
Chapter 4 Environmental Evaluation

4.1 TOPICS ADDRESSED

The environmental evaluation section of this DEIR discusses the environmental setting, impacts and mitigation measures for each of the following topics.

- Aesthetics and Visual Resources
- Land Use and Agriculture
- Air quality and Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Hydrology, Water Quality, and Hazardous Materials
- Noise
- Public Services
- Transportation/Traffic

4.2 BASIS OF ANALYSIS

The impacts of the Proposed Project are measured against existing conditions in the project vicinities, as well as future cumulative conditions. Significance criteria for each resource are listed in the respective section. The City does not have formally adopted thresholds of significance; therefore the City uses the thresholds listed in the Initial Study Checklist as administrative thresholds that have been routinely applied for environmental analysis of all projects subject to CEQA located within the City's jurisdiction.

4.3 SECTION FORMAT

Chapter 4 is divided into sections that provide the environmental setting, regulatory setting, standards of significance, impacts to the environmental setting, and feasible mitigation measures for significant impacts. Each section begins with a description of the Proposed Project's environmental setting and a regulatory setting as it pertains to a particular issue. The environmental setting provides a point of reference for assessing the environmental impacts of the Proposed Project and alternatives. The setting discussion addresses the conditions that exist prior to implementation of the Proposed Project. This

setting establishes the baseline by which the Proposed Project and alternatives are measured for environmental impacts.

The setting description in each section is followed by an **impacts** and **mitigation** discussion. The impact and mitigation portion of each section includes impact statements, prefaced by a number in bold-faced type. An explanation of each impact is followed by an analysis of its significance. Mitigation measures pertinent to each individual impact appear after the impact discussion, if the impact is significant and feasible mitigation is available to reduce the severity of the impact. The degree of relief provided by identified mitigation measures is also evaluated. A cumulative analysis is included at the end of each section.