

AEROJET GROUNDWATER EXTRACTION AND TREATMENT KA PROJECT

Mitigated Negative Declaration



City of Rancho Cordova
2729 Prospect Park Drive
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

January 2007



2729 Prospect Park Drive
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670
(916) 851-8700
Fax (916) 851-8787
www.cityofranhocordova.org

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT
A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION/INITIAL STUDY FOR
AEROJET GET KA, PROJECT RC-06-232**

January 19, 2007

LEAD AGENCY: City of Rancho Cordova Planning Department
Ben Ritchie, 916-361-8384
2729 Prospect Park Drive
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

PROJECT TITLE: Aerojet GET KA

PROJECT LOCATION: The proposed project would construct a groundwater treatment facility at 10555 Coloma Road, within the City of Rancho Cordova. Extraction wells would be located at the intersection of Zinfandel Drive and Cordova Lane, and at Rossmoor Bar where Rossmoor Drive meets the American River Parkway. Collection pipelines would be installed under City streets to connect the extraction wells to the treatment facility. Discharge pipelines would convey the treated water from the treatment facility to a discharge point within the American River Parkway.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The proposed project would require the approval of a tentative parcel map, conditional use permit, and design review. The project would divide an existing 10-acre parcel into a 9.2-acre parcel occupied by the Cordova Church of Christ and a 0.8-acre parcel for the proposed treatment facility. A conditional use permit would allow the treatment of the extracted groundwater within residential zoning. A design review is required for the proposed 8,500 square foot treatment facility.

FINDINGS/DETERMINATION: The City has reviewed and considered the proposed project and has determined that the project will not have a significant effect on the environment, with substantial supporting evidence provided in the Initial Study. The City hereby prepares and proposes to adopt a **Mitigated Negative Declaration** for this project.

PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD: A 30 day public review period for the Mitigated Negative Declaration/Initial Study will commence on **January 19, 2007** and will end on **February 20, 2007** for interested individuals and public agencies to submit written comments on the document. Any written comments on the Mitigated Negative Declaration/Initial Study should be sent to the attention of Ben Ritchie and must be received at the above address by **5:00 PM on February 20, 2007**. Copies of the Mitigated Negative Declaration/Initial Study are available for review at Rancho Cordova City Hall at 2729 Prospect Park Drive in Rancho Cordova and online at www.cityofranhocordova.org.

PUBLIC MEETING: This project is scheduled to be heard before the Rancho Cordova City Council on **March 5, 2007**.

MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION
FOR
AEROJET GROUNDWATER EXTRACTION
AND TREATMENT KA PROJECT
CITY OF RANCHO CORDOVA, CALIFORNIA



Prepared by:

THE CITY OF RANCHO CORDOVA
2729 Prospect Park Drive
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670
Phone 916.851.8750
Fax 916.851.8762

JANUARY 2007

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction and Regulatory Guidance 1.0-1
 1.2 Lead Agency 1.0-5
 1.3 Purpose and Organization of the Document 1.0-5
 1.4 Regulatory Framework and Assumptions..... 1.0-6

2.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

2.1 Project Location.....2.0-1
 2.2 Existing Conditions.....2.0-1
 2.3 Special Planning Area2.0-1
 2.4 Project Background and Purpose.....2.0-2
 2.5 Project Characteristics2.0-3
 2.6 Required Project Approvals.....2.0-4

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

3.1 Introduction.....3.0-1
 3.2 Initial Environmental Study3.0-1
 I Aesthetics3.0-5
 II Agricultural Resources3.0-7
 III Air Quality3.0-9
 IV Biological Resources3.0-12
 V Cultural Resources3.0-18
 VI Geology and Soils3.0-22
 VII Hazards and Hazardous Materials3.0-26
 VIII Hydrology and Water Quality.....3.0-30
 IX Land Use and Planning3.0-35
 X Mineral Resources3.0-37
 XI Noise3.0-38
 XII Population and Housing3.0-41
 XIII Public Services.....3.0-42
 XIV Recreation3.0-44
 XV Transportation and Traffic3.0-45
 XVI Utilities and Service Systems3.0-48
 XVII Mandatory Findings of Significance3.0-51

4.0 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

4.1 Introduction.....4.0-1
 4.2 Cumulative Setting4.0-1
 4.3 Previous Cumulative Analysis within the Cumulative Setting.....4.0-1
 4.4 Cumulative Impact Analysis4.0-2

5.0 DETERMINATION

6.0 REPORT PREPARATION AND CONSULTATIONS

6.1 Report Preparation6.0-1
 6.2 Persons and Agencies Consulted6.0-1

TABLE OF CONTENTS

7.0 REFERENCES

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 INTRODUCTION AND REGULATORY GUIDANCE

This document is an Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) prepared pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the proposed Aerojet GET KA project (hereafter referred to as “the proposed project”). This MND has been prepared in accordance with the CEQA, Public Resources Code Sections 21000 et seq., and the State CEQA Guidelines.

An Initial Study is conducted by a lead agency to determine if a project may have a significant effect on the environment. In accordance with the CEQA Guidelines, Section 15064, an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) must be prepared if the Initial Study indicates that the proposed project under review may have a potentially significant impact on the environment. A negative declaration may be prepared instead, if the lead agency prepares a written statement describing the reasons why a proposed project would not have a significant effect on the environment, and, therefore, why it does not require the preparation of an EIR (CEQA Guidelines Section 15371). According to CEQA Guidelines Section 15070, a negative declaration shall be prepared for a project subject to CEQA when either:

- (a) *The Initial Study shows there is no substantial evidence, in light of the whole record before the agency, that the proposed project may have a significant effect on the environment, or*
- (b) *The Initial Study identified potentially significant effects, but:*
 - (1) *Revisions in the project plans or proposals made by or agreed to by the applicant before the proposed negative declaration is released for public review would avoid the effects or mitigate the effects to a point where clearly no significant effects would occur, and*
 - (2) *There is no substantial evidence, in light of the whole record before the agency, that the proposed project as revised may have a significant effect on the environment.*

If revisions are adopted into the proposed project in accordance with the CEQA Guidelines Section 15070(b), a Mitigated Negative Declaration is prepared. This document includes such revisions in the form of mitigation measures. Therefore, this document is a Mitigated Negative Declaration and incorporates all of the elements of an Initial Study. Hereafter this document is referred to as an MND.

The City Council certified the Rancho Cordova General Plan EIR (GP-EIR) on June 26, 2006 (State Clearinghouse Number 2005022137). The GP-EIR was prepared as a Program EIR pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15168. According to Section 15168(a):

- (a) *General. A program EIR is an EIR which may be prepared on a series of actions that can be characterized as on large project and are related either:*
 - (1) *Geographically,*
 - (2) *As logical parts in the chain of contemplated actions,*

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- (3) *In connection with issuance of rules, regulations, plans, or other general criteria to govern the conduct of a continuing program, or*
- (4) *As individual activities carried out under the same authorizing statutory or regulatory authority and having generally similar environmental effects which can be mitigated in similar ways.*

The GP-EIR was intended to evaluate the environmental impacts of the General Plan to the greatest extent possible. The Program EIR is used as the primary environmental document to evaluate all subsequent planning and permitting actions associated with projects in the City. State CEQA Guidelines Section 15168(c) establishes the requirement that the Lead Agency (the City) determine if subsequent projects require additional environmental analysis. According to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15168(c), additional review is required:

- (1) *If a later activity would have effects that were not examined in the program EIR, a new initial study would need to be prepared leading to either an EIR or negative declaration.*

In addition to the rules governing the preparation and use of Program EIRs, other provisions of CEQA govern site-specific review of the proposed project. Public Resources Code Section 21083.3 limits CEQA review of certain projects consistent with an approved general plan, community plan, or zoning action for which an EIR was prepared to environmental effects that are "peculiar" to the parcel or to the project and which were not addressed as significant effects in a prior EIR, or which new information shows will be more significant than described in the prior EIR. The proposed project is a qualified project pursuant to Section 21083.3(a-b), which states:

- (a) *If a parcel has been zoned to accommodate a particular density of development or has been designated in a community plan to accommodate a particular density of development and an Environmental Impact Report was certified for that zoning or planning action, the application of this division to the approval of any subdivision map or other project that is consistent with the zoning or community plan shall be limited to effects upon the environment which are peculiar to the parcel or to the project and which were not addressed as significant effects in the prior Environmental Impact Report, or which substantial new information shows will be more significant than described in the prior Environmental Impact Report.*
- (b) *If a development project is consistent with the general plan of a local agency and an Environmental Impact Report was certified with respect to that general plan, the application of this division to the approval of that development project shall be limited to effects on the environment which are peculiar to the parcel or to the project and which were not addressed as significant effects in the prior Environmental Impact Report, or which substantial new information shows will be more significant than described in the prior Environmental Impact Report.*

The proposed project was generally described in the GP-EIR. However, specific information about the proposed project was not known at the time of the preparation of the GP-EIR and the project-specific impacts resulting from implementation of the proposed project were not fully identified or mitigated in the GP-EIR. Therefore, additional analysis and potential mitigation of the environmental effects of the proposed project are required. State CEQA Guidelines Section

15183 provides guidance as to the scope of this subsequent analysis. State CEQA Guidelines Section 15183 states:

- (a) *CEQA mandates that projects which are consistent with the development density established by existing zoning, community plan, or general plan policies for which an EIR was certified shall not require additional environmental review, except as might be necessary to examine whether there are project-specific significant effects which are peculiar to the project or its site. This streamlines the review of such projects and reduces the need to prepare repetitive environmental studies.*
- (b) *In approving a project meeting the requirements of this section, a public agency shall limit its examination of environmental effects to those, which the agency determines, in an Initial Study or other analysis:*
 - (1) *Are peculiar to the project or the parcel on which the project would be located.*
 - (2) *Were not analyzed as significant effects in a prior EIR on the zoning action, general plan, or community plan, with which the project is consistent.*
 - (3) *Are potentially significant off-site impacts and cumulative impacts which were not discussed in the prior EIR prepared for the general plan, community plan or zoning action, or*
 - (4) *Are previously identified significant effects which, as a result of substantial new information which was not known at the time the EIR was certified, are determined to have a more severe adverse impact than discussed in the prior EIR.*

This Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration addresses project-specific impacts that were not fully addressed in the GP-EIR. Additionally, this IS/MND summarizes the findings of the City relating to the GP- EIR and how the criteria set forth in Guidelines Section 15183 have been met.

The GP-EIR analyzed the environmental effects of the General Plan and the twelve policy elements and the Land Use Map “implementation element”. The twelve policy elements concentrated on providing policy guidance in the following areas:

- Land Use
- Urban Design
- Economic Development
- Housing
- Circulation
- Open Space, Parks, and Trails
- Infrastructure, Services, and Finance
- Natural Resources
- Cultural and Historic Resources
- Safety
- Air Quality
- Noise

The GP-EIR included discussion of known contamination of groundwater resources as a result of historic rocket testing operations (and similar actions) by Aerojet on undeveloped portions of the City. It was assumed in the GP-EIR that cleanup actions such as the proposed project would occur over the life of the General Plan. However, the specific aspects and characteristics of such cleanup operations were not known at the time of the adoption of the GP-EIR and

1.0 INTRODUCTION

actions such as the proposed project are only generally described in the General Plan and the GP-EIR.

In adopting the General Plan and certifying the GP-EIR as complete and adequate, the City Council adopted findings of fact and a statement of overriding considerations for those impacts that could not be mitigated to less than significant levels.

Impacts deemed in the GP-EIR to be significant and unavoidable:

- Conflicts with applicable land use plans.
- Various impacts on agricultural land.
- Conflicts with Williamson Act contracts.
- Substantial population, housing, and employment growth.
- Deficient traffic level of service by 2030.
- Worsening of already unacceptable operations on US-50.
- Conflicts with the Regional Ozone Attainment Plan.
- Significant construction-based pollutant emissions.
- Significant operational pollutant emissions.
- Significant emissions of Toxic Air Contaminants.
- Creation of construction, traffic, and operational noise above standards.
- Creation of new noise-sensitive land uses within airport noise areas.
- Loss of availability of aggregate resources.
- Impacts on water supply (both availability of water and infrastructure required).
- Impacts to habitat and individuals of special status species.
- Impacts to raptors, migratory birds, and other wildlife.
- Impacts to jurisdictional waters of the U.S.
- Impacts to animal movement corridors.
- Loss of native and landmark trees.
- Disturbance of cultural resources and human remains.
- Environmental impacts resulting from the need for more wastewater infrastructure.
- Degradation of the existing visual character of the area.

The GP-EIR also identified several cumulative impacts that would be cumulatively considerable and significant and unavoidable. Those impacts included:

- Conflicts with area land use plans.
- Conversion of farmland to other uses and agricultural/urban interface conflicts.
- Substantial population, housing, and employment growth.
- Significant impacts to area traffic level of service.
- Increases in regional ozone and particulate matter emissions.
- Increases in regional traffic and operational noise.
- Cumulative loss of mineral resources.
- Increased regional demand for water supply and need for water infrastructure.
- Cumulative loss of biological resources.
- Cumulative loss of cultural resources.
- Increases in wastewater treatment capacity and infrastructure.
- Changes in area visual character and landscape.

Detailed information regarding both the project impacts and cumulative impacts identified above is included in the GP-EIR. The GP-EIR is available online at <http://gp.cityofranhocordova.org> and on request at the City at the following address:

City of Rancho Cordova
Planning Department
2729 Prospect Park Drive
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

In accordance with State CEQA Guidelines Section 15183, a discussion of each of the impacts found to be significant in the GP-EIR and the relative impact of the proposed project in each of those categories is provided in this MND.

This MND hereby incorporates the GP-EIR by reference. The Rancho Cordova General Plan received final approval by the City Council on June 26, 2006. The City Council certified the GP-EIR as adequate and complete on that date as well. As noted above, the GP-EIR is a Program EIR and the discussions of general issues included in the document are in some cases applicable to the proposed project.

1.2 LEAD AGENCY

The lead agency is the public agency with primary responsibility over a proposed project. Where two or more public agencies will be involved with a project, State CEQA Guidelines Section 15051 provides criteria for identifying the lead agency. State CEQA Guidelines 15051(b) states:

- (b) If the project is to be carried out by a nongovernmental person or entity, the lead agency shall be the public agency with the greatest responsibility for supervising or approving the project as a whole.
 - (1) The lead agency will normally be the agency with the general governmental powers, such as a city or county, rather than an agency with a single or limited purpose such as an air pollution control district or a district which will provide public serve or public utility to the project.

The proposed project will require several entitlements by multiple agencies, including the City of Rancho Cordova, the County of Sacramento, the Regional Water Quality Control Board, and others. However, the majority of the proposed project is located within the incorporated boundaries of the City of Rancho Cordova. Additionally, primary entitlement of the proposed project lies within the jurisdiction of the City. As the project is to be carried out by a private manufacturing company and as the City of Rancho Cordova has general governmental powers over the proposed project, the lead agency for the proposed project is the City of Rancho Cordova.

1.3 PURPOSE AND ORGANIZATION OF THE DOCUMENT

The purpose of this Mitigated Negative Declaration is to evaluate the potential environmental impacts of the proposed project.

This document is divided into the following sections:

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- **1.0 Introduction** - Provides an introduction and describes the purpose and organization of this document.
- **2.0 Project Description** - Provides a detailed description of the proposed project.
- **3.0 Environmental Setting, Impacts and Mitigation Measures** - Describes the environmental setting for each of the environmental subject areas (as described in Appendix G of the State CEQA Guidelines), evaluates a range of impacts classified as “no impact,” “less than significant,” or “less than significant with mitigation incorporation” in response to the environmental checklist, and provides mitigation measures, where appropriate, to mitigate potentially significant impacts to a less than significant level.
- **4.0 Cumulative Impacts** - Provides a discussion of cumulative impacts of this project.
- **5.0 Determination** - Provides the environmental determination for the project.
- **6.0 Report Preparation and Consultations** - Identifies staff and consultants responsible for preparation of this document.
- **7.0 References** – Provides a list of references used to prepare the MND.

1.4 REGULATORY FRAMEWORK AND ASSUMPTIONS

The City of Rancho Cordova was incorporated July 1, 2003. At that time, the City adopted Sacramento County’s General Plan by reference until the formal adoption of its own General Plan. The City adopted the General Plan on June 26, 2006 and certified the Environmental Impact Report for the General Plan as adequate and complete at that time. The proposed project is subject to the policies and designations of the City of Rancho Cordova General Plan (hereafter referred to as the General Plan). Earlier draft versions of the General Plan are no longer valid and were not considered when determining the proposed project’s consistency with City Policies.

2.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

2.1 PROJECT LOCATION

The proposed project would construct a groundwater treatment facility at 10555 Coloma Road, within the City of Rancho Cordova. Extraction wells would be installed adjacent to the treatment facility, at the intersection of Zinfandel Drive and Cordova Lane, and at Rossmoor Bar where Rossmoor Drive meets the American River Parkway. Collection pipelines would be installed under City streets to connect the extraction wells to the treatment facility. A discharge pipeline would also be located under the City streets and would run from the treatment facility to a discharge point within the American River Parkway. The project location is shown in **Figure 1** and **Figure 2**. The locations of the treatment plant, the wells, the collection pipelines, and the discharge pipeline are shown in **Figure 3**.

Some minor modification in the locations of extraction wellheads and the associated collection pipelines may occur due to the condition and characteristics of the aquifer at the time of construction. If such a change occurs, the City will analyze any potential change in any impact or analysis as presented in this IS/MND and will determine at that time if subsequent analysis is required, pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15162.

2.2 EXISTING CONDITIONS

The proposed project is located almost entirely within a previously developed portion of the City. Only the portion of the discharge pipeline that lies within the American River Parkway would be located in an undeveloped area. Adjacent properties to the north of the proposed treatment plant location consist of existing residential housing. Residential housing also exists south of the proposed treatment plant location, across Coloma Road. The property to the west is currently vacant and zoned for residential use (RD-5). The property to the east consists of a neighborhood church and parking lot.

2.3 SPECIAL PLANNING AREA

WILLIAMSON RANCH SPECIAL PLANNING AREA

The proposed treatment plant location is within the Williamson Ranch Special Planning Area (SPA). The Williamson Ranch SPA is the last remaining portion of the Williamson family ranch established on the site in the 1850's. The SPA was adopted by the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors to allow for the eventual development of the project vicinity. One of the last portions of the SPA to be developed includes the site of the proposed treatment plant.

Development and performance standards were included in the SPA to ensure that residential and non-retail commercial development would be conducted in such a manner as to be compatible with the existing single-family residential neighborhood, while recognizing the aesthetic and historical value of the site.

The Williamson Ranch SPA expressly prohibits wholesale and retail sales. Specific development standards include the following:

- a) *The development shall not generate traffic above the amount that would be generated by residential development of ten dwelling units per acre.*
- b) *The minimum setback from Coloma Road shall be 25 feet. The area of the setback shall be fully landscaped with live landscaping.*

2.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

- c) *Buildings shall not exceed 30 feet in height (2 stories), except that no structure which abuts existing single family residential development along the north, west, and east boundaries of the Special Planning Area shall exceed one story in height.*
- d) *The development shall have a maximum of three vehicular access points onto Coloma Road and only single family residential traffic is permitted onto the presently abutting residential streets. Pedestrian access to Coloma Road shall be provided in a manner which minimizes walking distance to bus stops.*
- e) *A permanent all-weather marker shall be installed on the site indicating the historical value of the Williamson Ranch in the history of Rancho Cordova.*
- f) *If commercial uses are developed, only one monument sign, not to exceed eight (8) feet in height and 36 square feet in area, is permitted. (Rancho Cordova Zoning Code, Chapter 1, Article 14, Section 501-144)*

2.4 PROJECT BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

The Aerojet General Corporation site is located within approximately 5,900 acres of the northeastern portion of the City of Rancho Cordova Planning Area. Since 1953, Aerojet and its subsidiaries have manufactured liquid and solid propellant rocket fuels for military and commercial applications and have formulated a number of chemicals in the process. In addition, the Cordova Chemical Company operated chemical manufacturing facilities on the Aerojet complex from 1974 to 1979. Both companies disposed of unknown quantities of hazardous waste chemicals, including Trichloroethylene (TCE) and other chemicals associated with rocket propellants, as well as various chemical processing wastes. Some wastes were disposed of in surface impoundments, landfills, deep injection wells, leachate fields, and some were disposed of by open burning. (GP DEIR, p. 4.4-4)

Environmental investigations at the site began in 1979. Groundwater contamination has been defined in a number of discrete plumes that move out radially to the north, west, and south of the site. The major contaminants found both on and off the Aerojet site include solvents such as TCE and chloroform as well as rocket fuel by-products such as N-Nitrosodimethylamine (NDMA) and perchlorate. Aerojet installed and is operating five groundwater extraction and treatment (GET) systems on its property east of the City in order to prevent further offsite migration. (GP DEIR, p. 4.4-4) Aerojet also installed and operates seven additional treatment facilities located outside the Aerojet property (MacDonald, 2007).

The Aerojet site is an active Federal Superfund Site. In November 2000, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposed a plan to clean up the plume of groundwater contamination to the west of the Aerojet property (including the proposed project site and general vicinity) and to ensure continued safe water supplies for area residents. The EPA signed a Record of Decision in July 2001 to formally approve the cleanup plan for the former Aerojet site, called the Western Groundwater Operable Unit (WGOU) (GP DEIR, p. 4.4-11). Aerojet is required to perform remedial actions by the EPA's Region IX Unilateral Administrative Order (UAO) Docket No. 2002-13 (Aerojet, 2006). The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) and the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) concur and support the EPA's Unilateral Administrative Order (Aerojet, 2006). To that end, the RWQCB issued a Cleanup and Abatement Order requiring Aerojet to implement the WGOU remedy (MacDonald, 2007).

In June 2003, Aerojet sampled groundwater at Rossmoor Bar Park at the known edge of the contamination plume, to investigate a potential site for a new drinking water well to replace wells already lost to contamination in the Western Groundwater area. Analysis revealed that the groundwater under the Rossmoor Bar location was contaminated with NDMA. Additional evidence indicates the presence of TCE and perchlorate at other locations. Further sampling of existing wells showed that the NDMA plume extends northwest underneath the American River toward the southern edge of the community of Carmichael. (GP DEIR, p. 4.4-11)

The proposed project would extract contaminated groundwater at the leading edge of the plume in order to contain the migration of the plume to water supply wells down grade from the existing leading edge of the plume (MacDonald, 2006). While the contamination plume is migrating in a westerly and northerly direction, the proposed extraction wells are placed at the currently identified leading edge of the plume.

2.5 PROJECT CHARACTERISTICS

The proposed project would require approval of a tentative parcel map, conditional use permit, and design review by the City. The project would divide an existing 10-acre parcel into a 9.2-acre parcel occupied by the Cordova Church of Christ and a 0.8-acre parcel (see **Figure 4**). The proposed project would construct a groundwater treatment plant on the 0.8 acre parcel for the purpose of treating contaminated groundwater. With the exception of limited piping and other appurtenances, the treatment plant would be fully enclosed within a building (see **Figures 5 and 6**). The design of this building largely coordinates with the visual look of the adjoining church buildings. Existing or comparable six-foot fencing would be maintained with adjacent neighbors. The proposed treatment plant would be accessed by a new driveway to be installed on the parcel which would connect the project directly to Coloma Road and to the parking lot of the adjacent church through a cross-access easement. The proposed treatment plant would be surrounded by a decorative fence or wall and the property would be fully landscaped. A preliminary landscaping plan is provided on **Figure 7**.

Contaminated groundwater would be extracted from four wells to be installed as part of the proposed project, as well as one existing well. One new extraction well would be installed at the treatment plant, one near the intersection of Zinfandel Drive and Cordova Lane, and two wells would be installed at the Rossmoor Drive entrance to the American River Parkway. The existing well is located on the northwest corner of Zinfandel Drive and Cordova Lane, on property owned by St. Clement's Episcopal Church. All new wellheads would be located in pits, hiding them from view at street level. For a depiction of the well locations, see **Figure 3**.

Approximately 6,080 feet of collection pipeline would be installed in order to convey contaminated water from various extraction wells to the treatment plant. An additional 4,085 feet of discharge pipeline would be installed to convey treated water from the treatment plant to the American River. All pipelines would be installed underground, using methods and materials that meet or exceed current safety standards for water conveyance. The collection pipeline originating from the wells at the intersection of Zinfandel Drive and Cordova Lane would travel northwest to Coloma Road then southwest along Coloma Road to the proposed treatment plant. The collection pipeline from the wells on Rossmoor Drive would travel southeast along Rossmoor Drive to Georgetown Drive, then southwest along Georgetown Drive until it enters the Cordova Church of Christ property, where it would be conveyed to the treatment plant (see **Figure 3**).

2.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Once conveyed to the treatment plant, the extracted groundwater would be routed through a closed vessel system with various filtering media including:

- Influent Bag Filters to remove settleable material;
- Ion-Exchange Vessels to remove perchlorate;
- Granular Activated Carbon Filters to remove TCE;
- Ultra-Violet lights to destroy NDMA;
- Effluent Bag Filters to remove any fugitive filter media; and
- Gaseous CO₂ addition for pH control to meet State and Federal discharge limits.

The spent filter media would require replacement approximately every two to four months, depending on treatment plant volume. No human contact or handling of the spent filter media would occur during the replacement process. Spent filter media would be extracted through a system of hoses and piping. New filter media would be installed from a trailer to the filter vessel via hoses and piping. The spent filter media would not contain a high enough concentration of perchlorate or volatile organic compounds to classify the media as hazardous (MacDonald, 2006). The spent filter media would be collected by a State-licensed waste hauler and transported to a permitted off-site facility for disposal or recycling. The effluent water would be treated to discharge standards established by State and federal agencies that meet or exceed current drinking water standards.

Once treated at the treatment plant, the water would then be conveyed via a discharge pipeline to the American River. The discharge pipeline would be located in a common trench with the collection pipelines leading to the Rossmoor Drive wells until it turns southwest within the American River Parkway and runs behind the existing single-family residences along the Parkway. The discharge pipeline would drain into an existing storm drain within the American River Parkway which then leads directly to the American River. The locations of all pipelines, wells, and physical facilities associated with the proposed project are shown in **Figure 3**.

2.6 REQUIRED PROJECT APPROVALS

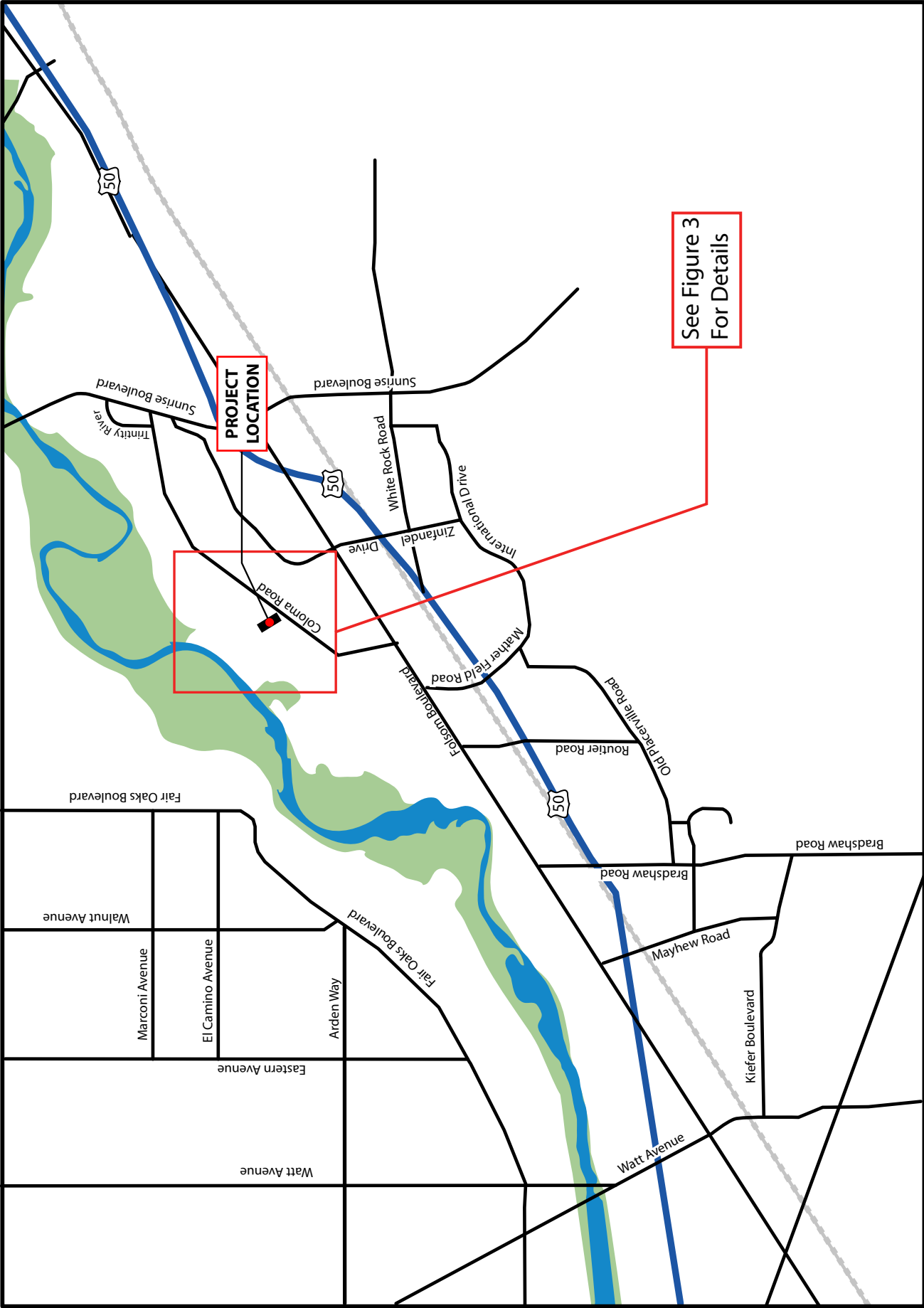
In addition to the approval of the proposed project by the City Council of the City of Rancho Cordova, the following agency approvals may be required (depending on the final project design):

1. California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG)
2. Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (CVRWQCB)
3. County Sanitation District (CSD-1)
4. Sacramento County Water Agency (SCWA) Zone 40
5. Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District (SMAQMD)
6. Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District (SMFD)
7. Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD)
8. Sacramento Resource Conservation District (SRCD)
9. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
10. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)
11. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

2.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

As the proposed project includes work in the American River Parkway, and planning services and permitting for the Parkway is provided by Sacramento County, the County is acting as a Responsible Agency for the proposed project. Additionally, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board must grant a discharge permit for the proposed project to cover the extraction of groundwater and the discharge of treated water into the American River. Therefore, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board is also acting as a Responsible Agency for the proposed project.

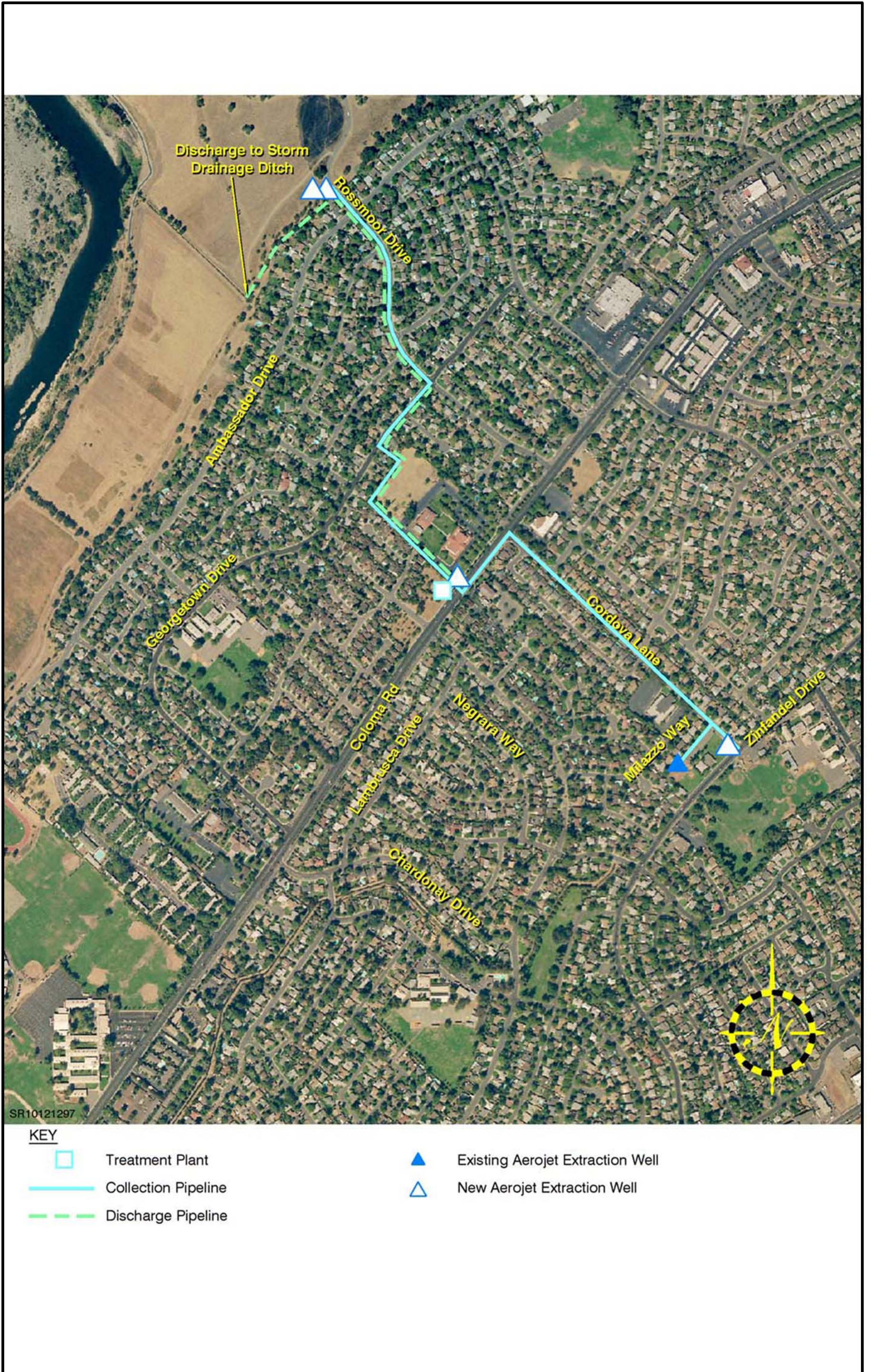




T:\Rancho Cordova\Aerofel GET\Graphic Development\Files\Figure 2.ai, January 2007

Figure 2
Project Location





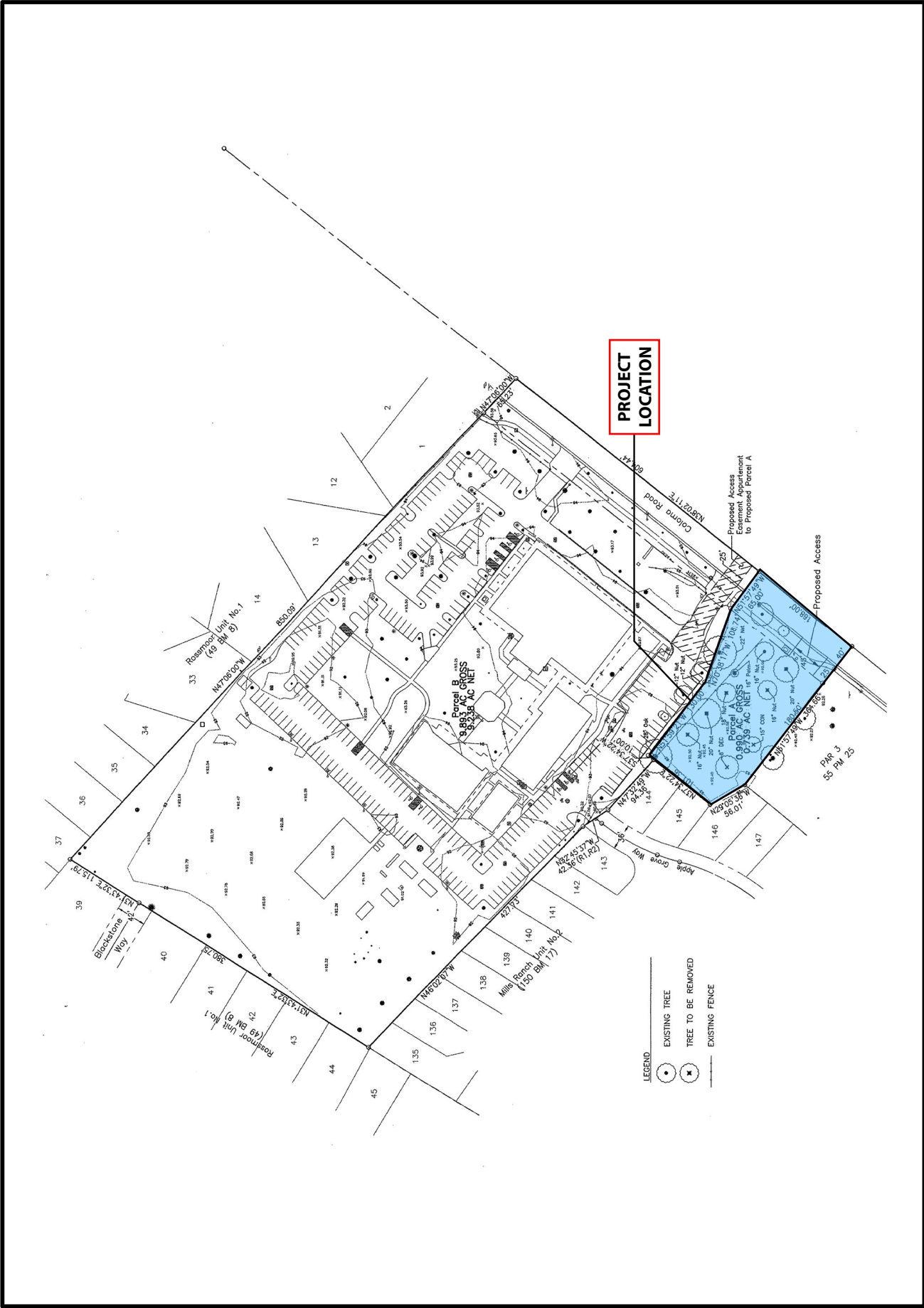
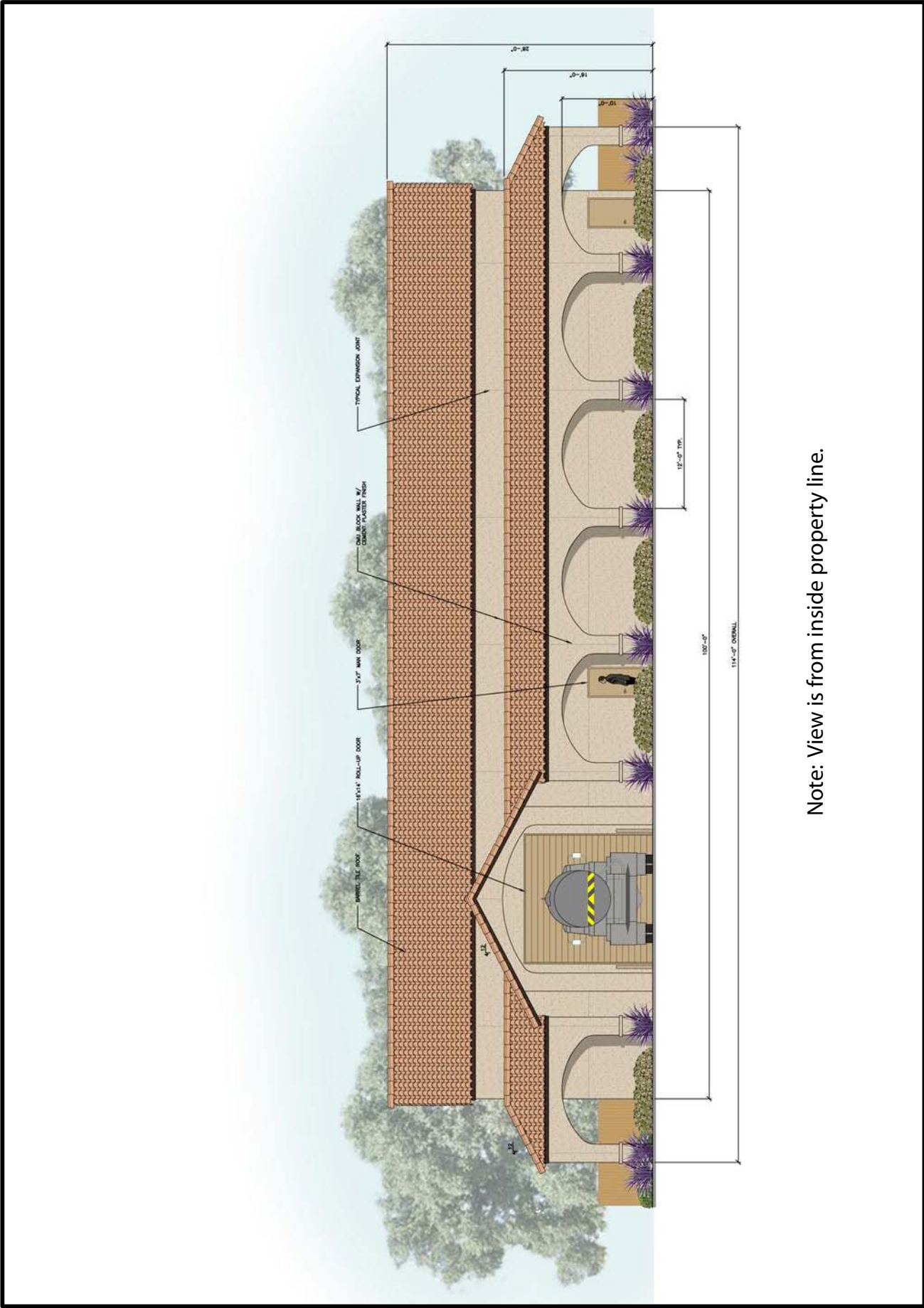


Figure 4
Tentative Parcel Map



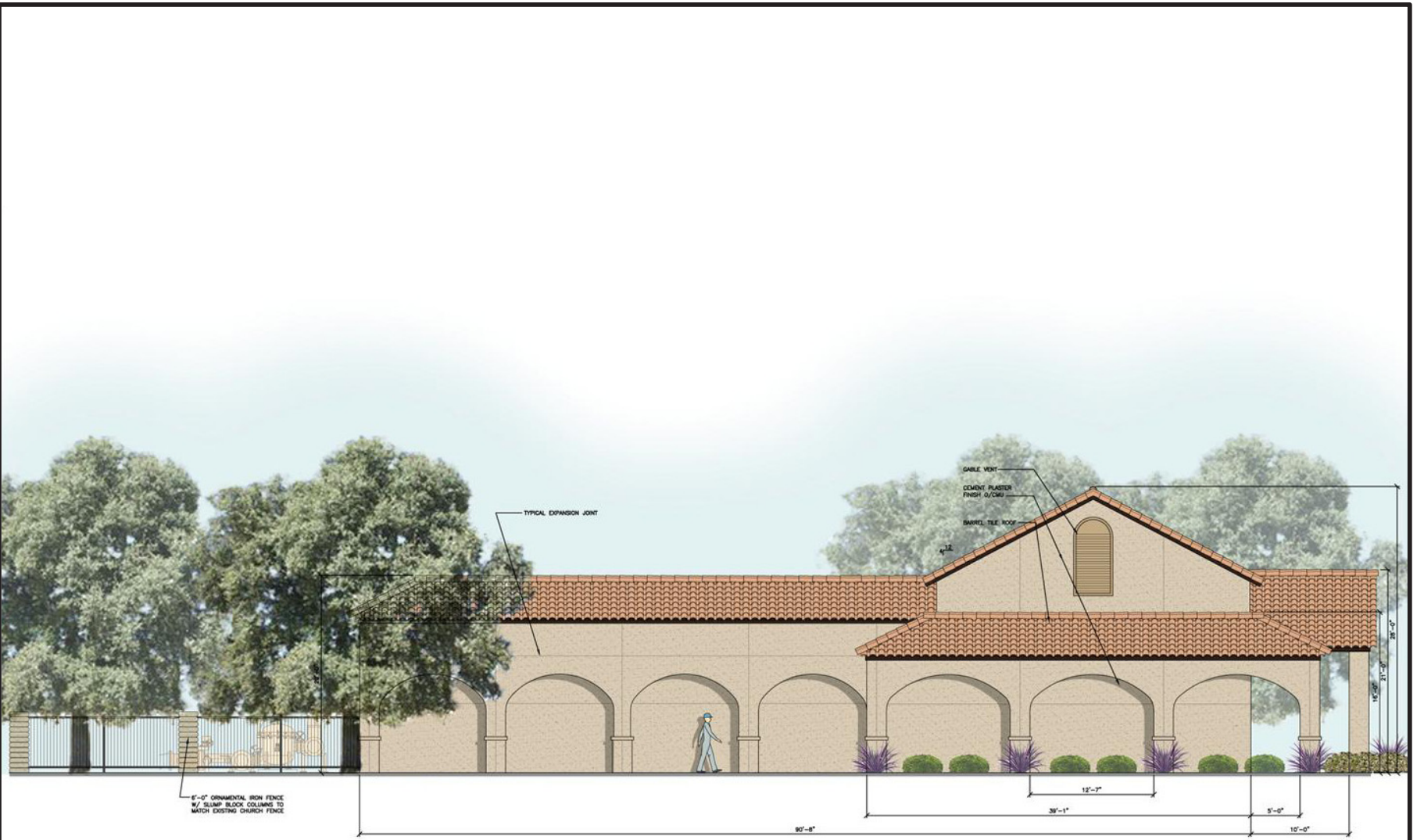


Note: View is from inside property line.



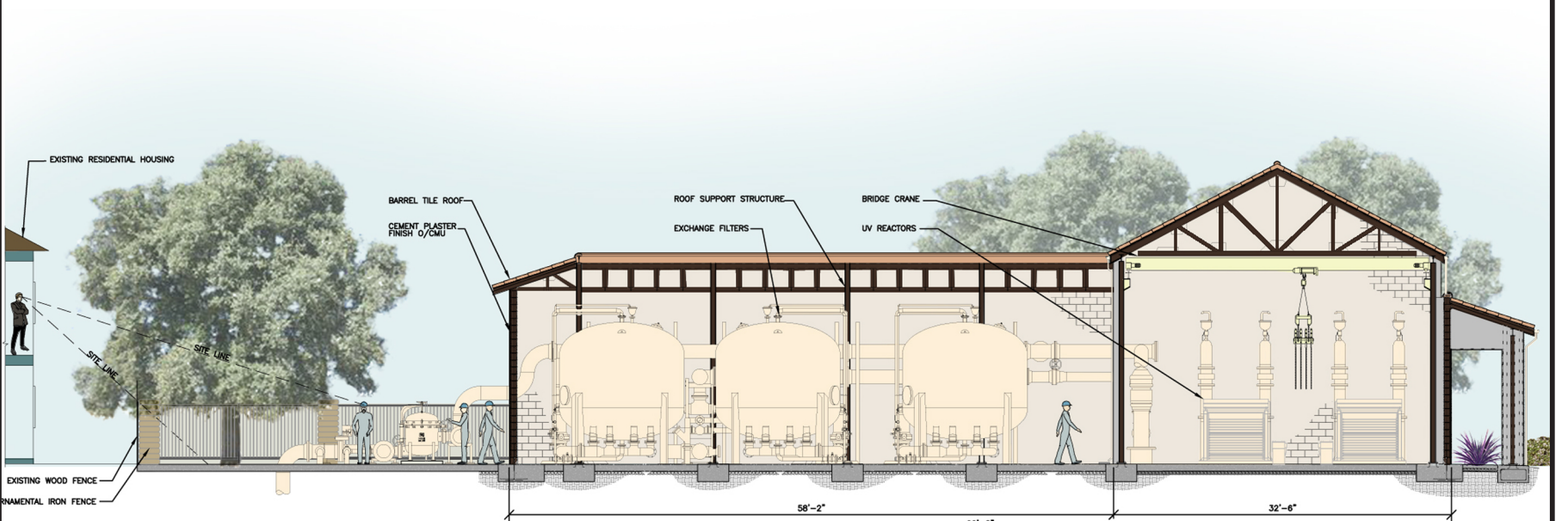
City of Rancho Cordova
Planning Department

Figure 5
Front Elevation



View from Studaras Dr.

Note: Does not include property fence



Cutaway View



PROPOSED PLANT LEGEND

TREES	SHRUBS	GROUND COVERS	WATER USE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RETANICAL/COMMON NYSSA SYLVATICA / SOUR OAK QUERCUS TLEX / HOLLY OAK 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RETANICAL/COMMON PHORUM TENAX "DAZZLER" / PHORUM PHORUM TENAX "BRONZE BABY" / PHORUM PHOTINA FRASERI "INDIAN PRINCESS" TM / INDIAN PRINCESS PHOTINA PITTIOSPORUM TORIBA "WHEELERS SWART" / "WHEELER'S SWART" PITTIOSPORUM RHAMNOLYPTIS INDICA "SALLERINA" / INDIAN HAWTHORNE RHAMNOLYPTIS INDICA "WHITE ENCHANTRESS" TM / "WHITE ENCHANTRESS" INDIAN HAWTHORNE XYLOSHA CONGESTUM "COMPACTA" / COMPACT XYLOSHA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RETANICAL/COMMON HYDRORUM PARVIFOLIUM / TRAILING HYDRORUM TRACHELOSPERUM JASMINOIDES / STAR JASMINE 6\"/> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MEDIUM MEDIUM MEDIUM MEDIUM MEDIUM MEDIUM MEDIUM MEDIUM MEDIUM LOW LOW HIGH NONE



City of Rancho Cordova
Planning Department

Figure 7
Preliminary Landscape Plan

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

3.1 INTRODUCTION

This section provides an evaluation of the potential environmental impacts of the proposed project, including the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Mandatory Findings of Significance. There are 16 specific environmental issues evaluated in this chapter. Cumulative impacts to these issues are evaluated in Section 4.0. The environmental issues evaluated in this chapter include:

- Aesthetics
- Agriculture
- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Geology and Soils
- Hazards & Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Land Use Planning
- Mineral Resources
- Noise
- Population and Housing
- Public Services
- Recreation
- Transportation/Circulation
- Utilities and Services Systems

For each issue area, one of four conclusions is made:

- **No Impact:** No project-related impact to the environment would occur with project development;
- **Less than Significant Impact:** The proposed project would not result in a substantial and adverse change in the environment. This impact level does not require mitigation measures;
- **Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporation:** The proposed project would result in an environmental impact or effect that is potentially significant, but the incorporation of mitigation measure(s) would reduce the project-related impact to a less than significant level; or,
- **Potentially Significant Impact:** The proposed project would result in an environmental impact or effect that is potentially significant. If there are one or more "Potentially Significant Impact" entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.
- **Reviewed Under Previous Document:** The impact has been addressed in previous environmental documents. The discussion will include reference to the previous documents and a summary of the findings of that previous document.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

3.2 INITIAL ENVIRONMENTAL STUDY

1. **Project Title:** Aerojet Groundwater Extraction and Treatment KA
2. **Lead Agency Name and Address:** City of Rancho Cordova
2729 Prospect Park Place
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670
3. **Contact Person and Phone Number:** Ben Ritchie (916) 361-8384
4. **Project Location:** See Section 2.1
5. **Project Sponsor's Name and Address:** Aerojet-General Corporation
Alan Jackson
P.O. Box 13222, M.S. 5519
Sacramento, CA 95813
6. **Current Zoning:** RD-5 (Residential)
7. **General Plan and Planning Area:** City of Rancho Cordova General Plan
Williamson Ranch SPA
Treatment Plant Site Designated for
Medium Density Residential
Pipelines Located in City Roadways and
Parks and Open Space
8. **APN Number(s):** 056-0011-010 (Treatment Plant)
9. **Description of the Project:** See Section 2.3 of this MND.
10. **Surrounding Land Uses and Setting:** See Section 2.2 of this MND.
11. **Other public agencies whose approval may be required:** (e.g., permits, financing approval, or participation agreement)
 - 1) California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG)
 - 2) Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (CVRWQCB)
 - 3) County Sanitation District (CSD-1)
 - 4) Sacramento County Water Agency (SCWA) Zone 40
 - 5) Sacramento County Planning and Community Development Department
 - 6) Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District (SMAQMD)
 - 7) Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District (SMFD)
 - 8) Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD)
 - 9) Sacramento Resource Conservation District (SRCD)
 - 10) U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
 - 11) U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
 - 12) U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by the project, involving at least one impact that is a “Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporation” as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics | <input type="checkbox"/> Hazards & Hazardous Materials | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural Resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hydrology/Water Quality | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality | <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use and Planning | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation/Traffic |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Utilities & Service Systems |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Noise | <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of Significance |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Geology and Soils | <input type="checkbox"/> Population and Housing | |

PURPOSE OF THIS INITIAL STUDY

This Initial Study has been prepared consistent with CEQA Guidelines Section 15063, to determine if the Aerojet Groundwater Extraction and Treatment KA project (hereafter referred to as the “proposed project”), as proposed, may have a significant effect upon the environment. This document incorporates both an Initial Study and a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND). The discussion below demonstrates that there are no potentially significant impacts identified that cannot be mitigated to a less than significant level or impacts that have not been fully addressed under a previous environmental document. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is not warranted.

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

- 1) A brief explanation is required for all answers except “*No Impact*” answers that are adequately supported by the information sources cited. A “*No Impact*” answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to a project like the one involved (e.g. the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A “*No Impact*” answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards.
- 2) All answers must take account of the whole action involved, including off-site as well as on-site, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect, and construction as well as operational impacts.
- 3) A “*Less than Significant Impact*” applies when the proposed project would not result in a substantial and adverse change in the environment. This impact level does not require mitigation measures.
- 4) “*Potentially Significant Impact*” is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect is significant. If there are one or more “*Potentially Significant Impact*” entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.
- 5) “*Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporation*” applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from “*Potentially Significant Impact*” to a “*Less than Significant Impact*”. The initial study must describe the mitigation measures and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

- 6) “*Reviewed Under Previous Document*” applies where the impact has been evaluated and discussed in a previous document¹. Discussion will include reference to the previous documents. If an impact is reviewed under a previous document, an impact of “Potentially Significant” does not necessarily require an EIR. If the Program EIR identified a significant and unavoidable impact, and the proposed project was adequately described in the Program EIR, an impact of “Potentially Significant/Reviewed Under Previous Document” does not require an EIR, pursuant to Pub. Res. Code Section 21083.3.
- 7) Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program Environmental Impact Report, or other CEQA process, an impact has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or negative declaration.

¹ For this IS/MND the “previous document” referred to throughout this section is the General Plan Environmental Impact Report, Certified and Adopted by the City Council of Rancho Cordova on June 26, 2006 (State Clearinghouse Number 2005022137).

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
I. AESTHETICS Would the project:					
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare that would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

EXISTING SETTING

The proposed site for the groundwater treatment facility is located between the existing Cordova Church of Christ and a vacant lot. Existing single-family residences border the project site to the west. The neighboring vacant lot is approximately one acre in size and is zoned for residential use. The project site is part of the original Williamson Ranch and contains some bushes and trees.

DISCUSSION OF IMPACTS

a) *Less than Significant Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The Rancho Cordova General Plan Environmental Impact Report (GP-EIR) identified that impacts to scenic vistas within the City would be less than significant (GP DEIR, p. 4.13-6). The primary scenic vistas identified within the City occur along the American River in the vicinity of the American River Parkway Plan (GP DEIR, p. 4.13-6). The American River Parkway Plan is currently under the jurisdiction of the Sacramento County Municipal Services Agency Department of Regional Parks, Recreation, and Open Space. Because the American River Parkway Plan is not under the jurisdiction of the City, the American River Parkway cannot be modified by development projects in the City.

The proposed treatment facility is not located within line-of-sight of any scenic vista. While the American River Parkway is approximately 0.35 miles to the northwest, ground features and existing development prevent that aesthetic feature from being visible from the project site. Pipelines installed as part of the project located within the American River Parkway will be installed underground, limiting their aesthetic impact on the Parkway and views of the Parkway from adjacent homes. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a *less than significant impact* to any scenic vista.

b) *Less than Significant Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The GP-EIR found that there were no highways within the Planning Area that were designated by State or local agencies as “scenic highways” (GP DEIR, p. 4.13-6).

Several trees are located on the site of the treatment facility. Some trees will be removed consistent with the City’s Tree Removal Ordinance, which requires mitigation for removal of native or “landmark” trees. The project site does not contain any rock outcroppings or

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

historic buildings. Additionally, the project site is not located near a state scenic highway. Considering the limited aesthetic value of on-site features and the mitigating effect of the City's Tree Removal Ordinance, the proposed project would have a *less than significant impact* on scenic resources.

- c) *Less than Significant Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* Impacts relating to the alteration of scenic resources in the City were identified in the GP-EIR and were predominantly associated with the urbanization of the rural and undeveloped portions of the City and areas east of the incorporated boundaries (GP DEIR, pp. 4.13-8 through 4.13-10). Impacts of the General Plan to visual resources were found to be significant and unavoidable (GP DEIR, p. 4.13-10).

The project site is surrounded by existing single-family residences as well as the Cordova Church of Christ. Trees planned for removal will be replaced with species that will blend with the existing vegetation in accordance with the City's Tree Ordinance (See **Figure 7**). In addition, the design of the structure enclosing the treatment equipment would coordinate visually with the architecture of the Church. Overall development of the site will be in keeping with the existing character of the area as specified in the Williamson Ranch Special Planning Area (SPA). Therefore, the proposed project would have a *less than significant impact* on the visual character of the area.

- d) *Less than Significant Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* Impacts relating to light and glare were identified in the GP-EIR and were related to both reflective glare from new structures built under the General Plan and the introduction of new sources of light associated with development and redevelopment of the City (GP DEIR, p. 4.13-13). Areas of the City and the City's Planning Area that are currently undeveloped would see the majority of the impact due to the current lack of reflective surfaces and light sources in undeveloped areas (GP DEIR, p. 4.13-14). Due to design guidelines adopted by the City and adherence to City Policy UD.4.2, impacts of the General Plan due to light and glare were found to be less than significant.

The project proposes to operate an environmental remediation facility within a residential area. As the site is currently undeveloped, the proposed facility would introduce a source of light in the form of exterior security lighting to the existing residential neighborhood. However, the proposed project would be required to be consistent with the City's Design Guidelines, adopted July 8, 2005. Specific requirements for lighting on structures to be built in the City are included on pages 2:66 through 2:68 of the Design Guidelines. Adherence to City guidelines and requirements for lighting and glare, enforced during the Design Review process, would ensure that the proposed project would result in *less than significant impacts* associated with light and glare.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
II. AGRICULTURE RESOURCES In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997), prepared by the California Department of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. Would the project:					
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Involve other changes in the existing environment, which due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

DISCUSSION OF IMPACTS

a) *No Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The GP-EIR identified that a significant amount of Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, and Farmland of Statewide Importance would be lost with urban development of previously undeveloped portions of the City and of the City Planning Area outside the incorporated boundaries (GP-DEIR, p. 4.2-17 through 4.2-18). Impacts from buildout of the General Plan were found to be significant and unavoidable.

The treatment facility, extraction wells, and pipelines are not located within any Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance, as shown on the California Department of Conservation Important Farmland Map. The portion of the discharge pipeline to be installed within the American River Parkway would be located in close proximity to Farmland of Local Importance. However, at no point would the pipeline pass through any portion of that Farmland. The installation of a pipeline outside the edge of the Farmland would not preclude the use of the land as farmland in the future. Therefore, the proposed project would result in *no impact* to these types of farmland.

b) *No Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* Just as with other types of farmland, the GP-EIR identified impacts to farmland currently under Williamson Act Contracts (GP-DEIR, pp. 4.2-22 through 4.2-23). Impacts of the General Plan to Williamson Act land were found to be significant and unavoidable due to the significant loss of such land at buildout of the General Plan.

The project site is not under a Williamson Act contract. The nearest land still under a Williamson Act contract is located over six miles to the south of the project location. Implementation of the proposed project would not impact that area. There are no Agricultural zoned portions of the City located north of US-50. Therefore, the project would not conflict with agricultural zoning or existing Williamson Act contracts and *no impacts* would result.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

- c) *No Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The GP-EIR stated that impacts could occur to agricultural land uses as a result of urbanization of adjacent areas to operating agricultural operations (GP DEIR, p. 4.2-20). Placing urban development immediately adjacent to agricultural uses can potentially result in interface conflicts between the uses, which could ultimately result in cessation of agricultural uses in those locations (GP DEIR, pp. 4.2-20 through 4.2-21). Impacts to agriculture as a result of these interface conflicts of the General Plan would be significant and unavoidable.

No uses, features, or characteristics of the project site are used by or facilitate agricultural operations. The majority of the project is surrounded by residential development. While a portion of the discharge pipeline is located within the vicinity of designated farmland, no active farming is taking place on that portion of the American River Parkway and the installation of subterranean pipelines would not preclude the use of that land for farming in the future. Therefore, the proposed project would have *no impact* on agricultural zoning or use of adjacent properties.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
III. AIR QUALITY Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:					
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Result in a cumulatively 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 that exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

EXISTING SETTING

The proposed project is located within the boundaries of the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District (SMAQMD). This agency is responsible for bringing air quality in the County into compliance with federal and State air quality standards. Specifically, the SMAQMD has the responsibility to monitor ambient air pollution levels throughout the County and to develop and implement attainment strategies to ensure that future emissions will be within federal and State standards.

The treatment facility will be approximately 8,500 square feet in size. This is well below the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District (SMAQMD) minimum building size designated for screening of potential air quality impacts (according to the SMAQMD Guide to Air Quality Assessment in Sacramento County). Therefore, no detailed modeling of the project site was performed as emissions are expected to be less than significant. This is consistent with SMAQMD's Guide to Air Quality Assessment in Sacramento County (2004).

Because there is no similar threshold for detailed screening of pipeline projects, modeling of the expected emissions resulting from the construction of collection and discharge pipelines was performed using the Road Construction Emissions Model Version 5.2 software provided by SMAQMD. The results of the model estimated the emissions caused by construction of the pipeline portion of the project as shown in **Table 1** below:

**TABLE 1
ESTIMATED MAXIMUM AIR EMISSIONS (POUNDS PER DAY)**

	ROG	NO _x	CO	PM10
Construction Phase	11	54	53	6

Source: Road Construction Emissions Model, Version 5.2

Notes: ROG = Reactive Organic Gasses, NO_x = Nitrogen Oxides, CO = Carbon Monoxide, PM10 = Particulate Matter, 10 Micron.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

DISCUSSION OF IMPACTS

- a) *Less than Significant Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The Sacramento area is currently out of compliance with federal requirements for 8-hour ozone air quality standards and 1-hour ozone air quality standards. The region is in compliance with all other emissions standards. SMAQMD released the final Sacramento Regional Nonattainment Area 8-Hour Ozone Rate-of-Progress Plan (Ozone Plan) in February 2006. According to the GP-EIR, projected buildout of the General Plan Planning Area would be consistent with the assumptions used during preparation of the Ozone Plan (GP FEIR, pp. 4.0-5 through 4.0-6). However, because there currently exist no feasible methods to completely offset air pollutant emission increases from land uses under the General Plan, the impact of the General Plan was considered to be significant and unavoidable (GP FEIR, pp. 4.0-6).

In order to assist local agencies and municipalities with analyzing project-specific impacts to air quality and compliance with local air district attainment plans, SMAQMD has provided a Guide to Air Quality Assessment in Sacramento (2004). The Air Quality Guide includes information on significance and mitigation for common air emissions issues with the goal of reducing emissions from development projects and providing information and standards useful in CEQA analysis of such projects. The Air Quality Guide includes thresholds of significance for ozone precursors, shown in **Table 2** below.

TABLE 2
CURRENT SMAQMD EMISSIONS THRESHOLDS (POUNDS PER DAY)

Pollutant	Threshold of Significance
NO _x During Construction	85
ROG During Operation	65
NO _x During Operation	65

Source: SMAQMD Guide to Air Quality Assessment in Sacramento County, 2004.

Construction of the proposed pipeline, when analyzed using the standards for roadway construction, would be expected to result in a maximum of 54 pounds per day of NO_x. This estimate is below established thresholds. As the construction and operation of the treatment facility is below thresholds for screening and the pipeline construction is below established thresholds, the proposed project would be expected to result in *less than significant* impacts to air quality standards.

- b) *Less than Significant Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The GP-EIR identified potential air quality impacts from both construction and operation of new development in the City (GP DEIR, pp. 4.6-17 through 4.6-26). While policies, actions, and mitigation was included in the EIR, development in the Planning Area would still be intensified from current conditions. Therefore, significant and unavoidable impacts were expected as a result of the General Plan (GP DEIR, pp. 4.6-20 and 4.6-26).

See discussion a) above.

- c) *Less than Significant Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The GP-EIR identified that increases in Ozone precursors (NO_x and ROG) would result in significant and unavoidable impacts on the region's status of nonattainment (GP DEIR, pp. 4.6-17 through

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

4.6-26). See discussions a) and b) above for more information on the GP-EIR findings related to ozone precursors.

As described in discussion a) above, the proposed project would result in less than significant increases in ozone precursors. Furthermore, emissions from the proposed project are temporary in nature and will not continue once construction of the project is complete. The potential operational emissions of the proposed project are slight and do not warrant additional study, pursuant to current SMAQMD guidelines provided in the Guide to Air Quality Assessment in Sacramento (2004). Therefore, the proposed project's contribution to cumulative air quality issues in the region is expected to be *less than significant*.

- d) *Less than Significant Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document*. Sensitive receptors are those parts of the population that can be severely impacted by air pollution. Sensitive receptors include children, the elderly, and the infirm. The GP-EIR identified potential impacts to sensitive receptors due to both mobile and stationary sources of toxic air contaminants (TACs) and odors. Impacts of the General Plan from TACs were reduced by City Policies and Action Items, but the impact remained significant and unavoidable (GP DEIR, p. 4.6-31). Impacts to sensitive receptors from exposure to odors were reduced by City Policies and Action Items to a less than significant level (GP DEIR, p. 4.6-33).

The nearest sensitive receptor is Peter J. Shields Elementary School, which is located approximately 0.25 miles west of the treatment facility site. However, as shown in discussion a) above, the proposed project would not emit significant air pollutants. Further, the primary source of emissions of TACs would be from diesel equipment used during construction of the proposed treatment facility. Since the proposed treatment facility is located adjacent to a major roadway, Coloma Road, where TACs are already at a relatively high level, the addition of TACs from construction equipment would be minimal compared to background levels. Therefore, the proposed project would have *less than significant* impacts on sensitive receptors from exposure to pollution concentrations.

- e) *Less than Significant Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document*. The treatment facility proposes to utilize closed-vessel systems. The closed-vessel systems will ensure that there will be no air emissions or odors associated with the operation of the treatment facility. The treatment facility will be enclosed, which would act as a secondary containment system for any emissions or odors. Therefore, the project would result in *less than significant* impacts associated with noxious odors.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES	Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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 wetlands, etc.), through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption or other means?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

EXISTING SETTING

A site-specific biological resources study has not been performed for the project site. However, as part of the preparation of the GP-EIR, the City had a Biological Resources Report prepared by Ecosystem Sciences in 2005. This report provided basic information on Special-Status species and habitat located within the City as well as an extensive literature review of previous studies and reports. Information provided in the GP-EIR, the Biological Resources Report, and other City prepared CEQA documents in the vicinity was used for the following analysis.

DISCUSSION OF IMPACTS

a) *Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporation/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The GP-EIR identified potential direct and indirect impacts to special-status species (those species identified in the checklist above) as a result of the implementation of the General Plan (GP DEIR, pp. 4.10-34 through 4.10-48). While City Policies and Action Items would mitigate much of the impact of the General Plan, widespread development of undeveloped portions of the General Plan Planning Area as well as construction of the Circulation Plan would result in a net loss of biological resources. Therefore, the General

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Plan was found to result in significant and unavoidable impacts to special status species (GP DEIR, pp. 4.10-43 and 4.10-48).

No aspect of the proposed project is located within an area where special-status species have been recorded. However, recorded occurrences of valley elderberry longhorn beetle and Cooper's hawk have been identified within one mile of the proposed project (GP DEIR, 4.10-24). As the project site is currently undeveloped, raptor nesting could take place on-site. Additionally, a Red-tailed hawk was witnessed on the project site by the project proponent during a recent site visit, reinforcing the potential for the site to be considered raptor nesting habitat. Raptors are considered special-status species by the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG).

According to the GP-EIR and eyewitness accounts, special-status species may use the project site for nesting and forage habitat. The following mitigation measures, pursuant to City Policy NR.1.7, are included in order to mitigate potential impacts to nesting raptors and special-status species:

Mitigation Measures

MM 4.1a Prior to each phase of grading and construction or any other site disturbance between the dates of March 1 and August 31, a determinate survey shall be conducted to determine if active nesting by birds protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) or other special-status bird species is taking place. Surveys shall be conducted according to the following requirements:

- The survey(s) shall be conducted by a qualified biologist or other equivalent professional.
- The survey(s) shall be conducted no more than 30 days and no less than 14 days prior to site disturbance to occur between March 1 and August 31.
- The survey(s) shall include all areas within 100 feet of the project site.
- A copy of the survey(s) shall be provided to the City of Rancho Cordova no less than 7 business days prior to site disturbance.

If any special-status bird species are found to be nesting within the survey area, the project proponent shall immediately contact the City of Rancho Cordova Planning Department in order to determine the appropriate mitigation, if any, required to minimize impacts to nesting birds. No activity of any kind may occur within 100 feet of any nesting activity or as otherwise required following consultation with the City Planning Department and the California Department of Fish and Game until such time as the young have fledged.

If all construction activities are to be completed outside the nesting season (identified above), determinate surveys shall not be required.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Timing/Implementation: All necessary surveys shall be provided to the City of Rancho Cordova Planning Department no less than 7 days prior to site disturbance between March 1 and August 31.

Enforcement/Monitoring: City of Rancho Cordova Planning Department in consultation with the California Department of Fish and Game.

MM 4.1b

The project proponent shall conduct or update determinate surveys for potentially occurring special-status species or their habitat using protocol acceptable to the regulatory agencies with authority over these species, or assume species presence within the area of project activity.

- If any special-status species or their habitat are indicated or assumed, a detailed plan which describes the specific methods to be implemented to avoid and/or mitigate any project impacts upon special-status species to a less than significant level will be required. This detailed Special Status Species Avoidance/Mitigation Plan shall be prepared in consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG), and shall emphasize a multi-species approach to the maximum extent possible. The Special-Status Species Avoidance/Mitigation Plan shall be submitted to the City Planning Department for approval.
- Where project impacts include take of a State listed animal species, a “2081-incidental take” permit shall be obtained from the CDFG and permit conditions implemented, pursuant to the California Endangered Species Act. Proof of such a permit shall be provided to the City of Rancho Cordova Planning Department prior to site disturbance.

Determinate surveys for potentially occurring special-status species shall be conducted no more than three months prior to site disturbance. A copy of all determinate surveys shall be provided to the City Planning Department.

Timing/Implementation: Determinate surveys shall be performed no more than three months prior to site disturbance. Any required avoidance/mitigation plans or permits listed above shall be provided to the City Planning Department prior to approval of improvement/grading plans or prior to site disturbance, whichever comes first.

Enforcement/Monitoring: City of Rancho Cordova Planning Department in consultation with the California Department of Fish and Game.

Implementation of mitigation measures MM 4.1a and MM 4.1b would ensure that all impacts to special status species from implementation of the proposed project are *less than significant*.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

- b) *Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporation/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* See discussion a) above for information on identified impacts of the General Plan on special-status species. The GP-EIR combined discussion of special-status species impacts to include impacts to habitat as well as individuals of special-status species. Impacts to habitat from the implementation of the General Plan occurred for the same reasons and in the same intensity as impacts to individuals of any special-status species (GP DEIR, pp. 4.10-34 through 4.10-48).

Two of the proposed extraction wells, a portion of the collection pipeline, and a portion of the discharge pipeline would be located within the American River Parkway. Though riparian habitat can be found in the Parkway, it is generally found closer to the American River than those locations in which these items will be installed. The facilities proposed to be located within the American River Parkway are not located immediately adjacent to the river. See discussion a) above for information and mitigation regarding impacts to habitat and natural communities. Implementation of mitigation measures MM 4.1a and MM 4.1b would ensure that impacts to special-status species would be *less than significant*.

- c) *No Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The GP-EIR addressed potential direct and indirect impacts to Jurisdictional Waters of the U.S. (Jurisdictional Waters) as a result of wide-spread development of the General Plan Planning Area (GP DEIR, pp. 4.10-52 through 4.10-56). Policies and Action Items included in the General Plan would reduce impacts to Jurisdictional Waters, especially Policy NR.2.1 which requires “no net loss” of wetlands (GP DEIR, p. 4.10-56). While no net loss of wetlands will occur regionally, some loss of Jurisdictional Waters will occur within the General Plan Planning Area (Ibid.). Because of this local loss of Jurisdictional Waters, the impact of the General Plan was found to be significant and unavoidable (Ibid.).

The proposed treatment facility is located on a parcel that has already been disturbed in the recent past. Most of the extraction wells, collection pipeline, and discharge pipeline will be located within the public right-of-way within developed portions of the City. The two extraction wells and pipeline that will be located in the American River Parkway will be immediately adjacent to single-family residences and the public right-of-way. None of the areas are known to contain federally protected wetlands. Therefore, the project would have *no impact* on federally protected waters.

- d) *Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporation/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* Impacts to habitat for raptors and other nesting birds were addressed in the GP-EIR (GP-DEIR, pp. 48 through 4.10-52). Raptors are protected by the California Department of Fish and Game and are considered a special-status species under CEQA. Just as with impacts to habitat for other special-status species, wide-spread development of the City and the General Plan Planning Area would result in a net loss of raptor and nesting habitat and a significant and unavoidable impact was expected (GP DEIR, pp. 52). Discussion of impacts to movement corridors was also included in the GP-EIR (GP DEIR, pp. 4.10-56 through 4.10-61). Development of greenfield areas of the General Plan Planning Area would change the biological condition and characteristics of the area, resulting in changes in animal movement throughout the area (GP DEIR, p. 4.10-56). While City Policies and Action Items would reduce this impact, loss and/or modification of movement corridors would still occur and the impact of the General Plan would be significant and unavoidable (GP DEIR, p. 4.10-61).

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

The project proponent has stated that a Red-tailed hawk was observed sitting in a tree on the treatment facility project site, which could indicate use of the property as forage and/or nesting habitat for raptors. As shown in discussion a) above, impacts to nursery sites for raptors and other special-status species may occur with the implementation of the proposed project. Effects to movement corridors and nursery sites are not expected as all pipelines and wells would be installed underground. Implementation of mitigation measures MM 4.1a and MM 4.1b would ensure that the proposed project would result in *less than significant* impacts to nursery sites and movement corridors.

- e) *Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporation/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The GP-EIR identified potential impacts to trees from implementation of the General Plan (GP DEIR, pp. 4.10-61 and 4.10-62). Development of greenfield areas of the City and the General Plan Planning Area could potentially result in the removal of special-status, landmark, and other trees (GP DEIR, p. 4.10-61). Landmark and oak trees would be adequately protected by City Policies and Action Items, as well as large wooded areas and urban trees. However, some loss of native trees would occur and the overall impact to trees from implementation of the General Plan would be significant and unavoidable (GP DEIR, p. 4.10-62).

Trees found on the treatment facility site include several dead and decaying walnut trees. Specific information as to the size, health, and potential for listing as landmark status is not known for on-site trees. The removal of these trees could be inconsistent with City Policy and the Tree Preservation Ordinance. Therefore, the following mitigation measure is included:

Mitigation Measure

MM 4.2 Prior to the start of construction, the project proponent shall submit a survey identifying the specific type, size, general health, and location of all existing on-site trees. Existing on-site trees shall be protected and preserved to the maximum extent feasible. Prior to the removal of the any trees, the project proponent shall submit to the City a Tree Removal Plan identifying each tree to be removed and the species, size, location, and relative health of each tree. Removal of any trees on the project site shall be conducted pursuant to the City of Rancho Cordova Tree Preservation Ordinance. Removal of trees shall not occur until the Rancho Cordova Planning Department approves the Tree Removal Plan.

Timing/Implementation: Tree Removal Plan shall be approved by the City prior to approval of grading or improvement plans.

Enforcement/Monitoring: City of Rancho Cordova Planning Department.

Mitigation measures MM 4.1a and MM 4.1b above will ensure that the project is consistent with all applicable City Policies and Action Items related to biological resources. Implementation of mitigation measure MM 4.2 above would ensure that impacts to trees would be *less than significant*.

- f) *No Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The GP-EIR addressed potential impacts related to conflicts between the General Plan and any adopted habitat conservation plan or

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

natural community conservation plan (GP DEIR, pp. 4.10-62 and 4.10-63). While the South Sacramento Habitat Conservation Plan (SSHCP) and the Vernal Pool Recovery Plan are currently being prepared by the County and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (respectively), no such plans have been adopted (GP DEIR, p. 4.10-63). Therefore, no impact was expected as a result of the General Plan.

Sacramento County does not currently have an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan. The South Sacramento Habitat Conservation Plan (SSHCP) is being prepared by the County and will be adopted within the next few years. However, the SSHCP is still being formulated and no portion of the plan has been adopted. Likewise, the Vernal Pool Recovery Plan is currently being prepared and no part of the plan has been adopted. The City has not committed to participating in either plan, though it may commit in the future. No Natural Community Conservation Plans are in effect in the project vicinity. Therefore, the proposed project would have *no impact* on any adopted Habitat Conservation Plans or Natural Community Conservation Plans.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
V. CULTURAL RESOURCES Would the project:					
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in Section 15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Section 15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geological feature?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

DISCUSSION OF IMPACTS

- a) *Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporation/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The GP-EIR identified that known and unknown historic resources within the Rancho Cordova Planning Area could potentially be impacted by implementation of the General Plan (GP DEIR, pp. 4.11-9 through 4.11-14). These impacts were primarily associated with development in undeveloped areas and impacts to unknown resources in portions of the Planning Area that have not been studied. Rancho Cordova Policies mitigated some of the potential impacts to historical resources. However, as many resources could be located within the Planning Area that are previously unknown, accidental impacts may still occur and the impact of the General Plan was considered significant and unavoidable (GP DEIR, pp. 4.11-14).

The proposed treatment facility would be located on a vacant parcel with no identified or anticipated historical resources on-site, according to cultural resources studies performed for the preparation of the GP-EIR. A portion of the extraction wells and pipelines would be located within the public roadway right-of-way, while the remaining wells and pipelines would be located on the edge of the American River Parkway. According to City Cultural Resources Staff, surveys conducted in preparation of the GP-EIR do not identify any historical resources within the project area. However, there is limited potential for the accidental discovery of and impact to previously unknown historical resources and human remains on the project site (including the pipeline alignments).

The proposed project is a subsequent project within the scope of activities and land use studied in the GP-EIR. Construction of the proposed project would not create any new or additional significant cultural resources impacts that were not already identified in the Program EIR, nor would the project cause any project-specific impacts peculiar to the project or parcel. The General Plan includes requirements that would protect any unknown historic resources from impacts occurring as a result of development in the Planning Area. However, to ensure that the Policies and Action Items adopted in the General Plan are carried out, the following mitigation measures, which state the requirements of Rancho Cordova Action Item CHR.1.3.1, are included in this MND:

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Mitigation Measure

MM 5.1a The City Planning Department shall be notified immediately if any cultural resources (e.g. prehistoric or historic artifacts, structural features, unusual amounts of bone or shell, fossils, or architectural remains) are uncovered during construction. All construction must stop immediately in the vicinity of the find and an archaeologist that meets the Secretary of the Interiors Professional Qualifications Standards in prehistoric or historical archaeology or a paleontologist shall be retained by the project proponent to evaluate the finds and recommend appropriate action. The recommendations of the archaeologist and/or the paleontologist shall be implemented prior to continuing construction.

Implementation/Timing: This measure shall be included on all improvement and grading plans prior to approval. The measure shall be carried out throughout all phases of construction.

Enforcement/Monitoring: City of Rancho Cordova Planning Department.

MM 5.1b The City Planning Department shall be notified immediately if any human remains are uncovered during construction. All construction must stop immediately in the vicinity of the remains. The Planning Department shall notify the County Coroner according to Section 7050.5 of California's Health and Safety Code. If the remains are determined to be Native American, the procedures outlined in State CEQA Guidelines 15064.5(d-e) shall be followed.

Implementation/Timing: This measure shall be included on all improvement and grading plans prior to approval. The measure shall be carried out throughout all phases of construction.

Enforcement/Monitoring: City of Rancho Cordova Planning Department.

Implementation of mitigation measures MM 5.1a and MM 5.1b will reduce any project-specific impacts to historical resources to *less than significant*.

- b) *Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporation/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* According to prior cultural surveys, there are no known archaeological resources within any portion of the project site. The proposed treatment facility, the collection pipelines, and the portion of the discharge pipeline located within the developed areas of the City would be installed within areas of existing urban development. As such, the discovery of unknown resources in these areas would be unlikely. However, the portion of the proposed discharge pipeline that would be located within the American River Parkway would be installed within 800 feet of a known archeological resource in an area of previously undeveloped parkland. The proximity of known archaeological resources to the pipeline location results in a higher potential for unknown resources to be discovered during construction within the American River Parkway. The following mitigation measure is included in order to mitigate potential impacts in the event that unknown resources are discovered during installation of the discharge pipeline.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Mitigation Measure

MM 5.2 On-site monitoring shall be conducted during any construction within the American River Parkway by a professional archaeologist that meets the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards in prehistoric and/or historical archaeology. If significant cultural resources are identified during monitoring, project activity shall cease within fifty feet of the discovery. The City and project applicant shall consult and agree upon implementation of a measure or measures that the City and project applicant deem feasible and appropriate to protect any inadvertent discoveries of significant cultural resources. Such measures may include preservation in place, excavation, documentation, curation, data recovery, or other appropriate measures. The project proponent shall be required to implement any mitigation necessary for the protection of cultural resources.

Implementation/Timing: Monitor shall be present during all activities within the American River Parkway. The text of this measure shall be included as a note on all project plans prior to approval.

Enforcement/Monitoring: City of Rancho Cordova Planning Department.

Implementation of mitigation measures MM 5.1a and MM 5.1b, along with MM 5.2, would result in a *less than significant* impact to archaeological resources.

- c) *Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporation/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The GP-EIR identified possible impacts to paleontological resources as a result of implementation of the General Plan (GP DEIR, p. 4.11-14). However, no such paleontological resources were identified in the Rancho Cordova Planning Area and City policy would protect unknown resources. For these reasons, the impact of the General Plan was found to be less than significant (GP DEIR, p. 4.11-15).

Consultation with City Cultural Resources staff did not find any evidence of paleontological resources in the project area. The potential exists for unknown paleontological resources to be located on-site and these unknown resources could potentially be impacted during construction. Implementation of mitigation measures MM 5.1a, MM 5.1b, and MM 5.2 would ensure that any unknown paleontological resources are protected. Therefore, the proposed project would result in *less than significant* impacts to paleontological resources.

- d) *Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporation/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The discussion in the GP-EIR concerning historic resources impacts included discussion of potential impacts to human remains [see discussion a) above]. Impacts were the same in that known resources were adequately protected but unknown human remains outside established cemeteries could potentially be affected. Therefore, significant and unavoidable impacts as a result of the General Plan were expected (GP DEIR, p. 4.11-14).

No human remains are expected on the project site. However, due to the large Native American population known to reside in the general area in the past, the primary concern is the disturbance of hidden or unmarked grave sites. The proposed project area is not expected to contain any such sites. Implementation of mitigation measure MM 5.1b above

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

would ensure that any impacts to human remains from the proposed project would be *less than significant*.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
VI. GEOLOGY AND SOILS Would the project:					
a) Expose 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 Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iv) Landslides?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the projects, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

DISCUSSION OF IMPACTS

a)

- i) *Less than Significant Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The GP-EIR stated that significant seismic shaking was not a concern within the Rancho Cordova Planning Area as there are no active faults within Sacramento County and because the City is not located within an Alquist-Priolo earthquake hazard zone (GP DEIR, p. 4.8-19). However, some minor seismic shaking is a possibility as the City is located within a Seismic Zone 3, which is considered an area of relatively low ground shaking potential (GP DEIR, p. 4.8-20). Adherence to City policies as well as the California Building Code (CBC) and the Uniform Building Code (UBC) would ensure less than significant impacts as a result of implementation of the General Plan (GP DEIR, p. 4.8-21).

The proposed project is located within the incorporated boundaries of the City and is likewise not expected to be subjected to strong seismic shaking. Minor shaking is a concern as, according to the California Geological Survey, the project is located

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

within Seismic Zone 3. However, as identified in the GP-EIR, compliance with the UBC and CBC will ensure that impacts are *less than significant*.

- ii) *Less than Significant Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* See discussion under i) above. The potential for strong seismic ground shaking on the project site is not a significant environmental concern due to the infrequent seismic activity of the area. Additionally, as stated in discussion i) above, the project would be required to comply with any seismic standards enforced by the UBC and the CBC. Therefore, the project would have a *less than significant* impact from seismic ground shaking.
 - iii) *Less than Significant Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The potential for seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction, is considered minimal due to the infrequency of seismic activity in the area [See discussions i) and ii) above], building and site design, and adherence to the UBC and CBC. According to the GP-EIR, the depth of groundwater in the City is generally greater than 50 feet, rendering the potential for liquefaction low (GP DEIR, p 4.8-9). The potential for other secondary hazards (i.e., ground lurching, differential settlement, or lateral spreading) occurring during or after seismic events in the vicinity of the project site is also considered to be low due to the distance of active faults. Therefore, the project would have *less than significant* impacts from seismic-related ground failure.
 - iv) *No Impact.* The project site is generally flat and does not include any features that would create the possibility of landslide. Adjacent properties are also generally flat. Significant grades are not found at the extraction well sites nor along the pipeline route. Therefore, *no impacts* related to landslides would be expected.
- b) *Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporation/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The GP-EIR identified potential impacts related to soil erosion from implementation of the General Plan (GP DEIR, pp. 4.8-21 through 4.8-23). These erosion impacts were generally associated with construction of new roadways and other capital infrastructure and development of undeveloped portions of the City and the Planning Area. Additional impacts were due to increases in runoff due to a net increase in impervious surfaces in the City. However, compliance with the City's Erosion Control Ordinance and the current NPDES permit conditions for the City would ensure that impacts resulting from implementation of the General Plan would be less than significant (GP DEIR, p. 4.8-23).

Grading and site preparation activities on previously undeveloped land would remove the existing site coverage and increase the potential for wind and surface water runoff. On the treatment plant site, the exposed site coverage would be fully landscaped as shown in **Figure 7**. Landscaping and drainage to be installed on-site would ensure that runoff and soil erosion on the treatment plant site is not significant. Pipelines and wells located within existing portions of the City would be installed underground with minimal disturbance of the surface. All surface features would be restored by the project proponent with the completion of installation of the wells and pipelines. Therefore, no significant effects of erosion or runoff are expected along the pipelines and wells, except for that portion of the discharge pipeline that lies within the American River Parkway. For this portion of the pipeline, construction of the subterranean lines as well as fill of the trench in which the pipeline is installed could result in erosion impacts downhill of the project area. Therefore, the following mitigation measure is included to reduce the potential for erosion:

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Mitigation Measure

MM 6.1 The project proponent shall ensure that following construction of the discharge pipeline within the American River Parkway, all surface features shall be restored to their existing condition prior to site disturbance. Compaction of the trenching shall be conducted according to County of Sacramento standards for trench fill. Once original grade and condition is restored along the pipeline route, the area shall be revegetated to its original state, using certified weed-free native grasses and other native species, as approved by the City of Rancho Cordova Planning Department.

Timing/Implementation: Requirement shall be included on all grading/improvement plans for the proposed project that include work within the American River Parkway. Requirement shall be met prior to cessation of construction.

Enforcement/Monitoring: City of Rancho Cordova Planning Department and Public Works Department.

Implementation of mitigation measure MM 6.1 as well as the City's Erosion Control Ordinance shall ensure that the proposed project has a *less than significant* erosion impact.

- c) *Less than Significant Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The GP-EIR stated that impacts relating to soil stability as a result of implementation of the General Plan would be minor (GP DEIR, p. 4.8-23). Primary concerns with soil stability in the City are associated with shrink/swell potential – the potential for soils to expand during wet seasons and shrink during dry seasons. Impacts due to soil stability would be mitigated by consistency with the UBC and the CBC (GP DEIR, p. 4.8-24). Therefore, the impact of the General Plan was found to be less than significant.

As discussed in ii) and iii) above, landslides, lateral spreading, and subsidence are not significant threats within the project area. Additionally, adherence to the UBC and CBC requirements as well as the City's Erosion Control Ordinance would ensure that the project's potential to result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse would be *less than significant*.

- d) *Less than Significant Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* See discussion c) above.
- e) *No Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The GP-EIR identified potential soils impacts of the General Plan related to the use of alternative wastewater handling systems such as septic systems resulting from development of residential lots of two acres or more (GP DEIR, pp. 4.8-24 through 4.8-26). The portions of the Rancho Cordova Planning Area that could contain such lots exist outside the City boundaries in the outlying Planning Areas. For residential development with lots less than two acres in size, City policy requires the use of the public sewer system (GP DEIR, p. 4.8-26).

The proposed treatment facility is within an area with access to existing sewer services as provided by the Sacramento County CSD-1. It is not expected that the proposed project would generate any wastewater. However, if restroom facilities were added to the proposed

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

project for the use of on-site employees, City Policy ISF 2.6 would require those facilities to be connected to the public sewer system, precluding the use of alternative wastewater handling systems. Therefore, compliance with City policies would ensure that there would be *no impact* related to alternative wastewater treatment systems.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
VII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS Would the project:					
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use or disposal of hazardous materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code § 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan area or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or a public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g) Impair implementation of, or physically interfere with, an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

DISCUSSION OF IMPACTS

a) *Less than Significant Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The GP-EIR identified potential impacts to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials (GP DEIR, pp. 4.4-23 and 4.4-24). Impacts concerned transportation of hazardous materials on the roadway network within the City and the routine use, storage, and disposal of hazardous materials related to construction during development and redevelopment in the City. Adherence to General Plan policies and federal, state, and local regulations regarding hazardous material were found to reduce potential impacts of the General Plan to a less than significant level (GP DEIR, pp. 4.4-24 and 4.4-28).

The proposed project involves the extraction and treatment of groundwater contaminated with perchlorate (a component of solid rocket propellants), Trichloroethylene (TCE, a volatile organic compound), and N-nitrosodimethylamine (NDMA, associated with liquid rocket

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

fuels). The construction and operation of the proposed project is required by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in remediation for past releases of these materials by Aerojet. According to the CVRWQCB, the hazard presented by the chemicals within the contaminated groundwater is limited to use of the untreated water for domestic purposes, such as drinking and showering (MacDonald, 2007). Accidental release or spillage of contaminated groundwater would not constitute a significant hazard to people and animals in the vicinity of wells, pipelines, and the treatment plant

The five extraction wells located at various points in the City of Rancho Cordova will include a drain sump to contain any unforeseen leaks from the wellhead as well as rainwater that may leak into the well vault. The drain sump is equipped with a submersible pump which would pump accumulated water to the pipeline for treatment.

The collection pipeline would be constructed to the standards of pipelines designed for water transportation and used locally in sewer force main projects. Standards for construction of these lines would reduce the likelihood of any accidental release during operation of the project.

The treatment facility would utilize a closed-vessel system for filtration and treatment of the water and would not use any hazardous materials in the treatment operation. Once filtration is complete and the filter media is replaced, the used filter media is not considered a hazardous material (MacDonald, 2006, p. 2). Effluent water would be required to meet standards for discharge established by State and federal agencies, which meet or exceed current drinking water standards.

Adherence to General Plan policies; federal, state, and local regulations regarding hazardous materials; the physical characteristics of collection, treatment and discharge discussed above; and the requirements of the EPA would ensure that the project would not be likely to result in a release of hazardous materials. Therefore, the proposed project would have a *less than significant* impact to the public from the use, storage, disposal, or accidental release of hazardous materials.

- b) *Less than Significant Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The GP-EIR described potential impacts related to the accidental release of hazardous materials (GP DEIR, pp. 4.4-24 through 4.4-28). Primary sources of potential accidental release concerned PCB-containing transformers, groundwater pollution, and underground storage tanks (USTs). Consistency with City Policies and Action Items, as well as all applicable federal, State, and local regulations would result in a less than significant impact from the General Plan (GP DEIR, p. 4.4-28).

See discussion a) above for a discussion of the project-specific impacts.

- c) *Less than Significant Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The GP-EIR discussed the siting of public schools as being subject to the siting requirements of the California Department of Education (GP-DEIR, p. 4.4-25). In addition to CEQA review, potential school sites will be reviewed by various agencies to ensure the new school site is safe from toxic hazards (GP-DEIR, p. 4.4-25). General Plan policies and actions will reduce the potential impacts of the General Plan from hazardous materials transport, use, and storage from surrounding uses, including school sites, to a less than significant level (GP DEIR, p. 4.4-28).

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

The nearest school to the treatment facility is Peter J. Shields Elementary School, located approximately one quarter mile east of the facility. Portions of the collection and discharge pipelines will also be located within one quarter mile of the school. Operations at the treatment facility will not release hazardous substances into the environment due to several factors [see discussion a) above]. Pursuant to City Policy S.5.5, the treatment plant includes several layers of protection from spills – including the closed vessel system itself, the walls of the enclosing building, and the surrounding wall and fence around the lot. Collection pipelines will be located underground and would not expose sensitive receptors to hazardous substances. Discharge pipelines will convey the treated water, which will meet or exceed drinking water standards and will thus not convey hazardous materials. Discharge pipelines will also be located underground. Therefore, the proposed project would have a *less than significant* impact to existing or proposed schools.

- d) *Less than Significant Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The GP-EIR included information regarding federal and State listed hazardous materials sites as well as a map of such sites (GP DEIR, pp. 4.4-2 through 4.4-10). These sites included leaking underground storage sites, groundwater contamination plumes, PCB contaminated sites related to prior rocket engine testing (Aerojet/Gencorp), and other smaller sites (pp. 4.4-5, 4.4-6). Impact discussions were included in discussions of accidental release of hazardous materials [see discussion b) above] and were found to be less than significant due to compliance with federal, State, and local laws and regulations (GP DEIR, p. 4.4-28).

Wellheads and the treatment facility to be installed by the proposed project are located on the leading edge of the groundwater contamination plume from Aerojet, identified in the General Plan as a source of potential contaminants. While the proposed project would be located above a source of known groundwater contamination, the purpose of the proposed project is to extract the contaminated groundwater and to treat it on-site, preventing further spread of contaminants. Therefore, the net result of the proposed project would constitute a *less than significant* impact.

- e) *Less than Significant Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The GP EIR identified potential impacts of development within an airport land use plan (GP DEIR, p. 4.4-28). The Mather Airport CLUP Safety Restriction Area overlies several portions of the City, restricting development in those areas to uses allowed within the CLUP. Adherence to General Plan policies, federal regulations, the Comprehensive Land Use Plan, and Mather Airport Planning Area provisions would reduce the potential for safety hazards. Therefore, the General Plan was found to have a less than significant impact (GP FEIR, p. 4.0-29).

The proposed project is located outside the safety restriction areas for Mather Airport. Additionally, the proposed project is located outside the imaginary surfaces for Mather Airport, as identified in the Mather Airport Comprehensive Land Use Plan. Therefore, aircraft related hazards to individuals on the ground are minor. The proposed project does not include any residents and would only be visited once a day for short periods. Considering the above factors, hazards to people on the ground from operations at or near Mather Airport would be *less than significant*.

- f) *No Impact.* The proposed project is not located within two miles of any private airstrip. The nearest private airstrip to the project area is the Rancho Murieta Airport, located more than ten miles to the southeast of the project area. Therefore, the proposed project would have *no impact* associated with hazards near private airstrips.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

- g) *Less than Significant Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The GP EIR analyzed potential impacts that could impair implementation or physically interfere with the Sacramento County Multi-Hazard Disaster Plan (GP DEIR, p. 4.4-29). The EIR found that implementation of the proposed roadway system within the General Plan would improve city roadway connectivity, allowing for better emergency access to residences as well as evacuation routes and resulting in a net positive effect on implementation success of the Sacramento County Multi-Hazard Disaster Plan. Therefore, the General Plan was found to have a less than significant impact (GP DEIR, p. 4.4-29).

Structures and wellheads associated with the proposed project would not impede response to emergencies and disasters in the area. During construction of the pipelines, some minor impacts to emergency response time may occur as traffic is slowed or redirected around construction sites. Once construction is complete on subterranean pipelines and the roadways are returned to their original condition, no impact to response plans would be expected. The City requires that a Traffic Control Plan be submitted by the project proponent prior to approval of improvement plans, as administered by the Public Works Department. The Traffic Control Plan will minimize traffic impacts from construction and thereby reduce any effects on the ability of emergency responders to travel through the City. Formulation and adherence to a Traffic Control Plan for the project would ensure that the proposed project would result in a *less than significant* impact.

- h) *No Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The GP EIR identified potential impacts of safety hazards associated with wildland fires due to the construction of residential areas adjacent to open space and natural areas (GP DEIR, pp.4.12-9). Adoption of General Plan policies and action items, as well as required project review by the Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District (SMFD), would ensure minimal impacts to residential areas from wildland fires, resulting in a less than significant impact from implementation of the General Plan (GP DEIR, p. 4.12-10).

Except for the portion of the discharge pipeline located in the American River Parkway, the proposed project is located in entirely urbanized areas. The outflow pipeline, while located at the edge of a wildland area, is to be located underground and would therefore not include increase the risk of fire along the American River Parkway. Therefore, the proposed project would result in *no impact* in respect to wildland fire risks.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
VIII. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY Would the project:					
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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 which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner, which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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- or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Create or contribute to the potential for discharge of storm water from material storage areas, vehicle or equipment fueling, vehicle or equipment maintenance (including washing), waste handling, hazardous materials handling or storage, delivery areas or loading docks, or other outdoor work areas?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Create or contribute to the potential for discharge of storm water to impair the beneficial uses of the receiving waters or areas that provide water quality benefit?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Create or contribute to the potential for the discharge of storm water to cause significant harm on the biological integrity of the waterways and water bodies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
h) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned storm water drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
i) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
j) 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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
k) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures that would impede or redirect flood flows?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
l) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of a failure of a levee or dam?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
m) Inundation by seiche, tsunami or mudflow?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

DISCUSSION OF IMPACTS

- a) *Less than Significant Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The GP-EIR identified potential surface and ground water quality impacts that would occur as a result of implementation of the General Plan (GP DEIR, 4.9-34 through 4.9-40). Both impacts of the General Plan were found to be less than significant with implementation of City Policies and Action Items as well as compliance with the City's National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit conditions.

Discharge of treated water to the American River under this proposed project is subject to a National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit that has been adopted by the Regional Water Quality Control Board regarding Aerojet's discharge of treated groundwater for this and other similar projects in the vicinity (MacDonald, 2006; MacDonald, 2007). Conditions of the NPDES permit require discharge waters to be of acceptable quality to prevent any impacts to people or wildlife from the discharge. Therefore, the proposed project would have a *less than significant* impact resulting from water quality or waste discharge.

- b) *Less than Significant Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The GP EIR identified potential ground water supply and recharge impacts (GP DEIR, p. 4.9-43 through 4.9-57). Both the addition of impervious material as well as additional use of groundwater in the region would result in significant and unavoidable impacts to groundwater levels from implementation of the General Plan (GP DEIR, p. 4.9-57).

The proposed project would include the extraction of groundwater. However, operation of the proposed project would not preclude the use of groundwater located beneath the project site from being used for municipal supply after treatment. Additionally, the proposed project would not add a significant quantity of impermeable surfaces, nor would the project result in any change to the local hydrology that would affect the recharge rate of groundwater in the vicinity. Therefore, the proposed project would have a *less than significant* impact on water supplies for existing or planned land uses in the project vicinity.

- c) *Less than Significant Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The GP-EIR identified potential impacts due to erosion and siltation as a result of new development in the City and the Planning Area (GP DEIR, p. 4.9-34 through 4.9-39). Adherence to City policies, action items, the conditions of the City's NPDES permit, and the City's Erosion Control Ordinance would result in less than significant impacts related to erosion and siltation as a result of implementation of the General Plan (GP DEIR, p. 4.9-39).

The project site is less than 1-acre in size and is located within an urbanized area that currently exhibits large amounts of impervious surfaces. Additional impervious surfaces to be constructed as part of the treatment facility would not greatly impact existing drainage patterns of the site or area. The extraction wells and pipelines would not alter drainage patterns as these facilities will be located underground. Furthermore, most of the pipeline would be located beneath existing roadways that are already paved and would be returned to their original state following the pipeline installation. No alterations would be made to any rivers or streams. The addition of less than one acre of impervious surface resulting from the construction of the proposed treatment plant would not result in significant erosion or siltation impacts. Therefore, the proposed project would have a *less than significant* impact from erosion or siltation.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

- d) *Less than Significant Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The GP-EIR identified potential impacts from flooding due to implementation of the General Plan (GP DEIR, p. 4.9-41 through 4.9-43). These impacts were associated with the addition of impermeable surfaces, primarily roads, within the City. City Policies and Action Items would be adequate to reduce any flooding impacts. Therefore, the GP-EIR found that the impact of the General Plan on flooding would be less than significant (GP DEIR, p. 4.9-43).

See discussion c) above. The proposed treatment facility would be located in an area comprised primarily of impervious surfaces. The extraction wells and pipelines would not alter drainage patterns as these facilities would be located underground. Furthermore, most of the pipeline would be located beneath existing roadways that are already paved and would be returned to their original state following the pipeline installation. No alterations would be made to any rivers or streams. Therefore, the proposed project would result in *less than significant* impacts from on- or off-site flooding.

- e) *Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporation/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* See discussion a) above for information on the proposed project and its operational impacts to water quality. While general stormwater impacts as a result of physical characteristics of the proposed project are not expected to be significant, construction impacts to water quality could occur as a result of discharge of stormwater from material storage areas, vehicle or equipment fueling or maintenance (including washing), waste handling, and hazardous materials handling or storage areas on-site. The following mitigation measure is proposed to reduce the effect of such a discharge.

Mitigation Measure

MM 8.1 The project proponent shall utilize the following Best Management Practices (BMPs) during the construction of all portions of the proposed project. All BMPs shall be executed to the level of standard published by the California Stormwater Quality Association's Construction Stormwater BMP Handbook. BMPs to be utilized shall include, but are not limited to:

- NS-8 Vehicle and Equipment Cleaning;
- NS-8 Vehicle and Equipment Fueling;
- NS-10 Vehicle and Equipment Maintenance;
- WM-1 Material Delivery and Storage;
- WM-2 Material Use;
- WM-3 Stockpile Management;
- WM-4 Spill Prevention and Control;
- WM-5 Solid Waste Management; and,
- WM-6 Hazardous Waste Management.

Timing/Implementation: Measures shall be included on all improvement/grading plans. All measures shall be implemented throughout construction of the proposed project.

Enforcement/Monitoring: City of Rancho Cordova Public Works Department in coordination with the County of Sacramento Department of Water Resources.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Implementation of mitigation measure MM 8.1 above would ensure that the proposed project would result in *less than significant* impacts.

- f) *Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporation/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* See discussions a), b), and d) above.
- g) *Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporation/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* See discussion f) above.
- h) *Less than Significant Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* See discussion c) above. Treated groundwater will be discharged under an NPDES permit into the Sacramento County stormwater drainage system. A separate Sacramento County Water Agency permit is required to allow the discharge of water into the County storm drain system. The discharge pipeline will convey the treated water to the discharge point within the County's drainage system. A float switch will be installed at the discharge point to ensure discharge of water is halted during periods of heavy precipitation in order to prevent the proposed project from exceeding the capacity of the drainage system. Therefore, the proposed project would have *less than significant* impacts to existing or planned stormwater drainage systems.
- i) *Less than Significant Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The GP-EIR discussed impacts related to flooding, which included consideration of housing within a 100-year flood hazard area (GP DEIR, pp. 4.9-41 through 4.9-43). City Policies and Action Items would prevent either an increase in the 100-year floodplain from the result of the construction of any structures or the placement of housing within the 100-year floodplain. Therefore, impacts from the General Plan were found to be less than significant (GP DEIR, p. 4.9-43).

Water quality impacts during the construction phase of the proposed project have been discussed above and found to be less than significant. Adherence to the NPDES permit for the discharge of the treated water would ensure that the discharge water would be of a quality that would not degrade the water quality of the County storm drain system or the American River. Therefore, the proposed project would have a *less than significant* impact to water quality.

- j) *No Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The proposed project does not include any residential development. Additionally, no part of the proposed project is located within the 100-year floodplain. Therefore, the proposed project would have *no impact* related to placing residential structures within the 100-year floodplain.
- k) *No Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* See discussion j) above. As the proposed project is located entirely outside the 100-year floodplain, *no impact* would occur.
- l) *Less than Significant Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* While the treatment facility would be located approximately one mile from the Sunriver Levee and less than two miles from the Cordova Meadows Levee, only the wells and pipelines located within the American River Parkway would be located within the inundation zone of either levee. Likewise, the wells and pipelines within the vicinity of the American River Parkway are the only portion of the project within the inundation zone resulting from a failure of Folsom Dam or Nimbus Dam. It is unlikely that these structures would be affected by inundation as they would be located underground. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a *less than significant* impact associated with flooding.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

- m) *No Impact*. The proposed project is not located near a large body of water or ocean, precluding the possibility of a tsunami or seiche occurring that could impact the project site. As the topography of the area in which all aspects of the project are located is generally flat, mudflows are not a possibility. Therefore, implementation of the proposed project would result in *no impact* from these types of events.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
IX. LAND USE AND PLANNING Would the project:					
a) Physically divide an existing community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

EXISTING SETTING

The proposed treatment facility is located within the Williamson Ranch Special Planning Area (SPA). The SPA was adopted by the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors to provide for the eventual development of the site in a manner which is compatible with the existing single-family residential neighborhood which surrounds the project site. Any proposed project within the Williamson Ranch SPA must comply with the development and performance standards adopted for the planning area.

DISCUSSION OF IMPACTS

a) *Less than Significant Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The GP-EIR described possible impacts related to the division of existing communities (GP DEIR, pp. 4.1-38 through 4.1-40). The GP-EIR states that development and redevelopment described in the General Plan was specifically designed so that barriers between communities would be prevented. Additionally, City policies and action items were included in the General Plan to further prevent divisions of communities. The GP-EIR found that impacts of the General Plan to existing communities would be less than significant (GP DEIR, pp. 4.1-39 and 4.1-40).

The proposed treatment facility would be located within a previously urbanized portion of the City. The extraction wells and pipelines would be located within the public right-of-way, under existing City roadways. The discharge pipeline would likewise be located underground beneath City roadways and a portion of the American River Parkway. Implementation of the proposed project would not permanently remove any roadways or create any features that would impede circulation of vehicles, people, or materials. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a *less than significant* impact in regards to dividing an existing community.

b) *Less than Significant Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The GP-EIR included discussion of potential impacts to adopted land use plans, policies, and regulations of other jurisdictional agencies in the area (GP DEIR, 4.1-46 through 4.1-56). Conflicts were identified between the General Plan and the Sacramento County General Plan and the Mather Airport Comprehensive Land Use Plan (Mather CLUP). While City policies were

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

included in the General Plan to reduce these conflicts, significant and unavoidable conflicts were expected as a result of implementation of the General Plan (GP DEIR, p. 4.1-56; GP FEIR, p. 4.0-4).

The treatment facility site is currently zoned RD-5 (residential, 5 dwelling units per acre). The operation of a water treatment facility is considered to be a “public service” by the Zoning Code and therefore allowed in this Zoning with the provision of a Conditional Use Permit, issued by the City. The proposed project will be required to adhere to all City Policies adopted for the purpose of mitigating the environmental effects of the proposed project, as implemented through mitigation measures included in this document. Therefore, the project would have *less than significant* impacts to existing land use plans or policies.

- c) *No Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The GP-EIR addressed potential impacts related to conflicts between the General Plan and any adopted habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan (GP DEIR, pp. 4.10-62 and 4.10-63). While the South Sacramento Habitat Conservation Plan (SSHCP) and the Vernal Pool Recovery Plan are currently being prepared by the County and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (respectively), no such plans have been adopted (GP DEIR, p. 4.10-63). Because of this, the General Plan would have no impact on adopted plans (Ibid.).

Sacramento County does not currently have an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan. The South Sacramento Habitat Conservation Plan (SSHCP) is being prepared by the County and will be adopted within the next few years. However, the SSHCP is still being formulated and no portion of the plan has been adopted. Likewise, the Vernal Pool Recovery Plan is currently being prepared and no part of the plan has been adopted. The City has not committed to participating in either plan, though it may commit in the future. No Natural Community Conservation Plans are in effect in the project vicinity. Therefore, the proposed project would have *no impact* on any adopted Habitat Conservation Plans or Natural Community Conservation Plans.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
X. MINERAL RESOURCES Would the project:					
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

EXISTING SETTING

Typical mineral resources in the area of Rancho Cordova include gold (largely mined out in the early 20th century) and aggregate deposits that exist as a result of dredge mining in the area (Pacific Municipal Consultants, 2005). Approximately one third of the General Plan Planning Area is located within an MRZ-2 Zone, as identified by California Geological Survey and the State Mining and Geology Board (GP DEIR, p. 4.8-26). An MRZ-2 classification identifies areas where substantial mineral deposits are known to exist. The proposed project is located outside these areas. Also included in the GP-EIR is a figure identifying existing areas either under current mining contracts or planned for future mining. The proposed project is outside any such areas.

DISCUSSION OF IMPACTS

a) *Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporation/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The GP-EIR identified potential impacts resulting from the loss of availability of mineral resources in the General Plan Planning Area (GP DEIR, pp. 4.8-26 through 4.8-27). Only those areas already identified as either MRZ-2 or as containing existing mining operations were expected to be impacted by development of the General Plan Planning Area (GP DEIR, p. 4.8-26). Even with adoption of City Policies and Action Items regarding mineral resources and mining, the General Plan would still have a significant and unavoidable impact (GP DEIR, p. 4.8-27).

No part of the proposed project is located within an MRZ-2 or an MRZ-3 zone, which are areas known to contain mineral and clay deposits respectively, as identified in the GP-EIR (GP DEIR, pp. 4.8-26 and 4.8-27). Furthermore, no part of the project is located within an area identified in the GP-EIR as containing existing or planned mining operations. Therefore, on-site mineral resources are unlikely and the proposed project would have a *less than significant* impact regarding mineral resources in the area.

b) *Less than Significant Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* See discussion a) above.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
XI. NOISE. Would the project result in:					
a) Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance or of applicable standards of other agencies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan area or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or a public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

DISCUSSION OF IMPACTS

- a) *Less than Significant Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The GP-EIR addressed increases in noise levels as a result of buildout of the General Plan (GP DEIR, pp. 4.7-20 through 4.7-30). Significant and unavoidable impacts were expected due to construction noise, increased traffic noise, and the potential construction of noise generating land uses (GP DEIR, pp. 4.7-22, 4.7-27, 4.7-30). Policies and Actions included in the General Plan would reduce these impacts; however, various factors exist throughout the Planning Area that would make total mitigation impossible. Therefore, the impact of the General Plan remained significant and unavoidable.

The treatment facility would include stationary noise generating features such as pumps and filtration tanks. All permanent noise-generating features will be fully-enclosed, ensuring that noise impacts would be minimized. Due to the physical characteristics of the treatment plant, it is expected that operation of the treatment plant will not exceed current City noise standards. All wells and pipelines will be located underground and would therefore not be expected to generate noise of any kind.

While operation of the proposed project is not expected to exceed City standards for noise, construction and site preparation activities would include the use of heavy equipment and trucks which would result in temporary noise increases in the project vicinity. In order to ensure that construction noise does not exceed City noise standards, the following mitigation measure is included:

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Mitigation Measure

MM 11.1 The project applicant shall adhere to the following standard mechanisms for mitigation of construction-related nuisances:

- Construction activities shall be limited to between 7:00 AM and 6:00 PM on weekdays and 8:00 AM and 6:00 PM on weekends;
- Stationary sources of construction noise such as compressors and generators shall be placed as far as possible from existing residential uses neighboring the project site; and,
- The project proponent shall post visible signage providing a name, address, and 24-hour phone number for information and/or complaints regarding the construction activities.

These requirements shall be included as a note on all construction plans and in the improvement plan submittal.

Timing/Implementation: Requirement shall be included on all plans prior to approval of the grading/improvement plans. Measure shall be complied with throughout construction activities.

Enforcement/Monitoring: City of Rancho Cordova Planning Department.

Implementation of mitigation measure MM 11.1 would ensure that impacts related to noise exposure would be *less than significant*.

- b) *Less than Significant Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The GP-EIR discussed groundborne noise and vibration concurrently with construction related noise impacts [see discussion a) above; also GP-DEIR, pp. 4.7-20 through 4.7-22]. As large-scale construction of various land uses is ongoing in the City and will continue for some time, guided by the General Plan, significant noise and vibration generation is expected. While City Policies and Action Items would reduce the impact of such vibration and noise, significant and unavoidable impacts as a result of implementation of the General Plan are expected in some cases (GP DEIR, p. 4.7-22).

See discussion a) above. Construction of the proposed project includes digging activities that could potentially generate limited groundborne vibration. However, these groundborne vibrations would be minor and temporary in nature, ceasing when construction has been completed. Heavy excavation with pneumatic hammers, explosives, or deep drilling is not required for construction of the proposed project. These types of excavation are known to create significant groundborne vibration and noise. Considering the proposed project's limited potential for creating significant groundborne vibration, the proposed project would have a *less than significant* impact from groundborne vibration or noise.

- c) *Less than Significant Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The GP-EIR identified uses that may result in significant stationary (permanent) noise generation (GP DEIR, pp. 4.7-28 through 4.7-30). Uses and equipment that would generate significant permanent noise included loading docks, industrial uses, HVAC equipment, car washes, daycare

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

facilities, auto repair, as well as some recreational uses (GP DEIR, p. 4.7-28). While the impact of these and other significant sources of permanent noise would be lessened by Policies and Action Items included in the General Plan, some impacts would remain and the GP-EIR found impacts of the General Plan to be significant and unavoidable (GP DEIR, p. 4.7-30).

See discussion a) above. As the proposed project is not expected to result in noise generation that would exceed current City noise standards, and as the noise generating portions of the project site would be fully enclosed within a structure, it is expected that the proposed project would not increase the ambient noise level and a *less than significant* impact is expected.

- d) *Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporation/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* See discussion b) above. Construction noise impacts are expected to be minor and short in duration, and are therefore not expected to exceed City standards for stationary noise [see discussion a) above]. Implementation of mitigation measure MM 11.1 would ensure that construction related noise impacts would be *less than significant*.
- e) *Less than Significant Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The GP-EIR analyzed noise impacts related to airports, specifically the Mather Airport located immediately south and west of the City (GP DEIR, pp. 4.7-30 through 4.7-32). Five planning areas within the City were identified as having potential airport-related noise impacts: Mather Planning Area, Jackson Planning Area, Sunrise Boulevard South Planning Area, Rio del Oro Planning Area, and the Aerojet Planning Area (GP DEIR, p. 4.7-30). Single-event noise impacts were also identified for those portions of the City that lie under the primary flight paths for Mather Airport (GP DEIR, p. 4.7-30). For the five planning areas identified above and areas of the City directly under the approach path for Mather Airport the impact of the General Plan was found to be significant and unavoidable (GP DEIR, p. 4.7-32).

The proposed project is located outside all identified noise contours for Mather Airport, as shown in the Mather Airport Comprehensive Land Use Plan. Therefore, *less than significant* noise impacts to people working at the project sites are expected.

- f) *No Impact.* The nearest private airport to the project area is Rancho Murrieta Airport, located more than ten miles to the southeast. Therefore, the proposed project is not located within the vicinity of a private airport and *no impact* would occur.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
XII. POPULATION AND HOUSING Would the project:					
a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (e.g., by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (e.g., through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

DISCUSSION OF IMPACTS

- a) *No Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* In the GP-EIR the General Plan was found to result in substantial increases in the number of dwellings, residents, and employees in the General Plan Planning Area (GP DEIR, pp. 4.3-10 through 4.3-14). These increases were higher than those previously anticipated by the Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG). Substantial population growth is expected and significant and unavoidable impacts of the General Plan were identified (GP-DEIR, p. 4.3-14).

The proposed project would extract groundwater from subterranean aquifers. The provision of additional drinking water is generally considered to be a growth-inducing effect. However, groundwater extracted by the proposed project cannot be provided as drinking water, including after treatment. The entire quantity of water extracted and treated by the proposed project will be released into the American River. Therefore, while the proposed project would extract additional groundwater in the region, this water would not be available for consumption and the proposed project is not considered to be growth inducing. As the proposed project would not induce growth of any kind, the proposed project is expected to result in *no impact*.

- b) *No Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The GP-EIR identified potential impacts due to the displacement of people and housing as a result of implementation of the General Plan (GP DEIR, p. 4.3-14). These impacts were primarily due to the installation of infrastructure such as streets (Ibid). Consistency with State and federal laws relating to displacement of existing residents and housing would ensure that impacts of the General Plan would be less than significant (Ibid.).

The proposed treatment plant would be constructed on a currently vacant parcel. All other portions of the project site would be constructed either under existing City roadways or within the American River Parkway. No housing exists in any of these areas. Therefore, no housing would be displaced, resulting in *no impact* to existing housing or population in the area.

- c) *No Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* See discussion b) above.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
XIII. PUBLIC SERVICES Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, the need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the following public services:					
a) Fire protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Police protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Other public facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

EXISTING SETTING

The proposed project is located within the following public service districts:

- Fire Protection: Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District (SMFD)
- Police Protection – Rancho Cordova Police Department (RCPD)
- School District – Folsom Cordova Unified School District (FCUSD)
- Park District – Cordova Recreation and Park District (CRPD)
- Electrical Service – Sacramento Metropolitan Utilities District (SMUD)
- Natural Gas Service – Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E)

DISCUSSION OF IMPACTS

- a) *Less than Significant Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The GP-EIR analyzed the impact of the General Plan on fire protection services and the resulting environmental impact of any additional infrastructure required (GP DEIR, pp. 4.12-5 through 4.12-9). As the General Plan would result in substantial growth, additional fire stations and other infrastructure would be required to serve the increased number of dwellings and urban land uses (GP DEIR, pp. 4.12-5 and 4.12-6). Consistency with City Policies and Action Items would result in a less than significant impact of the General Plan to the environment from construction and provision of additional infrastructure and facilities.

The proposed project would add one 8,500 square-foot structure and some subterranean equipment and pipelines. Fire Protection for the project sites is provided by the SMFD station on Folsom Boulevard, approximately 0.95 miles away to the south. The addition of one structure would not require additional personnel, equipment, or facilities to be added to the current inventory of SMFD. Therefore, *less than significant* impacts are expected.

- b) *Less than Significant Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The GP-EIR identified potential impacts related to the need for additional police protection infrastructure and facilities (GP DEIR, pp. 4.12-16 through 4.12-20). Just as with fire protection, the substantial growth predicted in the GP-EIR would require additional fire protection infrastructure and facilities (GP DEIR, pp. 4.12-16 and 4.12-17). Consistency with City

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Policies and Action Items would result in less than significant impacts resulting from implementation of the General Plan (GP DEIR, p. 4.12-17).

Police equipment and personnel increases are tied to population growth in the City. As the proposed project would not increase the population [see discussion a) in Checklist XII, Population and Housing, above], it is not expected that additional personnel, equipment, or law enforcement facilities will be required. Therefore, the proposed project is expected to result in a *less than significant* impact.

- c) *No Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The GP-EIR identified potential impacts to all four school districts servicing the General Plan Planning Area as a result of substantial growth expected during the life of the General Plan (GP DEIR, pp. 4.12-77 through 4.12-80). While additional schools would be required as growth in the General Plan Planning Area continues, consistency with City Policies and Action Items, as well as required CEQA and State Board of Education review of future school sites would result in less than significant impacts resulting from implementation of the General Plan (GP DEIR, p. 4.12-80).

The proposed project would not construct any new residences and would not generate any growth in the vicinity. As the proposed project would not increase the number of students in the area, *no impact* to schools is expected.

- d) *No Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The GP-EIR identified potential environmental impacts related to the provision of additional parks to serve the growth anticipated in the General Plan (GP DEIR, pp. 4.12-89 through 4.12-96). Adherence to City Policy and Action Items as well as the requirements of the Cordova Recreation and Park District (CRPD) would ensure less than significant impacts from implementation of the General Plan (GP DEIR, pp. 4.12-95 and 4.12-96).

While one extraction well would be located on the edge of an existing park, extraction wells are located on or immediately adjacent to sidewalks and are not obtrusive to existing uses. No additional residents will be generated by the proposed project, resulting in no increase in park usage or demand. Therefore, no additional need for parks is expected and the proposed project would have *no impact*.

- e) *No Impact.* As no new residents or employees will be generated by the proposed project, and no public facilities will be impacted by construction and operation of the proposed project (see discussions above), *no impact* is expected.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
XIV. RECREATION					
a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

DISCUSSION OF IMPACTS

- a) *No Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* See discussion d) of checklist XIII, Public Services above for information on the GP-EIR's conclusions as to impacts related to parks and recreation. The proposed project would not generate any additional residents or employees in the City. Therefore, no additional need for parks or other recreational facilities would be created and *no impact* is expected.
- b) *No Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* See discussion a) above.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
XV. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC Would the project:					
a) Cause an increase in traffic that is substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system (i.e., result in a substantial increase in either the number of vehicle trips, the volume-to-capacity ratio on roads, or congestion at intersections)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Exceed, either individually or cumulatively, a level of service standard established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Result in inadequate emergency access?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Result in inadequate parking capacity?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g) Conflict with adopted policies, plans or programs supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

DISCUSSION OF IMPACTS

- a) *Less than Significant Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The GP-EIR analyzed traffic impacts to the existing roadway network in the General Plan Planning Area as a result of the population, dwelling unit, and employee increases expected to occur with implementation of the General Plan (GP DEIR, pp. 4.5-27 through 4.5-45). Several new roadways and improvement of existing roadways was described in the General Plan in order to address the additional expected traffic load. However, even with these improvements and adherence to City Policies and Action Items the impact of the General Plan would remain significant and unavoidable (GP DEIR, p. 4.5-42).

The proposed project is expected to generate a limited number of trips during construction as employees of the construction contractor drive to and from the work site. These limited increases in traffic as a result of construction of the proposed project would be temporary in nature. The operation of the proposed project is anticipated to generate one vehicle trip per day for routine operational maintenance and one trip every eight to twelve weeks for replacement of the filter media. Traffic generated by the proposed project does not meet City significance thresholds of more than 1000 trips per day or more than 100 additional peak hour (AM or PM) trips. Therefore, the proposed project would have *less than significant* impacts to traffic in the area.

- b) *Less than Significant Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* See discussion a) above. Impacts to level of service for roadways and intersections affected by the construction of the proposed project would be reduced by a Traffic Control Plan, required by

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

the City Public Works Department for any project that would involve effects to City roadways. Traffic control and other requirements of the Traffic Control Plan, coupled with the relatively low number of trips expected to be generated by construction of the proposed project would ensure *less than significant* impacts.

- c) *No Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The GP-EIR analyzed safety and hazards impacts related to the provision of land uses within the Mather Airport Comprehensive Land Use Plan (Mather CLUP) and their impact on safety related to air traffic in and out of the airport (GP DEIR, p. 4.4-28 and 4.4-29). The General Plan established the Mather Planning Area that corresponds to the Master Plan boundaries of the Mather Airport. Policies included in the General Plan were more stringent than the safety restrictions of the Mather CLUP (GP DEIR, p. 4.4-28). Consistency with City Policies and Action Items as well as the requirements of the Mather CLUP would ensure less than significant impacts from implementation of the General Plan (GP DEIR, p. 4.4-29).

The proposed project is located outside the height restriction areas for Mather Airport and no other public or private airport is located in the vicinity. Additionally, the proposed treatment facility would not construct any structures above 35 feet in height and would be substantially similar in design and characteristics to the existing church to the east of the treatment facility site. Therefore, the proposed project would not necessitate any change in current air traffic patterns and *no impact* is expected.

- d) *Less than Significant Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The GP-EIR analyzed potential impacts related to roadway safety as a result of implementation of the General Plan (GP DEIR, p. 4.5-48). The City's design standards for roadways, as well as the land use planning and other City Policies, would ensure that impacts of the General Plan related to roadway safety are less than significant (Ibid.).

The treatment plant site includes one driveway directly connecting the public right-of-way to the treatment facility. This driveway will be subject to City and SMFD requirements for safety and access. All other portions of the proposed project will be located immediately adjacent to public roads, precluding the need for new roadways or access features. Therefore, no hazards would be created as a result of site access and a *less than significant* impact is expected.

- e) *Less than Significant Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The GP-EIR identified impacts related to emergency access within the General Plan Planning Area (GP DEIR, p. 4.5-48). As the roadway network in the City was to be improved and additional routes were to be added by the General Plan, impacts were found to be less than significant (Ibid.).

The proposed treatment facility is designed with two access points; one from Coloma Road and one from the Cordova Church of Christ parking lot (via a cross-access easement). Additionally, the proposed project would be subject to any conditions imposed by the SMFD. The remainder of the proposed project will be located immediately adjacent to public roadways. Therefore, the proposed project would have *less than significant* impacts resulting from emergency access.

- f) *Less than Significant Impact.* Adequate parking space is provided on the treatment site to accommodate the one daily visit and the four yearly visits required by the proposed project. All other sites would not be routinely visited. The City Zoning Code does not require parking

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

for a project such as the proposed project. Therefore, the project would have a *less than significant* impact regarding parking capacity.

- g) *No Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The GP-EIR analyzed potential impacts to transit, pedestrian, and bicycle provisions within the City (GP DEIR, pp. 4.5-49 through 4.5-53). Development of the City's Transit Master Plan and the City's Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan would ensure that impacts of the General Plan to these provisions would be less than significant (GP DEIR, pp. 4.5-49 and 4.5-50).

The treatment facility site is not adjacent to any transit stops or bicycle rack areas, nor would people working at the treatment facility require additional transit services. Therefore, the proposed project would have *no impact* on alternative transportation.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
XVI. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS	Would the project:				
a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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 effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider that serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand, in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Comply with federal, state and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

DISCUSSION OF IMPACTS

- a) *Less than Significant Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The GP-EIR identified potential impacts relating to the capacity of the Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District (SRCS D) treatment facilities to treat wastewater flows from the General Plan Planning Area (GP DEIR, pp. 4.12-45 through 4.12-51). Current capacity at the SRWTP is adequate to meet projected growth by 2020, however growth beyond that point will require expansion of existing capacity which could result in environmental impacts (GP DEIR, p. 4.12-47). Because of this, the GP-EIR identified the impact of the General Plan as significant and unavoidable (GP DEIR, p. 4.12-51).

It is possible that some wastewater may be generated by the treatment facility as a result of workers on site. Wastewater generation is expected to very slight (much less than one equivalent standard dwelling, the standard unit of measurement used by the SCRSD for predicting wastewater generation) and would therefore not affect current treatment facilities. Therefore, a *less than significant* impact is expected.

- b) *Less than Significant Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* In addition to required expansion in treatment capacity, the GP-EIR identified potential impacts associated with the construction of additional wastewater conveyance infrastructure (GP DEIR, pp. 4.12-45 through 4.12-51). CSD-1 has planned expansion of sewerage infrastructure into the

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

General Plan Planning Area and the environmental effects of this expansion were addressed in an EIR (GP DEIR, pp. 4.12-46 and 4.12-47). However, increased growth expected with implementation of the General Plan will require more infrastructure than that currently planned by CSD-1. Therefore, the impact of the General Plan was found to be significant and unavoidable (GP DEIR, p. 4.12-51).

See discussion a) above.

- c) *Less than Significant Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* See discussion c) in checklist VII, Hydrology and Water Quality for information on stormwater drainage facilities and their associated environmental effects. The proposed treatment plant will drain stormwater towards the street where it will be handled by the existing City drainage system. The addition of less than one acre of impervious surfaces is not expected to generate significant stormwater runoff. The proposed project includes a discharge pipeline that will outflow directly into an existing stormwater channel located at the southern edge of the American River Parkway. In the event of a large storm event, the treatment facility discharge would be shut down by way of a float switch, preventing overflow of the stormwater discharge. Therefore, no expansion of existing facilities or construction of new stormwater facilities would be required and a *less than significant* impact is expected.
- d) *Less than Significant Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The GP-EIR identified potential environmental impacts related to available water supplies and the increased demand in the City and the General Plan Planning Area (GP DEIR, pp. 4.9-43 through 4.9-57). According to the analysis in the GP-EIR, adequate supplies of water exist through buildout of the current incorporated boundaries of the City (GP DEIR, p. 45). However, new sources of water will be required to serve buildout conditions for those portions of the General Plan Planning Area that lie outside current City boundaries. Significant environmental effects may occur from the acquisition of these additional sources. Therefore, significant and unavoidable impacts of the General Plan are expected (GP DEIR, p. 4.9-57).

The proposed project will require limited quantities of water for the landscaping to be installed on the treatment plant site and as dust control during construction. This water usage is expected to be limited in quantity and generally less in total quantity than that required of a single dwelling over the life of the project. Therefore, the proposed project would not result in a significant need for water supply and a *less than significant* impact is expected.

- e) *Less than Significant Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* See discussions a) and b) above.
- f) *Less than Significant Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* The GP-EIR identified potential impacts related to the capacity of local landfills and those landfills to which solid waste from the City and the General Plan Planning Area are shipped (GP DEIR, pp. 4.12-60 through 4.12-63). Current capacity exists at all landfills that serve the General Plan Planning Area and expansion in capacity is not expected to be required (GP DEIR, p. 4.12-61). Consistency with City Policies and Action Items as well as federal, State, and local laws and ordinances would ensure less than significant impacts as a result of implementation of the General Plan (GP DEIR, p. 4.12-63).

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

As identified in the General Plan EIR, all three landfills that receive solid waste from the City have adequate capacity to serve the City (GP DEIR, pp. 4.12-60 through 4.12-63). All solid waste generated by the proposed project would be trucked to local landfills for disposal, except for the non-hazardous spent filter media which would be disposed of under Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) guidance at Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) approved facilities. Therefore, both construction and operation of the proposed project would result in *less than significant* impacts.

- g) *Less than Significant Impact.* The proposed project would be served by an existing waste handling service, provided by BFI for other residential land uses in the City. BFI operates consistent with federal, State, and local statutes and regulations. All landfills that would serve the proposed project also conform to all applicable statutes and regulations. According to the project materials, the spent filter media would be shipped under uniform waste manifest to an appropriately licensed off-site treatment or disposal facility. Therefore, the proposed project would result in *less than significant* impacts.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Reviewed Under Previous Document
XVII. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE					
a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of rare or endangered plants or animals, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? "Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Does the project have environmental effects that will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

DISCUSSION OF IMPACTS

- a) *Less than Significant Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* As demonstrated in checklists I through XVI above, the proposed project is not expected to result in any significant impacts related to biological or cultural resources. Further, adherence to City policies would ensure that the project's impacts are *less than significant*.
- b) *Less than Significant Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* See Section 4.0 of this IS/MND for an analysis of the proposed project's cumulative impact.
- c) *Less than Significant Impact/Reviewed Under Previous Document.* See discussion a) above.

4.0 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

4.1 INTRODUCTION

This section addresses the proposed project's potential to contribute to cumulative impacts in the region. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15355 defines cumulative impacts as “two or more individual effects that, when considered together, are considerable or which compound or increase other environmental impacts.” A project's incremental effects are considered significant if they are “cumulatively considerable” (CEQA Guidelines Sections 15065[a][3] and 15130[a]). “Cumulatively considerable” means the incremental effects of the project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past, current, and future projects (see also CEQA Guidelines Appendix G, Section XVII).

4.2 CUMULATIVE SETTING

The Cumulative Setting establishes the area of effect in which the cumulative impact has been identified and inside which it will occur. Different cumulative settings can be established for each individual impact or impact area (checklist area). As the proposed project is a subsequent project identified in the General Plan, and as this MND is tiered from the GP-EIR, the cumulative setting for the proposed project is identical to the cumulative settings identified in the GP-EIR.

4.3 PREVIOUS CUMULATIVE ANALYSIS WITHIN THE CUMULATIVE SETTING

The GP-EIR identified several cumulative impacts where expected development and establishment of the roadway network in the city, when combined with other planned, proposed, and approved development and roadway infrastructure projects in the area, would have a significant impact on the environment. The following impact areas were found in the GP-EIR to have cumulative impacts that would be cumulatively considerable:

- Aesthetics
- Agricultural Resources
- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Hydrology and Water Quality (water supply)
- Land Use and Planning
- Mineral Resources
- Noise (both traffic related and stationary)
- Population and Housing
- Utilities and Service Systems (water treatment and wastewater infrastructure)
- Transportation/Traffic (traffic congestion)

Areas in which cumulative impacts were found in the GP-EIR to be less than cumulatively considerable were:

- Geology and Soils
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Public Services
- Recreation

4.0 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

4.4 CUMULATIVE IMPACT ANALYSIS

Cumulative impacts identified in the GP-EIR as being cumulatively considerable are largely due to increases in dwelling units, residents, and employees. The proposed project would not include the addition of any dwelling units, residents, or employees. However, many of the environmental effects of the proposed project are similar to those encountered with development of residences.

Except for the removal of on-site trees, environmental effects of the proposed project are limited to construction of the proposed project. Once construction of the proposed project is complete, those effects will no longer occur. Therefore, those effects are not considered to contribute to cumulative impacts identified in the General Plan EIR. In respect to the removal of trees on-site, the General Plan EIR identified an overall loss of some trees as a result of implementation of the General Plan (GP DEIR, pp. 4.10-61 and 4.10-62). Construction of the proposed treatment plant would result in the removal of some existing trees on the project site. The City's Tree Removal Ordinance would require mitigation for the loss of native or landmark trees on the project site. However, trees to be removed by the proposed project may not qualify as native or landmark-status trees.

The proposed project is expected to result in the removal of eight existing trees on the project site. According to the City's Arborist, these trees are predominantly walnut species and are currently in poor condition. According to the proposed project's landscaping plan (see **Figure 7**), once construction of the water treatment plant is complete, the project proponent would plant 11 trees on-site. Considering that the project would result in a net increase of two trees and because those trees would be healthy and maintained over time, it is expected that the proposed project would not contribute to the cumulative loss of trees identified in the GP-EIR. Therefore, full mitigation of the loss of existing on-site trees is provided.

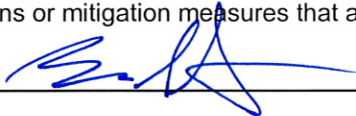
5.0 DETERMINATION

5.0 DETERMINATION

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

- I find that the proposed project **COULD NOT** have a significant effect on the environment, and a **NEGATIVE DECLARATION** will be prepared.
- I find that, although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, a **MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION** is appropriate (i) because all significant and unavoidable effects of the proposed project have been previously examined in a Program EIR prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15176, and (ii) because, with respect to any potentially new or additional significant environmental effects associated with the proposed project that have not been previously examined in the Program EIR, revisions to the proposed project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponents that clearly reduce such new or additional significant environmental effects to less-than-significant levels. In addition, I find that a **MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION** is also appropriate because the proposed project would not cause any significant environmental effects (i) that are "peculiar to the project or the parcel," (ii) that were not analyzed as significant effects in the prior EIR for the Rancho Cordova General Plan, or (iii) that, due to substantial new information not known at the time the Program EIR was certified, are more severe than discussed in the prior Program EIR. [See State CEQA Guidelines, § 15183, subd. (c)]
- I find that the proposed project **MAY** have a significant effect on the environment that cannot be reduced in effect by changed to the proposed project, and an **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT** is required.
- I find that the proposed Project **MAY** have a significant effect(s) on the environment, but one or more of such significant effects: 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT** is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
- I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, all potentially significant effects: (a) have been analyzed and adequately addressed in an earlier EIR pursuant to applicable standards, or (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR, previous Mitigated Negative Declaration, or this Subsequent Mitigated Negative Declaration, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project.

Signature: _____



Date: _____

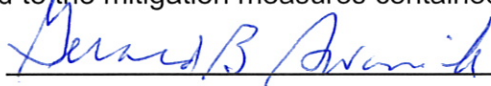
1/16/07

Printed Name: Ben Ritchie

For: City of Rancho Cordova

Per CEQA Section 15070(b)(1), the project proponent for the proposed project has reviewed and agreed to the mitigation measures contained in this Mitigated Negative Declaration.

Signature: _____



Date: _____

1/16/07

Printed Name: Gerald B. Swanick

For: Aerojet

6.0 REPORT PREPARATION AND CONSULTATIONS

6.0 REPORT PREPARATION AND CONSULTATIONS

6.1 REPORT PREPARATION AND REFERENCES

CITY OF RANCHO CORDOVA - LEAD AGENCY

Paul Junker	Planning Director
Anne Hersch	Assistant Planner
Ben Ritchie	Environmental Coordinator
Kevin Freibott	Environmental Planner
Cori Resha	Assistant Environmental Planner
John Nadolski	Cultural Resources Staff
Tina Pitsenberger	Cultural Resources Staff

6.2 PERSONS AND AGENCIES CONSULTED

Jeanne Borkenhagen	Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District
Joseph Hurley	Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District
Alexander MacDonald	California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Clark Whitten	County of Sacramento – Real Estate Division

7.0 REFERENCES

7.0 REFERENCES

- Aerojet. May 2, 2006. Supplemental Information for the City of Rancho Cordova Parcel Map and Conditional Use Permit Application.
- Airport Land Use Commission for Sacramento, Sutter, Yolo, and Yuba Counties. 1997, May. *Mather Airport Comprehensive Land Use Plan*. Sacramento, CA. Available for review at the City of Rancho Cordova on request.
- California Stormwater Quality Association (CASQA). 2003, January. *Stormwater Best Management Practice Handbook: Construction*. Available at the City of Rancho Cordova on request or online at <http://www.cabmphandbooks.com/>
- City of Rancho Cordova. 1989. Rancho Cordova Zoning Code. Adopted by the City of Rancho Cordova from Sacramento County Zoning Code upon incorporation of the City in July 2003.
- City of Rancho Cordova. 2006, March. *Rancho Cordova General Plan Draft Environmental Impact Report*. Referenced in document as GP EIR. Available for review at the City of Rancho Cordova on request or online at <http://gp.cityofranhocordova.org/>
- City of Rancho Cordova. 2006, June 26. *Rancho Cordova General Plan: Final Adopted Version*. Referenced in document as General Plan. Available for review at the City of Rancho Cordova on request or online at <http://gp.cityofranhocordova.org/>
- Jackson, Alan. Engineer, Environmental Remediation, Aerojet. Letter dated January 12, 2007 to Cori Resha of the City of Rancho Cordova.
- MacDonald, Alexander. Senior Engineer, California Regional Water Quality Control Board. Letter dated October 2, 2006 to Paul Junker of the City of Rancho Cordova.
- MacDonald, Alexander. Senior Engineer, California Regional Water Quality Control Board. Personal correspondence in January 2007 with Cori Resha of the City of Rancho Cordova.
- Pitsenberger, Tina. Cultural Resources, Pacific Municipal Consultants. Letter dated November 28, 2006 to Cori Resha of the City of Rancho Cordova.
- Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality District (SMAQMD). 2004, July. *Guide to Air Quality Assessment in Sacramento County*. Available at the City of Rancho Cordova on request or online at <http://www.airquality.org/>