

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

The proposed project is a subsequent project within the scope of activities and land uses studied in the GP-EIR. The proposed project is consistent with the General Plan in use, design, and density. Cumulative impacts identified in the GP-EIR as being cumulatively considerable are largely due to increases in dwelling units, residents, and employees. As the proposed project would contribute to the increases in dwelling units and residents in the City, the project would contribute to cumulative impacts identified in the GP-EIR. The proposed project's incremental contribution to the cumulatively considerable impacts listed in Section 4.3, above, would be cumulatively considerable.

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. Therefore, the proposed project's incremental contribution to the above cumulative impacts would be *cumulatively considerable*. The general nature of the project (the construction of homes on an otherwise undeveloped parcel) is the impetus for this contribution, not specific design elements or characteristics of the project that could be modified by mitigation measures. Therefore, additional mitigation of the project's cumulative contribution is not feasible.

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.