

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, which consists of the General Plan Planning Area.

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 or residents, but could result in a slight increase in employees.

Consistency with City Policies, Action Items, ordinances, and other requirements would reduce the proposed project's incremental contribution to the above cumulative impacts. However, some contribution would remain. Since the project involves only a limited expansion of on-site uses, and mitigation measures included in this MND would reduce project impacts to a less than significant level, the project's incremental contribution to cumulative impacts within the General Plan Planning Area are considered *less than cumulatively considerable*.

The proposed project is a subsequent project within the scope of activities and land uses studied in the GP-EIR. Development of the proposed project site would not result in any project-specific contribution to cumulative impacts that were not identified in the Program EIR. As the GP-EIR found that cumulative impacts in the above areas were cumulatively considerable and because the proposed project is consistent with and described in the Program EIR, no further environmental analysis is required pursuant to Pub. Res. Code Section 21083.3 and State CEQA Guidelines Section 15183.