



County of Los Angeles  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE**

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street, Room 713, Los Angeles, California 90012  
(213) 974-1101  
<http://ceo.lacounty.gov>

WILLIAM T FUJIOKA  
Chief Executive Officer

**ADOPTED**

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

September 21, 2010

28 SEPTEMBER 21, 2010

*Sachi A. Hamai*  
SACHI A. HAMAI  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Board of Supervisors  
GLORIA MOLINA  
First District

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS  
Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY  
Third District

DON KNABE  
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH  
Fifth District

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS:  
CERTIFY ADDENDUM TO ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT  
ADOPT RESOLUTION AND APPROVE PROJECT  
KENNETH HAHN EASTERN RIDGELINE PROJECT  
CAPITAL PROJECT NO. 69253  
(SECOND DISTRICT) (3 VOTES)**

**SUBJECT**

Certification of the Addendum to the Environmental Impact Report and approval of the Resolution will authorize the Chief Executive Officer to complete the submission of an application and, if awarded, accept the funds from the Baldwin Hills Conservancy that were authorized under Proposition 40 for completion of the Kenneth Hahn Eastern Ridgeline Project.

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:**

1. Certify that the Addendum to the previously certified final Environmental Impact Report for the Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment, which was prepared by the California State Parks, has been completed in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act and reflects the independent judgment and analysis of the County independent. Find that your Board has reviewed and considered the information contained in the Addendum and the related mitigation measures prior to approving the project.

*"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"*

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2. Adopt the Resolution approving Los Angeles County's filing of an application for a \$2,250,000 grant pursuant to the Specified Local Assistance Grant Program of the Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2002 (Proposition 40).
3. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer or his designee as agent of the County of Los Angeles to accept the funds if the grant is awarded; conduct all negotiations; and execute and submit all documents, including but not limited to, the project grant agreement, amendments, and payment requests necessary for the completion of the project.
4. Approve the Kenneth Hahn Eastern Ridgeline Project, Capital Project No. 69253, with a total project budget of \$2,257,000.

#### **PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Approval of the attached Resolution (Attachment C) will authorize the Chief Executive Officer to complete the submission of an application for grant funds for \$2,250,000 and, if awarded, accept the funds from the Baldwin Hills Conservancy (BHC) authorized under Proposition 40 for completion of the Kenneth Hahn Eastern Ridgeline project at Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area, a State-owned, County-operated park.

On July 13, 2004, your Board approved an application for and acceptance of \$2,999,163 in grant funds by the Department of Parks and Recreation (Parks and Recreation) from the BHC pursuant to Proposition 40 for the Kenneth Hahn Eastern Ridgeline project. The original project analyzed in the State's Environmental Impact Report (EIR) included picnic areas, restroom facilities, scenic vista points, and walking trails. After extensive review by the BHC, Department of Public Works (Public Works), and the Chief Executive Office (CEO), specific challenges were identified that prevented the County from completing the project before the grant expiration date. These challenges included a need for a septic tank system, and extensive soil contamination remediation with cost estimates that exceeded available funding, which significantly prolonged the project schedule due to new environmental documentation and reporting requirements. Consequently, the BHC agreed to issue a new grant agreement to the County that includes a refined scope of work that can be completed with available funds and within the grant funding deadline requirements.

The refined scope of work for the Kenneth Hahn Eastern Ridgeline Project consists of: construction of a family friendly recreation area with three small zones with fitness equipment in each zone; one large fitness zone with equipment, including three child friendly concrete sculptures, as well as benches; a new walking trail connecting the project site with the existing parking lot; some drought tolerant and/or native plant landscaping; and installation of various waste receptacles around the project area. The project will also include installation of appropriate Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accommodations and directional signage throughout the project area.

Upon approval of the recommended actions, an as-needed design services agreement with NUVIS, approved by your Board on October 7, 2008, will be used for design of this project. Public Works and the CEO will return to your Board to recommend adoption of plans and specifications and authorization for the Executive Officer of your Board to advertise for construction contract bids. The project construction will be completed by a qualified contractor retained through the County's competitive/low bid process and will be managed by Public Works.

#### **Green Building/Sustainable Design Program**

The project supports your Board's Sustainable Design Program by implementing the use of drought tolerant landscaping to reduce the amount of potable water consumed.

#### **Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals**

The Countywide Strategic Plan directs the provision of Community and Municipal Services (Goal 3) by enriching the lives of County residents and visitors by providing access to recreational facilities and ensuring quality regional and recreational open space is provided for local communities in the Baldwin Hills portion of the Second Supervisorial District.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

The total project cost estimate of \$2,257,000 includes construction and change order allowance, Civic Art allocation, plans and specifications, consultant services, jurisdictional review, and County services.

The project is funded by grant funds from the BHC under Proposition 40 for \$2,250,000 and Second District net County cost of \$7,000.

Sufficient appropriation to fund the project will be included in the Fiscal Year 2010-11 Capital Projects and Refurbishments Budget as part of Fiscal Year 2010-11 Supplemental Resolution.

The Project Schedule and Budget Summary are included in Attachment A.

### **Operating Budget Impact**

Parks and Recreation will refine the one-time, start up costs and ongoing operating costs upon completion of the design phase of the project when more information about the project becomes available. The CEO will review the cost estimates and work with Parks and Recreation to determine appropriate operating requirements and available funding.

Based upon the project schedule, one-time or ongoing operating costs resulting from this development project would not be anticipated to be incurred by Parks and Recreation until Fiscal Year 2012-13.

### **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

As required by your Board, the project cost includes 1 percent of design and construction costs to be allocated to the Civic Art Fund per your Board's Civic Art Policy adopted on December 7, 2004.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION**

The EIR for the Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area was certified by the California State Department of Parks and Recreation on October 12, 2002. On October 21, 2003, your Board found that the prior Kenneth Hahn Eastern Ridgeline Project was consistent with the EIR, and authorized the submittal of an application for grant funds for the Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area, Eastern Ridgeline Project, under the Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhoods, and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2002.

The Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment, which the EIR was prepared for, was created as a guide for future natural open space and parkland improvements at the park. It was determined that an addendum to the EIR was necessary for the new Eastern Ridgeline Project because some changes and additions to the EIR were necessary to fully describe the planned reduction to the prior scope for the recreation area project. The Addendum EIR (Attachment B) describes the redefined family friendly recreation area with walking trails at Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area. The impacts from the redefined recreation area are within the scope of impacts analyzed in the EIR. The preparation of a new EIR was not required under Section 15162 since none of the conditions necessitating the preparation of a subsequent EIR, such as new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified effects, has occurred.

Upon your Board's approval, Public Works will file a Notice of Determination with the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk in accordance with Section 21152(a) of the California Public Resources Code.

### **CONTRACTING PROCESS**

An as-needed services agreement with NUVIS, Agreement PW 13215, approved by your Board on October 7, 2008, will be used for the design services of this project. The as-needed services agreement was acquired through a qualifications-based process through Public Works' Architectural Engineering Division.

Upon completion of jurisdictional approvals, we will return to your Board to adopt and advertise the project for construction.

### **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

These recommended actions will have no impact on current services. During construction, we will implement the project in a manner that minimizes any impacts relative to public use of the Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
September 21, 2010  
Page 6

**CONCLUSION**

Please return one adopted copy of this letter to the Chief Executive Office, Capital Projects Division; the Department of Public Works, Project Management Division II; and the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Respectfully submitted,



WILLIAM T FUJIOKA  
Chief Executive Officer

WTF:GF:DJT  
RB:AH:zu

Attachments

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors  
County Counsel  
Arts Commission  
Office of Affirmative Action Compliance  
Parks and Recreation  
Public Works

**ATTACHMENT A**

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS:  
CERTIFY ADDENDUM TO ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT  
ADOPT A RESOLUTION AND APPROVE THE PROJECT  
KENNETH HAHN EASTERN RIDGELINE PROJECT  
CAPITAL PROJECT NO. 69253  
(SECOND DISTRICT) (3 VOTES)**

**I. PROJECT SCHEDULE**

<b>Project Activity</b>	<b>Scheduled Completion Date</b>
Needs Assessment	N/A
Design Schematic Design Construction Document Jurisdictional Approval	12/06/10 03/15/11 07/21/11
Construction Bid and Award	11/08/11
Construction Substantial Completion Project Acceptance	11/13/12 01/16/13





Project Activity	Proposed Project Budget
Miscellaneous Expenditures	
Printing	\$ 0
Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment	\$ 0
Subtotal	\$ 0
Jurisdictional Review/Plan Check/Permit	\$ 25,000
County Services	
Code Compliance and Quality Control Inspections	\$ 60,000
Design Review	\$ 0
Design Services	\$ 0
Contract Administration	\$ 21,000
AED Support Services	\$ 0
Project Management	\$ 165,000
Project Management Support Services	\$ 0
Secretarial	\$ 13,000
Document Control	\$ 20,000
ISD Job Order Contract Management	\$ 0
DPW Job Order Contract Management	\$ 0
ISD ITS Communications	\$ 0
Project Security	\$ 0
Project Technical Support	\$ 15,000
Consultant Contract Recovery	\$ 20,000
Office of Affirmative Action	\$ 8,000
County Counsel	\$ 0
Other	\$ 20,000
Subtotal	\$ 342,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,257,000</b>

**REVISED ADDENDUM TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT  
FOR THE KENNETH HAHN EASTERN RIDGELINE PROJECT  
(SCH NO. 2001071101)**

**PREPARED FOR:**

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE  
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 754  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012**

**PREPARED BY:**

**SAPPHOS ENVIRONMENTAL, INC.  
430 NORTH HALSTEAD STREET  
PASADENA, CALIFORNIA 91107**

**JUNE 7, 2010**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

SECTIONS	PAGE
1.0 INTRODUCTION .....	1-1
1.1 Purpose and Scope of the Addendum to the EIR .....	1-1
2.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION .....	2-1
2.1 Project Title .....	2-1
2.2 Lead Agency.....	2-1
2.3 Primary Contact Person .....	2-1
2.4 Project Description .....	2-2
2.4.1 Approved Project.....	2-2
2.4.2 Proposed Refinements to the Approved Project.....	2-2
2.5 Proposed Location .....	2-4
2.6 Proposed Sponsor.....	2-4
2.7 General Plan Land Use Designation .....	2-4
2.8 Zoning .....	2-5
2.9 Existing Conditions .....	2-5
2.10 Statement of Objectives.....	2-6
2.11 Construction Scenario.....	2-8
3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS .....	3-1
3.1 Aesthetics .....	3.1-1
3.2 Agricultural Resources.....	3.2-1
3.3 Air Quality .....	3.3-1
3.4 Biological Resources.....	3.4-1
3.5 Cultural Resources.....	3.5-1
3.6 Geology and Soils .....	3.6-1
3.7 Greenhouse Gas Emissions.....	3.7-1
3.8 Hazards and Hazardous Materials .....	3.8-1
3.9 Hydrology and Water Quality.....	3.9-1
3.10 Land Use and Planning.....	3.10-1
3.11 Mineral Resources .....	3.11-1
3.12 Noise .....	3.12-1
3.13 Population and Housing.....	3.13-1
3.14 Public Services .....	3.14-1
3.15 Recreation .....	3.15-1
3.16 Transportation and Traffic.....	3.16-1
3.17 Utilities and Service Systems .....	3.17-1
4.0 REFERENCES.....	4-1
5.0 REPORT PREPARATION PERSONNEL .....	5-1
5.1 County of Los Angeles Chief Executive Office.....	5-1
5.2 County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works.....	5-1
5.3 Baldwin Hills Conservancy.....	5-1
5.4 Department of Toxic Substances Control .....	5-1
5.5 Sapphos Environmental, Inc.....	5-1

<b>TABLES</b>	<b>PAGE</b>
2.11-1 Equipment List.....	2-9
3.14-1 Fire Stations in the Project Vicinity.....	3.14-2

<b>FIGURES</b>	<b>FOLLOWS PAGE</b>
2.5-1 Regional Vicinity Map.....	2-4
2.5-2 Local Vicinity Map.....	2-4
2.5-3 Aerial Photograph.....	2-4
2.5-4 Topographic Map.....	2-4

## **SECTION 1.0 INTRODUCTION**

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This Addendum to an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) has been prepared by the County of Los Angeles (County) to assess the environmental consequences of the proposed refinements to the Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area (KHSRA) General Plan Amendment EIR,<sup>1</sup> which was certified by the California State Park and Recreation Commission in 2002,<sup>2</sup> describing the Kenneth Hahn Eastern Ridgeline Project (refined project). This document is prepared as an addendum to the previously certified EIR in accordance with the State California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15164, which requires that an Addendum to an EIR be prepared when changes to the project will require minor modifications of the previous EIR instead of major changes due to the involvement of new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects. The California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code, Division 13, §21002.1) requires that an EIR be prepared for projects that may have a significant effect on the environment. If changes to a project, which are not considered substantial (CEQA Guidelines §15162), are necessary after an EIR has been certified, CEQA provides that an addendum to the EIR may be prepared documenting the minor technical changes or additions to the project (CEQA Guidelines §15164(a)). In accordance with State CEQA Guidelines Section 15164 regarding minor modifications to a previously approved EIR, this Addendum to an EIR incorporates, by reference, discussions from the 2002 EIR and concentrates solely on the issues specific to the refined project.

The KHSRA General Plan Amendment, analyzed in the EIR certified in 2002, is to serve as a guide for future natural open space and parkland improvements, facility development, and habitat restoration within the KHSRA, and for connections to trails, parks, and other public facilities. The refined project, which is the focus of this Addendum to the EIR, proposes to construct, operate, and maintain a family friendly recreation area with a walking trail contained within the KHSRA. These proposed refinements to the approved project are discussed in more detail in Section 2.0, *Project Description*, of this Addendum to the EIR.

### **1.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF THE ADDENDUM TO THE EIR**

An Addendum to the EIR was determined to be the proper environmental document for the refined project, pursuant to Section 15164 of the State CEQA guidelines. That section states the conditions under which an Addendum EIR is determined to be sufficient. It refers to Section 15162 and specifies that if none of the conditions stated in Section 15162 applies to the refined project, an Addendum to the EIR is sufficient. In essence, Section 15162 specifies that a Supplemental or Subsequent EIR must be prepared if there is a significant change in the proposed project, or circumstances under which it is developed, that creates significant new environmental impacts, or if previously unknown information of significant importance becomes known (i.e., previously unknown or unexamined impacts become known) or known impacts become substantially more severe, or if previously unfeasible mitigation measures become feasible, or if alternatives not previously examined that cause less environmental impact become known, then a Supplemental EIR is necessary. With the refined project, none of these conditions are true; therefore, an

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<sup>1</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

<sup>2</sup> California State Park and Recreation Commission. 12 October 2002. *Minutes of the Meeting*. Los Angeles, CA. Available at: <http://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/843/files/10-12-02%20minutes%20draft.pdf>

Addendum to the EIR was prepared in accordance with Section 15164 of the State CEQA guidelines.

The County has prepared this Addendum to the EIR to support the fulfillment of the six major goals of CEQA:

- To disclose to the decision-makers significant environmental effects of the proposed activities
- To identify ways to avoid or reduce environmental damage
- To prevent environmental damage by requiring implementation of feasible alternatives or mitigation measures
- To disclose to the public the reasons for agency approvals of projects with significant environmental effects
- To foster interagency coordination in the review of projects
- To enhance public participation in the planning process

The Addendum to the EIR neither controls nor determines the ultimate decision regarding the refined project. The information in the Addendum to the EIR will be considered by the County (and other public agencies that will render discretionary decisions related to the project) to make findings concerning the minor modifications to the certified EIR.

## **SECTION 2.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

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Consistent with the requirements of Section 15124 of the State California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines,<sup>1</sup> this section of the Addendum to the Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area (KHSRA) General Plan Amendment Environmental Impact Report (EIR),<sup>2</sup> which was certified by the California State Park and Recreation Commission in 2002,<sup>3</sup> describes the conceptual development of a project at the proposed locations of the Kenneth Hahn Eastern Ridgeline Project (refined project). The Addendum to the EIR includes information on location and boundaries; existing conditions at the refined project site; and a statement of objectives.

An Addendum to the EIR was determined to be the proper environmental document for the refined project pursuant to Section 15164 of the State CEQA Guidelines, which requires that an Addendum to an EIR be prepared when changes to the project will require minor modifications of the previous EIR instead of major changes due to the involvement of new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects. Section 15162 of the State CEQA Guidelines specifies that a Supplemental or Subsequent EIR must be prepared if there is a significant change in the refined project, or circumstances under which it is developed, that creates significant new environmental impacts; if previously unknown information of significant importance becomes known (i.e., previously unknown or unexamined impacts become known) or known impacts become substantially more severe; if previously unfeasible mitigation measures become feasible; or if alternatives not previously examined that cause less environmental impact become known. Since the refined project entails minor modifications to the approved project, an Addendum to the EIR has been prepared.

### **2.1 PROJECT TITLE**

Kenneth Hahn Eastern Ridgeline Project

### **2.2 LEAD AGENCY**

County of Los Angeles  
Chief Executive Office  
500 West Temple Street, Room 754  
Los Angeles, California 90012

### **2.3 PRIMARY CONTACT PERSON**

Ms. Chia-Ann Yen  
County of Los Angeles Chief Executive Office  
500 West Temple Street, Room 754  
Los Angeles, California 90012  
Telephone: (213) 974-1153

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<sup>1</sup> *California Code of Regulations*. Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Sections 15000–15387, Appendix G.

<sup>2</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

<sup>3</sup> California State Park and Recreation Commission. 12 October 2002. Minutes of the Meeting. Los Angeles, CA. Available at: <http://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/843/files/10-12-02%20minutes%20draft.pdf>

Fax: (213) 626-7827

## 2.4 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The purpose of the refined project is to construct, operate, and maintain a family friendly recreation area with walking trails at the KHSRA. An Amendment to the KHSRA General Plan [for which an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) was certified consistent with the State CEQA Guidelines] was prepared by the California Department of Parks and Recreation in 2001 to update the 1985 certified Baldwin Hills State Recreational Area General Plan, and updated again in 2002.<sup>4</sup> The refined project site is part of the KHSRA.

The analysis presented in this Addendum to the EIR provides evidence demonstrating the substantial conformance of the refined project with the description of the approved project in the certified EIR, and also confirms that the environmental impacts of the refined project fall within the impacts previously identified and analyzed in the certified EIR. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new significant impacts or a substantial increase in any previously identified impacts.

### 2.4.1 Approved Project

The approved project as analyzed in the 2002 certified EIR consists of three chief elements:<sup>5</sup>

**Management Zoning.** The approved project would apply management zoning to the park to provide readily identifiable boundaries for specific types of activities, programs, and developments, thereby reducing the potential for the introduction of inappropriate activities into prime resource areas. Management zones establish allowable use intensities based on a resource management monitoring program that would prevent visitor-related impacts to resources from exceeding the threshold of significance.

**Unit-wide Management Goals and Guidelines.** A consistent set of goals and guidelines is proposed, which would apply to ongoing park maintenance and operations, as well as to new facility development throughout the park. These include the goal to restore existing disturbed resource areas to healthy ecosystems.

**Specific Area Goals and Guidelines.** Goals and guidelines to be applied to ongoing park maintenance and operations, as well as to new facility development within specific portions of the park. This includes improving water quality of runoff from the site by means of catchment basins or other methods to collect, retain, and treat runoff from the site.

### 2.4.2 Proposed Refinements to the Approved Project

This Addendum to the EIR considers six (6) proposed refinements to the approved project. The refined project consists of the construction, operation, and maintenance of:

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<sup>4</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

<sup>5</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)



- Approximately three (3) small fitness zones with fitness equipment in each zone to be located at the refined project site
- One (1) large fitness zone with approximately nine (9) pieces of fitness equipment to be located at the southeast portion of the refined project site
- One (1) area with child-friendly concrete animal sculptures to be located at the southeast portion of the refined project site
- Benches (number and location to be determined)
- Trash receptacles (number and location to be determined)
- A new walking trail running through the refined project site, connecting the refined project site with the existing parking lot located to the northwest

As detailed in the KHSRA General Plan Amendment EIR,<sup>6</sup> the Management Zones for the proposed recreation area comprise two general categories: (1) Resource Protection Management Zone and (2) Beneficial Use Management Zone. Review of site maps and aerial photographs indicates that the proposed refinements are located within and conform to the Resource Protection Management Zone and Beneficial Use Management Zones established by the Management Zone area, which discloses specific strategies and guidelines for discrete areas of the park intended to guide development of resource management. The Resource Protection Management Zone generally prescribes the lowest intensity of visitor use and facility development. Some of the facilities allowed in this zone (as per the Resource Protection Management Zone) include vehicular roads or trails (where they do not adversely affect resources), historic features, footbridges, and appropriate visitor amenities (e.g., drinking water, comfort stations, rest areas, etc). Other facilities allowed in this zone (as per the Beneficial Use Management Zone) include roads and improved trails, playgrounds, interpretive and visitor centers, and administrative facilities. The proposed refinements would constitute permissible uses, as they can be categorized as appropriate visitor amenities, improved trails, and playground facilities. The KHSRA General Plan Amendment EIR<sup>7</sup> does not designate detailed facilities with specific size, design, and locations for anticipated future development; therefore, new technologies, different recreational needs, and new opportunities are recognized.

The KHSRA General Plan Amendment EIR analyzed the impacts of applying Management Zoning to the recreation area, and concluded the potential for new public use and maintenance facilities to be constructed, as well as an increase in public use of the park.<sup>8</sup> The proposed refinements presented within this Addendum to the EIR are consistent with that conclusion that new public uses and facilities and increased public access and use, operations, maintenance, and construction activities at a program-level are found to be at less than significant levels or to be mitigated to a less than significant level with mitigation measures as identified in the certified EIR.

<sup>6</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

<sup>7</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

<sup>8</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

Each piece of equipment, including trash receptacles and the concrete animal sculptures, may be anchored on a concrete pad. The new walking path and areas under benches, fitness equipment, and concrete animal sculptures, would be graded and backfilled with material pursuant to the guidelines for soil chemistry screening parameters in Department of Toxic Substances Control's (DTSC) *Information Advisory, Clean Imported Fill Material*, dated October 2001.<sup>9</sup> Backfill materials shall be approved by the refined project geotechnical engineer. The geotechnical engineer shall also approve foundation excavations for depth and support of proposed benches, fitness equipment, and concrete animal sculptures, and approve bottom soils suitable for support of the walking trail.

Native and/or drought-tolerant plants may be used for landscaping and could be watered with an aboveground irrigation system until they are established. The refined project may require temporary installation of in-ground irrigation, as well as electricity in support of the aboveground irrigation system, but it would not require permanent installation of in-ground irrigation, electricity, or plumbing.

## 2.5 PROPOSED LOCATION

The development area of the refined project is anticipated to affect less than 5 acres and would be contained within the KHSRA,<sup>10,11</sup> which is located at 4100 La Cienega Boulevard in the Baldwin Hills Community in unincorporated territory of the County of Los Angeles (County), California (Figure 2.5-1, *Regional Vicinity Map*). The refined project site is approximately 4 miles north of Interstate 105, 2 miles east of Interstate 405, 2 miles south of Interstate 10, and 4 miles west of Interstate 110 (Figure 2.5-2, *Local Vicinity Map*). The refined project site is bound by South La Brea Avenue to the east and Stocker Avenue, which is a curving road that follows topographic boundaries of the recreation area hillside, to the south. The western boundary of the proposed project site is roughly 0.1 mile to the west of and parallel to South La Brea Avenue, and the northern boundary is approximately 0.4 mile north of Stocker Avenue (Figure 2.5-3, *Aerial Photograph*). The refined project site is approximately 3 miles northeast of Los Angeles International Airport and approximately 5 miles southeast of Santa Monica Airport. The refined project site is depicted on the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute series Inglewood and Hollywood, California, topographic quadrangles (Figure 2.5-4, *Topographic Map*).<sup>12,13</sup>

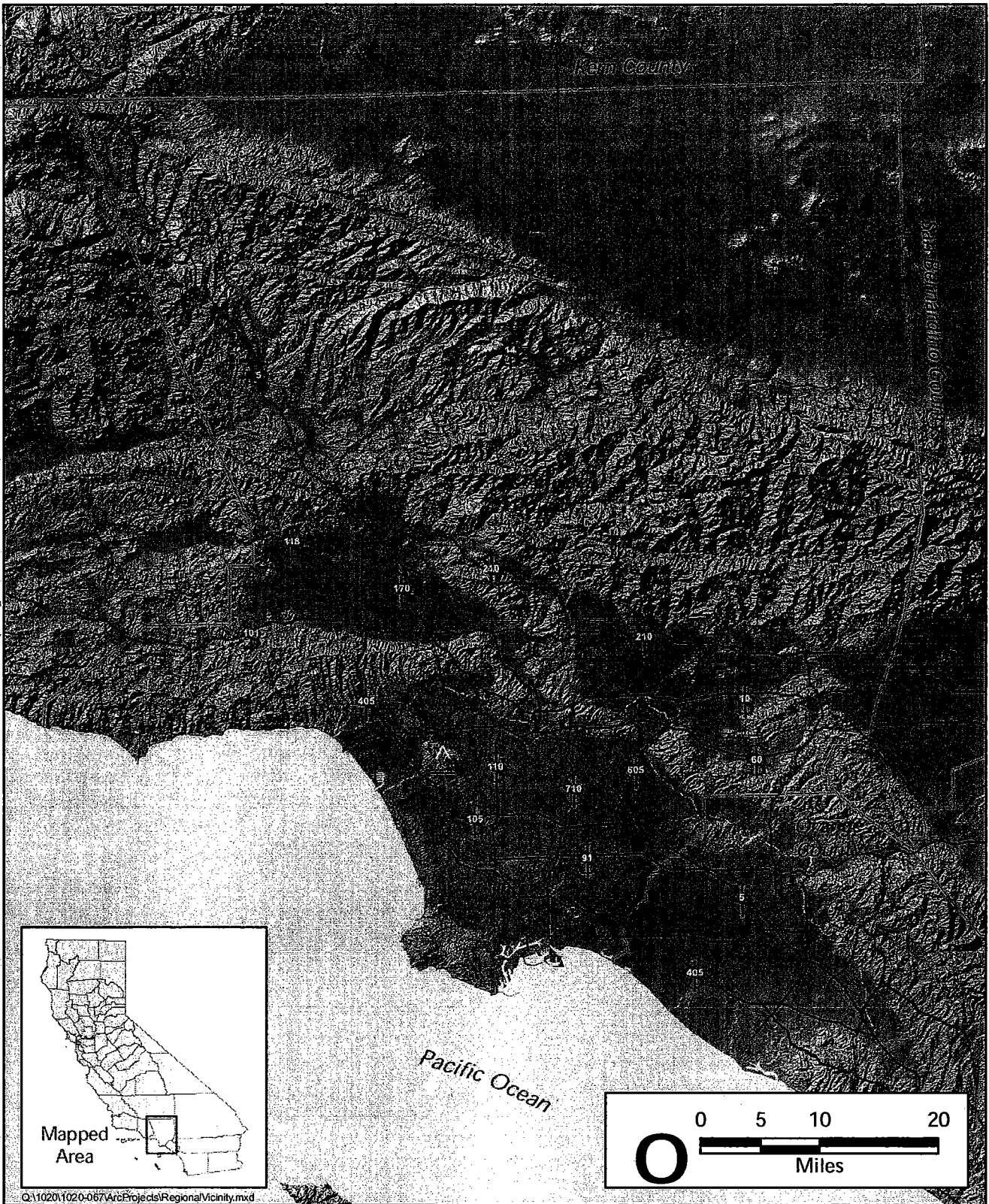
<sup>9</sup> Department of Toxic Substances Control. October 2001. *Information Advisory, Clean Imported Fill Material*. Available at: [http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/Schools/upload/SMP\\_FS\\_Cleanfill-Schools.pdf](http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/Schools/upload/SMP_FS_Cleanfill-Schools.pdf)

<sup>10</sup> Department of Toxic Substances Control. July 2005. *Preliminary Endangerment Assessment for Baldwin Hills Conservancy Eastern Ridgeline Site*. Prepared for: Baldwin Hills Conservancy.

<sup>11</sup> County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works. 25 February 2008. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreational Area Eastern Ridgeline Project Schematic Design*. Alhambra, CA.

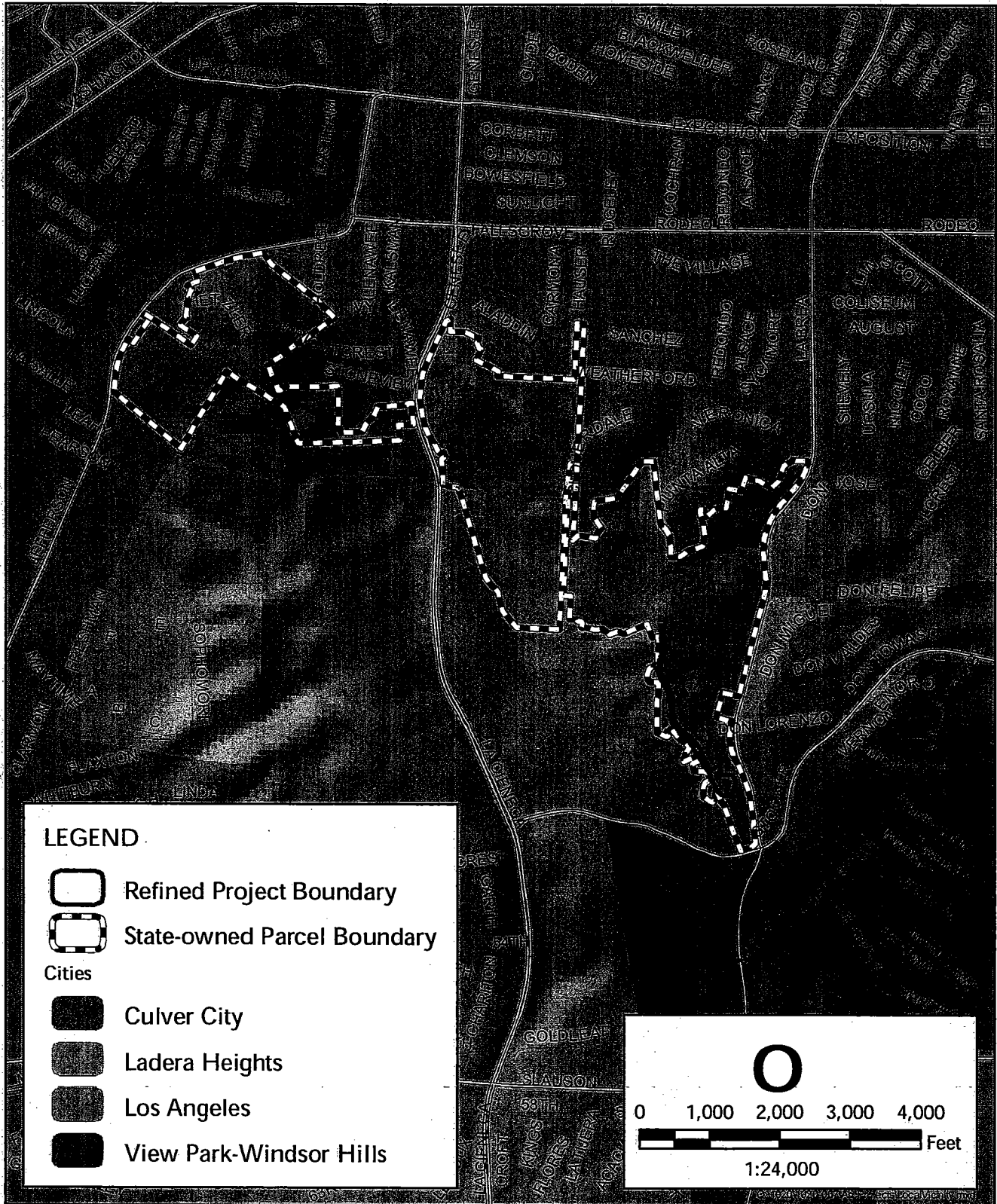
<sup>12</sup> U.S. Geological Survey. 1966 [Revised 1981]. 7.5-Minute Series Hollywood, California, Topographic Quadrangle. Reston, VA.

<sup>13</sup> U.S. Geological Survey. 1964 [Revised 1981]. 7.5-Minute Series Inglewood, California, Topographic Quadrangle. Reston, VA.



— Project Location

FIGURE 2.5-1  
Regional Vicinity Map



**FIGURE 2.5-2**  
Local Vicinity Map



FIGURE 2.5-3  
Aerial Photograph

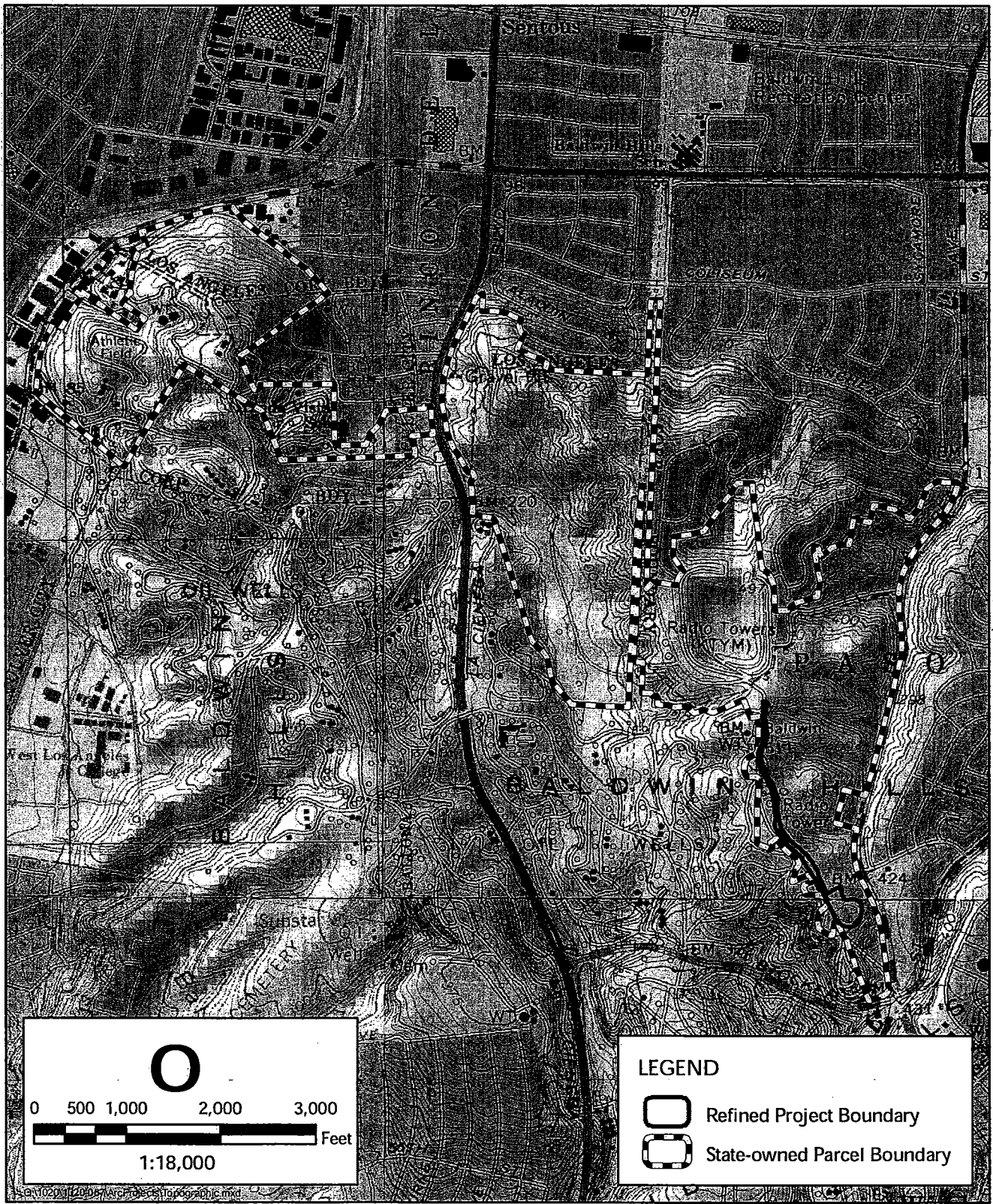


FIGURE 2.5-4  
Topographic Map

## 2.6 PROPOSED SPONSOR

Baldwin Hills Conservancy  
3578-C Eastham Drive  
Culver City, California 90232  
Telephone: (310) 558-5593  
Fax: (310) 558-5598

## 2.7 GENERAL PLAN LAND USE DESIGNATION

The KHSRA comprises approximately 387 acres of parkland set in the midst of urban Los Angeles. Parks and neighborhood recreation facilities are among the special uses allowed by the County General Plan.<sup>14, 15</sup> Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment 3-30 ESA / 202310 designates the refined project area as Open Space. Parks and neighborhood recreation facilities are among the special uses allowed by the County General Plan under an Open Space land use designation. Since the refined project would be maintained and operated as a family friendly recreation area with three (3) small and one (1) large fitness zone, which includes an area with concrete animal sculptures, and a walking trail, implementation of the refined project would be expected to be consistent with uses allowed by the County General Plan land use designation for Open Space.

## 2.8 ZONING

The refined project site is zoned as A-2, Heavy Agricultural, according to the County Zoning Ordinance. Agricultural zones permit a comprehensive range of agricultural use in areas particularly suited for agricultural activities. However, agricultural zones may provide the land necessary to permit low-density, single-family residential development and outdoor recreational and needed public and institutional facilities. Implementation of the refined project as a family friendly recreational area with outdoor recreational facilities would be expected to be consistent with the County Zoning Ordinance for the refined project site. The Assessor's parcel number for the refined project site is 5029-020-904.

## 2.9 EXISTING CONDITIONS

The refined project site is located within the KHSRA, which is owned by the State of California and managed by the County under a long-term operating agreement.<sup>16</sup> The KHSRA comprises approximately 387 acres of parkland set in the midst of urban Los Angeles and consists of native coastal sage scrub habitat, scenic overlooks, interpretive facilities, lawns and landscaped areas, picnic sites, tot lots, a fishing lake, a lotus pond, a community center, six (6) day-use parking lots, and 5 miles of trails. There are six restroom facilities within the park. The community center has four administrative offices and a small meeting room. A small maintenance yard and native plant nursery is maintained on site.

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<sup>14</sup> Using the project location maps included in the 2002 certified EIR, the KHSRA has been determined to be approximately 437 acres.

<sup>15</sup> County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning. 2007. *Los Angeles County Draft Preliminary General Plan*. Available at: [http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp\\_draft.pdf](http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp_draft.pdf)

<sup>16</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

Recreational activities within the park include, but are not limited to, hiking, biking, walking, running, fishing, picnicking, and nature interpretation and education. The Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook consists of 50 acres of open space and a scenic view site at the northern tip of the western ridgeline of the KHSRA, approximately 1.5 miles northwest of the refined project site.<sup>17,18</sup> KHSRA serves as the primary recreation area for residents who live in this highly underserved area. The KHSRA consists of a series of hills running from north to south ascending to just over 500 feet above the coastal plain. Native plant habitats within the park are categorized as coastal scrub, grassland, and riparian. All of the habitats have been degraded to varying degrees by urbanization, fragmentation, and invasion of non-native plants and animals, due to the presence of roads, trails, buildings, non-native landscaping, and/or other development. The least disturbed areas of the park are coastal scrub communities located in canyons.

The refined project site is located within the KHSRA, which was formerly part of the active Inglewood Oil Field. Discovered prior to 1928, the oil field occupies much of the Baldwin Hills. The refined project site is relatively level compared to the surrounding area due to the imported fill materials, some of which contain oil field-related waste. Prior investigations have identified fill materials could be up to 17.5 feet thick. In addition, non-contaminated fill containing a large percentage of green waste was brought to the refined project site at a later date and could be a source of methane. A Preliminary Environmental Assessment (PEA) was conducted for the refined project area on behalf of the DTSC in July 2005.<sup>19</sup> The PEA identified typical oil field-related contaminants in soil, including total petroleum hydrocarbons, petroleum-related volatile organic compounds (VOCs), semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), and metals. The PEA indicated that methane concentrations in soil gas may have resulted from aboveground green waste. Both methane and VOCs may have also resulted from oil-contaminated fill, and potentially the Inglewood Oil Field.

The refined project area is adjacent to steep ravines on the northeastern side, which contain open fissures, and is visibly unstable. However, based on the results of the PEA prepared for the refined project site, potential risks and hazards to visitors was determined to be below the Hazard Index of 1 by the DTSC, and thus the risk to human health and structures is considered to be below the level of significance. The DTSC stated that the refined project site could be used as an open-space park and for passive recreation. The DTSC recommended implementation of mitigation measures if the site is used for active recreation to ensure that contaminated fill does not pose a risk to people or property.

## 2.10 STATEMENT OF OBJECTIVES

The refined project is designed to adhere to the criteria set forth in the County General Plan Land Use element and the Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan.

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<sup>17</sup> Baldwin Hills Conservancy. 2003. Web site. "Map of Existing Public Land of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy that lies within the Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area." Available at: [http://www.bhc.ca.gov/Final\\_bhc\\_boundary\\_bw.pdf](http://www.bhc.ca.gov/Final_bhc_boundary_bw.pdf)

<sup>18</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. May 2002. *Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan*. Available at: [http://www.bhc.ca.gov/documents/Baldwin\\_Hills\\_Master\\_Plan\\_Final.pdf](http://www.bhc.ca.gov/documents/Baldwin_Hills_Master_Plan_Final.pdf)

<sup>19</sup> Department of Toxic Substances Control. July 2005. *Preliminary Endangerment Assessment for Baldwin Hills Conservancy Eastern Ridgeline Site*. Prepared for: Baldwin Hills Conservancy.



### **Preservation of Open Space in Perpetuity**

The County General Plan Land Use element emphasizes the preservation of open space for County residents in perpetuity.<sup>20</sup>

### **Preservation of Viewsheds and Aesthetics**

Regarding preservation of aesthetics as set forth in the definition of Special Management Areas in the County General Plan Land Use element,<sup>21</sup> the refined project supports the County General Plan's criteria to preserve aesthetics and viewsheds, and provides a new view area for visitors to the refined project site to enjoy.

### **Provision of a Recreational Area**

The refined project site is located within the KHSRA, which is considered to be a regional park and recreational area that attracts users from beyond the local community, as characterized by the County General Plan Conservation and Open Space element.<sup>22</sup> The refined project supports the County General Plan's goal of "developing and expanding regional and local parkland and trail systems in the County"<sup>23</sup> and provides recreational and open-space opportunities to the diverse Baldwin Hills Community population.

### **Provision of Parkland to an Underserved Local Community**

In support of goals set forth in the Land Use element of the County General Plan regarding provision of open space to County residents, the refined project site is situated within the KHSRA, which is located within the most "park poor" area of Los Angeles, with only approximately 0.9 acre of open space for every 1,000 residents.<sup>24</sup> The Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan also highlights the low ratio of open space to number of area residents (approximately 0.9 acre per 1,000 residents) of the Baldwin Hills community.<sup>25</sup> The refined project supports the objective of providing additional open space for community residents.

### **Provision of Recreational Opportunities for a Diverse Community**

Another objective is to increase available parkland and create recreational opportunities for the diverse needs of the underserved Baldwin Hills community. An inventory of open space, parks, and recreation facilities within a 5-mile radius of the KHSRA was conducted by Community

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<sup>20</sup> County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning. 2007. *Los Angeles County Draft Preliminary General Plan, Land Use Element*. Available at: [http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp\\_draft.pdf](http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp_draft.pdf)

<sup>21</sup> County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning. 2007. *Los Angeles County Draft Preliminary General Plan, Land Use Element*. Available at: [http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp\\_draft.pdf](http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp_draft.pdf)

<sup>22</sup> County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning. 2007. *Los Angeles County Draft Preliminary General Plan, Conservation and Open Space Element*. Available at: [http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp\\_draft.pdf](http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp_draft.pdf)

<sup>23</sup> County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning. 2007. *Los Angeles County Draft Preliminary General Plan, Conservation and Open Space Element*, page 116. Available at: [http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp\\_draft.pdf](http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp_draft.pdf)

<sup>24</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. May 2002. *Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan*. Available at: [http://www.bhc.ca.gov/documents/Baldwin\\_Hills\\_Master\\_Plan\\_Final.pdf](http://www.bhc.ca.gov/documents/Baldwin_Hills_Master_Plan_Final.pdf)

<sup>25</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. May 2002. *Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan*. Available at: [http://www.bhc.ca.gov/documents/Baldwin\\_Hills\\_Master\\_Plan\\_Final.pdf](http://www.bhc.ca.gov/documents/Baldwin_Hills_Master_Plan_Final.pdf)

Conservancy International (CCI).<sup>26</sup> The County and the Cities of Culver City, Inglewood, and Los Angeles were each surveyed on the types and quantity of facilities in their park systems. The results of the inventory underscored the need for a significant increase in the quantity and quality of open space and recreation opportunities for the nearly three (3) million park-poor residents who would be expected to use the park system.<sup>27</sup> The refined project would provide passive and active recreational opportunities to residents of all ages within the area.

### **Provision of a Sustainable Park**

The refined project would fully comply with the Los Angeles County Water and Energy Conservation Policy adopted in February 2007 by the County Board of Supervisors as it does not require the installation of electricity or plumbing for irrigation or restrooms, and would include planting of drought-tolerant native species. The refined project is in accord with the goals and guidelines set forth in the certified EIR<sup>28</sup> and with the California Department of Parks and Recreation's guidelines for management of natural and cultural resources.<sup>29</sup>

### **Compliance with Proposition 40, the California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal Protection Act of 2002**

The refined project will be funded by Proposition 40, the California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal Protection Act of 2002. The Baldwin Hills Conservancy has received funding in support of the refined project under Article 2 of the above act, Public Resources Codes 5096.610(a) and (c).<sup>30</sup> The refined project complies with the criteria set forth under Proposition 40.

## **2.11 CONSTRUCTION SCENARIO**

Construction of the refined project would cause soil disturbance. Under each piece of fitness equipment, sculpture, and bench, soil would be removed and filled with materials in a manner that is consistent with guidance provided in the DTSC *Information Advisory, Clean Imported Fill Material*, dated October 2001.<sup>31</sup> In constructing the new walking trail, soil would be removed to a depth suitable for support of the walking trail and backfilled with materials approved by the refined project geotechnical engineer. The refined project geotechnical engineer would make recommendations for foundation excavations and approve excavation bottoms as suitable for the support of the new walking trail, fitness equipment, sculpture, and bench foundation and the suitability of imported soils for backfill.

<sup>26</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. May 2002. *Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan*, page 32. Available at: [http://www.bhc.ca.gov/documents/Baldwin\\_Hills\\_Master\\_Plan\\_Final.pdf](http://www.bhc.ca.gov/documents/Baldwin_Hills_Master_Plan_Final.pdf)

<sup>27</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. May 2002. *Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan*. Available at: [http://www.bhc.ca.gov/documents/Baldwin\\_Hills\\_Master\\_Plan\\_Final.pdf](http://www.bhc.ca.gov/documents/Baldwin_Hills_Master_Plan_Final.pdf)

<sup>28</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

<sup>29</sup> State of California Resources Agency. 2007. Web site. "Mission Statement for the State Department of Parks and Recreation." Available at: [http://www.ebudget.ca.gov/StateAgencyBudgets/3000/3790/mission\\_statement.html](http://www.ebudget.ca.gov/StateAgencyBudgets/3000/3790/mission_statement.html)

<sup>30</sup> State of California. Proposition 40: The California Clean Water, Clear Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal Protection Act of 2002 Web site. Available at: <http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/funding/docs/propositions/prop40.pdf>

<sup>31</sup> Department of Toxic Substances Control. October 2001. *Information Advisory, Clean Imported Fill Material*. Available at: [http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/Schools/upload/SMP\\_FS\\_Cleanfill-Schools.pdf](http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/Schools/upload/SMP_FS_Cleanfill-Schools.pdf)

These measures are to provide an even surface for new equipment, and provide a permeable surface that would allow for proper water drainage and prevent build-up of subsurface methane gas. Additional grading may be required to create a more level recreation area at the portion of the refined project site that would contain the children's play area and approximately three (3) fitness zones. It is anticipated that standard worker safety measures, including use of mask and gloves, would be necessary, and that soil dampening would be required to reduce construction dust; however, it is not anticipated that additional measures to ensure against exposure to contaminated fill would be needed. There is an existing nearby roadway that provides vehicle access to the refined project site.

Work would be expected to be largely undertaken in previously backfilled materials currently existing on site. If native soils are discovered, and there is a need to encroach on native soils during construction activities, a qualified paleontological monitor shall be contacted prior to earthmoving activities. Based on the evaluation of a site assessment conducted by a qualified paleontological monitor, a determination of the location of paleontological construction monitoring and recovery of paleontological resources from earthmoving activities, including, but not limited to, trenching and site grading, during project implementation would be made. Paleontological resources monitoring would be conducted in accordance with standards for such recovery established by the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology such that potential for significant impacts to paleontological resources through the inadvertent loss of important scientific information would be avoided. The recommended procedure to be followed in the event of an accidental discovery of archaeological resources during construction includes stoppage of work on the site of the discovery, immediate evaluation of the find by a qualified archaeologist, and, if warranted, excavation and recovery of significant archaeological resources. In accordance with Health and Safety Code Sections 7050 and 7052, in the event of the discovery of human remains outside of a dedicated cemetery, all ground disturbance would cease and the Los Angeles County Coroner would be notified. Furthermore, in accordance with the Public Resources Code, Section 5097.98, the Native American Heritage Commission would be notified in the event that the Coroner determines that the remains are Native American. It is not anticipated that construction of the refined project would reach native soils or require archaeological, paleontological, or Native America monitoring.

It is anticipated that the construction phase would be completed within approximately six (6) to eight (8) months of project approval by the County Board of Supervisors. Construction equipment is listed in Table 2.11-1, *Equipment List*. It is anticipated that there will be as many as twelve (12) construction workers during peak periods.

**TABLE 2.11-1  
EQUIPMENT LIST**

Quantity (approximate)	Type of Equipment/Vehicle
1	Small Bobcat (with auger)
3	Dump truck
1	Watering truck
1	Machine roller
3	Pick-up trucks

The construction crew would access the refined project site via an existing park road, and they would park on site. Maintenance workers would also use the existing road to maintain plantings and equipment. Construction equipment may be equipped with state-of-the-art noise muffling devices.

It is anticipated that one (1) Bobcat will be used to clear surface soil away from equipment areas and prepare the new walking trail. The refined project geotechnical engineer shall make recommendations on foundation excavations and approve the bottom soils as suitable for support of the new walking trail. Three (3) dump trucks would bring in soils approved by the refined project geotechnical engineer for structural backfill of the new walking trail, fitness equipment, sculpture, and bench. Soils would be spread by hand by construction workers, and one (1) machine roller would be used to smooth and compact the material. A minimum of one (1) water truck would be utilized to keep soil moist and dust levels below significant levels. The Bobcat would be equipped with an auger to drill holes for the concrete pads. Maintenance crews and construction workers may access the site via pick-up truck. Native plantings, soil, and aboveground irrigation equipment would also be brought to the refined project site via pick-up truck. Not including the construction crew's parked personal vehicles, it is anticipated that there would be approximately three (3) construction vehicles (i.e., pick-up trucks) on site at peak periods.

Site preparation and construction of the refined project would be in accordance with all federal, state, and County building codes. Daily construction activities would be subject to County noise regulations.

Construction is anticipated to occur between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. from Monday to Friday. Should the hours deviate, the contractor will abide by the County Noise Ordinance, which specifies that 50 dBA (decibels, A-weighted sound levels) for single-family residences and 55 dBA for multi-family residences during construction hours will not be exceeded. Weekend and holiday work may occur upon approval by the County Department of Public Works.

Construction activities would include localized fine site grading. Additional construction activities would include delivery and hauling of construction materials and equipment, operation of construction equipment, and construction worker commute trips.

Site preparation and construction of the refined project would be in accordance with all federal, state, and County building codes. Employees would report to a designated construction staging area at the beginning of each workday. Administrative functions would take place at the County Department of Public Works. Employee vehicles, construction equipment and vehicles, and storage and materials used throughout the refined project site would be located in the staging area in an effort to minimize impacts to the site, pedestrians, and local park employee traffic.

The construction contractor would ensure that source-reduction techniques and the development of recycling programs during construction and operation of the refined project are considered and implemented whenever possible.<sup>32</sup>

All grading and earthwork would be performed under the observation of the refined project geotechnical engineer to ensure proper subgrade preparation, selection of satisfactory materials, and placement and compaction of structural fills. Any unanticipated adverse conditions encountered would be evaluated by the refined project engineering geologist and the soil engineer. In addition, the geotechnical engineer shall observe foundation, grading excavations, and backfill for implementation of appropriate geotechnical recommendations.

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<sup>32</sup> Los Angeles County Code. Title 12, "Environmental Protection," Chapter 20.87.08.060, "Approval of Recycling and Reuse Plan." Available at: <http://ordlink.com/codes/lacounty/index.htm>

The construction contractor would be required to incorporate best management practices (BMPs) consistent with the guidelines provided in the *California Storm Water Best Management Practice Handbooks: Construction*.<sup>33</sup> Should the construction period continue into the rainy season, supplemental erosion measures would need to be implemented, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Mulching
- Geotextiles and mats
- Earth dikes
- Temporary drains and gulleys
- Silt fence
- Straw bale barriers
- Sandbag barrier
- Brush or rock filter
- Sediment trap

Wherever possible, grading activities would be undertaken outside the normal rainy season (i.e., October 15 to April 15 for most of Southern California), thus minimizing the potential for increased surface runoff and the associated potential for soil erosion. Construction is anticipated to begin after April 15 after the rainy season and is anticipated to be completed in November, assuming the construction would be expected to take 6 to 8 months. Best management practices to control surface runoff and soil erosion would be required for construction taking place during rainy periods.

As with the approved project, construction equipment would be turned off when not in use. The construction contractor would ensure that all construction and grading equipment is properly maintained. All vehicles and compressors may utilize exhaust mufflers and engine enclosure covers (as designed by the manufacturer). It is currently anticipated that up to 12 construction workers would be on site at any given time during the construction of the refined project.

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<sup>33</sup> California Stormwater Quality Association. 1993. *California Storm Water Best Management Practice Handbooks: Construction*. Menlo Park, CA.

## **SECTION 3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS**

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The environmental analysis provided in this section describes the information that was considered in evaluating the questions contained in the Environmental Checklist.<sup>1</sup> The information used in this evaluation is derived from the literature review (see Section 4.0, References, for a list of reference material consulted), field reconnaissance, and meetings with the County of Los Angeles (County) Chief Executive Office and County Department of Public Works. The evaluation of direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts considered the existing conditions within the refined project site, immediately adjacent property, and the surrounding City of Los Angeles.

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<sup>1</sup> *California Code of Regulations*. Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Sections 15000–15387, Appendix G.

### 3.1 AESTHETICS

This analysis is undertaken to determine if the Kenneth Hahn Eastern Ridgeline Project (refined project) would result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts in relation to aesthetics from that disclosed in the Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area (KHSRA) General Plan Amendment Environmental Impact Report (EIR),<sup>1</sup> which was certified by the California State Park and Recreation Commission in 2002.<sup>2</sup> Aesthetics at the refined project site were evaluated with regard to the California Department of Transportation's (Caltrans) "Scenic Highway System" designations;<sup>3</sup> previously published information regarding the visual character of the refined project site, including light and glare; site reconnaissance; and a review of conceptual site plans.

The potential for the refined project to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to aesthetics was evaluated in relation to four questions recommended for consideration by Appendix G of the State California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines.<sup>4</sup>

Would the refined project have any of the following effects:

- (a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?

The refined project would not create a new or substantially more adverse significant impact on scenic vistas. The refined project would not be located within the viewshed of a California State Scenic Byway designated by the Caltrans Office of State Landscape Architecture<sup>5</sup> or an All-American or National Scenic Byway as designated by the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration.<sup>6</sup> Scenic vistas are considered to be areas that command a panoramic and, in most cases, spectacular view by virtue of elevation differential and relative freedom from visual obstructions. The refined project area is not located in the vicinity of a scenic vista as designated by the County and therefore, the physical alteration of the refined project site would not be intrusive and degrade a valuable County resource.<sup>7</sup> The nearest scenic vista, the Vista Pacifica Scenic Site, consists of 50 acres of open space and a scenic view site, but does not lie within the refined project site, but rather at the northern tip of the western ridgeline within the KHSRA, about 1.5 miles northwest of the refined project site. According to the 2002 certified EIR, areas that are most sensitive to scenic quality degradation are those along ridgelines, which are visible from long-distance and near-distance views. Therefore, the refined project would be expected to be consistent with the 2002 certified EIR and would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to aesthetics related to substantial adverse effects to scenic vistas.

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<sup>1</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

<sup>2</sup> California State Park and Recreation Commission. 12 October 2002. *Minutes of the Meeting*. Los Angeles, CA. Available at: <http://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/843/files/10-12-02%20minutes%20draft.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> California Department of Transportation. Accessed 24 March 2008. *The California Scenic Highway Program: Eligible (E) and Officially Designated (OD) Routes (by Route)*. Available at: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/LandArch/scenic/cahisys.htm>

<sup>4</sup> *California Code of Regulations*. Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Sections 15000–15387, Appendix G.

<sup>5</sup> California Department of Transportation. Accessed 24 March 2008. *The California Scenic Highway Program: Eligible (E) and Officially Designated (OD) Routes (by Route)*. Available at: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/LandArch/scenic/cahisys.htm>

<sup>6</sup> U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, National Scenic Byways Program. 24 March 2008. Available at: <http://www.byways.org/browse/byways/10246/>

<sup>7</sup> County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning. 2007. *Los Angeles County Draft Preliminary General Plan, Conservation and Open Space Element*. Available at: [http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp\\_draft.pdf](http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp_draft.pdf)

- (b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?

The refined project would not create a new or substantially more adverse significant impact on scenic resources within a state-designated scenic highway. According to the California Scenic Highway Program, the nearest eligible or officially designated scenic highway or historic parkway is Interstate 110, located approximately 4 miles east of the refined project site. Interstate 110, begins as a historic parkway in the City of Pasadena and travels southwest approximately 25 miles to terminate near downtown Los Angeles. The nearest officially designated scenic highways are Angeles Crest Highway (State Route 2) located approximately 21.9 miles northwest of the refined project site and a portion of State Route 1 located approximately 25 miles southwest of the refined project site. Therefore, there would be no eligible or officially designated scenic highways traversing within or adjacent to the refined project area. The refined project site cannot be viewed from either of these highways due to distance. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to aesthetics related to substantial damage to scenic resources within a state scenic highway.

- (c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?

The refined project would not create a new or substantially more adverse significant impact to aesthetics related to the substantial degradation of the existing visual character of the refined project site and its surroundings. The construction phase of the refined project may have a temporary adverse effect on the existing visual quality of the site and its surroundings due to clearing existing vegetation, minimal soil disturbance, and security barriers that may be required during construction activities. However, it is anticipated that the potential impacts and short-term nature of the degradation of the visual character of the area would be less than significant.

The refined project has been designed to improve the recreational value of the site by constructing concrete animal sculptures, installing fitness equipment, and creating a walking trail. The refined project would not degrade the visual character of the refined project site and its surroundings, but would instead contribute to a recreational improvement while providing consistent visual character within the KHSRA. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to aesthetics related to degradation of the existing visual character of the refined project site and its surroundings.

- (d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?

The refined project would not create a new or substantially more adverse significant impact to aesthetics related to the creation of a new source of substantial light or glare that would adversely affect daytime or nighttime views in the refined project area. The refined project does not anticipate installation of lighting at the refined project site that would contribute to nighttime glare.

The refined project would be located in the Baldwin Hills Community within the Los Angeles Basin, which experiences a high level of daytime and nighttime light and glare due to the density of urban development. Currently, there are no on-site sources of light and glare. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to aesthetics related to the creation of a new source of substantial light or glare that would adversely affect daytime or nighttime views in the area.



### 3.2 AGRICULTURE AND FOREST RESOURCES

This analysis is undertaken to determine if the Kenneth Hahn Eastern Ridgeline Project (refined project) would result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts in relation to agricultural and forest resources from that disclosed in the Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area (KHSRA) General Plan Amendment Environmental Impact Report (EIR),<sup>1</sup> which was certified by the California State Park and Recreation Commission in 2002.<sup>2</sup> Agricultural and forest resources at the refined project site were evaluated with regard to the California Department of Conservation (CDC) Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program (FMMP)<sup>3</sup> and the County General Plan.<sup>4</sup>

State California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Statutes [(§21060.1(a) Public Resources Code 21000-21177] define agricultural land to mean "prime farmland, farmland of statewide importance, or unique farmland, as defined by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) land inventory and monitoring criteria, as modified for California." These are herein collectively referred to as "Farmland." Public Resources Code section 12220(g) defines forest land as "land that can support 10-percent native tree cover of any species, including hardwoods, under natural conditions, and that allows for management of one or more forest resources, including timber, aesthetics, fish and wildlife, biodiversity, water quality, recreation, and other public benefits."

The potential for the refined project to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to agricultural and forest resources was evaluated in relation to five questions recommended for consideration by Appendix G of the State CEQA Guidelines.<sup>5</sup>

Would the refined project have any of the following effects:

- (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?

The refined project would not create a new or substantially more adverse significant impact to agricultural and forest resources in relation to the conversion of Farmland. The most recent mapping of the County for Farmland undertaken by the CDC FMMP was reviewed for the refined project site;<sup>6</sup> however, most of the County (including KHSRA) is not included in the California Resources Agency Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program, and there are no agricultural resources located in the refined project area. Based on the review of the land use designations and applicable Important Farmland map for the refined project site, there are no Farmlands located in

<sup>1</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

<sup>2</sup> California State Park and Recreation Commission. 12 October 2002. *Minutes of the Meeting*. Los Angeles, CA. Available at: <http://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/843/files/10-12-02%20minutes%20draft.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> California Department of Conservation, Division of Land Resource Protection, Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program. 2004. *Important Farmland in California, 2002*. Sacramento, CA.

<sup>4</sup> County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning. 2007. *Los Angeles County Draft Preliminary General Plan, Land Use Element*. Available at: [http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp\\_draft.pdf](http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp_draft.pdf)

<sup>5</sup> *California Code of Regulations*. Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Sections 15000–15387, Appendix G.

<sup>6</sup> California Department of Conservation, Division of Land Resource Protection, Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program. 2004. *Important Farmland in California, 2002*. Sacramento, CA.

or immediately adjacent to the refined project site. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to agricultural and forest resources related to the conversion of Farmland.

(b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?

The refined project would not create a new or substantially more adverse significant impact to agricultural and forest resources in relation to a conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use or a Williamson Act contract. Based on an analysis of the County, there is no agricultural land use zoned within the County's jurisdiction.<sup>7</sup> In addition, the County does not offer Williamson contracts.<sup>8</sup> Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to agricultural and forest resources related to a 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))?

The refined project would not create a new or substantially more adverse significant impact to agricultural and forest resources in relation to a conflict with existing zoning for, or 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)). As noted above, Public Resources Code section 12220(g) defines forest land as "land that can support 10-percent native tree cover of any species, including hardwoods, under natural conditions, and that allows for management of one or more forest resources, including timber, aesthetics, fish and wildlife, biodiversity, water quality, recreation, and other public benefits." Public Resources Code section 4526 states that "'Timberland' means land, other than land owned by the federal government and land designated by the board as experimental forest land, which is available for, and capable of, growing a crop of trees of any commercial species used to produce lumber and other forest products, including Christmas trees. Commercial species shall be determined by the board on a district basis after consultation with the district committees and others."<sup>9</sup> Government Code section 51104 (g) states, "'Timberland production zone' or 'TPZ' means an area which has been zoned pursuant to Section 51112 or 51113 and is devoted to and used for growing and harvesting timber, or for growing and harvesting timber and compatible uses, as defined in subdivision (h). With respect to the general plans of cities and counties, 'timberland preserve zone' means 'timberland production zone.'"<sup>10</sup> Sections 51112 and 51113 relate to timberland production within timberland production zones.<sup>11</sup> Finally, subdivision (h) states that a "'compatible use' is any use which does not significantly detract from

<sup>7</sup> County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning. 2007. *Los Angeles County Draft Preliminary General Plan, Land Use Element*. Available at: [http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp\\_draft.pdf](http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp_draft.pdf)

<sup>8</sup> California Department of Conservation, Division of Land Resource Protection. 2006. *Williamson Act: Questions and Answers*. Sacramento, CA.

<sup>9</sup> *California Public Resources Code*. Section 4526.

<sup>10</sup> *California Government Code*. Article 1, General Provisions, Sections 51100-51104. Section 51104 (g).

<sup>11</sup> *California Government Code*. Article 2, Timberland Production Zones, Sections 51110-51119.5. Sections 51112-51113.

the use of the property for, or inhibit, growing and harvesting timber" and provides six specific instances where such uses would be 'contrary' or inconsistent with the land being considered a 'compatible use.'<sup>12</sup>

According to the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, the State of California consists of approximately 5,418,979 acres of land that has been classified as a timberland production zone, or TPZ.<sup>13</sup> TPZ is designated in 32 counties within the state. The County of Los Angeles does not contain land that is designated as a timberland production zone.<sup>14,15</sup> The refined project site is not zoned for forest land, timberland, or timberland production, nor is it adjacent to land zoned as such.<sup>16</sup> Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to agricultural and forest resources related to a conflict with existing zoning for, or 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?

The refined project would not create a new or substantially more adverse significant impact to agricultural and forest resources in relation to loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use. The refined project site is a state recreation area, is not forest land, and is located in the unincorporated community of Baldwin Hills, which is an urbanized area. As such, the refined project would not be expected result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use because there is no forest land on or immediately adjacent to the refined project site.<sup>17</sup> Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to agricultural and forest resources related to loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use.

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

The refined project would not create a new or substantially more adverse significant impact to agricultural and forest resources in relation to 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. Based on the review of the most recent mapping of the County for Farmland undertaken by the CDC FMMP, there is no Farmland on the refined project site.<sup>18</sup> The

<sup>12</sup> California Government Code. Article 1, General Provisions, Sections 51100-51104. Section 51104 (h).

<sup>13</sup> Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. 3 January 2002. *Timberland Site Class on Private Lands Zoned for Timber Production*. Technical working paper. Sacramento, CA.

<sup>14</sup> Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. 3 January 2002. *Timberland Site Class on Private Lands Zoned for Timber Production*. Technical working paper. Sacramento, CA.

<sup>15</sup> County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning. 1980. *County of Los Angeles General Plan*. Available at: <http://ceres.ca.gov/docs/data/0700/791/HYPEROCR/hyperocr.html>

<sup>16</sup> County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning. *GIS-NET*. Accessed 2 March 2010. Available at: <http://planning.lacounty.gov/gisnet>

<sup>17</sup> California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. Accessed 2 March 2010. Available at: <http://www.fire.ca.gov/>

<sup>18</sup> California Department of Conservation, Division of Land Resource Protection, Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program. 2004. *Important Farmland in California, 2002*. Sacramento, CA.

refined project would not enhance the suitability of any designated farmland for development. There are no designated farmlands within the refined project area. Forest land is not located on or immediately adjacent to the refined project site. The refined project would not cause the conversion of forest land to non-forest use because no forest land is located in the unincorporated area of Baldwin Hills. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to agricultural and forest resources related to 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.

### 3.3 AIR QUALITY

This analysis is undertaken to determine if the Kenneth Hahn Eastern Ridgeline Project (refined project) would result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts in relation to air quality from that disclosed in the Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area (KHSRA) General Plan Amendment Environmental Impact Report (EIR),<sup>1</sup> which was certified by the California State Park and Recreation Commission in 2002.<sup>2</sup> Air quality at the refined project site was evaluated with regard to the County General Plan,<sup>3</sup> the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS), the California Ambient Air Quality Standards (CAAQS), and the Clean Air Act (CAA).<sup>4</sup>

Data on existing air quality in the South Coast Air Basin (SCAB), in which the refined project site is located, is monitored by a network of air monitoring stations operated by the California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA), the California Air Resources Board (CARB), and the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD). The potential for the refined project to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to air quality was evaluated in relation to five questions recommended for consideration by Appendix G of the State California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines.<sup>5</sup>

Would the refined project have any of the following effects:

- (a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?

The refined project would not be expected to create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to air quality in relation to conflicts with or obstruction of implementation of the applicable air quality plan. The refined project area is located within the SCAQMD portion of the South Coast Air Basin (SCAB), which is in non-attainment for both federal and state ozone standards, carbon monoxide standards, and particulate matter (PM<sub>10</sub>).<sup>6</sup> The refined project components, as described in Section 2.0, *Project Description*, of this Addendum to the EIR, would be expected to be consistent with County General Plan land use designation and zoning for the area, and would not be expected to result in new or increased population growth. In addition, the refined project would not be expected to include construction, operation, or maintenance of several project components, including new visitor centers, a restaurant, information kiosks, a native plant nursery, a wildlife rescue center, and expanded maintenance facilities, as anticipated and analyzed in the 2002 certified EIR. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to air quality in relation to consistency with the applicable air quality plan.

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<sup>1</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

<sup>2</sup> California State Park and Recreation Commission. 12 October 2002. *Minutes of the Meeting*. Los Angeles, CA. Available at: <http://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/843/files/10-12-02%20minutes%20draft.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning. 2007. *Los Angeles County Draft Preliminary General Plan*. Available at: [http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp\\_draft.pdf](http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp_draft.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. 2005. *Federal Clean Air Act, "Title I Air Pollution Prevention and Control."* Available at: <http://www.epa.gov/oar/caa/contents.html>

<sup>5</sup> *California Code of Regulations*. Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Sections 15000–15387, Appendix G.

<sup>6</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report, Environmental Setting, Air Quality*. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

- (b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to existing or projected air violations?

The refined project would not be expected to create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to air quality in relation to violation of any air quality standard or contribute substantially to existing or projected air quality violations. Construction and operation-related air quality impacts were analyzed in the certified EIR due to construction, operation, and maintenance of facilities, including new visitor centers, a restaurant, new trails, information kiosks, a native plant nursery, a wildlife rescue center, a sculpture garden, and expanded maintenance facilities. However, as described in Section 2.0 of this Addendum to the EIR, the refined project would not be expected to include these components. Therefore, it is unlikely that construction and operation of the refined project would cause a new air quality violation or a more adverse increase in existing violations. Impacts to air quality related to air quality standards would be expected to be reduced to below the level of significance with the incorporation of mitigation measures Air-1 through Air-3 specified in the certified EIR. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to air quality related to a violation of any air quality standard or substantial contribution to existing or projected air violations.

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

The refined project would not be expected to create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to air quality in relation to a cumulative considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is in non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard. The refined project site is located within the SCAB, which is in non-attainment for both federal and state ozone standards, carbon monoxide standards, and particulate matter (PM<sub>10</sub>).<sup>7</sup> During the construction phase, emissions, resulting from the operation of construction equipment, may include ozone precursor emissions and other criteria pollutants. However, the refined project would be expected to entail construction of fitness and concrete animal sculpture areas, and a new walking trail, thereby resulting in short-term construction and a small construction scale. A minimal amount of construction equipment and vehicles would be required during construction. In addition, potential impacts to air quality related to criteria pollutants as a result of implementation of the refined project would be expected to be reduced to below the level of significance with the incorporation of mitigation measures Air-1 through Air-3 specified in the certified EIR. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to air quality related to criteria pollutants.

- (d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?

The refined project would not be expected to create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to air quality in relation to exposure of sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations. Sensitive receptors in the vicinity of the refined project remain the same as those identified in the certified EIR. Although sensitive receptors may be exposed to emissions, such as fugitive dust, combustion emission, and diesel particulate matter, the refined project would be

<sup>7</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report, Environmental Setting, Air Quality*. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

expected to result in minimal construction as new visitor centers, a restaurant, information kiosks, a native plant nursery, a wildlife rescue center, and expanded maintenance facilities, which were anticipated and analyzed in the 2002 certified EIR, are not components of the refined project. In addition, impacts to air quality related to exposing sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations would be expected to be reduced to below the level of significance with the incorporation of mitigation measures Air-1 through Air-3 specified in the certified EIR. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to air quality related to exposing sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations.

(e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?

The refined project would not be expected to create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to air quality in relation to the creation of objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people. Construction of the refined project would require the use of construction equipment and vehicles, which may be fueled by diesel. Odors associated with emissions from diesel equipment and vehicles may be considered unpleasant. However, as construction of the refined project would be expected to take approximately 6 to 8 months, potential impacts to air quality related to creation of objectionable odors would be expected to be temporary. Operation of the refined project as a family friendly recreational area would not result in creation of objectionable odors. In addition, with the incorporation of mitigation measures Air-1 through Air-3 specified in the certified EIR, potential impacts to air quality in relation to objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people would be expected to be reduced to below the level of significance. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to air quality in relation to objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people.

### 3.4 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

This analysis is undertaken to determine if the Kenneth Hahn Eastern Ridgeline Project (refined project) would result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts in relation to biological resources from that disclosed in the Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area (KHSRA) General Plan Amendment Environmental Impact Report (EIR),<sup>1</sup> which was certified by the California State Park and Recreation Commission in 2002.<sup>2</sup> Biological resources at the refined project site were evaluated with regard to the County General Plan,<sup>3</sup> the ecological assessment of the Baldwin Hills,<sup>4</sup> and a review of published and unpublished literature germane to the refined project.

The potential for the refined project to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to biological resources was evaluated in relation to six questions recommended for consideration by Appendix G of the State California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines.<sup>5</sup>

Would the refined project have any of the following effects:

- (a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modification, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?

The refined project would not be expected to result in new significant impacts or substantially more adverse significant impacts, either directly or through habitat modification, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). The mitigation measures specified in the certified 2002 EIR, including avoidance measures, biological construction monitoring, restoration plans, and an adaptive management plan, would not need to be modified due to the proposed refinements to the approved project. The refined project site is located within the Inglewood Oil Field. Oil-extracting activities have taken place in the area since the 1920s. Prior to the development of the oil field, the refined project site appears to have been used for grazing by sheep as part of the 4,000-acre Las Cienegas Ranch.<sup>6</sup> As a result of qualitative surveys conducted within the KHSRA in 2000 by the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, the natural vegetation was determined to be

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<sup>1</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

<sup>2</sup> California State Park and Recreation Commission. 12 October 2002. *Minutes of the Meeting*. Los Angeles, CA. Available at: <http://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/843/files/10-12-02%20minutes%20draft.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning. 2007. *Los Angeles County Draft Preliminary General Plan*. Available at: [http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp\\_draft.pdf](http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp_draft.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County Foundation, Community Conservancy International. February 2001. *The Biota of the Baldwin Hills: An Ecological Assessment*. Los Angeles, CA.

<sup>5</sup> *California Code of Regulations*. Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Sections 15000–15387, Appendix G.

<sup>6</sup> Department of Toxic Substances Control. July 2005. *Preliminary Endangerment Assessment for Baldwin Hills Conservancy Eastern Ridgeline Site*. Prepared for: Baldwin Hills Conservancy.



divided into three (3) broad categories comprised of coastal scrub, grassland, and riparian zones, each with varying degrees of disturbance.<sup>7</sup>

Coastal scrub was identified primarily within canyons along the eastern portion of the KHSRA as well as within canyons along the western boundary adjacent to Holy Cross Cemetery. Despite the fragmented and often degraded condition of the coastal scrub within the KHSRA and adjacent to the refined project site, the coastal scrub supports several common avian and mammal species not found within the urbanized lowlands that surround the KHSRA, including California quail (*Callipepla californica*), Bewick's wren (*Thryomanes bewickii*), spotted towhee (*Pipilo maculatus*), desert woodrat (*Neotoma lepida*), deer mouse (*Peromyscus maniculatus*), and western harvest mouse (*Reithrodontomys megalotis*).<sup>8</sup> No threatened or endangered plant or animal species (arthropods, reptiles, amphibians, birds, mammals) were identified as a result of qualitative surveys undertaken by the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County; however, commonly occurring wildlife species observed include 90 arthropod and related species, 12 reptile and amphibian species, 166 avian species with 41 avian species known to nest within the KHSRA, and 18 mammal species.<sup>9</sup>

Grassland areas occur on ridge tops and low saddles within the KHSRA, and are dominated by exotic grass and other species originating from the Mediterranean region.<sup>10</sup> A few native bunch grasses were identified within the KHSRA and these together with the presence of annual wildflowers suggest that perennial grasslands may have historically occurred at the KHSRA.<sup>11</sup>

Riparian zones observed as a result of qualitative surveys conducted in 2000 were determined to be supported by landscape maintenance and urban runoff as no significant water courses presently flow through the Baldwin Hills.<sup>12</sup> Species representative of native riparian vegetation, such as arroyo willow and mulefat, commonly occur in reduced extent along moist canyon bottoms within the KHSRA. These areas are more accurately described as an urban riparian plant community.<sup>13</sup>

As a result of a Preliminary Endangerment Assessment (PEA) prepared by the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) in 2005, the refined project site was identified to contain imported fill materials up to 17.5 feet thick, some of which contain oil-contaminated fills originating from local oil production activities.<sup>14</sup> As a result of a site visit conducted by Sapphos Environmental, Inc. in March 2008, the refined project site was characterized as highly disturbed with vegetation

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<sup>7</sup> Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County Foundation, Community Conservancy International. February 2001. *The Biota of the Baldwin Hills: An Ecological Assessment*. Los Angeles, CA.

<sup>8</sup> Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County Foundation, Community Conservancy International. February 2001. *The Biota of the Baldwin Hills: An Ecological Assessment*. Los Angeles, CA.

<sup>9</sup> Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County Foundation, Community Conservancy International. February 2001. *The Biota of the Baldwin Hills: An Ecological Assessment*. Los Angeles, CA.

<sup>10</sup> Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County Foundation, Community Conservancy International. February 2001. *The Biota of the Baldwin Hills: An Ecological Assessment*. Los Angeles, CA.

<sup>11</sup> Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County Foundation, Community Conservancy International. February 2001. *The Biota of the Baldwin Hills: An Ecological Assessment*. Los Angeles, CA.

<sup>12</sup> Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County Foundation, Community Conservancy International. February 2001. *The Biota of the Baldwin Hills: An Ecological Assessment*. Los Angeles, CA.

<sup>13</sup> Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County Foundation, Community Conservancy International. February 2001. *The Biota of the Baldwin Hills: An Ecological Assessment*. Los Angeles, CA.

<sup>14</sup> Department of Toxic Substances Control. July 2005. *Preliminary Endangerment Assessment for Baldwin Hills Conservancy Eastern Ridgeline Site*. Prepared for: Baldwin Hills Conservancy.

comprised of non-native, invasive plant species dominated by crown daisy (*Chrysanthemum coronarium*).<sup>15</sup>

Due to the previous land use for oil-extracting activities, the presence of oil-contaminated fill and the predominance of non-native invasive species, the refined project site does not provide habitat suitable to support any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status species. Qualitative surveys undertaken in 2000 by the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County in support of regional park planning efforts within 357 acres of the KHSRA did not identify any federally threatened or endangered plant species.<sup>16</sup> Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new significant impacts or substantially more adverse effects, 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 CDFG and USFWS.

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

The refined project would not be expected to result in new significant impacts or substantially more adverse significant impacts on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, and regulations or by CDFG or USFWS. The mitigation measures specified in the certified EIR, including restoration plans and an adaptive management plan, would not need to be modified due to the proposed refinements to the approved project. As discussed, the refined project site, which is located within the Inglewood Oil Field, where oil extracting activities have taken place since the 1920s, contains imported fill materials up to 17.5 feet thick, some of which contain oil-contaminated fills originating from local oil production activities.<sup>17</sup> The refined project site is dominated by non-native invasive plant species and does not contain native habitats, specifically riparian or other sensitive natural community. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new significant impacts or substantially more adverse effects on riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations, or by CDFG and USFWS.

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

The refined project would not be expected to result in new significant impacts or substantially more adverse significant impacts to federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means. As a result of a review of the Federal Wetland Inventory and the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute series Inglewood and Hollywood, California, topographic quadrangles,<sup>18,19</sup> no federally protected wetlands or no blue-

<sup>15</sup> While the refined project site has been mapped as coastal scrub in the 2002 certified EIR, the description of the coastal scrub vegetation community highlights the disturbed, fragmented, and depleted nature of the coastal scrub community.

<sup>16</sup> Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County Foundation, Community Conservancy International. February 2001. *The Biota of the Baldwin Hills: An Ecological Assessment*. Los Angeles, CA.

<sup>17</sup> Department of Toxic Substances Control. July 2005. *Preliminary Endangerment Assessment for Baldwin Hills Conservancy Eastern Ridgeline Site*. Prepared for: Baldwin Hills Conservancy.

<sup>18</sup> U.S. Geological Survey. 1966 [Revised 1981]. 7.5-Minute Series Hollywood, California, Topographic Quadrangle. Reston, VA.

line streams were identified to be present within the refined project site. Therefore, the refined project would not result in new significant impacts or substantially more adverse effects on federally protected wetlands as defined by section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means.

- (d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?

The refined project would not be expected to result in new significant impacts or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to interfering substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impeding the use of native wildlife nursery sites. The mitigation measures specified in the certified EIR, including avoidance measures, biological construction monitoring, restoration plans, and an adaptive management plan, would not need to be modified due to the proposed refinements to the approved project. The refined project site is located within the Inglewood Oil Field, where oil extracting activities have taken place since the 1920s, contains imported fill materials up to 17.5 feet thick, some of which contain oil-contaminated fills originating from local oil production activities.<sup>20</sup> The refined project site is dominated by non-native invasive plant species and does not contain native habitats that would support the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species, migratory wildlife corridors, or native wildlife nursery sites. Therefore, the refined project would not result in new significant impacts or substantially more adverse effects in relation to interfering with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native or migratory wildlife corridors, or impeding 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?

The refined project would not be expected to result in new significant impacts or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to a conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance. As discussed, the refined project site is located within the Inglewood Oil Field, where oil extracting activities have taken place since the 1920s. The PEA states that the refined project contains imported fill materials of up to 17.5 feet thick, some of which contain oil-contaminated fills originating from local oil production activities.<sup>21</sup> The refined project site is dominated by non-native invasive plant species and does not contain native habitats, special-status plant, or wildlife species that would be protected in local policies and ordinances. As a result of a review of the County General Plan<sup>22</sup> and

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<sup>19</sup> U.S. Geological Survey. 1964 [Revised 1981]. 7.5-Minute Series Inglewood, California, Topographic Quadrangle. Reston, VA.

<sup>20</sup> Department of Toxic Substances Control. July 2005. *Preliminary Endangerment Assessment for Baldwin Hills Conservancy Eastern Ridgeline Site*. Prepared for: Baldwin Hills Conservancy.

<sup>21</sup> Department of Toxic Substances Control. July 2005. *Preliminary Endangerment Assessment for Baldwin Hills Conservancy Eastern Ridgeline Site*. Prepared for: Baldwin Hills Conservancy.

<sup>22</sup> County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning. 2007. *Los Angeles County Draft Preliminary General Plan*. Available at: [http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp\\_draft.pdf](http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp_draft.pdf)

a review of the certified EIR,<sup>23</sup> no conflicts were identified in the certified EIR, and no potential for additional conflicts resulting from the refined project were identified. Therefore, the refined project would not result in new significant impacts or substantially more adverse effects related to a 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?

The refined project would not be expected to result in new significant impacts or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to a conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan. As a result of a review of USFWS Habitat Conservation Plans (HCPs)<sup>24</sup> and CDFG Natural Community Conservation Plans (NCCPs),<sup>25</sup> no HCPs or NCCPs were identified within the area of the refined project site. The nearest HCP to the refined project site is the Coastal/Central HCP located in Orange County approximately 40 miles to the southeast. The nearest NCCP to the refined project is the Palos Verdes Peninsula NCCP located approximately 17 miles to the southwest. Therefore, the refined project would not result in any conflicts with the provisions of an adopted HCP, NCCP, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan.

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<sup>23</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

<sup>24</sup> U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Accessed on 9 April 2008. *Habitat Conservation Plans*. Available at [www.fws.gov/carlsbad/HCPs.htm](http://www.fws.gov/carlsbad/HCPs.htm)

<sup>25</sup> California Department of Fish and Game. Accessed on 9 April 2008. *Natural Community Conservation Plans*. Available at [www.dfg.ca.gov/habcon/nccp/images/region.gif](http://www.dfg.ca.gov/habcon/nccp/images/region.gif)

### 3.5 CULTURAL RESOURCES

This analysis is undertaken to determine if the Kenneth Hahn Eastern Ridgeline Project (refined project) would result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts in relation to cultural resources from that disclosed in the Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area (KHSRA) General Plan Amendment Environmental Impact Report (EIR),<sup>1</sup> which was certified by the California State Park and Recreation Commission in 2002.<sup>2</sup> Cultural resources at the refined project site were evaluated for the 2002 certified EIR with regard to information related to paleontological resources, archaeological resources, and historical resources. A record search of the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute series Inglewood and Hollywood, California, topographic quadrangles<sup>3,4</sup> in which the approved project site is located, was conducted on May 22, 2002 at the South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC). As part of the records search, the California State Resources Inventory (2001), the National Register of Historic Places (2001), the listing of California Historical Landmarks (1996), and the California Points of Historical Interest (1992) were searched to determine the presence of archaeological and historical resources that could potentially be impacted as a result of implementation of the approved project. In addition, requests by the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) received in response to the Notice of Preparation (NOP) for the 2002 certified EIR were addressed.<sup>5</sup> The refined project would be located within the same area previously analyzed for the 2002 certified EIR.

The potential for the refined project to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to cultural resources was evaluated in relation to four questions recommended for consideration by Appendix G of the State California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines.<sup>6</sup>

Would the refined project have any of the following effects:

- (a) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?

The refined project would not be expected to result in new significant impacts or substantially more adverse significant impacts to cultural resources related directly or indirectly to the destruction of a unique paleontological resource or unique geologic feature. The geological formations underlying the KHSRA analyzed in the certified EIR consist of Pleistocene and Upper

<sup>1</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

<sup>2</sup> California State Park and Recreation Commission. 12 October 2002. *Minutes of the Meeting*. Los Angeles, CA. Available at: <http://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/843/files/10-12-02%20minutes%20draft.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Geological Survey. 1964 [Revised 1981]. 7.5-Minute Series Inglewood, California, Topographic Quadrangle. Reston, VA.

<sup>4</sup> U.S. Geological Survey. 1966 [Revised 1981]. 7.5-Minute Series Hollywood, California, Topographic Quadrangle. Reston, VA.

<sup>5</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*, pp. 2-26, 2-31, and 4-3. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

<sup>6</sup> *California Code of Regulations*. Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Sections 15000–15387, Appendix G.

Pliocene sediments that have a high potential for containing paleontological resources.<sup>7</sup> Impacts to paleontological resources normally occur when a project involves excavation or demolition of buildings requiring disturbance of native soils. Disturbance of native soils characterized by Pleistocene and upper Pliocene sediments which have a moderate to high potential to contain unique paleontological resources may result in potential impacts to paleontological resources.

Implementation of the refined project would cause limited soil disturbance. However, work may be undertaken in non-engineered fill currently existing on site. The refined project entails the construction, operation, and maintenance of fitness equipment, concrete animal sculptures, installation of benches and trash receptacles, and a new walking trail. Under the foundation of each piece of fitness equipment, concrete animal sculptures, and bench, soil may be removed to a depth that may or may not encounter native soils and be filled with materials approved by the refined project geotechnical engineer, who will evaluate physical properties of the materials. In constructing the new walking trail, soil may be removed to a depth that is suitable for support of the walking trail, and native soils may or may not be encountered during construction. The project geotechnical engineer will approve the backfill material and implement foundation and grading excavation and backfill recommendations. Any soils imported for backfill would follow the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) *Information Advisory, Clean Imported Fill Material* for guidance regarding soil chemistry.<sup>8</sup> The grading and backfill construction phases would provide an even surface for new equipment, and provide a permeable surface that would allow for proper water drainage and prevent build-up of subsurface methane gas. Additional grading may be required to create a more level recreation area at the portion of the refined project site that would contain the concrete animal sculptures and the fitness zones.

Information present in the certified EIR concludes that no known paleontological resources were present in the refined project site. However, the certified EIR indicates that there is a potential for paleontological resources to be discovered with ground-disturbing activities in native soils. Native soils are found in the area of the refined project. Therefore, in accordance with mitigation measure Cultural-2 of the certified EIR,<sup>9</sup> implementation of the refined project may require an on-call qualified paleontological monitor to monitor all subsurface operations, including, but not limited to, grading, excavation, trenching, or removal of existing features of the subject property. The monitor may be called to the site during any activity should paleontological remains be found. The monitor shall be authorized to halt the project in the area of a paleontological finding or findings until such specimens may be marked, collected, and evaluated. Copies of paleontological surveys, studies, or reports of field observation during grading and land modification shall be prepared and certified by the attendant paleontological monitor and submitted to the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County. Any fossils recovered during mitigation shall be deposited with an accredited and permanent scientific or educational institution. Implementation of mitigation measure Cultural-2 would reduce impacts related to the destruction of paleontological resources to below the level of significance. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to cultural resources related to destruction of a unique paleontological resource or unique geologic feature.

<sup>7</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*, pp. 2-27 and 4-24. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

<sup>8</sup> Department of Toxic Substances Control. October 2001. *Information Advisory, Clean Imported Fill Material*. Available at: [http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/Schools/upload/SMP\\_FS\\_Cleanfill-Schools.pdf](http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/Schools/upload/SMP_FS_Cleanfill-Schools.pdf)

<sup>9</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*, pp. 4-50. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

- (b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?

The refined project would not be expected to result in new significant impacts or substantially more adverse significant impacts to cultural resources related to a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource. Potential impacts to cultural resources, including archaeological resources, were investigated in the certified EIR.<sup>10</sup> Based on previous discoveries in the vicinity, it was determined that the KHSRA had the potential to result in the alteration or destruction of a prehistoric or historical archaeological resource.<sup>11</sup> In addition, the certified EIR indicated that four (4) cultural resources surveys had been conducted within 0.25 mile of the studied area and fifteen (15) prehistoric cultural resources (including sites and isolates) had been recorded. Two (2) additional prehistoric archaeological sites and one (1) historic archaeological site were identified during construction monitoring for the Vista Pacifica Scenic Site. The archaeological sites were subsequently mitigated prior to the development of the area. The Vista Pacifica Scenic Overlook is located at the northern tip of the western ridgeline of the KHSRA but is not located within the refined project area.

Implementation of the refined project would cause limited soil disturbance. However, work may be undertaken in non-engineered fill currently existing on site. The refined project entails the construction, operation, and maintenance of fitness equipment, concrete animal sculptures, installation of benches and trash receptacles, and a new walking trail. Implementation of the refined project may require excavation of soil to a depth that is approved by the refined project geotechnical engineer for its suitability to support the walking trail. Implementation of the refined project may also require backfill materials with physical properties that are approved by the refined project geotechnical engineer. Additional grading may be necessary to create a more level recreation area at the portion of the refined project site that would contain the concrete animal sculptures and the fitness zones.

Information presented in the certified EIR resulted in the conclusion that there are no known archaeological resources within the refined project area. However, there is a potential for archaeological resources to be discovered with ground-disturbing activities in new soils. Measure Cultural-1, described in the certified EIR,<sup>12</sup> considers several alternatives for the mitigation of potential impacts to archaeological resources. In the event cultural resources are encountered in the refined project site during construction, mitigation measure Cultural-1 requires stoppage of work on the site of the discovery, immediate evaluation of the find by a qualified archaeologist, and, if warranted, excavation and recovery of significant archaeological resources. Implementation of mitigation measure Cultural-1 would reduce impacts related to a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource. Therefore, the refined project would not result in new significant or substantially more adverse significant impacts to cultural resources related to a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource.

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<sup>10</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*, pp. 2-31 to 2-33. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

<sup>11</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

<sup>12</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*, pp. 4-49 to 4-50. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

- (c) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in §15064.5 of the State CEQA Guidelines?

The refined project would not be expected to result in new significant impacts or more substantially adverse significant impacts to cultural resources related to a substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource. Impacts to cultural resources, including historical resources, were investigated in the certified EIR.<sup>13</sup> The certified EIR indicated that three (3) historic buildings were identified within a 0.25-mile radius of the KHSRA, but that these buildings would not be directly or indirectly affected by implementation of project components anticipated in the certified EIR. In addition, the certified EIR did not locate any historically significant buildings, structures, objects, sites, or districts within the KHSRA, which includes the refined project site. Therefore, the refined project would not result in new significant or substantially more adverse significant impacts to cultural resources related to a substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource.

- (d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?

The refined project would not be expected to result in new significant impacts or substantially more adverse significant impacts to human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries. The certified EIR indicates the presence of one prehistoric archaeological site located within 0.25 mile of the KHSRA that contains human remains.<sup>14</sup> However, the certified EIR did not identify the presence of human remains within the KHSRA, which includes the refined project area.

Implementation of the refined project would cause limited soil disturbance. However, work may be undertaken in non-engineered fill currently existing on site. The refined project entails the construction, operation, and maintenance of fitness equipment, concrete animal sculptures, installation of benches and trash receptacles, and a new walking trail. Implementation of the refined project may require excavation of soil to a depth that is approved by the refined project geotechnical engineer for its suitability to support the walking trail. Implementation of the refined project may also require backfill materials with physical properties that are approved by the refined project geotechnical engineer. Additional grading may be required to create a more level recreation area at the portion of the refined project site that would contain the concrete animal sculptures and the fitness zones.

Although the certified EIR concluded that no known human remains exist within the refined project site, the possibility for the unexpected discovery of human remains exists. Mitigation measure Culture-3 specified in the certified EIR, which is in accordance with Health and Safety Code Sections 7050 and 7052, would mitigate the unexpected discovery of human remains. Mitigation measure Cultural-3 specifies that, in the event of the discovery of human remains outside of a dedicated cemetery, all ground disturbances would cease and the County Coroner would be notified. Furthermore, in accordance with Public Resources Code Section 5097.98, the Native

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<sup>13</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

<sup>14</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*, pp. 2-31, 2-32. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)



American Heritage Commission would be notified in the event that the Coroner determines that the remains are of Native American origin. Implementation of mitigation measure Cultural-3 would reduce impacts related to the disturbance of human remains to below the level of significance. Therefore, the refined project would not result in new significant or substantially more adverse significant impacts to cultural resources related to the disturbance of human remains, including those interred outside formal cemeteries.

### 3.6 GEOLOGY AND SOILS

This analysis is undertaken to determine if the Kenneth Hahn Eastern Ridgeline Project (refined project) would result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts in relation to geology and soils from that disclosed in the Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment Environmental Impact Report (EIR),<sup>1</sup> which was certified by the California State Park and Recreation Commission in 2002.<sup>2</sup> Geology and soils at the refined project site were evaluated with regard to the County General Plan,<sup>3</sup> the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute series Hollywood and Inglewood topographic quadrangles<sup>4,5</sup> in which the refined project site is located, California Division of Mines and Geology (CDMG) publications,<sup>6</sup> most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning (APEFZ) Maps, published maps,<sup>7,8,9</sup> and technical studies.

The potential for the refined project to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to geology and soils was evaluated in relation to seven questions recommended for consideration by Appendix G of the State California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines.<sup>10</sup>

Would the refined project have any of the following effects:

- (a) Exposing people or structures to 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 (APEFZ) Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault?

The refined project would not create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to the exposure of people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving rupture of a known earthquake fault. The approved project would be expected to have a potentially significant impact from the rupture of a known earthquake fault, as a result of its proximity to the Newport-Inglewood fault zone. The State of California has

<sup>1</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation: June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

<sup>2</sup> California State Park and Recreation Commission. 12 October 2002. *Minutes of the Meeting*. Los Angeles, CA. Available at: <http://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/843/files/10-12-02%20minutes%20draft.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning. 2007. *Los Angeles County Draft Preliminary General Plan, Safety Element*. Available at: [http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp\\_draft.pdf](http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp_draft.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> U.S. Geological Survey. 1966 [Revised 1981]. 7.5-Minute Series Hollywood, California, Topographic Quadrangle. Reston, VA.

<sup>5</sup> U.S. Geological Survey. 1964 [Revised 1981]. 7.5-Minute Series Inglewood, California, Topographic Quadrangle. Reston, VA.

<sup>6</sup> California Geological Survey. 1962. *Mines and Mineral Resources of Los Angeles County California*. Los Angeles, CA.

<sup>7</sup> California Geological Survey. 2007. *Special Publication 42: Fault-Rupture Hazard Zones in California*. Available at: <ftp://ftp.consrv.ca.gov/pub/dmg/pubs/sp/Sp42.pdf>

<sup>8</sup> California Geological Survey. 1999. *Seismic Shaking Hazard Maps of California*. Map Sheet 48. Sacramento, CA: Office of the State Geologist.

<sup>9</sup> U.S. Geological Survey. 1989. *Map Showing Late Quaternary Faults and 1978–84 Seismicity of the Los Angeles Region, California*. Reston, VA.

<sup>10</sup> *California Code of Regulations*. Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Sections 15000–15387, Appendix G.

designated portions of the Newport-Inglewood fault system as an Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone, to mitigate the hazard of surface faulting to structures intended for human occupancy. The southern portion and a corner of the south-central portion of the refined project site are located within Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zones on the Inglewood and Hollywood Quadrangle Special Studies Zones maps, respectively. In addition, seismic creep has been mapped throughout the southeastern portion of the refined project site on the Inglewood map. The Preliminary Endangerment Assessment (PEA) identified areas of fill composed of plant materials along the border of contaminated portions of the property and adjacent to steep ravines on the northeastern side that contained fissures and were visibly unstable.<sup>11</sup> Kovac-Byers and Associates, Inc. stated in their geotechnical report that a nearby seismic event could result in "ground rupture, possible liquefaction subsidence, seiches, and possible seismically induced landslides on natural slopes within the park area."<sup>12</sup> Impacts related to rupture of a known earthquake fault would be expected to be reduced to below the level of significance with the incorporation of mitigation measure Geo-1 specified in the certified EIR, which requires geotechnical investigations be performed before final designs of any project facilities, project facilities be constructed in accordance with Uniform Building Code (UBC) earthquake design standards, project facilities located within Alquist-Priolo Fault Zones be designed in accordance with Special Publication 117 and the UBC, and that permanent structures be located outside of Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Zones and landslide hazard areas identified in the Seismic Hazards Maps when possible. The refined project would not consist of construction and operation of several project components, including new visitor centers, anticipated and analyzed in the 2002 certified EIR. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to exposing people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects involving rupture of a known earthquake fault.<sup>13</sup>

ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?

The refined project would not create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to the exposure of people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving strong seismic ground shaking. The refined project site would be subject to strong ground shaking in the event of a major regional earthquake. However, the refined project would be constructed in accordance with applicable state requirements, including the Uniform Building Code seismic safety requirements. Compliance with existing standards and requirements would ensure an adequate level of protection from seismic hazards. In addition, implementation of mitigation measure Geo-1 specified in the certified EIR would be expected to reduce potential impacts below the level of significance. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to exposing people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects involving strong seismic ground shaking.

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<sup>11</sup> Department of Toxic Substances Control. July 2005. *Preliminary Endangerment Assessment for Baldwin Hills Conservancy Eastern Ridgeline Site*. Prepared for: Baldwin Hills Conservancy.

<sup>12</sup> Kovacs-Byer and Associates, Inc. 1982. *Summary of Findings of the Additional Borings, Proposed Ridge Development Area, Baldwin Hills Regional County Park, Phase 1D, Los Angeles County, California, for Baldwin Hills Regional Park*.

<sup>13</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

### iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?

The refined project would not create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to the exposure of people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction. The primary factors influencing liquefaction potential include depth to groundwater, soil grain size, and intensity of ground shaking. Liquefaction potential is greatest in saturated, loose, and poorly graded sand. Based on previous investigations, the subsurface material consists generally of artificial fill, landslide debris, and Pleistocene alluvial deposits of Lakewood and San Pedro formations.<sup>14</sup> Beneath the oil-contaminated fill, lie soil and colluvium. Underlying the soil and colluvium are marine and non-marine silt and sandstones of the Lakewood formation and the marine silt and sandstones of the San Pedro formation.<sup>15,16</sup> The park has a well-documented history of landslide and erosion problems associated with seasonal rains infiltrating unstable soil strata.<sup>17</sup> Potential impacts resulting from soil liquefaction and other secondary seismic hazards, such as lurch cracks and seismically induced settlement, would be expected to be reduced below the level of significance through implementation of mitigation measures Geo-1 and Geo-4 specified in the certified EIR.<sup>18</sup> Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to exposing people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects involving seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction.

### iv) Landslides?

The refined project would not create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to exposing people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving landslides. Baldwin Hills has a well-documented history of slope failure associated with seasonal rainfall and steep slopes. Seismic ground motions may induce landslides further, particularly in areas of steep slopes and saturated hillsides. Implementation of mitigation measures Geo-1, Geo-3, and Geo-4 specified in the certified EIR would be expected to reduce impacts from landslides below the level of significance.<sup>19</sup> Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to exposing people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects involving landslides.

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<sup>14</sup> LeRoy Crandall and Associates. 3 January 1991. *Geotechnical Evaluation for Environmental Impact Report, Proposed Vista Pacifica Development*. Los Angeles and Culver City, CA.

<sup>15</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*. "Existing Conditions" Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

<sup>16</sup> LeRoy Crandall and Associates. 3 January 1991. *Geotechnical Evaluation for Environmental Impact Report, Proposed Vista Pacifica Development*. Los Angeles and Culver City, CA.

<sup>17</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*. "Existing Conditions" Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

<sup>18</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

<sup>19</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

(b) Substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?

The refined project would not create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil. Baldwin Hills has many steep slopes that are susceptible to erosion. As discussed in the certified EIR, the entire KHSRA would be addressed for drainage and erosion control.<sup>20</sup> Compliance with the applicable codes and storm water practices such as the storm water best management practices (BMPs) relative to potential on- and off-site effects in the refined project's design and construction would reduce these impacts to below the level of significance. In addition, implementation of mitigation measure Geo-3 specified in the certified EIR would reduce the potential impacts below the level of significance. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil.

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

The refined project would not create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to location on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable or that would become unstable as a result of the refined project, potentially resulting in on- or off-site landslides, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse. Geologic units and soils on the refined project site are susceptible to instability resulting from landslides, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, and collapse. The PEA identified areas of fill composed of plant materials along the border of contaminated portions of the property and adjacent to steep ravines on the northeastern side that contained fissures and were visibly unstable.<sup>21</sup> Kovac-Byers and Associates, Inc. stated in their geotechnical report that a nearby seismic event could result in "ground rupture, possible liquefaction subsidence, seiches, and possible seismically induced landslides on natural slopes within the park area."<sup>22</sup> However, implementation of mitigation measures Geo-2 and Geo-4 specified in the certified EIR would reduce the potential impacts below the level of significance. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to location on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable or would become unstable as a result of the refined project, potentially resulting in on- or off-site landslides, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse.

(d) Location on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?

The refined project would not create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to location of proposed structures on expansive soil creating substantial risks to life or property. Few structures are planned for the refined project site. Construction of the refined project in accordance with the engineering techniques identified in the certified EIR would result in a less

<sup>20</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

<sup>21</sup> Department of Toxic Substances Control. July 2005. *Preliminary Endangerment Assessment for Baldwin Hills Conservancy Eastern Ridgeline Site*. Prepared for: Baldwin Hills Conservancy.

<sup>22</sup> Kovacs-Byer and Associates, Inc. 1982. *Summary of Findings of the Additional Borings, Proposed Ridge Development Area, Baldwin Hills Regional County Park, Phase 1D, Los Angeles County, California, for Baldwin Hills Regional Park*.

than significant impact. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to location on expansive soil.

- (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 waste water?

The refined project would not create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to 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. The refined project site is served by the Hyperion Treatment Plant (HTP), located directly southwest of Los Angeles International Airport. Because the refined project does not require construction of new facilities that may generate additional wastewater, neither a new connection to the existing sewer system, nor the installation of septic systems would be necessary for the refined project. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems.

### 3.7 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

This analysis is undertaken to determine if the Kenneth Hahn Eastern Ridgeline Project (refined project) would result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts in relation to greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from that disclosed in the Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment Environmental Impact Report (EIR),<sup>1</sup> which was certified by the California State Park and Recreation Commission in 2002.<sup>2</sup> Although the certified EIR did discuss the potential for carbon dioxide emissions from controlled burns for clearing vegetation, it did not specifically address GHG emissions from construction and operational activities because the State California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines did not require routine GHG emission analysis at the time of certification of the EIR. As directed by Senate Bill 97, the Natural Resources Agency adopted amendments to the CEQA Guidelines for GHG emissions on December 30, 2009. On February 16, 2010, the Office of Administrative Law approved the amendments, and filed them with the Secretary of State for inclusion in the California Code of Regulations. The amendments became effective on March 18, 2010, and therefore GHG emissions are now considered in the environmental analysis for the refined project. GHG emissions that would be expected to be generated by the refined project were evaluated based on guidance provided by regulatory publications from the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association;<sup>3</sup> the State Office of the Attorney General;<sup>4</sup> California Air Resources Board;<sup>5</sup> and Office of Planning and Research.<sup>6</sup> According to the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 [Assembly Bill (AB) 32], GHG emissions are defined as emissions of the following gases: carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons, and sulfur hexafluoride. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has reported that the majority of GHG emissions in the United States can be attributed to the energy sector, which accounted for 86.3 percent of total GHG emissions in the United States in 2007 due to stationary and mobile fuel combustion.<sup>7</sup> The industrial sector accounted for 4.9 percent of United States GHG emissions in 2007.<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

<sup>2</sup> California State Park and Recreation Commission. 12 October 2002. *Minutes of the Meeting*. Los Angeles, CA. Available at: <http://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/843/files/10-12-02%20minutes%20draft.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> California Air Pollution Control Officers Association. January 2008. *CEQA and Climate Change: Evaluating and Addressing Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Projects Subject to the California Environmental Quality Act*. Sacramento, CA.

<sup>4</sup> California Department of Justice, Office of the Attorney General. 21 May 2008 (Updated 26 September 2008). *The California Environmental Quality Act Addressing Global Warming Impacts at the Local Agency Level*. Sacramento, CA.

<sup>5</sup> California Air Resources Board. 24 October 2008. *Preliminary Draft Staff Proposal: Recommended Approaches for Setting Interim Significance Thresholds for Greenhouse Gases under the California Environmental Quality Act*. Available at: [http://www.opr.ca.gov/ceqa/pdfs/Prelim\\_Draft\\_Staff\\_Proposal\\_10-24-08.pdf](http://www.opr.ca.gov/ceqa/pdfs/Prelim_Draft_Staff_Proposal_10-24-08.pdf)

<sup>6</sup> California Governor's Office of Planning and Research Technical Advisory. 19 June 2008. *CEQA and Climate Change: Addressing Climate Change through California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Review*. Sacramento, CA.

<sup>7</sup> U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. April 2009. *Inventory of U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks: 1990-2007*. Washington, DC.

<sup>8</sup> U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. April 2009. *Inventory of U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks: 1990-2007*. Washington, DC.

The potential for the refined project to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to GHG emissions was evaluated in relation to two questions recommended for consideration by Appendix G of the State CEQA Guidelines.<sup>9</sup>

Would the refined project have any of the following effects:

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

The refined project would not be expected to create a new or substantially more adverse significant impact to the environment due to direct or indirect generation of GHG emissions. Air quality emissions were analyzed in the certified EIR due to construction, operation, and maintenance of facilities, including new visitor centers, a restaurant, new trails, information kiosks, a native plant nursery, a wildlife rescue center, a sculpture garden, and expanded maintenance facilities. Although the certified EIR did not specifically address GHG emissions from construction and operation, it did discuss the potential for carbon dioxide emissions from controlled burns used for clearing vegetation. Although impacts from the refined project would be less than significant as noted below, incorporation of mitigation measures Air-1 through Air-3 specified in the certified EIR would be expected to reduce GHG emissions from construction, operation, and controlled burns even further. As described in Section 2.0 of this Addendum to the EIR, the refined project would include implementation of approximately three small fitness zones, one large fitness zone, one area with child-friendly, concrete animal sculptures, benches, trash receptacles, and a new walking trail. The main source of GHG emissions for the refined project would be construction activities. Due to the small number of construction vehicles required for this work (Table 2.11-1), the relatively small area under construction (fewer than 5 acres), and the temporary nature of the construction activities, construction of the refined project would not be expected to result in significant GHG emissions. Operation of the refined project would also not be expected to significantly increase GHG emissions as it would not result in an increase in energy consumption requirements or any additional trips than those projected in the certified EIR. In addition, GHG emissions would be expected to be reduced further with the incorporation of mitigation measures Air-1 through Air-3 specified in the certified EIR and would remain at below the level of significance. Since the refined project would not generate a significant number of vehicle miles traveled beyond the project described in the EIR and would not promote employment or population growth, the proposed project would be expected to cause a less-than-significant cumulative GHG emission impact, when considered on a regional scale. The implementation of the proposed project would be consistent with the policies, plans, and regulations for air quality set forth by the County and incorporated cities. Any related projects in the unincorporated territory of the County must also comply with the County's GHG emission regulations. Therefore, cumulative GHG emissions due to construction and operation of the refined project would be considered to be below the level of significance. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to the environment due to direct or indirect generation of GHG emissions.

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<sup>9</sup> California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Sections 15000–15387, Appendix G.



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

The refined project would not be expected to create a new or substantially more adverse significant impact to GHG emissions related to creating a conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of GHGs. The County Board of Supervisors adopted a Countywide energy and environmental policy (Policy No. 3.045)<sup>10</sup> to provide guidelines for development, implementation, and enhancement of energy conservation and environmental programs within the County. AB 32 established the goal of reducing GHG emissions in California to 1990 levels by the year 2020. The incremental impact of the refined project on GHG emissions would be expected to conflict with the goals of AB 32 and Policy No. 3.045 if the size, nature, or duration of the construction phase would generate a substantial amount of GHG emissions. As discussed above, the refined project would require a relatively small number of construction vehicles to implement the refined project components. Due to the small number of construction vehicles required for this work, the relatively small area under construction (fewer than 5 acres), and the temporary nature of the construction activities, construction of the refined project would not be expected to result in significant GHG emissions. The refined project area is fewer than 5 acres and the construction activities would not conflict with Policy No. 3.045. Therefore, construction of the refined project would not be expected to result in significant additional GHG emissions. Operation of the refined project would also not be expected to significantly increase GHG emissions, as it would not be expected to result in an increase in energy consumption requirements or any additional trips than those projected in the certified EIR. In addition, GHG emissions would be expected to be reduced even further with the incorporation of mitigation measures Air-1 through Air-3 specified in the certified EIR and would remain at below the level of significance. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to GHG emissions related to creating a conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing GHG emissions.

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<sup>10</sup> County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors Policy Manual. 19 December 2006. *Policy No. 3.045, Energy and Environmental Policy*. Available at: <http://countypolicy.co.la.ca.us/>

### 3.8 HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

This analysis is undertaken to determine if the Kenneth Hahn Eastern Ridgeline Project (refined project) would result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts in relation to hazards and hazardous materials from that disclosed in the Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area (KHSRA) General Plan Amendment Environmental Impact Report (EIR),<sup>1</sup> which was certified by the California State Park and Recreation Commission in 2002.<sup>2</sup> Hazards and hazardous materials at the refined project site were evaluated based on the County General Plan Safety element.<sup>3</sup>

Hazardous wastes are byproducts of society that can pose a substantial or potential hazard to human health or the environment when improperly managed. Hazardous wastes possess at least one of four characteristics (ignitability, corrosivity, reactivity, or toxicity), or appears on special Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) lists.<sup>4</sup>

The potential for the refined project to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to hazards and hazardous materials was evaluated in relation to eight questions recommended for consideration by Appendix G of the State California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines.<sup>5</sup>

Would the refined project have any of the following effects:

- (a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?

The refined project would not create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts in relation to a hazard that could affect the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials as defined by the Hazardous Materials Transportation Uniform Safety Act.<sup>6</sup> The refined project requires minimal grading and soil removal. The refined project area is located within the Inglewood Oil Field; oil-extracting activities have taken place in the area since the 1920s. Oil production activities have contributed to petroleum hydrocarbon contamination at the refined project site. In addition, contamination associated with the oil field activities has been identified on the site by the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) in its Preliminary Endangerment Assessment (PEA) of the site.<sup>7</sup> The PEA also indicates that there may have been pesticide use in maintenance operations. Mitigation measures Haz-1 and Haz-2 specified in the certified EIR address concerns related to the handling of construction-related hazardous materials and would be expected to reduce any impacts resulting from the refined project to below the level of significance. Specifically, mitigation measure Haz-1 requires that any known or previously unidentified hazardous substances encountered during construction be

<sup>1</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

<sup>2</sup> California State Park and Recreation Commission. 12 October 2002. *Minutes of the Meeting*. Los Angeles, CA. Available at: <http://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/843/files/10-12-02%20minutes%20draft.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning. 2007. *Los Angeles County Draft Preliminary General Plan, Safety Element*. Available at: [http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp\\_draft.pdf](http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp_draft.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> *Code of Federal Regulations*. Title 40, Chapter 1, Part 261.

<sup>5</sup> *California Code of Regulations*. Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Sections 15000–15387, Appendix G.

<sup>6</sup> *Code of Federal Regulations*. Title 40, Chapter 1, Parts 106-180.

<sup>7</sup> Department of Toxic Substances Control. July 2005. *Preliminary Endangerment Assessment for Baldwin Hills Conservancy Eastern Ridgeline Site*. Prepared for: Baldwin Hills Conservancy.

sampled and analyzed to coordinate corrective action with the appropriate regulatory agency. Mitigation measure Haz-2 requires that all transport, storage, and handling of construction-related hazardous materials be conducted in a manner consistent with regulations and guidelines, such as the California Department of Transportation, the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), and the County. In addition, it requires that the park and contractors control the source of any leak, utilizing appropriate spill containment and counter-measures, as well as notifying the park supervisor and operations staff. Mitigation measure Haz-2 also requires that construction staging areas be designed to contain runoff. Implementation of the mitigation measures Haz-1 and Haz-2 would reduce impacts related to creating a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to hazards and hazardous materials in relation to creating 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 material?

The refined project would not create a new or substantially more adverse significant impact to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials. There is a potential for impacts to occur resulting from the use of hazardous materials, such as fuels and lubricants, during the 6- to 8-month construction period required for the refined project. However, the incorporation of mitigation measure Haz-2 specified in the certified EIR would reduce any impacts below the level of significance. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse impacts to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials.

- (c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?

The refined project would not create a new or substantially more adverse significant impact related to emission of hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within 0.25 mile of an existing or proposed school. The nearest school is Windsor Hills Elementary School, located at 5215 Overdale Drive, Los Angeles, California 90043, approximately 0.35 mile southeast from the refined project site. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse impacts related to hazardous emissions or handling of hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within 0.25 mile of an existing or proposed school.

- (d) Be located on a site that is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to the Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?

Based on the review of federal, state, and local environmental regulatory databases, the refined project site is not identified on a list of hazardous materials site pursuant to the Government Code Section 65962.5. Because the refined project site is located on a higher elevation than its surroundings, impacts are unlikely to result from nearby contaminated properties. However, contaminated soils have been found within the KHSRA, which is located within the Inglewood Oil Field. According to the PEA prepared by the DTSC, oil-contaminated fill has released total petroleum hydrocarbons, volatile and semi-volatile organic compounds, and metals, including

Approved and Adopted on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2010.

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted by the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors following a roll call vote:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

ANDREA SHERIDAN ORDIN  
County Counsel

By  \_\_\_\_\_

arsenic, into the soil. Soil gas samples detected methane gas generated from the decomposition of green waste disposed in the northeastern part of the refined project site and potentially from the Inglewood Oil Field. In addition, there is a possibility of hydrocarbon gas seeps from wells that were not sealed properly. Should known contamination or previously unidentified hazardous substances be encountered during the construction phase of the refined project, it is anticipated that mitigation measure Haz-1 specified in the certified EIR would reduce impacts below the level of significance. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse impacts related to being located on a hazardous waste site.

- (e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within 2 miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?

The refined project would not create a new or substantially more adverse significant safety hazard for people residing or working in the refined project area due to impacts resulting from the refined project being located within an airport land use plan or within 2 miles of a public airport or public use airport. The refined project site is not located within an airport land use plan or within 2 miles of a public airport. The nearest public airport is Los Angeles International Airport, located approximately 3.1 miles southwest of the refined project site. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse impacts related to being located within 2 miles of a public airport.

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

The refined project would not create a new or substantially more adverse significant safety hazard for people residing or working in the refined project area due to the refined project being located within the vicinity of a private airstrip. The refined project site is not located in the vicinity of private airstrip. The nearest private airstrip is located in Playa Vista, at 5510 Lincoln Boulevard, approximately 3 miles southwest of the refined project site.<sup>8</sup> Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse impacts related to being located within the vicinity of a private airstrip.

- (g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?

The refined project would not create a new or substantially more adverse significant impact related to impairment of implementation of or physically interference with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. Project components anticipated in Section 2.0, *Project Description*, of this Addendum to the EIR would not be designated as an emergency staging area and would not contain elements that would be anticipated to interfere with local emergency response or evacuation routes.<sup>9</sup> The refined project would not physically impede existing emergency response plans, emergency vehicle access, or personnel access to the refined project site. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to hazards and hazardous materials related to an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan.

<sup>8</sup> Airport IQ Data Center. Accessed on 10 April 2008. Web site. Available at: <http://www.gcr1.com/5010web/>

<sup>9</sup> County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning. 2007. *Los Angeles County Draft Preliminary General Plan, Safety Element*. Available at: [http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp\\_draft.pdf](http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp_draft.pdf)

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

The refined project would not expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands. Relevant Fire Hazard Severity Zone Maps<sup>10</sup> indicate that the refined project site may be subject to moderate to highly severe fires. However, implementation of mitigation measure Haz-3 specified in the certified EIR would be expected to reduce potential impacts below the level of significance. Therefore, the refined project would not expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands.

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<sup>10</sup> California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. 2007. Web site. Available at: [http://frap.cdf.ca.gov/webdata/maps/los\\_angeles/fhsz\\_map.19.jpg](http://frap.cdf.ca.gov/webdata/maps/los_angeles/fhsz_map.19.jpg)

### 3.9 HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

This analysis is undertaken to determine if the Kenneth Hahn Eastern Ridgeline Project (refined project) would result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts in relation to hydrology and water quality from that disclosed in the Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area (KHSRA) General Plan Amendment Environmental Impact Report (EIR),<sup>1</sup> which was certified by the California State Park and Recreation Commission in 2002.<sup>2</sup> Hydrology and water quality at the refined project site were evaluated in relation to the County General Plan,<sup>3</sup> Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan,<sup>4</sup> the State of California Regional Water Quality Control Board (CRWQCB) Basin Plan for the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (LARWQCB),<sup>5</sup> and the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute series topographic quadrangles for Hollywood and Inglewood, California.<sup>6,7</sup>

The potential for the refined project to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to hydrology and water quality was evaluated in relation to 10 questions recommended for consideration by Appendix G of the State California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines.<sup>8</sup>

Would the refined project have any of the following effects:

- (a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?

The refined project would not be expected to create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to hydrology and water quality in relation to water quality standards or waste discharge requirements. While the refined project may require grading, it would entail the placement of pervious, natural materials (decomposed granite), as well as native and/or drought-tolerant species for landscaping that would not be expected to result in increased impervious surfaces other than those discussed in the certified EIR. It should be further noted that the unpaved nature of most of the refined project vicinity results in runoff and rain percolating into the soil rather than flowing over streets and highways and collecting a pollutant load.<sup>9</sup> Furthermore, the incorporation of standard best management practices (BMPs) previously specified in the certified EIR would ensure that potential impacts to water quality standards or waste discharge requirements remain below the

<sup>1</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

<sup>2</sup> California State Park and Recreation Commission. 12 October 2002. *Minutes of the Meeting*. Los Angeles, CA. Available at: <http://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/843/files/10-12-02%20minutes%20draft.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning. 2007. *Los Angeles County Draft Preliminary General Plan*. Available at: [http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp\\_draft.pdf](http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp_draft.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. May 2002. *Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan*. Available at: [http://www.bhc.ca.gov/documents/Baldwin\\_Hills\\_Master\\_Plan\\_Final.pdf](http://www.bhc.ca.gov/documents/Baldwin_Hills_Master_Plan_Final.pdf)

<sup>5</sup> State Water Resources Control Board, Los Angeles Region. 2007. Web site. Available at: <http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb4/>

<sup>6</sup> U.S. Geological Survey. 1966 [Revised 1981]. 7.5-Minute Series Hollywood, California, Topographic Quadrangle. Reston, VA.

<sup>7</sup> U.S. Geological Survey. 1964 [Revised 1981]. 7.5-Minute Series Inglewood, California, Topographic Quadrangle. Reston, VA.

<sup>8</sup> *California Code of Regulations*. Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Sections 15000–15387, Appendix G.

<sup>9</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. May 2002. *Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan*. Available at: [http://www.bhc.ca.gov/documents/Baldwin\\_Hills\\_Master\\_Plan\\_Final.pdf](http://www.bhc.ca.gov/documents/Baldwin_Hills_Master_Plan_Final.pdf)

level of significance. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to violation of water quality standards or waste discharge requirements.

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

The refined project would not be expected to create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to groundwater supplies or groundwater recharge during construction and operation of the refined project. As documented in the certified EIR, the water demand associated with recreational land uses is generally lower than residential land uses. Moreover, the certified EIR includes water conservation elements, including the stipulation that reclaimed water be used for irrigation and non-drinking water uses.<sup>10</sup> The refined project does not include any project components, such as bathroom facilities, that would require the use of groundwater supplies. In addition, the surface irrigation system that currently waters the plants on the site is temporary and would be removed once the native plants at the refined project site are established. The refined project would not be expected to substantially deplete groundwater supplies, nor would it interfere with existing groundwater recharge. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to groundwater levels.

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

The refined project would not be expected to create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to hydrology and water quality in relation to alteration of the existing drainage patterns in a manner that would result in substantial erosion or siltation on or off site. As described in Section 2.0, *Project Description*, a minor net change in the overall impervious surface area would be expected to be involved with the refined project. As a result, an alteration to the existing drainage pattern may be expected with the refined project. However, the refined project would be required to include BMPs through the design and implementation of the Standard Urban Storm Water Mitigation Plan (SUSMP) and to be consistent with the requirements of the applicable National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. Incorporation of BMPs and implementation of mitigation measures (including upgrades to storm water drainage facilities to accommodate increased runoff volumes where necessary, and the inclusion of specifically designed drainage plans to maximize the use of detention basins, vegetated areas, and velocity dissipaters to reduce peak flows where possible, with the grading plan application) specified in the certified EIR would be expected to reduce any potential impacts related to alteration of the existing drainage patterns of the refined project to a less than significant level.<sup>11</sup> Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts

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<sup>10</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

<sup>11</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)



related to alteration of existing drainage patterns in a manner that would result in substantial erosion or siltation on or off site.

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

The refined project would not be expected to create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to altering the drainage patterns of the site or substantially increasing the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner that would result in flooding on or off site. This issue was adequately addressed in the certified EIR. Based on a review of the USGS 7.5-minute series topographic quadrangles for the Hollywood and Inglewood areas and National Flood Insurance Program Flood Insurance Rate Maps for the County, there would be no expected impacts to hydrology and water quality in relation to alteration of existing drainage patterns in a manner that would result in flooding on or off site.<sup>12,13</sup> In addition, the refined project does not include the installation of a French drain system as a project component. Furthermore, implementation of the refined project would not be expected to eliminate much of natural drainage pattern of the refined project site through altering existing drainages and swales. The refined project would also be subject to BMPs through the design and implementation of a SUSMP that is consistent with the requirements of the applicable NPDES permit. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to hydrology and water quality in relation to flooding on or off site.

- (e) Create or contribute runoff water that would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or providing substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?

The refined project would not be expected to create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to exceeding the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or providing substantial additional sources of polluted runoff. As previously discussed, the refined project would not result in an overall net change to the amount of total impervious surface area approved in the certified EIR.<sup>14</sup> While the refined project may slightly increase the runoff amount, the specified mitigation measures suggested in the certified EIR should serve to adequately transport stormwater runoff to existing storm drain facilities.

The quality of storm water runoff is regulated under the 2001 NPDES storm water permit (CAS004001, Order No. 01-182) issued to the County,<sup>15</sup> which provides a mechanism for establishing appropriate controls and monitoring of the discharge of pollutants to the stormwater runoff system. The County requires all development projects within its jurisdiction on sites of 1 acre or larger to comply with the NPDES requirements for construction and operations as appropriate, and the design and implementation of the SUSMP at the refined project site will be

<sup>12</sup> U.S. Geological Survey. 1966 [Revised 1981]. 7.5-Minute Series Hollywood, California, Topographic Quadrangle. Reston, VA.

<sup>13</sup> U.S. Geological Survey. 1964 [Revised 1981]. 7.5-Minute Series Inglewood, California, Topographic Quadrangle. Reston, VA.

<sup>14</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

<sup>15</sup> California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region. 2001. *Waste Discharge Requirements for Municipal Storm Water and Urban Runoff Discharges within the County of Los Angeles, and the Incorporated Cities Therein, Except the City of Long Beach. Order 01-182, NPDES Permit CAS004001*. Los Angeles, CA.

prepared to be consistent with the requirements of the applicable NPDES permit. Thus, the refined project would be required to conform to the County's NPDES permit, and it would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to exceeding the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or providing substantial additional sources of polluted runoff.

(f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?

The refined project would not create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to the degradation of water quality. The refined project would be consistent with the requirements of the certified EIR and would include implementation of BMPs and a SUSMP during construction and operation, and conformance with the applicable NPDES permit.<sup>16</sup> These provisions would ensure that no substantial amount of polluted runoff would be generated during construction or operation of the refined project. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to substantial degradation of water quality.

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

The refined project would not be expected to create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to placement of housing within a 100-year flood hazard area. As indicated in the certified EIR, the refined project site is located outside of the 100-year flood zone.<sup>17</sup> In addition, the refined project does not include construction of housing or redirection of flood flows towards residential areas. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to placement of housing within a 100-year flood hazard area.

(h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures that would impede or redirect flood flows?

The refined project would not create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to placement of structures that would impede or redirect flood flows within a 100-year flood hazard area. The refined project does not include the placement of structures within a 100-year flood hazard area. In addition, the refined project area does not appear on accessible Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) maps and is not located within the 100-year flood hazard area or the 100-year flood zone.<sup>18</sup> The refined project would be constructed in accordance with applicable state requirements, including the Uniform Building Code flood zone requirements. Compliance with existing standards and requirements would ensure an adequate level of protection from flood hazards. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in

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<sup>16</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

<sup>17</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

<sup>18</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to placement of structures within a 100-year flood hazard.

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

The refined project would not be expected to create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to exposing people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam. The failure of a dam did occur in the Baldwin Hills area in 1963,<sup>19</sup> and the refined project as a family friendly recreational area would not result in placement of new structures or people in areas of increased risk of flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam. In addition, the refined project would be constructed in accordance with applicable state requirements, including the Uniform Building Code flood zone requirements. Compliance with existing standards and requirements would ensure an adequate level of protection from flood hazards. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to failure of a levee or dam.

- (j) Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?

The refined project would not be expected to create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow. The topography of the refined project site has hills covered with native plants and natural habitats. The refined project site is located more than 7 miles east of the Pacific Ocean. Given the distance of the site from the ocean, no areas of the refined project site would be expected to be susceptible to seiches or tsunamis. Seiches from local water bodies, such as reservoirs and lakes, would not affect the site because none are in close proximity. The refined project site is located near the undeveloped Ballona Creek Watershed, which drains in some areas to the Ballona and Centinela Creeks. Portions of the refined project site are surrounded by hills and steep slopes, making the refined project area susceptible to mudflows during extreme storm events. However, these issues were adequately evaluated in the certified EIR.<sup>20</sup> Proper implementation of BMPs and placement of native plants and filled materials that have been evaluated and approved by the refined project geotechnical engineer would be expected to reduce potential impacts related to mudflow. In addition, implementation of mitigation measure Geo-4 specified in the certified EIR would ensure that a geotechnical investigation, including, but not limited to, assessment on slope stability and soil suitability, is completed prior to the final design of the refined project. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow.

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<sup>19</sup> Meehan, R.L. and Hamilton, D.H. 23 April 1971. *Ground Rupture in the Baldwin Hills*. Available at: <http://www.stanford.edu/~meehan/la/pubs/pubbaldw.pdf>

<sup>20</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

### 3.10 LAND USE AND PLANNING

This analysis is undertaken to determine if the Kenneth Hahn Eastern Ridgeline Project (refined project) would result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts in relation to land use and planning from that disclosed in the Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area (KHSRA) General Plan Amendment Environmental Impact Report (EIR),<sup>1</sup> which was certified by the California State Park and Recreation Commission in 2002.<sup>2</sup> Land use and planning at the refined project site was evaluated in light of the adopted published maps, including the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute series Hollywood and Inglewood quadrangles in which the refined project site is located,<sup>3,4</sup> all surrounding USGS 7.5-minute series topographic quadrangles (Beverly Hills, Venice, Los Angeles, South Gate, Torrance, and Burbank),<sup>5,6,7,8,9,10</sup> the County General Plan,<sup>11</sup> and coordination with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) with regard to the applicable proposed or adopted land use plans and regulations.

The potential for the refined project to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to land use and planning was evaluated in relation to three questions recommended for consideration by Appendix G of the State California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines:<sup>12</sup>

Would the refined project have any of the following effects:

- (a) Physically divide an established community?

The refined project would not create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to land use and planning through the physical division of an established community. According to the USGS 7.5-minute series Hollywood and Inglewood quadrangles and the Thomas Guide for Los

<sup>1</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

<sup>2</sup> California State Park and Recreation Commission. 12 October 2002. *Minutes of the Meeting*. Los Angeles, CA. Available at: <http://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/843/files/10-12-02%20minutes%20draft.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Geological Survey. 1966 [Revised 1981]. 7.5-Minute Series Hollywood, California, Topographic Quadrangle. Reston, VA.

<sup>4</sup> U.S. Geological Survey. 1964 [Revised 1981]. 7.5-Minute Series Inglewood, California, Topographic Quadrangle. Reston, VA.

<sup>5</sup> U.S. Geological Survey. 1966 [Revised 1981]. 7.5-Minute Series Beverly Hills, California, Topographic Quadrangle. Reston, VA.

<sup>6</sup> U.S. Geological Survey. 1964 [Revised 1981]. 7.5-Minute Series Venice, California, Topographic Quadrangle. Reston, VA.

<sup>7</sup> U.S. Geological Survey. 1966 [Revised 1994]. 7.5-Minute Series Los Angeles, California, Topographic Quadrangle. Reston, VA.

<sup>8</sup> U.S. Geological Survey. 1966 [Revised 1981]. 7.5-Minute Series South Gate, California, Topographic Quadrangle. Reston, VA.

<sup>9</sup> U.S. Geological Survey. 1978 [Revised 1981]. 7.5-Minute Series Torrance, California, Topographic Quadrangle. Reston, VA.

<sup>10</sup> U.S. Geological Survey. 1966 [Revised 1994]. 7.5-Minute Series Burbank, California, Topographic Quadrangle. Reston, VA.

<sup>11</sup> County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning. 2007. *Los Angeles County Draft Preliminary General Plan*. Available at: [http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp\\_draft.pdf](http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp_draft.pdf)

<sup>12</sup> *California Code of Regulations*. Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Sections 15000–15387, Appendix G.

Angeles County,<sup>13,14,15</sup> the refined project area is within the Baldwin Hills Community in the unincorporated area of the County. The refined project would be located on property owned by the California Department of Parks and Recreation and managed by the County Department of Parks and Recreation. The refined project site is designated for Open Space. The refined project would include the development of fitness structures, concrete animal sculptures, and a new walking trail that would connect with existing trails. The construction associated with the refined project would not be expected to impact any other parcels and would not be expected to create a temporary barrier in the community. In addition, the refined project would not be expected to create a permanent division between neighboring parcels, as the refined project site is compatible with the existing community and would not cause a physical division within the established community. The refined project would be situated in a manner that is compatible with existing land uses. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to physical division of an established community.

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

The refined project is not expected to result in impacts to land use and planning in relation to a conflict with adopted or proposed land use plans, policies, or regulations. The refined project site is located within the County; therefore, development in the area is governed by the policies, procedures, and standards set forth in the County General Plan, which is currently being updated. The Land Use Policy map in the County General Plan describes dominant land use characteristics within the County and provides a policy framework for developing area-wide, community, and neighborhood plans. The refined project site has been designated as "Open Space" in the County General Plan.<sup>16</sup> The open space land use classification allows for land to be developed for any use that is in accordance with Zones O-S (Open Space) and W (Watershed) of the County Zoning Ordinance. Such classifications include a variety of recreational uses. The refined project site would be developed with fitness structures, concrete animal sculptures, and a new trail for recreational use; therefore, it would be consistent with the open space land use designation. The refined project site is zoned as "A-2 Heavy Agricultural Zone" according to the County General Plan. This designation encourages agricultural pursuits and other uses required for, or desired by, the inhabitants of the community. In addition, an area zoned as A-2 may provide the land necessary to permit low-density, single-family residential development, and outdoor recreational and needed public and institutional facilities. The refined project conforms to the County Zoning Ordinance. The refined project would not be expected to conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation, as it is consistent with the current zoning and land use designations. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to a conflict with adopted or proposed land use plans, policies, or regulations.

<sup>13</sup> U.S. Geological Survey. 1966 [Revised 1981]. 7.5-Minute Series Hollywood, California, Topographic Quadrangle. Reston, VA.

<sup>14</sup> U.S. Geological Survey. 1964 [Revised 1981]. 7.5-Minute Series Inglewood, California, Topographic Quadrangle. Reston, VA.

<sup>15</sup> The Thomas Guide. 2001. *Los Angeles and Orange Counties*. Irvine, CA.

<sup>16</sup> County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning. 2007. *Los Angeles County Draft Preliminary General Plan*. Available at: [http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp\\_draft.pdf](http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp_draft.pdf)

- (c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?

The refined project would not create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to land use and planning in relation to a conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan. No conflicts with any adopted Habitat Conservation Plan or Natural Community Conservation Plan were identified in the certified EIR,<sup>17</sup> and project components proposed by the refined project would not be expected to result in any new conflicts. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to a conflict with any adopted habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan.

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<sup>17</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

### 3.11 MINERAL RESOURCES

This analysis is undertaken to determine if the Kenneth Hahn Eastern Ridgeline Project (refined project) would result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts in relation to mineral resources from that disclosed in the Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area (KHSRA) General Plan Amendment Environmental Impact Report (EIR),<sup>1</sup> which was certified by the California State Park and Recreation Commission in 2002.<sup>2</sup> Mineral resources at the refined project site were evaluated with regard to California Geological Survey publications and the adopted County General Plan.<sup>3</sup>

The potential for the refined project to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to mineral resources was evaluated in relation to two questions recommended for consideration by Appendix G of the State California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines.<sup>4</sup>

Would the refined project have any of the following effects:

- (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?

The refined project would not create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to the loss of availability of a known mineral resource. Based on a review of California Geological Survey publications,<sup>5</sup> there are no known non-fuel mineral resources of statewide or regional importance located within the refined project site.

According to *Mines and Minerals Producers Active in California (1977-1998)*,<sup>6</sup> there are 25 active non-fuel mines located within the County. The County contains active sand and gravel, dimension stone, clay, decorative rock, and tungsten producers. While there are no non-fuel mining districts located in or around the vicinity of the refined project site, the refined project area is located within the KHSRA, the majority of which is within the Inglewood Oil Field, and oil production previously occurred in some areas of the KHSRA. However, oil production does not currently occur within the KHSRA. Since the refined project area is located solely within the KHSRA, the refined project would not be expected to impact oil production in areas adjacent to the KHSRA. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to the loss of availability of a known mineral resource.

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<sup>1</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

<sup>2</sup> California State Park and Recreation Commission. 12 October 2002. *Minutes of the Meeting*. Los Angeles, CA. Available at: <http://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/843/files/10-12-02%20minutes%20draft.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning. 2007. *Los Angeles County Draft Preliminary General Plan, Conservation and Open Space Element*. Available at: [http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp\\_draft.pdf](http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp_draft.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> *California Code of Regulations*. Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Sections 15000–15387, Appendix G.

<sup>5</sup> California Geological Survey. 1966. *Minerals of California Volume (1866–1966)*. Bulletin 189. Los Angeles, CA.

<sup>6</sup> California Geological Survey. Revised 1999. *Mines and Mineral Producers Active in California (1997–1998)*. Special Publication 103. Los Angeles, CA.

- (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?

The refined project would not create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to mineral resources in relation to the loss of availability of a known mineral resource recovery site. Based on a review of the Open Space and Conservation element of the County General Plan, the refined project area is located wholly within the KHSRA, which is in the vicinity of known mineral resource recovery sites of local importance.<sup>7</sup> However, oil production does not currently occur within the KHSRA. The refined project would not be expected to impact the oil production in areas adjacent to KHSRA. The refined project site is designated as Open Space, according to the County General Plan<sup>8</sup> and the KHSRA General Plan Amendment 3-30 ESA / 202310.<sup>9</sup> Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to the loss of availability of a known locally important mineral resource recovery site.

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<sup>7</sup> County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning. 2007. *Los Angeles County Draft Preliminary General Plan, Conservation and Open Space Element*. Available at: [http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp\\_draft.pdf](http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp_draft.pdf)

<sup>8</sup> County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning. 2007. *Los Angeles County Draft Preliminary General Plan, Land Use Element*. Available at: [http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp\\_draft.pdf](http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp_draft.pdf)

<sup>9</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)



### 3.12 NOISE

This analysis is undertaken to determine if the Kenneth Hahn Eastern Ridgeline Project (refined project) would result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts in relation to noise from that disclosed in the Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area (KHSRA) General Plan Amendment Environmental Impact Report (EIR),<sup>1</sup> which was certified by the California State Park and Recreation Commission in 2002.<sup>2</sup> Noise at the refined project site was evaluated with regard to the County General Plan<sup>3</sup> and the Noise Control Ordinance of the County.<sup>4</sup>

The potential for the refined project to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to noise was evaluated in relation to six questions recommended for consideration by Appendix G of the State California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines.<sup>5</sup>

Would the refined project have any of the following effects:

- (a) Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?

The refined project would not create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to exposure of people to or generation of noise levels in excess of established standards.

#### **Construction**

The noise impact analysis carried out for the certified EIR determined that projects within the KHSRA had the potential to create noise in excess of established standards during construction.<sup>6</sup> Construction noise levels at the refined project area would fluctuate depending on the particular type, number, and duration of use of various construction equipment. Construction or demolition activities associated with potential General Plan Amendment projects were found to potentially generate substantial amounts of noise within proximity of individual construction sites in the certified EIR. Daily construction activities would be subject to the County noise regulation. The refined project would not be expected to generate additional higher noise levels as evaluated in the certified EIR. Noise levels exceeding 65 dBA (decibels, A-weighted sound levels) for single-family residences and 70 dBA for multi-family residences during construction hours are prohibited. The contractor shall conduct construction activities in such a manner that the maximum noise levels at the refined project site would not exceed established noise levels. The refined project would consist of construction and operation of fitness zones, a concrete animal sculpture area, and a new walking trail. The nature of the refined project's construction scenario would not be

<sup>1</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

<sup>2</sup> California State Park and Recreation Commission. 12 October 2002. *Minutes of the Meeting*. Los Angeles, CA. Available at: <http://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/843/files/10-12-02%20minutes%20draft.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning. 2007. *Los Angeles County Draft Preliminary General Plan*. Available at: [http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp\\_draft.pdf](http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp_draft.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> County of Los Angeles. 1978. Noise Control Ordinance of the County of Los Angeles. Ord. 11778, Section 2 (Art. 1, Section 101), and Ord. 11773, Section 2 (Art. 1, Section 101). Available at: <http://ordlink.com/codes/lacounty/index.htm>

<sup>5</sup> *California Code of Regulations*. Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Sections 15000–15387, Appendix G.

<sup>6</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant noise impacts than those analyzed in the certified EIR. In addition, implementation of mitigation measure Noise-1 specified in the certified EIR would be expected to reduce any potential noise impacts related to violations of maximum noise levels to below the level of significance.

### **Operation**

Operation of the refined project would not result in new or more adverse measurable increases in noise violations. The refined project would consist of construction and operation of fitness zones, a concrete animal sculpture area, and a walking trail connecting the refined project site with the existing trails and a parking lot. The refined project would be operated as a family friendly recreational area and would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant noise impacts than those analyzed in the certified EIR. In addition, as documented in the certified EIR,<sup>7</sup> the noise environment in and around the KHSRA is expected to be relatively low because it is not highly developed and does not include significant stationary sources. Implementation of mitigation measure Noise-2 specified in the certified EIR would be expected to reduce any potential noise impacts related to new or more adverse significant violations of maximum noise levels to below the level of significance. In addition, the refined project would not be expected to increase traffic noise levels that would result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to exposure or generation of noise levels in excess of established standards.

Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to exposure or generation of noise levels in excess of established standards.

- (b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?

The refined project would not create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to noise in relation to generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise. No existing or proposed land uses within approximately 500 feet of the refined project area in the existing KHSRA would be expected to be sensitive to vibration. In addition, the soil-disturbing activities resulting from construction of the refined project would not be expected to exceed established vibration standards. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise.

- (c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?

The refined project would not create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to noise in relation to permanent increases in ambient noise levels. The County Noise Ordinance does not define a substantial permanent increase to ambient noise levels. In general, one way of estimating a person's subjective reaction to a new noise is to compare the new noise with the existing noise environment to which the person has become adapted (i.e., the increase over the so-called

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<sup>7</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

"ambient" noise level). A 5 dBA increase is often considered a significant increase, and thus significant impact. Therefore, an increase in the noise levels of 5 dBA would be considered substantial.

The highest operational impact would likely be at the multi-family residences across La Brea Avenue along Don Lorenzo Drive northeast of the refined project site. As stated above, the operational noise levels that would be generated at the nearest sensitive receptor would not be expected to exceed 65 dBA. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to permanent increases in ambient noise levels.

- (d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity about levels existing without the project?

The refined project would not create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to noise in relation to temporary or periodic increases in ambient noise levels. The noise impact analysis for the certified EIR determined that construction of the potential projects within the approved plan amendment would result in temporary, intermittent increases in ambient noise levels.<sup>8</sup> Incorporation of mitigation measures specified in the certified EIR and the methods to reduce impacts to noise included in the construction scenario of the refined project would reduce the impacts related to a substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the refined project vicinity to below the level of significance. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to a substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the proposed project vicinity.

- (e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within 2 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?

The refined project would not create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to noise in relation to public airports. The refined project site is approximately 3.1 miles northeast of Los Angeles International Airport and approximately 5 miles southeast of Santa Monica Airport. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to public airports.

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

The refined project would not create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to noise in relation to private airstrips. The refined project site is not located within an airport land use plan or within the vicinity of a private airstrip such that it would expose visitors in the refined project area to noise levels greater than 65 dBA. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to private airstrips.

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<sup>8</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

### 3.13 POPULATION AND HOUSING

This analysis is undertaken to determine if the Kenneth Hahn Eastern Ridgeline Project (refined project) would result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts in relation to population and housing from that disclosed in the Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area (KHSRA) General Plan Amendment Environmental Impact Report (EIR),<sup>1</sup> which was certified by the California State Park and Recreation Commission in 2002.<sup>2</sup> Population and housing at the refined project site were evaluated with regard to state, regional, and local data and forecasts for population and housing and the proximity of the refined project site to the existing and planned utility infrastructure.

The potential for the refined project to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to population and housing was evaluated in relation to three questions recommended for consideration by Appendix G of the State California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines.<sup>3</sup>

Would the refined project have any of the following effects:

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

The refined project would not create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to population and housing in relation to inducing substantial direct or indirect population growth. Pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.7, typical established local thresholds of significance for housing and population growth include effects that would induce substantial growth or concentration of a population beyond County projections; alter the location, distribution, density, or growth rate of the population beyond that projected in the County General Plan Housing element; result in a substantial increase in demand for additional housing; or create a development that significantly reduces the ability of the County to meet housing objectives set forth in the County General Plan Housing element.<sup>4</sup>

The refined project site is located within the KSHRA. The KSHRA is characterized by open space park land and is surrounded by urban areas. The refined project would be expected to accommodate the current population and expected growth, complement existing recreational uses within the KSHRA, and would include the development of fitness structures, concrete animal sculptures, and a new walking trail that would connect the refined project site with existing trails and a parking lot. The refined project would not include the construction of new homes or businesses and does not extend infrastructure into areas not currently served by roads and utilities. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to inducing any substantial direct or indirect growth in the area.

<sup>1</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

<sup>2</sup> California State Park and Recreation Commission. 12 October 2002. *Minutes of the Meeting*. Los Angeles, CA. Available at: <http://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/843/files/10-12-02%20minutes%20draft.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> *California Code of Regulations*. Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Sections 15000–15387, Appendix G.

<sup>4</sup> County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning. 2007. *Los Angeles County Draft Preliminary General Plan, Housing Element*. Available at: [http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp\\_draft.pdf](http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp_draft.pdf)

- (b) Displace substantial amounts of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?

The refined project would not create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to population and housing in relation to the displacement of substantial amounts of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere. The refined project does not include the displacement of any type of permanent or temporary residence. In addition, the refined project does not include the construction of any new housing units, and would not be expected to alter the location, distribution, density, or growth of the human population of an area substantially beyond that projected in the County General Plan Housing element.<sup>5</sup> Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to the displacement of substantial amounts of existing housing.

- (c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?

The refined project would not create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to population and housing in relation to the displacement of substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere. The refined project site is located within an existing park facility that does not contain housing, infrastructure, or businesses.<sup>6</sup> Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to the displacement of substantial numbers of people.

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<sup>6</sup> County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning. 2007. *Los Angeles County Draft Preliminary General Plan, Housing Element*. Available at: [http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp\\_draft.pdf](http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp_draft.pdf)

### 3.14 PUBLIC SERVICES

This analysis is undertaken to determine if the Kenneth Hahn Eastern Ridgeline Project (refined project) would result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts in relation to public services from that disclosed in the Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area (KHSRA) General Plan Amendment Environmental Impact Report (EIR),<sup>1</sup> which was certified by the California State Park and Recreation Commission in 2002.<sup>2</sup> Public services at the refined project site were evaluated based on a review of the County General Plan,<sup>3</sup> the 2002 certified EIR,<sup>4</sup> the Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan,<sup>5</sup> telephone conversations with the Los Angeles fire departments<sup>6,7</sup> and review of relevant Web sites.<sup>8,9,10</sup>

The potential for the refined project to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to public services was evaluated in relation to one question recommended for consideration by Appendix G of the State California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines.<sup>11</sup>

Would the refined project have any of the following effects:

- (a) 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 following five public services: (1) fire protection, (2) police protection, (3) schools, (4) parks, and (5) other public facilities?

- 1) Fire protection?

The refined project would not create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to public services in relation to fire protection. The certified EIR found that there would be no impacts

<sup>1</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

<sup>2</sup> California State Park and Recreation Commission. 12 October 2002. *Minutes of the Meeting*. Los Angeles, CA. Available at: <http://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/843/files/10-12-02%20minutes%20draft.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning. 2007. *Los Angeles County Draft Preliminary General Plan*. Available at: [http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp\\_draft.pdf](http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp_draft.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

<sup>5</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. May 2002. *Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan*. Available at: [http://www.bhc.ca.gov/documents/Baldwin\\_Hills\\_Master\\_Plan\\_Final.pdf](http://www.bhc.ca.gov/documents/Baldwin_Hills_Master_Plan_Final.pdf)

<sup>6</sup> Captain Jordan, County of Los Angeles Fire Department, Fire Station No. 58. 27 March 2008. Telephone conversation with Eimon Raof, Sapphos Environmental, Inc., Pasadena, CA.

<sup>7</sup> Captain Peters, County of Los Angeles Fire Department, Fire Station 94. 28 March 2008. Telephone conversation with Eimon Raof, Sapphos Environmental, Inc., Pasadena, CA.

<sup>8</sup> Los Angeles Unified School District. 2008. "Fact Sheet: District Fingertip Facts 2007-2008." Available at: [http://notebook.lausd.net/pls/ptl/docs/PAGE/CA\\_LAUSD/LAUSDNET/OFFICES/COMMUNICATIONS/COMMUNICATIO NS\\_FACTS/0708ENG\\_FINGERTIP\\_FACT\\_SHEET.PDF](http://notebook.lausd.net/pls/ptl/docs/PAGE/CA_LAUSD/LAUSDNET/OFFICES/COMMUNICATIONS/COMMUNICATIO NS_FACTS/0708ENG_FINGERTIP_FACT_SHEET.PDF)

<sup>9</sup> Culver City School District. 2008. Web site. Available at: <http://www.ccusd.k12.ca.us/>

<sup>10</sup> State of California. 2007. Web site. "California State Parks." Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=612](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=612)

<sup>11</sup> *California Code of Regulations*. Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Sections 15000–15387, Appendix G.

to public services in relation to fire protection. The refined project would consist of fitness zones, concrete animal sculptures, and a new walking trail; the refined project does not include the creation of new residential dwellings or services that might require additional fire protection.

The refined project consists of recreational facilities to serve the Baldwin Hills and adjacent communities. The refined project is located in the Community of Baldwin Hills and is served primarily by the County Fire Department (Fire Station 58) and by the City of Los Angeles Fire Department (Fire Station 94). Table 3.14-1, *Fire Stations in the Project Vicinity*, lists the distance of the stations based upon a 2-mile radius; however, the stations are located within approximately 2.2 miles and 2.6 miles, respectively, driving distance from the refined project vicinity.

**TABLE 3.14-1  
FIRE STATIONS IN THE PROJECT VICINITY**

Station	Location	Personnel/Equipment	Distance to Site
No. 58	5757 South Fairfax Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90056	18 personnel, 1 engine company, 1 paramedic squad, 1 reserve vehicle	1.7 miles
No. 94	4470 Coliseum Street, Los Angeles, CA	14 personnel, 2 engine companies, 1 truck, 2 rescue units	1.7 miles

The refined project site is located in the unincorporated area of the County. As such, Fire Station 58 would be the primary response team. However, both fire stations could provide service to the refined project site and any County fire station may respond to the refined project site according to need and availability, and would draw units from several stations. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to fire protection.

2) Police protection?

The refined project would not create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to public services in relation to police protection. The certified EIR found that there would be no impacts to public services in relation to police protection. The refined project would consist of construction and operation of fitness zones, concrete animal sculptures, and a new walking trail. In addition, the refined project does not include the creation of new residential dwellings or services that might require additional police protection.

Police protection services in the refined project area are provided by the park police. If necessary, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department may also respond to emergency calls within the refined project area. The nearest Los Angeles County Sheriff's station to the refined project site is the Marina Del Rey Station, which is located approximately 5 miles southwest of the refined project site at 13851 Fiji Way in Marina Del Rey. The refined project would not induce population growth and would not require additional Sheriff's department or police personnel or require the construction of new Sheriff's department or police facilities beyond those impacts already documented in the certified EIR. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to police protection.

### 3) Schools?

The refined project would not create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to public services in relation to schools. The Los Angeles Unified School District serves the Baldwin Hills Community and operates 436 elementary schools, 75 middle schools, and 64 high schools (excluding independent charter high schools and specialized schools and centers).<sup>12</sup> In addition, the refined project area is also served by small private, charter schools, and several schools within the Culver City School District, which operates 5 elementary schools, 1 middle school, and 3 high schools.<sup>13</sup> The refined project would not be expected to create or induce population growth or increase the demand for schools or educational services within the surrounding neighborhood. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to schools.

### 4) Parks?

The refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to public services in relation to parks. While there would be a temporary reduction in the accessibility of the park area during construction, the refined project entails the creation of additional recreational park space in the Baldwin Hills area, which would increase the overall park space in the area and the surrounding neighborhoods. The parks and recreation centers located within an approximate 1-mile radius to the refined project site include Blair Hills Park, Culver City Park, Norman O. Houston Park, Ladera Park, Baldwin Hills Recreation Center, and Jim Gilliam Recreation Center. Furthermore, the refined project site is located within the KHSRA, which includes active recreational facilities as well as lawns and landscaped areas, picnic sites, playgrounds, fishing lake, a lotus pond, community center, and 5 miles of trails.<sup>14</sup> The certified EIR adequately documents and mitigates the park and recreational services available to the community.<sup>15</sup> Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to parks.

### 5) Other public facilities?

The refined project would not create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to public services in relation to other public facilities. The refined project area is adequately served by public facilities, including U.S. Post Offices and public libraries. Within a 2-mile radius of the refined project site, there are three (3) U.S. Post Offices, including the Baldwin Hills/Crenshaw Finan Post Office located approximately 1.5 miles northeast of the site at 3650 West Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard, Suite 103a, Los Angeles; the Crenshaw Post Office located approximately 1.8 miles northeast of the site at 3894 Crenshaw Boulevard, Los Angeles; and the La Tijera Post Office located approximately 1.8 miles southeast of the site at 5472 Crenshaw Boulevard, Los Angeles. Within a 2.5-mile radius of the refined project site, there are three public libraries, including the View Park Library located approximately 1.2 miles southeast of the site at 3854 West 54th Street, Los Angeles; the Baldwin Hills Branch Library located approximately 2 miles northeast of the site at

<sup>12</sup> Los Angeles Unified School District. 2008. "Fact Sheet: District Fingertip Facts 2007-2008." Available at: [http://notebook.lausd.net/pls/ptl/docs/PAGE/CA\\_LAUSD/LAUSDNET/OFFICES/COMMUNICATIONS/COMMUNICATIO NS\\_FACTS/0708ENG\\_FINGERTIP\\_FACT\\_SHEET.PDF](http://notebook.lausd.net/pls/ptl/docs/PAGE/CA_LAUSD/LAUSDNET/OFFICES/COMMUNICATIONS/COMMUNICATIO NS_FACTS/0708ENG_FINGERTIP_FACT_SHEET.PDF)

<sup>13</sup> Culver City School District. 2008. Web site. Available at: <http://www.ccusd.k12.ca.us/>

<sup>14</sup> State of California. 2007. Web site. "California State Parks." Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=612](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=612)

<sup>15</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)



2906 South La Brea Avenue, Los Angeles; and the Julian Dixon Library located approximately 2.2 miles northwest of the site at 4975 Overland Avenue, Culver City. The refined project would not increase the number of users to public services and other facilities, outside of any of those identified in the certified EIR. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to other public facilities.

### 3.15 RECREATION

This analysis is undertaken to determine if the Kenneth Hahn Eastern Ridgeline Project (refined project) would result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts in relation to recreation from that disclosed in the Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area (KHSRA) General Plan Amendment Environmental Impact Report (EIR),<sup>1</sup> which was certified by the California State Park and Recreation Commission in 2002.<sup>2</sup> Recreation at the refined project area was evaluated with regard to expert opinion, technical studies, and other substantial evidence. The conclusions rely primarily on information contained in the County General Plan,<sup>3</sup> the Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan,<sup>4</sup> and the consideration of the potential for growth-inducing impacts evaluated in Section 3.12, Population and Housing, of this Addendum to the EIR.

The potential for the refined project to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to recreation was evaluated in relation to two questions recommended for consideration by Appendix G of the State California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines.<sup>5</sup>

Would the refined project have any of the following effects:

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

Construction, operation, and maintenance of the refined project would not create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to an increase in the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities. The proposed construction scenario for the refined project would not close down or block the use of any existing in-use portion of the KHSRA or roadways or trails thereto. Upon completion, the refined project site would accommodate growth and provide needed recreational space for the surrounding community. The population of the Baldwin Hills Community was 30,840 in the year 2000 according to the U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>6</sup> Using Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) projections, this number is expected to grow almost 25 percent by 2025, or to approximately 38,000 individuals, 75 percent of which are between the ages of 18 and 65.<sup>7</sup> Besides the KHSRA, parks and recreational facilities located within a 1-mile radius of the refined project site include Norman O. Houston Park, Bubin Ingold Park, Jim Gilliam Recreation Center, Ladera Park. It is anticipated that the refined project would provide the neighborhood residents with increased recreational opportunities and may reduce stress on the existing parks by providing these additional recreational opportunities.

<sup>1</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

<sup>2</sup> California State Park and Recreation Commission. 12 October 2002. *Minutes of the Meeting*. Los Angeles, CA. Available at: <http://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/843/files/10-12-02%20minutes%20draft.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning. 2007. *Los Angeles County Draft Preliminary General Plan*. Available at: [http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp\\_draft.pdf](http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp_draft.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. May 2002. *Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan*. Available at: [http://www.bhc.ca.gov/documents/Baldwin\\_Hills\\_Master\\_Plan\\_Final.pdf](http://www.bhc.ca.gov/documents/Baldwin_Hills_Master_Plan_Final.pdf)

<sup>5</sup> *California Code of Regulations*. Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Sections 15000–15387, Appendix G.

<sup>6</sup> U.S. Census Bureau. 2000. *U.S. Census Report*. Available at: <http://www.census.gov/main/www/cen2000.html>

<sup>7</sup> U.S. Census Bureau. 2000. *U.S. Census Report*. Available at: <http://www.census.gov/main/www/cen2000.html>

No individual park or recreation facility would be expected to experience physical deterioration as a result of implementation of the refined project. Furthermore, the refined project serves as a family friendly recreation area, which would provide concrete animal sculptures, four (4) fitness stations (one large and three small), and a new walking trail to serve the area's growing population. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to increased use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities that would contribute to the physical deterioration of existing facilities.

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

The refined project would not create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to the construction and expansion of recreational facilities. The refined project would consist of construction of four fitness zones (one large and three small), concrete animal sculptures, and a new walking trail; therefore, ground-disturbing activities for the refined project area would be minimally invasive. Under each piece of fitness equipment and concrete animal sculpture, soil would be removed to a depth suitable for support of the walking trail and backfilled with materials of physical properties that are approved by the refined project geotechnical engineer and consistent with guidance provided in the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) *Information Advisory, Clean Imported Fill Material*, dated October 2001, for soil chemistry screening parameters.<sup>8</sup> Each piece of fitness equipment and sculpture would have a like base and may be anchored to the ground with a concrete post. Likewise, the proposed walking trail surface would be scraped off to a depth and covered with materials approved by the geotechnical engineer and consistent with DTSC guidance on imported fill materials. The rest of the refined project area would be planted with native and/or drought-tolerant species and watered with aboveground irrigation, which would be removed once the plants are stabilized. The refined project would cause minimal soil disturbance and would be minimally invasive, because the soil is marginally contaminated with oil swabbings and volatile organic compounds (VOCs). DTSC, in its Preliminary Endangerment Assessment (PEA) of the refined project area, determined that the area was safe for humans to use as a passive recreation area.<sup>9</sup> The County is adhering to these guidelines, and the DTSC will review the final project plan before it is constructed. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to the construction of recreational facilities.

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<sup>8</sup> Department of Toxic Substances Control. October 2001. *Information Advisory, Clean Imported Fill Material*. Available at: [http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/Schools/upload/SMP\\_FS\\_Cleanfill-Schools.pdf](http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/Schools/upload/SMP_FS_Cleanfill-Schools.pdf)

<sup>9</sup> Department of Toxic Substances Control. July 2005. *Preliminary Endangerment Assessment for Baldwin Hills Conservancy Eastern Ridgeline Site*. Prepared for: Baldwin Hills Conservancy.

### 3.16 TRANSPORTATION AND TRAFFIC

This analysis is undertaken to determine if the Kenneth Hahn Eastern Ridgeline Project (refined project) would result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts in relation to transportation and traffic from that disclosed in the Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment Environmental Impact Report (EIR),<sup>1</sup> which was certified by the California State Park and Recreation Commission in 2002.<sup>2</sup> Transportation and traffic at the refined project site were evaluated with regard to the Congestion Management Plan for the County<sup>3</sup> and the County General Plan.<sup>4</sup>

The potential for the refined project to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to transportation and traffic was evaluated in relation to six questions recommended for consideration by Appendix G of the State California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines.<sup>5</sup>

Would the refined project have any of the following effects:

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

The refined project would not be expected to create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to transportation and traffic in relation to conflicting with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including, but not limited to, intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit. Existing traffic conditions at the refined project site were characterized in the certified EIR. The existing traffic load and capacity of the street system in the refined project area are being operated at a level of service (LOS) F in both AM and PM peak hours. As the refined project would include construction and operation of four (4) fitness zones (one large and three small), concrete animal sculptures, and a new walking trail connecting the refined project site to the existing trails and a parking lot, the refined project would not be expected to generate any additional trips than those projected in the certified EIR. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to conflicting with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system.

<sup>1</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

<sup>2</sup> California State Park and Recreation Commission. 12 October 2002. *Minutes of the Meeting*. Los Angeles, CA. Available at: <http://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/843/files/10-12-02%20minutes%20draft.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> County of Los Angeles, Metropolitan Transit Authority. 1998. *Congestion Management Program*. Los Angeles, CA.

<sup>4</sup> County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning. 2007. *Los Angeles County Draft Preliminary General Plan*. Available at: [http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp\\_draft.pdf](http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp_draft.pdf)

<sup>5</sup> *California Code of Regulations*. Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Sections 15000–15387, Appendix G.

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

The refined project would not create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to transportation and traffic in relation to conflicting with an applicable congestion management program, including, but not limited to, level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways. The existing street system in the refined project area is currently being operated at the LOS F in both AM and PM peak hours. However, with project components, including fitness zones proposed by the refined project, it is not anticipated that the refined project would result in new or more adverse significant impacts to surrounding road or highway networks than those anticipated in the certified EIR. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to transportation and traffic related to conflicting with an applicable congestion management program or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways.

- (c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?

The refined project would not create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to transportation and traffic in relation to a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks. The refined project site is not in close proximity to any airports. The refined project site is located approximately 3.1 miles northeast of Los Angeles International Airport, approximately 5 miles southeast of the Santa Monica Airport, and approximately 9.9 miles northwest of the Compton/Woodley Airport. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to transportation and traffic related to a change in air traffic patterns, which would result in substantial safety risks.

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

The refined project would not create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to transportation and traffic in relation to substantially increasing hazards due to a design feature or incompatible uses. The refined project would not be expected to result in any modifications to the internal circulation system of the refined project area. There is no circulation modification element or roadway construction element included as one of the project components for the refined project that could potentially have a hazardous roadway design feature. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to transportation and traffic related to substantially increasing hazards due to a design feature.

- (e) Result in inadequate emergency access?

The refined project would not create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to transportation and traffic in relation to inadequate emergency access. The existing emergency access to and from the refined project site is currently being provided by the surrounding street systems, including La Brea Avenue from the east and Stocker Avenue from the south. La Brea Avenue can be accessed by Rodeo Road and Stocker Avenue, and Stock Avenue can be accessed by South La Cienega Boulevard and La Brea Avenue. It is anticipated that during construction and

operation of the refined project, the existing street system surrounding the refined project site would continue to provide adequate emergency access to and from the refined project site. In addition, all construction activities would be organized to avoid interruptions in any access/egress paths to and from the refined project site. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to transportation and traffic related to inadequate emergency access.

- f) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?

The refined project would not create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to transportation and traffic in relation to conflicting with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities. Although the refined project does not directly propose any type of transportation plan such as bus turnouts or bicycle racks, it would not be expected to conflict with alternative modes of transportation encouraged by the County General Plan, as the refined project would be operated and maintained as a family-friendly recreational area with a new walking trail connecting the refined project site with an existing parking lot for visitors. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to a conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities.

### 3.17 UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS

This analysis is undertaken to determine if the Kenneth Hahn Eastern Ridgeline Project (refined project) would result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts in relation to utilities and service systems from that disclosed in the Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area (KHSRA) General Plan Amendment Environmental Impact Report (EIR),<sup>1</sup> which was certified by the California State Park and Recreation Commission in 2002.<sup>2</sup> Utilities and service systems at the refined project site were evaluated with regard to the County General Plan<sup>3</sup> and California Regional Water Quality Control Board (CRWQCB) Basin Plan for the Los Angeles region.

The potential for the refined project to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to utilities and service systems was evaluated in relation to seven questions recommended for consideration by Appendix G of the State California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines.<sup>4</sup>

Would the refined project have any of the following effects:

- (a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable regional water quality control board?

The refined project would not create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to utilities and service systems in relation to exceeding wastewater treatment requirements of the CRWQCB, Los Angeles Region. The refined project does not include project components such as bathroom facilities, plumbing installation, and connection to the existing sewer system, which would contribute to wastewater generation and require wastewater treatment. As described in Section 2.0, *Project Description*, of this Addendum to the EIR, the irrigation system at the refined project site would be used to water new plantings at the site and be removed and/or abandoned when the plants are established. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to utilities and service systems related to exceeding wastewater treatment requirements of the CRWQCB, Los Angeles region.

- (b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?

The refined project would not create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts requiring or resulting in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities. The refined project does not include project components that require a plumbing system or use of the existing sewer system. Thus, the refined project would not require construction of any wastewater treatment facilities. Although new plantings at the refined project site may be watered by the surface irrigation system, this system would be stopped for use and removed and/or abandoned when the plants are established. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in

<sup>1</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

<sup>2</sup> California State Park and Recreation Commission. 12 October 2002. *Minutes of the Meeting*. Los Angeles, CA. Available at: <http://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/843/files/10-12-02%20minutes%20draft.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning. 2007. *Los Angeles County Draft Preliminary General Plan, Safety Element*. Available at: [http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp\\_draft.pdf](http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gp_draft.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> *California Code of Regulations*. Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Sections 15000-15387, Appendix G.

new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to utilities and service systems related to expansion or construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities.

- (c) Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts?

The refined project would not create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to utilities and service systems related to construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities. Impervious surfaces<sup>5</sup> increase runoff and could result in runoff that exceeds the capacity of the existing drainage system.<sup>6</sup> However, there would not be an overall net change to the amount of total impervious surface area. Native and/or drought-tolerant plants would be used for landscaping and would help capture any water runoff. In addition, under each piece of fitness equipment, concrete animal sculptures, and bench, soil would be removed and filled with materials that would need to be approved by the refined project geotechnical engineer and be implemented in a manner that is consistent with the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) *Information Advisory, Clean Imported Fill Material*, dated October 2001, for soil chemistry screening parameters.<sup>7</sup> The backfilled materials approved by the geotechnical engineer would be expected to allow for water filtration. In constructing the new walking trail, soil would be removed and backfilled with materials also approved by the geotechnical engineer and consistent with DTSC guidance on imported fill materials. These measures are to provide an even surface for new equipment and a permeable surface that would allow for proper water drainage. Therefore, no contribution to an exceedance in runoff would be expected to result in an overall change in building coverage and paved areas for the refined project. Implementation of mitigation measures Hydrology-1 and Hydrology-2 specified in the certified EIR would be expected to reduce any potential impacts related to the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities to below the level of significance. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities to below the level of significance.

- (d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?

The refined project would not create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to having sufficient water supplies available to serve the refined project. The refined project does not include any project components, such as bathroom facilities, that would require the use of water. Water would only be needed for surface irrigation to establish new native plantings at the refined project site. When the plants are established, the irrigation system would be removed and/or abandoned, and no water would be used for irrigating these plants. Water consumed during

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<sup>5</sup> Storm water runoff is influenced by rainfall intensity, ground surface permeability, watershed size and shape, and physical barriers. The introduction of impermeable surfaces greatly reduces natural infiltration, allowing for a greater volume of runoff. In addition, paved surfaces and drainage conduits can accelerate the velocity of runoff, concentrating peak flows in downstream areas faster than under natural conditions. Significant increases to runoff and peak flow can overwhelm drainage systems and alter flood elevations in downstream locations. Finally, increased runoff velocity can promote scouring of existing drainage facilities, reducing system reliability and safety.

<sup>6</sup> Drainage structures installed to accommodate storm water flow for surface streets in Los Angeles County are sized to convey a 50-year flood event. This level of protection assumes that more severe storm events will cause temporary flooding, which is an acceptable risk for streets.

<sup>7</sup> Department of Toxic Substances Control. October 2001. *Information Advisory, Clean Imported Fill Material*. Available at: [http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/Schools/upload/SMP\\_FS\\_Cleanfill-Schools.pdf](http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/Schools/upload/SMP_FS_Cleanfill-Schools.pdf)



the construction phase of the refined project would be expected to be minimal since construction would only take approximately six (6) to eight (8) months.

The KHSRA is located at the peak of the Baldwin Hills where minimal surface recharge occurs naturally. The certified 2002 EIR concluded the following:<sup>8</sup>

Groundwater is not known to exist above 500 feet below ground surface, and rain that falls on the site runs off as surface water almost exclusively. Although increased impervious surfaces could accelerate peak runoff, no impacts to groundwater recharge would be expected. In addition, groundwater quality in the hills is naturally poor, and since little groundwater recharge is known to occur, the potential for any on-site contamination to reach the groundwater from surface or shallow-subsurface uses is unlikely.

Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level. No new or expanded entitlements would be required to provide sufficient water as a result of the refined project. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to sufficient water supplies.

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

The refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to the wastewater treatment provider's capacity to serve the project within existing commitments. According to the certified EIR, a small increase in demand for wastewater treatment may occur due to increased use of the park as a whole; however, this increase would not exceed the wastewater treatment requirements of the CRWQCB, Los Angeles region. In fact, implementation of management actions suggested in the certified EIR, including construction of compost toilets where practicable, use of reclaimed water for all surface irrigation, and other non-potable water uses would offset the need for wastewater treatment. In addition, there would be no toilet at the refined project site, and water would only be used for a short period of time for watering new native and/or drought-tolerant plantings until they are established. Once the plants are established, the irrigation system would be removed. The quality of storm water runoff is regulated under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. The NPDES storm water permit (CAS614001, Order No. 1-182) issued to the County provides a mechanism for establishing appropriate controls and monitoring discharge of pollutants to the storm water runoff system. The County requires all development projects within its jurisdiction on sites of 1 acre or larger to comply with the NPDES requirements for construction and operations as appropriate. The development area of the refined project has the potential to affect more than one acre; therefore, it may be subject to compliance with the County's NPDES permit. With likelihood to generate a small amount of wastewater and the compliance with the NPDES permit, the refined project would not be expected to generate wastewater that would exceed the wastewater treatment provider's capacity. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or

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<sup>8</sup> State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation. June 2002. *Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area General Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Report*. Available at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=21767](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21767)

substantially more adverse significant impacts related to the wastewater treatment provider's capacity to serve the project within existing commitments.

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

The refined project would not create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to utilities and service systems related to being served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to serve the refined project site. According to the certified EIR, increased use of the 387-acre KHSRA as a recreational area would generate additional solid waste, but the increase is relatively small compared to the total landfill capacity serving the region. Landfills serving the region would easily accommodate the park's solid waste disposal needs. The development area of the refined project is anticipated to affect less than 5 acres and would include operation of fitness zones, concrete animal sculptures, and a new walking trail. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts related to a landfill with sufficient space to accommodate the refined project's waste disposal needs.

- (g) Comply with Federal, State, and Local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?

The refined project would not create new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to utilities and service systems in relation to compliance with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste. The certified EIR complies with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste. As part of its mandate to maximize the long-term sustainability of park resources, the certified EIR suggested recycling of green waste and other recyclable products. In addition, the certified EIR recommends that all park facilities, gardens, landscaped areas, picnic areas, parking lots, buildings, and other visitor-serving uses within the KHSRA be equipped with recycling and trash bins. As stated in Section 2.0 of this Addendum to the EIR, the refined project would include trash receptacles and implementation of recycling programs during construction and operation. Therefore, the refined project would not be expected to result in new or substantially more adverse significant impacts to utilities and service systems related to compliance with federal, state, and local statutes regulating solid waste.

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**ATTACHMENT C**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

**AUTHORIZING THE SUBMITTAL OF AN APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDS  
FOR THE KENNETH HAHN EASTERN RIDGELINE PROJECT, UNDER THE CLEAN  
WATER, CLEAN AIR, SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS, AND COASTAL PROTECTION  
BOND ACT OF 2002**

**WHEREAS**, the people of the State of California have enacted the Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhoods, and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2002, which provides funds for the Baldwin Hills Conservancy Grant Program; and

**WHEREAS**, the Baldwin Hills Conservancy has been delegated the responsibility for the administration of the grant project, and setting up necessary procedures; and

**WHEREAS**, said procedures established by the Baldwin Hills Conservancy require the Grantee to certify by resolution the approval of application(s) before submission of said application(s) to the State; and

**WHEREAS**, the County of Los Angeles, as Grantee, will enter into a contract with the Baldwin Hills Conservancy for subject project(s);

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors hereby:

1. Approves the filing of an application for local assistance for the above project; and
2. Certifies that the County of Los Angeles, as Grantee, understands the assurances and certification in the application form; and
3. Certifies that Grantee has or will have sufficient funds to operate and maintain the project; and
4. Certifies that Grantee has reviewed and understands the General Provisions contained in the Project Contract shown in the Procedural Guide; and
5. Appoints the Chief Executive Officer, as agent to conduct all negotiations, execute and submit all documents, including, but not limited to applications, agreements, payment requests and so on, which may be necessary for the completion of the aforementioned project.

Approved and Adopted on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of September 2010.

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted by the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors following a roll call vote:



Am Tal

DEPUTY

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

ANDREA SHERIDAN ORDIN  
County Counsel

By [Signature]

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