Section 5: OTHER CEQA REQUIRED TOPICS

5.0 LONG-TERM IMPLICATIONS OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT

5.1 CEQA REQUIREMENTS

Section 15126.2 (b) of the CEQA Guidelines requires that an EIR discuss any significant impacts associated with the Project.

Chapter 3, *Environmental Analysis*, of this Draft EIR, describes the potential environmental impacts of the proposed Project and recommends mitigation measures to reduce impacts to a less than significant level, where feasible. Chapter 1, *Executive Summary*, contains Table 1-3, which summarizes the impacts, mitigation measures, and levels of significance before and after mitigation.

5.2 SIGNIFICANT AND UNAVOIDABLE IMPACTS

Section 15162(b) of the CEQA Guidelines requires an EIR to discuss the significant environmental effects of a proposed project that cannot be avoided if the proposed project is implemented, including those which can be mitigated, but not reduced to a less than significant level. These impacts are referred to as "significant and unavoidable impacts" of a project. More information on these impacts is found in Section Chapter 4 of this Draft EIR. The only potentially significant impact that could not be reduced to less than significance with implementation of mitigation measures is related to vibration from construction equipment in close proximity to residences and schools. This is because vibration from large construction equipment is really only mitigated and reduced by distance from the sensitive receptor.

Noise

Impact 4.10-4: **The proposed Project would result in a significant vibration impacts from construction equipment to residences along the northern boundary and schools along the southwest boundary of EMJ Park. This impact would be *significant and unavoidable.***

Recreation

Impact 4.12-2 **Implementation of the Project includes the expansion of a recreational facility and construction of additional amenities which will have an adverse physical effect on the environment. This impact would be *significant and unavoidable.***

5.3 PROJECT IMPACTS

Implementation of the proposed Project would require the long-term commitment of land and natural resources; however, because proposed environmental conditions would be similar to those currently existing on the Project site, the significance of impacts is limited. Significant and unavoidable impacts are listed below:

- Construction of the proposed Project would require the use of water, timber, steel, sand, gravel, and other minerals and natural resources. Although these uses are not considered an unusual demand for these resources during construction, they nonetheless represent an incremental increase in demand for nonrenewable resources.
- Nonrenewable energy sources such as oil would be used during construction and subsequent operations of the Project; and
- Heavy machinery would be used during construction, resulting in proportionate air emissions and noise levels.

Once the average 50-to-100 year life span of the Project is reached, it is probable that the site would continue to support urban recreational uses because the Quit Claim Deed transferring the land to the County identified that the Project site is to be used as a public park and recreation area. The large investment of capital resources that would be expended on the Project site, including park design, infrastructure, and amenities would likely continue beyond the average life span of the Project. Consequently, the Project would largely commit the Project site to similar uses in the future.

Construction and implementation of the proposed Project would commit energy, labor, and building materials. This commitment would be commensurate with that of other Projects of similar nature and magnitude. Energy, labor, and building materials would

also be committed to the construction of buildings and infrastructure necessary to support the redevelopment of the existing EMJ Park. Ongoing maintenance of the Project site would entail a long-term commitment of energy resources in the form of natural gas and electricity. This commitment of energy, labor, and building materials would be a long-term obligation, because once the Project site has been developed, it is highly unlikely that the land could be returned to its original condition. A more in-depth discussion of energy impacts is continued below in Section 5.5, *Energy Conservation*.

5.4 SIGNIFICANT AND IRREVERSIBLE ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGES

Section 15126.2(c) of the CEQA Guidelines requires an EIR to discuss the significant irreversible environmental changes that would result from implementation of a proposed project. Examples include: primary or secondary impacts of the project that would generally commit future generations to similar uses (e.g., highway improvements that would provide access to a previously inaccessible area); uses of nonrenewable resources during the initial and continued phases of the project (because a large commitment of such resources make removal or nonuse thereafter unlikely); and/or, irreversible damage that could result from any potential environmental accidents associated with the project. The Project would not result in an unusually high demand for nonrenewable resources. As the Project site is already developed as a public park the proposed redevelopment and additional amenities will not result in a substantial change in type of use of the site or effects on the surrounding urban areas.

5.5 ENERGY CONSERVATION

Public Resources Code Section 21100(b)(3) and CEQA Guidelines Appendix F requires a description (where relevant) of the wasteful, inefficient, and unnecessary consumption of energy caused by a project. In 1975, the California State Legislature adopted Assembly Bill 1575 (AB 1575) in response to the oil crisis of the 1970s. Appendix F of the CEQA Guidelines provides guidance for assessing potential impacts that a project could have on energy supplies, focusing on the goal of conserving energy by ensuring that projects use energy wisely and efficiently. Because Appendix F does not include specific

significance criteria, this threshold is based on the goal of Appendix F. Therefore, an energy impact is considered significant if the proposed project would:

> *Develop land uses and patterns that cause wasteful, inefficient, and unnecessary consumption of energy or construct new or retrofitted buildings that would have excessive energy requirements for daily operation.*

5.5.1 PROJECT ENERGY CONSUMPTION

In July 2014, the County adopted the *Community Climate Action Plan* (CCAP) to reduce and avoid GHG emissions associated with community activities in the unincorporated areas of the County. The CCAP addresses emissions from community activities in the following sectors: building energy, transportation, water conveyance and wastewater processing, and waste generation. The CCAP establishes a GHG reduction target from community activities in the unincorporated areas of the County by at least 11 percent below 2010 levels by 2020. The County has set a target consistent with the State's efforts to reduce GHG emissions, and provides a roadmap for successfully implementing GHG reduction measures selected by the County. This CCAP describes the County's plan for achieving this goal, including specific strategy areas for each of the major emissions sectors, and provides details on the 2010 and projected 2020 emissions in the unincorporated areas. The actions outlined in the CCAP tie the County's existing climate change initiatives together, and provide a blueprint for a more sustainable future. The CCAP actions are closely tied to many of the goals, policies, and programs of the *General Plan*, as well as to several other existing programs in the County. Furthermore, the CCAP satisfies the County's goals of meeting the recommendations for local governments in the Scoping Plan of AB 32, California's Global Warming Solutions Act.

Energy consumption emissions were calculated using CalEEMod and Project-specific land use data. Electricity would be provided to the Project site via the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power. The Project would indirectly result in a net increase of 5,330.96 $MTCO_2eq$/year due to energy consumption.

The proposed Project would implement various Project design features consistent with the CCAP measures and Green LA goals and actions. Therefore, the proposed Project would help implement the CCAP and Green LA, and would not conflict with an adopted plan, policy, or regulation pertaining to GHGs. The Project design features are also consistent with the CCAP measures and Green LA goals and actions, and would reduce operational-related GHG emissions. In addition, the Project would be subject to applicable federal, state, and local regulatory requirements, further reducing Project-related GHG emissions. The proposed Project would not hinder the State's GHG reduction goals established by AB 32 and other strategies to help reduce GHG emissions. Therefore, a less than significant impact would occur in this regard.

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