

4.9 Public Services

4.9.1 Introduction

This section discusses existing public services (including police, fire, schools, and parks) that would serve the Proposed Project, as well as potential impacts to those services resulting from the Proposed Project.

Comments related to public services received during the public comment period on the NOP for the EIR included concern over demand for increased police and fire demand, crowd control, emergency service, and the location of recreational activities (see Appendix A).

4.9.2 Police Protection

Environmental Setting

The Sacramento Police Department (Sacramento PD) is principally responsible for providing police protection services in the City of Sacramento. In addition to the Sacramento PD, the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department, California Highway Patrol (CHP), University of California, Davis (UC Davis) Medical Center Police Department, and the Regional Transit Police Department support the Sacramento PD to provide police protection in the greater Sacramento area. The Sacramento PD serves the community through a variety of facilities located throughout Sacramento. Police Headquarters, known as the Public Safety Administration Building, is home to Police Administration and Investigations, as well as several support functions such as Records, Information Technology, and Fiscal. There are three substations located in the North, Central, and South command areas. Patrol officers and specialized teams are deployed from these locations:

- *Police Headquarters*: Public Safety Center, Chief John P. Kearns Administration Facility (5770 Freeport Boulevard);
- *North Area Substation*: William J. Kinney Police Facility (3550 Marysville Boulevard);
- *South Area Substation*: Joseph E. Rooney Police Facility (5303 Franklin Boulevard); and
- *Central Command* : Richards Station (300 Richards Boulevard).

Central Command provides police response to the Downtown project site and has a service area bounded by the American River to the north, Highway 50 on the south, the Sacramento River on the west, and Watt Avenue on the east. Police Headquarters supports the North Area Substation, South Area Substation, and Central Command by providing administrative support, crime prevention education, and other law enforcement duties.

The Sacramento PD is staffed by 636 sworn full time police officers and 235 civilian staff.¹ The Sacramento PD does not have an adopted officer-to-resident ratio. The Department uses a variety of data that includes Geographic Information System (GIS) data, call and crime frequency information, and available personnel to rebalance its deployment on an annual basis to meet the changing demands of the City. The Sacramento PD maintains an unofficial goal of 2.0 to 2.5 sworn police officers per 1,000 residents and 1 civilian support staff per 2 sworn officers.² In 2012, the Department was funded for 1.38 officers per 1,000 residents. Based on 636 full time sworn officers and 235 civilian employees, the existing ratio of sworn officers per 1,000 residents is 1.34, which is below the Sacramento PD's unofficial goal¹. According to the Sacramento PD's 2012 Annual Report, the hiring of police officers was significantly reduced from the end of 2007 through 2012 due to budget cutbacks, with no new officers being hired since 2009. Staffing levels and the ratio of officers per 1,000 residents continued to decline as retirements and attrition occurred. With recent police department budget improvements, the PD hiring new officers to increase staffing numbers.

Regulatory Setting

Local

Sacramento 2030 General Plan

The Sacramento 2030 General Plan contains the following goals and policies applicable to the Proposed Project:

Public Health and Safety

Goal PHS 1.1 Crime and Law Enforcement. Work cooperatively with the community, regional law enforcement agencies, local government and other entities to provide quality police service that protects the long-term health, safety, and well-being of our city, reduce current and future criminal activity, and incorporate design strategies into new development.

Policies

- **PHS 1.1.1 Police Master Plan.** The City shall maintain and implement a Police Master Plan to address staffing and facility needs, service goals, and deployment strategies. (*MPSP*)
- **PHS 1.1.2 Response Time Standards.** The City shall strive to achieve and maintain appropriate response times for all call priority levels to provide adequate police services for the safety of all city residents and visitors. (*MPSP*)
- **PHS 1.1.3 Staffing Standards.** The City shall maintain optimum staffing levels for both sworn police officers and civilian support staff in order to provide quality police services to the community. (*MPSP*)

¹ City of Sacramento Police Department, 2013. *Sacramento Police Department 2012 Annual Report*. p. 17.

² City of Sacramento, 2009. *Sacramento 2030 General Plan Master Environmental Impact Report (SCH No. 2007072024)*. Certified March 3, 2009. p. 6.10-5.

- **PHS 1.1.4 Timing of Services.** The City shall ensure that development of police facilities and delivery of services keeps pace with development and growth in the city. (*MPSP/SO*)
- **PHS 1.1.7 Development Review.** The City shall continue to include the Police Department in the review of development projects to adequately address crime and safety, and promote the implementation of Crime Prevention through Environmental Design principles. (*RDR*)
- **PHS 1.1.8 Development Fees for Facilities and Services.** The City shall require development projects to contribute fees for police protection services and facilities. (*RDR/FB*)

The Proposed Project would be consistent with each of the General Plan goals and policies listed above. Consistent with Policy PHS 1.1.7, an evaluation of potential police protection impacts resulting from the Proposed Project is included below under Impact 4.9-1. Also, consistent with Policy PHS 1.1.8, the Proposed Project would pay all required development impact fees in order to pay for the expansion of police services.

Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Significance Criteria

Implementation of the Proposed Project would have a significant impact related to police services if it would:

- require, or result in, the construction of new, or the expansion of existing, facilities related to the provision of police protection, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts.

Methodology and Assumptions

This impact analysis determines whether development of the Proposed Project would require new or expanded police facilities, the construction of which could result in physical environmental effects. Reductions in service levels can be indicative the potential need for additional staff and/or facilities. The Proposed Project would result in an increase in employment at the Downtown project site of approximately 2,084 jobs and would include up to 550 multi-family residential units which could house up to approximately 1,155 residents. These new residents and workers would require public services, including police protection, which could require the expansion of existing facilities or the construction of new facilities which could result in environmental impacts. The offsite digital billboards associated with the Proposed Project would not require police services or facilities and are therefore not analyzed further in this section.

Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Impact 4.9-1: The Proposed Project would increase demand for police protection services within the City of Sacramento.

The Sacramento Sheriff's Department currently provides interior and exterior security at Sleep Train Arena during events, and also manages ingress and egress traffic patterns before and after Sacramento Kings games.³ The Sacramento PD would be responsible for interior and exterior security at the proposed ESC, and for implementation of the Proposed Project's traffic management plan (TMP) before, during, and after certain events.⁴ As discussed in Chapter 2, Project Description, and as further required under Mitigation Measure 4.10-1, the TMP calls for a Transportation Management Center (TMC) in the ESC (which could be co-located with the ESC Security Office) that would allow for coordination of vehicular, transit and pedestrian traffic controls in concert with event activities and schedules under various event scenarios. The TMP calls for a series of pre- and post-game traffic controls, including post-game street closures during peak events. The TMP would also include transportation control strategies to facilitate transit boarding at the nearby 7th & K Street/St Rose of Lima light rail station, communication strategies, and wayfinding strategies.

As described in Chapter 2, Project Description, the Proposed Project would include up to 550 multi-family residential units, which could house up to approximately 1,155 residents.

This analysis conservatively assumes that residents in the project area would relocate from outside city limits, and therefore require expanded police services from the Sacramento PD. Using the Sacramento PD's unofficial goal of 2.0 to 2.5 sworn police officers per 1,000 residents and 1 civilian support staff per 2 sworn officers, the Proposed Project would require 2 new officers and 1 new civilian support staff in order to serve this additional population in the downtown area. Based on the available information, the addition of these positions would not result in the need to construct a new facility. In addition, new residences would pay taxes and fees as well as be required to contribute fees to fund additional police services.

The Sacramento PD does not anticipate that new police facilities would be required to ensure adequate police protection for the Proposed Project. Sacramento PD would adjust staffing levels as appropriate in order to ensure adequate service at the Proposed Project site.⁵ The Proposed Project would not require the construction of new or altered police facilities, and the impact to police services would be *less than significant*.

³ Matthes, Dana, 2013. Personal communication via e-mail between Aaron Hecock of ESA and Dana Matthes of the Sacramento Police Department. October 24, 2013.

⁴ Matthes, Dana, 2013. Personal communication via e-mail between Aaron Hecock of ESA and Dana Matthes of the Sacramento Police Department. October 24, 2013.

⁵ Matthes, Dana, 2013. Personal communication via e-mail between Aaron Hecock of ESA and Dana Matthes of the Sacramento Police Department. October 24, 2013.

Mitigation Measure

None required.

Cumulative Impacts

Because the Police Department service area is the City of Sacramento, the cumulative context for law enforcement impacts is growth within the City as reflected in the 2030 General Plan, and the associated increase in population is considered as the cumulative scenario.

Impact 4.9-2: The Proposed Project would contribute to cumulative increases in demand on police protection services in the City of Sacramento.

As described in the 2030 General Plan MEIR, an additional 195,000 people are anticipated with buildout of the 2030 General Plan. This increase in population combined with the Proposed Project, could result in an increased demand for police services. However, policies have been created to ensure adequate police facilities are provided to accommodate the increase in new residents. For example, Policy PHS 1.1.1 calls for the City to prepare a Police Master Plan to address staffing needs, facility needs, deployment strategies, and service goals. The Master Plan would be the guiding document for police services in the city and would consider all demands for police protection in the city, including those generated by the Proposed Project. Policy PHS 1.1.4 mandates that the City keep pace with all development and growth within the city to ensure facilities and staffing are available to serve residents prior to occupation of new development. Increased Sacramento PD staffing would be funded through the City's General Fund. Policies PHS 1.1.2 and PHS 1.1.3 require that the City maintain optimum staffing levels and response times in order to provide quality police services to the community. Should response times increase in certain areas of the city, the Sacramento PD has the ability to reallocate resources to ensure staffing levels and response times are at an acceptable level. Policies PHS 1.1.5 and PHS 1.1.12 also deal with the distribution and cooperative delivery of services to residents within the city to ensure optimal police response to all city residents. Reallocation of police resources throughout the city would reduce the need to construct new police facilities because police units are mobile. Policy PHS 1.1.6 seeks to co-locate police facilities with other City facilities, such as fire stations, when appropriate, to promote efficient use of space and efficient provision of police protection services within dense, urban portions of the city. Policy PHS 1.1.7 seeks to prevent crime by implementing Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) strategies.

Growth and development in the downtown area, including the development of the Proposed Project, would require additional police staff and facilities, especially in the Central City area. The Sacramento Police Department's Master Plan identifies City-wide department needs and identifies new facilities and staffing necessary to maintain police protection services throughout the City. New facilities and staff are added to the Sacramento Police Department on an as-needed basis to continue to meet service goals. All new facilities and staff are part of the City-wide Master Plan and would be funded through the City's General Fund. Project development would

pay taxes that would contribute to the General Fund. For these reasons, this would be a *less-than-significant cumulative impact*.

Mitigation Measure

None required.

4.9.3 Fire Protection

Environmental Setting

The Sacramento Fire Department (SFD) provides fire protection services to the entire city, which includes approximately 98 square miles within the existing city limits. In addition, the SFD serves three contract areas that include 47 square miles immediately adjacent to the city boundaries within the unincorporated county. Twenty-four fire stations are strategically located throughout the city to provide assistance to area residents. Each fire station operates within a specific district that covers an approximately 1.5 mile geographical radius area around the station. Two SFD stations are located in close proximity to the Downtown project site. Station #1 is located at 624 Q Street, less than 0.5-mile south of the Downtown project site. Station #2 is located at 1229 I Street approximately 0.5-mile west of the Downtown project site. Station #14, located at 1341 North C Street, approximately one mile north of the Downtown project site, also provides fire response services in the downtown area. Station #5, located at 731 Broadway, approximately one mile south of the Downtown project site, also provides fire response services in the downtown area.⁶

Two major factors are considered when defining response times for fire and emergency medical services (EMS): (1) the critical timeframe that responders have to successfully assist victims of cardiac arrest (i.e., chances of surviving a cardiac arrest deteriorate approximately 10 percent for each minute that passes before cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and/or defibrillation is initiated), and (2) the critical timeframe that responders have to gain control of a fire, minimizing the impact on the structure and nearby structures. Based on these two critical issues, the SFD has a goal to have its first responding company, which provides for fire suppression and paramedic services, arrive within a 4 minute response time 90 percent of the time and medic units within 8 minutes 90 percent of the time. Locating fire stations according to 1.5-mile radius service areas typically allows responders to arrive on a call within these response time goals. In more densely populated areas and where call volumes are higher and occur simultaneously, a shorter radius is necessary.⁷

⁶ Parrington, Desmond, 2013. Personal communication via e-mail between Christina Erwin of ESA and Desmond Parrington of the City of Sacramento. December 7, 2013.

⁷ City of Sacramento, 2009. *Sacramento 2030 General Plan Master Environmental Impact Report (SCH No. 2007072024)*. Certified March 3, 2009. pp. 6.10-14 – 6.10-15.

The average response time is determined using the average duration from dispatch to arrival on scene of the first responding fire engine. In the five year period from 2008 to 2012, the SFD's average response time was 5:16 minutes. In 2012, the average response time for the SFD was 5:37 minutes.⁸ The Fire Department does not have an official staffing ratio goal.

Regulatory Setting

State

California Occupational Safety and Health Administration

In accordance with California Code of Regulations, Title 8 Sections 1270 "Fire Prevention" and 6773 "Fire Protection and Fire Equipment", the California Occupational Safety and Health Administration (Cal OSHA) has established minimum standards for fire suppression and emergency medical services. The standards include, but are not limited to, guidelines on the handling of highly combustible materials, fire hosing sizing requirements, restrictions on the use of compressed air, access roads, and the testing, maintenance and use of all fire fighting and emergency medical equipment.

Uniform Fire Code

The Uniform Fire Code (UFC) contains regulations relating to construction, maintenance, and use of buildings. Topics addressed in the code include fire department access, fire hydrants, automatic sprinkler systems, fire alarm systems, fire and explosion hazards safety, hazardous materials storage and use, provisions intended to protect and assist fire responders, industrial processes, and many other general and specialized fire-safety requirements for new and existing buildings and the surrounding premises. The UFC contains specialized technical regulations related to fire and life safety.

California Health and Safety Code

State fire regulations are set forth in Sections 13000 et seq. of the California Health and Safety Code, which includes regulations for building standards (as set forth in the California Building Code), fire protection and notification systems, fire protection devices such as extinguishers, smoke alarms, high-rise building, childcare facility standards, and fire suppression training.

Local

Sacramento 2030 General Plan

The Sacramento 2030 General Plan contains the following goals and policies applicable to the Proposed Project:

⁸ Basurto, Michelle, 2013. Personal communication via e-mail between Aaron Hecock of ESA and Michelle Basurto of the Sacramento Fire Department. September 11, 2013.

Public Health and Safety

Goal PHS 2.1 Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services. Provide coordinated fire protection and emergency medical services that support the needs of Sacramento residents and businesses and maintains a safe and healthy community.

Policies

- **PHS 2.1.2 Response Time Standards.** The City shall strive to maintain appropriate emergency response times to provide optimum fire protection and emergency medical services to the community. *(MPSP)*
- **PHS 2.1.3 Staffing Standards.** The City shall maintain optimum staffing levels for sworn, civilian, and support staff, in order to provide quality fire protection and emergency medical services to the community. *(MPSP)*
- **PHS 2.1.4 Response Units and Facilities.** The City shall provide additional response units, staffing, and related capital improvements, including constructing new fire stations, as necessary, in areas where a company experiences call volumes exceeding 3,500 in a year to prevent compromising emergency response and ensure optimum service to the community. *(MPSP/SO/FB)*
- **PHS 2.1.5 Timing of Services.** The City shall ensure that the development of fire facilities and delivery of services keeps pace with development and growth of the city. *(MPSP/SO)*
- **PHS 2.1.6 Locations of New Stations.** The City shall ensure that new fire station facilities are located strategically throughout the city to provide optimal response times to all areas. *(MPSP)*
- **PHS 2.1.7 Future Station Locations.** The City shall require developers to set aside land with adequate space for future fire station locations in areas of new development. *(RDR)*
- **PHS 2.1.11 Development Fees for Facilities and Services.** The City shall require development projects to contribute fees for fire protection services and facilities. *(RDR/FB)*

Goal PHS 2.2 Fire Prevention Programs and Suppression. The City shall deliver fire prevention programs that protect the public through education, adequate inspection of existing development, and incorporation of fire safety features in new development.

Policies

- **PHS 2.2.2 Development Review for New Development.** The City shall continue to include the Fire Department in the review of development proposals to ensure projects adequately address safe design and on-site fire protection and comply with applicable fire and building codes. *(RDR)*

- **PHS 2.2.3 Fire Sprinkler Systems.** The City shall promote installation of fire sprinkler systems for both commercial and residential use and in structures where sprinkler systems are not currently required by the City Municipal Code or Uniform Fire Code. (*RDR*)
- **PHS 2.2.4 Water Supplied for Fire Suppression.** The City shall ensure that adequate water supplies are available for fire-suppression throughout the city, and shall require development to construct all necessary fire suppression infrastructure and equipment. (*RDR/MPSP/SO*)
- **PHS 2.2.5 High-Rise Development.** The City shall require that high rise structures include sprinkler systems and on-site fire suppression equipment and materials, and be served by fire stations containing truck companies with specialized equipment for high-rise fire and/or emergency incidents. (*RDR*)

The Proposed Project would be consistent with each of the General Plan goals and policies listed above. Consistent with Policy PHS 2.1.11, the Proposed Project would pay all required development impact fees in order to pay for the expansion of fire protection services. Consistent with Policy 2.2.2, the Proposed Project would go through development review in order to ensure it adequately addresses fire safety. Finally, consistent with Policies 2.2.3, 2.2.4, and 2.2.5, the project would include sprinkler systems and appropriate fire suppression equipment as required by City Code and the UFC.

Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Significance Criteria

The Proposed Project would have a significant impact related to fire protection services if it would:

- require, or result in, the construction of new, or the expansion of existing, facilities related to the provision of fire protection, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts.

Methodology and Assumptions

This impact analysis determines whether development of the Proposed Project would require new or expanded fire facilities, the construction of which could result in physical environmental effects. Reductions in service levels can be indicative of significant project impacts and the need for additional staff and/or facilities. The Proposed Project would increase employment at and visitors to the Downtown project site and would include up to 550 multi-family residential units, which could house up to approximately 1,155 residents. These new residents, visitors and workers would require public services, including fire protection which could require the expansion of existing facilities or the construction of new facilities which could result in environmental impacts.

The offsite digital billboards associated with the Proposed Project would not require fire services or facilities and are therefore not analyzed further in this section.

Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Impact 4.9-3: The Proposed Project would increase demand for fire protection services within the City of Sacramento.

The Proposed Project would result in new employees, residents, and visitors at the Downtown project site. These increases could result in an incremental increase in calls for fire and emergency medical services beyond that currently experienced at the Downtown project site. The SFD anticipates that call volume at the Downtown project site would increase by approximately 2,200 to 2,500 calls annually for medical aid, auto accidents, and similar situations.⁹ SFD Station #2 currently experiences a call volume of approximately 6,000 calls per year and is already past its capacity for emergency response.¹⁰ SFD Station #1 currently experiences a call volume of approximately 3,000 calls per year and has some additional capacity to respond to additional fire and medical service calls, but not enough capacity to respond to all of the call volume anticipated with buildout of the Proposed Project.¹¹ The increased demand for medical services would result from the increase in pedestrian activity and population density associated with events at the ESC; the potential increase in vehicle/pedestrian conflicts and accidents before, during and after events at the ESC; and the increased daytime and evening pedestrian and vehicular traffic anticipated with development of the PUD area.¹² Additional fire suppression response would be required to serve the increased density within the Downtown project site.¹³

Provision of emergency services to the Downtown project site can be accomplished through the relocation of existing equipment and personnel to other stations within the downtown area.¹⁴ A fire company could be relocated to Station #1 from another SFD station, resulting in additional fire response coverage in the downtown area, including the Downtown project site.¹⁵ In addition, Station #5 has physical capacity to accept an additional medic unit; however, there is not a medic

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- ⁹ Ogan, Lloyd. 2013. Personal communication via e-mail between Aaron Hecock of ESA and Lloyd Ogan of the Sacramento Fire Department. September 17, 2013.
- ¹⁰ Parrington, Desmond. 2013. Personal correspondence via e-mail between Christina Erwin of ESA and Desmond Parrington of the City of Sacramento. December 7, 2013.
- ¹¹ Parrington, Desmond. 2013. Personal correspondence via e-mail between Christina Erwin of ESA and Desmond Parrington of the City of Sacramento. December 7, 2013.
- ¹² Parrington, Desmond. 2013. Personal correspondence via e-mail between Christina Erwin of ESA and Desmond Parrington of the City of Sacramento. December 7, 2013.
- ¹³ Parrington, Desmond. 2013. Personal correspondence via e-mail between Christina Erwin of ESA and Desmond Parrington of the City of Sacramento. December 7, 2013.
- ¹⁴ Parrington, Desmond. 2013. Personal correspondence via e-mail between Christina Erwin of ESA and Desmond Parrington of the City of Sacramento. December 7, 2013.
- ¹⁵ Parrington, Desmond. 2013. Personal correspondence via e-mail between Christina Erwin of ESA and Desmond Parrington of the City of Sacramento. December 7, 2013.

unit that could be relocated to Station #5 from an existing facility.¹⁶ Development of the Downtown project site would therefore not require the construction of a new fire station.¹⁷

The Proposed Project would be required to meet SFD standards related to access, fire hydrants, automatic sprinkler systems, fire alarm systems, water flow, and other Uniform Fire Code requirements. The SFD would review project construction plans and inspect the construction work as it progresses to ensure that project meets State and local Building and Fire Code requirements. In addition, the site would be paved and surrounded by developed urban uses so the fire hazard is low.

Operation of the proposed ESC and development of the PUD area would result in the increased demand for an additional medic unit. There are a number of funding mechanisms in place, including the City's General Fund, that could be used to fund additional fire and medical equipment, vehicles, and personnel. The reallocation of existing resources between existing fire stations in the downtown area combined with securing additional equipment and resources placed at existing fire stations would result in sufficient emergency fire and medical response at the Downtown project site.¹⁸ Construction of an additional fire station therefore would not be required to serve the Proposed Project. Because the Proposed Project would not require, or result in, the construction of new, or the expansion of existing facilities related to the provision of fire protection, this impact would be *less than significant*.

Mitigation Measure

None required.

Cumulative Impacts

The cumulative context for fire protection impacts is growth within the Fire Department's service area, primarily the City of Sacramento as reflected in the 2030 General Plan, and the associated increase in population is considered as the cumulative scenario.

Impact 4.9-4: The Proposed Project would contribute to cumulative increases in demand for fire protection services in the City of Sacramento.

An additional 195,000 people are anticipated with buildout of the 2030 General Plan. Additional growth could occur within the service area outside of the city limits. This increase in population combined with the Proposed Project, could result in an increased demand for fire services. However, policies have been created to ensure adequate fire facilities are provided to

¹⁶ Tunson, King, 2013. Personal communication via e-mail between Desmond Parrington of the City of Sacramento City Manager's Office and King Tunson of the Sacramento Fire Department. October 30, 2013.

¹⁷ Tunson, King, 2013. Personal communication via e-mail between Desmond Parrington of the City of Sacramento City Manager's Office and King Tunson of the Sacramento Fire Department. October 30, 2013.

¹⁸ Tunson, King, 2013. Personal communication via e-mail between Desmond Parrington of the City of Sacramento City Manager's Office and King Tunson of the Sacramento Fire Department. October 30, 2013.

accommodate the increase in new residents. For example, Policy PHS 2.1.1 calls for the City to prepare a Fire Master Plan to address staffing needs, facility needs, and service goals. The Master Plan would be the guiding document for the provision of fire services in the city. Policies PHS 2.1.2 and PHS 2.1.3 require that the City maintain appropriate emergency response times and staffing levels to ensure optimum fire protection in the community. Policy PHS 2.1.4 further requires additional fire protection resources be supplied when a fire station/company experiences call volumes exceeding 3,500 in a year and Policy PHS 2.1.6 requires that new fire stations are located strategically throughout the city to provide optimal response times to all areas. Policies PHS 2.1.5 and PHS 2.1.7 require new development to set aside land for future fire stations and ensure that adequate fire protection and emergency medical response facilities, equipment, and staffing are available prior to occupation of new development and redevelopment areas. Policy PHS 2.2.4 ensures that adequate water supplies, pressure, and infrastructure are available in infill and newly developing areas. In addition, Policy PHS 2.1.10 requires that the City work with other agencies to provide regional cooperative delivery of fire protection and emergency medical services.

Due to the cumulative increase in development in the downtown area, it is anticipated that fire stations that serve the downtown area – Stations #1, #2, #5, and #14 – could experience reductions in service levels as much of the planned downtown development occurs. As the downtown area develops over time, the Railyards area north of the Proposed Project site is also expected to develop with a range of uses including residential, commercial, and office. Development of the Railyards area would also increase demand for fire protection and emergency medical services. The Railyards Specific Plan calls for a new fire station¹⁹ that would serve the Railyards Specific Plan area and areas of downtown, including the Downtown project site.²⁰

Future development anticipated under the 2030 General Plan would be required to comply with General Plan policies requiring adequate fire protection services to serve the anticipated increase in demand. Furthermore, the Master Plan being developed by the SFD will consider the needs for service in throughout the city, including the project area and determine when and where new facilities would be constructed as development occurs. Existing facilities would be used until such time any new facilities are operational. Any new fire station and staff would be part of the Master Plan and would be funded through the City's General Fund.²¹ Project development would pay taxes that contribute to the General Fund. The fire station in the Railyards would be able to serve the Downtown project site. For these reasons, the contribution of the Proposed Project is not considerable and this impact is considered *less than significant*.

¹⁹ City of Sacramento, 2007. *Railyards Specific Plan Draft Environmental Impact Report (SCH No. 2006032058)*. August 2007. pp. 6.10-18 – 6.10-20.

²⁰ Parrington, Desmond. 2013. Personal correspondence via e-mail between Christina Erwin of ESA and Desmond Parrington of the City of Sacramento. December 7, 2013.

²¹ Parrington, Desmond. 2013. Personal correspondence via e-mail between Christina Erwin of ESA and Desmond Parrington of the City of Sacramento. December 7, 2013.

Mitigation Measure

None required.

4.9.4 Schools

Environmental Setting

The Sacramento City Unified School District (SCUSD) is the primary provider of primary and secondary education within the City. The SCUSD area covers the Central City, east to the city limits, including the Downtown project site. The SCUSD operates more than seventy schools throughout the city; the District includes traditional elementary, middle, and high schools, as well as alternative education and charter school facilities. Current enrollment at SCUSD schools is approximately 47,616 students (27,128 students in kindergarten through 6th grade; 7,007 students in 7th and 8th grade; and 13,411 students in 9th through 12th grade).²²

The Proposed Project is within the attendance boundaries for William Land Elementary School, located at 2120 12th Street, Sutter Middle School located at 3150 I Street, and C.K. McClatchy High School located at 3066 Freepport Boulevard. Students in the project area may also attend Arthur Benjamin Health Professions High School, located at 451 McClatchy Way, or the MET Charter High School or the Success Academy Alternative School, both located at 810 V Street.

William Land Elementary School serves students in grades K-6. William Land has a design capacity of 641 students, and 294 students were enrolled as of June 2013 (see Table 4.9-1).

Sutter Middle School serves students in grades 7-8. Sutter has a design capacity of 1,403 students, and 1,215 students were enrolled as of June 2013 (see Table 4.9-1).

McClatchy High School serves students in grades 9-12. McClatchy has a design capacity of 2,775 students, and 2,157 students were enrolled as of June 2013 (see Table 4.9-1).

**TABLE 4.9-1
 SCUSD SCHOOLS AND CAPACITIES IN THE PROJECT VICINITY**

School Name	Design Capacity	Current Enrollment	Excess Capacity
William Land Elementary School	641	294	347
Sutter Middle School	1,403	1,215	188
C.K. McClatchy High School	2,775	2,157	618

SOURCES: Hoff, Crystal, 2013. Personal communication via e-mail between Aaron Hecock of ESA and Crystal Hoff of the Sacramento City Unified School District. September 24, 2013; Sacramento City Unified School District, 2013. *Enrollment and Attendance Report Month Ending Thursday, June 13, 2013, Traditional Schools.*

²² California Department of Education, 2013. *California Department of Education, Educational Demographics Unit, District Enrollment by Grade 2012-13.* <http://data1.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/dataquest.asp>. Accessed August 27, 2013.

Regulatory Setting

State

Proposition 1A/Senate Bill 50

Proposition 1A/Senate Bill (SB) 50 (Chapter 407, Statutes of 1998) is a school construction funding measure that was approved by the voters on the November 3, 1998 ballot. SB 50 created the School Facility Program where eligible school districts may obtain state bond funds. State funding requires matching local funds that generally come from developer fees. The passage of SB 50 eliminated the ability of cities and counties to require full mitigation of school impacts and replaced it with the ability for school districts to assess fees directly to offset the costs associated with increasing school capacity as a result of new development. The old "Stirling" fees were incorporated into SB 50 and are referred to as Level 1 fees. As of January 2012, the State Allocation Board (SAB) authorized an adjustment in the Statutory School Fee amounts (Level 1 fees) for unified school districts pursuant to Government Code Section 65995(b)(3) to \$3.20 per square foot for new residential development and \$0.51 per square foot for commercial and industrial (non-residential) development. Districts meeting certain criteria may collect Level 2 fees as an alternative to Level 1 fees. Level 2 fees are calculated under a formula in SB 50. Level 3 fees are approximately double Level 2 fees and are implemented only when the State Allocation Board is not apportioning state bond funds. The passage of Proposition 1D on November 7, 2006 precludes the implementation of Level 3 fees for the foreseeable future. Although SB 50 states that payment of developer fees are "deemed to be complete and full mitigation" of the impacts of new development, fees and state funding do not fully fund new school facilities. The SCUSD collects Level 1 fees.

California Code of Regulations

The California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 5, Education Code governs all aspects of education within the state.

California Education Code

The California Education Code authorizes the California Department of Education ("Department") to develop site selection standards for school districts. These standards are found in the California Code of Regulations and require that districts select a site that conforms to certain net acreage requirements established in the Department's 2000 "School Site Analysis and Development" guidebook. The Guide includes the assumption that the land purchased for school sites will be in a ratio of approximately 2 to 1 between the developed grounds and the building area. For example, for a school that houses kindergarten through sixth grade and has an enrollment of 600 children, the recommended acreage is 9.2 acres.

The Department's 2000 Guide includes exceptions to its recommended site size that allow smaller school sites. Additionally, the Department has the policy that if the "availability of land is scarce and real estate prices are exorbitant" the site size may be reduced. It is the Department's policy that if a school site is less than the recommended acreage required, the district shall demonstrate how the students will be provided an adequate educational program including physical education

as described in the district's adopted course of study. Through careful planning, a reduced project area school site could follow the recent trend of school downsizing and meet the Department's criteria.

Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Significance Criteria

The Proposed Project would have a significant impact related to school services if it would:

- generate students that would exceed the design capacity of existing or planned schools, resulting in the need for new or physically altered school facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts.

Methodology and Assumptions

This impact analysis determines whether development of the Proposed Project would require new or expanded school facilities, the construction of which could result in physical environmental effects. The PUD portion of the Proposed Project would include up to 550 multi-family residential units, which could house up to approximately 1,155 residents. These new residents would require school facilities.

The offsite digital billboards associated with the Proposed Project will not require school services or facilities and are therefore not analyzed further in this section.

Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Impact 4.9-5: The Proposed Project would increase enrollment at SCUSD schools.

The residential and employee population associated with the Proposed Project could increase the number of residents in Sacramento and the surrounding area and, thus, increase the number of school age children attending SCUSD schools. It is anticipated that most employees would either be current residents of the City of Sacramento or would commute from other areas within Sacramento County, rather than relocating to Sacramento from a distant city or another state. Furthermore, the multi-family residential units will likely be built in phases over time, and as a result the growth in students added to SCUSD schools would be spread over a number years. Table 4.9-2 shows that the project is expected to add approximately 143 children to SCUSD schools once all 550 units have been constructed and occupied. As noted in Table 4.9-1 above, William Land Elementary School is 347 students below its design capacity and could therefore accommodate the approximately 105 elementary school students generated by the project. Sutter Middle School is 188 students below its design capacity and could accommodate the approximately 17 middle school students generated by the project. McClatchy High School is 618 students below its design capacity and could accommodate the approximately 22 high school students generated by the project. Because the schools that serve the Downtown project site have adequate capacity to serve project students, no new school facilities would be required.

**TABLE 4.9-2
PROJECT STUDENT GENERATION**

Type of School	Number of Multi-Family Dwelling Units	Multi-Family Generation Rate	Number of Students Generated
Elementary	550	0.19	104.5
Middle	550	0.03	16.5
High	550	0.04	22
Total			143

SOURCE: Hoff, Crystal, 2013. Personal communication via e-mail between Aaron Hecock of ESA and Crystal Hoff of the Sacramento City Unified School District. September 24, 2013; ESA, 2013.

Also, pursuant to Senate Bill 50 (SB 50), the project applicant would be required to pay any applicable school impact fees. Therefore, although the Proposed Project is unlikely to result in substantial additional students within SCUSD facilities, payment of fees as may be applicable under SB 50 is deemed full and complete mitigation under state law. No further mitigation is required, and the potential impact is *less than significant*.

Mitigation Measure

None required.

Cumulative Impacts

The cumulative context for schools impacts is the area served by the SCUSD, particularly the schools that would serve the Downtown project site.

Impact 4.9-6: The Proposed Project would contribute to cumulative increases in school enrollment in SCUSD schools.

The effects of buildout of the 2030 General Plan and the associated increase in population is considered as the cumulative scenario. The General Plan is anticipating growth of approximately 97,000 new residences, of which approximately 75,000 units would be multi-family and 22,000 would be single-family. In accordance with the estimated number of residences, approximately 33,690 students would be generated through buildout of the 2030 General Plan (16,740 elementary, 8,100 middle, and 8,850 high school). This increase in school age children could increase enrollment at SCUSD schools beyond design capacity resulting in the need for new or modified facilities.

SCUSD uses a variety of temporary measures to respond to changes in student enrollment at city schools including splitting grade levels, temporarily transferring students to other schools, and

installing temporary facilities.²³ In addition, General Plan policies have been created to ensure adequate school facilities are provided to accommodate the increase in new school aged children. Furthermore, pursuant to SB 50, project applicants, including the Proposed Project applicant, are required to pay school impact fees established to offset potential impacts on school facilities. Therefore, the cumulative impact is considered less than significant.

As discussed under Impact 4.9-5, the payment of the fees mandated under SB 50 is the mitigation measure prescribed by the statute, and payment of the fees is deemed full and complete mitigation. All new development in the SCUSD service area would be subject to these fees, including the Proposed Project. Therefore, this impact is *less than significant*.

Mitigation Measure

None required.

4.9.5 Parks and Recreational Facilities

Environmental Setting

The City's Department of Parks and Recreation maintains more than 3,178 acres of parkland including 1,716 developed acres; manages 222 parks, recreation, parkway, and open space sites, maintains over 88 miles of bike trails, 14 miles of jogging and walking paths within City parks; and operates over 29 aquatic facilities (including swimming pools, play pools, and wading pools or interactive spray areas), nine dog parks, thirteen skateboard parks, 18 community centers and neighborhood centers with numerous programs, rental uses, and leisure enrichment classes.²⁴ Several facilities within the City of Sacramento are owned or operated by other jurisdictions, such as the County of Sacramento and the State of California. The City of Sacramento Parks and Recreation Master Plan (PRMP) guides park development in the city.

The City's Department of Parks and Recreation is divided into four areas of services:

- Recreation and Community Services;
- Park Operations Services;
- Park Planning and Development Services; and
- Administrative Services.

²³ Dobson, Jim, 2013. Personal communication via e-mail between Aaron Hecock of ESA and Jim Dobson of the Sacramento City Unified School District. October 15, 2013.

²⁴ City of Sacramento Department of Parks and Recreation, 2009. *City of Sacramento Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2005-2010; 2009 Technical Update*. Adopted April 21, 2009. Services chapter pp. 1-18. Updated by City of Sacramento Department of Parks and Recreation, November, 2013.

Of the City of Sacramento's 222 parks, 140 are neighborhood parks, 59 community parks, and 23 are regional parks and parkways.²⁵ The Central City Community Plan Area of the city contains 30 parks totaling approximately 297 acres.² The City maintains a service level of approximately 8.7 acres per 1,000 residents⁸. As identified in the City's PRMP, the City-wide/Regionally serving park service level goal is to provide 8.0 acres per 1,000 persons. In addition, the City has a service level goal of 5 acres of neighborhood and community serving parkland for every 1,000 people, which is met through dedication during subdivision process. With the existing trails and bikeways located throughout the City, the current service level is 0.2 miles per 1,000 residents. The current service level goal is to provide 0.5 linear miles per 1,000 residents by 2010 as identified in the City's PRMP.

Regulatory Setting

State

State Public Park Preservation Act

The primary instrument for protecting and preserving parkland is the State Public Park Preservation Act. Under the Public Resources Code, cities and counties may not acquire any real property that is in use as a public park for any non-park use unless compensation or land, or both, are provided to replace the parkland acquired. This provides no net loss of parkland and facilities.

Quimby Act

California Government Code section 66477, Subdivision Map Act, referred to as the Quimby Act, permits local jurisdictions to require the dedication of land and/or the payment of in-lieu fees solely for park and recreation purposes. The required dedication and/or fee are based upon the residential density, parkland cost, and other factors. Land dedication and fees collected pursuant to the Quimby Act may be used for acquisition, improvement, and expansion of park, playground, and recreational facilities or the development of public school grounds.

Local

Sacramento 2030 General Plan

The Sacramento 2030 General Plan contains the following goals and policies applicable to the Proposed Project:

Goal ERC 2.2 Parks, Community and Recreation Facilities and Services. Plan and develop parks, community and recreation facilities, and services that enhance community livability; improve public health and safety; are equitably distributed throughout the city; and are responsive to the needs and interests of residents, employees, and visitors.

²⁵ City of Sacramento Department of Parks and Recreation, 2013. *City of Sacramento Department of Parks and Recreation Amenities and Statistics*. January 2013.

- **ERC 2.2.4 Meeting Service Level Goals.** The City shall require new residential development to dedicate land, pay in-lieu fees, or otherwise contribute a fair share to the acquisition and development of parks or recreation facilities to meet the service level goals in Table ERC 1. For development in urban infill areas where land dedication is not feasible, the City shall explore creative solutions in providing park and recreation facilities that reflect the unique character of the area it serves. (*RDR/MPSP*)
- **ERC 2.2.8 High-Density High-Rise.** The City shall require all large, high-density, high-rise residential projects (e.g., land use designations that include Central Business District, Urban Centers, Urban Corridors, and Urban Neighborhoods) to mitigate for the lack of private yards and access to nature through land dedication or payment of in-lieu fees for parkland and/or recreational facilities. (*RDR*)
- **ERC 2.2.9 Small Public Places for New Development.** The City shall allow new development to provide small plazas, pocket parks, civic spaces, and other gathering places that are available to the public, particularly in infill areas, to help meet recreational demands. (*RDR*)
- **ERC 2.2.10 Range of Experience.** The City shall provide a range of small to large parks and recreational facilities. Larger parks and complexes should be provided at the city's edges and along the rivers as a complement to smaller sites provided in areas of denser development. (*MPSP*)
- **ERC 2.2.11 On-Site Facilities.** The City shall promote and provide incentives such as density bonuses or increases in building height for large-scale development projects to provide on-site recreational amenities and gathering places that are available to the public. (*RDR*)
- **ERC 2.2.12 Compatibility with Adjoining Uses.** The City shall ensure that the location and design of all parks, recreation, and community centers are compatible with existing adjoining uses. (*RDR*)
- **ERC 2.2.13 Surplus or Underutilized Land.** The City shall consider acquiring or using surplus, vacant, or underutilized parcels or abandoned buildings for public recreational use. (*MPSP/FB*)

The Proposed Project would be consistent with each of the General Plan goals and policies listed above. Consistent with Policies ERC 2.2.4 and 2.2.8, the Proposed Project would pay in-lieu fees or otherwise contribute a fair share to the acquisition and development of parks or recreation facilities to meet City service level goals. Consistent with Policy ERC 2.2.9, the Proposed Project would provide small plazas, pocket parks, civic spaces, and other gathering places that are available to the public, particularly in infill areas, to help meet recreational demands. Finally, the Proposed Project would be consistent with Policy ERC 2.2.12 as all plazas and other public gathering places will be compatible with adjacent land uses.

City of Sacramento Municipal Code

Chapter 12.72 Park Buildings and Recreational Facilities

The City's Municipal Code includes regulations associated with building and park use, fund raising, permit procedures, and various miscellaneous provisions related to parks. Park use regulations include a list of activities that require permits for organized activities that include groups of 50 or more people for longer than 30 minutes; amplified sound; commercial and business activities; and fund raising activities. This code also includes a list of prohibited uses within parks such as unleashed pets; firearms of any type; and drinking alcoholic beverages, or smoking near children's playground areas. Activities such as golfing, swimming, and horseback riding are only permitted within the appropriate designated areas.

Chapter 16.64 Parks and Recreational Facilities

Chapter 16.64 of the Municipal Code provides standards and formulas for the dedication of parkland and in-lieu fees. These policies help the City acquire new parkland. This chapter sets forth the standard that five acres of property for each 1,000 persons residing within the city be devoted to local recreation and park purposes. Where a recreational or park facility has been designated in the general plan or a specific plan, and is to be located in whole or in part within a proposed subdivision to serve the immediate and future needs of the residents of the subdivision, the subdivider shall dedicate land for a local recreation or park facility sufficient in size and topography to serve the residents of the subdivision. The amount of land to be provided shall be determined pursuant to the appropriate standards and formula contained within the chapter. Under the appropriate circumstances, the subdivider shall, in lieu of dedication of land, pay a fee equal to the value of the land prescribed for dedication to be used for recreational and park facilities which will serve the residents of the area being subdivided.

Chapter 18.44 Park Development Impact Fee

Chapter 18.44 of the City's Code imposes a park development fee on residential and non-residential development within the city. Fees collected pursuant to Chapter 18.44 are primarily used to finance the construction of park facilities. The park fees are assessed upon landowners developing property in order to provide all or a portion of the funds which will be necessary to provide neighborhood or community parks required to meet the needs of and address the impacts caused by the additional persons residing or employed on the property as a result of the development.

City of Sacramento 2005-2010 Parks and Recreation Master Plan

The City of Sacramento Parks and Recreation Department prepared the 2005-2010 Parks and Recreation Master Plan, which was adopted by the City Council on December 7, 2004. The Master Plan is considered part of the City's General Plan, Conservation and Open Space Element. The Master Plan calls for a ratio of approximately ten park acres per thousand population, including all categories of parks. This Service Level Goal is intended to be implemented city-wide, and is not intended to be applicable or enforceable for every project proposed within the city. The categories of City Parks and Service Level Goals are as follows:

- *Neighborhood Park:* Developed to serve the recreation needs of a small portion of the City. A neighborhood park serves an area within a one half-mile radius of the park and is often situated adjacent to an elementary school. Improvements are usually oriented toward the recreation needs of children. The size is generally from two to ten acres, depending on the nature of the service area. The Service Level Goal for this type of park is 2.5 acres per thousand residents of the City.
- *Community Park:* Developed to meet the recreational needs of residents within a three mile radius. The size ranges from six to 60 acres. In addition to neighborhood park elements, a community park may have restrooms, large landscaped areas, a community center, a swimming pool, lighted sport fields, and specialized equipment not found in a neighborhood park. Some of the small sized community may be dedicated for one particular use. Some elements in the park maybe under lease to community groups. The Service Level Goal for this type of park is 2.5 acres per thousand residents of the City.
- *City Regional Park:* Contains a wide range of improvements usually not found in local community or neighborhood facilities. These parks serve an area within a 30-minute driving time radius and the size is generally larger than 75 acres. In addition to neighborhood and community park type improvements, a regional facility may include a golf course, a marina, amusement areas, a zoo, or nature areas. Some elements in the park may be under lease to community groups.
- *City Parkway:* A linear park or closely interconnected system of City or school parks located along a roadway, waterway, bikeway, or other common corridor. The size of parkways varies and the overall shape is generally elongated and narrow. The Service Level Goal for City Regional Park and City Parkway combined with other open space is eight acres per one thousand residents.

The Master Plan also sets Service Level Goals for recreation facilities. Those goals for neighborhood centers and community centers are as follows:

- *Neighborhood Center:* 1 per neighborhood as defined by service area of an elementary school.
- *Community Center:* 1 per 30,000 population.

Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Significance Criteria

The Proposed Project would have a significant impact related to parks and recreation if it would:

- cause or accelerate a substantial physical deterioration of existing area parks or recreational facilities; or
- create a need for construction or expansion of recreational facilities beyond what was anticipated in the General and/or Community Plans.

Methodology and Assumptions

This impact analysis determines whether development of the Proposed Project would require new or expanded parks or recreational facilities, the construction of which could result in physical environmental effects. The project would result in a net increase in employment at the project site of approximately 2,084 jobs and would include up to 550 multi-family residential units which could house up to approximately 1,155 residents. These new residents and workers would require public services, including parks and recreational opportunities which could require the expansion of existing facilities or the construction of new facilities which could result in environmental impacts.

The offsite digital billboards associated with the Proposed Project would not create a demand for parks or recreational services or facilities and are therefore not analyzed further in this section. Two sites are located on the Sutter’s Landing Regional Park and one is within the Del Paso Regional Park and could result in the loss of parkland. This impact is addressed below.

Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Impact 4.9-7: The Proposed Project would increase the use of existing parks and recreational facilities within the City of Sacramento.

Downtown Project Site

The ESC and PUD would include new employment and housing opportunities within the Central City area of downtown Sacramento which could incrementally increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities. Based on the City’s park service level goal of 2.5 acres of Neighborhood and Community Parks per 1,000 residents, approximately 2.89 acres of Neighborhood Park and 2.89 acres of Community Park would be needed to adequately serve the Proposed Project’s population, as shown in Table 4.9-3. It should be noted that the City’s service level goal does not differentiate between urban and suburban projects or suggest that every project should contain its portion of every type of park. Rather the goals are citywide, and recognize that parkland will be distributed throughout the city. Due to the lack of available undeveloped area in the downtown urban area, it would be infeasible to require each project in the downtown area to provide large amounts of active and/or passive parkland.

**TABLE 4.9-3
 PARKLAND SERVICE GOALS**

Type of Park	City Goal	Potential Project Population	New Park Acres Demand
Neighborhood Serving Parks	2.5 acres per 1,000 population	1,155	2.89 acres
Community Serving Parks	2.5 acres per 1,000 population	1,155	2.89 acres
Total			5.78 acres

SOURCE: City of Sacramento Department of Parks and Recreation, 2009. *City of Sacramento Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2005-2010; 2009 Technical Update*. Adopted April 21, 2009. Services chapter pp. 1-18. ESA, 2013.

Chapter 18.44 of the City Code imposes a park development fee on residential and non-residential development within the city. Fees collected pursuant to Chapter 18.44 are primarily used to finance the construction of park facilities. The park fees are assessed upon landowners developing property in order to provide all or a portion of the funds which will be necessary to provide neighborhood or community parks required to meet the needs of and address the impacts caused by the additional persons residing or employed on the property as a result of the development.

Any increased use of City parks or recreational facilities resulting from implementation of the Proposed Project would likely be distributed throughout the downtown area, and would not result in substantial physical deterioration of such facilities. Furthermore, the project applicant would be required to pay park development fees established to offset potential impacts on parks within the city. The City would determine how these fees would be used and what, if any, new facilities would be constructed. Should the City determine new parks facilities should be constructed, the City would conduct its own environmental analysis of such an action. Thus, the Proposed Project would not require the construction or expansion of additional parks or recreational facilities and the impact is *less than significant*.

Digital Billboard Sites

Two of the Digital Billboard Sites are located within the boundaries of the Sutter's Landing Regional Park and one is located at the edge of Del Paso Regional Park. The Sutter's Landings Regional Park and the Del Paso Regional Park/Haggin Oaks sites are located on the periphery of the respective parks, in vegetated edges between the parks and the adjacent Business 80 freeway. The Sutter's Landing Regional Park/American River site is also located adjacent to Business 80 but it is located within an area designated in the Sutter's Landing Park Master Plan as a natural area and is immediately adjacent to the American River Parkway. If any one of these sites is selected, then approximately 5,000 square feet of parkland could be dedicated to each of the billboards. If all three were selected, then as much as 15,000 square feet of parkland could be converted to urban uses.

The Sutter's Landing Regional Park/American River digital billboard site is not yet developed with park uses, but planned to be a future natural area that could include disc golf, hiking trails, interpretive exhibits and viewing/overlook areas.²⁶ This would reduce the size of the 163-acre park by approximately one-twelfth of an acre, or under one-tenth of one-percent. The effects of the potential billboard site on the aesthetic and biological conditions in the park are addressed in Impacts 4.1-1 and 4.3-2, respectively. In addition, in Chapter 3.0, the potential for a digital billboard at this site to be determined to be inconsistent with the 2030 General Plan and the American River Parkway Plan is addressed. Because the digital billboard at this and other park sites would not result in a material loss of parkland, would not cause or contribute to increased use that would accelerate the deterioration of either Del Paso Regional Park or Sutter's Landing Regional Park, and would not create a need for construction or expansion of recreational facilities

²⁶ City of Sacramento Department of Parks and Recreation, 2003. *Overall Master Plan for Sutter's Landing Park*. September 2003.

beyond what was anticipated in the General and/or Community Plans, this is considered a *less-than-significant* impact.

Mitigation Measures

None required.

Cumulative Impacts

The cumulative context for parks impacts is buildout of the 2030 General Plan, because the City of Sacramento provides parks and recreational services within its boundaries.

Impact 4.9-8: The Proposed Project would contribute to cumulative increases in demand on City parks and recreational facilities in the City of Sacramento.

As described in the MEIR, an additional 195,000 people are anticipated with buildout of the 2030 General Plan. This increase in population combined with the Proposed Project, could result in an increased demand for parks and recreational services. However, General Plan policies have been created to ensure adequate parks and recreational facilities are provided to accommodate the increase in new residents. For example, Policy ERC 2.1.1 requires the City to develop and maintain a complete system of public parks and open space areas throughout Sacramento that provide opportunities for both passive and active recreation. Policy ERC 2.4.2 requires the City to work with regional partners, private land owners, and developers to manage, maintain, preserve, and enhance the Sacramento and American River Parkways. Policy ERC 2.5.4 requires the City to fund the costs of acquisition and development of neighborhood and community parks and community and recreation facilities through land dedication, in lieu fees, and/or development impact fees. Implementation of the policies proposed in the General Plan would ensure that increased demand associated with an increase in population would not significantly accelerate the deterioration of existing park areas or recreational facilities.

In addition, Policy ERC 2.2.3 identifies service level goals and Policy ERC 2.2.4 requires new residential development to dedicate land or payment of in-lieu fees for parks or recreation facilities. Therefore, new residential development, including the Proposed Project, would be required to ensure that adequate parkland is provided or applicable fees paid to the City to purchase additional park facilities. Policy ERC 2.4.1 also requires the City to maintain service levels to provide linear parks/parkways and trails/bikeways in accordance with PRMP adopted policies such as 0.5 linear miles per 1,000 residents. The expansion, planning, development, and use of joint facilities are additional means to achieve required service levels and to offset needs of park and recreational facilities. The policies set forth in the 2030 General Plan are designed to ensure that future development within the Policy Area, including at the Downtown project site, would not create a need for construction or expansion of recreational facilities beyond what was anticipated in the General and/or Community Plans.

Furthermore, the City of Sacramento Parks and Recreation Master Plan has been developed to ensure required service level ratios for parks and recreational facilities are met as population in the City increases. As described in the MEIR, cumulative impacts related to parks and recreational services are *less than significant*.

Mitigation Measure

None required.

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