
5.0 – CUMULATIVE IMPACTS SUMMARY

This section compiles all of the cumulative impacts associated with the proposed project as identified in each of the environmental issue areas contained in Sections 4.1 through 4.12 of this EIR.

5.1 INTRODUCTION

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires that an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) contain an assessment of the cumulative impacts that could be associated with the proposed project. According to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15130(a), "an EIR shall discuss cumulative impacts of a project when the project's incremental effect is cumulatively considerable." " 'Cumulatively considerable' means that the incremental effects of an individual project are significant when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects." CEQA Guidelines Section 15065(a)(3). As defined by the Guidelines, "cumulative impacts" refers to two or more effects that, when combined, are considerable or which compound or increase other environmental impacts. CEQA Guidelines Section 15355. A cumulative impact occurs from:

...the change in the environment which results from the incremental impact of the project when added to other closely related past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor but collectively significant projects taking place over a period of time. CEQA Guidelines Section 15355(b).

In addition, Section 15130(b) identifies that the following four elements are necessary for an adequate cumulative analysis:

- 1) *Either:*
 - (A) *A list of past, present, and probable future projects producing related or cumulative impacts, including, if necessary, those projects outside the control of the agency; or,*
 - (B) *A summary of projections contained in an adopted general plan or related planning document, or in a prior environmental document which has been adopted or certified, which described or evaluated regional or area wide conditions contributing to the cumulative impact. Any such planning document shall be referenced and made available to the public at a location specified by the lead agency.*
- 2) *A definition of the geographic scope of the area affected by the cumulative effect and a reasonable explanation for the geographic limitation used;*
- 3) *A summary of the expected environmental effects to be produced by those projects with specific reference to additional information stating where that information is available; and*
- 4) *A reasonable analysis of the cumulative impacts of the relevant projects. An EIR shall examine reasonable, feasible options for mitigating or avoiding the project's contribution to any significant cumulative effects.*

Where a lead agency is examining a project with an incremental effect that is not "cumulatively considerable," a lead agency need not consider that effect significant, but shall briefly describe

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its basis for concluding that the incremental effect is not cumulatively considerable. CEQA Guidelines Section 15130(a).

5.2 CUMULATIVE SETTING

The Agency has used both the list and summary of projections approaches ((1)(A) and (1)(B) above) to consider cumulative impacts in this Draft EIR. The general cumulative setting conditions are based on the existing land use plans in the Sacramento region—specifically, Sacramento County, El Dorado County, Placer County, and the cities of Sacramento, Folsom, Rancho Cordova, Galt, Citrus Heights, Roseville and Rocklin, and on consideration of currently known large-scale proposed or approved development projects in the Rancho Cordova General Plan Planning Area and in the nearby region (see **Table 5.0-1**).

**TABLE 5.0-1
PROPOSED AND APPROVED LARGE-SCALE RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL PROJECTS**

Project Name	Residential Acres	Commercial Acres	Total Acres*	Residential Units	County/City General Plan Land Use Designation	County/City Zoning Designation	Current Status
Approved Projects							
Sunridge Park (Phase I and Phase II) (Part of Specific Plan)	203.4	32.3	244.2	953	Low Density Residential	RD-4, RD-5, RD-7, CMU, O	CEQA complete/ Under Construction
Anatolia I (Part of Specific Plan)	163.5	14.5	229.8	1,038	Residential, commercial, park, elementary school	RD-5, RD-7, RD-10	CEQA complete/ 392 units under construction as of 9/30/05
Anatolia II (Part of Specific Plan)	150.7	11.1	298	955	Residential, commercial, recreation center, park, school	RD-4, RD-5, RD-7, RD-10	CEQA complete/ 339 units under construction as of 9/30/05
Anatolia III (Part of Specific Plan)	208	N/A	208	879	Low Density Residential, Open Space	RD-4, RD-5, O	CEQA complete/site preparation and grading activities currently underway
Anatolia IV (Part of Specific Plan)	25	N/A	25	203	Residential	RD-5, RD-10	Public review complete MND Has not gone to City Council On hold for SB610 and water issues
Mather East (Part of Specific Plan)	11.9	29.1	44.56	129	Commercial, Multi-family, open space	RD-10, LC	CEQA complete/ Not under Construction
Sunrise Douglas Shopping Center	N/A	14	14	N/A	Commercial	LC	CEQA complete/ Not under Construction

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Villages of Zinfandel – Stone Creek Condos	17.08	N/A	17.08	214	Multi-Family Residential	Medium Density	CEQA complete/ Not under Construction
Villages of Zinfandel GPA	527	18	823	1,833	Residential, Commercial, Public, Recreation	SPA	CEQA complete/ Under construction (822 units remaining to be built as of 9/30/05)
North Douglas (Part of Specific Plan)	120.9	N/A	130.3	680	Low Density Residential, Park	RD-5, RD-7, RD-10, Park	CEQA complete/ Not under Construction
Capital Village	71.7	32	117	827	Mixed Use	SPA	CEQA complete/ Under Construction
Proposed Projects							
Rio del Oro	1,931	137	3,828.5	11,601	Mixed-use development, which will include a General Plan Amendment and Amendment of the Aerojet SPA Ordinance.	SPA (AG-80), SPA (M-2), SPA (IR) Industrial Reserve, M-2	CEQA/NEPA being completed
Suncreek	2,901	306	3,410	5,459	Low density Residential, Medium density Residential, Commercial, Recreation, Open Space, Schools	SPA	CEQA/NEPA being completed
The Preserve at Sunridge	303.5	N/A	530	2,624	Residential, village center, parks, wetland preserve	RD-5, RD-7, RD-10, 5D-15, RD-30	CEQA complete/ Awaiting discretionary action
Sunridge East (approved portion of a specific plan)	363.7	24	640	3,042	Residential, commercial, office, and natural preserve	RD-5, RD-7, RD-10, RD-15 LC	CEQA complete/ Approved

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Montelena (approved part of a specific plan)	158.3	N/A	251.9	879	Residential, wetland preserve, parks, fire station.	RD-4, RD-5, RD-7, RD-10, RD-20, O	CEQA complete/ Awaiting discretionary action
Westborough	1,000	274	1,518	6,000	Residential, business, community and recreational uses	RD-5, RD-10, RD-30, LC, CMU, VCMU, OMU	In preliminary planning stages
Glenborough	801	178	1,366	4,810	Residential, commercial and recreational uses	RD-5, RD-10, RD-30, LC, CMU, O	County Project
Bradshaw Landing	N/A	N/A	40.5	N/A	360,000-square-foot theater and retail commercial use	LC	Revised and now called "The Landing" Notice of Intent to prepare an EIR released by Sacramento County
Legion of Christ Catholic College	N/A	N/A	300	N/A	Full-service residential campus by 2008 for 7,000 students and nearly 600 faculty members	N/A	County Project
Rancho Cordova Gateway	33,600 sq. ft.	63,230 sq. ft.	3.1	40	Retail, restaurant, high density residential	CMU	MND is being prepared
Major Development Projects in the Region							
South Mather Master Plan (Sacramento County)	N/A	Undefined development opportunities for economic development, airport commercial development and airport operations	1,070	N/A	Undefined development opportunities for economic development, airport commercial development, airport operations and wetland preserve	Multiple	Proposed
Laguna Ridge Specific	1,203	196	1,900	7,762	Residential,	Multiple	Approved and

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Plan (City of Elk Grove)					commercial, office, public, open space		under construction.
Elk Grove Promenade (formerly Lent Ranch Marketplace) (City of Elk Grove)	N/A	1.3 million square feet of retail uses		N/A	Commercial	Special Planning Area	Proposed
Palladio (City of Folsom)	N/A	50 400,000 square feet of retail uses	50	N/A	Commercial		Approved
Metre Planned Unit Development (City of Sacramento – North Natomas Community)	366	31	594	2,977	Residential, commercial, public, parks and open space	Multiple	Proposed
Placer Vineyards Specific Plan (Placer County)	2,391	281	5,148	14,132	Residential, commercial, office, industrial, parks and open space	Multiple	Proposed
Promontory Specific Plan (El Dorado County)	850	7	993	1,097	Residential, commercial, parks and open space	Multiple	Approved and under construction.
Carson Creek Specific Plan (El Dorado County)	369	5	711	1,470	Residential, commercial, industrial, parks and open space	Multiple	Approved
Valley View Specific Plan (El Dorado County)	1,271	40	2,038	2,837	Residential, commercial, parks and open space	Multiple	Approved and under construction.

Source: City of Rancho Cordova

Note: *Total acres also include acreage for residential and commercial and other land uses such as parks, schools, recreation centers, etc.

APPROACH TO THE CUMULATIVE IMPACT ANALYSIS

Definition of Cumulative Setting

State CEQA Guidelines Section 15130 requires that EIRs include an analysis of the cumulative impacts of a project when the project's effect is considered cumulatively considerable. In general, the cumulative setting conditions considered in this Draft EIR are based on:

- *SACOG Sacramento Region Blueprint and Preferred Blueprint Scenario* – The Sacramento Region Blueprint depicts a way (in terms of land uses and transportation improvements) for the region to grow through the year 2050, during which time the region is expected to witness growth in its current population of 2 million, to include more than 3.8 million people; in job increases from 921,000 to 1.9 million; and housing increases from 713,000 to 1.5 million units. The SACOG Board of Directors adopted the *Preferred Blueprint Scenario* in December 2004, a vision for growth that promotes compact, mixed-use development and more transit choices as an alternative to sprawling low-density development, which would consume more land for an equivalent number of housing units and result in a number of corresponding adverse environmental impacts. The Preferred Blueprint Scenario predicts long-term environmental benefits from undertaking a realistic long-term planning process, and these benefits are intended to minimize the extent of the inevitable physical expansion of the overall regional urban areas. The results would be greater protection of natural resources because less land would be required for urban uses and less agricultural land converted. In addition, the Preferred Blueprint Scenario predicts less time devoted to travel, fewer car trips, and fewer miles traveled to work and local businesses. The reduction in traffic would improve air quality in the region by reducing carbon monoxide and particulate matter produced by car exhaust. While only advisory, the Blueprint is the most authoritative policy guidance in the Sacramento region for long-term regional land use and transportation planning.
- *Local Adopted General Plans* – The existing land use plans in the Sacramento region consisting of Sacramento County, El Dorado County, Placer County and the cities of Sacramento, Folsom, Rancho Cordova, Galt, Citrus Heights, Roseville and Rocklin.
- *City of Folsom Sphere of Influence* – The City of Folsom is proposing a mix of land uses in the 3,584-acre SOI annexation area, including: 1,800 acres of residential (mix of small lot, large lot, executive, walkable community, and high density); 100 acres of commercial; 70 acres of business/professional; 125 acres of retail/office; 10 acres of public/quasi public; 297 acres of schools and city parks; 1,075 acres of open space; and 107 acres of roads.
- *Large-Scale Development Projects* – Consideration of large-scale proposed and approved development projects listed in **Table 7.0-1**. This list of projects is intended to describe large-scale past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future development activities in the Sacramento region that, when considered with the proposed Redevelopment Plan, have the potential to have cumulatively considerable impacts. It is not intended to be an all-inclusive list of projects in the Sacramento region.
- *Effect of Regional Conditions* – This consists of consideration of background traffic volumes and patterns on state highways (e.g., US 50 and SR 16), background air quality conditions and other associated environmental conditions that occur within the Sacramento region, both within and outside of the Project Area.

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- *Consideration of Existing Development Patterns* – This consists of consideration of the current environmental conditions of existing development and past land use activities in the region. This includes major land use activities in area such as operation of Mather Air Force Base and Aerojet, agricultural activities and conversion of open space and agricultural lands from existing development patterns and mining activities in the region.

Each technical section of the Draft EIR includes a description of the geographic extent of the cumulative setting based on the characteristics of the environmental issue under consideration as set forth in Section 15130(b) of the State CEQA Guidelines.

5.3 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS ANALYSIS

Identified below is a list of the cumulative impacts that could result from the implementation of the proposed Redevelopment Plan and future development within the Project Area and the Sacramento Region- as defined above. As described above, cumulative impacts are two or more effects that, when considered together, are considerable or compound other environmental effects. Each cumulative impact is determined to have one of the following levels of significance: less than significant, significant, or significant and unavoidable. The specific cumulative impacts for each environmental issue area are also identified and analyzed in the corresponding technical sections of the Draft EIR (Sections 4.1 through 4.12).

SECTION 4.1 LAND USE

Cumulative Land Use Effects

Impact 4.1.5 When considered with existing, proposed, planned and approved development in the region, implementation of the Rancho Cordova Redevelopment Plan has the potential to contribute to cumulative land use conditions in the region that result in significant impacts to the physical environment. This is considered a **cumulatively considerable** impact.

SECTION 4.2 POPULATION/HOUSING/EMPLOYMENT

Cumulative Population and Housing Increases

Impact 4.2.3 Implementation of the proposed project along with projected growth in the region would include increases in population, housing and employment that would result in physical effects to the environment. This is considered a **cumulatively considerable** impact.

SECTION 4.3 HAZARDS AND HUMAN HEALTH

Cumulative Hazards and Health Risks

Impact 4.3.6 Implementation of the Redevelopment Plan could expose persons to hazards during construction activities and throughout the life of the Plan. This is considered a **less than cumulatively considerable** impact.

SECTION 4.4 TRANSPORTATION AND CIRCULATION

Cumulative Traffic Impacts on Local Roadways and State Highways

Impact 4.4.6 When considered with existing, proposed, planned and approved development in the region, implementation of the Rancho Cordova Redevelopment Plan would contribute to cumulative traffic volumes in the region that result in significant impacts to level of service and operations. This is considered a **cumulatively considerable** impact.

SECTION 4.5 AIR QUALITY

Regional Air Plan Impacts

Impact 4.5.6 Implementation of the proposed project along with potential development of the surrounding area would exacerbate existing regional problems with ozone and particulate matter. The proposed project's incremental contribution to this impact would be **cumulatively considerable**.

SECTION 4.6 NOISE

Cumulative Traffic Noise Impacts

Impact 4.6.6 Implementation of the proposed Redevelopment Plan in combination with regional growth and traffic conditions (pass-through traffic) would increase transportation noise along Project Area and regional roadways. This contribution would be **cumulatively considerable**.

SECTION 4.8 GEOLOGY AND SOILS

Cumulative Soils Impacts

Impact 4.7.5 Implementation of the proposed project, together with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects in the area, could result in a cumulatively significant impact due to soil stability and erosion. This is considered a **less than cumulatively considerable** impact.

Cumulative Mineral Resources Impacts

Impact 4.7.6 Implementation of the proposed project, together with past, present, and probable future projects in the area, could result in a cumulatively significant loss of mineral resources in the region. The proposed project's incremental contribution to the loss of mineral resources would be **less than cumulatively considerable**.

SECTION 4.8 HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

Cumulative Water Quality Impacts

Impact 4.8.6 Implementation of the proposed project, in combination with current and future development and redevelopment in the cumulative area, would

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contribute to water quality impacts throughout the region. The project's incremental contribution to these impacts would be **less than cumulatively considerable**.

Cumulative Flood Hazards

Impact 4.8.7 Implementation of the proposed project, when combined with current and future projects in the cumulative area, would result in an increase in impervious surfaces and modification of drainage conditions that could result in localized and area-wide flood conditions. The proposed project's incremental contribution to this cumulative impact would be **less than cumulatively considerable**.

Cumulative Water Supply Impacts

Impact 4.8.8 Implementation of the proposed Redevelopment Plan would contribute to an increased cumulative demand for water supply requiring increased groundwater production and the use of surface water supplies that could result in significant environmental impacts. The proposed project's incremental contribution to the impact would be **less than cumulatively considerable**.

SECTION 4.9 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Cumulative Biological Resources

Impact 4.9.7 Implementation of the proposed project, together with past, present, and probable future projects in the area, could result in a cumulatively significant loss of biological resources in the region. The Redevelopment Plan's incremental contribution to this significant cumulative impact is **cumulatively considerable**.

SECTION 4.10 CULTURAL AND PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Prehistoric Resources, Historic Resources, and Human Remains

Impact 4.10.3 Implementation of the proposed project along with any foreseeable development in the region could result in the potential disturbance of cultural resources (i.e., prehistoric sites, historic sites, and isolated artifacts and features) and human remains. This is considered a **cumulatively considerable** impact.

Paleontological Resources

Impact 4.10.4 Implementation of the proposed project along with any foreseeable development in the region could result in the potential disturbance of paleontological resources (i.e., fossils and fossil formations). This is considered a **less than cumulatively considerable** impact.

SECTION 4.11 PUBLIC SERVICES AND UTILITIES

Cumulative Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services

Impact 4.11.1.2 Implementation of the proposed project, along with past, current, and project development in the cumulative area, would result in the need for additional fire protection and emergency medical facilities and equipment. The proposed project's incremental contribution to this impact would be **less than cumulatively considerable**.

Cumulative Law Enforcement Impacts

Impact 4.11.2.2 Implementation of the proposed project, along with past, current, and future projects within the cumulative area, would result in increased needs for law enforcement equipment and facilities. The proposed project's incremental contribution to this cumulative impact would be **less than cumulatively considerable**.

Cumulative Water Service Impacts

Impact 4.11.3.2 Implementation of the proposed project, in combination with current and proposed development within the City of Rancho Cordova would result in the need for additional treatment capacity, storage capacity, and other conveyance facilities to meet the cumulative water demands for SCWA, GSWC and Cal-Am. The proposed project's incremental contribution to this cumulative impact would be **cumulatively considerable**.

Cumulative Collection, Conveyance, and Treatment Infrastructure Impacts

Impact 4.11.4.3 Implementation of the proposed project, along with past, present, and projected development within the cumulative area, will result in a cumulative need for additional wastewater collection, conveyance, and treatment infrastructure and capacity. The proposed project's incremental contribution to this impact would be **cumulatively considerable**.

Cumulative Solid Waste Service

Impact 4.11.5.2 Implementation of the proposed project, in addition to past, present, and projected future development in the City of Rancho Cordova, would require additional solid waste collection, handling, and storage services. The proposed project's incremental contribution to this cumulative impact would be **less than cumulatively considerable**.

Cumulative Public School Impacts

Impact 4.11.6.2 Implementation of the proposed project, in combination with projected increases in dwelling units within the Folsom Cordova Unified School District, will result in an increased need for public school facilities. The proposed project's incremental contribution to this cumulative impact would be **less than cumulatively considerable**.

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Cumulative Park and Recreation Demands

Impact 4.11.7.2 Implementation of the proposed project, along with past, present, and projected development in the cumulatively area, would result in an increase in population and thus an increase in demand for parks and recreational facilities. The proposed project's incremental contribution to this impact would be **less than cumulatively considerable**.

Cumulative Electrical, Natural Gas, Telephone, and Cable Services Impacts

Impact 4.11.8.2 Implementation of the proposed project, as well as past, present, and future development of the cumulative area, would result in the cumulative increase in demand for electrical, natural gas, telephone, and cable service. The proposed project's incremental contribution to this impact would be **less than cumulatively considerable**.

SECTION 4.12 VISUAL RESOURCES/LIGHT AND GLARE

Cumulative Visual Resources Impacts

Impact 4.12.5 Implementation of the Redevelopment Plan would include residential, commercial, and other land uses, which would contribute to the alteration of the existing visual resources in the City of Rancho Cordova. This impact is **cumulatively considerable**.