is intentionally conservative, so more refined modeling would be expected to show maximum PM2.5 concentration that are even lower than those derived by this calculation. Therefore, it is determined that the Project's PM2.5 emissions would result in impacts that are below the SCAQMD LST threshold.

Therefore, after consideration of the conservative emissions estimate for the water heaters and their actual dispersion characteristics it has been determined that the Project's on-site operation emissions would be below all SCAQMD localized significance thresholds.

Toxic Air Contaminants (TAC) Health Risk Analysis

Emissions of air toxics include emissions from the short-term construction period for the proposed Project and long-term from operation. From a health risk perspective, the construction emissions impacts are primarily associated with the emissions of diesel particulate matter (DPM) from the diesel-fueled construction equipment operating at the Project site during construction, and the operating emission impacts are primarily related to the emissions from the natural gas fired on-site water heaters. There are transportation emissions during construction and operation, but those emissions are spread over a large area and are not substantial at the project site.

The on-site DPM emissions during construction would occur over a relatively short period (approximately 12 months) in relation to life-time exposure periods; however, DPM has a high cancer potency. Given the fact that there are adjacent residential receptors, a health risk assessment of the Project's construction emissions was completed. Health risk assessments can be completed using more conservative screening level methods to more sophisticated refined modeling methods that include air dispersion modeling techniques. An initial screening level approach from SCAQMD risk assessment guidance was completed by determining a conservative worst-case concentration based on the annualized on-site DPM emissions of 0.112 tons (0.178 tons per the CalEEMod emissions estimate in Appendix A over a 19 month construction schedule) multiplied by the SCAQMD published Chi/Q (X/Q) dispersion factor (units of [µg/m^3]/[ton/year]) for diesel engines (rating between 400 and 600 break horsepower [bhp] and use less than 12 hours per day) that have a downwind distance of approximately 82 feet (25 meters) in the project area's Source Receptor Area (SRA) meteorological station (Pico Rivera). This value in Table 10.4 A in the SCAQMD guidance manual appendix is 8.67 (SCAQMD, 2017). Therefore, the maximum concentration value using this screening technique is 0.112 tons/year x 8.67 = 0.975 µg/m^3. Using this concentration of DPM in the OEHHA/ARB Risk Assessment Standalone Tool (RAST) model the worst-case risks, using the worst-case two-year exposure period (two-years was used as RAST does not have the ability

to model between one- and two-year exposures, so a conservative assumption of two years was used), which starts in the third trimester, these worst-case screening level risks are calculated to be 334 x 10^{-6} for cancer and a chronic health index of 0.195 (diesel emissions do not have acute health risk reference exposure levels, so acute impacts are not provided in RAST for diesel emissions). SCAQMD has published TACs health risk significance thresholds of 10 in a million (10 x 10^{-6}) for increased cancer risk and scores of more than 1.0 for chronic and acute hazard indices (SCAQMD, 2015). Therefore, the screening level cancer risk is over twenty times greater than the significance threshold and the screening level chronic risk is below the significance level.

A refined modeling analysis was performed using air dispersion modeling to identify a more realistic worst-case cancer risk for the Project's construction. This modeling analysis used project specific assumptions regarding the emissions release (stack parameter and locations for different types of work and emissions at the site), a representative meteorological file from the SCAQMD website (Pico Rivera), and modeled receptor locations set at the nearest sensitive receptor locations surrounding the site (See Appendix A for the air dispersion modeling details). This refined modeling analysis, using the current USEPA/ARB approved AERMOD air dispersion model, determined a maximum average annual receptor concentration of 0.161 µg/m^3 (for a residential receptor north of the Project site). The resulting refined worst-case cancer risk determined using the RAST model is 55 x 10^{-6}.

The refined modeling analysis identified that DPM emissions reductions would be necessary to reduce the worst-case cancer risk. Therefore, CalEEMod was run again with the mitigation approach that all off-road equipment greater than 75 horsepower would meet the interim Tier 4 engine emissions standards. This, enhanced mitigation approach provided a large reduction in DPM emissions (from 0.178 tons unmitigated down to 0.024 tons). Air dispersion modeling of the mitigated emissions determined a worst-case sensitive receptor annual concentration of 0.01916 µg/m^3. The resulting refined worst-case cancer risk determined using the RAST model is 6.55 x 10^{-6}, which is below the significance threshold of 10 x 10^{-6}.

While the Project operation natural gas water heater TAC emissions would be low, those TAC emissions and related worst-case health risk were evaluated to be sure that their addition to the construction emissions would not create significant health risk impacts. The TAC emissions were developed using SCAQMD AB 2588 guidance emissions factors for natural gas combustion sources with a heat input rate below 10 million Btu per hour (SCAQMD, 2016). Using the screening level techniques noted previously, with a revised minimum distance to receptor of approximately 164 feet (50 meters) for the water heater exhausts, that accounts for their specific location onsite, using the appropriate guidance table (Tables 8.2 B, and 8.8), the lookup value the X/Q dispersion factor is 1.73 for cancer and chronic impacts and 52.72 for acute impacts. Combining this dispersion factor and the determined TAC emissions, the worst-case screening level long-term health risk for the water heaters was determined to be 0.19 x 10^{-6} for cancer risk and health index impacts of 0.0003 and 0.0007 for chronic and acute health impacts, respectively (See Appendix A for more details on the health risk assessment assumptions). These risk values alone and combined with the worst-case mitigated construction health risks are below the TAC health risk significance thresholds.

Mitigation Measure. The potential Cancer Health Risk impacts described above would be less than significant with the implementation of the following mitigation measure.

AQ-1 Off-Road Equipment Engine Standard. Diesel fueled off-road equipment with engines larger than or equal to 75 horsepower used during project construction shall meet USEPA/ARB Tier 4 (interim Tier 4 or final Tier 4) engine standards. Diesel fueled

off-road equipment with engines smaller than 75 horsepower used during project construction shall meet or exceed USEPA/ARB Tier 3 engine standards.

In summary, it is concluded that the project's construction and operation criteria pollutant and TAC emissions, after mitigation, would not be of a magnitude that could expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations. The operations impacts to sensitive receptors, including health risk impacts, would be less than significant with mitigation.

d. RESULT IN OTHER EMISSIONS (SUCH AS THOSE LEADING TO ODORS) ADVERSELY AFFECTING A SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF PEOPLE?

CONSTRUCTION

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. Potentially objectionable odors would be temporarily created during the Project's construction activities, primarily from paving operations required for the Project's parking lot. However, these asphalt odors would occur only for a few days at most and these are odors that are not overly offensive and that are regularly experienced in a suburban neighborhood. Other minor odor sources during construction include tailpipe emissions from on-road and off-road equipment used during construction. These minor and temporary odors are not expected to adversely affect the neighborhood residents or Pioneer staff and students.

Fugitive dust emissions can also create a nuisance that can cause adverse effects. The project would comply with the SCAQMD Rule 403 dust control requirements and so should not have substantial fugitive dust emissions during construction that could adversely affect a substantial number of people.

Therefore, during construction the project would not result in other emissions that could adversely affect a substantial number of people and would have less than significant impacts.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. Project operation and maintenance would not include highly objectionable odor sources. Minor odor sources during operation include tailpipe emissions from on-road delivery vehicles and potentially minor chlorine odors from the pool. The pool heater exhausts should not create any noticeable odors. These minor odor sources, which also exist at Pioneer High School from the existing school's pool and the daily commute and delivery traffic, would not be expected to pose a significant concern. The project would not cause a large amount of airborne dust or other emissions that could cause a nuisance or otherwise adversely affect a substantial number of people surrounding the project site.

Therefore, during operation the project would not result in other emissions that could adversely affect a substantial number of people and would have less than significant impacts.

IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. 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 regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife 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 Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c. Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (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 a 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?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Discussion:

This section presents a description of the biological resources potentially present on site, followed by an assessment of potential impacts to these resources and mitigation measures designed to offset potential impacts to these resources, where possible.

Environmental Setting

The proposed project is located at Pioneer High School, 10800 Ben Avon Street, Whittier, in the unincorporated community of West Whittier-Los Nietos. The project site is developed as a paved existing parking lot serving Pioneer High School. It is bordered immediately to the west by Pioneer Blvd., with commercial businesses and the 605 Freeway further to the west. To the north, the site is bounded by Washington Blvd. and a residential neighborhood, and to the east by Danby Ave. and another residential neighborhood. The high school campus borders the project site to the south.

The project site and surrounding area are completely developed and urbanized, and no natural habitat occurs. The parking lot includes several dispersed ornamental trees and planters with landscaping. This analysis assumes all five of the existing ornamental trees and the other existing landscaping would be removed during construction of the proposed project. As shown on Figure 2-2, the proposed project would install new perimeter landscaping around the site; which may include ornamental trees.

The California Natural Diversity Database (CDFW, 2019) was reviewed to ascertain the special-status species known from the region. The project and surrounding area consist of urban development, and no special-status species have been recorded on or would be expected to occur on or near the project site. Occurrences of special-status species within one mile of the project are all historic records (pre-1900), and include bank swallow (*Riparia riparia*), least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*), and Crotch bumble bee (*Bombus crotchii*). These species are all considered extirpated due to development (CDFW, 2019).

The nearest open space area supporting natural habitat are the Puente Hills, which is separated from the project site by over 2.5 miles of urban development. The San Gabriel River channel, approximately 0.5 miles to the west and separated from the project site by the 605 freeway and urban development, may also support special-status species when vegetation conditions are suitable (this area is maintained as a flood control channel).

Impact Analysis:

a. 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 REGULATIONS, OR BY THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE OR U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE?

CONSTRUCTION

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION INCORPORATED. The proposed project site is fully developed, and no special-status plants, invertebrates, fish, reptiles, amphibians, or mammals have the potential to occur. The project site contains no natural nesting or foraging habitat for special-status birds. However, some common urban-adapted birds such as mourning dove (*Zenaida macroura*), black phoebe (*Sayornis nigricans*), and house finch (*Carpodacus mexicanus*), have the potential to nest within ornamental trees and planters in the existing parking lot, all of which are assumed to be removed during construction. Although these urban-adapted species do not have any special conservation status, their nests are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the California Fish and Game Code. Construction activities at the project site could result in direct impacts to active nests or indirect impacts from construction noise, dust, or nighttime lighting. Active nests are those that contain eggs, nestlings, or fledglings that are still dependent on the nest. The MBTA regulates the needless destruction of an active bird nest, and any destruction of active nests or activities that cause an active nest to fail (such as through parental abandonment of an active nest from project-related disturbance) would be considered a significant impact and a violation of the MBTA and Sections 3503, 3503.5, 3505, 3800, and 3801.6 of the California Fish and Game Code.

Mitigation Measure. The Impacts described above would be less than significant with the implementation of the following mitigation measures.

BIO-1 Conduct Pre-construction Surveys for Nesting and Breeding Birds and Implement Avoidance Measures. If construction will occur during the bird breeding season (February 1 through August 31), prior to construction activities (i.e., mobilization, staging, grading) a qualified avian biologist shall be in place to conduct pre-construction surveys for nesting and breeding birds. Surveys for nesting birds will be conducted within all ornamental landscaping and trees on the project site.

Measures intended to exclude nesting birds shall not be implemented without prior approval by CDFW and USFWS.

If breeding birds with active nests are found prior to or during construction, the qualified avian biologist shall establish a 300-foot buffer (500 foot for raptors) around the nest and no activities will be allowed within the buffer(s) until the young have fledged from the nest or the nest fails. If birds are found to be nesting in construction equipment and the nests contain eggs or young, buffers as described above shall be implemented.

The prescribed buffers may be adjusted by the qualified avian biologist based on existing conditions around the nest, planned construction activities, tolerance of the species, and other pertinent factors. The qualified avian biologist shall conduct regular monitoring of the nest to determine success/failure and to ensure that project activities are not conducted within the buffer(s) until the nesting cycle is complete or the nest fails. The avian biologist shall be responsible for documenting the results of the surveys, nest buffers implemented, and presenting the results in ongoing monitoring reports.

If trees with nests are to be removed as part of proposed project construction activities, this will be done outside of the nesting season to avoid additional impacts to nesting birds. If removal during the nesting season cannot be avoided, all trees will be inspected for active nests by the avian biologist. If nests are found within these trees and contain eggs or young, no activities within a 300-foot buffer for nesting birds and/or a 500-foot buffer for nesting raptors shall occur until the young have fledged the nest.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

NO IMPACT. The project site would be fully developed, as it currently is. No impacts to special-status biological resources would occur during construction and operation. The project would install new landscaping, potentially including new ornamental trees, around the perimeter of the site (see Figure 2-2). Because the site is in an urbanized area, once new landscaping is established urban-adapted birds are expected to utilize the ornamental plants similar to pre-project conditions. No new impacts would be introduced, and no mitigation is required.

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 WILDLIFE OR U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE?

CONSTRUCTION

NO IMPACT. The project site is a developed, paved parking lot bordered by roads, residential development, commercial development, and Pioneer High School. No native habitat occurs, and there would be no impact to riparian or other sensitive vegetation.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

NO IMPACT. The project site will be fully developed and bordered by roads, residential development, commercial development, and Pioneer High School. No native habitat occurs, and there would be no impact to riparian or other sensitive vegetation from O&M activities.

c. HAVE A SUBSTANTIAL ADVERSE EFFECT ON STATE OR FEDERALLY PROTECTED WETLANDS (INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, MARSH, VERNAL POOL, COASTAL,

ETC.) THROUGH DIRECT REMOVAL, FILLING, HYDROLOGICAL INTERRUPTION, OR OTHER MEANS?

CONSTRUCTION

NO IMPACT. The project site is a developed, paved parking lot bordered by roads, residential development, commercial development, and Pioneer High School. No wetlands or other jurisdictional features occur, and there would be no impact to state or federally protected wetlands.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

NO IMPACT. The project site will be fully developed and bordered by roads, residential development, commercial development, and Pioneer High School. No wetlands or other jurisdictional features occur, and there would be no impact to state or federally protected wetlands.

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?

CONSTRUCTION

NO IMPACT. The project site is a developed, paved parking lot bordered by roads, residential development, commercial development, and Pioneer High School. No native habitat occurs on or adjacent to the site, and there would be no impact to wildlife movement, movement corridors, or native wildlife nursery sites.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

NO IMPACT. The project site will be fully developed and bordered by roads, residential development, commercial development, and Pioneer High School. No native habitat occurs on or adjacent to the site, and there would be no impact to wildlife movement, movement corridors, or native wildlife nursery sites.

e. CONFLICT WITH ANY LOCAL POLICIES OR ORDINANCES PROTECTING BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES, SUCH AS A TREE PRESERVATION POLICY OR ORDINANCE?

CONSTRUCTION

NO IMPACT. The proposed Project would result in the removal of up to five ornamental trees from the existing parking lot. Because tree removals would only affect ornamental trees within landscaped areas of the site, the proposed Project would not conflict with the County of Los Angeles Oak Tree Ordinance (22.56.2060). Neither construction nor operation of the proposed Project would conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

NO IMPACT. Once operational, the project may include ornamental trees in its landscaping. However, ornamental trees are not covered by any tree preservation policy or ordinance and regular maintenance of the landscaping would have no impact with regard to local plans and policies protecting biological resources.

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?

CONSTRUCTION

NO IMPACT. The project site is not within the boundary of any adopted habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan. No impact would occur.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

NO IMPACT. The project site is not within the boundary of any adopted habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan. No impact would occur.

V. CULTURAL RESOURCES

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to in §15064.5?	☐	☒	☐	☐
b. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?	☐	☒	☐	☐
c. Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries?	☐	☒	☐	☐

Discussion:

REGULATORY SETTING

This section contains a discussion of the applicable laws, ordinances, regulations, and policies that govern cultural resources and must be adhered to both prior to and during project implementation.

FEDERAL

When a project, activity, or program is proposed that is under the direct or indirect jurisdiction of a Federal agency, including those requiring a Federal permit, license or approval, the project becomes an "undertaking". In this case, review by the USACE for a Federal Section 404 permit application process is required. The permit process itself is the undertaking under Section 106 of the NHPA.

National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as Amended (36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 800) sets forth the responsibilities that federal agencies must meet regarding cultural resources. Based on Section 106 and its implementing regulations in 36 CFR Part 800, federal agencies must conduct the necessary studies and consultations to identify cultural resources that may be affected by an undertaking, evaluate cultural resources that may be affected to determine if they are eligible for the NRHP (that is, whether identified resources constitute historic properties), and assess whether such historic properties would be adversely affected. Historic properties are resources that are listed in or eligible for listing in the NRHP (36 CFR 800.16[l][1]). A property may be listed in the NRHP if it meets criteria provided in the NRHP regulations (36 CFR 60.4). Typically, such properties must also be 50 years or older (36 CFR 60.4[d]).

STATE

California Register of Historical Resources. CEQA requires a lead agency to determine whether a project would have a significant effect on one or more historical resources. A "historical resource" is defined as a resource listed in or determined to be eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR) (California Public Resources Code [PRC], Section 21084.1); a resource included in a local register of historical resources (14 California Code of Regulations [CCR], Section 15064.5[a][2]); or any object, building, structure, site, area, place, record, or manuscript that a lead agency determines to be historically significant (14 CCR 15064.5[a][3]).

Section 5024.1 of PRC, Section 15064.5 of the State CEQA Guidelines (14 CCR), and Sections 21083.2 and 21084.1 of the CEQA Statutes were used as the basic guidelines for the cultural resources study. PRC 5024.1 requires evaluation of historical resources to determine their eligibility for listing on the CRHR. The purposes of the CRHR are to maintain listings of the State's

historical resources and to indicate which properties are to be protected from substantial adverse change. The criteria for listing resources in the CRHR were expressly developed to be in accordance with criteria developed for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) (per the criteria listed in the Code of Federal Regulations [CFR], Title 36, Section 60.4) and include those listed below.

A resource may be listed as an historical resource in the CRHR if it meets any of the following criteria:

(1) Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California's history and cultural heritage.
(2) Is associated with the lives of persons important in our past.
(3) Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, or represents the work of an important creative individual, or possesses high artistic values or
(4) Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

According to Section 15064.5(a)(3)(A–D) of the State CEQA Guidelines (14 CCR), a resource is considered historically significant if it meets the criteria for listing in the NRHP per the criteria listed at 36 CFR 60.4. Impacts that affect those characteristics of the resource that qualify it for the NRHP or that would adversely alter the significance of a resource listed in or eligible for listing in the CRHR are considered to have a significant effect on the environment. Impacts to cultural resources from the proposed project are thus considered significant if the project

(1) physically destroys or damages all or part of a resource;

(2) changes the character of the use of the resource or physical feature within the setting of the resource that contributes to its significance; or

(3) introduces visual, atmospheric, or audible elements that diminish the integrity of significant features of the resource.

The purpose of a Phase I cultural resources investigation is to evaluate whether any cultural resources are present in or near the project area or can reasonably be expected to exist in subsurface contexts. If resources are discovered, management recommendations would be included that require evaluation of the resources for NRHP or CRHR eligibility.

Human Remains**.** Section 7050.5 of the California Health and Safety Code provides for the disposition of accidentally discovered human remains. Section 7050.5 states that, if human remains are found, no further excavation or disturbance of the site or any nearby area reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent remains shall occur until the County Coroner has determined the appropriate treatment and disposition of the human remains.

Section 5097.98 of the PRC states that, if remains are determined by the Coroner to be of Native American origin, the Coroner must notify the Native American Heritage Commission within 24 hours which, in turn, must identify the person or persons it believes to be the most likely descended from the deceased Native American. The descendants shall complete their inspection within 48 hours of being granted access to the site. The designated Native American representative would then determine, in consultation with the property owner, the disposition of the human remains.

LOCAL

The Los Angeles County General Plan 2035 - Conservation Natural Resources Element addresses the preservation and protection of Historic, Cultural, and Paleontological Resources. Chapter 9, Section VIII lists the following policies established for resource protection:

Policy C/NR 14.1: Mitigate all impacts from new development on or adjacent to historic, cultural, and paleontological resources to the greatest extent feasible.

Policy C/NR 14.2: Support an inter-jurisdictional collaborative system that protects and enhances historic, cultural, and paleontological resources.

Policy C/NR 14.3: Support the preservation and rehabilitation of historic buildings.

Policy C/NR 14.4: Ensure proper notification procedures to Native American tribes in accordance with Senate Bill 18 (2004).

Policy C/NR 14.5: Promote public awareness of historic, cultural, and paleontological resources.

Policy C/NR 14.6: Ensure proper notification and recovery processes are carried out for development on or near historic, cultural, and paleontological resources.

CULTURAL BACKGROUND
ETHNOGRAPHIC BACKGROUND

Gabrielino-Kizh

At the time of Spanish contact, the project area was inhabited by the Gabrielino (see Kroeber 1925; Harrington 1933; Johnston 1962; Blackburn 1963; Heizer 1968; Bean and Smith 1978; McCawley 1996). The name “Gabrielino” identifies those people who came under the control of Mission San Gabriel Arcángel and included the inhabitants of most of current-day Los Angeles and Orange Counties and portions of Riverside and San Bernardino Counties. Today, the descendants of the Gabrielino prefer to be known as Kizh (Stickel 2017) According to ethnographic evidence, the Gabrielino territory included the coastal plain of Los Angeles and Orange Counties extending from Topanga Canyon in the north to Aliso Creek in the south, and eastward of Mount Rubidoux in Western Riverside County. Their territory also included Santa Catalina, San Clemente, and San Nicolas Islands.

Unfortunately, the Gabrieleno are one of the least documented of the native peoples of California because they were one of the first groups to suffer the effects of foreign diseases brought by the Spanish and the subsequent migration of foreigners who arrived in the region (Bean and Smith 1978). Fortunately, ethnographic studies conducted by J.P. Harrington (1933), Alfred Kroeber (1925), and others in the early 20th century provide some insight into the culture of the Gabrieleno. Linguists have determined that the Gabrieleno language derived from one of the Cupan languages in the Takic family, a part of the Uto-Aztecan linguistic stock (Bean and Smith 1978). Linguistic evidence indicates that the Gabrieleno or their ancestors migrated from the Great Basin area. Linguistic analysis suggests that, at one time, the entire Southern California coastal region was populated by Hokan speakers who were gradually separated and displaced by Takic-speaking immigrants from the Great Basin area (Bean and Smith 1978; Cameron 1999). The timing and extent of the migrations and their impact on indigenous peoples is not well understood, and any data related to it represents a valuable contribution to the understanding of local prehistory.

Gabrieleno territory occupied one of the richest environmental habitats in all of California. The territory included four macro-environments: the Interior Mountains/Adjacent Foothills, the Prairie, the Exposed Coast, and the Sheltered Coast (Bean and Smith 1978). These diverse microenvironments, and the resources contained within each, enabled the Gabrieleno to develop one of the most complex cultures of any of the native California groups. The abundance of resources provided many opportunities for the Gabrieleno to exploit native plants and animals. This, in turn, allowed the population to settle in small villages throughout the territory.

Permanent villages evolved in resource-rich areas near rivers, streams, and along the coast. Secondary, or satellite, villages were also established nearby. The Gabrieleno traditionally constructed two types of dwellings: the subterranean pit house and the thatched lean-to. The pit house was constructed by excavating approximately two feet below the surface and constructing the walls and roof with wooden beams and earth around the excavation pit. The lean-to, or wickiup, was constructed of thatched walls and thatched roof, surrounded by large converging poles. A hearth located inside the structure provided warmth. Hearths used for cooking were located outside. Sweathouses were used as a meeting place for the men (Kroeber 1925; Bean and Smith 1978). The sweat house was a place a daily use without a ritual element.

The material culture of the Gabrieleno reflected an elaborately developed artistic style and an adaptation to the various environments within their territory. This artistic style was often manifested in elaborate shell bead and asphaltum ornamentation on many utilitarian items (e.g., bone awl handles, bowl, or mortar rims). Spear and bow and arrow were used for hunting, while manos and metates, as well as mortars and pestles, were used for processing plant and animal material into food items. The Gabrieleno were also known for their high quality of basketry made from rush stems (Juncus sp.), native grass (Muhlenbergia rigens), and squawbush (Rhus trilobata) (Bean and Smith 1978:542).

Settlements

Historians, anthropologists, ethnographers and archaeologists have spent the last 100+ years attempting to reconstruct Gabrielino historic and prehistoric settlement systems. Researchers have relied heavily on the diaries of the early Spanish explorers and the baptismal, confirmation, marriage and death registers maintained by the San Gabriel and San Fernando Mission priests beginning in 1772. Add to this the correspondence between the priests, the church hierarchy, and soldiers' reports. Early ethnographic studies by John Peabody Harrington and others add substantial information to the effort of locating former Gabrielino settlements.

King (1971, 1990, 2004, 2011, 2014) provides the most exhaustive synthesis of information available on the known and estimated locations of the Gabrielino clan settlements noted in the registers and from ethnographic data. Unfortunately, the effort is wrought with difficulty and location information is more often imprecise. The difficulties of locating former settlements recorded in the Registers is compounded by the extensive development throughout the Los Angeles Basin that has graded, buried or outright destroyed the old settlements. And then there is the concern for the older settlements that had been abandoned in prehistory and subsequently eroded or buried by the Los Angeles, Hondo and San Gabriel Rivers. One such settlement is historic *Juyubit.*

King (2011:21) notes the likely location of *Juyubit* near the Project area. Still other sources place *Juyubit* near the Rose Hills (Salas 2019: Pers. Comm.). This is a particularly important concern as Juyubit was the largest of the Gabrielino clans. No specific resource has yet been recorded as the location of this important settlement.

PREHISTORIC BACKGROUND

Several chronologies have been suggested over the last 90 years to describe the sequence of the prehistoric periods of Southern California native peoples that preceded the Gabrieleno. William Wallace (1955) developed the first comprehensive California chronology germane to the APE and did it without the benefit of radiocarbon dating. Douglass, et al. (2005) synthesize eight chronologies pertaining to prehistoric and historic cultures from Santa Barbara to Orange County that span the last 10,000 years. The Wallace chronology, however, stands as the best fit for the prehistory of the Los Angeles Basin and coastal areas. Recent work by Grenda, et al. (2014:23-

47) have confirmed its applicability while also providing some interesting refinements. By convention all age ranges are presented here as calendar years (BP) (Table 3-7).

Table 3.7 Chronology of the Los Angeles Basin

Period	Years Spanned (BP)
Historical	170 - 250
Protohistoric	250 - 500
Late Prehistoric	500 - 1000
Late Intermediate	1000 - 1500
Early Intermediate	1500 - 3500
Late Millingstone	3500 - 5000
Middle Millingstone Occupational Hiatus	5000 - 6000
Early Millingstone	6000 - 8500
Paleocoastal	8500 - 13,500 +

Paleocoastal Period (8500 - 13,500 + Years Ago)

The Paleocoastal period in the Los Angeles Basin and coastal plain is only vaguely understood. Sites from this time period are characterized by an abundance of ground stone artifacts, stone ornaments, large projectile points, and charmstones. These first peoples of the area frequently settled in grassland and sagebrush communities on elevated landforms. Some sites in Los Angeles and Orange County areas have yielded radiocarbon dates older than 9000 BP - specifically, the Malaga Cove site (LAN-138), the La Brea Tar Pits site (LAN- 159), the Haverty or Angeles Mesa site (LAN-171) and the Irvine site (ORA-64).

Millingstone Period (3500 – 8500 Years Ago)

The Millingstone period spans approximately 5,500-years beginning around 8500 BP. The Millingstone period is a time period when milling implements (manos and metates), and relatively coarse tools for hunting and working a variety of materials were common. Hunting tools, dart points and spear points, are sparsely represented along with the mammals that would normally have been acquired by them. There are some fascinating developments evident at some noteworthy Millingstone sites, particularly ORA-64 on the bluffs above Newport Bay and ORA-83 on the bluffs at Bolsa Chica. These sites exhibit novel characteristics including craft specialization (stone discs, bone bead production and ceramics effigies at ORA-64 and Cogged Stone production at ORA-83). On top of these traits is clear evidence of very long-distance trade between southern California and the northwest Great Basin.

Early Intermediate Period (1500 – 3500 Years Ago)

Recent analysis by Sutton (2009) has argued that from the end of the Millingstone period, ca. 3500 cal BP, through the early Intermediate period (ending ca. 1500 BP), there was an initial entry of Takic groups (proto Gabrieleno/Cupan branch) into the region. These Takic groups are likely the first wave of Gabrielino peoples who replaced the existing late Millingstone groups along the coast. The archaeological record reflects this major change in recent archaeological studies of the Ballona Wetlands (Grenda et al. 2014).

Late Intermediate Period (1000 – 1500 Years Ago)

The Late Intermediate shows an increase in settlement size and duration, as well as the introduction of features that are suggested to indicate greater ritual complexity. Greater sophistication in technology occurs through this period, which includes the introduction of the bow and arrow and the earliest forma of plank boats that enabled faster and more efficient seafaring.

Late Prehistoric Period (500 – 1000 Years Ago)

The Late period begins around 1000 BP and ends with European contact in a.d. 1542. This period included population growth along much of the southern California coast. Even considering differential preservation that would suggest that younger sites would be less exposed to erosion and destruction than older sites, there are still more sites and a greater variety of sites with greater internal differentiation than from any other time in prehistory. Villages contain site layouts with numerous diverse features, such as houses, sweatlodges, hearths, earth ovens, food processing and preparation, tool manufacture, ritual enclosures and burial grounds. The latter contain offerings that strongly suggest a recognition of inherited status, wealth and position. The Late period village middens have been documented to measure more than 4.5 m (15 feet) in thickness and, depending on disturbance, contain large quantities of domestic tolls used in hunting, fishing and food processing along with trade goods of shell, bone and stone.

Protohistoric Period (200 – 500 Years Ago)

The Protohistoric period begins with the first contact with Spanish explorers in 1542 during the voyage of Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo. The date of this period is arbitrary in that influences by the early explorers was spotty at first. It is likely that the cultural complexities evident in Late Prehistoric Gabrielino society remained status quo, but this would soon change.

Cabrillo's ship had landed in San Pedro and noted many cooking fires from the many villages. Not long afterwards, in 1565, the development of the China trade between Manila, Acapulco, Mexico and Callao, Peru began with the Manila Galleon trade routes. The route took vessels clockwise around the Pacific with the final leg to Acapulco skirting the California coast. The trip would require at least six months, and it is presumed that ships would require some restocking of supplies after the long crossing from Japan. No documented Spanish excursions are known in this area for the next 100 years, probably due to difficult logistics in settling the remote Alta California. Eventually the Spanish did begin a land expedition in 1769 for the purpose of settling Alta California considering Russian and British empires' desire to establish a foothold. The following 60 years would see overwhelming changes in demographics, population size, and cultural practices for the Gabrielino.

Historical Period (195 – 245 Years Ago)

The Historical period spans the time of Mission settlement in 1771 until its close in 1821 when Mexico secularized the missions and ordered lands returned to native peoples and Mexican settlers. Mission San Gabriel was initially established in 1771 on the Rio Hondo in the area of Whittier Narrows. The mission was moved to its current location in San Gabriel in 1775 mainly because of flooding, but also because of conflicts with nearby villages of Sibangna and/or Houtngna that suggested a greater separation was required. The Historical period ends in 1821 with the secularization of the mission system. This was the beginning of the end for Gabrielino culture as they once knew it. The native people changed from skilled hunters, fisherman, foragers and craftsmen to a labor force to build and maintain the mission, its fields and herds. While the Spanish certainly held to their good intentions to bring the heathens into the fold of Christianity, it had many unintended consequences for which the Gabrielino paid a heavy price.

Rancho Period (195 – 170 Years Ago)

The Rancho Period was quite short but very hard on the Gabrielino. While the intention of the secularization of the missions was to return land to the native peoples to support themselves, the actual result was to award large ranchos to the settlers of means. The Gabrielino were relegated to labor and no ownership of land prior to this time, and most became further marginalized following secularization. The surviving Gabrielino were quickly assimilated into the ranchos as field hands and laborers, as they had been in that line of work for previous 50 years. The Rancho

Period ends with the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo in 1848 and California's statehood in 1850. By the end of the Rancho Period the population of the Gabrielino had been reduced by almost 70% from the toll taken by the introduction of diseases, mostly infectious, such as small pox, influenza, dysentery, malaria, measles, and syphilis. There was also American exploration of the area, though very limited.

American Period (170 Years Ago – Present)

The American period began with a rush of settlers heading west to settle California, not the least of which was influenced by the gold in rush. The Homestead Act of 1862 greatly accelerated America's move west due to its expedient granting of public land to private owners. The first Homestead grant in Whittier was a quarter section to Jacob Gerkens in 1868. Gerkens was a German immigrant who raised sheep in the Puente Hills and later became the Chief of Police for the City of Los Angeles in 1877. Remains of his home are the oldest residence in Whittier roughly two miles northeast of the Project.

Gerkens property changed hands after he took his new position as Chief of Police, and it eventually became part of the large Thomas Ranch in Whittier. A consortium of Quakers bought the Thomas Ranch in 1887 and set out to establish a Quaker colony under the guidance of the Pickering Land and Water Company. The establishment of the railroad at this same time ushered in a steady growth in the community into the 20th century.

The project site remained peripheral to the development of Whittier and was maintained as agricultural land. After World War II the project site was surrounded by widespread residential development. But the project site saw no other improvements.

METHODS

Archaeological Resources Records Search. Aspen Cultural Resource Manager, Michael E. Macko, MA, RPA, conducted a records search and literature review of documents on file at the South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC) at California State University, Fullerton on July 7, 2019. The SCCIC is a designated branch of the California Historical Resources Information System and houses records regarding archaeological and historic resources in Orange, Los Angeles, Ventura and San Bernardino Counties. Mr. Macko reviewed the U.S. Geological Survey's (USGS) 7.5-minute Whittier Quadrangle to identify cultural resources sites that have been recorded and studies that have been conducted within a one-mile radius of the Project site. Data sources consulted at the SCCIC included archaeological records, Archaeological Determinations of Eligibility (DOE), historic maps, and the Historic Property Data File (HPDF) maintained by the Office of Historic Preservation (OHP). The HPDF contains listings for the CRHR and/or the NRHP, California Historical Landmarks (CHL), and California Points of Historical Interest (CPHI).

Other records of importance include historic aerial and map data at a number of repositories and online sources.

RESULTS

Cultural Resources Records Search Results. The record search at the SCCIC showed that 19 cultural resource studies have been conducted within a one-mile radius of the project site. Those studies consisted of pedestrian field surveys and cultural resource evaluations or were research oriented and did not involve field work. All involve historic period resources. The records search also indicated 97 historic resources (all mid-century bungalows) within the one-mile search radius. The vast majority of these resources were identified as residential properties built in the early to mid-20th century Lee and Moruzzi 2010) with the closest resources being adjacent to the Project

on Danby Avenue (P-33-191732) and across Washington Boulevard (P-33-191728, -191797, -191798, and -191814). All were recommended ineligible for the CRHR. One prehistoric resource (LAN-182) was identified one-mile south of the project. These were the resources that were identified closed to the project site.

Historic Aerial Photo and Map Review. Additional research was conducted by consulting sources and repositories of historic aerial photographs and maps. These sources include the National Environmental Title Research online historic map files at https://www.historicaerials.com/viewer, the USGS map files at https://ngmdb.usgs.gov/topoview/, and the historic map and aerial imagery files at the University of California Map and Imagery Library at http://mil.library.ucsb.edu/ap_indexes/FrameFinder/. A number of Exhibits have been prepared that provide greater clarification of historic land use in and near the APE. The earliest USGS maps that include the Project are 15-minute scale and include editions of 1896 and 1898. Another 15-series begins in 1900 and includes 11 editions up to and including 1940. The earlier versions of these early series do not include structures in the APE. Aerial photography, however, provides details often not included in the maps of the day.

The earliest aerial photo that includes the APE is from 1927 Fairchild Aerial Surveys, C series. The Project area is entirely in orchard. The 1938 aerial shows the same land use with the addition of a farm house adjacent on the west. In 1953 the Project area is still in orchard and the farm house to the west has expanded significantly with additional outbuildings. The surrounding area that was all orchard in 1938, and presumably for some time into the 1940s, is now densely populated with post-war bungalows with detached garages. In the late 1950s Brethren Christian Junior High School was built and the Project area became a parking lot which remains today.

Impact Analysis:

a. CAUSE A SUBSTANTIAL ADVERSE CHANGE IN THE SIGNIFICANCE OF A HISTORICAL RESOURCE PURSUANT TO IN §15064.5?

CONSTRUCTION

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION. The Project is in an area settled and utilized for hunting and food gathering by the Gabrielino and their predecessors during the Holocene. The San Gabriel, Los Angeles and Santa Ana Rivers and their tributaries have buried prehistoric sites through deposition of sediments in overbank flooding (Macko 1994). While there are no known historic resources within the project, all soils on the Project site that would be excavated are above the water table and are of Holocene age. The possibility of encountering unexpected buried historic resources is high; buried resources could be accidentally damaged during construction (excavation). If historic resources are uncovered during excavation, Mitigation Measure CULT-1 shall be implemented to ensure that impacts are less than significant.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

NO IMPACT. The project site will be fully developed. Once the project is in operation, no additional ground disturbance would occur to impact potentially buried resources.

Mitigation Measure. With the implementation of Mitigation Measure CULT-1, potential impacts would be reduced to less than significant.

CULT-1 A Cultural Resource Monitoring Plan (CRMP) will be prepared and include the following:

All grading and excavation activities into native soils identified as undisturbed shall be monitored by a Project archaeologist retained by the County of Los Angeles (County) or County Contractor. The Project archaeologist shall be cross trained in identifying paleontological resources. The Project archaeologist shall be present full-time during the disturbances of soils with potential to contain cultural and/or fossil deposits and will document all monitoring activity. The Project archaeologist shall be qualified for historic resource evaluation, as defined in CEQA and by the Office of Historic Preservation (OHP). The qualified archaeologist shall be listed, or be eligible for listing, in the Register of Professional Archaeologist (RPA).

The CRMP will include procedures for treatment of human remains and will follow direction by California Public Resources Code, Section 5097.98.

The CRMP will empower the Project archeologist to divert, direct, or temporarily halt ground-disturbing activities in an area in order to evaluate potentially significant archaeological resources.

The CRMP will identify what constitutes a discovery and identify the recovery procedures, if warranted, and level of appropriate documentation, preservation, conservation, and/or relocation of the find; and determine when grading/excavation activities may resume in the area of the find.

If the discovery is determined to be a “unique archaeological resource”, then the County, in conjunction with the recommendation of the Project archaeologist, shall comply with Section 21083.2, subdivisions (b) though (f). If at any time the Area of Potential Effect (APE), or a portion of the APE, is determined to be a “historical resource” as defined in California Code of Regulations Chapter 3, Article 1, Section 15064.5, subdivision (a), the Project archaeologist shall prepare and issue a mitigation plan in conformance with Section 15126.4, subdivision (b). If the Project archaeologist determines that continuation of the Project or Project-related activities will result in an adverse impact on a discovered historical resource which cannot be mitigated, all further activities resulting in the impact shall immediately cease, and the County shall be contacted for further evaluation and direction. The County shall comply with the recommendations of the Project archaeologist with respect to the documentation, preservation, conservation, and/or relocation of finds.

Monitoring activities may cease when grading and excavation activities have concluded; or by written consent of the Project archaeologist agreeing that no further monitoring is necessary. At the conclusion of monitoring activities, and only if archaeological materials are not encountered, the Project archaeologist shall prepare and submit a report of the findings to the County and the South Central Coastal Information Center within 30 days. If discoveries are made, then a report of findings will be submitted within 90 days of the completion of monitoring.

b. CAUSE A SUBSTANTIAL ADVERSE CHANGE IN THE SIGNIFICANCE OF AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCE PURSUANT TO §15064.5?

CONSTRUCTION

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION INCORPORATED. The Project is in an area settled and utilized for hunting and food gathering by the Gabrielino and their predecessors

during the Holocene. The San Gabriel, Los Angeles and Santa Ana Rivers and their tributaries have buried prehistoric sites through deposition of sediments in overbank flooding (Macko 1994). While there are no known archaeological resources within the project, all soils on the Project site that would be excavated are above the water table and are of Holocene age. The possibility of encountering buried cultural resources is high; buried resources could be accidentally damaged during construction (excavation). Implementation of mitigation measure CULT-1 would ensure that impacts are less than significant.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

NO IMPACT. The project site will be fully developed. Once the project is in operation, no additional ground disturbance would occur to impact potentially buried resources.

Mitigation Measures. With implementation of Mitigation Measure CULT-1 (see Item a above), potential impacts would be reduced to less than significant.

c. DISTURB ANY HUMAN REMAINS, INCLUDING THOSE INTERRED OUTSIDE OF DEDICATED CEMETERIES?

CONSTRUCTION

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION INCORPORATED. The Project is in an area settled and utilized for hunting and food gathering by the Gabrielino and their predecessors during the Holocene. The San Gabriel, Los Angeles and Santa Ana Rivers and their tributaries have buried prehistoric sites through deposition of sediments in overbank flooding (Macko 1994). While there are no known human remains within the project, all soils on the Project site that would be excavated are above the water table and are of Holocene age. The possibility of encountering buried cultural resources is high; buried resources could be accidentally damaged during construction (excavation). If human remains are uncovered during excavation, then Mitigation Measure CULT-1 shall be implemented to ensure that impacts are less than significant.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

NO IMPACT. The project site will be fully developed. Once the project is in operation, no additional ground disturbance would occur to impact potentially buried resources.

Mitigation Measures. The Impacts described above would be less than significant with the implementation of Mitigation Measure CULT-1 (see Item a above).

VI. ENERGY

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b. Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Discussion:

State CEQA Guidelines. The California Natural Resources Agency adopted certain amendments to the State CEQA Guidelines effective in 2019, to change how CEQA Lead Agencies consider the environmental impacts of energy use. The State CEQA Guidelines, §15126.2(b) requires analysis of a project's energy use, in order to assure that energy implications are considered in project decisions. CEQA requires a discussion of the potential environmental effects of energy resources used by projects, with emphasis on avoiding or reducing the "wasteful, inefficient, and unnecessary consumption of energy" (see Public Resources Code section 21100(b)(3)). The analyses contained in this section complies with this regulatory requirement.

All construction- and operation-related activities would involve use of energy-consuming equipment and processes. This analysis presents a quantitative and qualitative discussion of the proposed project's energy use. As set forth in the State CEQA Guidelines, Appendix F: Energy Conservation, the goal of conserving energy implies the wise and efficient use of energy including:

- Decreasing overall per capita energy consumption;
- Decreasing reliance on fossil fuels such as coal, natural gas and oil; and
- Increasing reliance on renewable energy sources.

Lead agency actions that are consistent with these goals would not be likely to cause an energy-related impact. The energy impact analysis emphasizes avoiding or reducing inefficient, wasteful and unnecessary consumption of energy resources, and whether the project would result in a potentially significant environmental impact due to inefficient, wasteful, and unnecessary consumption of energy.

Environmental Setting

The project would directly consume electricity and natural gas on-site during operation and would cause the consumption of motor fuels from on-road vehicles (passenger vehicles, delivery vehicles, and heavy haul trucks) and off-road equipment during construction and from passenger vehicles and delivery vehicles during operation (see Section 2 Project Description and Appendix A Air Quality Calculations). Additionally, some of the energy used by on-road vehicles during construction and operation would be in the form of electrical energy. Electricity for project operations would come from the SCE transmission system that serves 15 million people in central, coastal and southern California, excluding the City of Los Angeles and certain other cities, are served by the SCE transmission system (CAISO, 2018). Natural gas would come from the SoCalGas transmission system that serves over 21.8 million consumers and is the nation's largest natural gas distribution utility (SoCalGas, 2019). Motor vehicle fuels, primarily gasoline and diesel fuel, would come from public and private refueling stations (aka "gas stations") located throughout

the project area, or in the case of the construction period off-road equipment these fuels would be delivered directly to the site for equipment refueling.

Regulatory Setting

Energy efficiency is regulated at the federal, State, and local levels. For California, many of the federal energy efficiency standards, such as appliance efficiency standards, are repeated in the California regulations. Therefore, the summary of the applicable regulations for this Project focuses on the State regulations and local ordinances that apply to the Project's pool building and pool appliances (pumps, heaters, etc.).

The State of California's Code of Regulations (CCR) has several building standards (Title 24) and appliance efficiency regulations (Title 20) that would apply towards reducing the energy impacts of the Project.

California Energy Efficiency Standards for Residential and Non-Residential Buildings. These energy efficiency standards, as provided in Title 24 Part 6 of the CCR, would apply to the design of the pool building and the pool. Specific design element requirements include designing the pool building to be "solar ready" and design the pools to have covers and the pool water recirculation piping to allow for the future addition of solar heating equipment.

California Green Building Standards Code. These building standards, as provided in Title 24 Part 11 of the CCR, would apply to the design of the pool building and grounds, and include a number of design and planning elements related to energy efficiency, water use efficiency and conservation, material conservation and resource efficiency, and environmental quality.

Appliance Efficiency Regulations. These efficiency regulations, as provided in Title 20 (Division 2, Chapter 4, Article 4) of the CCR, have efficiency standards for heaters that would apply to the pool heaters, efficiency standards for electric motors that would apply to the pool pump motors, and efficiency standards for heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) units that would apply to the pool buildings HVAC system.

The County also has also adopted a green building standard into the County Codes (Title 31) that applies to all new building construction and has a Park Design Guidelines and Standards manual that provides sustainability design goals including designing new park buildings to be able to meet a LEED Silver Certification level (County of Los Angeles, 2017). In this case the project will be designed to meet a LEED Gold Certification level.

There are no specific regulations or policies that relate to construction energy consumption or efficiency other than construction waste recycling policies and regulations that are related to the State's Climate Change Scoping Plan and the County's Climate Change Action Plan that may indirectly reduce energy consumption related to the Project's fuel or materials use. Compliance and conformance with these waste recycling regulations and policies is discussed in subsection VIII. Greenhouse Gas Emissions.

Impact Analysis:

a. RESULT IN POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT DUE TO WASTEFUL, INEFFICIENT, OR UNNECESSARY CONSUMPTION OF ENERGY RESOURCES, DURING PROJECT CONSTRUCTION OR OPERATION?

CONSTRUCTION

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. The Project's construction activities would employ standard construction methods for pools and buildings, as needed to meet the construction

standards for new buildings and pools, and so would not be wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessarily consume energy resources during construction. The proposed Project's construction would have less than significant energy resource consumption impacts.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. The Project would be designed to achieve a Gold LEED Certification, which would require construction elements that would reduce the energy impacts both from Project construction and during Project operation. Additionally, the Project would be designed to comply with all State Title 20 appliance standards and Title 24 building efficiency and green building standards, as well as County Code Title 31 green building standards, that are designed to reduce energy consumption during Project operation. These design features and requirements would ensure that the Project's operation would not be wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessarily consume energy resources. The proposed Project's operation and maintenance would have less than significant energy resource consumption impacts.

b. CONFLICT WITH OR OBSTRUCT A STATE OR LOCAL PLAN FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY OR ENERGY EFFICIENCY?

CONSTRUCTION

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. This project is not using land that was otherwise slated for renewable energy production and does not otherwise conflict with any state or local renewable energy plans. Therefore, this project's construction would not obstruct any State or local plans for renewable energy and would conform with state and local plans for energy efficiency. The proposed Project's construction would have less than significant energy efficiency and renewable energy implementation impacts.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. The proposed Project, as new construction will be required to meet all building standards at the time that it submits for a building permit. These requirements include the County Code Title 31 Green Building Standards and the state CCA Title 24 Part 11 California Green Building Standards Code that are in effect at the time of the building permit application. The project will also be required to meet applicable Title 24 Part 6 Building Energy Efficiency Standards, which include that the pool building to be designed to be "solar ready", that the pool heating water recirculation piping to be designed to allow connection to a solar water heating system, and that the pools have installed covers. Additionally, the project would be required to obtain highly efficient natural gas fueled water heater(s) that meet Title 20 Appliance Efficiency requirements to reduce energy consumption. Also, the pool water pumps the must meet Title 20 motor efficiency and design requirements. Additionally, to comply with the County's Park Design Guidelines and Standards the Project would be designed to be able to obtain LEED Gold Certification. The LEED certification process recognizes sustainable and environmentally friendly construction process and materials decisions that reduce the environmental as necessary to obtain a LEED gold certification. This would be accomplished by going above and beyond required Title 24 building efficiency and green building standards. The specifics of the design features that will be employed to meet this LEED rating, which could include rooftop solar or solar pool heating, are not currently known at this time. However, the project has committed to meeting this LEED

rating standard. To obtain the gold LEED certification design features above and beyond these Title 24 and Title 20 requirements must be added to the Project.

Therefore, this project's operation and maintenance would not obstruct any State or local plans for renewable energy and would conform with state and local plans for energy efficiency. The proposed Project's operation would have less than significant energy efficiency and renewable energy implementation impacts.

VII. GEOLOGY AND SOILS

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				
i) 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.	☐	☐	☐	☒
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?	☐	☐	☒	☐
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	☐	☐	☒	☐
iv) Landslides?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b. Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c. Be located on geologic units 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?	☐	☐	☒	☐
d. Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property?	☐	☐	☒	☐
e. 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?	☐	☐	☐	☒
f. Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	☐	☒	☐	☐

Discussion:

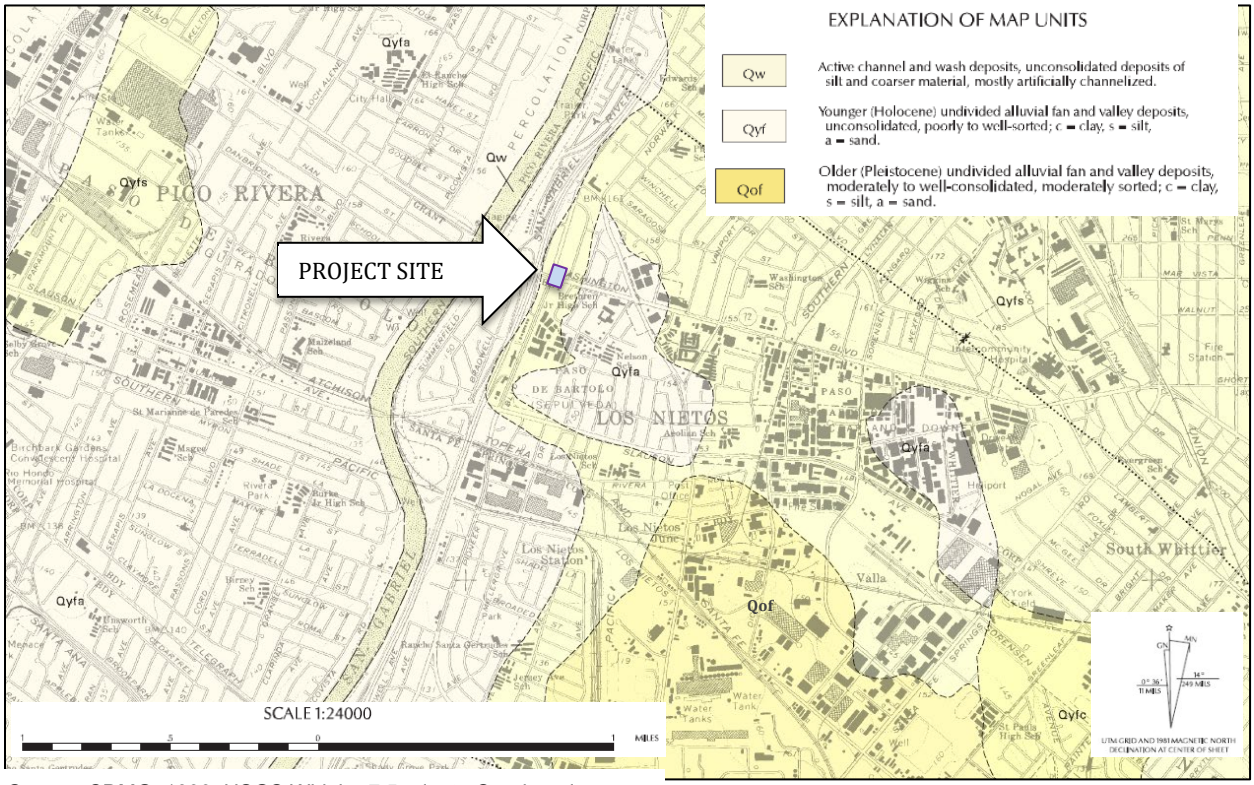
Environmental Setting

Regional and Local Geology

The area of and surrounding the proposed Project is on a lowland coastal plain that slopes gradually southward and westward toward the Pacific Ocean. The Project site has been graded level with drainage to the south-southwest and is paved to accommodate parking. The ground surface elevation at the center point of Project site is approximately 160 feet above mean sea level (ASL). The Project site and immediate surrounding vicinity are located within a 500-year flood zone.

The Project is located within the northwestern Peninsular Ranges geomorphic province. The Los Angeles Basin is within the northern part of the province and is an alluviated coastal plain bounded on the north by the Santa Monica Mountains and the Elysian Park, Repetto, and Puente hills, and on the east and southeast by the Santa Ana Mountains and San Joaquin Hills. This lowland plain slopes gently to the south and west toward the Pacific Ocean but is interrupted by a series of elongated low hills and mesas to the south and west by the Palos Verdes Peninsula at the coast. The geologic units exposed at the Project site and vicinity are composed of sediment that has been transported and deposited on an alluvial plain (CDMG 1999). The geologic unit that

underlies the Project site is mapped as unconsolidated, poorly to well-sorted, Younger (Holocene) undivided alluvial fan and valley deposits (Qyfs) as shown in Figure 3-1.



Source: CDMG, 1999, USGS Whittier 7.5-minute Quadrangle

Figure 3-1. Geologic Map of Project Site and Vicinity

The geologic units located in the vicinity surrounding the Project site include unconsolidated, poorly to well-sorted, Younger (Holocene) undivided alluvial fan and valley deposits composed dominantly of sand (Qyfa) and clay (Qyfc). Older (Pleistocene) undivided alluvial fan and valley deposits are composed dominantly of moderately to well-consolidated, moderately sorted silt (Qofs). Active channel and wash deposits (QW) of the San Gabriel River are mostly artificially channelized and consist of unconsolidated deposits of silt and coarser materials. The northwest-trending La Habra syncline is located approximately 0.7-mile (~3,700 ft) northeast of the Project site. This geologic structure lies beneath the alluvial deposits and its location is approximated.

Seismicity and Ground Shaking

Seismicity is defined as the geographic and historical distribution of earthquake activity. Seismic activity may result in geologic and seismic hazards including seismically induced fault displacement and rupture, ground shaking, liquefaction, lateral spreading, landslides and avalanches, and structural hazards. Based on historical seismic activity and fault and seismic hazards mapping, Los Angeles County is considered to have a relatively high potential for seismic activity.

The intensity of the seismic shaking, or strong ground motion, during an earthquake is dependent on the distance between the proposed Project site and the epicenter (point at the earth's surface directly above the initial movement of the fault at depth) of the earthquake, the magnitude (seismic energy released) of the earthquake, and the geologic conditions underlying and surrounding the proposed Project site. Earthquakes occurring on faults closest to the Project site would most likely generate the largest ground motion. A commonly used benchmark is peak horizontal ground

acceleration (ground shaking) that is provided for a probability of occurrence and is represented as a fraction of the acceleration of gravity (g).

Seismic hazards resulting from earthquakes can include but not be limited to ground rupture along a fault line (surface rupture), ground shaking and liquefaction. Surface rupture is the surface expression of movement along a fault. Structures built over an active fault can be torn apart if the ground ruptures. Surface rupture along faults is generally limited to a linear zone a few meters wide. Following the destructive February 9, 1971 Mw 6.6 San Fernando earthquake, which was associated with extensive surface fault ruptures that damaged numerous homes, commercial buildings, and other structures, the Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning (AP) Act was passed into law[2]. The AP Act provides a mechanism for reducing losses from surface fault rupture. The intent of the AP Act is to ensure public safety by prohibiting the siting of most structures for human occupancy across traces of active faults that constitute a potential hazard to structures from surface faulting or fault creep. The law requires the State Geologist to establish regulatory zones (known as Earthquake Fault Zones) around the surface traces of active faults and to issue appropriate maps. ["Earthquake Fault Zones" were called "Special Studies Zones" prior to January 1, 1994.] The maps are distributed to all affected cities, counties, and state agencies for their use in planning and controlling new or renewed construction. Local agencies must regulate most development projects within the zones. Projects include all land divisions and most structures for human occupancy. Single family wood-frame and steel-frame dwellings up to two stories not part of a development of four units or more are exempt. However, local agencies can be more restrictive than state law requires. Subsequently, the Seismic Hazards Mapping Act, passed in 1990, addressed non-surface fault rupture earthquake hazards (like the Whittier Narrows earthquake), and included liquefaction and seismically induced landslides. The Project site is not located within an Alquist-Priolo active fault zone, and there is no evidence of active faulting.

Probabilistic seismic hazard maps are those that show the hazard from earthquakes that geologists and seismologists agree could occur in California. It is probabilistic in the sense that the analysis takes into consideration the uncertainties in the size and location of earthquakes and the resulting ground motions that can affect a site; it is only indirectly associated with randomness. The maps are typically expressed in terms of probability of exceeding a certain ground motion. For example, the 10% probability of exceedance in 50 years maps depict an annual probability of 1 in 475 of being exceeded each year. This level of ground shaking has been used for designing buildings in high seismic areas. The maps for 10% probability of exceedance in 50 years show ground motions that are not expected to be exceeded in the next 50 years. In fact, there is a 90% chance that these ground motions will NOT be exceeded. This probability level allows engineers to design buildings for larger ground motions than what is expected to occur during a 50-year interval, which will make buildings safer than if they were only designed for the ground motions that are expected to occur in the next 50 years.

Prior to the acceptance and incorporation of Probabilistic Seismic Hazard Analysis (PSHA) into standard hazard assessment methodologies, most seismic hazard assessments were completed using scenario-based, “deterministic” analyses. A deterministic seismic hazard analysis typically assigns a maximum earthquake magnitude for a seismic source, often referred to as the maximum credible earthquake. Based on the minimum distance from the site to the fault source, the level of ground shaking at the site is estimated. However, using the 2008 PSHA model (CDC, 2008), the probable seismic ground shaking expected at the Project site for a 10 percent chance in 50 years is anticipated to produce peak ground acceleration of 0.468 percent of the acceleration of gravity (0.468g); for a 2 percent chance in 50 years, 0.805 percent of the acceleration of gravity (0.805g). Assuming a maximum credible

[2] CDC, 2018, The Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act

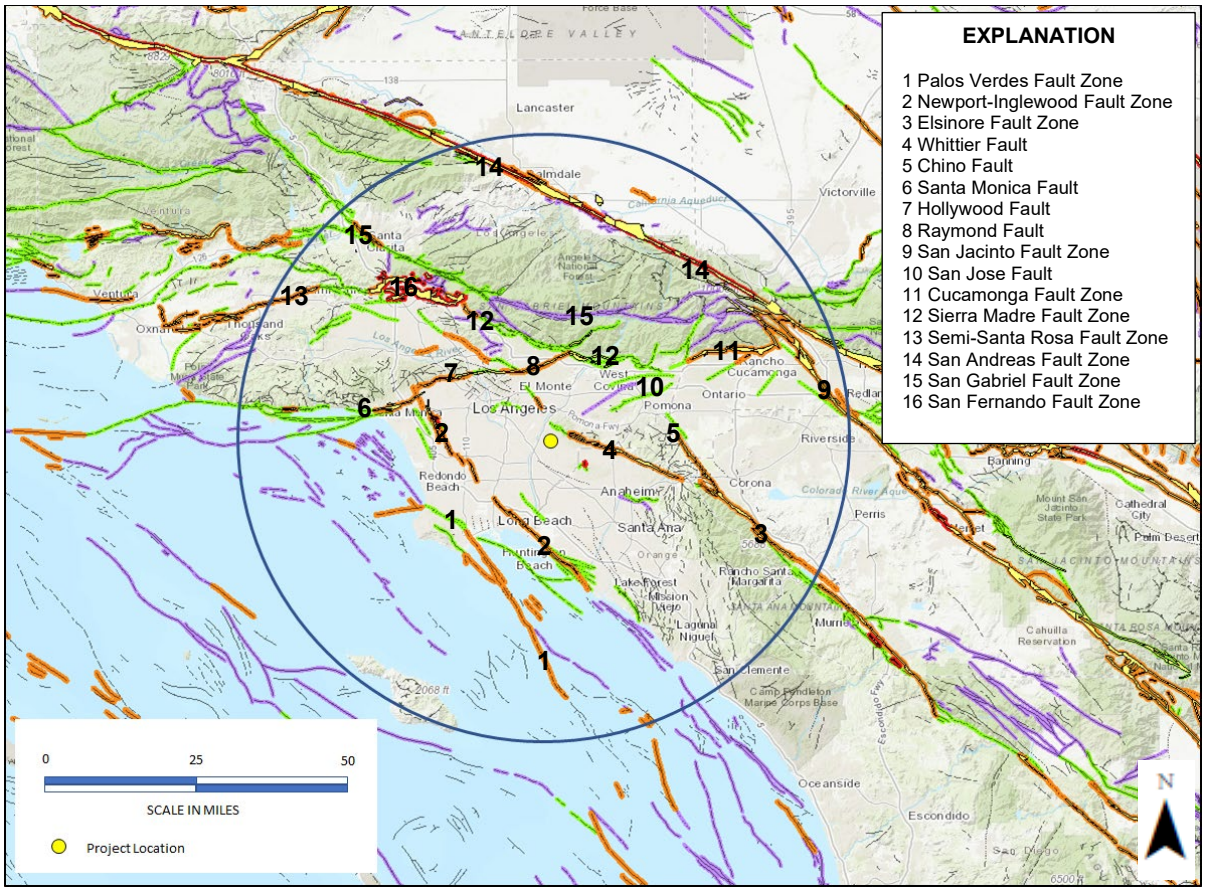
earthquake of 7.4 on the San Andreas Fault (southern segment) northeast of the Project (CDMG, 1996 – Appendix A), the possible Modified Mercalli Intensity Scale (MMI) is between VII and IX. An abbreviated summary of the MMI scale is provided below in Table 3-8.

Table 3-8. Abbreviated Modified Mercalli Intensity Scale

Intensity	Description
I	Not felt except by a very few under especially favorable conditions.
II	Felt only by a few persons at rest, especially on upper floors of buildings.
III	Felt quite noticeably by persons indoors, especially on upper floors of buildings. Many people do not recognize it as an earthquake. Standing motor cars may rock slightly. Vibrations similar to the passing of a truck. Duration estimated.
IV	Felt indoors by many, outdoors by few during the day. At night, some awakened. Dishes, windows, doors disturbed; walls make cracking sound. Sensation like heavy truck striking building. Standing motor cars rocked noticeably.
V	Felt by nearly everyone; many awakened. Some dishes, windows broken. Unstable objects overturned. Pendulum clocks may stop.
VI	Felt by all, many frightened. Some heavy furniture moved; a few instances of fallen plaster. Damage slight.
VII	Damage negligible in buildings of good design and construction; slight to moderate in well-built ordinary structures; considerable damage in poorly built or badly designed structures; some chimneys broken.
VIII	Damage slight in specially designed structures; considerable damage in ordinary substantial buildings with partial collapse. Damage great in poorly built structures. Fall of chimneys, factory stacks, columns, monuments, walls. Heavy furniture overturned.
IX	Damage considerable in specially designed structures; well-designed frame structures thrown out of plumb. Damage great in substantial buildings, with partial collapse. Buildings shifted off foundations.
X	Some well-built wooden structures destroyed; most masonry and frame structures destroyed with foundations. Rails bent.
XI	Few, if any (masonry) structures remain standing. Bridges destroyed. Rails bent greatly.
XII	Damage total. Lines of sight and level are distorted. Objects thrown into the air.

Fault Systems

The Project site is situated in a tectonically and seismically active region of southern California. This activity is expressed as several major, generally northwest trending and east-west trending, oblique, right-lateral, strike-slip, fault zones that characterize this region. Movement along some of these faults has been documented during the past 150 years. A map of the faults within 50-mile radius of project site is provided in Figure 3-2.



Source: CGS 2010, Fault Activity Map of California, California Geological Survey, California Department of Conservation
USGS 2018, U.S. Quaternary Faults, Interactive Fault Map

Figure 3-2. Faults Within 50-mile Radius of Project Site

A major feature associated with this region of southern California is the San Andreas Fault System which defines the boundary between the North American Plate to the east and the Pacific Plate (on which the Project is located) to the west. The San Andreas Fault System is generally expressed as elongated zones of fracturing and rock deformation that creates the general northwest-southeast trending valleys and ridges. In addition, the region has experienced numerous instances of ground shaking originating from faults associated with the San Andreas Fault System. The closest fault with historic activity (HIS) is the Newport-Inglewood Fault Zone, located 19 miles west-northwest from the Project site, experiencing movement within the last 85 years with the Long Beach Earthquake of 1933. Two other faults with historic activity are the San Fernando Fault Zone and the San Andreas Fault Zone, located approximately 35 miles northwest and 38 miles to the northeast Project site. These and other active/potentially active faults within 50 miles of the proposed Project area are provided in Table 3-9.

Table 3-9. Selected Faults within 50 Miles of the Proposed Project

Fault Name (Age)	Distance[1] from Project Site to Fault (Miles / Direction From Project)	Characteristic Earthquake (M_W = moment magnitude)
Whittier Fault Zone (HOL)	3 / E	6.0 – 7.2
Raymond Fault (HOL)	12 / N	6.0 – 7.0
San Jose Fault (LTQT)	13 / NE	6.0 – 6.5

Sierra Madre Fault Zone (QT)	15 / NNE	6.0 – 7.0
Hollywood Fault (HOL)	15 / NW	5.8 – 6.5
Newport-Inglewood Fault Zone (HIS)	19 / WNW	6.0 – 7.4
Palos Verdes Fault Zone (HOL)	20 / SW	6.0 – 7.0 (or greater)
San Gabriel Fault Zone (QT)	21 / N	?
Chino Fault (HOL/QT)	21 / E	6.0 – 7.0
Cucamonga Fault Zone (HOL)	24 / NE	6.0 – 7.0
Santa Monica Fault (HOL)	27 / WNW	6.0 – 7.0 (?)
Elsinore Fault Zone (HOL)	32 / SE	6.0 – 7.5
San Fernando Fault Zone (HIS)	35 / NW	6.0 – 6.8
San Andreas Fault Zone (HIS/HOL)	38 / NE	6.8 – 8.0
Semi-Santa Rosa Fault Zone (HOL)	41 / NW	?
San Jacinto Fault Zone (HIS/HOL)	45 / SE	6.5 – 7.5

Source: CDMG 1999; CGS 1996; CGS 2010; Saucedo, et al., 2016; SCEDC, 2018a; USGS 2018
1 - Approximate closest linear distance and direction to fault from mid-point of Project site, rounded to nearest mile
? - Characteristic earthquake data not available
HIS = Historic fault activity (<200 yrs)
HOL = Holocene age fault activity (<11,700 yrs)
LTQT = Late Quaternary age fault activity (<700,000 yrs)
QT = Quaternary age fault activity (>700,000 <1.6 million yrs)

The faults in Table 3-9 are classified as historic (HIS), Holocene age (HOL), late Quaternary age (LTQT) and Quaternary age (QT). Faults classified as historic have experienced movement within the past 200 years. Faults classified as Holocene age have experienced movement within the past 11,700 years. Those faults classified as late Quaternary and Quaternary have experienced movement within the past 700,000 years and 1.6 million years, respectively. Selected recent earthquakes and their moment magnitude (M_w) experienced on historic faults within or associated with the 50-mile radius, are provided in Table 3-10.

Table 3-10. Selected Historic Earthquakes within or Associated with 50-mile Radius

Earthquake Date	Fault Name (and segment)	Magnitude (M_w)
12/8/1812	San Andreas Fault Zone (Wrightwood)	~7.2
4/18/1857	San Andreas Fault Zone (Mojave Segment)	7.8[3]
3/10/1933	Newport-Inglewood Fault Zone	6.4
4/9/1968	San Jacinto Fault Zone (Coyote Creek Segment near Ocotillo Wells)	6.5
2/9/1971	San Fernando Fault Zone (near Sunland)	6.6

In addition to the mapped faults with historic movement identified in Table 3-9 and Table 3-10, an unmapped earthquake fault that experienced recent movement, the Whittier Narrows Blind Thrust fault, is located several miles northwest of the Whittier Fault Zone near the City of Rosemead. It is unmapped as it did not produce surface rupture. The earthquake occurred on October 1, 1987 and produced a moment magnitude is M_w 5.9[4]. The estimated distance is 10 miles to the north of the Project site. Another unmapped earthquake fault that experienced recent movement, the Northridge Thrust fault (blind thrust), is located approximately six miles southwest of the San Fernando Fault Zone, one mile south-southwest of the City of Northridge. The earthquake occurred on January 17, 1994 and produced a moment magnitude is M_w 6.7[2]. The estimated distance is 37 miles to the northwest of the Project site.

Soils

[3] CDMG, 1996, Probabilistic Seismic Hazard Assessment for the State of California

[4] SCEDC, 2018b, Southern California Earthquake Data Center, Historic Earthquakes and Significant Faults in Southern California

Based on data provided from the NRCS (USDA 2018) the soil at and immediately surrounding the Project site is classified as Urban land-Biscailuz-Hueneme, drained complex. This soil complex exhibits a runoff classification ranging from very low (Hueneme) and low (Biscailuz), to very high (Urban Land) and is associated with areas where flooding is rare. The capacity of the most limiting soil layer to transmit water (Ksat) is moderately high to high (0.57 to 1.98 in/hr) for Biscailuz and moderately high to high (0.60 to 2.00 in/hr) for Hueneme. The available water storage in profile for this complex is moderate (~8.6 inches) for Biscailuz to high (~10.5 inches) for Hueneme. The complex is classified as Soil Hydrologic Group B, is poorly- to moderately-drained, has moderately fine to moderately coarse textures, and has moderate infiltration capacity/permeability and leaching potential. Hydric soil is not identified. Typical soil profiles to depths of 79 inches include loam, loamy fine sand, very fine and fine sandy loam, and silt loam. This soil type is typically located on slopes of less than 2 percent.

The linear extensibility of a soil is used to determine its shrink-swell potential. If the linear extensibility is more than 3.0 percent, shrinking and swelling can cause damage to buildings, roads, and other structures. According to the NRCS physical soil properties database, the representative values for linear extensibility in the area of the Project site ranges from 0.4 to 2.9 percent for Biscailuz and 1.0 to 2.4 percent for Hueneme Soil erosion factors (Kw) indicate the susceptibility of soil loss to sheet and rill erosion by water. The values of Kw range from 0.32 to 0.49 for Biscailuz and 0.32 to 0.55 for Hueneme. Reference values of Kw range from 0.02 to 0.69; generally, the higher the value the more susceptible the soil is to erosion. The highest Kw values exhibited are 0.55 for Hueneme and 0.49 for Biscailuz. The Project site is completely paved with asphaltic concrete and very little bare soil is exposed. The wind erodibility group number for Biscailuz is 6 and for Hueneme is 3. Soils assigned to group 1 are the most susceptible to wind erosion, and those assigned to group 8 are the least susceptible.

Liquefaction

Liquefaction is a seismic phenomenon in which loose, saturated, fine-grained granular soil behaves similarly to a fluid when subjected to high-intensity ground shaking. Liquefaction occurs when the following exists: (1) shallow groundwater; (2) low-density, fine, clean sandy soil; and (3) high-intensity ground motion. Liquefaction involves a sudden loss in strength of a saturated, cohesionless soil (predominantly sand) caused by cyclic loading such as an earthquake. This phenomenon results in elevated pore-water pressures that temporarily transform the soil into a fluid mass resulting in vertical settlement and could include lateral deformations. Typically, liquefaction occurs in areas where groundwater is less than 50 feet from the surface and where the soil consists predominantly of poorly consolidated sands.

The potential for liquefaction to occur depends on both the susceptibility of a soil to liquefy and the opportunity for ground motions (shaking) to exceed a specified threshold level. Depending upon specific soil conditions a certain intensity of ground shaking is required to trigger liquefaction. Ground shaking intensity depends on the magnitude, distance and direction, depth, type of earthquake, the soil and bedrock conditions, and the local topography.

The Project site and surrounding vicinity occurs in a seismic hazard zone classified as being susceptible liquefaction (CGS, 1999). These are typically areas where historical occurrence(s) of liquefaction, or local geological, geotechnical and groundwater conditions indicate a potential for permanent ground displacements such that mitigation as defined in Public Resources Code Section 2693(c) would be required. Liquefaction-induced ground failure historically has been a major cause of earthquake damage in southern California (CDMG, 1998). Localities most susceptible to liquefaction-induced damage are underlain by loose, water-saturated, granular sediment within 40 feet of the ground surface. These geological and groundwater conditions exist

in parts of southern California, most notably in some densely populated valley regions and alluviated floodplains.

Landslides

Slope failures include many phenomena that involve the downslope displacement and movement of material, triggered either by gravity or seismic (earthquake) forces. Exposed rock slopes may experience rockfalls, rockslides, or rock avalanches, while soil slopes may experience soil slumps, rapid debris flows, and deep-seated rotational slides. Slope stability can depend on a number of complex variables, including the geology, structure, and amount of groundwater, as well as external processes such as climate, topography, slope geometry, and human activity. The factors that contribute to slope movements include those that decrease the resistance in the slope materials and those that increase the stresses on the slope.

Subsidence

Land subsidence is normally the result of fluid withdrawal such as groundwater and/or oil extraction that create subsurface voids, resulting in the sinking of the ground surface. When fluid is withdrawn, the effective pressure in the drained sediments increases. Compressible sediments are then compacted due to overlying pressures no longer being compensated by hydrostatic pressure from below.

There are 36 water wells identified within a one-mile radius of the proposed Project site (EDR, 2018). Seventeen (17) of the wells are identified in the state database of which nine (9) are classified as active. The remaining 19 wells are identified in the federal (USGS5) database of which eight (8) may be classified as potentially active; the status of the federally listed wells is not listed in the database by may be inferred. However, these wells may be only used to measure groundwater depth and quality. In contrast, those wells identified in the state database appear to be water supply wells. Groundwater depth measurements are not reported for the state wells but are reported for eight (8) federal wells. Subsidence due to groundwater extraction is reported in the vicinity of the City of Norwalk extending southward to the Pacific Ocean; extending west of the Santa Ana Mountains and east of the Palos Verdes Hills.

There are three oil wells identified within a one-mile radius of the proposed Project site (EDR, 2018). One of the oil wells is classified as idle, and the other two oil wells have been properly plugged and abandoned. An area centered on Long Beach is experiencing subsidence due to oil extraction (USGS 2019).

Collapsible Soils

Collapsible soils are soils that experience a decrease in volume and associated settlement as a result of a change in soil structure associated with wetting of partially saturated subsoil. Typically, collapsible soils occur predominantly at the base of mountains, where Holocene-age alluvial fan and wash sediments have been deposited during rapid runoff events. Paleontological Resources

Paleontological resources—or fossils—are the remains of ancient plants and animals that can provide scientifically significant information about the history of life on earth. Paleontological resources are non-renewable because they are the remains of prehistoric animal and plant life. Paleontological “sensitivity” is defined as the potential for a geologic unit to produce scientifically significant fossils. This sensitivity is determined by rock type, history of the geologic unit in producing significant fossils, and fossil localities that are recorded from that unit. Paleontological

[5] United States Geological Survey

sensitivity is assigned based on fossil data collected from the entire geologic unit, not just at a specific site. Paleontological sensitivity ratings are described as follows:

High Potential. Rock units from which vertebrate or significant invertebrate, plant, or trace fossils have been recovered are considered to have a high potential for containing additional significant paleontological resources. Rocks units classified as having high potential for producing paleontological resources include, but are not limited to, sedimentary formations and some volcaniclastic formations (e. g., ashes or tephras), and some low-grade metamorphic rocks which contain significant paleontological resources anywhere within their geographical extent, and sedimentary rock units temporally or lithologically suitable for the preservation of fossils (e. g., middle Holocene and older, fine-grained fluvial sandstones, argillaceous and carbonate-rich paleosols, cross-bedded point bar sandstones, fine-grained marine sandstones, etc.). Paleontological potential consists of both (a) the potential for yielding abundant or significant vertebrate fossils or for yielding a few significant fossils, large or small, vertebrate, invertebrate, plant, or trace fossils and (b) the importance of recovered evidence for new and significant taxonomic, phylogenetic, paleoecologic, taphonomic, biochronologic, or stratigraphic data. Rock units which contain potentially datable organic remains older than late Holocene, including deposits associated with animal nests or middens, and rock units which may contain new vertebrate deposits, traces, or trackways are also classified as having high potential.

Undetermined Potential. Rock units for which little information is available concerning their paleontological content, geologic age, and depositional environment are considered to have undetermined potential. Further study is necessary to determine if these rock units have high or low potential to contain significant paleontological resources. A field survey by a qualified professional paleontologist (see “definitions” section in this document) to specifically determine the paleontological resource potential of these rock units is required before a paleontological resource impact mitigation program can be developed. In cases where no subsurface data are available, paleontological potential can sometimes be determined by strategically located excavations into subsurface stratigraphy.

Low Potential. Reports in the paleontological literature or field surveys by a qualified professional paleontologist may allow determination that some rock units have low potential for yielding significant fossils. Such rock units will be poorly represented by fossil specimens in institutional collections or based on general scientific consensus only preserve fossils in rare circumstances and the presence of fossils is the exception not the rule, e. g. basalt flows or Recent colluvium. Rock units with low potential typically will not require impact mitigation measures to protect fossils.

No Potential. Some rock units have no potential to contain significant paleontological resources, for instance high-grade metamorphic rocks (such as gneisses and schists) and plutonic igneous rocks (such as granites and diorites). Rock units with no potential require no protection nor impact mitigation measures relative to paleontological resources.

Regulatory Setting

Federal

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is responsible for providing aid in the event of an earthquake that results in significant damage. The National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program is a nationwide program designed to reduce the risk to lives and property resulting from earthquakes in the United States. It is managed as a collaborative effort between FEMA, the National Institute of Hazards and Technology, the National Science Foundation, and the United States Geological Survey (USGS).

State

The State of California has established a variety of regulations and requirements related to seismic safety and structural integrity, including the California Building Code, the Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act and the Seismic Hazards Mapping Act.

California Building Code. The California Building Code (CBC) is included in Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations and is a portion of the California Building Standards Code. The CBC incorporates the Uniform Building Code (now International Building Code), a widely adopted model building code in the United States. The CBC contains specific requirements for seismic safety, excavation, foundations, retaining walls and site demolition. It also regulates grading activities, including drainage and erosion control.

Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act. This Act (Alquist-Priolo Act) was passed to mitigate the hazard of surface faulting associated with surface fault rupture to structures for human occupancy. It prohibits the location of structures designed for human occupancy across active faults and regulates construction within fault zones. The law requires the State of California to establish regulatory zones around surface traces of active faults and to issue the appropriate maps. It also requires a geologic investigation in the event of new construction, to ensure that it will not be located on a fault zone.

The Seismic Hazards Mapping Act. The Seismic Hazards Mapping Act addresses seismic hazards such as strong ground shaking, soil liquefaction, and earthquake-related landslides. This act requires the State of California to identify and map areas that are at risk for these (and related) hazards. Cities and counties are also required to regulate development in the mapped seismic hazard zones. The primary method of regulating construction in these areas is through the permit process, and a permit cannot be issued until a geological investigation is completed.

Local

Los Angeles County General Plan. The unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County are comprised of approximately 2,650 square miles, and over one million people. The Los Angeles County General Plan provides the policy framework and establishes the long-range vision for how and where the unincorporated areas will grow, and establishes goals, policies, and programs to foster healthy, livable, and sustainable communities. Incorporated into this General Plan is a Safety Element. The purpose of the Safety Element is to reduce the potential risk of death, injuries, and economic damage resulting from natural and man-made hazards.

Impact Analysis:

DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY CAUSE POTENTIAL SUBSTANTIAL ADVERSE EFFECTS, INCLUDING THE RISK OF LOSS, INJURY, OR DEATH INVOLVING:

a-i. 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.

CONSTRUCTION

NO IMPACT. There are no mapped Alquist-Priolo earthquake fault zones at or near the proposed Project site. The closest mapped fault, Whittier Fault Zone, is located approximately three miles to the east. Therefore, the proposed Project would have no impact resulting from rupture of a known earthquake fault.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

NO IMPACT. There are no mapped Alquist-Priolo earthquake fault zones at or near the proposed Project site. The closest mapped fault, Whittier Fault Zone, is located approximately three miles to the east. Therefore, the proposed Project would have no impact resulting from rupture of a known earthquake fault.

a-ii. STRONG SEISMIC GROUND SHAKING?

CONSTRUCTION

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. The Project site has the potential to experience seismic ground shaking due to its proximity to several known active faults. The probable seismic ground shaking expected at the Project site is anticipated to produce a peak ground acceleration of 0.468g (10 percent chance in 50 years) and 0.805g (2 percent chance in 50 years). Assuming a maximum credible earthquake of 7.4 on the San Andreas Fault (southern segment) northeast of the Project site, the possible Modified Mercalli Intensity Scale is between VII and IX. The proposed Project includes the construction of two swimming pools, a pool building structure and bleachers. However, by following the County of Los Angeles, Department of Parks and Recreation, Park Design Guidelines and Standards (DPR, 2017), applicable building codes for construction, and the goals and policies for seismic and geotechnical hazards established in the Los Angeles County General Plan (LACDRP, 2009) which are part of the project design, the proposed Project would have a less than significant impact with regard to seismic ground shaking.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. The Project site has the potential to experience seismic ground shaking due to its proximity to several known active faults. The probable seismic ground shaking expected at the Project site is anticipated to produce a peak ground acceleration of 0.468g (10 percent chance in 50 years) and 0.805g (2 percent chance in 50 years). Assuming a maximum credible earthquake of 7.4 on the San Andreas Fault (southern segment) northeast of the Project site, the possible Modified Mercalli Intensity Scale is between VII and IX. However, the facilities will be constructed following the County of Los Angeles, Department of Parks and Recreation, Park Design Guidelines and Standards (DPR, 2017), applicable building codes for construction, and the goals and policies for seismic and geotechnical hazards established in the Los Angeles County General Plan Update 2035 (LACDRP, 2009) which will be a part of the project design. Therefore, the proposed Project would have a less than significant impact with regard to seismic ground shaking.

a-iii. SEISMIC-RELATED GROUND FAILURE, INCLUDING LIQUEFACTION?

CONSTRUCTION

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. The Project site and surrounding vicinity are located within a seismic hazard zone classified as being susceptible seismically induced liquefaction. The potential for strong earthquake ground shaking is high because of the many nearby active faults. The combination of these factors constitutes a significant seismic hazard in the southern California region in general, within areas in the Whittier Quadrangle that include the Project site. Although not specifically confirmed at the Project site, nearby monitoring wells indicate depths to first groundwater to be less than 40 feet below ground surface. Liquefaction-induced ground failure historically has been a major cause of earthquake damage in areas underlain by loose, water-saturated, granular sediment typical of what would be expected beneath the Project site. These conditions, combined with the

potential for strong earthquake ground shaking because of the many nearby active faults, represents a potential adverse impact to the proposed Project, such that mitigation as defined in Public Resources Code Section 2693(c) would be required. However, potential impact can be mitigated by following applicable building codes, by incorporating seismic hazards design considerations during project development, and by addressing the goals and policies for seismic and geotechnical hazards established in the Los Angeles County General Plan (LACDRP, 2009). A geotechnical study will be prepared prior to design and construction and would provide the required information to enable the design of the swimming pools and pool house that meets existing applicable requirements. Therefore, by integrating the appropriate design features, the proposed Project would have a less than significant impact from seismic-related ground failure resulting from liquefaction.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. The Project site and surrounding vicinity are located within a seismic hazard zone classified as being susceptible to seismically induced liquefaction. The potential for strong earthquake ground shaking is high because of the many nearby active faults. Liquefaction-induced ground failure historically has been a major cause of earthquake damage in areas underlain by loose, water-saturated, granular sediment typical of what would be expected beneath the Project site. These conditions, combined with the potential for strong earthquake ground shaking, represent a potential adverse impact to the proposed Project. However, the Project will be constructed to incorporate the appropriate mitigation measures by following applicable building codes, incorporating seismic hazards design considerations during project development, and addressing the goals and policies for seismic and geotechnical hazards established in the Los Angeles County General Plan Update 2035 (LACDRP, 2009). Therefore, by integrating the appropriate design features, the proposed Project would have a less than significant impact from seismic-related ground failure resulting from liquefaction.

a-iv. LANDSLIDES?

CONSTRUCTION

NO IMPACT. The proposed Project site and surrounding area topography is relatively flat, sloping generally to the south. There are no hills immediately adjacent to the Project site. The closest hills with mapped earthquake-induced landslide zones are the Puente Hills, located approximately three miles to the east. Landslides are known to occur in the hilly terrain; however, the presence of landslides at the Project site is not expected. Therefore, no impact related to landslides is expected.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

NO IMPACT. The proposed Project site and surrounding area topography is relatively flat, sloping generally to the south. There are no hills immediately adjacent to the Project site. Therefore, no impact related to landslides is expected.

b. RESULT IN SUBSTANTIAL SOIL EROSION OR THE LOSS OF TOPSOIL?

CONSTRUCTION

NO IMPACT. The Project site is completely paved with asphaltic concrete and very little bare soil is exposed. However, based on the soil erosion factor (Kw) values reported from the NRCS physical soil properties database, exposed soil at the Project site would be susceptible to soil loss to sheet and rill erosion by water. In addition, the Project site soil is expected to experience a moderate amount of wind erosion susceptibility based on the

reported wind erodibility group numbers in the NRCS physical soil properties database. During ground-disturbing activities, standard erosion control BMPs including perimeter controls (e.g., straw waddles, hay bales or silt fences), containment measures (i.e., covering stockpiles) and other controls (storm drain inlet protection, street sweeping, stabilized entrance/exit) would be implemented as required in the Construction General Permit. This permit is required for all projects that disturb one or more acres of soil. In addition, construction work would be temporarily suspended during any significant rain event. Standard erosion control BMPs included in the proposed project would be sufficient to prevent substantial erosion or loss of topsoil within active work areas. Therefore, the proposed Project would result in no impact from soil erosion or the loss of topsoil.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

NO IMPACT. Following construction, the Project site will be completely covered with hardscape and very little bare soil exposed. Management of surface water discharge from storms or irrigation will be controlled by surface drainage conveyance to existing storm drains. Those areas within the Project that are not covered with hardscape (vegetated softscape) would allow for limited infiltration. Therefore, the proposed Project would result in no impact from soil erosion or the loss of topsoil.

c. BE LOCATED ON GEOLOGIC UNITS 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?

CONSTRUCTION

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. Local areas in the vicinity of the proposed Project site may experience off-site landslide and liquefaction hazards due to the proximity of active faults in the surrounding area. However, the proposed Project would not directly result in creating unstable conditions leading to off-site landslide, lateral spreading, or liquefaction. There is no reported evidence that subsidence has occurred, or may occur in the future, in the proposed Project site and vicinity. Collapsible soil is not present at the proposed Project site. Because of the Project site's proximity to earthquake faults, and that moderate seismic ground shaking may be experienced, the potential for liquefaction appears to be limited to seismic events. The proposed Project does not change the likelihood, magnitude or extent of existing geologic hazards to people or structures. For these reasons, the impact of the proposed Project on the exposure of people or structures to unstable soil units would be less than significant.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. Local areas in the vicinity of the proposed Project site may experience off-site landslide and liquefaction hazards due to the proximity of active faults in the surrounding area. Following construction, the proposed Project would not directly result in creating unstable conditions leading to off-site landslide, lateral spreading, or liquefaction. There is no reported evidence that subsidence has occurred, or may occur in the future, in the proposed Project site and vicinity. Collapsible soil is not present at the proposed Project site. Because of the Project site's proximity to earthquake faults, and that moderate seismic ground shaking may be experienced, the potential for liquefaction appears to be limited to seismic events but will be mitigated during construction. The proposed Project does not change the likelihood, magnitude or extent of existing geologic hazards to people or structures. For these reasons, the impact of the proposed Project on the exposure of people or structures to unstable soil units would be less than significant.

d. BE LOCATED ON EXPANSIVE SOIL, AS DEFINED IN TABLE 18-1-B OF THE UNIFORM BUILDING CODE (1994), CREATING SUBSTANTIAL DIRECT OR INDIRECT RISKS TO LIFE OR PROPERTY?

CONSTRUCTION

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. The reported representative values for linear extensibility in the area of the Project site indicates that the potential for soil shrinking and swelling (expansive soil) generally would not be expected. However, upper limit values of 5.0 percent for Biscailuz and 3.1 percent for Hueneme are reported. The reported upper limit values fall within a range that would be classified as having expansive characteristics. Therefore, the potential does exist for soil that would experience shrinking and swelling. However, the potential impact resulting from expansive soil can be mitigated by incorporating appropriate design considerations during project development. A geotechnical study will provide the required information to enable the design of the swimming pools and pool house that meets all existing applicable building codes. Therefore, by integrating the appropriate design features, the proposed Project would experience less than significant impact from expansive soils.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. The reported representative values for linear extensibility in the area of the Project site indicates that the potential for soil shrinking and swelling (expansive soil) generally would not be expected. However, any potential impact resulting from expansive soil will be mitigated by incorporating appropriate design considerations, based on information from the Project geotechnical study, during project development. In addition, the design of the swimming pools and pool house will meet all existing applicable building codes. Therefore, by integrating the appropriate design features, the constructed facilities associated with the proposed Project would experience less than significant impact from expansive soils.

e. 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?

CONSTRUCTION

NO IMPACT. The proposed project would not require the need for the installation and/or use of septic tanks; therefore, no impact would occur.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

NO IMPACT. The proposed Project would not install and/or use septic tanks. Therefore, no impact would occur.

f. DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY DESTROY A UNIQUE PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCE OR SITE OR UNIQUE GEOLOGIC FEATURE?

CONSTRUCTION

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION INCORPORATED. The highest resolution geologic mapping available is at a scale of 1:24,000 (Dibblee, 2001). It maps the sediments underlying the Project as Holocene alluvial gravel, sand, and silt of valley and floodplains (Qa). A mile to the south are deposits are deposits mapped as Pleistocene elevated, dissected remnants of alluvial sand and gravel (Qoa). Two miles to the north are sediments

mapped as Pleistocene slightly elevated and locally dissected alluvial gravel and sand (Qae). The paleontological records search (MacLeod, 2019) indicates that the surficial sediments are too young to produce significant paleontological resources, but that deeper excavations might encounter sediments old enough to produce such resources. Project excavations are expected to reach a maximum depth of 20 feet below ground surface.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

NO IMPACT. The project site would be fully developed. Once the project is in operation, no additional ground disturbance would occur to impact potentially buried resources.

Mitigation Measure. The following recommended mitigation measure is designed to reduce potential significant impacts to paleontological resources to a less-than-significant level. Please see Mitigation Measure CULT-1. Only one monitor (one archaeologist crossed-trained in paleontological resources) is required to be present in the field.

GEO-1 Retention of a Qualified Paleontologist and The Preparation of a Paleontological Resources Mitigation and Monitoring Plan (PRMMP). A Qualified Paleontologist shall be retained before the initiation of construction activities to develop a PRMMP for the project. The function of the PRMMP will be to explain project geology, paleontological sensitivity, and procedures that will comply with State statutes and County of Los Angeles requirements so that potential impacts to significant paleontological resources are minimized or eliminated. The Qualified Paleontologist will draw on geotechnical reports, grading and excavation plans, and the construction schedule in order to formulate the proper monitoring methods, places, and times. The Qualified Paleontologist shall participate in a preconstruction meeting with project contractors so that an understanding of construction mitigation measures is ensured and so that clear communication procedures are formulated. Full-time paleontological monitoring is recommended when project earth-moving activities reach a depth of two (2) feet below original ground level. This minimum depth will be stipulated in the PRMMP.

VIII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b. Conflict with any applicable plan, policy or regulation of an agency adopted for the purposes of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Discussion:

While climate change has been a concern since at least 1998, as evidenced by the establishment of the United Nations and World Meteorological Organization's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), efforts devoted to greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction, and climate change research and policy have increased dramatically in recent years.

Global climate change (GCC) is expressed as changes in the average weather of the Earth, as measured by change in wind patterns, storms, precipitation, and temperature. Much scientific research has indicated that the human-related emissions of GHGs above natural levels are likely a significant contributor to GCC.

Because the direct environmental effect of GHG emissions is the increase in global temperatures, which in turn has numerous indirect effects on the environment and humans, the area of influence for GHG impacts associated with the proposed Project would be global. However, those cumulative global impacts would be manifested as impacts on resources and ecosystems in California.

California's Fourth Climate Change Assessment describes how global climate change would affect the environment in California. The impacts described in the assessment reports, including the Statewide Summary Report (Bedsworth et al., 2018) and the Los Angeles Summary Report (Hall et al., 2018), include changing sea levels, changes in snow pack and availability of potable water, changes in storm flows and flood inundation zones, health and other impacts from extreme temperature events, increases in wildfires, and other impacts.

Greenhouse gases are gases that trap heat in the atmosphere and are emitted by natural processes and human activities. Examples of GHGs that are produced both by natural processes and by industry include carbon dioxide (CO_2), methane (CH_4), and nitrous oxide (N_2O). The accumulation of GHGs in the atmosphere regulates the earth's temperature. GHGs have varying amounts of global warming potential (GWP). The GWP is the ability of a gas or aerosol to trap heat in the atmosphere. By convention, CO_2 is assigned a GWP of 1. In comparison, CH_4 per the IPCC's Fourth Assessment Report has a GWP of 25, which means that it has a global warming effect 25 times greater than CO_2 on an equal-mass basis. To account for their GWP, GHG emissions are often reported as CO_2e (CO_2 equivalent). The CO_2e for a source is calculated by multiplying each GHG emission by its GWP, and then adding the results together to produce a single, combined emission rate representing all GHGs.

Regulatory Setting

All levels of government have some responsibility for the protection of air quality, and each level (federal, State, and regional/local) has specific responsibilities relating to air quality regulation.

Regulation of GHGs is a relatively new component of air quality. Several legislative actions have been adopted to regulate GHGs on a federal, State, and local level. There are currently no federal regulations that would apply directly to the Project. However, there are several State and local greenhouse gas emissions reduction regulations, goals, and policies that would apply directly or indirectly to the Project's construction and operation.

California Governor's Office of Planning and Research, Guidelines on GHG (SB 97)

In late December 2009, the California Natural Resources Agency adopted certain amendments to the State CEQA Guidelines for reviewing the environmental impacts of greenhouse gas emissions to implement the California Legislature's directive in PRC Section 21083.05 (enacted as part of SB 97 (Chapter 185, Statutes, 2007)). These amendments became effective in March 2010. As part of the administrative rulemaking process, the Natural Resources Agency developed a Final Statement of Reasons explaining the legal and factual bases, intent, and purpose of the CEQA Guidelines amendments. The Final Statement of Reasons guides the scope of GHG analyses for CEQA documents and addresses the subject of life-cycle analysis.

Life-cycle analysis (i.e., assessing economy-wide GHG emissions from the processes in manufacturing and transporting all raw materials used in developing a given project and infrastructure) depends on emission factors or econometric factors that are not well established for all processes. The basis of State CEQA Guidelines set forth by the California Natural Resources Agency indicate that a full life-cycle analysis would be beyond the scope of a given CEQA document because of a lack of consensus guidance on life-cycle analysis methodologies.

California Governor's Executive Orders on GHG Emissions

The California Governor's Executive Order S-3-05 (June 2005) declared California's particular vulnerability to climate change and sets a target of an 80 percent reduction of California greenhouse gas emissions from 1990 levels by 2050 and a target to achieve 1990 levels by 2020. In response to Executive Order S-3-05 and increasing societal concern about the effects of climate change, the California Legislature enacted California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006, Assembly Bill 32 (AB 32). In passing the bill, the California Legislature found that:

> Global warming poses a serious threat to the economic well-being, public health, natural resources, and the environment of California. The potential adverse impacts of global warming include the exacerbation of air quality problems, a reduction in the quality and supply of water to the state from the Sierra snowpack, a rise in sea levels resulting in the displacement of thousands of coastal businesses and residences, damage to marine ecosystems and the natural environment, and an increase in the incidences of infectious diseases, asthma, and other human health-related problems [HSC Section 38501, Division 25.5, Part 1].

In September 2018, Executive Order B-55-18 established a new statewide goal to achieve carbon neutrality as soon as possible, and no later than 2045, and achieve and maintain net negative emissions thereafter. The ARB was directed to develop the framework for implementing the goal of carbon neutrality. Executive Order B-30-15 (April 2015) established a California greenhouse gas reduction target of 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030. One purpose of this interim target is to ensure California meets its target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions to 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050. This executive order also specifically addresses the need for climate adaptation and directs state agencies to update the California Climate Adaptation Strategy to identify how climate change will affect California infrastructure and industry and what actions the state can take to reduce the risks posed by climate change. Senate Bill 32 (SB 32) of 2016 codified the GHG emissions target to 40 percent below the 1990 level by 2030.

California Renewables Portfolio Standard (RPS) Program

Electric utilities in California must procure a minimum quantity of the sales from eligible renewable energy resources as specified by RPS requirements. The Clean Energy and Pollution Reduction Act of 2015 (SB 350), signed into law on October 7, 2015, established California's state policy objectives on long-term energy planning and procurement. The 100 Percent Clean Energy Act of 2018 [Senate Bill 100 (SB 100)] revised the RPS targets to establish the policy that eligible renewable energy resources and zero-carbon resources supply 100 percent of retail sales of electricity to California end-use customers and 100 percent of electricity procured to serve all state agencies by December 31, 2045. With SB 350 and SB 100, California's renewable energy objectives include:

- To set the Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) for the procurement of California's electricity from renewable sources at 33 percent by 2020, 50 percent by 2026, and 60 percent by 2030;
- To plan for 100 percent of total retail sales of electricity in California to come from eligible renewable energy resources and zero-carbon resources by December 31, 2045; and
- To double the energy efficiency savings in electricity and natural gas end uses by retail customers by 2030.

The RPS program will indirectly reduce the Project's GHG emissions over the life of the project as the GHG emissions from the electricity used during the project go down over time.

AB 32 Climate Change Scoping Plan and Scoping Plan Updates

With AB 32, the 2020 GHG emissions reduction goal became law and requires California to maintain and continue reductions beyond 2020. AB 32 also directed the ARB to develop regulations and market mechanisms to reduce GHG and prepare a scoping plan to identify how best to reach the 2020 limit. AB 32 requires ARB to update the Scoping Plan at least every five years. Accordingly, the 2017 Scoping Plan Update, approved on December 14, 2017, provides the strategy for achieving California's 2030 target in SB 32 (CARB, 2017).

The initial AB 32 Climate Change Scoping Plan (CARB, 2008) identified the strategies for achieving the maximum technologically feasible and cost-effective GHG reductions by 2020, and to maintain and continue reductions beyond 2020. The first statewide AB 32 Scoping Plan was adopted by ARB in December 2008, and the ARB approved the First Update to the Scoping Plan in May 2014 (CARB, 2014). The project itself conforms with the renewable energy objectives of the Scoping Plan, and at least one regulation that has come from enacting the climate change strategies in the Scoping Plan, the Low Carbon Fuel Standard (LCFS), would cause a small reduction in the direct GHG emissions during Project construction and operation.

California Appliance Efficiency Standards, Green Building and Building Efficiency Codes

Titles 20 and 24 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR) include requirements on building standards and design and efficiency for appliances, such as water and space heaters and pumps that directly and indirectly reduce GHG emissions. The project would be required to meet these design codes and efficiency standards.

Unincorporated Los Angeles County Community Climate Action Plan 2020 and Los Angeles County General Plan

The County of Los Angeles adopted a Climate Change Action Plan (County of Los Angeles, 2015a) that includes several policies that have also been incorporated into the Air Quality Element of the General Plan (County of Los Angeles, 2015b):

Goal AQ 3: Implementation of plans and programs to address the impacts of climate change.

- **Policy AQ 3.1**: Facilitate the implementation and maintenance of the Community Climate Action Plan to ensure that the County reaches its climate change and greenhouse gas emission reduction goals.
- **Policy AQ 3.2**: Reduce energy consumption in County operations by 20 percent by 2015.
- **Policy AQ 3.3**: Reduce water consumption in County operations.
- **Policy AQ 3.4**: Participate in local, regional and state programs to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- **Policy AQ 3.5**: Encourage energy conservation in new development and municipal operations.
- **Policy AQ 3.6**: Support rooftop solar facilities on new and existing buildings.
- **Policy AQ 3.7**: Support and expand urban forest programs within the unincorporated areas.
- **Policy AQ 3.8**: Develop, implement, and maintain countywide climate change adaptation strategies to ensure that the community and public services are resilient to climate change impacts.

Policies AQ 3.3, 3.5, 3.6 would apply at the project level and could potentially apply to the proposed Project.

Los Angeles Countywide Sustainability Plan

The County of Los Angeles adopted the "Our County Los Angeles Countywide Sustainability Plan" in August 2019 (County of Los Angeles, 2019). This sustainability plan includes the following goals, strategies, and actions that could apply to the project:

Goal 2: Buildings and infrastructure that support human health and resilience.

- **Strategy 2B**: Require sustainable and healthy building design and construction.
  - **Action 31**: Adopt CALGreen Tier 1 green building standards and identify which Tier 2 standards could be adopted as code amendments.
  - **Action 32**: Pilot high performance building standards for new County buildings beyond the current LEED Gold standard, such as Passive House, Zero Net Energy, Net Zero Water, Net Zero Waste, the Living Building Challenge and the WELL Building Standard.

  For these Goal 2 actions there are the following target dates:

  1) By 2025: All new buildings and 50% of major building renovations to be net zero carbon
  2) By 2035: 75% of major building renovations to be net zero carbon
  3) By 2045: 100% of major building renovations to be net zero carbon

Goal 6: Accessible parks, beaches, recreational waters, public lands, and public spaces that create opportunities for respite, recreation, ecological discovery, and cultural activities

- **Strategy 6A**: Improve access to parks, beaches, recreational waters, public lands, and public spaces.
  - **Action 75**: Implement Community Parks and Recreation Plans, and park projects identified in the LA Countywide Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment, with priority given to those in Very High/High Need Study Areas.

  For this Goal 6 action there are the following target dates:

1) By 2025: Increase to 65% the proportion of residents within half a mile of parks and open space
2) By 2035: Increase to 75% the proportion of residents within half a mile of parks and open space
3) By 2045: Increase to 85% the proportion of residents within half a mile of parks and open space

- **Strategy 6C**: Utilize sustainability best practices in the design and management of parks and recreational facilities.
  - **Action 83**: Design, renovate, and manage parks and park facilities to meet the Sustainable Sites Initiative's gold certification, or equivalent, for sustainable and resilient land development projects.

No target dates have been established for this Goal 6 action.

Impact Analysis:

a. GENERATE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS, EITHER DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, THAT MAY HAVE A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT?

CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. The proposed Project would generate GHG emissions through construction and operation activities. The period of construction would be short-term, and construction-phase GHG emissions would occur directly from the diesel fueled off-road heavy-duty equipment, the diesel and gasoline fueled on-road motor vehicles needed to complete the Project construction activities. Operation of the project will also cause direct emissions from transportation to and from the aquatics facility and from the use of natural gas for water and space heating. The indirect emissions from electricity (if any is used) and water use (fugitive dust control) during construction cannot be estimated based on available project information but are expected to be minimal in comparison with the estimated direct and indirect project emissions. The indirect operating emissions, which have been calculated, would be from electricity consumption and water use.

There are a number of potential GHG emissions significance threshold methods and thresholds that could be used, including efficiency-based thresholds, performance thresholds, GHG emission reduction plan or mitigation program conformance, "bright-line" annual emissions thresholds, etc. The Los Angeles County General Plan's Draft EIR used the following tiered approach (County of Los Angeles, 2014):

- **Tier 1**: If a project is exempt from CEQA, project-level and cumulative GHG emissions are less than significant.
- **Tier 2**: If the project complies with a GHG emissions reduction plan or mitigation program that avoids or substantially reduces GHG emissions in the project's geographic area (i.e., city or county), project-level and cumulative GHG emissions are less than significant.
- **Tier 3**: If GHG emissions are less than the screening-level threshold, project-level and cumulative GHG emissions are less than significant.
- **Tier 4**: If emissions exceed the screening threshold, a more detailed review of the project's GHG emissions is warranted.

The proposed Project is not exempt from CEQA, so Tier 1 approach does not apply. While the project will be complying with various GHG emissions reduction measures from many

different state programs and County plans, it is unclear if the project complies with any specific GHG emissions reduction plan or mitigation program as meant under the Tier 2 approach.

The County has not adopted a specific GHG Tier 3 project-level emissions threshold for this project type. For Tier 3 implementation the General Plan used SCAQMD's proposed, but not approved, "bright-line" screening-level threshold of 3,000 MTCO2e per year. This is the emissions threshold selected for this project. This selection is conservative, as this project includes stationary sources, which have a separate SCAQMD threshold of 10,000 $MTCO_2e$ per year. This threshold is compared with the worst-case annual project emission that are based on project life (30-year project life) amortized construction emissions plus the worst-case year (initial year) operation emissions.

The Project's conservatively estimated annual emissions, compared to the applicable "bright-line" screening emissions threshold are summarized in Table 3-11. Appendix A includes the GHG emissions estimate calculations and assumptions for Project construction and operation.

Table 3-11. Greenhouse Gas Emissions-Construction and Operation

Emissions Source	GHG Emissions (Metric Tons CO_2e/year)
Annual Construction Emissions [1]	18.1
Operations Emissions Source	
Area Emissions	0.0
Energy Use	281.0
Mobile Source	453.4
Stationary Source	737.9
Waste	53.0
Water Use	8.4
Total Annual Operation Emissions	1,533.7
Total Annual Emissions	1,551.8
Bright-Line Screening Level Emissions Significance Threshold [2]	3,000
Exceeds Thresholds?	**No**

Source: Appendix A
[1] Annual construction emissions are the total construction emissions divided over the project life (30 years).

Table 3-11 shows that the proposed Project's construction would have GHG emissions that are well below the Tier 3 screening level emissions significance criteria; therefore, the more detailed Tier 4 analysis is not required, and the Project is determined to have less than significant GHG emissions impacts (see Appendix A).

b. CONFLICT WITH ANY APPLICABLE PLAN, POLICY OR REGULATION OF AN AGENCY ADOPTED FOR THE PURPOSES OF REDUCING THE EMISSIONS OF GREENHOUSE GASES?

CONSTRUCTION

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. The Project would temporarily generate a small amount of GHG emissions from off-road equipment uses and on-road vehicle trips during Project construction. Regulations like the California Vehicle Standards and Low Carbon Fuel Standard do not directly apply to the Project, but the Project would comply indirectly during construction (by using compliant California vehicles and fuels). GHG emissions reduction strategies related to waste reduction do apply, including state waste diversion and reduction

plans and in the Unincorporated Los Angeles County Community Climate Action Plan's Waste Reduction, Reuse, and Recycling "SW" Waste Diversion Goal action. The County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works has committed to recycling construction wastes to the extent feasible to meet these emissions reduction goals.

The proposed Project's construction would conform to State and local GHG emissions reduction/climate change regulations and policies/strategies; therefore, the proposed Project's construction would have less than significant impacts.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. Climate change is a global phenomenon, and the regulatory background and scientific data are changing rapidly. In 2016, the California state legislature adopted Senate Bill (SB) 32, which furthers the GHG emissions reductions goals started by Assembly Bill (AB) 32, the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006. The 2017 Climate Change Scoping Plan (CARB, 2017), prepared to address SB 32, provides new and updated strategies to meet the State's GHG emissions reduction goal of 40 percent below 1990 GHG emission levels by 2030.

The Office of the California Attorney General maintains a website that addresses mitigation for greenhouse gases (OAG, 2019). This website provides links to documents that list potential CEQA mitigation measures for global climate change impacts. These documents tend to focus on the discussion of measures that are recommended to be added to planning documents, rather than the identification of measures that would be applicable to specific types of development projects. From these documents, and other state and local plans, the specific regulations, policies, plans, and associated GHG emissions reduction measures that could be relevant to the proposed Project have been identified and listed below in Table 3-12. This table identifies the applicability and how the Project would comply with each of the potentially applicable GHG regulations, plans, policies, and emissions reduction strategies.

Operation GHG emissions would be emitted directly from on-site water heating and from vehicles accessing the site, and indirectly from electricity use at the site, waste generated at the site, and water use at the site. Estimated direct GHG emissions of the proposed Project during operation would be well below the threshold of the federal and State mandatory reporting regulation. The proposed Project's GHG emissions also would not trigger regulatory action under the federal 40 CFR Part 52 and the State Cap-and-Trade regulations.

Table 3-12. Project Consistency with Applicable Regulations, Plans, Policies and Emissions Reduction Strategies for GHG Emissions - Operation and Maintenance

Adopted Plan, Policy, or Regulation	Consistency Determination	Proposed Project Consistency
State		
CCR Title 24. Part 6. California Energy Efficiency Standards for Residential and Non-Residential Buildings.	Applicable and Consistent	Where applicable, the construction activities within the pool building and pool design/pool appliance design (heaters/pumps) would be designed to meet or exceed any applicable Title 24 Part 6 requirements.
CCR Title 24. Part 11. California Green Building Standards Code.	Applicable and Consistent	Where applicable, the construction activities within the pool building would be designed to meet or exceed any applicable Title 24 Part 11 requirements.
CCR Title 20. Appliance Efficiency Regulations.	Applicable and Consistent	Where applicable, the appliances that are included in the project's design (pool and other water heaters, pool pumps, air conditioning/heating, etc. would be

Table 3-12. Project Consistency with Applicable Regulations, Plans, Policies and Emissions Reduction Strategies for GHG Emissions - Operation and Maintenance

Adopted Plan, Policy, or Regulation	Consistency Determination	Proposed Project Consistency
		designed to meet or exceed the Title 20 efficiency standards.
SB 32. 2017 Climate Action Plan Emissions Reductions Strategies	Partially Applicable and Consistent	Almost all of the GHG emissions reductions strategies contained in this plan do not apply to this Project, are otherwise regulated in Title 24 or Title 20 regulations, or like the California Vehicle Standards and Low Carbon Fuel Standard do not directly apply to the Project, but the Project would comply indirectly (by using compliant California vehicles and fuels). Also, strategies related to waste reduction apply to this project.
Local		
Unincorporated Los Angeles County Community Climate Action Plan	Applicable and Consistent	The Project would be designed to include all applicable and feasible actions listed in the County's Climate Action Plan. This includes complying with the applicable Green Building and Energy "BE" actions, Land Use and Transportation "LUT" actions.
Los Angeles County General Plan	Applicable and Consistent	The Project would have to meet current California building codes that would ensure that the applicable climate change policies in the General Plan, including: 1) requiring designing the pool with a cover to reduce one of the largest sources of water use, evaporation (Policy AQ 3.3); 2) designing the project to meet all California Title 24 Building Energy Efficiency Standards and Green Building Standards, and Title 20 Appliance Efficiency Regulation standards (Policy AQ 3.5); and making the building solar ready per Title 24 requirements (Policy AQ 3.6).
Los Angeles County Code Title 31 Green Building Standards	Applicable and Consistent	The Project would be required to meet this County Code regulation
County of Los Angeles Park Design and Standards	Applicable and Consistent	The Project would be required to meet the design standards related to GHG emissions reduction, such as the LEED Gold Certification design requirements, that are included in these guidelines.
Los Angeles Countywide Sustainability Plan	Partially Applicable and Consistent	The project is planned to be built before the initial target dates for new construction projects. However, the project is being designed to meet the Sustainability Plan's Goal 6 Action 83 LEED gold certification design goal for new park projects, and its construction would help the county achieve its Action 6 Strategy 6A goals related to population access to park facilities.
Source: County of Los Angeles 2015a, 2015b, 2019; CARB, 2017		

In summary, the proposed Project's operation and maintenance would conform to State and local GHG emissions reduction/climate change regulations and policies/strategies; therefore, the proposed Project's operation and maintenance would have less than significant impacts.

IX. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	☐	☐	☒	☐
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 or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area?	☐	☐	☐	☒
f. Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒
g. Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Discussion:

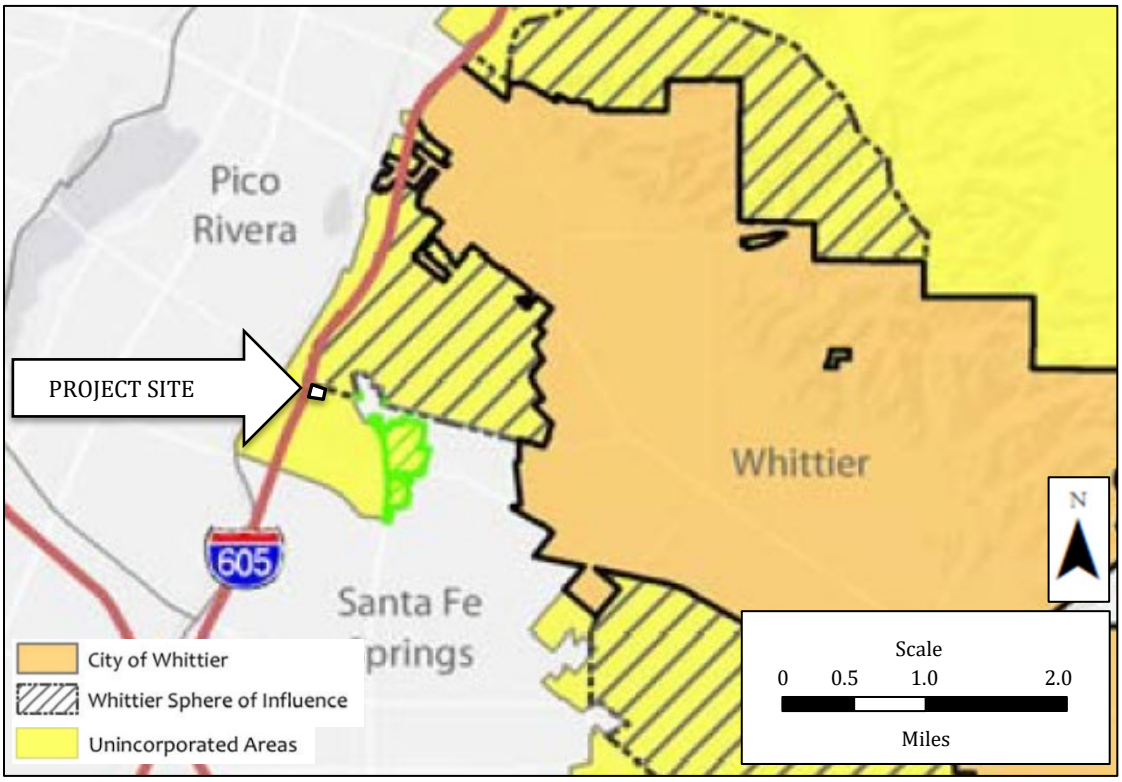
Environmental Setting

Hazardous materials are substances which, by their nature and reactivity, have the capacity of causing harm or a health hazard during normal exposure or an accidental release or mishap, and are characterized as being toxic, corrosive, flammable, reactive, an irritant or strong sensitizer. The term “hazardous substances” encompasses chemicals regulated by both the US Department of Transportation’s “hazardous materials” regulations and the US Environmental Protection Agency’s (USEPA) “hazardous waste” regulations, including emergency response. Hazardous wastes require special handling and disposal because of their potential to damage public health and the environment. A designation of “acutely” or “extremely” hazardous refers to specific listed chemicals and quantities.

Activities and operations that use or manage hazardous or potentially hazardous substances could create a hazardous situation if release of these substances occurred. Individual circumstances, including the type of substance, quantity used or managed, and the nature of the activities and operations, affect the probable frequency and severity of consequences from a hazardous situation. Federal, state and local laws regulate the use and management of hazardous or potentially hazardous substances. This section considers the potential for human health hazards or exposure of people to existing sources of potential health hazards from the proposed Project.

Review of historical records indicates that the Project site was used for agricultural use as far back as 1928, with subsequent development encroaching and slowly replacing agricultural land use beginning in 1953. The land south of the Project site was developed as Pioneer High School in 1959 (Leighton Consulting, 2013a) or perhaps as early as 1956 (Leighton Consulting, 2013b). By 1963 (possibly earlier), the Project site had been paved as a parking lot and the Interstate-605 freeway had been constructed. Documentation of the development of the surrounding environs continues through 2016.

The Project site is located in unincorporated jurisdiction of Los Angeles County, adjacent to and south of City of Whittier sphere of influence as shown in Figure 3-3.



Source: City of Whittier, 2013, General Plan Housing Element (Figure 3-1)

Figure 3-3. City of Whittier Jurisdictional Association of the Project Site

Development immediately surrounding the Project site includes highway transportation, single-family and multiple-family dwellings, office and commercial buildings, community and public facilities, schools, utility infrastructure, and industrial buildings. The exposed surfaces at the Project site include asphaltic concrete with surface water runoff to gutter drainage collection systems that convey storm water to the ocean via storm drains. Oil and grease dripping stains are present and scattered over the surface of the parking lot area. The surrounding residential areas have considerably more landscape with front and back lawns and other vegetation such as trees being common. Areas of commercial and industrial development contain limited landscape typically in planters; the former with substantially less. Surface water drainage collection systems convey storm water runoff to ocean via storm drains. Facilities such as former gasoline service stations or other activities that would store or use hazardous materials has not been historically identified at the Project site.

The proposed Project is also located within one-quarter mile of three existing schools. These include the adjoining Pioneer High School with the nearest building approximately 300 feet to the south; Brethren Christian School located approximately 900 feet to the east; and Ada S. Nelson Elementary School located approximately 1,350 feet to the southeast.

Hazardous Materials Sites

A Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (Phase I ESA) for the proposed Project was prepared in February 2019 by HANA Resources, Inc. Included in the Phase I ESA, An Environmental Data Resources, Inc. (EDR) search (EDR Radius Map™ Report with GeoCheck) was conducted to identify hazardous sites within a 1-mile radius of the proposed Project site (EDR, 2018). This report was reviewed; presented below is a summary of the results of the EDR search for the databases with sites identified.

NPL

National Priorities List (Superfund). The NPL is a subset of CERCLIS and identifies over 1,200 sites for priority cleanup under the Superfund Program. NPL sites may encompass relatively large areas. As such, EDR provides polygon coverage for over 1,000 NPL site boundaries produced by EPA's Environmental Photographic Interpretation Center (EPIC) and regional EPA offices.

- A review of the NPL database, as provided by EDR, and dated 12/11/2018 has revealed that there is one (1) site within the searched area of up to one mile.

RCRA CORRACTS

CORRACTS identifies hazardous waste handlers with RCRA corrective action activity.

- A review of the CORRACTS database, as provided by EDR, and dated 12/11/2018 has revealed that there is one (1) site within the searched area of up to one mile.

RCRA-LQG

RCRAInfo is EPA's comprehensive information system, providing access to data supporting the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) of 1976 and the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments (HSWA) of 1984. The database includes selective information on sites which generate, transport, store, treat and/or dispose of hazardous waste as defined by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). Large quantity generators (LQGs) generate over 1,000 kilograms (kg) of hazardous waste, or over 1 kg of acutely hazardous waste per month.

- A review of the RCRA-LQG database, as provided by EDR, and dated 12/11/2018 has revealed that there is one (1) site within the searched area of up to one-quarter mile.

ENVIROSTOR

The Department of Toxic Substances Control's (DTSC's) Site Mitigation and Brownfields Reuse Program's (SMBRP's) EnviroStor database identifies sites that have known contamination or sites for which there may be reasons to investigate further. The database includes the following site types: Federal Superfund sites (National Priorities List (NPL)); State Response, including Military Facilities and State Superfund; Voluntary Cleanup; and School sites. EnviroStor provides similar information to the information that was available in CalSites, and provides additional site information, including, but not limited to, identification of formerly-contaminated properties that have been released for reuse, properties where environmental deed restrictions have been recorded to prevent inappropriate land uses, and risk characterization information that is used to assess potential impacts to public health and the environment at contaminated sites.

- A review of the ENVIROSTOR database, as provided by EDR, and dated 12/11/2018 has revealed that there are eight (8) sites within the searched area of up to one mile.

LUST

Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) Sites included in GeoTracker. GeoTracker is the Water Boards data management system for sites that impact, or have the potential to impact, water quality in California, with emphasis on groundwater.

- A review of the LUST database, as provided by EDR, and dated 12/11/2018 has revealed that there are six (6) sites within the searched area of up to one-half mile.

CPS-SLIC

Cleanup Program Sites (CPS; also known as Site Cleanups [SC] and formerly known as Spills, Leaks, Investigations, and Cleanups [SLIC] sites) included in GeoTracker. GeoTracker is the Water Boards data management system for sites that impact, or have the potential to impact, water quality in California, with emphasis on groundwater.

- A review of the SLIC database, as provided by EDR, and dated 12/11/2018 has revealed that there is one (1) site within the searched area of up to one-half mile.

UST

The Underground Storage Tank database contains registered USTs. USTs are regulated under Subtitle I of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). The data come from the State Water Resources Control Board's Hazardous Substance Storage Container Database.

- A review of the UST database, as provided by EDR, and dated 12/11/20128 has revealed that there are three (3) sites within the searched area of up to one-quarter mile.

SWRCY

A listing of recycling facilities in California.

- A review of the SWRCY database, as provided by EDR, and dated 12/11/2018 has revealed that there is one (1) site within the searched area of up to one-half mile.

SCH

The School Property Evaluation Program contains proposed and existing school sites that are being evaluated by DTSC for possible hazardous materials contamination. In some cases, these properties may be listed in the CalSites category depending on the level of threat to public health and safety or the environment they pose.

- A review of the SCH database, as provided by EDR, and dated 12/11/2018 has revealed that there is one (1) site within the searched area of up to one-quarter mile.

SWEEPS UST

Statewide Environmental Evaluation and Planning System. This underground storage tank listing was updated and maintained by a company contacted by the SWRCB in the early 1990's. The listing is no longer updated or maintained. The local agency is the contact for more information on a site on the SWEEPS list.

- A review of the SWEEPS UST database, as provided by EDR, and dated 12/11/2018 has revealed that there is one (1) sites within the searched area of up to one-quarter mile.

HIST UST

The Hazardous Substance Storage Container Database is a historical listing of UST sites. Refer to local/county source for current data.

- A review of the HIST UST database, as provided by EDR, and dated 12/11/2018 has revealed that there are two (2) sites within the searched area of up to one-quarter mile.

ROD

Record of Decision. ROD documents mandate a permanent remedy at an NPL (Superfund) site containing technical and health information to aid in the cleanup.

- A review of the ROD database, as provided by EDR, and dated 12/11/2018 has revealed that there is one (1) site within the searched area of up to one mile.

FINDS

Facility Index System. FINDS contains both facility information and 'pointers' to other sources that contain more detail. EDR includes the following FINDS databases in this report: PCS (Permit Compliance System), AIRS (Aerometric Information Retrieval System), DOCKET (Enforcement Docket used to manage and track information on civil judicial enforcement cases for all environmental statutes), FURS (Federal Underground Injection Control), C-DOCKET (Criminal Docket System used to track criminal enforcement actions for all environmental statutes), FFIS (Federal Facilities Information System), STATE (State Environmental Laws and Statutes), and PADS (PCB Activity Data System).

- A review of the FINDS database, as provided by EDR, and dated 12/11/2018 has revealed that there is one (1) site within the searched area of less than one-eighth mile.

DRYCLEANERS

A list of drycleaner related facilities that have EPA ID numbers. These are facilities with certain SIC codes: power laundries, family and commercial; garment pressing and cleaners' agents; linen supply; coin-operated laundries and cleaning; dry cleaning plants except rugs; carpet and upholstery cleaning; industrial launderers; laundry and garment services.

- A review of the DRYCLEANERS database, as provided by EDR, and dated 12/11/2018 has revealed that there are two (2) sites within the searched area of up to one-quarter mile.

EMI

Toxics and criteria pollutant emissions data collected by the ARB and local air pollution agencies.

- A review of the EMI database, as provided by EDR, and dated 12/11/2018 has revealed that there is one (1) site within the searched area of less than one-eighth mile.

HAZNET

The data is extracted from the copies of hazardous waste manifests received each year by the DTSC. The annual volume of manifests is typically 700,000 - 1,000,000 annually, representing approximately 350,000 - 500,000 shipments. Data from non-California manifests & continuation sheets are not included at the present time. Data are from the manifests submitted without correction, and therefore many contain some invalid values for data elements such as generator ID, TSD ID, waste category, and disposal method. This database begins with calendar year 1993.

- A review of the HAZNET database, as provided by EDR, and dated 12/11/2018 has revealed that there are six (6) sites within the searched area of less than one-eighth mile.

HIST CORTESE

The sites for the list are designated by the State Water Resource Control Board [LUST], the Integrated Waste Board [SWF/LS], and the Department of Toxic Substances Control [CALSITES]. This listing is no longer updated by the state agency.

- A review of the HIST CORTESE database, as provided by EDR, and dated 12/11/2018 has revealed that there are six (6) sites within the searched area of less than one-half mile.

HWP

Detailed information on permitted hazardous waste facilities and corrective action ("cleanups") tracked in EnviroStor.

- A review of the HWP database, as provided by EDR, and dated 12/11/2018 has revealed that there is one (1) site within the searched area of up to one mile.

NPDES

A listing of NPDES permits, including stormwater.

- A review of the NPDES database, as provided by EDR, and dated 12/11/20108 has revealed that there is one (1) site within the searched area of less than one-eighth mile.

CIWQS

The California Integrated Water Quality System (CIWQS) is a computer system used by the State and Regional Water Quality Control Boards to track information about places of environmental interest, manage permits and other orders, track inspections, and manage violations and enforcement activities.

- A review of the CIWQS database, as provided by EDR, and dated 12/11/20108 has revealed that there is one (1) site within the searched area of less than one-eighth mile.

A summary of the regulatory database search findings is provided in Table 3-13 below.

Table 3-13. Summary of Regulatory Database Search Findings

Database	Map Finding Summary	Property ID/Location Relative to Project Site/Status	Summary of Potential Hazard Impact Risk
NPL	1	Omega Chemical Corporation Source is located ≥1.0 mile southeast from Project Site and is cross- and down-gradient; USEPA superfund site; cleanup status: open-inactive as of 1/29/2015	No impact to Project Site expected due to distance and location.
RCRA CORRACTS	1	Omega Chemical Corporation Source is located ≥1.0 mile southeast from Project Site and is cross- and down-gradient; USEPA superfund site; cleanup status: open-inactive as of 1/29/2015	No impact to Project Site expected due to distance and location.
RCRA - LQG	1	Rite Aid #5495 Source is located ~1,293 feet east-northeast of the Project Site and is cross- and slightly up-gradient; no reported releases or violations	No impact to Project Site expected due to distance and location and that there are no reported releases.

Database	Map Finding Summary	Property ID/Location Relative to Project Site/Status	Summary of Potential Hazard Impact Risk
ENVIROSTOR	8	Pioneer High School Stadium Modernization (High School Site) Confirmed contaminants in soil from past agricultural use including arsenic, lead and OCPs (DDE, DDT); Phase I ESA, PEA, Supplemental Site Investigation.	No impact to Project Site expected due to previous mitigation.
		Custom Chemical Formulators, Inc. (~3,251 feet south)	No impact to Project Site expected due to location and no further action status.
		Sur Lite Corp (~4,902 feet east-southeast)	No impact to Project Site expected due to location and closure status
		Aerospace Rivet Manufacturing Corp (~4,927 southeast)	No impact to Project Site expected due to location and no further action status.
		Quaker City Plating, Ltd (~5,131 feet east-southeast)	No impact to Project Site expected due to location.
		Cal-Western Paints, Inc. (~5,178 southeast)	No impact to Project Site expected due to location and no action required status.
		Rivera Road In discriminant Dump (~5,176 feet west-southwest)	No impact to Project Site expected due to location and no action required status.
		Mid-West Fabricating Co. (~5,267 feet southeast) Sources are located cross- and down-gradient from Project Site	No impact to Project Site expected due to location and past activities
LUST	6	Mobil #18-E50 (Former #11-E50) (~2,098 feet south-southwest) Located down-gradient; petroleum products used; case closed	No impact to Project Site expected due to location and closure status
		Circle K (Former Mobil Oil #18-E50) (~2,098 feet south-southwest) Located down-gradient; petroleum products used; case open-remediation	No impact to Project Site expected due to location and closure status
		Chevron #9-0913 (~2,378 feet south-southwest) Located down-gradient; petroleum products used; case closed	No impact to Project Site expected due to location and closure status
		TOSCO-76 Station 6097 (~1,026 feet east) Located cross-gradient; petroleum products used; case closed	No impact to Project Site expected due to location and closure status
		Agricultural Property (~1,903 feet south) Located down-gradient; petroleum products used; case closed	No impact to Project Site expected due to location and closure status
		7-11 Store #20677 (~2,599 feet southeast)	No impact to Project Site expected due to location and closure status

Database	Map Finding Summary	Property ID/Location Relative to Project Site/Status	Summary of Potential Hazard Impact Risk
		Located down-gradient/cross-gradient; petroleum products used; case closed	
CPS-SLIC	1	Alexander-Bell Property (~1,344 feet northeast) Located cross- and up-gradient; case closed	No impact to Project Site expected due to location
UST	3	Pioneer High School (High School Site)	
		TOSCO-76 Station #6907 (~1,026 feet east) Located cross-gradient; petroleum products used; registered UST closure	No impact to Project Site expected due to location and closure status
		American Royal Petroleum, Inc. ((~1,026 feet east) Located cross-gradient; petroleum products used; registered UST	No impact to Project Site expected due to location and status
SWRCY	1	Replanet, LLC (~1,263 feet east-northeast) Located cross- and up-gradient; no reported releases	No impact to Project Site expected due to location and status
SCH	1	Pioneer High School Stadium Modernization (High School Site) Confirmed contaminants in soil from past agricultural use including arsenic, lead and OCPs (DDE, DDT); Phase I ESA, PEA, Supplemental Site Investigation; Status: No Further Action	No impact to Project Site expected due to location and current status/past mitigation
SWEEPS UST	1	Unocal Corp SS#6907 (~1,026 feet east) Located cross-gradient; UST active as of database record date of 6/30/89; petroleum products used; no release reported	No impact to Project Site expected due to location and closure status
HIST UST	2	76 Station No.6907 (~1,026 feet east) Located cross-gradient; two listings for same property; petroleum products; no reported releases	No impact to Project Site expected due to location and closure status
ROD	1	Omega Chemical Corporation Source is located >1.0 mile southeast from Project Site and is cross- and down-gradient; USEPA superfund site; describes impacted media; cleanup status: open-inactive as of 1/29/2015	No impact to Project Site expected due to distance and location
FINDS	1	Pioneer High School (High School Site) No reported releases	No impact to Project Site expected due to location and current status/past mitigation
DRY CLEANERS	2	Dryclean Express (~1,071 feet east-northeast) [two listings for same property] Located cross- and up-gradient; halogenated solvents used; no reported releases	No impact to Project Site expected due to location and status
EMI	1	Whittier Union High School (High School Site)	No impact to Project Site expected due to location and current status/past mitigation

Database	Map Finding Summary	Property ID/Location Relative to Project Site/Status	Summary of Potential Hazard Impact Risk
		Report of air emissions to South Coast Air Quality Management District	
HAZNET	6	Whittier Union High School/Pioneer High School (High School Site) Disposal of asbestos containing waste Disposal of organic solids wastes	No impact to Project Site expected due to location and current status/past mitigation
		LA County Sanitation District (High School Site) Disposal of household waste	No impact to Project Site expected due to location and current status/past mitigation
HIST CORTESE	6	Former Shell Station (~1,044 feet south) No information provided	No impact to Project Site expected due to location
		Mobil #18-E50 (Former #11-E50) (~2,098 feet south-southwest) Located down-gradient; petroleum products used; case closed	No impact to Project Site expected due to location and closure status
		Chevron #9-0913 (~2,378 feet south-southwest) Located down-gradient; petroleum products used; case closed	No impact to Project Site expected due to location and closure status
		TOSCO-76 Station #6907 (~1,026 feet east) Located cross-gradient; petroleum products used; case closed	No impact to Project Site expected due to location and closure status
		Agricultural Property (~1,903 feet south) Located down-gradient; petroleum products used; case closed	No impact to Project Site expected due to location and closure status
		7-11 Store #20677 (~2,599 feet southeast) Located down-gradient/cross-gradient; petroleum products used; case closed	No impact to Project Site expected due to location and closure status
HWP	1	Sur Lite Corp (4,902 feet east-southeast) Cleanup status: closed	No impact to Project Site expected due to location and closure status
NPDES	1	Pioneer High School Stadium Modernization (High School Site) Construction permit issued and terminated	No impact to Project Site expected due to location and current status/past mitigation
CIWQS	1	Whittier Union High School District (High School Site) Storm water construction	No impact to Project Site expected due to location and current status/past mitigation

Regulatory Setting

Federal

At the federal level, the principal agency regulating the generation, transport and disposal of hazardous *materials* is the USEPA, under the authority of the RCRA. The USEPA regulates hazardous *waste sites* under the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA). Applicable federal regulations are contained primarily in Titles 29, 40, and 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR).

State

The California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal-EPA) and the California Office of Emergency Services establish rules governing the use of hazardous materials. Chemical

suppliers are responsible for complying with all applicable packaging, labeling and shipping regulations.

Within Cal-EPA, the DTSC has primary regulatory responsibility, with delegation of enforcement to local jurisdictions that enter into agreements with the state agency, for the generation, transport and disposal of hazardous materials under the authority of the Hazardous Waste Control Law. In 1993, Senate Bill (SB) 10821 assigned to Cal-EPA the authority and responsibility to establish a unified hazardous waste and hazardous materials management regulatory program (known as the Unified Program) under Health and Safety Code Chapter 6.11. The purpose of the Unified Program is to consolidate, coordinate, and make consistent, both locally and statewide, six different hazardous materials and hazardous waste regulatory programs. State regulations applicable to hazardous materials are indexed in Title 26 of the CCR.

Local

Local agencies (e.g. county health departments and fire departments) regulate hazards and hazardous materials exercising their police powers under existing State regulations for the monitoring and enforcement of those regulations. In Los Angeles County, Environmental Health is an enforcement agency operating as part of the Department of Public Health and is responsible for water, sewage and solid waste.

The County of Los Angeles Fire Department, Health Hazardous Materials Division became a Certified Unified Program Agency in 1997 and is tasked to administer the following programs within Los Angeles County: the Hazardous Waste Generator Program, the Hazardous Materials Release Response Plans and Inventory Program, the California Accidental Release Prevention Program, the Aboveground Storage Tank Program and the Underground Storage Tank Program.

Impact Analysis:

a. CREATE A SIGNIFICANT HAZARD TO THE PUBLIC OR THE ENVIRONMENT THROUGH THE ROUTINE TRANSPORT, USE, OR DISPOSAL OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS?

CONSTRUCTION

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. During construction, the temporary storage and use of potentially hazardous petroleum hydrocarbon fuels and lubricants at the Project site will occur. Other potentially hazardous materials may also be used. The delivery of hazardous materials to the Project site would be made by carriers following 49 CFR Part 173. In addition, the transportation of hazardous materials would be subject to 49 CFR Part 172 which contains the hazardous materials communication requirements including shipping papers, marking, labeling and placarding, in addition to emergency response requirements, training, and security plan. By following proper handling, health and safety practices, hazards communication, and emergency response procedures, impact that would create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport or use of hazardous materials at the Project site is less than significant.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. The proposed Project includes operations and maintenance activities that would result in the periodic transport of hazardous materials to (and from) the Project site. Typical hazardous materials may include chlorine (if used) for the swimming pools, and various potentially hazardous materials used for facility maintenance. The planned pool building is proposed to have a chemical delivery area accessible from the south (along the southern boundary of the Project) with chemical storage presumably inside

of the building. No other routine storage or use of hazardous materials is planned. The delivery of hazardous materials to the Project site (or disposal from the Project site) would be made by carriers following 49 CFR Part 173. In addition, the transportation of hazardous materials would be subject to 49 CFR Part 172 which contains the hazardous materials communication requirements including shipping papers, marking, labeling and placarding, in addition to emergency response requirements, training, and security plan. By following proper handling, health and safety practices, hazards communication, and emergency response procedures, impact that would create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport or use of hazardous materials at the Project site is less than significant.

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?

CONSTRUCTION

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. The proposed Project will require the use of heavy equipment during construction of the proposed facility. There is a potential for release of fuels and/or lubricants during construction. Hazardous materials associated with swimming pool maintenance such as chlorine (if used), and other potentially hazardous materials for facility maintenance could be subject to reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment. However, the contractor would have an approved Spill Prevention Countermeasure and Control (SPCC) plan in place to address any releases that may occur during construction activities. Containment measures also would be implemented as required in the Construction General Permit.

Proper handling, health and safety practices, hazard communication, and emergency response training would be provided to all construction and facility personnel responsible for using these hazardous materials. A SPCC would be prepared to address proper handling and emergency response to accidental releases. Therefore, the proposed Project would have a less than significant impact with regards to creating 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.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. The proposed Project may require the use of hazardous materials associated with swimming pool maintenance such as chlorine (if used), and other potentially hazardous materials for facility maintenance could be subject to reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment. However, an approved Spill Prevention Countermeasure and Control (SPCC) plan will be in place to address any releases that may occur during construction activities. Proper handling, health and safety practices, hazard communication, and emergency response training will be provided to all facility personnel responsible for using these hazardous materials. Therefore, the proposed Project would have a less than significant impact with regards to creating 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?

CONSTRUCTION

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. The proposed Project is located within one-quarter mile of three existing schools. These include the adjoining Pioneer High School with the nearest building approximately 300 feet to the south; Brethren Christian School located approximately 900 feet to the east; and Ada S. Nelson Elementary School located approximately 1,350 feet to the southeast. During construction activities, the proposed Project is not expected to handle hazardous materials other than occasional fueling of heavy equipment. However, with proper storage and handling, the impact is less than significant.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. The proposed Project is located within one-quarter mile of three existing schools. These include the adjoining Pioneer High School with the nearest building approximately 300 feet to the south; Brethren Christian School located approximately 900 feet to the east; and Ada S. Nelson Elementary School located approximately 1,350 feet to the southeast. Liquid pool chlorine may be used as a sanitizer. If used, an accidental spill of chlorine liquid may release gas into the environment. According to the Emergency Response Guidebook (USDOT, 2016), the minimum initial isolation distance for a small quantity (< 55 gallons) release of chlorine liquid is 200 feet in the downwind direction. The minimum protection distance in the downwind direction during daytime is 0.2 miles (1,056 feet). Typical pool chlorine has an available chlorine content of 12%. The isolation and protection distances are designed to protect potential receptors from chlorine gas concentrations that exceed the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) permissible exposure limit (PEL) at 1 part per million (ppm). However, with proper storage and handling, and the small quantities of chlorine available to produce a hazardous emission, the impact is less than significant.

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?

CONSTRUCTION

NO IMPACT. The proposed Project is not a listed hazardous materials site pursuant Government Code §65962.5 (Cortese List), and none of the proposed improvements (swimming pools and pool building) would cause the Project site to be listed as a hazardous materials site. Therefore, the proposed Project would have no impact because it would not cause a hazard to the public or the environment.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

NO IMPACT. The proposed Project is not a listed hazardous materials site pursuant Government Code §65962.5 (Cortese List), and none of the proposed improvements (swimming pools and pool building) would cause the Project site to be listed as a hazardous materials site. Therefore, the proposed Project would have no impact because it would not cause a 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 OR EXCESSIVE NOISE FOR PEOPLE RESIDING OR WORKING IN THE PROJECT AREA?

CONSTRUCTION

NO IMPACT. The Project site is not located within two miles of a public airport or public use airport**.**

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

NO IMPACT. The Project site is not located within two miles of a public airport or public use airport**.**

f. IMPAIR IMPLEMENTATION OF OR PHYSICALLY INTERFERE WITH AN ADOPTED EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN OR EMERGENCY EVACUATION PLAN?

CONSTRUCTION

NO IMPACT. The proposed Project includes construction of two swimming pools and a pool building. The Project does not cause any changes that would impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. The proposed Project would not cause any public road closures that could block emergency access. Therefore, the proposed Project would have no impact on emergency plans or emergency access.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

NO IMPACT. Following construction, the operation and maintenance of the proposed Project would not cause any changes that would impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. The proposed Project would not cause any public road closures that could block emergency access. Therefore, the proposed Project would have no impact on emergency plans or emergency access.

g. EXPOSE PEOPLE OR STRUCTURES, EITHER DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, TO A SIGNIFICANT RISK OF LOSS, INJURY OR DEATH INVOLVING WILDLAND FIRES?

CONSTRUCTION

NO IMPACT. The proposed Project includes construction of two swimming pools and a pool building and is located within an urbanized area with concrete and asphalt paving, and other various residential, commercial and industrial development. Landscape features include lawns (non-native grasses), various ornamental trees and various shrubs mostly associated with the residential developments. The commercial and industrial, as well as public buildings would have fire suppression system as required by local fire and building codes. The various commercial and industrial buildings are constructed of materials that provide limited fuel; the residential buildings are typically constructed of wood framing. However, the Project site is not located within an area where wildland fires occur, nor is it located within an area designated as a Fire Hazard Severity Zone / Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone (Cal Fire, 2019). Therefore, the proposed Project would not expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires and consequently, represents no impact.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

NO IMPACT. The Project is located within an urbanized area with concrete and asphalt paving, and other various residential, commercial and industrial development. Landscape features include lawns (non-native grasses), various ornamental trees and various shrubs mostly associated with the residential developments. The commercial and industrial, as well as public buildings would have fire suppression system as required by local fire and building codes. The various commercial and industrial buildings are constructed of materials that provide limited fuel; the residential buildings are typically constructed of wood framing. However, the Project site is not located within an area where wildland fires occur, nor is it located within an area designated as a Fire Hazard Severity Zone / Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone (Cal Fire, 2019). Following construction, the operation and maintenance of the proposed Project will not alter site conditions that would result in a change in the risk from wildfires. Therefore, the proposed Project would not expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires and consequently, represents no impact.

X. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b. Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c. Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would:	☐	☐	☐	☒
(i) result in substantial erosion or siltation on or off site;	☐	☐	☐	☒
(ii) substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or offsite;	☐	☐	☐	☒
(iii) 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; or?	☐	☐	☐	☒
(iv) impede or redirect flood flows?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d. In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?	☐	☐	☒	☐
e. Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Discussion:

Environmental Setting

The area of land surrounding the proposed Project site is situated within an urban environmental setting and is on a lowland coastal plain that slopes gradually southward and westward toward the Pacific Ocean. The Project site has been graded relatively flat with slight drainage to the south-southwest and is paved to accommodate parking. The ground surface elevation at the center point of Project site is approximately 160 feet above mean sea level (ASL). The Project site and immediate surrounding vicinity are located within a 500-year flood zone (EDR, 2018). That is, it is classified as FEMA Zone X, a Special Flood Hazard Area with a 0.2-percent annual chance (500-year) flood (EDR, 2018; FEMA, 2019).

Hydrologically, the Project site is located within the San Gabriel River Watershed, a drainage area that encompasses 689-square miles and receives drainage from a large area of eastern Los Angeles County. Its' headwaters originate in the San Gabriel Mountain to the north. Within this watershed, the Project site is located the San Gabriel Hydrologic Unit (60000), Lower San Gabriel River Hydrologic Area (60600), Coyote Creek Hydrologic Subarea (60606). Surface waters in the Project site and vicinity drain as part of the San Gabriel River watershed (CRWQCB-LA, 2014).

The Project site is in the South Coast Hydrologic Region of southern California. As described in Bulletin 118 (CDWR, 2003 and 2016), the South Coast Hydrologic Region covers an area of approximately 10,600-square miles and drains to the Pacific Ocean. This region is subdivided into three Hydrologic regions; Los Angeles (4), Santa Ana (8) and San Diego (9), each number identifying with the corresponding California Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) region. The South Coast Hydrologic Region contains 56 delineated groundwater basins that provide 23% of total demand met by groundwater; 21 of these groundwater basins are in Los Angeles subregion 4. Within Los Angeles subregion 4, the Project site is located within the boundaries of the Central subbasin (4-011.04) of the Coastal Plain of Los Angeles groundwater basin (4-011).

Groundwater beneath the Project site is located in sediments of the Central Subbasin within the southeastern part of the Coastal Plain of Los Angeles Groundwater Basin. This subbasin is commonly referred to as the "Central Basin" and is bounded on the north by a surface divide called the La Brea high, and on the northeast and east by emergent less permeable Tertiary rocks of the Elysian, Repetto, Merced and Puente Hills. The southeast boundary between Central Basin and Orange County Groundwater Basin roughly follows Coyote Creek, which is a regional drainage province boundary. The southwest boundary is formed by the Newport Inglewood fault system and the associated folded rocks of the Newport Inglewood uplift. The Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers drain inland basins and pass across the surface of the Central Basin on their way to the Pacific Ocean (CDWR, 2003 and 2016).

The Central Basin is historically divided into forebay and pressure areas. The Los Angeles forebay is in the northern part of the Central Basin (subbasin) where the Los Angeles River enters the Central Basin through the Los Angeles Narrows from the San Fernando Groundwater Basin. The Montebello forebay extends southward from the Whittier Narrows where the San Gabriel River encounters the Central Basin and is the most important area of recharge in the subbasin. Both forebays have unconfined groundwater conditions and relatively interconnected aquifers that extend up to 1,600 feet deep to provide recharge to the aquifer system of this subbasin (CDWR, 2004).

The main productive freshwater-bearing sediments are contained within Holocene alluvium and the Pleistocene Lakewood and San Pedro Formations. Throughout most of the subbasin, the near surface Bellflower aquiclude restricts vertical percolation into the Holocene age Gaspur aquifer and other underlying aquifers and creates local semi-perched groundwater conditions. The main additional productive aquifers in the subbasin are the Gardena and Gage aquifers within the Lakewood Formation and the Silverado, Lynwood and Sunnyside aquifers within the San Pedro Formation (CDWR 2004).

Groundwater (first significant) is reported in the GeoTracker[6] database from nearby monitoring wells located approximately 1,026 feet east and 2,098 feet south-southwest of the Project site to be at depths of between 28 feet and 40 feet below ground surface. An inferred depth to groundwater is approximately 100 feet in the Gaspur aquifer (EDR, 2018). Although there are no site-specific groundwater data, the depth of groundwater beneath the site can be expected to be similar to that reported in nearby wells. Groundwater within the basin has existing beneficial use for municipal, industrial, and agricultural purposes (CRWQCB-LA, 2014). A percolation basin located along the west margin of the San Gabriel River, approximately 2,227 feet (southernmost end) west-northwest of the Project site, provides recharge to the basin aquifers.

[6] GeoTracker, State Water Resources Control Board internet-accessed database system (geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov)

Regulatory Setting

Federal

Federal Clean Water Act (CWA). Section 303 of the CWA requires states to adopt water quality standards for all surface water of the United States. In 1972, the CWA was amended to provide that the discharge of pollutants to waters of the US from any point source is unlawful unless the discharge is in compliance with a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. The 1987 amendments to the CWA added Section 402(p), which establishes a framework for regulating municipal and industrial stormwater discharges, including discharges associated with construction activities, under the NPDES program. The SWRCB and the RWQCBs are responsible for ensuring implementation and compliance with the provisions of the federal CWA.

Discharges from point sources are covered under the Industrial General Permit administered by the RWQCB. Discharges from construction activity are covered under the California General Permit for Discharges of Storm Water Associated with Construction Activity (Construction General Permit). Both are described further below under State Regulations.

Section 401 of the CWA requires that any activity that may result in a discharge into waters of the United States be certified by the RWQCB. This certification ensures that the proposed activity not violate State and/or federal water quality standards.

Section 404 of the CWA authorizes the US Army Corps of Engineers to regulate the discharge of dredged or fill material to the waters of the United States and adjacent wetlands. Discharges to waters of the United States must be avoided where possible and minimized and mitigated where avoidance is not possible. Permits are issued by the US Army Corps of Engineers.

Section 303(d) of the CWA requires states to assess surface water quality and prepare a list of waters (the 303(d) list of water quality limited segments) considered to be impaired by not meeting water quality standards and not supporting their beneficial uses. Impairment may result from point-source pollutants or non-point source pollutants. The SWRCB, through its nine regional boards, assesses water quality and establishes Total Maximum Daily Load programs for streams, lakes and coastal waters that do not meet water quality standards.

Federal Emergency Management Agency. FEMA administers the National Flood Insurance Program, which subsidizes flood insurance to communities that limit development in floodplains. As part of this program, FEMA maps all United States areas that fall within a 100-year floodplain (i.e., areas with a greater than 1% annual probability of flooding).

State

Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act. SWRCB and the nine RWQCBs have State authority to regulate water quality under the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (Porter-Cologne) and CCR Title 27 Sections 22560 through 22565. The SWRCB and the RWQCBs have the authority under this act to regulate waste discharge to surface waters or land. In addition, the Porter-Cologne Act establishes a regulatory program to protect water quality and to protect beneficial uses of state waters.

SWRCB Storm Water Program Construction General Permit (General Construction Storm Water Permit). The Construction General Permit, required by the federal Clean Water Act, regulates storm water runoff from construction sites of one acre or more in size. The Construction General Permit is a statewide, standing permit. Qualifying construction activities, which would include oil well projects where total disturbance is one acre or greater, must obtain coverage under the permit by filing a Notice of Intent with the RWQCB, and development of and compliance with a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) describing best management practices

(BMPs) the discharger will use to protect storm water runoff. The SWPPP must contain a visual monitoring program, a chemical monitoring program for "non-visible" pollutants to be implemented if there is a failure of BMPs, and a sediment monitoring plan if the site discharges directly to a water body listed on the 303(d) list (described below) for sediment.

Local

Los Angeles County General Plan

Applicable goals and policies for local water resources include:

Goal C/NR 5: Protected and useable local surface water resources.

- **Policy C/NR 5.1:** Support the Low Impact Development philosophy, plan and design public and private development with hydrologic sensitivity, including limits to straightening and channelizing natural flow paths, removal of vegetative cover, compaction of soils, and distribution of naturalistic BMPs at regional, neighborhood, and parcel-level scales.
- **Policy C/NR 5.2:** Require compliance by all County departments with adopted Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System, General Construction, and point source NPDES permits.
- **Policy C/NR 5.6:** Minimize point and non-point source water pollution.

Goal C/NR 6: Protected and useable local groundwater resources.

- **Policy C/NR 6.1:** Support the LID philosophy, which incorporates distributed, post-construction parcel-level stormwater infiltration as part of new development.

Applicable goals and policies for flood and inundation hazards include:

Goal S 2: An effective regulatory system that prevents or minimizes personal injury, loss of life, and property damage due to flood and inundation hazards.

- **Policy S/2.1:** Discourage development in the County's Flood Hazard Zones.
- **Policy S/2.4:** Ensure that developments located within the County's Flood Hazard Zones are sited and designed to avoid isolation from essential services and facilities in the event of flooding.
- **Policy S/2.5:** Ensure that the mitigation of flood related property damage and loss limits impacts to biological and other resources.

Impact Analysis:

a. VIOLATE ANY WATER QUALITY STANDARDS OR WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS OR OTHERWISE SUBSTANTIALLY DEGRADE SURFACE OR GROUND WATER QUALITY?

CONSTRUCTON

NO IMPACT. During Project construction, management of storm water discharge would be controlled by BMPs as part of the Construction General Permit and would meet discharge requirements. Surface water would be diverted to existing storm drains. There would be no other waste discharges associated with the Project. Therefore, the proposed Project would not violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality. No impact would occur.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

NO IMPACT. Following construction, management of storm water discharge will be controlled by surface drainage conveyance to existing storm drains maintained by the Los Angeles County Flood Control District. Those areas within the project that are not covered with hardscape (vegetated softscape) would allow for limited infiltration. There would be no other waste discharges associated with the Project. Therefore, the proposed Project would not violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality. No impact would occur.

b. SUBSTANTIALLY DECREASE GROUNDWATER SUPPLIES OR INTERFERE SUBSTANTIALLY WITH GROUNDWATER RECHARGE SUCH THAT THE PROJECT MAY IMPEDE SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT OF THE BASIN?

CONSTRUCTION

NO IMPACT. The proposed Project would not involve any withdrawals from an aquifer or groundwater table and would not substantially deplete groundwater supplies. Potable water is provided by the San Gabriel Valley Water Company (see Section IX Utilities and Service Systems.). Although not specified, non-potable water could be supplied from existing nearby hydrants. Pioneer High School already contains a pool; overall increase in water use is considered nominal and no new wells would be required. The project would not 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. The Project site is an existing paved parking lot. Development of the Project would not increase the amount of impervious surface. Some green landscape (vegetative softscape) around the Project boundary would allow limited groundwater seepage, but not in quantities that could increase groundwater recharge. No impact would occur.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

NO IMPACT. After construction, the proposed Project would not involve any withdrawals from an aquifer or groundwater table and would not substantially deplete groundwater supplies. The long-term use of water needed for pool maintenance (e.g.: maintain adequate pool levels) will be supplied by the San Gabriel Valley Water Company and is considered a nominal to minor increase over current uses at Pioneer High School. The project would not 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. Development of the Project would not increase the amount of impervious surface (hardscape). Some green landscape (vegetated softscape) around the Project boundary would allow limited groundwater seepage, but not in quantities that could increase groundwater recharge. No impact would occur.

c. SUBSTANTIALLY ALTER THE EXISTING DRAINAGE PATTERN OF THE SITE OR AREA, INCLUDING THROUGH THE ALTERATION OF THE COURSE OF A STREAM OR RIVER OR THROUGH THE ADDITION OF IMPERVIOUS SURFACES, IN A MANNER WHICH WOULD?

(i) RESULT IN SUBSTANTIAL EROSION OR SILTATION ON OR OFF SITE;

CONSTRUCTION

NO IMPACT. During Project construction, management of storm water run-off and offsite discharge would be controlled by BMPs as part of the Construction General Permit. Following construction, the exposed surfaces other than those with built structures (swimming pools and pool building) would be paved with concrete and asphalt; storm water would be diverted to existing storm drains maintained by the Los Angeles County Flood Control District. Some green landscape (vegetative softscape) around the Project boundary would allow limited percolation

but would be of such a small size any soils would not result in substantial erosion or siltation. The Project would not alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces. No impact would occur.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

NO IMPACT. Following construction, the exposed surfaces other than those with built structures (swimming pools and pool building) would be paved with concrete and/or asphalt; storm water would be diverted to existing storm drains maintained by the Los Angeles County Flood Control District. Some green landscape (vegetated softscape) around the Project boundary would allow limited percolation but would be of such a small size any soils would not result in substantial erosion or siltation. The Project would not alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces. No impact would occur.

(ii) SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASE THE RATE OR AMOUNT OF SURFACE RUNOFF IN A MANNER WHICH WOULD RESULT IN FLOODING ON OR OFF SITE;

CONSTRUCTION

NO IMPACT. The current use of the Project site is for parking, and occasionally other uses/events such as swap meets/flea markets. Surface run-off is currently directed to existing storm drains maintained by the Los Angeles County Flood Control District. During Project construction, management of storm water run-off and offsite discharge would be controlled by BMPs as part of the Construction General Permit. The Project would not cause a substantial increase in the rate or amount of surface run-off in a manner which would result in flooding on or off site. No impact would occur.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

NO IMPACT. Following construction, the exposed surfaces other than those with built structures (swimming pools and pool building) would be paved with concrete and/or asphalt, and storm water would continue to be diverted to existing storm drains maintained by the Los Angeles County Flood Control District. Pool drainage (discharge) would be directed to the existing storm drains or sanitary sewer (Los Angeles County Sanitation District) as determined during the design phase of the project. Some green landscape (vegetated softscape) around the Project boundary would allow limited percolation. The operation and maintenance of the Project would not cause a substantial increase in the rate or amount of surface run-off in a manner which would result in flooding on or off site. No impact would occur.

(iii) 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; OR?

CONSTRUCTION

NO IMPACT. The current use of the Project site is for parking, and occasionally other uses/events such as swap meets/flea markets. Surface run-off is currently directed to existing storm drains. During Project construction, management of storm water run-on and offsite discharge would be controlled by BMPs as part of the Construction General Permit. Following construction, the exposed surfaces other than those with built structures (swimming pools and pool building) would be paved with concrete and asphalt, and storm water would continue to be diverted to existing storm drains. Some green landscape around the Project boundary would allow limited percolation. The Project would not result in an increase of runoff from the site and, therefore, would not generate additional runoff water that would exceed the capacity of existing

or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional surfaces of polluted runoff. No impact would occur.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

NO IMPACT. Following construction, the exposed surfaces other than those with built structures (swimming pools and pool building) would be paved with concrete and/or asphalt, and storm water would continue to be diverted to existing storm drains maintained by the Los Angeles County Flood Control District. Occasional pool drainage (discharge) would be directed to the existing storm drains or sanitary sewer (Los Angeles County Sanitation District) as determined during the design phase of the project but not in such quantities that would exceed existing storm drain or sanitary sewer conveyance capacity. The Project would not result in an increase of runoff from the site and, therefore, would not generate additional runoff water that would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional surfaces of polluted runoff. No impact would occur.

(iv) IMPEDE OR REDIRECT FLOOD FLOWS?

CONCLUSION

NO IMPACT. The proposed Project will not impede or redirect flood flows during construction activities. The Project would not significantly alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of existing stormwater drainage facilities or through the addition of impervious surfaces. As such, there would be no impact.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

NO IMPACT. The operation and maintenance of the proposed Project will not impede or redirect flood flows. The Project would not alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of existing stormwater drainage facilities or through the addition of impervious surfaces. As such, there would be no impact.

d. IN FLOOD HAZARD, TSUNAMI, OR SEICHE ZONES, RISK RELEASE OF POLLUTANTS DUE TO PROJECT INUNDATION?

CONSTRUCTION

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. The proposed Project site is located in an area designated as FEMA Zone X, a Special Flood Hazard Area with a 0.2-percent annual chance (500-year) flood. Surface drainage flows to the south and southwest and is directed to storm drains that meet Los Angeles County Flood Control District design criteria. The Project is too far inland to experience a tsunami and is not located near a standing body of water to be a risk of a seiche. The Project does not substantially change the drainage characteristics of the site. Any flooding associated with the Project site resulting in inundation would not release pollutants. Therefore, no impact would occur.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. The proposed Project site is located in an area designated as FEMA Zone X, a Special Flood Hazard Area with a 0.2-percent annual chance (500-year) flood. Surface drainage flows will continue to the south and southwest and will be directed to storm drains that meet Los Angeles County Flood Control District design criteria. The Project is too far inland to experience a tsunami and is not located near a standing body of water to be a risk of a seiche. The Project does not substantially change the drainage characteristics of the site. Any flooding associated with the Project site resulting in inundation would not release pollutants. Therefore, no impact would occur.

e. CONFLICT WITH OR OBSTRUCT IMPLEMENTATION OF A WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN OR SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN?

CONSTRUCTION

NO IMPACT. The proposed Project would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan. During Project construction, management of storm water run-off and offsite discharge would be controlled by BMPs as part of the Construction General Permit. The Project would not significantly alter management of potential contaminants that could affect water quality. As such, there would be no impact.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

NO IMPACT. Following construction, the exposed surfaces other than those with built structures (swimming pools and pool building) would be paved with concrete and/or asphalt; storm water would be diverted to existing storm drains maintained by the Los Angeles County Flood Control District; other discharge would be to the sanitary sewer (Los Angeles County Sanitation District). Operation and maintenance activities, therefore, would not significantly alter contaminants that could affect water quality. Some green landscape (vegetative softscape) around the Project boundary would allow limited groundwater seepage, but not in quantities that could impact water quality and management. As such, there would be no impact.

XI. LAND USE AND PLANNING

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Physically divide an established community?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b. Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Discussion:

The project is located within unincorporated Los Angeles County in the community of West Whittier-Los Nietos. The project site is designated as Public-Semi Public (P) and is zoned Residential Agriculture (R-A) (County of Los Angeles, 2019a).

As a recreational facility, the proposed project would be an allowable use in an R-A zone, but subject to a County-issued Conditional Use Permit (CUP) (County of Los Angeles, 2019b). The project would be part of a joint-use agreement between the County Department of Parks and Recreation and Pioneer High School and would be designed consistent with the County's Park Design Guidelines and Standards (County of Los Angeles, 2017 and 2018). The proposed project's final design would be subject to review and approval by the County's Department of Regional Planning and Department of Parks and Recreation prior to construction (County of Los Angeles, 2018).

Impact Analysis:

a. PHYSICALLY DIVIDE AN ESTABLISHED COMMUNITY?

CONSTRUCTION

NO IMPACT. A community may be divided if a project were to introduce a physical barrier through that community. The project would construct a new aquatics facility on an existing parking lot within an urban/suburban community. Construction activities would not require street closures or other barriers within the existing street network. Project construction would not physically divide an established community.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

NO IMPACT. The proposed aquatics facility would be situated on an existing parking lot, which would be accessible through the existing street network. None of the proposed structures would create a permanent barrier in the surrounding area. Therefore, operation and maintenance of the project would not physically divide an established community.

b. CAUSE A SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT DUE TO A CONFLICT WITH ANY LAND USE PLAN, POLICY, OR REGULATION ADOPTED FOR THE PURPOSE OF AVOIDING OR MITIGATING AN ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECT?

CONSTRUCTION

NO IMPACT. All activities associated with the proposed project would occur within an existing parking lot on the campus of Pioneer High School. Project construction would not result in any

change to established land uses surrounding the project area (e.g., residences, commercial uses, or school operations). Construction activities would be consistent with the County's vibration and noise ordinances (see discussion in Section XIII), and activities would comply with all conditional use permit requirements. No conflicts with a plan, policy, or regulation would occur during project construction.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

NO IMPACT. Operation and maintenance of the project would not result in any change to established land uses surrounding the project area. The project would be maintained consistent with the County's Public-Semi Public planning designation, and there would be no conflict with the existing zoning specific to Residential Agriculture.

As part of a joint-use agreement with the County and the high school, the project would be designed consistent with the County's Park Design Guidelines and Standards, in particular with the requirements for pool buildings and pool facilities included in Parts 3.3 and 5.9, respectively. No impact during project operation and maintenance would occur.

XII. MINERAL RESOURCES

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Discussion:

Mineral resources may include metals such as gold, silver, iron, and copper, as well as construction aggregate. The Los Angeles County General Plan defines mineral resources as commercially-viable aggregate or mineral deposits, such as sand, gravel, and other construction aggregate (County of Los Angeles, 2015).

Mineral resource areas are classified by the State of California into Mineral Resource Zones (MRZ). Four zones have been identified depending on whether mineral resources, primarily sand and gravel, are known to be present, or absent, or for which additional information is necessary. The California Department of Conservation indicates that the Project area is classified as MRZ-3, meaning the area may contain deposits the significance of which cannot be evaluated with the available data (County of Los Angeles, 2015). The Los Angeles County General Plan identifies the nearest MRZ (MRZ-2) approximately 15 miles northwest near the City of Burbank.

Impact Analysis:

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?

CONSTRUCTION

NO IMPACT. According to the Los Angeles County General Plan Program GP-Net (County of Los Angeles, 2019), the proposed Project is not located within a mapped MRZ as mapped by the State of California Department of Conservation. As there are no known mineral resources located within the proposed Project footprint, which is developed with Pioneer High School, no impact would occur, and no mitigation measures are needed.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

NO IMPACT. As noted above, there are no known mineral resources located within the proposed Project footprint and the project site is part of Pioneer High School. No impact to mineral resources would occur from operation of the Project and no mitigation measures are needed.

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?

NO IMPACT. No mineral resources have been identified by the Los Angeles County General Plan within the proposed Project footprint, which is developed with Pioneer High School.

Therefore, construction and operation of the proposed Project would not result in the loss of any locally important mineral resource recovery site. No impact would occur.

XIII. NOISE

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	☐	☒	☐	☐
b. Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c. For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or 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?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Discussion:

Ambient Noise Environment of the Proposed Project Area

Community noise levels are usually closely related to the intensity of nearby human activity. Noise levels are generally considered low when ambient levels are below 45 decibels (dBA), moderate in the 45 to 60 dBA range, and high above 60 dBA. Typical daytime peak noise levels by land use type are typically (FHWA, 2006):

- 55 to 65 dBA in small towns or wooded or lightly used residential areas,
- 75 dBA in busy urban areas, and
- 85 dBA near major freeways and airports.

Although people often accept the higher levels associated with very noisy urban residential and residential-commercial zones, high noise levels are considered adverse to public health.

Adjacent Land Uses and Sensitive Receptors

Land uses considered to be noise sensitive generally include residential, educational and health facilities, research institutions, certain recreational and entertainment facilities (typically, indoor theaters and parks for passive activities), and churches. The closest land use to the center of the Project site include:

- Residences located 220 feet north (sensitive receptor)
- Residences located 250 feet east/southeast (sensitive receptor)
- Pioneer High School uses (nearest classrooms) located 420 feet south (sensitive receptor)
- Commercial uses located 290 feet west

Regulatory Setting

The proposed Project is located within unincorporated Los Angeles County. Limitation on noise from construction and operation are dictated in the Los Angeles County Code of Ordinances, Title 12 – Environmental Protection, Chapter 12.08 – Noise Control.

Construction Noise. Noise Ordinance Section 12.08.440, Construction Noise, prohibits the operation of any tools or equipment used in construction, drilling, repair, alteration or demolition work between weekday hours of 7:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m., or anytime on Sundays or holidays, if the sound creates a noise disturbance across a residential or commercial real-property line, except for emergency work of public service utilities or by variance issued by the health officer. The maximum noise during construction at residential structures shall not exceed the levels listed in Table 3-14.

Table 3-14. Construction - Residential Structure Noise Limits

Equipment Type	Single-Family Residential	Multi-Family Residential	Semi-Residential / Commercial
Mobile Equipment [1] Daytime (7 a.m. – 8 p.m.), except Sun. & holidays Nighttime (8 p.m. – 7 a.m.), all day Sun. & holidays	 75 dBA 60 dBA	 80 dBA 64 dBA	 85 dBA 70 dBA
Stationary Equipment Daytime (7 a.m. – 8 p.m.), except Sun. & holidays Nighttime (8 p.m. – 7 a.m.), all day Sun. & holidays	 60 dBA 50 dBA	 65 dBA 55 dBA	 70 dBA 60 dBA

Source: County of Los Angeles, 1987.

1 – Mobile Equipment. Maximum noise levels for nonscheduled, intermittent, short-term operation (less than 10 days) of mobile equipment.

2 – Stationary Equipment. Maximum noise level for repetitively scheduled and relatively long-term operation (periods of 10 days or more) of stationary equipment.

Operational Noise. Noise Ordinance Section 12.08.390 provides the exterior noise standards that shall apply to all receptor properties within a designated noise zone, as shown in Table 3-15.

Table 3-15. Operation - Exterior Noise Limits

Noise Zone	Land Use (Receptor Property)	Time Interval	Exterior Noise Level (dB)
I	Noise-sensitive area (areas where conspicuous signs are displayed indicating the presence of the zone)	Anytime	45
II	Residential properties	Nighttime (10 p.m. – 7 a.m.) Daytime (7 a.m. – 10 p.m.)	45 50
III	Commercial properties	Nighttime (10 p.m. – 7 a.m.) Daytime (7 a.m. – 10 p.m.)	55 60
IV	Industrial properties	Anytime	70

Source: County of Los Angeles, 1987.

Vibration. Los Angeles County Code of Ordinances Section 12.08.560 – Vibration, prohibits the operation of any device that creates vibration that is above the vibration perception threshold of any individual at or beyond the property boundary of the source if on private property, or at 150 feet from the source if on a public space or public right-of-way. The perception threshold is stated as a motion velocity of 0.01 in/sec over the range of 1 to 100 Hertz.

Impact Analysis:

a. GENERATION OF A SUBSTANTIAL TEMPORARY OR PERMANENT INCREASE IN AMBIENT NOISE LEVELS IN THE VICINITY OF THE PROJECT IN EXCESS OF STANDARDS ESTABLISHED IN THE LOCAL GENERAL PLAN OR NOISE ORDINANCE, OR APPLICABLE STANDARDS OF OTHER AGENCIES?

CONSTRUCTION

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT WITH MITIGATION. Construction of the proposed Project is planned to occur Monday through Saturday, between 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., during the 24-month construction period. Therefore, the days and hours of construction would comply with the requirements of Noise Ordinance Section 12.08.440.

Construction activities have the potential to temporarily increase noise levels in the Project area. There would be intermittent high-noise levels throughout construction. Noise levels would fluctuate depending on the construction activity, equipment type, duration of use, and the distance between the noise source and receiver. Table 3-16 provides estimated noise levels of typical construction equipment likely to be utilized on the project. The usage factor estimates the fraction of time each piece of construction equipment is operating at full power (i.e., its loudest condition) during construction operations.

Table 3-16. Noise Levels and Usage Factors for Construction Equipment, Unmitigated

Equipment	Acoustical Usage Factor (%)	Measured Maximum Noise Level, dBA (at 50 feet)	Average Noise Level, dBA (at 50 feet)*
Backhoe	40	78	74
Compactor (Ground)	20	83	76
Dozer	40	82	78
Dump Truck	40	76	73
Excavator	40	81	77
Flat Bed Truck	40	74	70
Paver	50	77	74
Pickup Truck	40	75	71
Roller	20	80	73

Source: FHWA, 2006.
*Average noise levels calculated from the maximum noise levels using the usage factors.

As shown in Table 3-16, average noise levels during construction from equipment use are expected to range from 70 to 78 dBA at 50 feet. Overlap of several pieces of equipment used in close proximity could increase the overall average level by 3-6 dBA (70 dBA + 70 dBA = 73 dBA). Construction-related noise levels would attenuate at an average rate of 6 dBA every doubling of distance for stationary sources depending on adjacent surfaces and noise spreading (FHWA, 2006). The nearest residential receptor to the Project work areas would be approximately 220-250 feet from the center of the Project site (see Figures 2-1 and 2-2). At this distance, average exterior noise levels would intermittently range between 58 to 66 dBA. Therefore, only stationary construction equipment noise would have the potential to exceed the levels identified in Table 3-14 (60 dBA at the nearest single-family residence).

As discussed in Section 2.4, in addition to complying with the City Noise Ordinance regarding construction work hours, LACPW would minimize short-term construction noise through implementation of BMPs that may include, but not be limited to, the following:

- Proper maintenance and tuning of all construction equipment engines to minimize noise emissions;
- Proper maintenance and functioning of the mufflers on all internal combustion and equipment engines;

- Locate fixed and/or stationary equipment as far as possible from noise-sensitive receptors; and
- Appoint a public liaison for project construction that would be responsible for addressing public concerns about construction activities; including excessive noise. As needed, the liaison would determine the cause of concern (e.g., starting too early, bad muffler) and implement measures to address the concern.

These BMPs would reduce the stationary equipment noise levels shown in Table 3-16 to below the County

Therefore, construction noise is found consistent with the Los Angeles County Noise Ordinance with respect to impacting adjacent residential receptors.

The Los Angeles County Noise Ordinance does not establish noise standards for temporary construction noise on school receptors (County of Los Angeles, 1987). This code can be viewed at: http://lacounty-ca.elaws.us/code/coor_title12_ch12.08_pt4_sec12.08.440. In addition to the thresholds established for residential uses (refer to Table 3-14), the noise ordinance establishes a threshold at "business" uses of a maximum of 85 dBA (County of Los Angeles, 1987). The nearest classroom building would be approximately 420 feet from the center of the Project site. At this distance, average exterior noise levels would intermittently range between 52 to 60 dBA. While there is no threshold for schools, temporary construction noise would be below the County threshold of 60 dBA for single-family receptors. This is the most stringent construction noise threshold identified by the County within its noise ordinance. Therefore, construction noise is found consistent with the Los Angeles County Noise Ordinance with respect to impacting Pioneer High School.

Construction vehicles would access the project area via I-605 freeway. As shown in Table 2-1, the Project would require a number of large truck haul trips. These trips would result in a new temporary noise source that could be significant should these vehicles use the existing access on Danby Avenue into the parking area. As shown in Table 3-16, heavy trucks (such as dump trucks) generate noise levels of approximately 76 dBA at 50 feet. As discussed in Section 2 (Project Description), the Project proposed to construct a new access ramp on Pioneer Boulevard. Mitigation Measure NOI-1 is proposed to require this new access be built prior to construction so all construction vehicles can avoid travelling on Danby Avenue, which is a 2-lane road containing a number of residential receptors. Access to the site via I-605 and Pioneer Boulevard would ensure project-related truck trips only travel on major roadways (4 or more lanes) where baseline conditions are expected to include noise from routine heavy truck trips. With the implementation of Mitigation Measure NOI-1, temporary noise from construction-related vehicle trips is considered consistent with the Los Angeles County Noise Ordinance and impacts would be less than significant.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

Once the project is operational, noise would be generated by pool users, vehicle access and parking at the facility, pool equipment, and public address (PA) system used for announcing during swim events. Mechanized stationary pool equipment that generates noise would be located within the proposed pool building or built with a shelter around it, thus generating minimal noise. The parking area proposed to be developed with the proposed Project is currently used, therefore vehicle access and parking noise is not expected to significantly increase over existing conditions. See Section XVII for more information on the parking agreement the school district has to use available parking at other nearby school and church facilities. The PA system would only be used during select swim events, would only be utilized at a volume for spectators to hear, and all speakers would be directed inward toward the

proposed facility. The Project pool area would be sheltered by perimeter vegetative screening and proposed structures. Additionally, the residential receptors adjacent to the site are located near a heavily utilized local roadway (Washington Boulevard). Traffic on this roadway during the daytime hours likely results in high ambient noise levels. Finally, operating hours would be 6 a.m. to 9 or 10 p.m. weekdays, with shorter operating hours on weekends, with on-site pool staff trained to stop excessive noise levels from pool users. Therefore, operational noise is not expected to exceed the County of Los Angeles Municipal Code levels shown in in Table 3-15 for any adjacent land uses, including sensitive receptors. Therefore, noise impacts during construction would not be significant.

Mitigation Measure

NOI-1 Establish New Vehicle Access Point Prior to Construction. Prior to construction, a new permanent vehicle access point into the site shall be established on Pioneer Boulevard. All construction-related vehicles shall avoid accessing the site via Danby Avenue.

b. GENERATION OF EXCESSIVE GROUNDBORNE VIBRATION OR GROUNDBORNE NOISE LEVELS?

Per the Los Angeles County Noise Ordinance, Section 12.08.560 – Vibration, prohibits the operation of any device that creates vibration that is above the vibration perception threshold of any individual at or beyond the property boundary of the source if on private property, or at 150 feet from the source if on a public space or public right-of-way. The perception threshold is stated as a motion velocity of 0.01 in/sec over the range of 1 to 100 Hertz.

CONSTRUCTION

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. Use of large trucks and construction equipment, specifically haul trucks and dozers, could result in ground-borne vibration not only due to general operations but also due to travel on cracked or faulting roadway surfaces accessing the site. Trucks traveling over pavement discontinuities often rattle and make noise, which tend to make the event more noticeable when the ground vibration generated may only be barely noticeable (Caltrans, 2004). Vehicles traveling on a smooth roadway are rarely, if ever, the source of perceptible ground vibration. Paved roads in the project area are maintained and relatively smooth, such that ground-borne vibration is not anticipated to occur from the use of haul or material delivery trucks.

Loaded heavy trucks would result in vibration levels of 0.076 in/sec at 25 feet. Operation of a large bulldozer, where construction vibration levels are estimated at 0.089 in/sec at 25 feet (FTA, 2006 – Table 12-2). Such ground-borne noise or vibration would attenuate rapidly (i.e., 200 feet or less) from the source and would not be perceptible outside of the construction areas and immediately adjacent to the haul routes (FTA, 2006). Given the distance of the nearest sensitive receptor to the work area (220 feet and greater) and that all construction vehicles accessing the site would utilize paved roads and parking area, vibrations generated during construction would not be enough to exceed Los Angeles County Noise Ordinance thresholds, annoy people, or cause “architectural” damage to any adjacent buildings. Once operational, the Project would not generate any vibration levels that could extend outside the Project footprint. Impacts would be less than significant.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

Operation of the Project would include passenger vehicles accessing the site and on-site pool use/maintenance. These activities would not generate vibration. No impacts would occur.

c. FOR A PROJECT LOCATED WITHIN THE VICINITY OF A PRIVATE AIRSTRIP OR 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?

CONSTRUCTION

NO IMPACT. The Project site is not located within an airport land use plan or within two miles of a public airport or public use airport. The nearest airport to the Project site is San Gabriel Airport, located 7.8 miles northeast. Therefore, the construction of the proposed Project would not expose temporary construction workers or pool staff/users to excessive noise levels associated with airport operations. No impact would occur, and no mitigation is needed.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

NO IMPACT. As noted above, the Project site is not located within an airport land use plan or within two miles of a public airport or public use airport. Therefore, the operation of the proposed Project would not expose pool staff/users to excessive noise levels associated with airport operations. No impact would occur, and no mitigation is needed.

XIIV. POPULATION AND HOUSING

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Induce substantial unplanned 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 people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Discussion:

The proposed aquatics facility is located in the unincorporated Los Angeles County community of West Whittier-Los Nietos. The project site is surrounded by existing residential development to the north and east, commercial development to the west, and Pioneer High School to the south. The project would be constructed on an existing parking lot that is situated within the high school's campus.

Impact Analysis:

a. INDUCE SUBSTANTIAL UNPLANNED 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)?

CONSTRUCTION

NO IMPACT. The project would require approximately 24 months of construction. Given that the project is located in an urban area of Los Angeles County, there is a sufficient local workforce available for construction. The project would not require construction crews to relocate to the project area. As the project would not involve the construction of new homes, businesses, or other infrastructure that would induce population growth, no construction impact would occur.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

NO IMPACT. The project has been designed to designed to meet the needs of the local community. The neighborhoods immediately surrounding the project are fully established with little-to-no opportunity for future residential development. As such, there would be no likelihood that operation of the aquatics facility would indirectly induce population growth. No operation and maintenance impact would occur.

b. DISPLACE SUBSTANTIAL NUMBERS OF EXISTING PEOPLE OR HOUSING, NECESSITATING THE CONSTRUCTION OF REPLACEMENT HOUSING ELSEWHERE?

CONSTRUCTION

NO IMPACT. The proposed project would be constructed on an existing parking lot within Pioneer High School's campus. None of the project's construction activities would require the

permanent removal or displacement of housing or persons that would warrant replacement housing to be constructed elsewhere. No construction impact would occur.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

NO IMPACT. None of the project's operational activities would require the permanent removal or displacement of housing or persons that would warrant replacement housing to be constructed elsewhere. No operation and maintenance impact would occur.

XV. PUBLIC SERVICES

Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, 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 objectives for any of the public services:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Fire protection?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Police protection?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c) Schools?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d) Parks?	☐	☐	☐	☒
e) Other public facilities?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Discussion:

Fire protection to the Project area is provided by the Los Angeles County Fire Department (LACFD). The nearest fire station to the Project site is LACFD Station #28, which is approximately 0.9-mile northeast of the Project site (7733 Greenleaf Avenue). Online research indicates the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and/or the Whittier Police Department (located at 13200 Penn Street, approximately 1.5-mile northeast of the Project site) would respond to police protection needs at the Project site (WUHSD, 2019). The Whittier Union High School District provides public school services the local area, including Pioneer High School. The main recreational area serving the Project area is the Arroyo Pescadero Recreational Area, located 2.5 miles east.

Impact Analysis:

WOULD THE PROJECT RESULT IN SUBSTANTIAL ADVERSE PHYSICAL IMPACTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROVISION OF NEW OR PHYSICALLY ALTERED GOVERNMENTAL FACILITIES, 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 OBJECTIVES FOR ANY OF THE PUBLIC SERVICES:

a) FIRE PROTECTION?

CONSTRUCTION

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. Construction accidents and pool use accidents could require fire service calls to the Project site. Accidents during construction are difficult to predict, particularly since all construction activities would utilize all safety measures to avoid accidents. Because the construction period would be temporary, it is not expected to impact service ratios or response times for fire protection services. LACFD Station #28 currently services the existing school and associated facilities. The proposed Project is within the school and this station would respond to any emergencies related to the Project under its existing service levels. Construction of the Project would not trigger the need for new or expanded fire protection facilities or increased staff levels at LACFD Station #28. Less than significant impacts would occur, and no mitigation measures are needed.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. Once operational, by having qualified lifeguards on duty at all time during operational hours, use of the proposed aquatics center is not expected to impact service ratios or response times for fire protection services. Additionally, all permanent (operational) workers would likely come from within the local area and would not affect the area's population in levels that could impact fire service ratios. LACFD Station #28 is expected to have adequate resources to respond to any emergencies related to the Project under its existing service levels. New or expanded fire protection facilities or increased staff levels at LACFD Station #28 are not expected to be needed as a direct result of the Project. Less than significant impacts would occur, and no mitigation measures are needed.

b) POLICE PROTECTION?

CONSTRUCTION

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. Construction incidents are difficult to predict, particularly since the work area would be fenced and school security would patrol the site. Because the construction period would be temporary, it is not expected to permanently impact service ratios or response times for police protection services. The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and/or the Whittier Police Department are expected to have adequate resources to respond to any emergencies related to the Project under its existing service levels. New or expanded police protection facilities or increased staff levels at the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and/or the Whittier Police Department are not expected to be needed as a direct result of the Project. Less than significant impacts would occur, and no mitigation measures are needed.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. Once operational, the Project would include an operating staff that would consist of two dozen or so lifeguards; and four to six locker room attendants, two to four cashiers, and two to four shift managers to cover weekday and weekend operations. The site would be policed by school security, when available. By having qualified lifeguards and staff present at all time during operational hours and the Project used for organized swim events and scheduled public use, the proposed aquatics center is not expected to impact service ratios or response times for police protection services. Additionally, all permanent (operational) workers would likely come from within the local area and would not affect the area's population in levels that could impact police service ratios. The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and/or the Whittier Police Department are expected to have adequate resources to respond to any emergencies related to the Project under its existing service levels. New or expanded police protection facilities or increased staff levels at the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and/or the Whittier Police Department are not expected to be needed as a direct result of the Project. Less than significant impacts would occur, and no mitigation measures are needed.

c) SCHOOLS?

CONSTRUCTION

NO IMPACT. Construction and operation of the proposed Project would not increase the area's population and thus would not increase the demand for schools. The Project site is located within the existing Pioneer High School and would provide a new aquatics facility to the student body. This is a beneficial impact with respect to school facilities.

Construction of the proposed Project would not increase the area's population and thus would not increase the demand for schools or require expansion of school facilities. No impacts would occur, and no mitigation measures are needed.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

NO IMPACT. Operation of the proposed Project would not increase the area's population and thus would not increase the demand for schools or require expansion of school facilities. No impacts would occur, and no mitigation measures are needed.

d) PARKS?

CONSTRUCTION

NO IMPACT. Construction of the proposed Project would not increase the area's population and thus would not increase the demand for park facilities. The Project site is located within the existing Pioneer High School and would provide a new aquatics facility accessible to the public. This is a beneficial impact with respect to recreational facilities.

Construction of the proposed Project would not increase the area's population and thus would not increase the demand for parks or require expansion of park facilities. No impacts would occur, and no mitigation measures are needed.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

NO IMPACT. Operation of the proposed Project would not increase the area's population and thus would not increase the demand for parks or require expansion of park facilities. No impacts would occur, and no mitigation measures are needed.

e) OTHER PUBLIC FACILITIES?

CONSTRUCTION

NO IMPACT. Construction of the proposed Project would not increase the area's population and thus would not increase the demand for other public facilities. Further, there are no additional public facilities located within the Project area, other than those discussed in Section XIV(a) through (d) above, that could be negatively affected by the construction or operation of the proposed Project. The proposed Project would not impact other existing public facilities, nor require the construction of new public facilities. No impacts would occur, and no mitigation measures are needed.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

NO IMPACT. Operation of the proposed Project would not increase the area's population and thus would not increase the demand for other public facilities or require expansion of other public facilities. No impacts would occur, and no mitigation measures are needed.

XVI. RECREATION

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. 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. Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities, which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Discussion:

The proposed project would construct a joint-use aquatics facility available for both student and public use. The community of West Whittier-Los Nietos does not currently have a public pool within close proximity, as the nearest seasonal pools are approximately four to six miles from the community (California High School Pool and Atlantic Avenue Park, respectively), and the nearest year-round pool is approximately seven miles from the community (Belvedere Community Regional Park) (County of Los Angeles, 2019). The students of Pioneer High School, the community, the Board of Supervisors, and the Whittier Union School Board maintain a desire for a local swimming facility at the proposed location. Although the school site currently contains an existing outdoor L-shaped pool, this pool is not large enough to meet the needs of the school population and community. The existing high school pool would be retained for school use only and would not be a part of the joint-use agreement with the proposed project.

Impact Analysis:

a. 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?

CONSTRUCTION

NO IMPACT. The proposed aquatics facility would be constructed on an existing parking lot and would introduce a new opportunity for aquatic recreation in the community. The project would have no effect on other established neighborhood or regional parks. Construction of the project would not contribute to physical deterioration of an existing recreation facility.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

NO IMPACT. The community in which the proposed aquatics facility would be located does not currently have an alternative public pool within close proximity. Operation and maintenance of the project would have no effect on other established neighborhood or regional parks and would not contribute to physical deterioration of an existing recreation facility.

b. INCLUDE RECREATIONAL FACILITIES OR REQUIRE THE CONSTRUCTION OR EXPANSION OF RECREATIONAL FACILITIES, WHICH MIGHT HAVE AN ADVERSE PHYSICAL EFFECT ON THE ENVIRONMENT?

CONSTRUCTION

NO IMPACT. The project would be entirely constructed on an existing parking lot. Given the disturbed nature of this site, there would be no potential for impacts to natural resources. Project construction would have no impact on the physical environment that currently exists at the project site.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. The aquatics facility would be open during school hours, and the Department of Parks and Recreation would coordinate closely with the school administration to ensure that the project does not impact daily operations at Pioneer High School. The Joint-Use Aquatics Facility Agreement will be re-evaluated after a one-year period, thereby ensuring that coordination between the County and the high school is ongoing (County of Los Angeles, 2018). None of the remaining facilities within the school campus would be open to public use. Given the requirements for ongoing coordination with the high school, the long-term impact to the school environment would be less than significant.

XVII. TRANSPORTATION

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Conflict with a program plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b. Conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b)?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c. Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d. Result in inadequate emergency access?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Discussion:

This section presents the environmental setting and impact analysis for transportation and traffic resulting from the proposed Project. This section addresses the existing transportation and traffic system in the proposed Project area, applicable regulations, environmental impacts, and mitigation measures to reduce and avoid significant effects. A more detailed traffic impact analysis (TIA) outlining the study procedures and traffic data collected can be found in Appendix C (Traffic Impact Analysis).

Level of service (LOS) is a scale that measures the operational effectiveness of a roadway or intersection. The LOS analysis methodology and acceptable LOS is determined by the jurisdiction in which the proposed Project is developed.

Traffic impacts to the circulation system were identified using the Los Angeles County Public Works Department (LACPW) Guidelines for identifying significant impacts. The LACPW Guidelines identify significant impacts by determining a change in traffic volume to lane capacity ratio (v/c) from existing conditions to post project conditions during traffic peak hours:

Table 3-17. Significant Impact Thresholds

Intersections		
Pre-Project		With Project v/c Increase
LOS	v/c	
C	0.71 to 0.80	0.04 or more
D	0.81 to 0.90	0.02 or more
E/F	0.91 or more	0.01 or more

The following intersections were identified as study intersections through a memorandum of understanding (MOU) submitted to LACPW based on their proximity to the Project site. These intersections included the following:

Table 3-18. Study Intersections

Intersection	Existing Traffic Control
1. Saragosa St. / I-605 NB On-Ramp / N. Pioneer Blvd.	All-Way Stop Control
2. I-605 NB Off-Ramp / N. Pioneer Blvd.	One-Way Stop Control (I-605 NB Off-Ramp)

3. N. Pioneer Blvd. / Washington Blvd.	Traffic Signal
4. Millergrove Dr. / Washington Blvd.	Traffic Signal
5. Norwalk Blvd. / Washington Blvd.	Traffic Signal
6. Millergrove Dr. / Washington Blvd. (Frontage Road)	All-Way Stop Control
7. Danby Ave. / Project Driveway 1	One-Way Stop Control (Project Driveway)
8. N. Pioneer Blvd. / Project Driveway 2	One-Way Stop Control (Project Driveway)
9. N. Pioneer Blvd. / I-605 NB Off-Ramp	One-Way Stop Control (I-605 NB Off-Ramp)

Regional access to the study area is provided by the San Gabriel River Freeway (Interstate 605). The streets included in this study that provide access to the proposed Project include Pioneer Boulevard, Millergrove Drive, Washington Boulevard, Norwalk Boulevard, Danby Avenue, and Saragosa Street.

The following paragraphs provide a brief description of the characteristics of these roadways.

The San Gabriel River Freeway (Interstate 605) is located approximately 250 feet west of the proposed Project. It runs north-south generally parallel to and west of Pioneer Boulevard and has on/off ramps on Washington Boulevard, Slauson Avenue, Saragosa Street and Pioneer Boulevard.

Pioneer Boulevard is a four-lane north-south street that abuts the west side of the school campus. It intersects with Washington Boulevard at the most northerly corner of the campus. Two existing school access driveways are located on Pioneer Boulevard, one of which would provide access to the proposed site and is included in this analysis. The I-605 has an off-ramp and an on-ramp that intersect with Pioneer Boulevard across from the school site. The speed limit on Pioneer Boulevard is 35 miles per hour.

Millergrove Drive is a two-lane north-south street that abuts the east side of the school campus. It intersects with Slauson Avenue at the southeast corner of the campus adjacent to the stadium and an existing school access driveway is located on Millergrove that provides access to a parking lot at the northeast corner of the school campus. The speed limit on Millergrove Drive is 25 miles per hour.

Washington Boulevard is a four to six lane east-west street that abuts the north side of the school campus. It has six lanes near the school site and narrows to four lanes east of Norwalk Boulevard and west of the I-605 freeway. The speed limit on Washington Boulevard is 40 miles per hour.

Norwalk Boulevard is a four-lane north-south street located approximately one-half mile east of the school campus. The speed limit on Norwalk Boulevard is 45 miles per hour north of Washington Boulevard, 40 miles per hour between Washington Boulevard and Slauson Avenue, and 30 miles per hour south of Slauson Avenue.

Danby Avenue / Washington Boulevard (Frontage Road) is a two-lane north-south which also converts to an east-west street that provides a link between Washington Boulevard and the school campus. Vehicles can turn onto Danby Avenue from eastbound Washington Boulevard and access two driveways on Danby Avenue that provide access to the school's north parking lot. The most northerly driveway would provide access to the Project site and is included in this analysis. The speed limit on Danby Avenue is 25 miles per hour.

Saragosa Street is a 4-lane east-west located between the intersection of Pioneer Boulevard, I-605 Southbound / Northbound On-Ramp and Norwalk Boulevard. It is located approximately a third of a mile from the Project site. The speed limit on Saragosa Street is 25 miles per hour.

The following scenarios were analyzed to identify if the proposed Project would have a significant impact to existing conditions at the intersections identified above, per LACPW Guidelines.

Table 3-19. Traffic Study Scenarios

Scenario	Time Frames Analyzed
Existing Year	AM / PM Weekday Peak Hour Saturday Morning Peak Hour
Existing Year + Construction Traffic	AM / PM Weekday Peak Hour
Existing Year + Project Trips	AM / PM Weekday Peak Hour Saturday Morning Peak Hour
Existing Year + Project Trips + Cumulative Traffic	AM / PM Weekday Peak Hour Saturday Morning Peak Hour

Cumulative Projects

While the project site is located in the unincorporated area of Los Angeles County, it is within the sphere of influence of other jurisdictions.

The following agencies were contacted to gather data on other projects in development or scheduled for development that would impact study intersections:

- County of Los Angeles
- City of Pico Rivera
- City of Whittier

The area surrounding the proposed aquatic center is densely developed and heavily populated with housing, retail centers, and various options for major arterial roadways in all directions including close proximity to both the I-605 and I-5 freeways. Therefore, cumulative trips were distributed uniformly to account for the various points of interest and commuting options available to motorists in the area. For trips that did utilize intersections within the study limits, cumulative trips were added to the intersections. Table 12 in Appendix C presents the Cumulative Project Trip Generation for weekdays in the project area. Table 13 in Appendix C presents the cumulative project trip generation for peak hour on Saturday.

Impact Analysis:

a. CONFLICT WITH A PROGRAM PLAN, ORDINANCE OR POLICY ADDRESSING THE CIRCULATION SYSTEM, INCLUDING TRANSIT, ROADWAY, BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES?

CONSTRUCTION

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT. The existing site of the proposed project is currently a parking lot for Pioneer High School located in the sphere of influence of Whittier, CA in the unincorporated County of Los Angeles. According to school officials during a site visit, the parking lot is rarely utilized during or outside of school hours. The parking lot is located in the northeast corner of the campus and is bordered by Pioneer Boulevard to the west, Washington Boulevard to the north, and Danby Avenue to the east.

Construction of the proposed site will include the following schedule and assigned construction laborers.

Table 3-20. Construction Activity

Construction Activity	Total Days	Worker	Vendor	Hauling
Demolition / Grading	33	10	2	124
Building Pad	33	8	2	50
Footings	55	5	1	8
Superstructure	66	8	1	25
Building Construction	220	8	2	25
Pool Excavation	44	8	1	1,000
Pool Construction	121	8	1	24
Paving	10	15	0	40
Architectural Coating	20	2	0	0
		/day	**/day**	**Total**

As noted in the project description, there will be construction overlap during the pool excavation phase and the building construction phase. This overlap period will represent the worst-case day for construction traffic impacts was the scenario analyzed in this study. Table 3-21 includes the worst-case scenario for construction activities. The proposed project site will also serve as the staging yard during the construction stage. Therefore, there is no anticipated construction traffic due to equipment being transported from a staging yard to the construction site.

Table 3-21. Worst-Case Construction Traffic

Construction Activity	Worker	Vendor	Hauling*
Demolition / Grading	16 round trips	2 round trips	24 round trips
	/day	**/day**	**/day**

*Hauling trips converted to passenger car equivalent (PCE) for analysis

To analyze the peak hour conditions during construction, a construction trip generation worst-case scenario was determined. Table 3-22 provides construction traffic for peak hour.

Table 3-22. Construction Peak-Hour Traffic

	Daily Trips	AM Peak Hour			PM Peak Hour		
		In	Out	Total	In	Out	Total
Worker Vehicles	32	16	0	16	0	16	16
Vendor Vehicles	4	1	1	2	1	1	2
Hauling Trucks	48	3	3	6	3	3	6
Total	84	20	4	24	4	20	24
Total (Applying PCE factor of 2.0 for 3-axle Hauling Trucks)	**132**	**23**	**7**	**30**	**7**	**23**	**30**

The Traffic Study in Appendix C of this document includes a summary of the level of service (LOS) analysis results based on the County's guidelines for defining significant thresholds. See Table 15 in Appendix C (Traffic Impact Analysis). As noted in the study, all nine intersections (see Table 3-18 above) operated at a LOS of D or better under existing conditions. When considering construction traffic and cumulative Project traffic; no intersection exceeded a 0.01 increase in v/c ratio, which according to the LACPW Guidelines would not constitute a significant impact.

The study compared the baseline condition (existing year) to the existing year plus construction traffic. Based on this comparison, a less than significant impact was determined during construction at each of the study intersections listed above.

The construction staging yard would be located on the site of proposed development. Therefore, transportation of construction equipment to and from the site would be minimal.

Public bus transit service within the Project study vicinity is currently provided by Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transit Authority (Metro), Norwalk Transit, and Montebello Bus Lines. The only transit line identified to have a route along the Project study intersections is the M50 - Montebello Line 50 which operates along Washington Boulevard between study intersections with Norwalk Boulevard and N. Pioneer Boulevard. Just outside of the Project study area is the NT001 - Norwalk Transit Line which operates along Pioneer Boulevard just south of Slauson Avenue. These bus lines would remain operational and un-impacted during construction of the proposed Project.

Pedestrian and bicycle facilities would not be impacted by the construction of the proposed Project and would remain accessible during construction of the proposed Project.

A less than significant impact would occur at each of the study intersections listed above and the Project would not conflict with a program plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities.

OPERATION AND CONSTRUCTION

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT. Project trip generation represents the amount of traffic which is both attracted to and produced by a development. Determining traffic generation for a specific project is therefore based upon forecasting the amount of traffic is expected to be both attracted to and produced by the specific land uses being proposed for a given development.

The vehicle trip generation for the proposed project was developed using rates from the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) Trip Generation (10th Edition) for the various land uses shown in the table on the following page.

The ITE does not include a usage specific to a water aquatic facility. The intended usage of the site and the description of the "Recreational Community Center - Code 495" in the ITE are the most compatible for the purposes of this study and were approved under the MOU. Under the description for "Recreational Community Center - Code 495" in the ITE, swimming pools are included.

Table 3-23. Weekday Trip Generation

Land Use	Size	Units	ADT	AM Peak Hour			PM Peak Hour		
				In	Out	Total	In	Out	Total
Recreational Community Center, ITE 495	28.5	TSF	821	33	17	50	31	35	66

(ITE Trip Generation, 10th Edition)

Table 3-24. Saturday Trip Generation

Land Use	Size	Units	ADT	Saturday Peak Hour		
				In	Out	Total
Recreational Community Center, ITE 495	28.5	TSF	259	16	14	30

The Traffic Study in Appendix C of this document includes a summary of the level of service (LOS) analysis results based on the County's guidelines for defining significant thresholds. Based on the level of service analysis for all scenarios, the study found no significant impact to existing roadways (see Table 15 in Appendix C). As noted in the study, all study intersections operated at a LOS of D or better under existing conditions. When considering operation traffic and cumulative Project traffic, no intersection exceeded a 0.01 increase in v/c ratio, which by LACPW Guidelines would not constitute a significant impact.

The study compared baseline condition (existing year) and the existing year plus Project operation traffic and the existing year plus Project operation traffic plus cumulative Project traffic This comparison identified a less than significant impact during operation at each of the study intersections listed above.

As noted above (under construction), public bus transit service within the Project study vicinity is currently provided by Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transit Authority (Metro), Norwalk Transit, and Montebello Bus Lines. These bus lines would remain operational and un-impacted during operation of the proposed Project.

Pedestrian and bicycle facilities would not be impacted by operation of the proposed Project and would remain accessible throughout the life of the proposed Project.

On April 23, 2013, Whittier Union High School District adopted a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Pioneer High School Stadium Expansion Project. The expansion of the stadium created a deficient supply of 474 parking spaces. As a mitigation measure, a joint use agreement (JUA) was established that provided additional off-site parking spaces for high school activities at Nelson Elementary School, Los Nietos Middle School, and the First Fundamental Bible Church when needed. At the time of this analysis, the proposed site plan for the Whittier Aquatic Facility was conceptual and there is no clear conclusion on how many parking spaces would be removed from development of the aquatic facility. Once the amount of parking spaces to be removed is defined, a conclusion on the parking sufficiency or an adjustment to the existing JUA may be needed to accommodate operation of the proposed aquatic facility. Because the school has the option to use available parking at other nearby facilities, parking for the aquatic facility could be accommodated at these locations similar to other high school activities.

b. CONFLICT OR BE INCONSISTENT WITH CEQA GUIDELINES SECTION 15064.3, SUBDIVISION (B)?

CONSTRUCTION

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. At the time of this study and analysis, vehicle miles traveled (VMT) has not been adapted by the reviewing jurisdiction (Los Angeles County) as an analysis to identify significant impacts. A LOS Analysis was performed to analyze the potential for significant impacts based on v/c ratio.

Construction generated traffic associated with the Project would be temporary and therefore would not result in any long-term degradation on any intersections identified. As noted above in item a, construction traffic was identified to have a less than significant impact on LOS at each intersection identified. The additional trips generated by the Project do not result in an intersection v/c increase of greater than 0.01. Therefore, the project would have a less than significant impact on the LOS during construction.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. Traffic associated with Project operation would not result in any degradation of the LOS on any intersections identified. Traffic from Project operation was identified as having a less than significant impact on LOS at each intersection identified. The additional trips generated by the Project do not result in an intersection v/c increase of greater than 0.01. Therefore, the project would have a less than significant impact on the LOS at the studied intersections during operation.

c. SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASE HAZARDS DUE TO A GEOMETRIC DESIGN FEATURE (E.G., SHARP CURVES OR DANGEROUS INTERSECTIONS) OR INCOMPATIBLE USES (E.G., FARM EQUIPMENT)?

CONSTRUCTION

NO IMPACT. The Project would not create or increase hazards due to a geometric design feature and would not alter the geometrics of any public roadway. Construction equipment would be stored at the proposed site and therefore no construction equipment would have an impact on any public right of way or create hazards.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

NO IMPACT. The Project would not create or increase hazards due to a geometric design feature and would not alter the geometrics of any public roadway. During operation the project would not have an impact on any public right of way or create hazards.

d. RESULT IN INADEQUATE EMERGENCY ACCESS?

CONSTRUCTION

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. Construction would not have any impact on emergency vehicle access to a public right of way. All streets would remain open to emergency vehicles at all times during construction. Lane closures during construction on public right of way are not anticipated.

In the case a lane closure is required, the closure would be coordinated with the local jurisdiction to reduce the potential effects on emergency access.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

NO IMPACT. Operation of the Project would not have any impact on emergency vehicle access to a public right of way. The Project would be developed on an existing high school. All streets would remain open to emergency vehicles at all times during operation of the facility. Lane closures during construction on public right of way are not anticipated.

XVIII. TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is?	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or	☐	☐	☐	☒
b. A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resource Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.	☐	☒	☐	☐

Discussion:

A comprehensive background discussion of native American culture and history pertinent to the Project is presented in Chapter 5.0 of this IS/MND.

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

Aspen requested a Sacred Lands File search on May 20, 2019. The NAHC review of the Sacred Lands Files was completed on June 6, 2019. The search noted that no Sacred Lands or sites are recorded within one-mile of the Project.

Assembly Bill 52. This Project is subject to Assembly Bill (AB) 52. AB52 is applicable to projects that have filed a Notice of Preparation (NOP) of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) or notice of a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) or Negative Declaration (ND) on or after July 1, 2015. AB 52 requires lead agencies to initiate consultation with California Native American Tribes (Tribe/s) that are traditionally and culturally affiliated with the geographic area of the project and have requested such consultation prior to determining the type of CEQA documentation is applicable to the project (i.e, EIR, MND, ND). Significant impacts to Tribal cultural resources are considered significant impacts to the environment. AB52 allows Tribes 30 days after receiving notification to request consultation.

Native American Outreach-AB 52. The County of Los Angeles Public Works initiated correspondence regarding AB 52 on March 4, 2019 and provided notification of the project to the five tribes that had previously requested notification about projects that may impact Tribal Cultural Resources (TCRs). The Tribes include,

- The Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation
- The San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians
- The Fernandeño – Tataviam Band of Mission Indians
- The Tejon Indian Tribe, and
- The San Manuel Band of Mission Indians

The County received a request for consultation from only one Tribe, the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians Kizh Nation. The tribe has requested that trained Native American Monitors be present during the project's deep excavations for the pools.

Impact Analysis:

WOULD THE PROJECT CAUSE A SUBSTANTIAL ADVERSE CHANGE IN THE SIGNIFICANCE OF A TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCE, DEFINED IN PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE SECTION 21074 AS EITHER A SITE, FEATURE, PLACE, CULTURAL LANDSCAPE THAT IS GEOGRAPHICALLY DEFINED IN TERMS OF THE SIZE AND SCOPE OF THE LANDSCAPE, SACRED PLACE, OR OBJECT WITH CULTURAL VALUE TO A CALIFORNIA NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBE, AND THAT IS:

a. LISTED OR ELIGIBLE FOR LISTING IN THE CALIFORNIA REGISTER OF HISTORICAL RESOURCES, OR IN A LOCAL REGISTER OF HISTORICAL RESOURCES AS DEFINED IN PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE SECTION 5020.1(K)

CONSTRUCTION

NO IMPACT. Based on the Sacred Lands search, no TCRs that have been recorded on the Project site. The only known prior use of the site was as an orchard (e.g. fruit trees) throughout the twentieth century and presumably further back into the late nineteenth century and early 1900sand no historic structures appear to have ever been located on the Project site. Therefore, there is a finding of no impact as a result of the construction of the Whittier Aquatic Center.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

NO IMPACT. The project site will be fully developed. Once the project is in operation, no additional ground disturbance would occur to impact potentially buried resources.

b. A RESOURCE DETERMINED BY THE LEAD AGENCY, IN ITS DISCRETION AND SUPPORTED BY SUBSTANTIAL EVIDENCE, TO BE SIGNIFICANT PURSUANT TO CRITERIA SET FORTH IN SUBDIVISION (C) OF PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE SECTION 5024.1. IN APPLYING THE CRITERIA SET FORTH IN SUBDIVISION (C) OF PUBLIC RESOURCE CODE SECTION 5024.1, THE LEAD AGENCY SHALL CONSIDER THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE RESOURCE TO A CALIFORNIA NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBE.

CONSTRUCTION

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION INCORPORATED. The Project is in an area settled and utilized for hunting and food gathering by the Gabrielino for millenia. While there are no known archaeological resources on the ground surface within the Project site, the possibility of encountering buried archaeological resources is high; buried resources could be accidentally damaged during construction. With implementation of Mitigation Measures TCR-1 through 3 potential impacts would be reduced to less than significant.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

NO IMPACT. The project site will be fully developed. Once the project is in operation, no additional ground disturbance would occur to impact potentially buried resources.

Mitigation Measures. With implementation of Mitigation Measures TCR-1 through 3, potential impacts would be reduced to less than significant. Mitigation Measures agreed to with the

Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation during AB52 consultation have been included.

TCR-1 Retain a Native American Monitor/Consultant. The Project Applicant shall be required to retain and compensate for the services of a Tribal monitor/consultant who is both approved by the Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians-Kizh Nation Tribal Government and is listed under the NAHC's Tribal Contact list for the area of the project location. This list is provided by the NAHC. The monitor/consultant will only be present on-site during the construction phases that involve ground disturbing activities. Ground disturbing activities are defined by the Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians-Kizh Nation as activities that may include, but are not limited to, pavement removal, pot-holing or auguring, grubbing, tree removals, boring, grading, excavation, drilling, and trenching, within the project area. The Tribal Monitor/consultant will complete daily monitoring logs that will provide descriptions of the day's activities, including construction activities, locations, soil, and any cultural materials identified. The on-site monitoring shall end when the project site grading and excavation activities are completed, or when the Tribal Representatives and monitor/consultant have indicated that the site has a low potential for impacting Tribal Cultural Resources.

TCR-2 Unanticipated Discovery of Tribal Cultural and Archaeological Resources. Upon discovery of any archaeological resources, cease construction activities in the immediate vicinity of the find until the find can be assessed. All archaeological resources unearthed by project construction activities shall be evaluated by the qualified archaeologist and tribal monitor/consultant approved by the Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians-Kizh Nation. If the resources are Native American in origin, the Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians-Kizh Nation shall coordinate with the landowner regarding treatment and curation of these resources. Typically, the Tribe will request reburial or preservation for educational purposes. Work may continue on other parts of the project while evaluation and, if necessary, mitigation takes place (CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5 [f]). If a resource is determined by the qualified archaeologist to constitute a "historical resource" or "unique archaeological resource", time allotment and funding sufficient to allow for implementation of avoidance measures, or appropriate mitigation, must be available. The treatment plan established for the resources shall be in accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(f) for historical resources.

Public Resources Code Sections 21083.2(b) for unique archaeological resources. Preservation in place (i.e., avoidance) is the preferred manner of treatment. If preservation in place is not feasible, treatment may include implementation of archaeological data recovery excavations to remove the resource along with subsequent laboratory processing and analysis. Any historic archaeological material that is not Native American in origin shall be curated at a public, non-profit institution with a research interest in the materials, such as the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County or the Fowler Museum, if such an institution agrees to accept the material. If no institution accepts the archaeological material, they shall be offered to a local school or historical society in the area for educational purposes.

TCR-3 Unanticipated Discovery of Human Remains and Associated Funerary Objects: Native American human remains are defined in PRC 5097.98 (d)(1) as an

inhumation or cremation, and in any state of decomposition or skeletal completeness. Funerary objects, called associated grave goods in PRC 5097.98, are also to be treated according to this statute. Health and Safety Code 7050.5 dictates that any discoveries of human skeletal material shall be immediately reported to the County Coroner and excavation halted until the coroner has determined the nature of the remains. If the coroner recognizes the human remains to be those of a Native American or has reason to believe that they are those of a Native American, he or she shall contact, by telephone within 24 hours, the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) quid PRC 5097.98 shall be followed.

Resource Assessment & Continuation of Work Protocol: Upon discovery, the tribal and/or archaeological monitor/consultant/consultant will immediately divert work at minimum of 150 feet and place an exclusion zone around the burial. The monitor/consultant(s) will then notify the Tribe, the qualified lead archaeologist, and the construction manager who will call the coroner. Work will continue to be diverted while the coroner determines whether the remains are Native American. The discovery is to be kept confidential and secure to prevent any further disturbance. If the finds are determined to be Native American, the coroner will notify the NAHC as mandated by state law who will then appoint a Most Likely Descendent (MLD).

Kizh-Gabrieleno Procedures for burials and funerary remains: If the Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians - Kizh Nation is designated MLD, the following treatment measures shall be implemented. To the Tribe, the term "human remains" encompasses more than human bones. In ancient as well as historic times, Tribal Traditions included, but were not limited to, the burial of funerary objects with the deceased, and the ceremonial burning of human remains. These remains are to be treated in the same manner as bone fragments that remain intact. Associated funerary objects are objects that, as part of the death rite or ceremony of a culture, are reasonably believed to have been placed with individual human remains either at the time of death or later; other items made exclusively for burial purposes or to contain human remains can also be considered as associated funerary objects.

Treatment Measures:

Prior to the continuation of ground disturbing activities, the land owner shall arrange a designated site location within the footprint of the project for the respectful reburial of the humus remains and/or ceremonial objects. In the case where discovered human remains cannot be fully documented and recovered on the same day, the remains will be covered with muslin cloth and a steel plate that cart be moved by heavy equipment placed over the excavation opening to protect the remains. If this type of steel plate is not available, a 24-hour guard should be posted outside of working hours. The Tribe will make every effort to recommend diverting the project and keeping the remains in situ and protected. If the project cannot be diverted, it may be determined that burials will be removed. The Tribe will work closely with the qualified archaeologist to ensure that the excavation is treated carefully, ethically and respectfully. If data recovery is approved by the Tribe, documentation shall be taken which includes at a minimum detailed descriptive notes and sketches. Additional types of documentation shall be approved by the Tribe for data recovery purposes. Cremations will either be removed in bulk or by means as necessary to ensure complete recovery of all material. If the discovery of human remains includes four or more burials, the location is considered a cemetery and a separate treatment plan shall be created. Once complete, a final report of all activities is to be submitted

to the Tribe and the NAHC. The Tribe does NOT authorize any scientific study or the utilization of any invasive diagnostics on human remains.

Each occurrence of humain remains and associated funerary objects will be stored using opaque cloth bags. All human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects and objects of cultural patrimony will be removed to a secure container on site if possible. These items should be retained arid reburied within six months of recovery. The site of reburial/repatriation shall be on the project site but at a location agreed upon between the Tribe and the landowner at a site to be protected in perpetuity. There shall be no publicity regarding any cultural materials recovered.

Professional Standards: Archaeological cued Native American monitoring and excavation during construction projects will be consistent with current professional standards. All feasible care to avoid any unnecessary disturbance, physical modification, or separation of human remains and associated funerary objects shall be taken. Principal personnel must meet the Secretary of Interior standards for archaeology and have a minimum of 10 years of experience as a principal investigator working with Native American archaeological sites in southern California. The Qualified Archaeologist shall ensure that all other personnel are appropriately trained and qualified.

XIX. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b. Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c. 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?	☐	☐	☒	☐
d. Generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?	☐	☐	☒	☐
e. Comply with federal, State, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Discussion:

The proposed Project is located within southeastern Los Angeles County, in the West Whittier-Los Nietos area, a census-designated place in unincorporated Los Angeles County. Surface and groundwater quality in the Project area are under the jurisdiction of the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), while the Los Angeles County Flood Control District manages the majority of the County's drainage infrastructure. Water supply for the County includes local surface and groundwater, imported surface water, captured and recharged stormwater, and recycled water. The County is also served by various landfills and recycling centers that are operated by incorporated cities, the County itself, and private facility operators.

Electricity is currently provided to the Project site area by Southern California Edison, natural gas is provided by SoCalGas, potable water is provided by the San Gabriel Valley Water Company, sewer services are provided by the Los Angeles County Sanitation District, storm drain services are provided by Los Angeles County Flood Control District, telephone and internet is provided by Frontier California, Inc., or internet may be provided by Crown Castle Fiber.

Impact Analysis:

a. REQUIRE OR RESULT IN THE RELOCATION OR CONSTRUCTION OF NEW OR EXPANDED WATER, WASTEWATER TREATMENT OR STORM WATER DRAINAGE, ELECTRIC POWER, NATURAL GAS, OR TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES, THE CONSTRUCTION OR RELOCATION OF WHICH COULD CAUSE SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS?

CONSTRUCTION

NO IMPACT. The Project site is currently developed as an existing parking lot utilized by the Pioneer High School. Pioneer High School is served by existing utility connections, with the proposed Project electrical and water connections utilizing these existing lines. The Project is located entirely within a LACPW easement and does not interfere with utilities located within the public road right-of-way. All necessary utility connections are located adjacent or nearby the site, requiring minimal construction efforts for interconnection. Construction of the Project would not require the relocation or construction of exiting water, wastewater, storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities. No impacts would occur, and no mitigation measures would be needed.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

NO IMPACT. For reasons similar to those noted for construction (above), operation of the Project would not require the relocation or construction of exiting water, wastewater, storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities. No impacts would occur, and no mitigation measures would be needed.

b. HAVE SUFFICIENT WATER SUPPLIES AVAILABLE TO SERVE THE PROJECT AND REASONABLY FORESEEABLE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT DURING NORMAL, DRY AND MULTIPLE DRY YEARS?

CONSTRUCTION

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. Potable water from the closest hydrant would be used for South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) Rule 403 fugitive dust control requirements during construction. This use of water would be temporary and would not impact long-term water supplies. Construction impacts would be less than significant.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. The proposed Project consists of the construction of a new aquatics facility which would include the following uses that require long-term water consumption: a pool building with restrooms and showers; perimeter landscaping; an Olympic-size 55-yard (50-meter) by 25-yard competitive swimming pool; and a 27-year (25-meter) by 25-yard practice pool. The proposed swimming pools which would hold approximately one million gallons of water and require water to maintain adequate pool levels. Pool filters would recycle water, but pool levels would be lost daily due to evaporation.

The amount of water used by the proposed Project in the long-term would result in a minor increase over the exiting water use of Pioneer High School as a whole, which already contains a pool. The pool building would be designed using LEED v4, BD+C: New Construction standards to allow the building to achieve a LEED Gold Certification. This would ensure water use is greatly minimized. Additionally, it is possible that public availability of the proposed Project reduces construction of resident pools in the immediate area, thus offsetting some water use. Overall, while the proposed Project would result in a long-term use of water supplies, it is considered a nominal increase compared to the overall water consumption of such an urban area and a minor increase over existing water use of the School. As water purveyors supplying customer needs throughout Los Angeles County account for both residential and commercial growth, the Project is considered to have sufficient water supplies available and is not expected to significantly contribute to any water shortages during normal, dry, and multiple dry years. Operation impacts would be less than significant.

c. 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?

CONSTRUCTION

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. Wastewater generated during construction would be temporary and would not impact capacity of any wastewater treatment plant. Construction impacts would be less than significant.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. Once operational, users of the facility and on-site staff would generate wastewater via showers and toilets. It is expected a number of pool staff and patrons would come from the local area, therefore not resulting in a net increase to the amount of wastewater generated in the community. Overall, the limited amount of wastewater generated by Project operation is considered less than significant and the wastewater treatment provider serving Pioneer High School is assumed to have adequate capacity to serve the Project's projected demand.

d. GENERATE SOLID WASTE IN EXCESS OF STATE OR LOCAL STANDARDS, OR IN EXCESS OF THE CAPACITY OF LOCAL INFRASTRUCTURE, OR OTHERWISE IMPAIR THE ATTAINMENT OF SOLID WASTE REDUCTION GOALS?

CONSTRUCTION

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. Construction activities would generate waste in the form of soil spoils, aggregate construction materials (cement, rebar, rock, etc.), and routine trash. Waste generated during construction would be limited and would go to local landfills that are permitted to accept such wastes and are assumed to have sufficient combined throughput and capacity to accommodate waste generated by the proposed Project. Such waste would be limited in quantity and not generated in quantities considered in excess of state or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or that could otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals. Impacts would be less than significant.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. Operation activities would generate waste in the form of vegetation (perimeter landscape maintenance) and routine trash and refuse from facility operation. The Project would incorporate storage areas for recycling bins into the proposed Project design, resulting in some waste generated like green waste (vegetation) and recyclables (paper, plastic and aluminum trash, other metals, etc.) to be recycled. Remaining waste would go to local landfills that are permitted to accept such wastes and are assumed to have sufficient combined throughput and capacity to accommodate waste generated by the proposed Project. Waste generated during operation is not expected to be in quantities considered in excess of state or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or that could otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals. Impacts would be less than significant.

e. COMPLY WITH FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL MANAGEMENT AND REDUCTION STATUTES AND REGULATIONS RELATED TO SOLID WASTE?

CONSTRUCTION

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. The proposed Project would generate limited solid waste during construction. Such waste would be limited in quantity and not generated in quantities considered in excess of state or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or that could otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals. Construction activities are considered consistent with the 1989 California Integrated Waste Management Act (AB 939) and the California Solid Waste Reuse and Recycling Access Act of 1991, resulting in less than significant impacts with respect to compliance with these applicable regulations.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. The proposed Project would generate routine solid waste from facility operation, thus requiring the consideration of waste reduction and recycling measures. AB 939 requires San Bernardino County to attain specific waste diversion goals. In addition, the California Solid Waste Reuse and Recycling Access Act of 1991, as amended, requires expanded or new development projects to incorporate storage areas for recycling bins into the proposed Project design. The proposed Project would reuse and recycle construction material to the extent feasible. Furthermore, some waste generated during construction and operation would be green waste (vegetation) and recycled (plastic and aluminum trash, other metals, etc.). Therefore, the proposed Project is consistent with AB 939 and the California Solid Waste Reuse and Recycling Access Act of 1991, resulting in less than significant impacts with respect to compliance with these applicable regulations.

XX. WILDFIRE **If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project:**	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b. Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to, pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c. Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d. Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Discussion:

The Project site is located within a highly developed urban area. Online research indicates no known historic wildfires to have affected the Project area. The Project site is not located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones (CalFire, 2019). However, due to the proximity to open space, the Project has been evaluated below.

Impact Analysis:

a. SUBSTANTIALLY IMPAIR AN ADOPTED EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN OR EMERGENCY EVACUATION PLAN?

CONSTRUCTION

NO IMPACT. The Project site is currently developed as an existing parking lot utilized by the Pioneer High School. Construction would not encroach on any roadways but would generate temporary trip volumes to access the site. Local roadways utilized during construction are not known to be part of any adopted Emergency Response Plan or Emergency Evacuation Plan. No impacts would occur, and mitigation measures would not be needed.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

NO IMPACT. Establishing the new site access ramp built on Pioneer Boulevard would not require any temporary lane closure or disruption (all work would be completed from within the existing parking lot at the curb area only). Project operation would not affect local roadways, which are not known to be part of any adopted Emergency Response Plan or Emergency Evacuation Plan. No impacts would occur, and mitigation measures would not be needed.

b. DUE TO SLOPE, PREVAILING WINDS, AND OTHER FACTORS, EXACERBATE WILDFIRE RISKS, AND THEREBY EXPOSE PROJECT OCCUPANTS TO, POLLUTANT CONCENTRATIONS FROM A WILDFIRE OR THE UNCONTROLLED SPREAD OF A WILDFIRE?

CONSTRUCTION

NO IMPACT. The Project site is currently developed as an existing parking lot utilized by the Pioneer High School within urbanized Los Angeles County. The site is flat and not adjacent to any open space, slopes, not situated in an area containing frequent strong prevailing winds (that could carry a spark to open areas), or other factors that could exacerbate wildfire risk. No impacts would occur during construction and mitigation measures would not be needed.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

NO IMPACT. The site is flat and not adjacent to any open space, slopes, not situated in an area containing frequent strong prevailing winds (that could carry a spark to open areas), or other factors that could exacerbate wildfire risk. No impacts would occur during operation and mitigation measures would not be needed.

c. REQUIRE THE INSTALLATION OR MAINTENANCE OF ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE (SUCH AS ROADS, FUEL BREAKS, EMERGENCY WATER SOURCES, POWER LINES OR OTHER UTILITIES) THAT MAY EXACERBATE FIRE RISK OR THAT MAY RESULT IN TEMPORARY OR ONGOING IMPACTS TO THE ENVIRONMENT?

CONSTRUCTION

NO IMPACT. Pioneer High School is served by existing utility connections, with the proposed Project electrical and water connections utilizing these existing lines. The Project is located entirely within a LACPW easement and does not interfere with utilities located within the public road right-of-way. During construction, the Project would not require installation or maintenance of offsite infrastructure. Therefore, the Project would have no impacts and no mitigation measures would be required.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

NO IMPACT. All necessary utility connections are located adjacent or nearby the site, requiring minimal construction efforts for interconnection. The new access ramp built on Pioneer Boulevard would not exacerbate fire risk. Therefore, the Project would have no impacts and no mitigation measures would be required.

d. EXPOSE PEOPLE OR STRUCTURES TO SIGNIFICANT RISKS, INCLUDING DOWNSLOPE OR DOWNSTREAM FLOODING OR LANDSLIDES, AS A RESULT OF RUNOFF, POST-FIRE SLOPE INSTABILITY, OR DRAINAGE CHANGES?

CONSTRUCTION

NO IMPACT. The project site is not located within or adjacent to slopes or areas susceptible to flooding, nor does it include landscape features that exacerbate fire risks or make the site or adjacent areas more susceptible to wildfire. The Project would occur within an existing paved parking area. The Project would have no impacts and no mitigation measures would be required.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

NO IMPACT. Once completed, the Project would not alter existing storm water drainage of the School and surrounding area. Therefore, while the Project would introduce new development that would bring population to the site, it would not expose people or structures to flooding or landslide risks due to post-fire instability. The Project would have no impacts and no mitigation measures would be required.

XXI. MANDATORY FINDING OF SIGNIFICANCE

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Does the project have the potential to substantially 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, substantially 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?	☐	☒	☐	☐
b. 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.)	☐	☒	☐	☐
c. Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	☐	☒	☐	☐

Impact Analysis:

a. DOES THE PROJECT HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO SUBSTANTIALLY 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, SUBSTANTIALLY 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?

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION INCORPORATED. As described in Section 3.4, Part IV (Biological Resources), the proposed project could result in direct impacts to active bird nests or indirect impacts from construction noise, dust, or nighttime lighting. However, implementation of Mitigation Measure BIO-1 would reduce this impact to a less-than-significant level.

Section 3.4, Part V (Cultural Resources) shows the project will not have any direct or indirect impacts on known historical resources; however, the area was utilized by the Gabrieliño for millennia such that the possibility of encountering buried cultural resources is high. Mitigation Measures CULT-1 and TCR 1 through 3 would reduce these impacts to a less-than-significant level.

Section 3.4, Part VII (Geology and Soils) discussed paleontological resources, noting that due to the type of geologic soils in the project area, deeper excavations may encounter sediments old enough to produce resources. To reduce impacts to a less-than-significant level, Mitigation Measure GEO-1 is recommended.

b. 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.)

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION INCORPORATED. Section 2.6 has identified four cumulative projects that would involve substantial construction activities within approximately three miles of the proposed project. Two of these projects would construct housing in the Whittier community (east of the proposed project) and the Santa Fe Springs community (southeast of the proposed project). While both housing projects would create nuisance impacts from construction that would be similar to the proposed project (e.g., emissions, noise, traffic), these impacts would be temporary, and it is likely that none of these projects would be constructed simultaneously.

The proposed structural modifications to Whittier Narrows Dam remain in the initial environmental review and design phase. It is unlikely that environmental effects from these modifications would combine with the proposed project impacts in time or space to be cumulatively considerable.

The proposed Eastside Transit Corridor Phase 2, Washington Alternative, would have the greatest likelihood to create impacts that overlap with the effects of the proposed project in space and time. However, this Metro project is still in the initial planning phase, and three additional alternatives are being considered that would route the Metro project away from the proposed aquatics facility. In the event that the Washington Alternative is approved, and construction were to begin in the same timeframe as the aquatics facility, the following mitigation measures would reduce the cumulative contribution of the proposed project to less than significant: AQ-1, BIO-1, CULT-1, GEO-1, and TCR-1 through 3.

c. DOES THE PROJECT HAVE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS WHICH WILL CAUSE SUBSTANTIAL ADVERSE EFFECTS ON HUMAN BEINGS, EITHER DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY?

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION INCORPORATED. The preceding sections of this IS/MND discuss various types of impacts that could have adverse effects on human beings, including:

- Under a worst-case scenario, potential impacts may occur from toxic air contaminants during construction. Mitigation Measure AQ-1 would reduce this impact to less than significant (see Section 3.4, Part III, Air Quality);

- Hazard-related impacts were found to be less than significant as project construction activities would follow proper handling, health and safety practices, hazards communication, and emergency response procedures (see Section 3.4, Part ix, Hazards and Hazardous Materials);

- Water quality impacts were found to be less than significant, as project construction would be controlled by BMPs (as part of the Construction General Permit) and would meet RWQCB discharge requirements (see Section 3.4, Part X, Hydrology and Water Quality);

- Noise impacts were found to be less than significant, as the project would comply with the County Code of Ordinances regarding noise and vibration levels generated by construction and operation (see Section 3.4, Part XIII, Noise); and

- Emergency access would not be adversely impacted, as all streets would remain open to emergency vehicles at all times of construction and operation. (see Section 3.4, Part XVII, Transportation).

As listed above and throughout Section 3.4, each type of impact with the potential to cause substantial adverse effects on human beings has been evaluated. This IS/MND concludes that with implementation of Mitigation Measure AQ-1, adverse impacts on human beings would be less than significant.

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