FINAL MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION NO. 22-03

GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT 22-03 AND
CR&R WASTE TRANSFER FACILITY
APNS 054-061-032;-033;-034;-035;-036;-037;-038;-039;& -042

SEPTEMBER 2024

Prepared By:

Andrea Montano, Associate Planner
City of El Centro
Community Development Department
Planning & Zoning Division
1275 W. Main Street

City of El Centro
Final Mitigated Negative Declaration for
General Plan Amendment 22-03 and
CR&R Waste Transfer Facility

Letters of Comment and Responses

Four letters of comment to the Draft MND were received from state and local agencies. The comment letters received during the Draft MND public review period contained comments that resulted in changes to the Final MND text. These changes to the text are indicated by strikeout (deleted) and underline (inserted) markings. Revisions to the Final MND are intended to correct minor discrepancies and provide additional clarification. The revisions do not constitute significant changes to the project or environmental setting, or the conclusions regarding environmental impacts. The letters received during the public review period are listed as follows:

State and Local Agencies

Imperial Irrigation District

CalRecycle

County of Imperial Public Health Department- Environmental Health Division

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

IID

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December 20, 2023

Ms. Andrea Montaño
Associate Planner
Community Development Department
City of El Centro
1275 W. Main Street
El Centro, CA 92243

SUBJECT: NOI for the Preparation of an MND for the CR&R Environmental Services Transfer Station Project in El Centro, CA

Dear Ms. Montaño:

On November 21, 2023, the Imperial Irrigation District received from the City of El Centro Community Development Department, the Notice of Intent for the preparation of a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the CR&R Environmental Services transfer station project. The applicant proposes the construction of a waste transfer station on 8.85-acre property located in the vicinity of Dogwood Avenue and Ross Avenue in El Centro, CA (APNs 054-061-042, -032, -033, -034, -035, -036, -037, -038 and -039).

The IID has reviewed the Initial Study and Draft MND and has the following comments:

A.1

1. If the project requires electrical service, the applicant should be advised to contact Ignacio Romo, IID project development planner, at (760) 482-3426 or e-mail Mr. Romo at IGRomo@iid.com to initiate the customer service application process. In addition to submitting a formal application (available for download at the IID website http://www.iid.com/home/showdocument?id=12923), the applicant will be required to submit an AutoCAD file of site plan, approved electrical plans, electrical panel size and panel location, operating voltage, electrical loads, project schedule, and the applicable fees, permits, easements and environmental compliance documentation pertaining to the provision of electrical service to the project. The applicant shall be responsible for all costs and mitigation measures related to providing electrical service to the project.

2. Electrical capacity is limited in the project area. A circuit study may be required. Any system improvements or mitigation identified in the circuit study to enable the provision of electrical service to the project shall be the financial responsibility of the applicant.

IMPERIAL IRRIGATION DISTRICT · P.O. BOX 937 · IMPERIAL, CA 92251

A-1 The was subsequently required to initiate the customer service application process. A System Impact Study was completed on August 20, 2024 where the Distribution System Planning (DSP) department determined that there will not be any negative impacts to the IID distribution system. No offsite upgrades were required.

3. The environmental factor "XIX. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS" was not appropriately assessed for potential impacts. To determine if the project would require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded electric power facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects, a circuit study/distribution impact study, facility study, and/or system impact study should have been performed.

4. Applicant shall provide a surveyed legal description and an associated exhibit certified by a licensed surveyor for all rights of way deemed by IID as necessary to accommodate the project electrical infrastructure. Rights-of-Way and easements shall be in a form acceptable to and at no cost to IID for installation, operation, and maintenance of all electrical facilities.

5. The applicant will be required to provide rights of ways and easements for any power line extensions and/or any other infrastructure needed to serve the project as well as the necessary access to allow for continued operation and maintenance of any IID facilities located on adjoining properties.

6. Any construction or operation on IID property or within its existing and proposed right of way or easements including but not limited to: surface improvements such as proposed new streets, driveways, parking lots, landscape; and all water, sewer, storm water, or any other above ground or underground utilities; will require an encroachment permit, or encroachment agreement (depending on the circumstances). A copy of the IID encroachment permit application and instructions for its completion are available at https://www.iid.com/about-iid/department-directory/real-estate. The IID Real Estate Section should be contacted at (760) 339-9239 for additional information regarding encroachment permits or agreements. No foundations or buildings will be allowed within IID's right of way.

7. Any new, relocated, modified or reconstructed IID facilities required for and by the project (which can include but is not limited to electrical utility substations, electrical transmission and distribution lines, water deliveries, canals, drains, etc.) need to be included as part of the project's California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and/or National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation, environmental impact analysis and mitigation. Failure to do so will result in postponement of any construction and/or modification of IID facilities until such time as the environmental documentation is amended and environmental impacts are fully analyzed. Any and all mitigation necessary as a result of the construction, relocation and/or upgrade of IID facilities is the responsibility of the project proponent.

8. Dividing a project into two or more pieces and evaluating each piece in a separate environmental document (Piecemealing or Segmenting), rather than evaluating the whole of the project in one environmental document, is explicitly forbidden by

A.2

A.3

A.2 Comments 4, 5, and 6 are acknowledged as submittal requirements for the applicant should any work occur within any IID right of way. A copy of this letter was provided to the applicant and they were made aware.

A.3 Comments 3, 7 and 8 were answered with the completion of the System Impact Study prepared by the Imperial Irrigation District Distribution System Planning Department. The System Impact Study determined that upgrades energy facilities were not required as there were no negative impacts.

> CEQA, because dividing a project into a number of pieces would allow a Lead Agency to minimize the apparent environmental impacts of a project by evaluating individual pieces separately, each of which may have a less-than-significant impact on the environment, but which together may result in a significant impact. Segmenting a project may also hinder developing comprehensive mitigation strategies. In general, if an activity or facility is necessary for the operation of a project, or necessary to achieve the project objectives, or a reasonably foreseeable consequence of approving the project, then it should be considered an integral project component that should be analyzed within the environmental analysis. The project description should include all project components, including those that will have to be approved by responsible agencies. The State CEQA Guidelines define a project under CEQA as "the whole of the action" that may result either directly or indirectly in physical changes to the environment. This broad definition is intended to provide the maximum protection of the environment. CEQA case law has established general principles on project segmentation for different project types. For a project requiring construction of offsite infrastructure, the offsite infrastructure must be included in the project description. *San Joaquin Raptor/Wildlife Rescue Center v. County of Stanislaus* (1994) 27 Cal.App. 4th 713.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 760-482-3609 or at dvargas@iid.com. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this matter.

Respectfully,

Donald Vargas
Compliance Administrator II

Jamie Asbury – General Manager
Mike Pacheco – Manager, Water Dept.
Matthew H Smelser – Manager, Energy Dept.
Geoffrey Holbrook – General Counsel
Michael P. Kemp – Superintendent General, Fleet Services and Reg. & Environ. Compliance
Laura Cervantes. – Supervisor, Real Estate
Jessica Humes – Environmental Project Mgr. Sr., Water Dept.

California Environmental Protection Agency

CalRecycle
Department of
Resources Recycling and Recovery

Gavin Newsom
California Governor
Yana Garcia
Secretary for Environmental Protection
Rachel Machi Wagoner
CalRecycle Director

December 14, 2023

Andrea Montaño, Associate Planner
City of El Centro Community Development Department
Planning & Zoning Division
1275 W. Main Street
El Centro, CA 92243

Subject: SCH No. 2023110582 – Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) No. 22-03 – General Plan Amendment 22-03 & CR&R Waste Transfer Facility – Imperial County

Dear Ms. Montaño:

Thank you for allowing the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) staff to provide comments on the proposed project and for your agency's consideration of these comments as part of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The City of El Centro Community Development Department, acting as Lead Agency, has prepared and circulated a Notice of Completion (NOC) of a Draft MND in order to comply with CEQA and to provide information to, and solicit consultation with, Responsible Agencies in the approval of the proposed project.

The General Plan Amendment 22-03 & CR&R Waste Transfer Facility (proposed project) is located approximately 1,125 linear feet east of the southeast corner of Dogwood Avenue and Ross Avenue, with a legal description of lots 15 through 22 and lots 39 through 40, El Centro Homes Acres, in the City of El Centro, within Imperial County. The project site is approximately 8.95 acres, and the site is currently zoned for General Manufacturing (MG). The site is surrounded by agricultural land to the east, a contractor storage yard to the west, vacant land to the south, and vacant land, Ross Avenue, and a telecommunications tower to the north.

The proposed project would include construction of a solid waste transfer station, with a 66,575 square foot transfer station building, as well as onsite improvements consisting of parking areas, stormwater detention basins, compressed natural gas (CNG) vehicle fuel dispensers, and vehicle scales, on 7 acres (the remaining 1.95 acres that front Ross Avenue will remain vacant). The proposed project's operations include the transferring of waste from collection vehicles, sorting, transferring into freight trucks, and

sending material to an outside landfill. The proposed facility is estimated to generate a total of 151 vehicle trips per day.

COMMENTS

CalRecycle staff's comments on the proposed project are listed below. Where a specific location in the document is noted for the comment, please ensure the comment is addressed throughout all sections of the Draft MND, in addition to the specific location noted. Comments on the Draft MND are summarized below:

B.1 Page 2, Environmental Checklist/Initial Study, 8. Description of Project – The description given for the proposed project is missing a number of parameters needed for CalRecycle's concurrence on the Solid Waste Facility Permit (SWFP). These parameters include (1) maximum daily tonnage (tons per day), (2) types of waste to be received, (3) days and hours of operation and maintenance, and (4) the design capacity of the site (maximum tons per day that could be handled). These parameters should be described and factored in the environmental analysis and determination. Here is a link to an outline document on CalRecycle's website providing more detail on the correlation between CEQA and SWFPs: https://www2.calrecycle.ca.gov/Docs/Web/123045.

B.2 Page 13, III. Air Quality, Explanation, (e) – States that the activities at the site include sorting. Please provide a more detailed description of how material would be processed at the site.

B.3 Page 27, XVII. Transportation, Explanation, (a) – States that the transfer station is estimated to generate a total of 151 daily trips. Is this an estimate of the maximum number of vehicle trips expected at the transfer station or the average number of vehicle trips? If this estimate is of the average number of vehicle trips, please provide the estimated maximum number of vehicle trips expected at the transfer station. Is this information in the October 23, 2023 CR&R Transfer Station – Transportation Assessment?

A copy of the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) should be attached to the Final MND.

Solid Waste Regulatory Oversight

The Imperial County Public Health Department, Environmental Health Division is the Local Enforcement Agency (LEA) for Imperial County and responsible for providing regulatory oversight of solid waste handling activities, including permitting and inspections. Please contact the LEA, Alphonso Andrade, at 442.265.1888 or by email at alphonsoandrade@co.imperial.ca.us to discuss the regulatory requirements for the proposed project.

CONCLUSION

CalRecycle staff thanks the Lead Agency for the opportunity to review and comment on the environmental document and hopes that this comment letter will be useful to the

B.1 These parameters were requested from the applicant and subsequently included in the Description of Project located in the Initial Study portion of this document.

B.2 Additional detail regarding onsite processing was incorporated into the Air Quality, Explanation, (e) discussion.

B.3 Clarification was incorporated to make clear the maximum trips generated would be 151 daily trips and include staff, commercial vehicles and self-haul vehicles.

Lead Agency preparing the Final MND, and in carrying out their responsibilities in the CEQA process.

CalRecycle staff request copies of any subsequent environmental documents, copies of public notices and any Notices of Determination for this proposed project.

If the environmental document is adopted during a public hearing, CalRecycle staff request 10 days advance notice of this hearing. If the document is adopted without a public hearing, CalRecycle staff requests 10 days advance notification of the date of the adoption and proposed project approval by the decision-making body.

If you have any questions regarding these comments, please contact me at 916.324.0393 or by e-mail at gina.weber@calrecycle.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Gina Weber, Environmental Scientist
Permitting & Assistance Branch – South Unit
Waste Permitting, Compliance & Mitigation Division
CalRecycle

cc: Benjamin Escotto, CalRecycle
Alphonso Andrade, LEA
Jorge Perez, LEA

COUNTY OF IMPERIAL

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

JANETTE ANGULO, M.P.A.
Director

STEPHEN MUNDAY, M.D., M.P.H., M.S.
Health Officer

December 20, 2023

Andrea Montaño, Associate Planner
City of El Centro Community Development Department
Planning & Zoning Division
1275 W. Main Street
El Centro, CA 92243
AMontano@CityoElCento.org

Subject: **SCH No. 2023110582 – Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) No. 22-03 – General Plan Amendment 22-03 & CR&R Waste Transfer Facility – Imperial County**

Dear Ms. Montaño:

The Imperial County Public Health Department, Environmental Health Division (EHD) has been notified of your preparation of a draft mitigated negative declaration for the proposed CR&R Waste Transfer Facility. The facility is proposed in the City of El Centro, on the south side of Ross Avenue, east of the intersection with Dogwood Road. Please consider the following comments, as the projects progresses through the CEQA process.

Solid Waste Permitting

Please be advised, EHD is the local enforcement agency (LEA) for the California Department Resources, Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle). The project proponent will be subject to the LEA's regulatory oversight, which includes solid waste facility permitting.

C.1

There are different solid waste facility tiers, in permitting solid waste handling operations. This facility's permitting tier will be partly determined by the volume of waste it handles. CalRecycle's letter to you, dated December 14, 2023, regarding this project, contains several factors considered in permitting a solid waste facility. These factors are summarized in the second paragraph of the letter section titled, *COMMENTS*. We reiterate CalRecycle's request that these factors be included in your CEQA analysis.

C.2

Furthermore, to help clarify the operation of the facility, along the CEQA process, EHD requests features shown in the site plan (Figure-2), attached to the draft mitigated negative declaration, be labeled with more detail regarding their purpose. We would also request a detailed floor plan for their operation building, which will show equipment the proponent will be using in their operation.

In informal conversations with the project proponent, they had proposed this facility as a large volume transfer facility. All large volume transfer/processing facilities are required to obtain a full solid waste

Environmental Health Division, 797 Main Street, Suite B, El Centro, CA 92243
(442) 265-1888 ● (442) 265-1903 Fax ● icphd.org

C.1 Comments received from CalRecycle were incorporated in the appropriate sections of the Initial Study.

C.2 A detailed floor plan of this project was requested but are not currently available as plans are not currently ready for building permit submittal. Additional detail regarding processing was included in the Air Quality Explanation (e).

C.3 facility permit, in accordance with the procedures set forth in Title 27, Division 2, Subdivision 1, Chapter 4, Subchapter 3, Articles 2, 3, and 3.1 of the California Code of Regulations (commencing with Section 21570). They will be required to prepare a transfer/processing report, pursuant to section 18221.6, of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations. The applicant should submit their solid waste facility permit application package, at least 180 days prior to beginning operation, as 180 days is the usual application process duration.

Once the facility is permitted and operating, it will be inspected monthly by EHD.

Hydrology and Water Quality

C.4 Please be aware, facilities similar to the one the proponent is proposing often wash refuse collection vehicles and refuse collection containers at their site. To reduce the impact of these washing activities on water quality, the operator should be required to install an equipment wash area, which will ensure that any residual water generated by washing activities, is collected, and directed to a pretreatment or treatment system. For more details, please see the United States Environmental Protection Agency's publication titled, *Municipal Vehicle and Equipment Washing,* available at: https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2021-11/bmp-municipal-vehicle-and-equipment-washing.pdf

Pretreatment systems are normally overseen, and in some cases, permitted by wastewater treatment system operators, if the pretreatment system is discharging into their wastewater treatment system. In this case, the wastewater treatment system operator would be El Centro Public Works; the proponent should consult with them to discuss any pretreatment requirements for discharging into their wastewater treatment system. Alternatively, any treatment systems that will be discharging on-site, instead of the city's wastewater treatment system, will require permitting through the Colorado River Basin Regional Water Quality Control Board.

C.5 In addition to residual wastewater generating activities, solid waste handling also has the potential to affect ground water as well. Solid waste collection vehicles may leak liquid garbage and mechanical fluids. Solid waste containers may leak liquid from decomposing garbage as well. If these leaks happen on an unpaved area, they may more easily percolate into the ground water. Therefore, EHD recommends that any solid waste vehicle parking areas, or waste container holding areas, be required to have impervious pavement. This impervious pavement would serve as a barrier to prevent leaks from permeating into the ground water.

Hazards and Hazardous Materials

C.6 The project description describes a compressed natural gas fuel dispensing station on site. Due to this, the operator may exceed thresholds that require them to submit a Hazardous Materials Business Plan to the Imperial CUPA. The project proponent may refer to section 25507 of the California Health and Safety Code for threshold quantities.

Transportation

C.7 The transportation section of your environmental checklist states the facility is expected to generate an estimated 151 daily trips. Please be aware, under their current operation, the proponent also accepts waste loads from the public, which generates trips. The proponent also operates a storage container rental business, from a yard shared with one of their current solid waste handling operations, which also generates more trips. Furthermore, the operator also serves other areas of the county, besides the city of El Centro, such as Calipatria, Heber, Holtville, and Westmorland. We are informing you of these activities to ensure they are considered in your CEQA transportation evaluation. Furthermore, if the proponent anticipates adding any service areas, or operating other services from the site, EHD recommends these be

C.3 This comment on obtaining a full solid waste facility permit is considered procedural in nature and not incorporated in the mitigation of this project. The applicant has been made aware of this requirement via receipt of this letter.

C.4 The applicant will be required to designate and are with methods to captures used waster that may be contaminated for any vehicle washed onsite. This project is required to submit a sewer pretreatment program.

C.5 Impervious pavement is currently incorporated in the project design. The alternative to incorporated gravel at this project site would not be considered.

C.6 The applicant has been advised of the potential for a Hazardous Materials Business Plan to be submitted to the Imperial County Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA).

C.7 The maximum trip generation of 151 vehicles was clarified by the applicant that it includes trash collection vehicles parking, employee parking, transfer trucks parking, and bin storage.

considered in your CEQA evaluation, as well.

In conclusion, we appreciate your consideration of these comments. If you have any questions regarding EHD's requests, please feel free to contact me through the contact information listed below, or at AlphonsoAndrade@co.imperial.ca.us.

Sincerely,

Alphonso Andrade, REHS
Imperial County Environmental Health Division

cc: (electronic)
Gina Weber, CalRecycle

State of California – Natural Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
Inland Deserts Region
3602 Inland Empire Blvd, Suite C-220
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GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor
CHARLTON H. BONHAM, Director

December 19, 2023
Sent via e-mail

Andrea Montaño
Associate Planner
City of El Centro
1275 W Main Street, Planning Division
El Centro, CA 92243

CR&R WASTE TRANSFER STATION (PROJECT)
MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION (MND)
SCH#: 2023110582

Dear Andrea Montaño:

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) received a Notice of Intent to Adopt an MND from the City of El Centro (City), for the Project pursuant the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and CEQA Guidelines.[1]

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments and recommendations regarding those activities involved in the Project that may affect California fish and wildlife. Likewise, we appreciate the opportunity to provide comments regarding those aspects of the Project that CDFW, by law, may be required to carry out or approve through the exercise of its own regulatory authority under the Fish and Game Code.

CDFW ROLE

CDFW is California's **Trustee Agency** for fish and wildlife resources and holds those resources in trust by statute for all the people of the State. (Fish & G. Code, §§ 711.7, subd. (a) & 1802; Pub. Resources Code, § 21070; CEQA Guidelines § 15386, subd. (a).) CDFW, in its trustee capacity, has jurisdiction over the conservation, protection, and management of fish, wildlife, native plants, and habitat necessary for biologically sustainable populations of those species. (*Id.*, § 1802.) Similarly, for purposes of CEQA, CDFW is charged by law to provide, as available, biological expertise during public agency environmental review efforts, focusing specifically on projects and related activities that have the potential to adversely affect fish and wildlife resources.

CDFW is also submitting comments as a **Responsible Agency** under CEQA. (Pub. Resources Code, § 21069; CEQA Guidelines, § 15381.) CDFW expects that it may need to exercise regulatory authority as provided by the Fish and Game Code. As proposed, for example, the Project may be subject to CDFW's lake and streambed alteration regulatory authority. (Fish & G. Code, § 1600 et seq.) Likewise, to the extent implementation of the Project as proposed may result in "take" as defined by State law of any species protected under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA) (Fish & G. Code, § 2050 et seq.), the project proponent may seek related take authorization as provided by the Fish and Game Code.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

Proponent: CR&R

Objective: The Project proposes to construct a solid waste transfer station on 8.85 acres of vacant property. A 66,575 square foot transfer station building and on-site improvements consisting of parking areas, stormwater detention basins, CNG vehicle fuel dispensers, and vehicle scales would be constructed on a 7-acre portion of the Project site. The remaining 1.95 acres that front Ross Avenue would remain vacant. Additional Project elements would include partial roadway-width construction along the eastern Project boundary connecting the site to Ross Avenue, and an extension of public water,

[1] CEQA is codified in the California Public Resources Code in section 21000 et seq. The "CEQA Guidelines" are found in Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, commencing with section 15000.

sewer, and stormwater drain infrastructure within the public right-of-way to existing facilities on Ross Avenue.

The Project site is designated as General Commercial per the General Plan Land Use Element. Waste transfer stations are not consistent with the General Commercial land use and the applicant is requesting a General Plan Amendment (GPA 22-03) to change the General Plan land use designation for the site from General Commercial to Light Industrial.

Location: The Project would be located east of the southeast corner of Dogwood Avenue and Ross Avenue in the city of El Centro, county of Imperial, state of California (32.779844, -115.532172). The Project site would consist of nine parcels with Accessor's Parcel Numbers: 054-061-042, 054-061-032, -033, -034, -035, -036, -037, -038, and -039. The Project site consists of vacant land and is surrounded by vacant land to the north and south, agricultural fields to the east, and a storage yard to the west. Additionally, an irrigation canal runs along the northern edge of the property along Ross Avenue named Central Drain Three H, and an unnamed canal runs along the eastern boundary of the Project site adjacent to an agricultural field.

Timeframe: None provided.

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

D.1

CDFW has jurisdiction over the conservation, protection, and management of fish, wildlife, native plants, and habitat necessary for biologically sustainable populations of those species (i.e., biological resources). CDFW offers the comments and recommendations below to assist the City in adequately identifying and/or mitigating the Project's significant, or potentially significant, direct and indirect impacts on fish and wildlife (biological) resources. The MND has not adequately identified and disclosed the Project's impacts (i.e., direct, indirect, and cumulative) to biological resources and whether those impacts are less than significant.

CDFW's comments and recommendations on the MND are explained in greater detail below and summarized here. CDFW recommends that additional information and analyses be added to a revised MND, along with avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures that reduce impacts to less than significant.

Project Description

CEQA is predicated on a complete and accurate description of the proposed Project. Without a complete and accurate project description, the MND likely provides an incomplete assessment of Project-related impacts to biological resources. CDFW has identified gaps in information related to the project description.

The MND (p. 2) identifies major construction activities to create the waste transfer station, including, but not limited to: constructing a 66,575 square foot transfer station building; site improvements to facilitate parking areas, stormwater detention basins, CNG vehicle fuel dispensers, and vehicle scales; partial roadway-width construction; and an extension of public water, sewer, and stormwater drain infrastructure. However, no further details or construction plans were provided for the activities listed. Activities involving trenching to create stormwater basins and water, sewer, or stormwater infrastructure could pose a hazard to wildlife that could become entrapped or drown. Waste transfer stations could attract wildlife or may result in the leakage of pollutants that would pose a hazard to wildlife both directly and indirectly. Further, construction noise related to site improvements has the potential to create noise levels that would adversely affect wildlife in both short-term and long-term intervals. A revised MND should include qualitative and quantitative descriptions of each construction activity that is proposed for the Project so that an accurate assessment of Project-related impacts to biological resources can be conducted.

Additionally, the MND does not identify a timeframe for Project activities. A revised MND should include a timeline for Project activities and an analysis of impacts to biological resources resulting from an extended timeline for Project activities and/or pauses in

D.1 A biological survey was conducted on February 15, 2024, covering approximately 8.95 acres in El Centro, Imperial County, CA, along with three additional burrowing owl protocol surveys. No endangered, threatened species, or species of special concern were found, and no wetlands or jurisdictional issues were observed. While no burrowing owls were detected, one ground-nesting killdeer, protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, was found on-site. Additional mitigation measures as recommended in the Biological Resources Assessment Report dated July 2024, prepared by Barrett Biological Enterprises, Inc were incorporated to ensure impacts are less than significant.

construction, if applicable. The revised MND should acknowledge that wildlife may move into disturbed or graded sites when construction is paused. The revised MND should also acknowledge that preconstruction surveys for biological resources will need to be repeated prior to Project activities and after pauses in construction to assess the presence of biological resources and to avoid or reduce impacts to less than significant.

D.2

Existing Environmental Setting

Compliance with CEQA is predicated on a complete and accurate description of the environmental setting that may be affected by the proposed Project. CDFW is concerned that there has been no biological assessment conducted for the Project area, and the existing environmental setting has not been adequately analyzed in the MND. CDFW is concerned that without a complete and accurate description of the existing environmental setting, the MND may provide an incomplete analysis of Project-related environmental impacts.

The MND (p. 14) states "the project site consists of vacant land primarily located within an urbanized area and devoid of any known vegetation, bodies of water or wildlife corridors that could sustain wildlife or lead to the establishment thereof." Based on CDFW's review of aerial imagery, the Project site (particularly parcel 054-061-042 and the edges of the remaining parcels) and the areas immediately to the south and east of the Project site contain vegetation that has the potential to support nesting birds and provide cover for foraging wildlife. Additionally, two irrigation canals run along the northern and eastern boundaries of the Project site. Drainage canals and ditches may provide suitable habitat for sensitive biological resources, including burrowing owl[2] and lowland leopard frog[3].

CDFW is concerned that no biological field assessment was conducted for the MND. The Project area has the potential to support wildlife, including special-status species. A complete and accurate assessment of the environmental setting and Project-related impacts to biological resources is needed to both identify appropriate avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures and demonstrate that these measures avoid or reduce Project impacts to less than significant. With the current information, CDFW is unable to provide a meaningful review of Project impacts without an understanding of the baseline environmental conditions.

Mitigation Measures

CDFW is concerned that the mitigation measure proposed in the MND is not adequate to avoid or reduce impacts to biological resources to less than significant. To support the City in ensuring that Project impacts to biological resources are reduced to a level that is less than significant, CDFW recommends adding mitigation measures for assessment of biological resources, nesting birds, CDFW's Lake and Streambed Alteration Program, construction noise, and artificial nighttime light, and revising the mitigation measure for burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*).

I. Environmental Setting and Related Impact Shortcoming

COMMENT #1: Assessment of Biological Resources

MND document, Section IV, Page #14

Issue: The MND does not identify the Project's significant, or potentially significant, impacts to biological resources.

Specific impact: The MND lacks any general field assessment of biological resources located within the Project footprint and surrounding areas, and no focused or protocol-level surveys were performed for the detection of special-status species. CDFW is concerned about the potential for special-status species to occur on or near the Project

[2] Coulombe, H.N. 1971. Behavior and population ecology of the burrowing owl, *Speotyto cunicularia*, in the Imperial Valley of California. The Condor 136(1): 143-148.
[3] https://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=190356&inline

D.2 See response D.1 above.

D.3

site. The Project area encompasses open and disturbed areas, agricultural fields, and irrigation ditches, and there is high potential for special-status species to be impacted directly, indirectly, and cumulatively by Project activities. The California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) and Biogeographic Information and Observation System (BIOS) indicate that occurrences of special-status species have been reported in the Project area, including, but not limited to: Abrams' spurge (*Euphorbia abramsiana*), big free-tailed bat (*Nyctinomops macrotis*), burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*), northern leopard frog (*Lithobates pipiens*), western yellow bat (*Lasiurus xanthinus*), and Yuma hispid cotton rat (*Sigmodon hispidus eremicus*).

Recent surveys during the appropriate times of the year are needed to identify potential impacts to biological resources; inform appropriate avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures; and determine whether impacts to biological resources have been mitigated to a level that is less than significant. CDFW generally considers field assessments for wildlife to be valid for a one-year period, and assessments for rare plants may be considered valid for a period of up to three years.

Evidence impact would be significant: Compliance with CEQA is predicated on a complete and accurate description of the environmental setting that may be affected by the proposed Project. CDFW is concerned that the assessment of the existing environmental setting with respect to biological resources has not been analyzed in the MND. CDFW is concerned that without a complete and accurate description of the existing environmental setting, the MND likely provides an incomplete or inaccurate analysis of Project-related environmental impacts and whether those impacts have been mitigated to a level that is less than significant. Section 15125(c) of the CEQA Guidelines states that knowledge of the regional setting of a project is critical to the assessment of environmental impacts, that special emphasis should be placed on environmental resources that are rare or unique to the region, and that significant environmental impacts of the proposed Project are adequately investigated and discussed.

Recommended Potentially Feasible Mitigation Measure:

To establish the existing environmental setting with respect to biological resources, CDFW recommends that a revised MND include the results of recent biological surveys as described in the following mitigation measure, as well as any necessary mitigation measures:

MM BIO-[A]: Assessment of Biological Resources

Prior to Project construction activities, a complete and recent inventory of rare, threatened, endangered, and other sensitive species located within the Project footprint and within offsite areas with the potential to be affected, including California Species of Special Concern (CSSC) and California Fully Protected Species (Fish and Game Code § 3511), will be completed. Species to be addressed should include all those which meet the CEQA definition (CEQA Guidelines § 15380). The inventory should address seasonal variations in use of the Project area and should not be limited to resident species. Focused species-specific surveys, completed by a qualified biologist and conducted at the appropriate time of year and time of day when the sensitive species are active or otherwise identifiable are required. Acceptable species-specific survey procedures should be developed in consultation with CDFW and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, where necessary. Note that CDFW generally considers biological field assessments for wildlife to be valid for a one-year period, and assessments for rare plants may be considered valid for a period of up to three years. Some aspects of the proposed Project may warrant periodic updated surveys for certain sensitive taxa, particularly if the Project is proposed to occur over a protracted time frame, or in phases, or if surveys are completed during periods of drought.

D.3 See response D.1 above.

Pursuant to the CEQA Guidelines, section 15097(f), CDFW has prepared a draft mitigation monitoring and reporting program (MMRP) for revised MM BIO-1, and CDFW-recommended MM-BIO [A] through [E] (see Attachment 1).

II. Mitigation Measure or Alternative and Related Impact Shortcoming

COMMENT #2: Burrowing Owl

MND document, Section IV, Page #14, BIO-1

D.4

Issue: CDFW is concerned that the MND does not sufficiently identify Project impacts to burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*) or ensure that impacts are mitigated to a level less than significant.

Specific impact: The MND (p. 14) states "the project site is located adjacent to an active agricultural field that may invite native sensitive species such as Burrowing Owl." Suitable burrowing owl habitat has been confirmed on-site including open and disturbed areas, agricultural fields, and irrigation ditches that would likely support the species at any time during construction. Additionally, CNDDB and BIOS report occurrences of burrowing owl within 0.48 miles of the Project site.

Burrowing owls have a high potential to move into disturbed sites prior to and during construction activities. Burrowing owls frequently move into disturbed areas since they are adapted to highly modified habitats (Chipman et al. 2008; Coulombe 1971). Impacts to burrowing owl from the Project could include take of burrowing owls, their nests, or eggs or destroying nesting, foraging, or over-wintering habitat, thus impacting burrowing owl populations. Impacts can result from grading, earthmoving, burrow blockage, heavy equipment compaction and crushing of burrows, general Project disturbance that has the potential to harass owls at occupied burrows, and other activities.

Evidence impact would be significant: Burrowing owl is a California Species of Special Concern. Take of individual burrowing owls and their nests is defined by Fish and Game Code section 86, and prohibited by sections 3503, 3503.5, and 3513. Take is defined in Fish and Game Code section 86 as "hunt, pursue, catch, capture or kill, or attempt to hunt, pursue, catch, capture or kill." Fish and Game Code sections 3503, 3503.5, and 3513 afford protective measures as follows: section 3503 states that it is unlawful to take, possess, or needlessly destroy the nest or eggs of any bird, except as otherwise provided by Fish and Game Code or any regulation made pursuant thereto. Fish and Game Code section 3503.5 makes it unlawful to take, possess, or destroy any birds in the orders Falconiformes or Strigiformes (birds-of-prey) or to take, possess, or destroy the nest or eggs of any such bird except as otherwise provided by Fish and Game Code or any regulation adopted pursuant thereto. Fish and Game Code section 3513 makes it unlawful to take or possess any migratory nongame bird except as provided by rules and regulations adopted by the Secretary of the Interior under provisions of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918, as amended (16 U.S.C. § 703 et seq.).

Recommended Potentially Feasible Mitigation Measure:

CDFW appreciates the inclusion of MM BIO-1; however, the measure is insufficient in scope and timing to reduce impacts to a level less than significant. CDFW recommends a revised MND include specific avoidance and minimization measures to ensure that impacts to burrowing owls do not occur. CDFW recommends that prior to commencing Project activities for all phases of Project construction, focused surveys for burrowing owl be conducted for the entirety of the Project site by a qualified biologist in accordance with the *Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation* (CDFG 2012 or most recent version). CDFW recommends the City include a revised Mitigation Measure BIO-1 in a revised MND as follows, with additions in **bold** and removals in ~~strikethrough~~.

D.4 See response D.1 above.

D.5

MM BIO-1: Focused and Pre-Construction Surveys for Burrowing Owl

~~If construction activities begin during nesting season, from February to August, a burrowing owl site survey must be performed 3-5 days prior to the start of construction.~~ **Suitable burrowing owl habitat has been confirmed on the site; therefore, focused burrowing owl surveys shall be conducted in accordance with the *Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation* (2012 or most recent version). If burrowing owls are detected during the focused surveys, the qualified biologist and Project proponent shall prepare a Burrowing Owl Plan that shall be submitted to CDFW for review and approval prior to commencing Project activities. The Burrowing Owl Plan shall describe proposed avoidance, monitoring, relocation, minimization, and/or mitigation actions. The Burrowing Owl Plan shall include the number and location of occupied burrow sites, acres of burrowing owl habitat that will be impacted, details of site monitoring, and details on proposed buffers and other avoidance measures if avoidance is proposed. If impacts to occupied burrowing owl habitat or burrow cannot be avoided, the Burrowing Owl Plan shall also describe minimization and compensatory mitigation actions that will be implemented. Proposed implementation of burrow exclusion and closure should only be considered as a last resort, after all other options have been evaluated as exclusion is not in itself an avoidance, minimization, or mitigation method and has the possibility to result in take. The Burrowing Owl Plan shall identify compensatory mitigation for the temporary or permanent loss of occupied burrow(s) and habitat consistent with the "Mitigation Impacts" section of the 2012 Staff Report and shall implement CDFW-approved mitigation prior to initiation of Project activities. If impacts to occupied burrows cannot be avoided, information shall be provided regarding adjacent or nearby suitable habitat available to owls. If no suitable habitat is available nearby, details regarding the creation and funding of artificial burrows (numbers, location, and type of burrows) and management activities for relocated owls shall also be included in the Burrowing Owl Plan. The Project proponent shall implement the Burrowing Owl Plan following CDFW and USFWS review and approval.**

Preconstruction burrowing owl surveys shall be conducted no less than 14 days prior to the start of Project-related activities and within 24 hours prior to ground disturbance, in accordance with the *Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation* (2012 or most recent version). Preconstruction surveys should be performed by a qualified biologist following the recommendations and guidelines provided in the *Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation*. If the preconstruction surveys confirm occupied burrowing owl habitat, Project activities shall be immediately halted. The qualified biologist shall coordinate with CDFW and prepare a Burrowing Owl Plan that shall be submitted to CDFW and USFWS for review and approval prior to commencing Project activities.

COMMENT #3: Nesting Birds

MND document, Section IV, Page #14

Issue: CDFW is concerned that the MND does not identify Project impacts to nesting birds or ensure that impacts are mitigated to a level less than significant.

Specific impact: The MND (p. 14) indicates that "there is the potential for sensitive species to appear." CDFW's review of aerial imagery shows that the Project site and surrounding areas contain vegetation that has the potential to support nesting birds. CDFW is concerned about the impacts to nesting birds including loss of nesting/foraging habitat and potential take from ground-disturbing activities and construction. Conducting work outside the peak breeding season is an important avoidance and minimization measure. CDFW also recommends the completion of nesting bird surveys *regardless* of the time of year to ensure that impacts to nesting

D.5 See response D.1 above.

D.6

birds are avoided. The timing of the nesting season varies greatly depending on several factors, such as bird species, weather conditions in any given year, and long-term climate changes (e.g., drought, warming, etc.). In response to warming, birds have been reported to breed earlier, thereby reducing temperatures that nests are exposed to during breeding and tracking shifts in availability of resources (Socolar et al., 2017). CDFW staff have observed that climate change conditions may result in nesting bird season occurring earlier and later in the year than historical nesting season dates. CDFW recommends that disturbance of occupied nests of migratory birds and raptors within the Project site and surrounding area be avoided any time birds are nesting on-site. CDFW therefore recommends the completion of nesting bird surveys *regardless of the time of year* to ensure compliance with all applicable laws pertaining to nesting and migratory birds.

Evidence impact would be significant: It is the Project proponent's responsibility to comply with all applicable laws related to nesting birds and birds of prey. Fish and Game Code sections 3503, 3503.5, and 3513 afford protective measures as follows: Fish and Game Code section 3503 states that it is unlawful to take, possess, or needlessly destroy the nest or eggs of any bird, except as otherwise provided by Fish and Game Code or any regulation made pursuant thereto. Fish and Game Code section 3503.5 makes it unlawful to take, possess, or destroy any birds in the orders Falconiformes or Strigiformes (birds-of-prey) or to take, possess, or destroy the nest or eggs of any such bird except as otherwise provided by Fish and Game Code or any regulation adopted pursuant thereto. Fish and Game Code section 3513 makes it unlawful to take or possess any migratory nongame bird except as provided by rules and regulations adopted by the Secretary of the Interior under provisions of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918, as amended (16 U.S.C. § 703 et seq.).

Recommended Potentially Feasible Mitigation Measure:

CDFW recommends a revised MND include specific avoidance and minimization measures to ensure that impacts to nesting birds do not occur. Project-specific avoidance and minimization measures may include, but are not limited to, Project phasing and timing, monitoring of Project-related noise (where applicable), sound walls, and buffers, where appropriate. CDFW recommends that disturbance of occupied nests of migratory birds and raptors within the Project site be avoided **any time birds are nesting on-site.** Preconstruction nesting bird surveys shall be performed within 3 days prior to Project activities to determine the presence and location of nesting birds. CDFW recommends the City add the following mitigation measure for nesting birds to a revised MND:

MM BIO-[B]: Pre-Construction Nesting Bird Survey

Regardless of the time of year, nesting bird surveys shall be performed by a qualified avian biologist no more than 3 days prior to vegetation removal or ground-disturbing activities. Pre-construction surveys shall focus on both direct and indirect evidence of nesting, including nest locations and nesting behavior. The qualified avian biologist will make every effort to avoid potential nest predation as a result of survey and monitoring efforts. If active nests are found during the pre-construction nesting bird surveys, a qualified biologist shall establish an appropriate nest buffer to be marked on the ground. Nest buffers are species specific and shall be at least 300 feet for passerines and 500 feet for raptors. A smaller or larger buffer may be determined by the qualified biologist familiar with the nesting phenology of the nesting species and based on nest and buffer monitoring results. Construction activities may not occur inside the established buffers, which shall remain on site until a qualified biologist determines the young have fledged or the nest is no longer active. Active nests and adequacy of the established buffer distance shall be monitored daily by the qualified biologist until the qualified biologist has determined the young have fledged or the Project has been completed. The qualified biologist has the authority to stop work if nesting pairs exhibit signs of disturbance.

D.6 See response D.1 above.

COMMENT #4: CDFW Lake and Streambed Alteration (LSA) Program

D.7

Issue: The MND does not acknowledge that two irrigation canals are located along the northern and eastern boundaries of the Project site and does not include mitigation measures to avoid or reduce impacts to a level less than significant.

Specific impact: CDFW review of aerial imagery confirms the location of an irrigation canal running along the northern boundary of the property along Ross Avenue named Central Drain Three H, and an unnamed canal running along the eastern boundary of the Project site. Canals and ditches, regardless of whether they are concrete lined, may provide suitable habitat for biological resources. Potential direct and indirect impacts to the canals and associated fish and wildlife resources, such as burrowing owl, resulting from Project construction are subject to notification under Fish and Game Code section 1602.

Evidence impact would be significant: Fish and Game Code section 1602 requires an entity to notify CDFW prior to commencing any activity that may do one or more of the following: substantially divert or obstruct the natural flow of any river, stream, or lake; substantially change or use any material from the bed, channel or bank of any river, stream, or lake; or deposit debris, waste or other materials that could pass into any river, stream or lake. Note that "any river, stream or lake" includes those that are episodic (i.e., those that are dry for periods of time) as well as those that are perennial (i.e., those that flow year-round). This includes ephemeral streams, desert washes, and watercourses with a subsurface flow. It may also apply to work undertaken within the flood plain of a body of water. Upon receipt of a complete notification, CDFW determines if the proposed Project activities may substantially adversely affect existing fish and wildlife resources and whether a Lake and Streambed Alteration (LSA) Agreement is required. An LSA Agreement includes measures necessary to protect existing fish and wildlife resources. CDFW may suggest ways to modify the Project that would eliminate or reduce harmful impacts to fish and wildlife resources. CDFW's issuance of an LSA Agreement is a "project" subject to CEQA (see Pub. Resources Code § 21065). Early consultation with CDFW is recommended since modification of the proposed Project may be required to avoid or reduce impacts to fish and wildlife resources. To submit a Lake or Streambed Alteration notification, visit: https://wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Environmental-Review/LSA.

Recommended Potentially Feasible Mitigation Measure:

Because of the potential for impacts to resources subject to Fish and Game Code section 1602, CDFW recommends the City include the following additional mitigation measure in a revised MND:

MM BIO-[C]: CDFW's Lake and Stream Alteration (LSA) Program

Prior to Project-activities and issuance of any grading permit, the Project Sponsor shall obtain written correspondence from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) stating that notification under section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code is not required for the Project, *or* the Project Sponsor shall obtain a CDFW-executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement, authorizing impacts to Fish and Game Code section 1602 resources associated with the Project.

COMMENT #5: Construction Noise

IS/MND document, Section XIII, Page #23

Issue: The MND does not include an assessment of impacts to biological resources resulting from construction noise or mitigation measures to avoid or reduce impacts to a level less than significant.

D.7 The irrigation canals located in the vicinity of the project site were not evaluated in the environmental document as they are located outside the project site and will not be impacted.

D.8

Specific impact: The MND (p. 23) states the Project would result in a temporary noise increase and ground-borne vibration levels in the area from construction activities, and "noise levels during the construction may temporar[il]y exceed noise levels as established in the Noise Element of the General Plan," but includes no noise impact assessment or an analysis of the impacts of construction noise on biological resources. Based on the nature of the proposed construction activities (i.e., trenching, excavating, road widening, compaction, construction of a building), noise levels would be expected to exceed exposure levels that may adversely affect wildlife species at 55 to 60 dBA.

Evidence impact would be significant: Construction may result in substantial noise through road use, equipment, and other Project-related activities. This may adversely affect wildlife species in several ways as wildlife responses to noise can occur at exposure levels of only 55 to 60 dB (Barber et al. 2009). Anthropogenic noise can disrupt the communication of many wildlife species including frogs, birds, and bats (Sun and Narins 2005, Patricelli and Blickley 2006, Gillam and McCracken 2007, Slabbekoorn and Ripmeester 2008). Noise can also affect predator-prey relationships as many nocturnal animals such as bats and owls primarily use auditory cures (i.e., hearing) to hunt. Additionally, many prey species increase their vigilance behavior when exposed to noise because they need to rely more on visual detection of predators when auditory cues may be masked by noise (Rabin et al. 2006, Quinn et al. 2017). Noise has also been shown to reduce the density of nesting birds (Francis et al. 2009) and cause increased stress that results in decreased immune responses (Kight and Swaddle 2011).

Recommended Potentially Feasible Mitigation Measure:

Because of the potential for construction noise to negatively impact wildlife, CDFW recommends a revised MND include a noise impact assessment and an analysis of impacts to biological resources accompanied by specific avoidance and minimization measures to ensure that impacts to wildlife are avoided or reduced to less than significant. CDFW recommends adding the following mitigation measure to a revised MND:

MM BIO-[D]: Construction Noise Impacts to Biological Resources

> **During all Project construction, the City shall restrict use of equipment to hours least likely to disrupt wildlife (e.g., not at night or in early morning) and restrict use of generators except for temporary use in emergencies. Power to sites can be provided by solar PV (photovoltaic) systems, cogeneration systems (natural gas generator), small micro-hydroelectric systems, or small wind turbine systems. The City shall ensure the use of noise suppression devices such as mufflers or enclosures for generators. Sounds generated from any means must be below the 55-60 dB range within 50-feet from the source.**

COMMENT #6: Artificial Nighttime Light

D.9

IS/MND document, Section I, Page #11

Issue: The MND does not analyze impacts to biological resources from artificial nighttime light and includes no mitigation measures to avoid or reduce impacts to biological resources to a level less than significant.

Specific impact: The MND (p. 11) states that lighting will be located on the rear of the flag-shaped parcel but provides no further lighting description or details. Additionally, impacts to biological resources resulting from the use of artificial nighttime lighting during construction and operation of the Project are not analyzed, and no mitigation measures are proposed. Designs for lighting to be used during operation of the Project should be included in a revised MND, along with details of artificial nighttime lighting to be used during construction. The direct and indirect impacts of artificial nighttime lighting on biological resources including migratory birds that fly at night, bats, and

D.8 A biological site assessment determined that no federal or state-listed endangered, threatened, or special-status botanical or zoological species were present within the project site or buffer survey zone. As a result, further analysis of construction noise was deemed unnecessary due to the absence of significant biological resources.

D.9 A biological site assessment determined that no federal or state-listed endangered, threatened, or special-status botanical or zoological species were present within the project site or buffer survey zone. As a result, further analysis of artificial nighttime light was deemed unnecessary due to the absence of significant biological resources.

other nocturnal and crepuscular wildlife should be analyzed, and appropriate avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to less than significant should be included in a revised MND.

Evidence impact would be significant: Artificial nighttime lighting often results in light pollution, which has the potential to significantly and adversely affect fish and wildlife. Artificial lighting alters ecological processes including, but not limited to, the temporal niches of species; the repair and recovery of physiological function; the measurement of time through interference with the detection of circadian and lunar and seasonal cycles; the detection of resources and natural enemies; and navigation (Gatson et al. 2013). Many species use photoperiod cues for communication (e.g., bird song; Miller 2006), determining when to begin foraging (Stone et al. 2009), behavior thermoregulation (Beiswenger 1977), and migration (Longcore and Rich 2004). Phototaxis, a phenomenon which results in attraction and movement towards light, can disorient, entrap, and temporarily blind wildlife species that experience it (Longcore and Rich 2004).

Recommended Potentially Feasible Mitigation Measure:

Because of the potential for artificial nighttime light to negatively impact wildlife, CDFW recommends a revised MND include details of the use of artificial nighttime lighting proposed for construction and operation of the Project and an analysis of impacts to biological resources, as well as specific avoidance and minimization measures to ensure that impacts to wildlife are reduced to less than significant. CDFW recommends the City include the following mitigation measure in a revised MND:

MM BIO-[E]: Artificial Nighttime Light

During Project construction and operation, the City shall eliminate all nonessential lighting throughout the Project area and avoid or limit the use of artificial light during the hours of dawn and dusk when many wildlife species are most active. The City shall ensure that lighting for Project activities is shielded, cast downward, and does not spill over onto other properties or upward into the night sky (see the International Dark-Sky Association standards at http://darksky.org/). The City shall ensure use of LED lighting with a correlated color temperature of 3,000 Kelvins or less, proper disposal of hazardous waste, and recycling of lighting that contains toxic compounds with a qualified recycler.

ENVIRONMENTAL DATA

CEQA requires that information developed in environmental impact reports and negative declarations be incorporated into a database which may be used to make subsequent or supplemental environmental determinations. (Pub. Resources Code, § 21003, subd. (e).) Accordingly, please report any special status species and natural communities detected during Project surveys to the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB). The CNNDB field survey form can be filled out and submitted online at the following link: https://wildlife.ca.gov/Data/CNDDB/Submitting-Data. The types of information reported to CNDDB can be found at the following link: https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Data/CNDDB/Plants-and-Animals.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT FILING FEES

The Project, as proposed, would have an impact on fish and/or wildlife, and assessment of environmental document filing fees is necessary. Fees are payable upon filing of the Notice of Determination by the Lead Agency and serve to help defray the cost of environmental review by CDFW. Payment of the environmental document filing fee is required in order for the underlying project approval to be operative, vested, and final. (Cal. Code Regs, tit. 14, § 753.5; Fish & G. Code, § 711.4; Pub. Resources Code, § 21089.)

CONCLUSION

CDFW appreciates the opportunity to comment on the MND to assist the City of El Centro in identifying and mitigating Project impacts on biological resources. CDFW concludes that the MND does not adequately identify or mitigate the Project's significant, or potentially significant impacts on biological resources. The CEQA Guidelines indicate that recirculation is required when insufficient information in the MND precludes a meaningful review (§ 15088.5) or when a new significant effect is identified, and additional mitigation measures are necessary (§ 15073.5). CDFW recommends that a revised MND, including a complete Project description and a description of the existing environmental setting, be recirculated for public comment. CDFW also recommends that the revised MND include an analysis of impacts to biological resources from construction noise and artificial nighttime lighting, as well as mitigation measures described in this letter for assessment of biological resources, burrowing owl, nesting birds, CDFW's Lake and Streambed Alteration Program, construction noise, and artificial nighttime light.

CDFW personnel are available for consultation regarding biological resources and strategies to minimize impacts. Questions regarding this letter or further coordination should be directed to Alyssa Hockaday, Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist) at (760) 920-8252 or Alyssa.Hockaday@wildlife.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:
Kim Freeburn
84F92FFEEFD24C8...

Kim Freeburn
Environmental Program Manager

Attachment 1: MMRP for CDFW-Proposed Mitigation Measures

ec: Heather Brashear, Senior Environmental Scientist (Supervisor), CDFW
Heather.Brashear@wildlife.ca.gov

Office of Planning and Research, State Clearinghouse, Sacramento
State.clearinghouse@opr.ca.gov

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ATTACHMENT 1: MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM (MMRP)

Biological Resources (BIO)		
Mitigation Measure (MM) Description	**Implementation Schedule**	**Responsible Parties**
MM BIO-[A]: Assessment of Biological Resources Prior to Project construction activities, a complete and recent inventory of rare, threatened, endangered, and other sensitive species located within the Project footprint and within offsite areas with the potential to be affected, including California Species of Special Concern (CSSC) and California Fully Protected Species (Fish and Game Code § 3511), will be completed. Species to be addressed should include all those which meet the CEQA definition (CEQA Guidelines § 15380). The inventory should address seasonal variations in use of the Project area and should not be limited to resident species. Focused species-specific surveys, completed by a qualified biologist and conducted at the appropriate time of year and time of day when the sensitive species are active or otherwise identifiable are required. Acceptable species-specific survey procedures should be developed in consultation with CDFW and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, where necessary. Note that CDFW generally considers biological field assessments for wildlife to be valid for a one-year period, and assessments for rare plants may be considered valid for a period of up to three years. Some aspects of the proposed Project may warrant periodic updated surveys for certain sensitive taxa, particularly if the Project is proposed to occur over a protracted time frame, or in phases, or if surveys are completed during periods of drought.	Prior to Project construction activities.	City of El Centro
MM BIO-1: Focused and Pre-Construction Surveys for Burrowing Owl Suitable burrowing owl habitat has been confirmed on the site; therefore, focused burrowing owl surveys shall be conducted in accordance with the *Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation* (2012 or most recent version). If burrowing owls are detected during the focused surveys, the qualified biologist and Project proponent shall prepare a Burrowing Owl Plan that shall be submitted to CDFW for review and approval prior to commencing Project activities. The Burrowing Owl Plan shall describe proposed avoidance, monitoring, relocation, minimization, and/or mitigation actions. The Burrowing Owl Plan shall include the number and location of occupied burrow sites, acres of burrowing owl habitat that will be impacted, details of site monitoring, and details on proposed buffers and other avoidance measures if avoidance is proposed. If impacts to occupied burrowing owl habitat or burrow cannot be avoided, the Burrowing Owl Plan shall also describe minimization and compensatory mitigation actions that will be implemented. Proposed implementation of burrow exclusion and closure should only be considered as a last resort, after all other options have been evaluated as exclusion is not in itself an avoidance, minimization, or	**Focused surveys:** Prior to the start of Project-related activities. **Pre-construction surveys:** No less than 14 days prior to start of Project-related activities and within 24 hours prior to ground disturbance.	City of El Centro

mitigation method and has the possibility to result in take. The Burrowing Owl Plan shall identify compensatory mitigation for the temporary or permanent loss of occupied burrow(s) and habitat consistent with the "Mitigation Impacts" section of the 2012 Staff Report and shall implement CDFW-approved mitigation prior to initiation of Project activities. If impacts to occupied burrows cannot be avoided, information shall be provided regarding adjacent or nearby suitable habitat available to owls. If no suitable habitat is available nearby, details regarding the creation and funding of artificial burrows (numbers, location, and type of burrows) and management activities for relocated owls shall also be included in the Burrowing Owl Plan. The Project proponent shall implement the Burrowing Owl Plan following CDFW and USFWS review and approval. Preconstruction burrowing owl surveys shall be conducted no less than 14 days prior to the start of Project-related activities and within 24 hours prior to ground disturbance, in accordance with the *Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation* (2012 or most recent version). Preconstruction surveys should be performed by a qualified biologist following the recommendations and guidelines provided in the *Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation*. If the preconstruction surveys confirm occupied burrowing owl habitat, Project activities shall be immediately halted. The qualified biologist shall coordinate with CDFW and prepare a Burrowing Owl Plan that shall be submitted to CDFW and USFWS for review and approval prior to commencing Project activities.		
MM BIO-[B]: Pre-Construction Nesting Bird Survey Regardless of the time of year, nesting bird surveys shall be performed by a qualified avian biologist no more than 3 days prior to vegetation removal or ground-disturbing activities. Pre-construction surveys shall focus on both direct and indirect evidence of nesting, including nest locations and nesting behavior. The qualified avian biologist will make every effort to avoid potential nest predation as a result of survey and monitoring efforts. If active nests are found during the pre-construction nesting bird surveys, a qualified biologist shall establish an appropriate nest buffer to be marked on the ground. Nest buffers are species specific and shall be at least 300 feet for passerines and 500 feet for raptors. A smaller or larger buffer may be determined by the qualified biologist familiar with the nesting phenology of the nesting species and based on nest and buffer monitoring results. Construction activities may not occur inside the established buffers, which shall remain on site until a qualified biologist determines the young have fledged or the nest is no longer active. Active nests and adequacy of the established buffer distance shall be monitored daily by the qualified biologist until the qualified biologist has determined the young have fledged or the Project has been completed. The qualified biologist has the authority to stop work if nesting pairs exhibit signs of disturbance.	No more than three (3) days prior to vegetation clearing or ground-disturbing activities.	City of El Centro
MM BIO-[C]: CDFW's Lake and Stream Alteration Program Prior to Project-activities and issuance of any grading permit, the Project Sponsor shall obtain written correspondence from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) stating that notification under section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code is not required for the Project, or the Project Sponsor shall obtain a CDFW-executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement,	Prior to Project-activities and issuance of any grading permit.	City of El Centro

authorizing impacts to Fish and Game Code section 1602 resources associated with the Project.		
MM BIO-[D]: Construction Noise Impacts to Biological Resources During all Project construction, the City shall restrict use of equipment to hours least likely to disrupt wildlife (e.g., not at night or in early morning) and restrict use of generators except for temporary use in emergencies. Power to sites can be provided by solar PV (photovoltaic) systems, cogeneration systems (natural gas generator), small micro-hydroelectric systems, or small wind turbine systems. The City shall ensure the use of noise suppression devices such as mufflers or enclosures for generators. Sounds generated from any means must be below the 55-60 dB range within 50-feet from the source.	During Project activities.	City of El Centro
MM BIO-[E]: Artificial Nighttime Light During Project construction and operation, the City shall eliminate all nonessential lighting throughout the Project area and avoid or limit the use of artificial light during the hours of dawn and dusk when many wildlife species are most active. The City shall ensure that lighting for Project activities is shielded, cast downward, and does not spill over onto other properties or upward into the night sky (see the International Dark-Sky Association standards at http://darksky.org/). The City shall ensure use of LED lighting with a correlated color temperature of 3,000 Kelvins or less, proper disposal of hazardous waste, and recycling of lighting that contains toxic compounds with a qualified recycler.	During Project construction activities and operation.	City of El Centro

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Appendix B- Biological Site Assessment July 2024
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1.0 Introduction

1.1 Project Needs and Objectives

The primary objective of the proposed waste transfer station project is to establish a state-of-the-art facility designed to manage and process various waste streams, including municipal solid waste (MSW), recyclables, construction and demolition debris, and green waste. The facility, occupying 7 acres of the 8.95-acre site, will accommodate up to 500 tons of waste per day, ensuring efficient waste handling for both residential and commercial users within the region. Key operational elements include vehicle scales for accurate waste measurement, stormwater detention basins for environmental compliance, and compressed natural gas (CNG) dispensers to support eco-friendly vehicle fueling. The facility will implement stringent operational standards to ensure compliance with California State Minimum Standards, addressing critical issues such as traffic flow, dust control, and site security. Waste will be transferred to approved disposal sites within 48 hours, and the facility will maintain detailed records of all transactions, with monthly reporting to the Local Enforcement Agency (LEA) to ensure transparency and regulatory compliance.

In addition to waste management operations, the project will contribute to the surrounding infrastructure by extending public water, sewer, and storm drain systems to the site, and constructing roadway improvements to connect the facility to Ross Avenue. The project's land use designation will be amended from General Commercial to General Industrial, aligning with the existing MG-General Manufacturing Zone and supporting the broader objectives of the City of El Centro's 2040 General Plan. This development will integrate seamlessly with nearby land uses, which include contractor yards, storage facilities, and agricultural land, while ensuring minimal impact on the environment through careful planning and adherence to local, state, and federal regulations.

1.2 Project Location and Setting

The project site is located approximately 1,125 linear feet east of the southeast corner of Dogwood Avenue and Ross Avenue with a legal description of lots 15 through 22 and lots 39 through 40, El Centro Homes Acres, City of El Centro, County of Imperial, State of California with Assessor's Parcel Numbers: 054-061-032;-033;-034;-035;-036;-037;-038;-039;& -042 (Please Refer to Figure 1-Location Map). In addition, it is within a larger, approximate 72-acre area bounded by Ross Avenue to the north, existing agricultural fields to the east, Dealwood Road to the south, Dogwood Avenue to the west that was designated for General Commercial Land Uses as part of the El Centro 2040 General Plan Update approved by the City in June of 2021. GPA 22-03 would revert the designated land use in the Land Use Element to General Industrial Land Uses consistent with the existing MG-General Manufacturing Zone.

1.2.1 Surrounding Land Uses

The project site is situated within the southeastern portion of the City of El Centro, in an area characterized by a mix of heavy commercial, light industrial, and agricultural uses. The 8.95-acre parcel is part of the El Centro Home Acres subdivision and is composed of eight undeveloped parcels. The surrounding land uses consist of primarily vacant, agricultural, and light industrial areas. To the north of the project site is vacant land, Ross Avenue, and a telecommunications tower. To the east, the site is bordered by agricultural fields, a common feature in the Imperial Valley region. The southern boundary of the site is adjacent to additional vacant land, which provides a buffer between the project and more developed areas to the west. Directly west of the site lies a contractor storage yard, which is indicative of the light industrial nature of the surrounding neighborhood. The area immediately surrounding the project is sparsely developed, with contractor shops, equipment rental facilities, and storage yards being the primary uses in the vicinity. These existing land uses are compatible with the proposed waste transfer station, which will contribute to the ongoing industrial and commercial development within the southeastern portion of El Centro, while minimizing potential conflicts with residential or sensitive uses.

1.3 Project Description

The project consists of a general plan amendment (GPA 22-03) affecting 8.95 acres of vacant land located within the City of El Centro, California. CR&R, the property owner, is proposing to construct a solid waste transfer station at the project site. The 66,575 square foot transfer station building and onsite improvements consisting of parking areas, stormwater detention basins, CNG vehicle fuel dispensers, and vehicle scales will be constructed on a 7 acres portion of the project site. The remaining 1.95 acres that front Ross Avenue will remain vacant. Additional project elements include partial width roadway construction along the eastern project boundary connecting the site to Ross Avenue and extension of public water, sewer, storm drain infrastructure within the public right-of-way to existing facilities on Ross Avenue. Please refer to *Figure 2-Site Plan*.

The CR&R El Centro Transfer Facility is a proposed waste management site designed to handle municipal solid waste (MSW), recyclables, construction and demolition debris, and green waste. Located with access via Ross Street, the facility will accommodate up to 500 tons of waste per day (TPD). It will serve both commercial and residential users, with approximately 151 vehicles expected to visit daily. Operations include weighing and recording all incoming waste, with MSW transferred to approved disposal sites within 48 hours. A Traffic Spotter will manage the flow of vehicles, ensuring smooth operation and separation of self-haul and collection vehicles. The facility will comply with California State Minimum Standards, addressing various controls like traffic, dust, and nuisance management, and will also adhere to additional standards for site security, maintenance, and personnel safety. Detailed records of all waste transactions will be maintained, with monthly reports submitted to the Local Enforcement Agency (LEA).

1.3.1 General Plan Amendment

The required General Plan Amendment (GPA 22-03) for the proposed waste transfer station project involves changing the land use designation of the 8.95-acre project site from General Commercial to General Industrial. This amendment is necessary to ensure consistency between

the proposed development and the City of El Centro's General Plan, which guides land use and zoning decisions within the city.

The project site, located in the southeastern portion of El Centro, was designated for General Commercial uses as part of the El Centro 2040 General Plan Update, approved in June 2021. However, the nature of the proposed waste transfer station, which includes solid waste processing, vehicle scales, stormwater detention basins, and other industrial activities, aligns more closely with General Industrial land use, which permits manufacturing, processing, and heavy commercial activities. By reverting the land use designation back to General Industrial, the General Plan Amendment will facilitate the development of the transfer station in accordance with the existing MG-General Manufacturing Zone, ensuring that both the land use and zoning are consistent with the city's long-term planning objectives for the area.

1.3.2 Infrastructure Improvements

The proposed waste transfer station project will require several on-site and off-site improvements to support its operations and ensure compliance with local infrastructure and environmental standards. On-site improvements include the construction of a 66,575 square-foot solid waste transfer station building, designed to handle municipal solid waste (MSW), recyclables, construction and demolition debris, and green waste. Additional on-site facilities will include parking areas to accommodate staff and visitors, stormwater detention basins to manage surface runoff and prevent flooding, and vehicle scales for accurate waste measurement. The site will also feature compressed natural gas (CNG) vehicle fuel dispensers, supporting the use of environmentally friendly fuel alternatives. Landscaping and security measures, such as fencing and lighting, will also be incorporated to enhance site functionality, safety, and aesthetics. Off-site improvements will include the partial-width construction of a roadway along the eastern boundary of the project site, connecting the facility to Ross Avenue, facilitating vehicle access and circulation. Additionally, public utility infrastructure, including water, sewer, and storm drainage systems, will be extended from existing facilities along Ross Avenue to service the site. These off-site improvements will not only support the operational needs of the waste transfer station but also contribute to the overall development of the surrounding area by enhancing public infrastructure and connectivity.

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1.3.3 Project Access

The proposed waste transfer station will be accessed via a newly constructed driveway that connects to Ross Avenue along the northern boundary of the project site. Traffic analysis indicates that the Ross Avenue/Dogwood Road intersection, along with the project driveway, will operate at an acceptable Level of Service (LOS) under near-term conditions. Additionally, a two-way left-turn lane on Ross Avenue, fronting the project site, will provide a safe buffer for vehicles entering and exiting the facility.

For vehicles approaching from the east, this left-turn lane will allow employee vehicles and heavy trucks to wait for an adequate gap in oncoming traffic without blocking the westbound through lane. Similarly, vehicles exiting the site and making a northbound left turn onto Ross Avenue will be able to wait in this lane until it is safe to merge into westbound traffic. To further enhance safety, it is recommended that a stop sign be installed at the project driveway to ensure that vehicles leaving the site can maneuver safely onto Ross Avenue. These access improvements will facilitate smooth and controlled vehicle flow, supporting efficient operations while minimizing potential traffic disruptions.

2.0 Mitigated Negative Declaration

2.1 Authority to Prepare a Mitigated Negative Declaration

As provided in California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Section 21064.5, a MND may be prepared for a project "when the Initial Study has identified potentially significant effects on the environment, but revisions in the project plans or proposals made by, or agreed to by, the applicant before the proposed Negative Declaration and Initial Study are released for public review would avoid the effects or mitigate the effects to a point where clearly no significant effect on the environment would occur, and there is no substantial evidence in light of the whole record before the public agency that the project, as revised, may have a significant effect on the environment."

The City is the Lead Agency under CEQA. Based on the findings of the Initial Study/Environmental Checklist for this project, the City has determined that preparation of a MND is the appropriate method by which to obtain compliance with CEQA. The Initial Study/Environmental Checklist is included as Section 4.0 of this report.

2.2 Results of Public Review

( ) No comments were received during the public input period.

( ) Comments were received during the public input period, but they do not address the Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration findings or the accuracy or completeness of the Initial Study. No response is necessary. The letters are attached.

(**X**) Comments addressing the findings of the Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration and/or accuracy or completeness of the Initial Study were received during the public input period. The letters and responses are presented at the beginning of this Final MND.

Copies of the Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration and any Initial Study support material are available for review at the City of El Centro, 1275 Main Street, El Centro, California 92243.

Angel Hernandez
Signature

11/22/23
Date of Draft MND

Angel Hernandez, Community Development Director
City of El Centro

9/6/24
Date of Final MND

3.0 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

The following project features and mitigation measures would be implemented via the Development Agreement to reduce impacts to below a level of significance.

3.1 Biological Resources

At the time a site-specific development is brought forward, the following biological mitigation shall be required:

MM BIO-1: A qualified avian biologist shall conduct nesting bird surveys no more than three days prior to any vegetation removal or ground-disturbing activities, regardless of the time of year. The surveys should focus on detecting active nests, and if found, species-specific buffers of at least 300 feet for passerines and 500 feet for raptors shall be established. These buffers will be monitored daily by the biologist until the young have fledged or the nest is deemed inactive.

MM BIO-2: Although no Burrowing Owls were detected during the initial assessments, a qualified biologist shall conduct a follow-up survey between 14-30 days and within 24 hours prior to any ground-disturbing activities. If Burrowing Owls are found, a Burrowing Owl Plan must be developed and submitted to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) for approval. This plan will include avoidance, monitoring, passive relocation, and compensatory mitigation measures as needed.

MM BIO-3: All construction workers, including non-English-speaking personnel, shall receive bilingual training from a qualified biologist on the protection of nesting birds and Burrowing Owls. This training will cover species biology, legal protections, and the project's specific protective measures. Workers will receive wallet-sized cards or a fact sheet summarizing this information, and training documentation will be maintained on-site and available for CDFW review.

MM BIO-4: The qualified biologist shall have the authority to halt construction activities if any nesting birds or Burrowing Owls show signs of disturbance. Continuous monitoring shall be conducted throughout the project to ensure compliance with established buffers and other mitigation measures.

MM BIO-5: All surveys, monitoring activities, and training sessions shall be documented, and these records will be made available to the CDFW upon request. The project proponent must ensure that all mitigation measures are fully implemented and documented throughout the duration of the project.

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST/INITIAL STUDY

1. **Project title**: General Plan Amendment 22-03 & CR&R Waste Transfer Facility

2. **Lead agency name and address**:
   City of El Centro
   1275 W. Main Street
   El Centro, CA 92243

3. **Contact person and phone number:**
   Andrea Montaño, Associate Planner (760) 337-4545

4. **Project location:**
   Approximately 1,125 linear feet east of the southeast corner of Dogwood Avenue and Ross Avenue with a legal description of lots 15 through 22 and lots 39 through 40, El Centro Homes Acres, City of El Centro, County of Imperial, State of California with Assessor's Parcel Numbers: 054-061-032;-033;-034;-035;-036;-037;-038;-039;& -042 (Please Refer to *Figure 1-Location Map*).

5. **Project sponsor's name and address:**
   CR&R
   c/o John McNamara
   P.O. Box 125
   11292 Western Avenue
   Stanton, CA 90680

6. **General Plan designation**:
   Current- General Commercial
   Proposed- General Industrial

7. **Zoning designation**:
   MG (General Manufacturing)

8. **Description of project:** The project consists of a general plan amendment (GPA 22-03) affecting 8.95 acres of vacant land located within the City of El Centro, California. CR&R, the property owner, is proposing to construct a solid waste transfer station at the project site. The 66,575 square foot transfer station building and onsite improvements consisting of parking areas, stormwater detention basins, CNG vehicle fuel dispensers, and vehicle scales will be constructed on a 7 acres portion of the project site. The remaining 1.95 acres that front Ross Avenue will remain vacant. Additional project elements include partial width roadway construction along the eastern project boundary connecting the site to Ross Avenue and extension of public water, sewer, storm drain infrastructure within the public right-of-way to existing facilities on Ross Avenue. Please refer to *Figure 2-Site Plan*.

   The CR&R El Centro Transfer Facility is a proposed waste management site designed to handle municipal solid waste (MSW), recyclables, construction and demolition debris, and green waste. Located with access via Ross Avenue, the facility will accommodate up to 500 tons of waste per day (TPD). It will serve both commercial and residential users, with approximately 151 vehicles expected to visit daily. Operations include weighing and recording

all incoming waste, with MSW transferred to approved disposal sites within 48 hours. A Traffic Spotter will manage the flow of vehicles, ensuring smooth operation and separation of self-haul and collection vehicles. The facility will comply with California State Minimum Standards, addressing various controls like traffic, dust, and nuisance management, and will also adhere to additional standards for site security, maintenance, and personnel safety. Detailed records of all waste transactions will be maintained, with monthly reports submitted to the Local Enforcement Agency (LEA).

The project site is within a larger, approximate 72-acre area bounded by Ross Avenue to the north, existing agricultural fields to the east, Dealwood Road to the south, Dogwood Avenue to the west that was designated for General Commercial Land Uses as part of the El Centro 2040 General Plan Update approved by the City in June of 2021. GPA 22-03 would revert the designated land use in the Land Use Element to General Industrial Land Uses consistent with the existing MG-General Manufacturing Zone. Please refer to *Figure 3 – Land Use Map* and *Figure 4 – Zoning Map*.

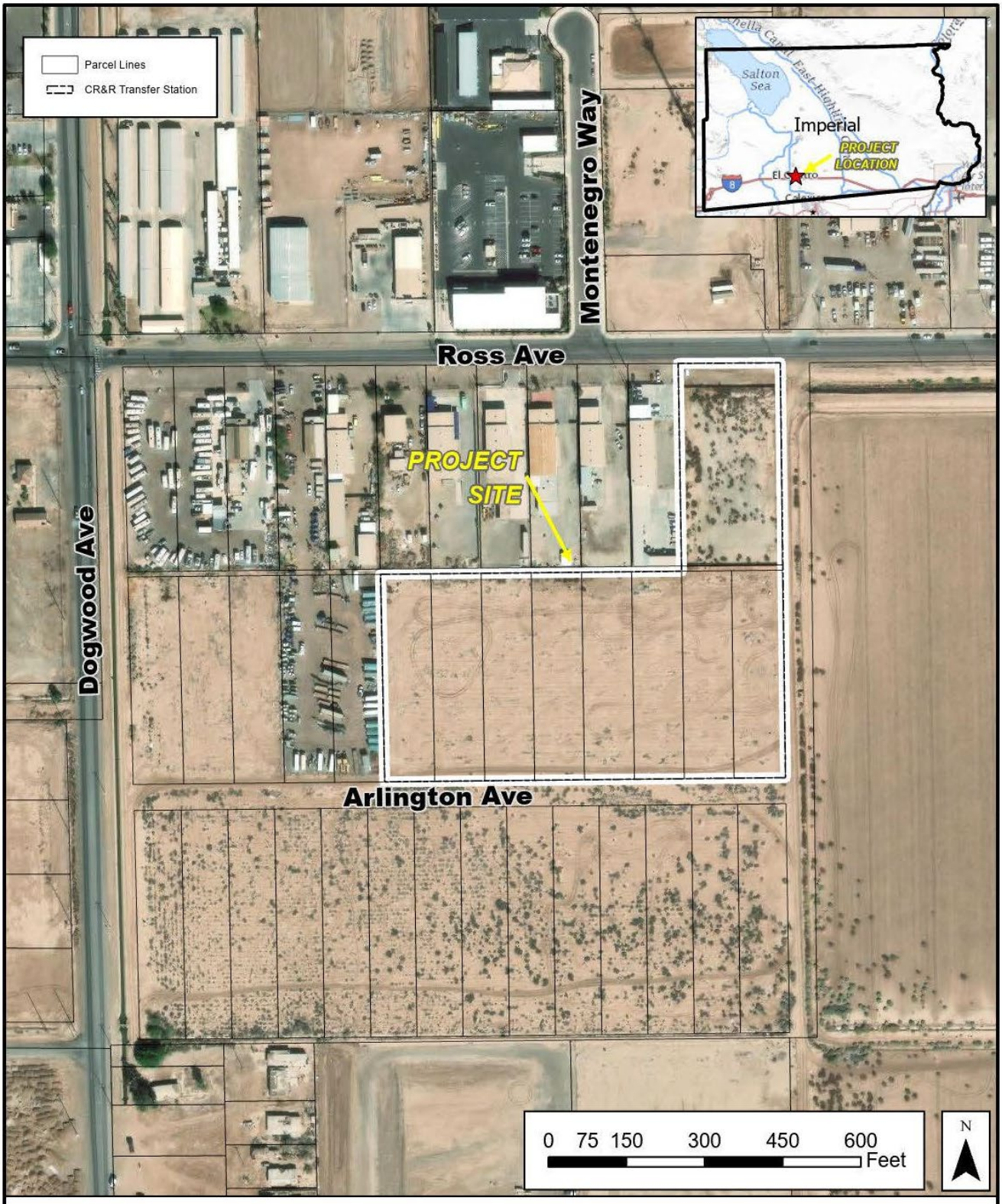
9. **Surrounding land uses and setting:** The site consists of eight (8) undeveloped parcels that encompass 8.95 acres located in the southeast portion of the City of El Centro, near the vicinity of Ross Avenue and Montenegro Way. The site is currently vacant property. Please see *Figure 5 – Site Photographs*

The project is located in the El Centro Home Acres subdivision, located in the southeastern portion of the City of El Centro. Currently, it is a mixture of heavy commercial and light industrial users where the common uses include contractor shops and storage yards and equipment rental and storage yards. Uses immediately surrounding the project site are as follows:

North: Vacant land, Ross Avenue, and a telecommunications tower
East: Agricultural land
South: Vacant land
West: Contractor storage yard

10. **Other public agencies whose approval is required** (e.g., permits, financing approval, or participation agreement.)

CalRecycle, California Regional Water Quality Control Board, County of Imperial Public Health Department-Environmental Health Services



CR&R Transfer Station

Project Location Map

FIGURE- 1

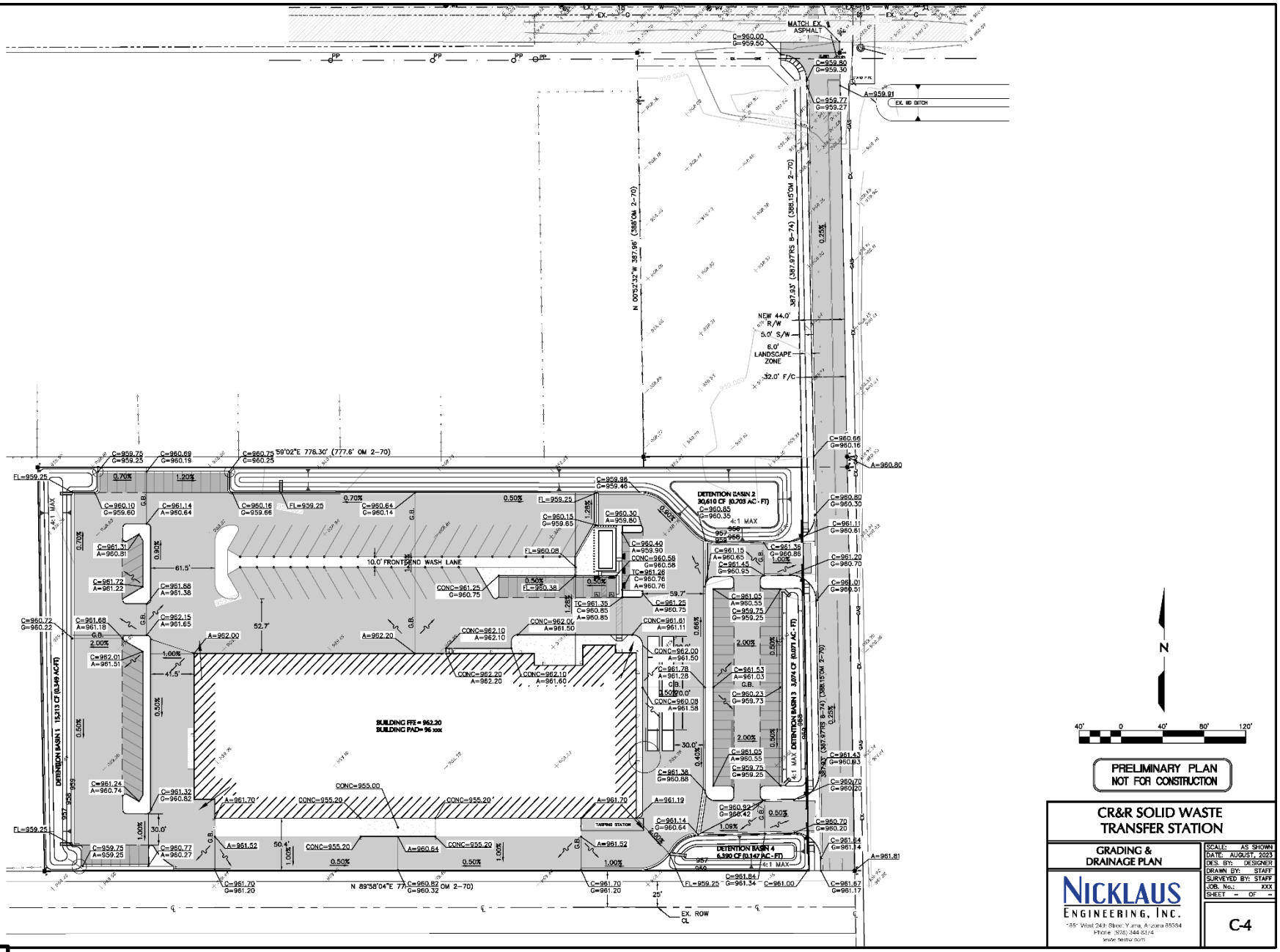

MATCH EX. ASPHALT
EX. MD DITCH
NEW 44.0' R/W
5.0' S/W
6.0' LANDSCAPE ZONE
32.0' F/C
DETENTION BASIN 2
30,610 CF (0.703 AC - FT)
4:1 MAX
10.0' FRONTSEND WASH LANE
BUILDING FFE = 962.20
BUILDING PAD= 96 xxx
DETENTION BASIN 1 15,313 CF (0.349 AC-FT)
DETENTION BASIN 3 3,074 CF (0.071 AC - FT)
DETENTION BASIN 4 6,390 CF (0.147 AC - FT)
TASTING STATION
EX. ROW
CL
N
40' 0 40' 80' 120'
PRELIMINARY PLAN
NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION
CR&R SOLID WASTE TRANSFER STATION
GRADING & DRAINAGE PLAN
NICKLAUS ENGINEERING, INC.
C-4

FIGURE- 2

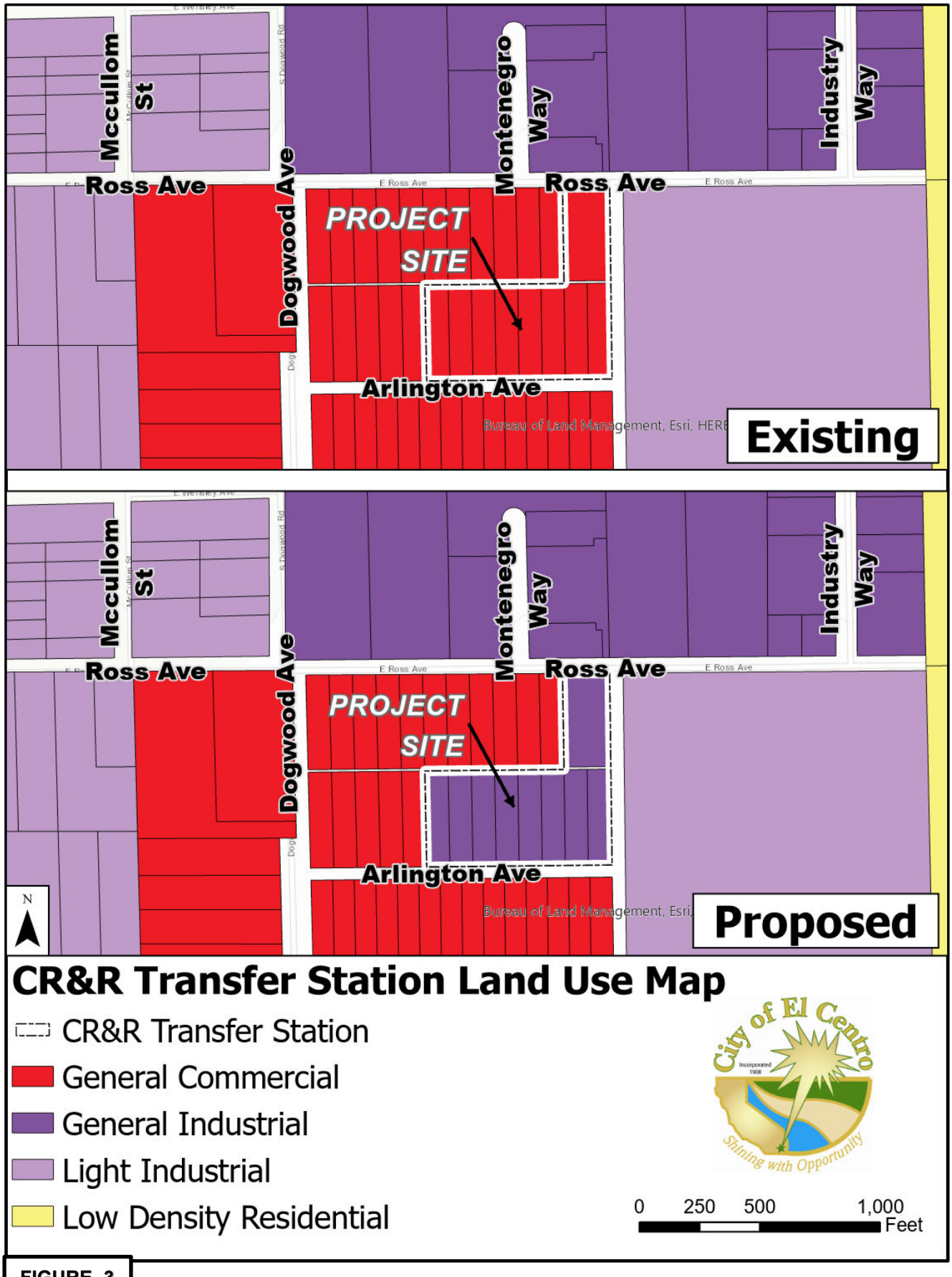

Mccullom St
Montenegro Way
Industry Way
Ross Ave
E Ross Ave
Dogwood Ave
PROJECT SITE
Arlington Ave
Bureau of Land Management, Esri, HERE
Existing
Mccullom St
Montenegro Way
Industry Way
Ross Ave
E Ross Ave
Dogwood Ave
PROJECT SITE
Arlington Ave
Bureau of Land Management, Esri,
Proposed
N
CR&R Transfer Station Land Use Map
CR&R Transfer Station
General Commercial
General Industrial
Light Industrial
Low Density Residential
City of El Centro
Incorporated 1908
Shining with Opportunity
0 250 500 1,000
Feet

FIGURE- 3

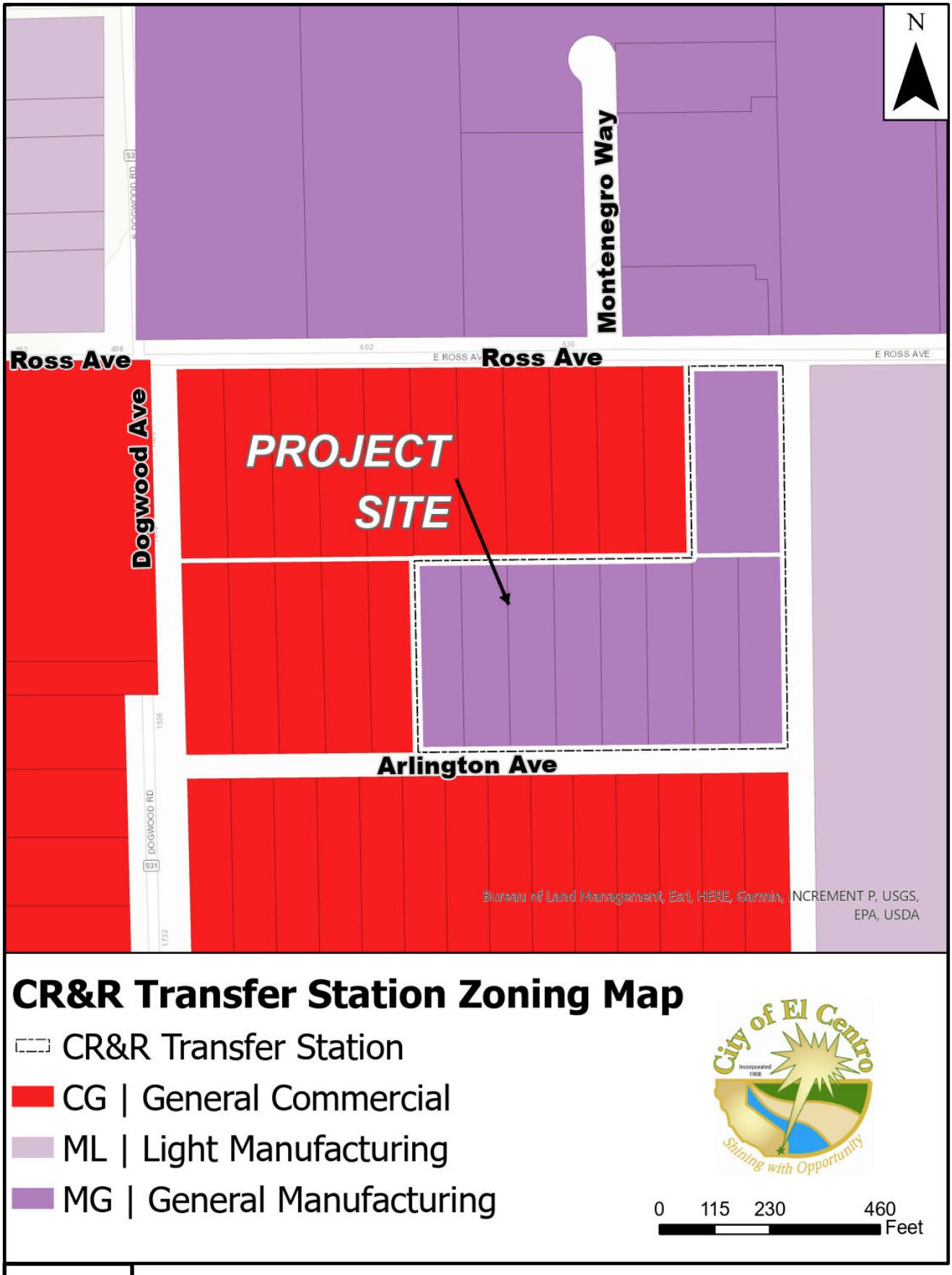

N
Montenegro Way
Ross Ave
E ROSS AVE
Ross Ave
E ROSS AVE
Dogwood Ave
PROJECT SITE
Arlington Ave
DOGWOOD RD
S31
Bureau of Land Management, Esri, HERE, Garmin, INCREMENT P, USGS, EPA, USDA
CR&R Transfer Station Zoning Map
CR&R Transfer Station
CG | General Commercial
ML | Light Manufacturing
MG | General Manufacturing
City of El Centro
Incorporated 1908
Shining with Opportunity
0 115 230 460
Feet

FIGURE- 4





FIGURE- 5

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

	Aesthetics		Agriculture & Forestry Resources		Air Quality
X	Biological Resources		Cultural Resources		Energy
	Geology & Soils		Greenhouse Gas Emissions		Hazards & Hazardous Materials
	Hydrology & Water Quality		Land Use & Planning		Mineral Resources
	Noise		Population & Housing		Public Services
	Recreation		Transportation & Traffic		Tribal Cultural Resources
	Utilities and Service Systems		Wildfire		Mandatory Findings of Significance

DETERMINATION: (To be completed by the Lead Agency)
On the basis of this initial evaluation:

	I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
X	I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
	I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
	I find that the proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document in accordance with applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
	I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

Angel Hernandez

Angel Hernandez, AICP, Director of Community Development

11/22/2023

Date

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

1) A brief explanation is required for all answers except "No Impact" answers that are adequately supported by the information sources cited. A "No Impact" answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A "No Impact" answer should be explained when it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards (e.g., the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis).

2) All answers must take account of the whole action involved, including off-site as well as on-site, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.

3) Once the lead agency has determined that a particular physical impact may occur, then the checklist answers must indicate whether the impact is potentially significant, less than significant with mitigation, or less than significant. "Potentially Significant Impact" is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant. If there are one or more "Potentially Significant Impact" entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.

4) "Negative Declaration: Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated" applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from "Potentially Significant Impact" to a "Less Than Significant Impact." The lead agency must describe the mitigation measures, and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level (mitigation measures from Section XVII, "Earlier Analyses," may be cross-referenced).

5) Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or negative declaration. Section 15063(c)(3)(D). In this case, a brief discussion should identify the following:
   a) Earlier Analysis Used. Identify and state where they are available for review.
   b) Impacts Adequately Addressed. Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of and adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.
   c) Mitigation Measures. For effects that are "Less than Significant with Mitigation Measures Incorporated," describe the mitigation measures that were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.

6) Include references to information sources for potential impacts. Reference to a previously-prepared or outside document should, where appropriate, include a reference to the page.

7) Supporting Information Sources: A source list should be attached, and other sources used or individuals contacted should be cited in the discussion.

8) This is only a suggested form, and lead agencies are free to use different formats; however, lead agencies should normally address the questions from this checklist that are relevant to a project's

8) The explanation of each issue should identify:
   a) The significance criteria or threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question; and
   b) The mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less than significance

Issues:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
I. AESTHETICS – Except as provided in Public Resources Code Section 21099, Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?				X
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?				X
c) Would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?				X
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare that would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?			X	

Explanation:
(a.- d.)
This location is not within any scenic vistas that are either locally or state recognized. The site is currently vacant and devoid of any scenic resources such as trees, rock, outcroppings or historical buildings. In addition, there are also other properties in the vicinity that have existing structures. There will not be any substantial light or glare that would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area, as all light must be focused on the interior of the property and will be located at the rear of the flag shaped parcel that is not along an existing roadway.

Issues:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
II. AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY RESOURCES: In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment project and the Forest Legacy Assessment project; and forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board. Would the project:				
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?				X
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?				X
c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause, rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined, by the Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Governmental Code section 51104(g))?				X
d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?				X
e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?			X	

Explanation:

(a. - d.)

This location is partially in Urban and Built-Up land and partially in Farmland of Local Importance as designated by the California Department of Conservation, California Important Farmland Finder. The County of Imperial Agriculture Element (2015) defines farmland of local importance as non-irrigated and uncultivated land with Prime and Statewide soil mapping units. In addition, the Department of Conservation provides an additional definition that adds that Farmland of Local importance is either currently producing crops, or has the capability of production. In October 2010, the County of Imperial Board of Supervisors voted to opt out of the Williamson Act and suspended all contracts by December 31, 2018. Therefore, will not result in the conversion of prime or unique farmland nor would it have a Williamson Act Contract. As such, it is also not in a forest or timberland area which would result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest uses.

(e.) The construction of a waste transfer station should have a less than significant impact on the adjacent agricultural uses. Therefore impacts, if any, would be less than significant.

Issues:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
III. AIR QUALITY -- Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:				
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?			X	
b) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?			X	
c) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?			X	
d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?			X	
e) Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people?			X	

Explanation:

(a-c) The development would be required to comply with all Imperial County Air Pollution Control District rules and regulations and obtain a permit for construction activities including the preparation of a dust control plan. All new commercial or warehouse users are required to pay an operational development fee to mitigate the emissions from new users to including increase vehicle emissions and power generation emissions per ICAPCD Rule 310. The development would also be required to adhere to the Imperial County Air Pollution Control District Rules and Regulations, specifically Rule VII and Rule III.

(d) A sensitive receptor is a person in the population who is particularly susceptible to health effects due to exposure to an air contamination. Sensitive receptor land uses include, schools, child-care centers, playgrounds, hospitals, retirement homes, and single/multi-family residential. The project is located in a heavy commercial and industrial use area. There are approximately 4 single family homes located over 800 linear feet away. Dust and heavy equipment emissions will occur during construction, however, the applicant will be required to comply with ICAPCD regulations to reduce construction activates from impacting nearby homes of which the nearest is 800 feet away.

(e) The proposed project will allow the development of a new solid waste transfer station. Activities at the site include the transferring of waste from collection vehicles, sorting, and transferring to freight trucks to be transported an outside landfill. While, odors will occur surrounding uses consists of storage yards, vacant land, and agriculture fields which do not by their nature would not result in the concentration of substantial number of people that would be affected by odor. At a CR&R Waste Transfer Facility, materials are sorted through a combination of manual and mechanical processes. Upon arrival, waste is initially inspected and separated by type, such as municipal solid waste (MSW), recyclables, construction debris, and green waste. The waste is then unloaded onto a tipping floor, where bulky items are manually removed, and recyclables are directed to specific areas for further processing. Mechanical systems,

including conveyor belts, screens, magnets, and air classifiers, are used to separate materials by size, weight, and type. Manual sorting further removes contaminants and separates items like plastics, paper, glass, and metals. After sorting, recyclables are baled and stored for transport to recycling facilities, while non-recyclable materials are sent to landfills or other disposal sites. This process maximizes material diversion from landfills, promoting recycling and composting, while ensuring efficient and environmentally responsible waste management.

Issues:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES -- Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?		X		
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, and regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or US Fish and Wildlife Service?				X
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, Hydrological interruption, or other means?				X
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?				X
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?				X
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?				X

Explanation:

(a-f) The project site consists of vacant land primarily located within an urbanized area and devoid of any known vegetation, bodies of water or wildlife corridors that could sustain wildlife or lead to the establishment thereof.

Barret Biological Enterprises conducted an initial biological assessment and a follow-up assessment, including three burrowing owl field surveys. Both assessments confirmed the absence of sensitive species on-site, with observed species limited to sparrows, nighthawk, and killdeer. No Burrowing Owls were found on-site or within the Imperial Irrigation District Right of Way (IIDROW), where their management falls under the Imperial Irrigation District as per the Quantified Settlement Agreement (QSA). As suchthe proposed project will not have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat, or a substantially adverse effect on federally protected wetlands, or interfere with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species. There will be no major impacts to biological resources due to this project. However, as there is the potential for sensitive species to appear this risk was determined to be

less than significant unless with mitigation incorporated.

BIO-1: A qualified avian biologist shall conduct nesting bird surveys no more than three days prior to any vegetation removal or ground-disturbing activities, regardless of the time of year. The surveys should focus on detecting active nests, and if found, species-specific buffers of at least 300 feet for passerines and 500 feet for raptors shall be established. These buffers will be monitored daily by the biologist until the young have fledged or the nest is deemed inactive.

BIO-2: Although no Burrowing Owls were detected during the initial assessments, a qualified biologist shall conduct a follow-up survey between 14-30 days and within 24 hours prior to any ground-disturbing activities. If Burrowing Owls are found, a Burrowing Owl Plan must be developed and submitted to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) for approval. This plan will include avoidance, monitoring, passive relocation, and compensatory mitigation measures as needed.

BIO-3: All construction workers, including non-English-speaking personnel, shall receive bilingual training from a qualified biologist on the protection of nesting birds and Burrowing Owls. This training will cover species biology, legal protections, and the project's specific protective measures. Workers will receive wallet-sized cards or a fact sheet summarizing this information, and training documentation will be maintained on-site and available for CDFW review.

BIO-4: The qualified biologist shall have the authority to halt construction activities if any nesting birds or Burrowing Owls show signs of disturbance. Continuous monitoring shall be conducted throughout the project to ensure compliance with established buffers and other mitigation measures.

BIO-5: All surveys, monitoring activities, and training sessions shall be documented, and these records will be made available to the CDFW upon request. The project proponent must ensure that all mitigation measures are fully implemented and documented throughout the duration of the project.

Issues:	**Potentially Significant Impact**	**Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated**	**Less Than Significant Impact**	**No Impact**
V. CULTURAL RESOURCES -- Would the project:				
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in §15064.5?				X
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?				X
c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?				X
d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?				X

Explanation:
(a-d) The project site is vacant and was previously used for agricultural purposes for several decades before being vacated. In the unlikely event of the discovery of human remains during construction, State law (Section 7050.5 of the Health and Safety Code, and Section 5097.94 of the Public Resources Code of the State of California) requires that there shall be no further excavation or disturbance of the site or any nearby area reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent remains until local authorities are notified and proper notification protocols followed.

Issues:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
VI. ENERGY -- Would the project:				
a) Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?			X	
b) Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?				X

Explanation:

(a-b) The proposed project involves the development of a transfer station which makes solid waste collection more efficient and reduces overall energy use as published by the United States Environmental Protection Agency. During construction there is negligible amounts of energy used to operate machinery necessary to build the transfer station. As required by State Law, the owner will be required to adhere to the current California Green Code and submit Title 24 Energy Calculations for design. Title 24 Building Energy Efficiency Standards are designed to reduce wasteful and unnecessary energy consumption in newly constructed and existing buildings.

Issues:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
VII. GEOLOGY AND SOILS -- Would the project:				
a) Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:			X	
i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.			X	
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?			X	
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?			X	
iv) Landslides?				X
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?				X
c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?			X	
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?			X	
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?				X
f) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique Geologic feature?				X

Explanation:

(a-f) There are two historically active earthquake epicenters located within a 4-mile radius of the City. Within a 20-mile radius of the City, there are approximately 45 epicenters all with recorded earthquake magnitudes ranging between 4.0 and 5.9 on the Richter Scale. Soils in the area also have high shrink-swell potential and the potential for liquefaction due to earthquakes. The proposed project will require implementation of project design measures and adherence to the California Building Code. Implementation of these design and building techniques would reduce the impacts to a level that is less than significant. The proposed project site is not located on an unstable geologic unit. The proposed project would not induce geologic or soil instability on or offsite. A geology and soils study shall be prepared with a clear identification of site-specific measures to ensure geotechnical stability and submitted as part of the building permit process.

Issues:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
VIII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS -- Would the project:				
a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?			X	
b) Conflict with any applicable plan, policy or regulation of an agency adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?			X	

Explanation:

(a,b) Increase greenhouse gas emissions from construction activities, electricity generation and additional vehicle trips will be less than significant. The proposed project would not generate significant greenhouse gas emissions that could significantly impact the environment. It will however reduce greenhouse gas emissions as transfer facilities are designed to reduce fuel consumption by consolidating trash into fewer vehicles. The project will also not conflict with any applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purposes of reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Issues:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
IX. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS Would the project:				
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?			X	
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?				X
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?				X
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?				X
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area?				X
f) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?				X
g) Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires?				X

Explanation:
(a-c) The project will result in the development of a waste transfer facility. Waste materials that will be processed on site will not include hazardous materials. As such the project will not use, transport or dispose hazardous materials. The proposed project is not within one quarter of a mile of a school.
(d) The site is not listed as a hazardous waste and substances site list on Geotracker.
(e) Imperial County Airport is located approximately 4 miles to the northwest of the project site. A Land Use Compatibility Plan has been established for the Imperial County Airport located 4 miles to the northwest of the project site. However, the project site is not within the plan area. The project will not result higher buildings than already allowed and will not result in a safety hazard for people living within the project area.
(f) The project does not involve a land use or activity that could interfere with emergency-evacuation plans for the area.
(g) The project site is located within an urbanized area, far removed from wildland areas.

Issues:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
X. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY -- Would the project:				
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality?				X
b) Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?				X
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?			X	
i.) Result in a substantial erosion or situation on- or off-site;			X	
ii.) Substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or offsite;			X	
iii.) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff; or			X	
iv.) Impede or redirect flood flows?			X	
d) In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?				X
e) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?			X	

Explanation:

(a-b) The project would not violate any water quality standards or discharge requirements. The project would also not deplete ground water resources as potable water is available to the site. Any vehicles washed onsite must be washed in a designated area with methods to capture used water that may be contaminated. In addition, they will need to comply with existing City of El Centro pretreatment regulations.

(c-e) While the project will result in development at the site and will increase the area of impervious surfaces it is not located in a flood zone. Prior to issuance of any buildings permits, grading and drainage plans shall be prepared in accordance with City storm water requirements to reduce the amount of surface runoff. Implementation of City storm water requirements and regulations will result in in a less than significant impact resulting from surface runoff.

(f) The proposed project will not otherwise degrade water quality.

Issues:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XI. LAND USE AND PLANNING - Would the project:				
a) Physically divide an established community?				X
b) Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?			X	

Explanation:

(a) The proposed project will not physically divide an established community. The project will result in the construction of a new waste transfer station.

(b) The proposed project will change the general plan designation from General Commercial to General Manufacturing of 8.95 acres of vacant land for the purposes of constructing a waste transfer station. This location was previously designated as General Manufacturing until the 2040 General Plan was updated in June 2021. If approved the general plan designation will allow the construction of the waste transfer station. Land uses surrounding the property consist of heavy commercial users such as contractors, heavy equipment sales and rentals, and the utility shops such as SoCal Gas. The amendment will allow for the property to be consistent with the current zoning designation of (ML) Light Manufacturing.

XII. MINERAL RESOURCES -- Would the project:				
Issues:	**Potentially Significant Impact**	**Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated**	**Less Than Significant Impact**	**No Impact**
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?				X
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?				X

Explanation:
(a,b) The project site is within an urban area and is not identified in the General Plan as having any known mineral resource value or as being located within any mineral resource recovery site.

XIII. NOISE Would the project result in:				
Issues:	**Potentially Significant Impact**	**Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated**	**Less Than Significant Impact**	**No Impact**
a) Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?			X	
b) Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?			X	
c) For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?				X

Explanation:

(a-b) The proposed project will involve the construction of a waste transfer facility and the potential for roadway improvements that will result in temporary increase of noise and ground borne vibration levels in the area. Noise levels during the construction may temporary exceed noise levels as established in the Noise Element of the General Plan. Noise generated at the transfer station will be within noise levels appropriate for industrial, manufacturing, utilities, and agriculture uses.

XIV. POPULATION AND HOUSING -- Would the project:				
Issues:	**Potentially Significant Impact**	**Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated**	**Less Than Significant Impact**	**No Impact**
a) Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?				X
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				X
Explanation: (a-b) This location is currently vacant land that is currently zoned for commercial uses. The proposed project is a waste transfer station that will not result in any population growth. In addition, being that the site is vacant, it will not result in the destruction or replacement of housing.				

XV. PUBLIC SERVICES				
Issues:	**Potentially Significant Impact**	**Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated**	**Less Than Significant Impact**	**No Impact**
a) Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:				
Fire protection?			X	
Police protection?			X	
Schools?				X
Parks?				X
Other public facilities?			X	

Explanation:

(a) The City of El Centro Fire Department (ECFD) provides service within the City Limits. Additionally, ECFD responds to mutual aids throughout the Imperial Valley and the State when requested through mutual aid agreements with Imperial Valley Fire Departments and the State of California. The ECFD has three (3) stations staffed on a 24-hour basis to serve the public as follows: Station #1 is located at 775 State Street, Station #2 is located at 900 S. Dogwood Avenue, and Station #3 is located at 1910 N. Waterman Avenue. The Fire Department logged an average response time of approximately 4 to 6 minutes for emergency calls and 10 to 15 minutes for non-emergency calls. It is not anticipated that the construction of the waste transfer station will result in substantial adverse physical impacts to fire facilities. The project site is .35 miles southeast of El Centro Fire Station #2 and would be served by this station.

The City of El Centro Police Department (ECPD) is the primary law enforcement agency that serves the citizens of the City and land within the City boundaries. The Police Department has a main police station, located at 150 N. 11th Street. The construction of the waste transfer station will not significantly increase the demand of police protection and will not require the construction of new police facilities.

The project will not generate additional demand to schools or parks. While it will generate additional demand for public facilities it will not significantly increase the demand of public facilities. Furthermore, new development will be subject to development impact fees to mitigate increases for demand of schools, parks, fire protection, police projection, and administrative facilities. This will result in a less than significant impact to public services

XVI. RECREATION				
Issues:	**Potentially Significant Impact**	**Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated**	**Less Than Significant Impact**	**No Impact**
a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?				X
b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?				X

Explanation:
(a-b) The project involves the construction of a waste transfer station which will not generate users of existing neighborhood parks, regional parks or other recreational facilities. In addition, the project does not include the construction of recreational facilities nor will it require the expansion of recreational facilities. As such there will be no impacts to reactional facilities that will either substantially accelerate the deterioration of said facilities, or have an adverse physical effect on the environment.

XVII. TRANSPORTATION-- Would the project:				
Issues:	**Potentially Significant Impact**	**Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated**	**Less Than Significant Impact**	**No Impact**
a) Conflict with a program, plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?			X	
b) Conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines § 15064.3, subdivision (b)?			X	
c) Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?				X
d) Result in inadequate emergency access?				X

Explanation:

(a) The proposed project will allow for the construction of a waste transfer station to be owned and operated by CR&R, the City's trash purveyor, which is estimated to generate a maximum of 151 daily trips. This maximum trip generation include staff, commercial vehicles and self-haul vehicles. Because this is an industrial user, they are exempt from VMT analysis. A focused traffic study was conducted at the intersection of the new road and Ross Avenue and at the intersection of Dogwood Road and Ross Avenue which determined the intersection performance will not be negatively impacted. A stop sign will be required to be installed at the intersection of the new road and Ross Avenue.

(b) The project will not conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including level of service standards, travel demand measures, or other standards established by the City or the county congestion management agency.

(c) This project does not incorporate hazardous geometric design features or incompatible land uses, therefore it will bear no impact to local transit.

(d) The propose facility will not result in inadequate emergency access. The proposed project site plan was sent to staff for review and was found in compliance for emergency access. The Building and Fire Departments will review the internal circulation of the building to ensure the construction adheres to all local and State Fire Codes and Regulations.

XVIII. TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES -- Would the project:

Issues:	**Potentially Significant Impact**	**Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated**	**Less Than Significant Impact**	**No Impact**
a) Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code § 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American Tribe, and that is:			X	
i.) Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020. 1(k), or				X
ii.) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code § 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American Tribe.				X

Explanation:

(a) The project site is not listed in the California Register of Historical Resources or in a local register of historical resources. Pursuant to SB18 and AB52, the 14 tribes included in the consult list provided by the Native American Heritage Commission. To date, staff has not received comments from any tribe. While it is unlikely that there are going to be any resources on site, should any be uncovered during construction, all ground-disturbing activities must cease within 100 feet of the remains and the County Coroner and the Lead Agency (City of El Centro) must be immediately notified.

XIX. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS. Would the project:

Issues:	**Potentially Significant Impact**	**Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated**	**Less Than Significant Impact**	**No Impact**
a) Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?				X
b) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?				X
c) Result in a determination by the waste water treatment provider, which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the projects projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?				X
d) Generate solid waste in excess of state or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?				X
e) Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?				X

Explanation:

a) The El Centro Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) has the capacity to accommodate 8.0 million gallons of wastewater per day. The treatment plant would be able to treat additional wastewater as it has sufficient capacity. The project site is connected to the City's sewer system. The project will result in the construction of an industrial building which will be subject to payment of wastewater capacity fees to offset impacts from the increase wastewater generated. In addition, a system impact study was performed of the Imperial Irrigation District, local electric power provider, distribution system which confirmed that current facilities will support consumer load during construction and during operation of the facility.

(b) The proposed project will not require or result in the construction of water or wastewater treatment facilities. As such, there will no environmental impacts due to the construction of water and wastewater treatment facilities. Both, water and wastewater treatment facilities have the capacity to continue to serve the project.

(c) The project will not require the construction of new storm water facilities. Thus, there will be no impact to storm drain facilities.

(d-e) The proposed project includes the construction of a waste transfer station which will improve waste collection services in the region. The current solid waste service provider is CR&R Waste Services, who has sufficient landfill capacity to serve the project site. In order to meet future demand CR&R is proposing the development of the transfer station. The City of El Centro has renewed its contract with CR&R through 2027.

XX. WILDFIRE. -- If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project**:**				
Issues:	**Potentially Significant Impact**	**Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated**	**Less Than Significant Impact**	**No Impact**
a) Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?				X
b) Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?				X
c) Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines, or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?				X
d) Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?				X
Explanation: (a-d) This project location is not located near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones.				

XXI. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE. --				
Issues:	**Potentially Significant Impact**	**Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated**	**Less Than Significant Impact**	**No Impact**
a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?		X		
b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.)			X	
c) Does the project have environmental effects that will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?				X

Explanation:

(a) The project is in a vacant project adjacent to an active agricultural field that may invite the Burrowing Owl, a known sensitive species in Imperial County, to the property. While its presence is unlikely due to the users surrounding the property to the north, mitigation measures were incorporated to ensure a burrowing owl site survey is performed during nesting season.

(b-c) The project will result in the development of a waste transfer station on 8.95 acres of vacant. The project will result in an increase in traffic generated up to 151 new trips per day. Local roadways and intersections have the capacity to accommodate the project. Overall, the proposal will not have a significant impact on the environment as project will result in a minimal development on vacant property in a developed area within the City Limits of El Centro.

5.0 REFERENCES

The following is a list of references used in the preparation of this environmental document. Unless attached herein, copies of all referenced reports, memorandums and letters are on file with the City of El Centro Community Development Department – Planning & Zoning Division. References to Publications prepared by Federal or State agencies may be found with the agency responsible for providing such information.

1) California Building Code, based on 2021 IBC
2) City of El Centro General Plan, adopted June 2021.
3) City of El Centro Traffic Impact Analysis, prepared June 2022.
4) City of El Centro Zoning Code, adopted June 2021.
5) County of Imperial. *GIS Map Data*. Retrieved from <new.geoviewer.io> on May 1, 2023.
6) Imperial County Air Pollution Control District Rules and Regulations, revised October 20, 2012.
7) Natural Resources Conservation Service, United States Department of Agriculture. *Soil Survey of Imperial County, California: Imperial Valley Area* .1981.
8) City of El Centro Housing Element, adopted March 2022.
9) United States Environmental Protection Agency, *Waste Transfer Stations: Involve Citizens Make the Difference,* January 2001.
   Retrieved from: https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2016-03/documents/wtsguide.pdf

APPENDIX A-
TRAFFIC REPORT

LINSCOTT
LAW &
GREENSPAN
engineers

Engineers & Planners
Traffic
Transportation
Parking

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Pasadena
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San Diego

October 23, 2023

Ms. Andrea Montano
City of El Centro
1275 W. Main Street
El Centro, CA 92243

LLG Reference: 3-23-3805

Subject: **CR&R Transfer Station – Transportation Assessment**
City of El Centro

Dear Ms. Montano:

Linscott, Law & Greenspan (LLG), Engineers has prepared this transportation assessment for the CR&R Transfer Station project (hereafter referred to as the "Project") to be located on the south side of Ross Avenue, just east of Dogwood Road in the City of El Centro.

Figure A shows the Project Area Map. ***Figure B*** shows the Project site plan.

The transfer station is proposed to be approximately 70,550 SF. The proposed site is currently zoned General Commercial (CG) which prohibits the construction of a transfer station. An amendment to the General Plan is being requested to designate the Project site's land use from General Commercial to Light Industrial in conformance with the proposed ML zone which permits transfer stations.

The purpose of this letter report is to conduct a transportation assessment for the Project. Included in this letter report are the following:

- Existing Conditions / Existing Traffic Volumes
- Trip Generation / Distribution / Assignment
- Traffic Volume Forecast
- Analysis Results
- Conclusions

Effective evaluation of the traffic impacts associated with the Project requires an understanding of the existing transportation system within the Project area. Per coordination with the applicant, majority of the Project trips will be ingressing west of

Philip M. Linscott, PE (1924-2000)
William A. Law, PE (1921-2018)
Jack M. Greenspan, PE (Ret.)
Paul W. Wilkinson, PE (Ret.)
John P. Keating, PE (Ret.)
David S. Shender, PE
John A. Boarman, PE
Clare M. Look-Jaeger, PE (Ret.)
Richard E. Barretto, PE
Keil D. Maberry, PE
Kalyan C. Yellapu, PE
Dave Roseman, PE
Shankar Ramakrishnan, PE
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the Project site. Therefore, the following intersections were included in the analysis study area:

- Ross Avenue / Dogwood Road
- Ross Avenue / Project driveway

EXISTING CONDITIONS / EXISTING TRAFFIC VOLUMES

The following is a description of the existing street network in the study area.

Ross Avenue is classified as an Arterial west of Dogwood Road and as a Collector east of Dogwood Road in the *City of El Centro Circulation Element* and is currently constructed as a 2-lane roadway separated by a two-way left-turn lane. Within the Project study area, sidewalks are provided on the north side only. The posted speed limit is 45 mph.

Dogwood Road is classified as an Arterial in the *City of El Centro Circulation Element* and is currently constructed as a 2-lane roadway separated by a two-way left-turn lane. Within the study area, sidewalks are provided north of Ross Avenue on the west side only. The posted speed limit is 45 mph.

Peak hour intersection turning movement volume counts were conducted at the Ross Avenue / Dogwood Road intersection on Wednesday, August 16, 2023. In order to account for the counts being conducted in the Summer, a 5% growth factor was applied.

Figure C shows the Existing Conditions Diagram. ***Figure D*** shows the Existing traffic volumes. ***Attachment A*** contains the manual count sheets.

TRIP GENERATION/DISTRIBUTION/ASSIGNMENT

Project traffic will be comprised of employee vehicles and heavy vehicle trucks entering and exiting the site. A worst-case assumption is that each worker would generate one round trip to the Project site per workday (i.e. no carpooling). There will be up to 25 employees on the site each workday for an 8- to 12-hour shift.

In addition to the daily workers traveling to the site, there will be up to 59 heavy vehicle truck trips per day. Based on coordination with the applicant, the peak number of heavy vehicle truck trips at the Project site at any one time is 17. Per the *Highway Capacity Manual (6th Edition)*, a Passenger-Car Equivalent (PCE) factor of 2.5 was applied towards the heavy vehicle truck traffic to account for the fact that heavy vehicles are more impactive in the roadway system than passenger vehicles.

Table A shows the forecast trip generation for the Project. As shown in *Table A*, the Project is calculated to generate 345 Average Daily Traffic (ADT), with 95 trips

during the AM peak hour (53 inbound and 42 outbound), and 95 trips during the PM peak hour (43 inbound and 52 outbound). *Attachment A* contains the Project trip generation information provided by the applicant.

The Project traffic was distributed and assigned to the street system based on site location, access to I-8, and coordination with the applicant. The Project traffic distribution assumes 80% of the trips oriented to/from the west and 20% oriented to/from the east.

Figure E shows the Project traffic distribution. ***Figure F*** shows the Project traffic volumes.

TRAFFIC VOLUME FORECAST

Per coordination with the applicant, it was determined that Year 2024 is the expected opening year of the proposed Project. In order to forecast future traffic volumes for the Near-Term (Year 2024) without Project conditions, a growth rate of 5% was deemed appropriate to use as ambient growth and applied to the existing traffic volumes. Project traffic was added to the Near-Term (Year 2024) traffic volumes to develop Near-Term + Project Traffic Volumes.

Figure G shows the Near-Term without Project traffic volumes. ***Figure H*** shows the Near-Term + Project traffic volumes.

ANALYSIS RESULTS

The following section presents the intersection analysis at the study area locations.

Table B summarizes the peak hour intersection operations for the Near-Term scenarios. As shown in *Table B*, both intersections are calculated to operate at LOS C or better during both the AM and PM peak hours under the Near-Term scenarios.

Attachment B contains the Existing intersection analysis worksheets. ***Attachment C*** contains the Near-Term without Project intersection analysis worksheets. ***Attachment D*** contains the Near-Term + Project intersection analysis worksheets.

CONCLUSIONS

The analysis shows that the proposed Project driveway and Ross Avenue / Dogwood Road intersection will operate at acceptable LOS under the Near-Term scenarios. There is a two-way left-turn lane on Ross Avenue fronting the Project site. Therefore, employee vehicles and heavy vehicle trucks ingressing from east of the Project site can wait within the two-way left-turn lane for an adequate gap to enter the site without blocking the westbound through traffic. Project trips leaving the site by making a northbound left-turn can also wait in the two-way left-turn lane for an

adequate gap before entering the westbound through traffic. It is recommended that the Project provides a stop sign at the proposed driveway to ensure safe maneuvering for vehicles leaving the site.

Please let us know if you have any questions. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Linscott, Law & Greenspan, Engineers

John Boarman, P.E.
Principal

Renald Espiritu
Transportation Engineer III

cc: File

FIGURES
Figure A: Project Area Map
Figure B: Project Site Plan
Figure C: Existing Conditions Diagram
Figure D: Existing Traffic Volumes
Figure E: Project Traffic Distribution
Figure F: Project Traffic Volumes
Figure G: Near-Term without Project Traffic Volumes
Figure H: Near-Term + Project Traffic Volumes

TABLES
Table A: Project Trip Generation
Table B: Intersection Operations

ATTACHMENT
Attachment A: Intersection Manual Count Sheets, Project Trip Generation Information
Attachment B: Existing Peak Hour Intersection Analysis Worksheets
Attachment C: Near-Term without Project Peak Hour Intersection Analysis Worksheets
Attachment D: Near-Term + Project Peak Hour Intersection Analysis Worksheets

LINSCOTT LAW & GREENSPAN engineers

TABLE A
PROJECT TRIP GENERATION

Use	Quantity[a]	PCE[b]	Daily Trip Ends (ADT[c] with PCE)		AM Peak Hour Volume			PM Peak Hour Volume		
			Rate	Volume	In	Out	Total	In	Out	Total
Employees	25	1	2/vehicle	50	10	0	10	0	10	10
Trucks *(Heavy Vehicles)*	59	2.5	2/vehicle	295	43	42	85[d]	43	42	85[d]
Total				***345***	***53***	***42***	***95***	***43***	***52***	***95***

Footnotes:

a. Information provided by applicant (see *Attachment A*).
b. PCE – Passenger-Car Equivalent. Assumes PCE factor of 2.5 was applied to heavy vehicle trucks per the *Highway Capacity Manual*.
c. ADT – Average Dail Traffic
d. Based on coordination with the applicant, the peak number of heavy vehicle truck trips at the Project site at any one time is 17. Therefore, 17 heavy vehicle trucks x 2.5 (PCE) x 2 (rate) = 85.

TABLE B
INTERSECTION OPERATIONS

Intersection	Control Type	Peak Hour	Existing		Near-Term (Year 2024)		Near-Term (Year 2024) + Project		Δ[c]
			Delay[a]	LOS[b]	Delay	LOS	Delay	LOS	
1. Ross Ave / Dogwood Rd	Signal	AM	29.0	C	29.9	C	34.3	C	4.4
		PM	31.3	C	32.9	C	34.7	C	1.8
2. Ross Ave / Project Drwy	DNE/ TWSC[d]	AM	–	–	–	–	11.5	B	11.5
		PM	–	–	–	–	11.2	B	11.2

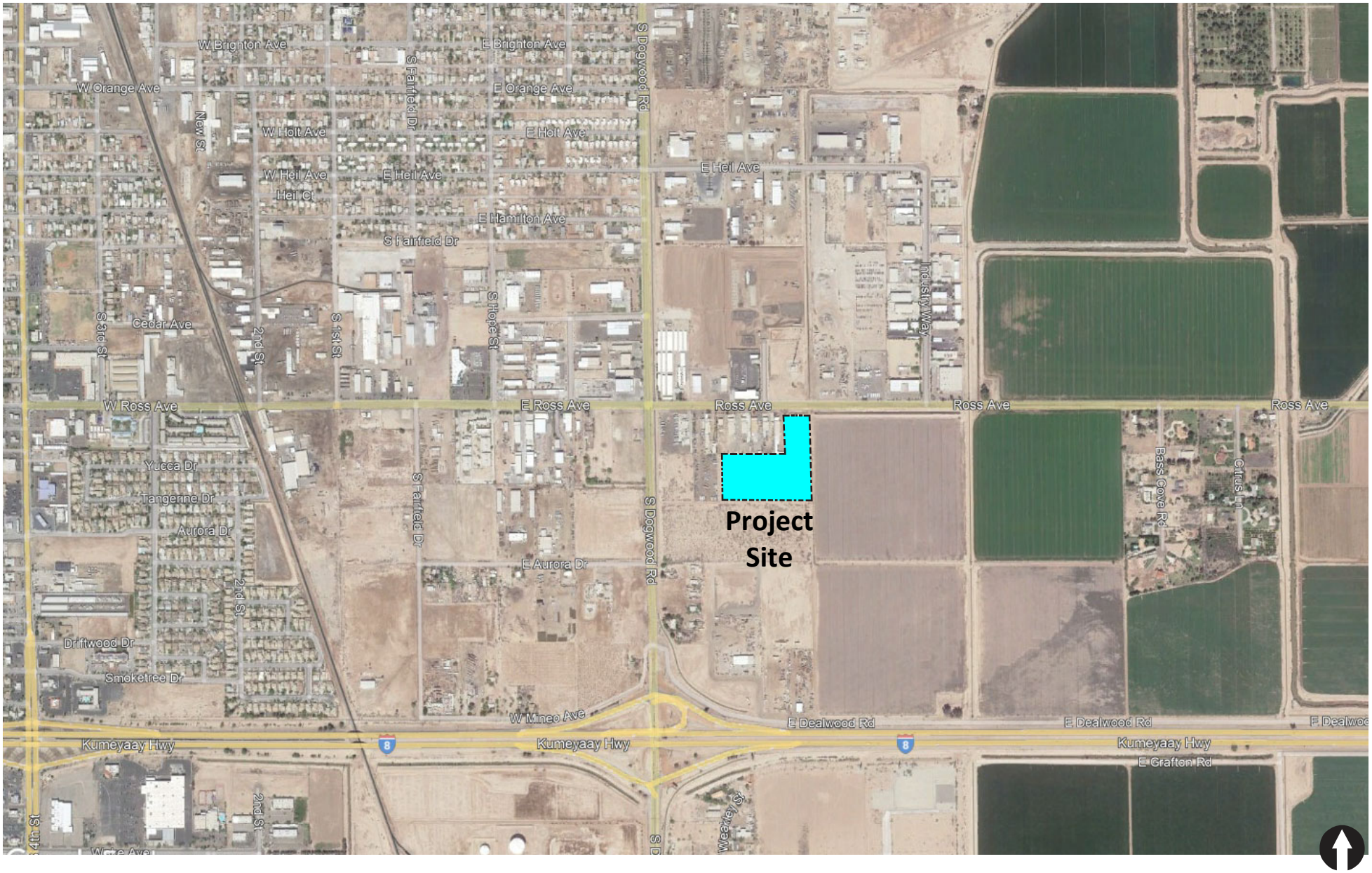
Footnotes:

a. Average delay expressed in seconds per vehicle.
b. Level of Service.
c. Δ denotes an increase in delay due to project.
d. TWSC – Two-Way Stop Controlled intersection. Minor street left-turn delay is reported.

General Notes:

1. DNE – does not exist.

SIGNALIZED		UNSIGNALIZED	
DELAY/LOS THRESHOLDS		DELAY/LOS THRESHOLDS	
Delay	LOS	Delay	LOS
0.0 ≤ 10.0	A	0.0 ≤ 10.0	A
10.1 to 20.0	B	10.1 to 15.0	B
20.1 to 35.0	C	15.1 to 25.0	C
35.1 to 55.0	D	25.1 to 35.0	D
55.1 to 80.0	E	35.1 to 50.0	E
≥ 80.1	F	≥ 50.1	F



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Figure A

Project Area Map

CR & R Transfer Station

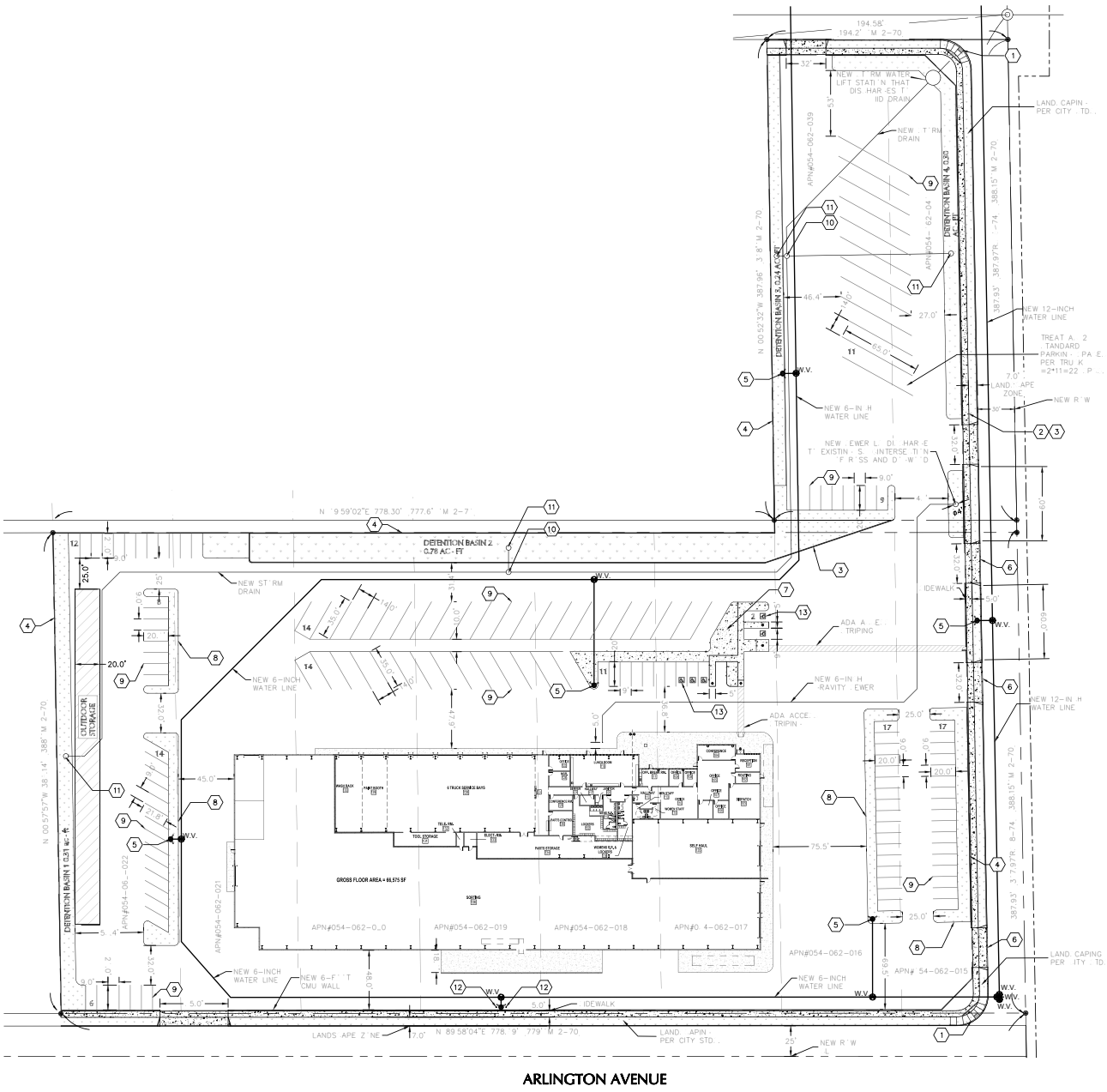


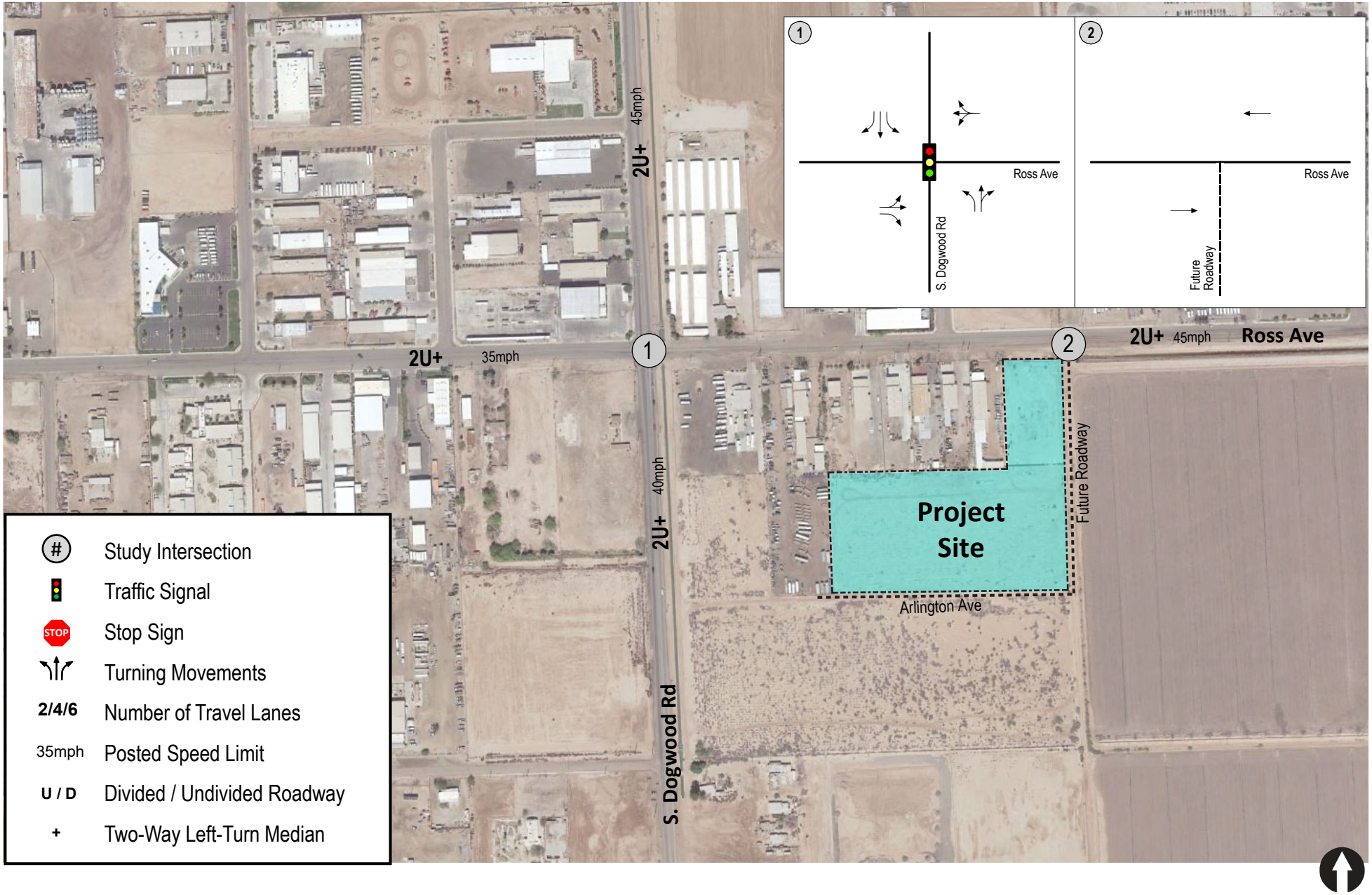
Figure B

Site Plan

CR & R Transfer Station

LINSCOTT LAW & GREENSPAN engineers

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Date: 09/05/23



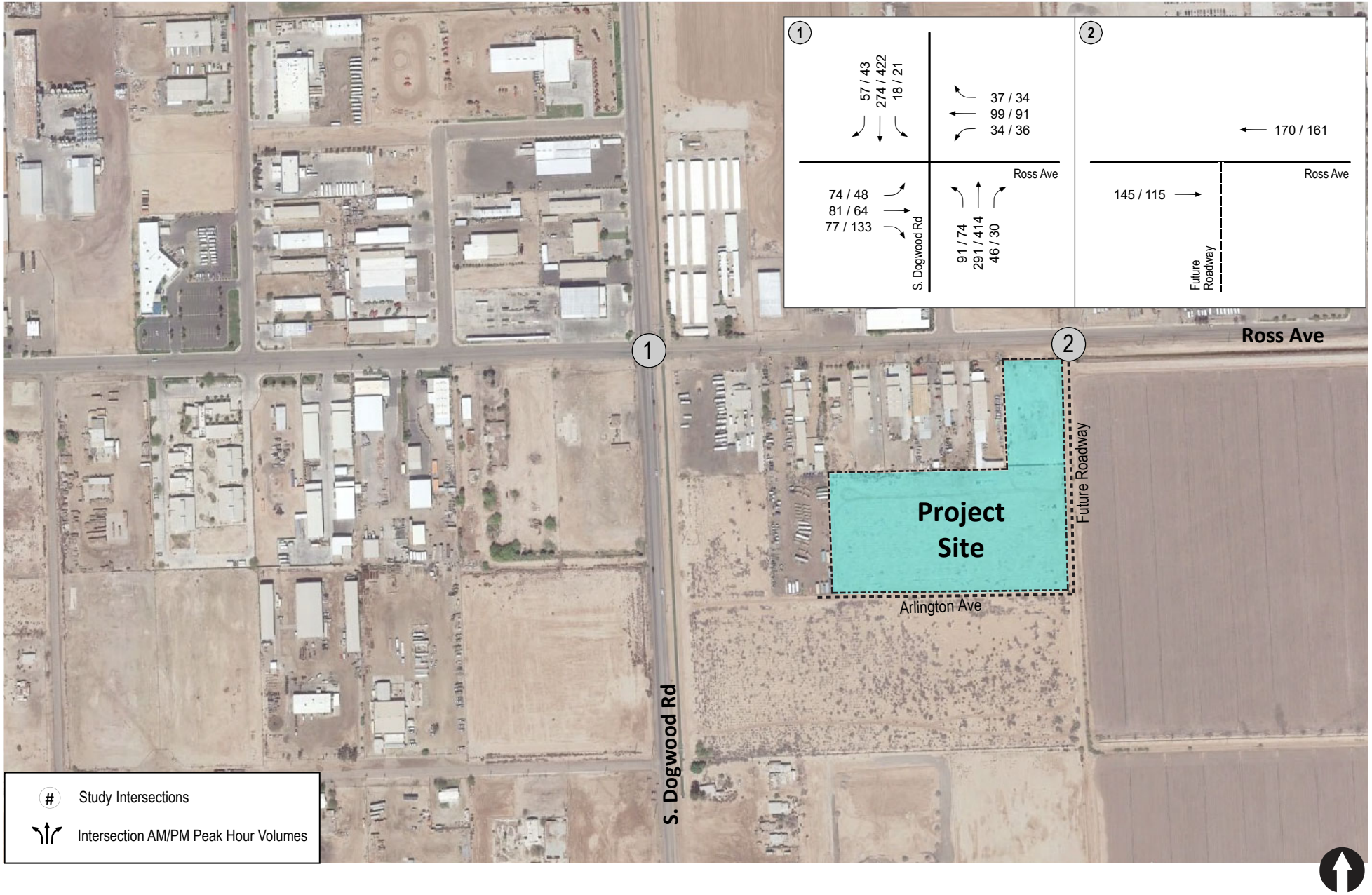
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Date: 10/19/23

Figure C

Existing Conditions Diagram

CR & R TRANSFER STATION



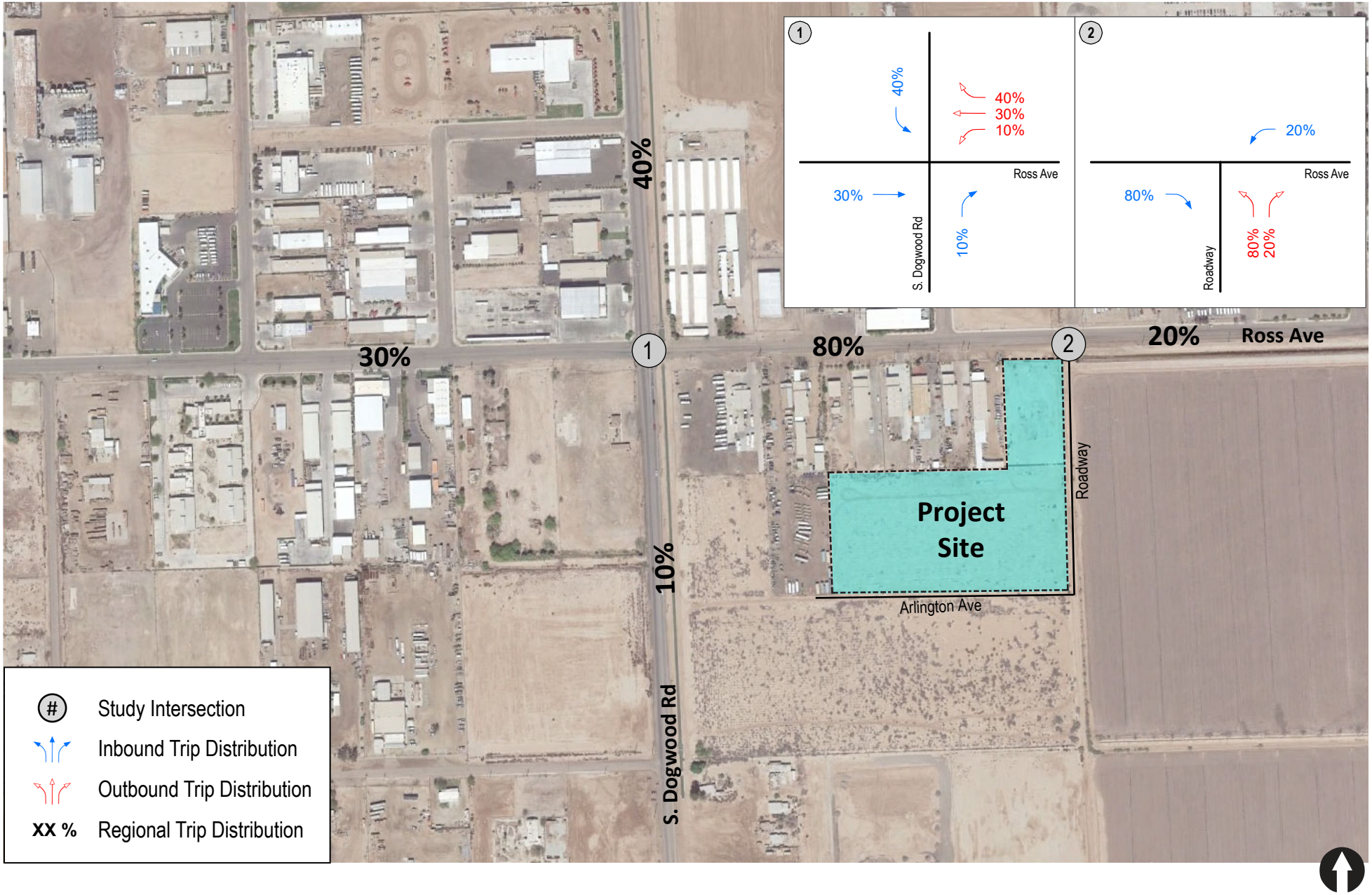
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Figure D

Existing Traffic Volumes

CR & R TRANSFER STATION



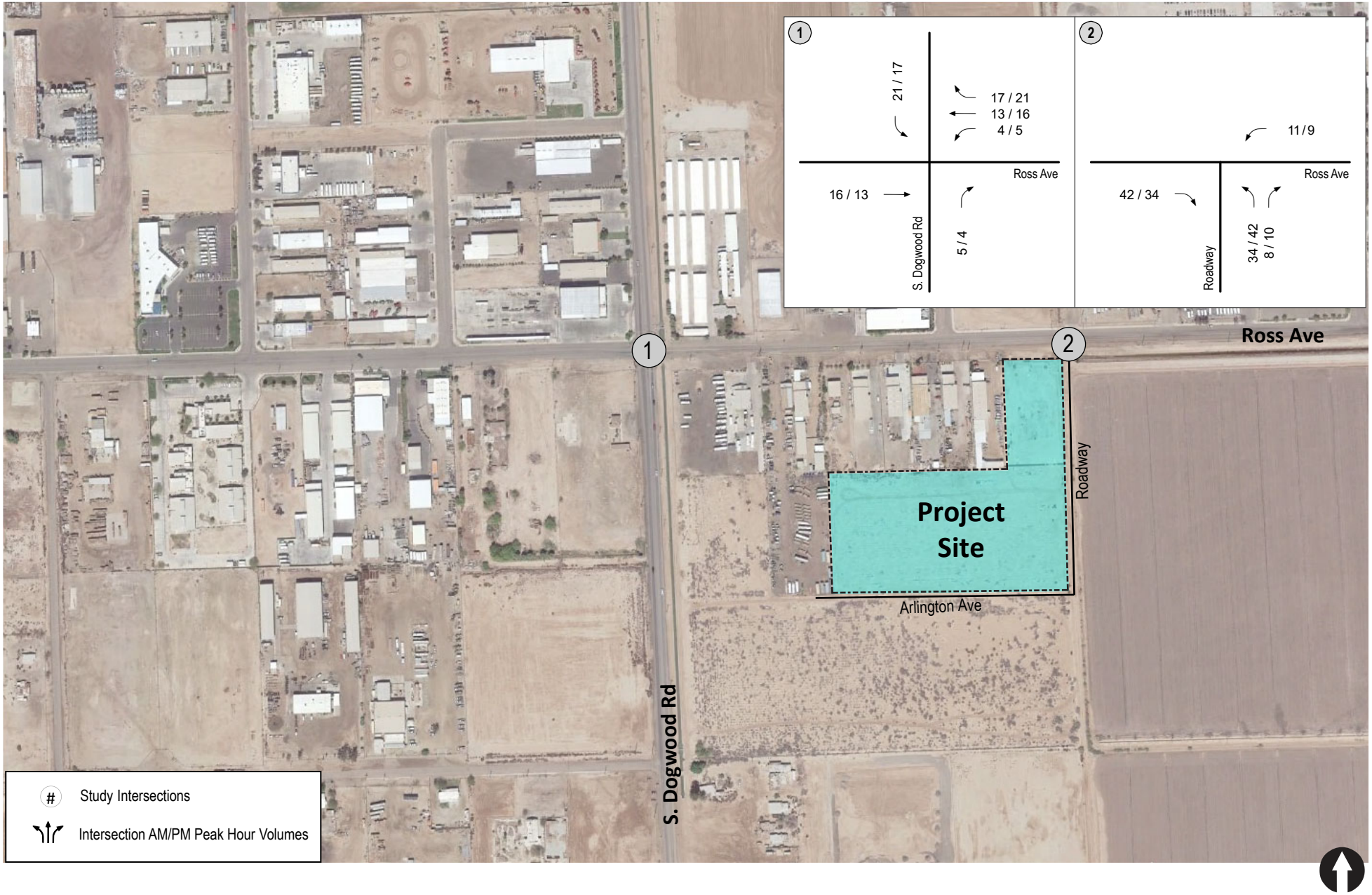
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Date: 10/19/23

Figure E

Project Traffic Distribution

CR & R TRANSFER STATION



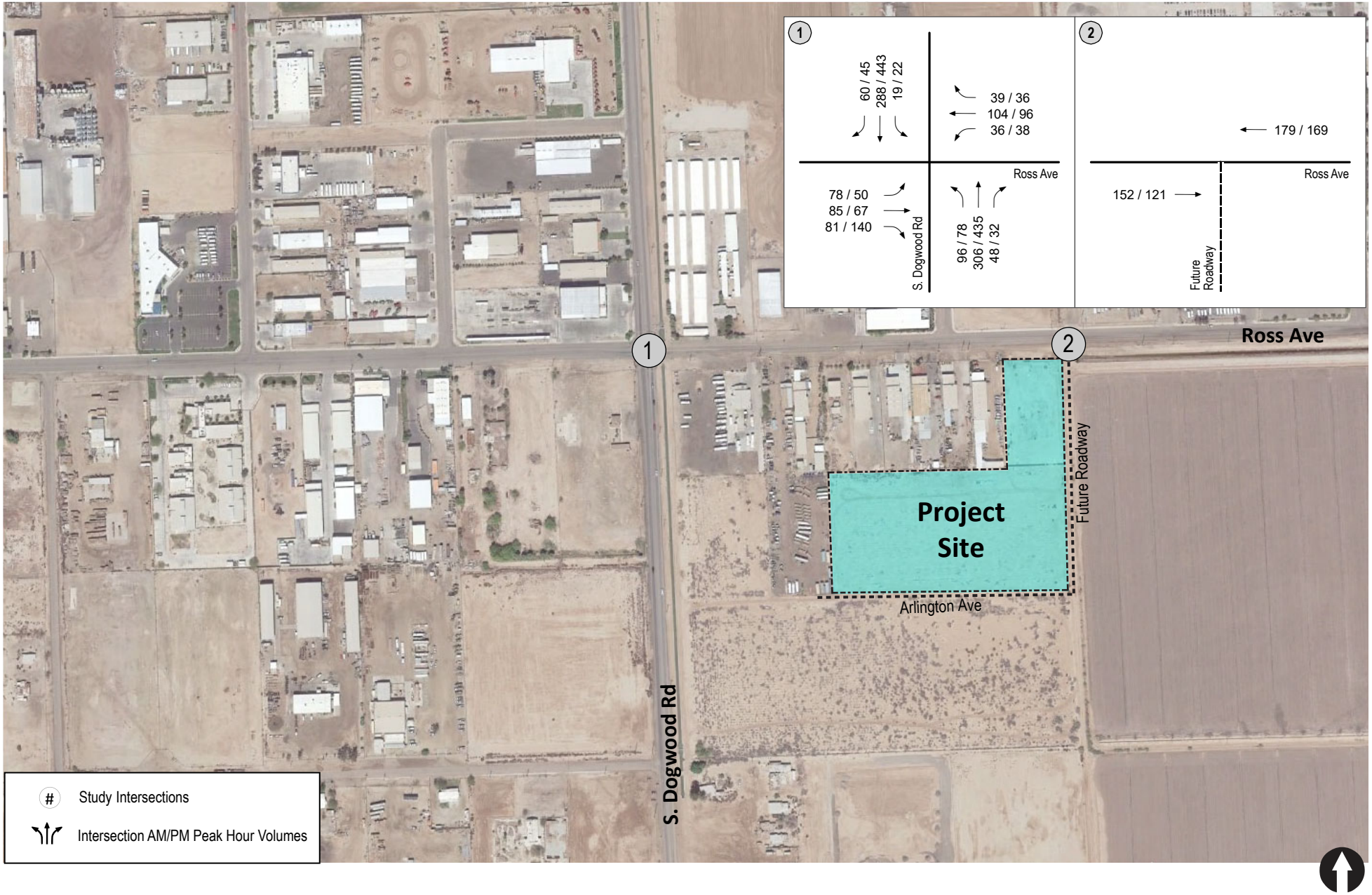
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Figure F

Project Traffic Volumes

CR & R TRANSFER STATION



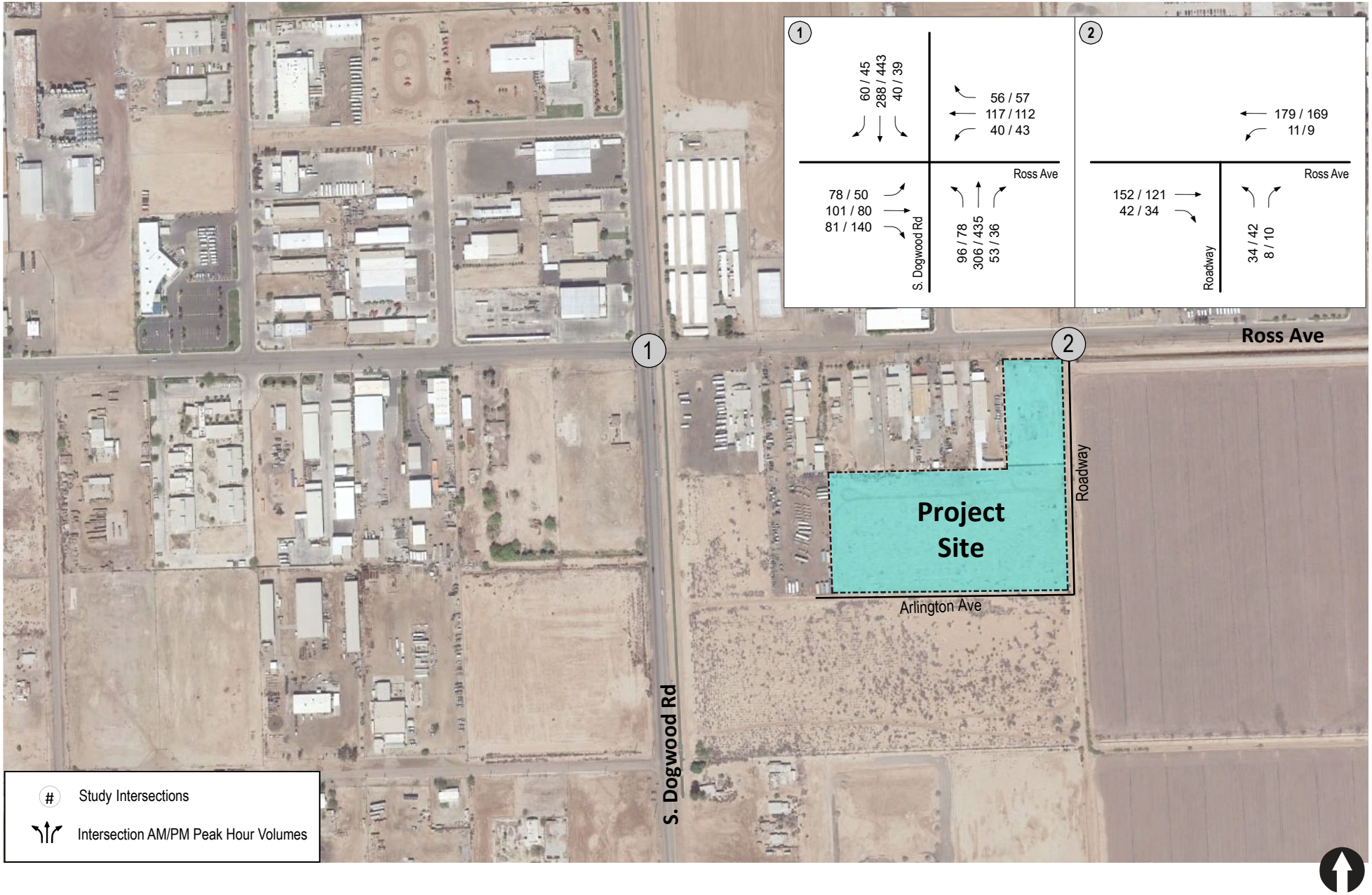
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Figure G

Near-Term Without Project Traffic Volumes

CR & R TRANSFER STATION



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Date: 10/19/23

Figure H

Near-Term + Project Traffic Volumes

CR & R TRANSFER STATION

ATTACHMENT A

Intersection Turning Movement - Peak Hour Vehicle Count

LINSCOTT LAW & GREENSPAN engineers

Location:	#01	File Name:	ITM-23-083-01
Intersection:	South Dogwood Road & Ross Avenue	Project:	LLG Ref. 3-23-3805
Date of Count:	Wednesday August 16, 2023		CR & R Transfer Station

AM	South Dogwood Road Southbound			East Ross Avenue Westbound			South Dogwood Road Northbound			Ross Avenue Eastbound			
	Left	Thru	Right	Left	Thru	Right	Left	Thru	Right	Left	Thru	Right	Total
7:00	0	31	9	3	15	7	24	64	6	16	13	8	196
7:15	6	40	15	10	24	10	14	70	7	12	23	16	247
7:30	2	62	20	5	26	7	21	83	8	27	22	16	299
7:45	7	92	10	7	22	12	30	72	15	14	19	23	323
8:00	3	50	13	14	18	5	20	65	12	16	17	14	247
8:15	5	57	11	6	28	11	16	57	9	13	19	20	252
8:30	3	57	13	11	18	12	11	50	8	14	17	19	233
8:45	2	86	17	12	26	9	22	41	8	13	11	11	258
Total	28	475	108	68	177	73	158	502	73	125	141	127	2055
Approach%	4.6	77.7	17.7	21.4	55.7	23.0	21.6	68.5	10.0	31.8	35.9	32.3	
Total%	1.4	23.1	5.3	3.3	8.6	3.6	7.7	24.4	3.6	6.1	6.9	6.2	

AM Intersection Peak Hour: **07:30 to 08:30**

Volume	17	261	54	32	94	35	87	277	44	70	77	73	1,121
Approach%	5.1	78.6	16.3	19.9	58.4	21.7	21.3	67.9	10.8	31.8	35.0	33.2	
Total%	1.5	23.3	4.8	2.9	8.4	3.1	7.8	24.7	3.9	6.2	6.9	6.5	
PHF			0.76			0.89			0.87			0.85	0.94

PM	South Dogwood Road Southbound			East Ross Avenue Westbound			South Dogwood Road Northbound			Ross Avenue Eastbound			
	Left	Thru	Right	Left	Thru	Right	Left	Thru	Right	Left	Thru	Right	Total
16:00	3	73	9	7	19	12	15	88	7	10	23	43	309
16:15	9	91	6	6	17	5	21	81	7	9	22	33	307
16:30	4	89	10	6	24	10	15	103	4	8	16	25	314
16:45	6	94	7	7	15	7	19	102	6	5	12	26	306
17:00	3	112	16	11	19	2	19	97	8	8	16	50	361
17:15	10	117	7	7	16	11	16	106	3	7	13	25	338
17:30	3	83	9	9	31	9	19	103	7	19	16	26	334
17:45	4	90	9	7	21	10	16	88	11	12	16	26	310
Total	42	749	73	60	162	66	140	768	53	78	134	254	2579
Approach%	4.9	86.7	8.4	20.8	56.3	22.9	14.6	79.9	5.5	16.7	28.8	54.5	
Total%	1.6	29.0	2.8	2.3	6.3	2.6	5.4	29.8	2.1	3.0	5.2	9.8	

PM Intersection Peak Hour: **17:00 to 18:00**

Volume	20	402	41	34	87	32	70	394	29	46	61	127	1,343
Approach%	4.3	86.8	8.9	22.2	56.9	20.9	14.2	79.9	5.9	19.7	26.1	54.3	
Total%	1.5	29.9	3.1	2.5	6.5	2.4	5.2	29.3	2.2	3.4	4.5	9.5	
PHF			0.86			0.78			0.96			0.79	0.90

Intersection Turning Movement - Bicycle & Pedestrian Count

LINSCOTT LAW & GREENSPAN engineers

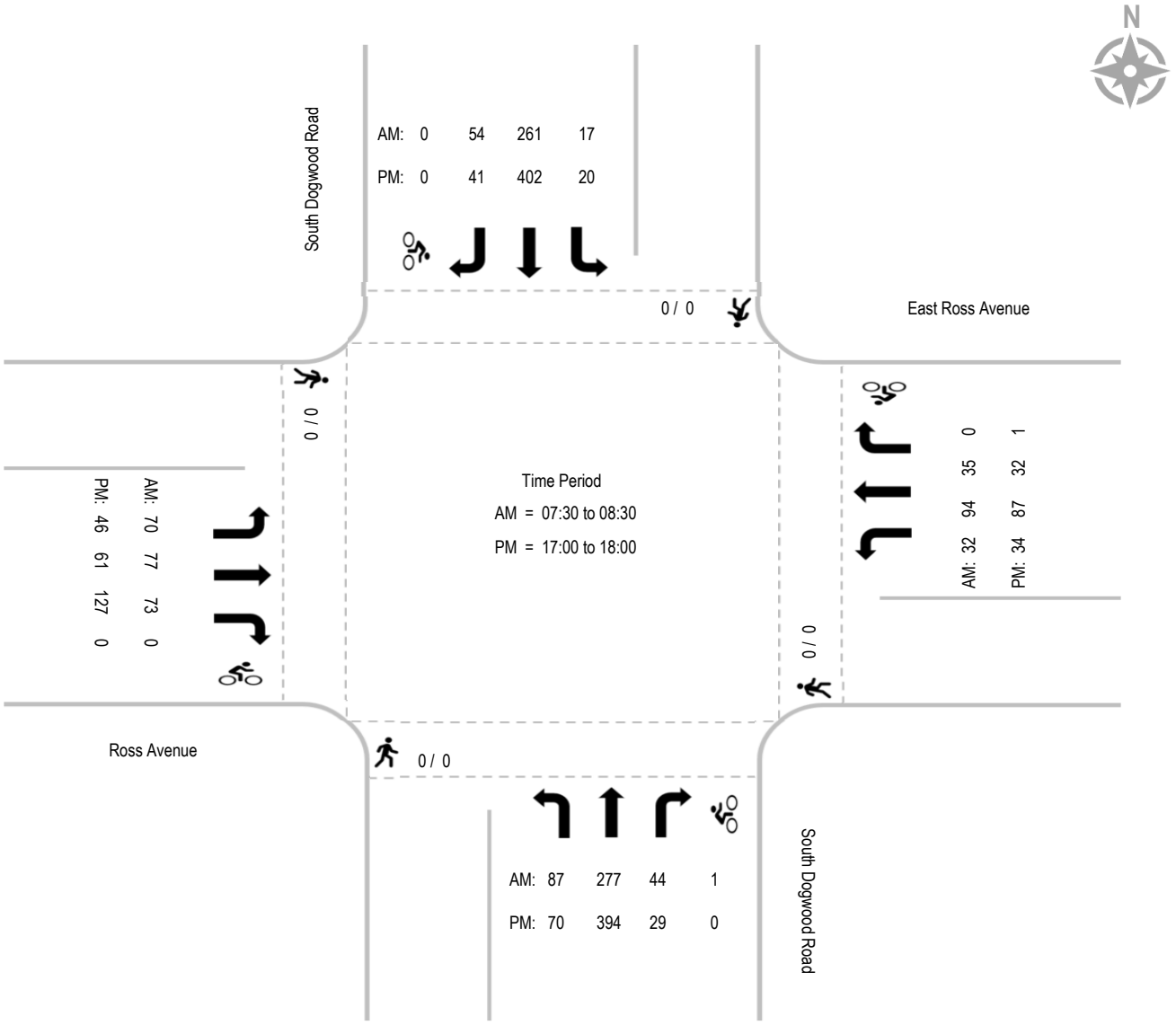
Location:	#01	File Name:	ITM-23-083-01
Intersection:	South Dogwood Road & Ross Avenue	Project:	LLG Ref. 3-23-3805
Date of Count:	Wednesday August 16, 2023		CR & R Transfer Station

AM	South Dogwood Road Southbound				East Ross Avenue Westbound				South Dogwood Road Northbound				Ross Avenue Eastbound				Totals	
	Ped	B-Left	B-Thru	B-Right	Ped	B-Left	B-Thru	B-Right	Ped	B-Left	B-Thru	B-Right	Ped	B-Left	B-Thru	B-Right	Ped	Bicycle
7:00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7:15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7:30	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7:45	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
8:00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8:15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8:30	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8:45	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ped Total	0				0				0				0				0	
Bike Total		0	0	0		0	0	0		0	1	0		0	0	0		1

PM	South Dogwood Road Southbound				East Ross Avenue Westbound				South Dogwood Road Northbound				Ross Avenue Eastbound				Totals	
	Ped	B-Left	B-Thru	B-Right	Ped	B-Left	B-Thru	B-Right	Ped	B-Left	B-Thru	B-Right	Ped	B-Left	B-Thru	B-Right	Ped	Bicycle
16:00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
16:15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
16:30	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
16:45	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17:00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17:15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17:30	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17:45	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ped Total	0				0				0				0				0	
Bike Total		0	0	0		0	1	0		0	0	0		0	0	0		1

Intersection Turning Movement - Peak Hour Summary

LINSCOTT LAW & GREENSPAN engineers	Location:	#01	File Name:	ITM-23-083-01
	Intersection:	South Dogwood Road & Ross Avenue	Project:	LLG Ref. 3-23-3805
	Date of Count:	Wednesday August 16, 2023		CR & R Transfer Station

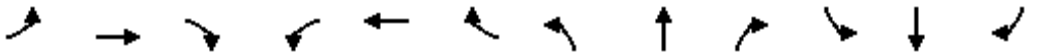


Traffic Analysis for Ross Road Development by CR&R										
Incoming	**Autos**					**Truck Traffic Leaving returning**				
	Drivers	Mechanics	Office	Operatons		res'l	comm'l	RO	Ancill	
4:00 AM										
5	5									
6	10						4	3	1	Leaving
7		2				10				dump and return
8			4	3			4 x 2			
9								3 x 2		dump and return
10						10 x 2	4 x 2			
11								3 x 2		dump and return
12 noon		2								
1						10 x 2	4 x 2	3 x 2		dump and return
2										
3	5									
4	10					10	4	3	1	return
5			4	3						
7		2								
	30	6	8	6		60	32	24	2	Total trips per day

Light Vehicles ADT = 50

Heavy Vehicles ADT = 118 x 2.5 (PCE) = 295

ATTACHMENT B



Movement	EBL	EBT	EBR	WBL	WBT	WBR	NBL	NBT	NBR	SBL	SBT	SBR
Lane Configurations												
Traffic Volume (veh/h)	74	81	77	34	99	37	91	291	46	18	274	57
Future Volume (veh/h)	74	81	77	34	99	37	91	291	46	18	274	57
Initial Q (Qb), veh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ped-Bike Adj(A_pbT)	1.00		0.91	1.00		0.92	1.00		0.96	1.00		0.96
Parking Bus, Adj	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Work Zone On Approach		No			No			No			No	
Adj Sat Flow, veh/h/ln	1870	1870	1870	1870	1870	1870	1870	1870	1870	1870	1870	1870
Adj Flow Rate, veh/h	87	95	91	38	111	42	105	334	53	24	361	75
Peak Hour Factor	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.89	0.89	0.89	0.87	0.87	0.87	0.76	0.76	0.76
Percent Heavy Veh, %	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Cap, veh/h	111	121	183	52	151	57	134	799	127	44	860	701
Arrive On Green	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.08	0.51	0.51	0.02	0.46	0.46
Sat Flow, veh/h	873	953	1447	347	1015	384	1781	1566	248	1781	1870	1524
Grp Volume(v), veh/h	182	0	91	191	0	0	105	0	387	24	361	75
Grp Sat Flow(s),veh/h/ln	1827	0	1447	1746	0	0	1781	0	1814	1781	1870	1524
Q Serve(g_s), s	9.2	0.0	5.6	9.9	0.0	0.0	5.5	0.0	12.6	1.3	12.3	2.7
Cycle Q Clear(g_c), s	9.2	0.0	5.6	9.9	0.0	0.0	5.5	0.0	12.6	1.3	12.3	2.7
Prop In Lane	0.48		1.00	0.20		0.22	1.00		0.14	1.00		1.00
Lane Grp Cap(c), veh/h	231	0	183	260	0	0	134	0	926	44	860	701
V/C Ratio(X)	0.79	0.00	0.50	0.73	0.00	0.00	0.78	0.00	0.42	0.55	0.42	0.11
Avail Cap(c_a), veh/h	413	0	327	469	0	0	291	0	926	122	860	701
HCM Platoon Ratio	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Upstream Filter(I)	1.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Uniform Delay (d), s/veh	40.3	0.0	38.7	38.6	0.0	0.0	43.2	0.0	14.5	45.8	17.2	14.6
Incr Delay (d2), s/veh	5.9	0.0	2.1	4.0	0.0	0.0	9.5	0.0	1.4	10.1	1.5	0.3
Initial Q Delay(d3),s/veh	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
%ile BackOfQ(50%),veh/ln	4.3	0.0	2.0	4.3	0.0	0.0	2.7	0.0	5.0	0.7	5.1	0.9
Unsig. Movement Delay, s/veh												
LnGrp Delay(d),s/veh	46.1	0.0	40.8	42.6	0.0	0.0	52.7	0.0	15.9	55.9	18.7	14.9
LnGrp LOS	D	A	D	D	A	A	D	A	B	E	B	B
Approach Vol, veh/h		273			191			492			460	
Approach Delay, s/veh		44.3			42.6			23.7			20.0	
Approach LOS		D			D			C			C	

Timer - Assigned Phs	1	2		4	5	6		8				
Phs Duration (G+Y+Rc), s	6.8	53.0		16.5	11.7	48.2		18.7				
Change Period (Y+Rc), s	4.5	4.5		4.5	4.5	4.5		4.5				
Max Green Setting (Gmax), s	6.5	48.5		21.5	15.5	39.5		25.5				
Max Q Clear Time (g_c+I1), s	3.3	14.6		11.2	7.5	14.3		11.9				
Green Ext Time (p_c), s	0.0	2.3		0.9	0.1	2.2		0.7				

Intersection Summary												
HCM 6th Ctrl Delay			29.0									
HCM 6th LOS			C									

Movement	EBL	EBT	EBR	WBL	WBT	WBR	NBL	NBT	NBR	SBL	SBT	SBR
Lane Configurations												
Traffic Volume (veh/h)	48	64	133	36	91	34	74	414	30	21	422	43
Future Volume (veh/h)	48	64	133	36	91	34	74	414	30	21	422	43
Initial Q (Qb), veh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ped-Bike Adj(A_pbT)	1.00		0.91	1.00		0.92	1.00		0.96	1.00		0.96
Parking Bus, Adj	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Work Zone On Approach		No			No			No			No	
Adj Sat Flow, veh/h/ln	1870	1870	1870	1870	1870	1870	1870	1870	1870	1870	1870	1870
Adj Flow Rate, veh/h	56	75	156	40	102	38	85	476	34	28	555	57
Peak Hour Factor	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.89	0.89	0.89	0.87	0.87	0.87	0.76	0.76	0.76
Percent Heavy Veh, %	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Cap, veh/h	100	134	185	54	138	52	109	916	65	48	932	760
Arrive On Green	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.06	0.53	0.53	0.03	0.50	0.50
Sat Flow, veh/h	783	1048	1448	388	990	369	1781	1720	123	1781	1870	1526
Grp Volume(v), veh/h	131	0	156	180	0	0	85	0	510	28	555	57
Grp Sat Flow(s),veh/h/ln	1831	0	1448	1746	0	0	1781	0	1843	1781	1870	1526
Q Serve(g_s), s	7.0	0.0	10.9	10.3	0.0	0.0	4.9	0.0	18.6	1.6	22.0	2.0
Cycle Q Clear(g_c), s	7.0	0.0	10.9	10.3	0.0	0.0	4.9	0.0	18.6	1.6	22.0	2.0
Prop In Lane	0.43		1.00	0.22		0.21	1.00		0.07	1.00		1.00
Lane Grp Cap(c), veh/h	233	0	185	244	0	0	109	0	982	48	932	760
V/C Ratio(X)	0.56	0.00	0.85	0.74	0.00	0.00	0.78	0.00	0.52	0.59	0.60	0.07
Avail Cap(c_a), veh/h	273	0	216	421	0	0	197	0	982	106	932	760
HCM Platoon Ratio	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Upstream Filter(I)	1.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Uniform Delay (d), s/veh	42.6	0.0	44.3	42.8	0.0	0.0	48.1	0.0	15.7	50.0	18.6	13.6
Incr Delay (d2), s/veh	2.1	0.0	22.6	4.3	0.0	0.0	11.4	0.0	2.0	11.1	2.8	0.2
Initial Q Delay(d3),s/veh	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
%ile BackOfQ(50%),veh/ln	3.2	0.0	4.9	4.6	0.0	0.0	2.4	0.0	7.5	0.8	9.3	0.7
Unsig. Movement Delay, s/veh												
LnGrp Delay(d),s/veh	44.7	0.0	66.9	47.1	0.0	0.0	59.5	0.0	17.6	61.0	21.4	13.8
LnGrp LOS	D	A	E	D	A	A	E	A	B	E	C	B
Approach Vol, veh/h		287			180			595			640	
Approach Delay, s/veh		56.8			47.1			23.6			22.4	
Approach LOS		E			D			C			C	

Timer - Assigned Phs	1	2		4	5	6		8				
Phs Duration (G+Y+Rc), s	7.3	59.8		17.7	10.8	56.2		19.0				
Change Period (Y+Rc), s	4.5	4.5		4.5	4.5	4.5		4.5				
Max Green Setting (Gmax), s	6.2	55.3		15.5	11.5	50.0		25.0				
Max Q Clear Time (g_c+I1), s	3.6	20.6		12.9	6.9	24.0		12.3				
Green Ext Time (p_c), s	0.0	3.2		0.3	0.1	3.6		0.7				

Intersection Summary			
HCM 6th Ctrl Delay		31.3	
HCM 6th LOS		C	

ATTACHMENT C

Movement	EBL	EBT	EBR	WBL	WBT	WBR	NBL	NBT	NBR	SBL	SBT	SBR
Lane Configurations												
Traffic Volume (veh/h)	78	85	81	36	104	39	96	306	48	19	288	60
Future Volume (veh/h)	78	85	81	36	104	39	96	306	48	19	288	60
Initial Q (Qb), veh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ped-Bike Adj(A_pbT)	1.00		0.92	1.00		0.92	1.00		0.96	1.00		0.96
Parking Bus, Adj	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Work Zone On Approach		No			No			No			No	
Adj Sat Flow, veh/h/ln	1870	1870	1870	1870	1870	1870	1870	1870	1870	1870	1870	1870
Adj Flow Rate, veh/h	92	100	95	40	117	44	110	352	55	25	379	79
Peak Hour Factor	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.89	0.89	0.89	0.87	0.87	0.87	0.76	0.76	0.76
Percent Heavy Veh, %	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Cap, veh/h	115	125	191	53	156	59	140	789	123	45	841	685
Arrive On Green	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.08	0.50	0.50	0.03	0.45	0.45
Sat Flow, veh/h	875	951	1452	348	1017	383	1781	1570	245	1781	1870	1523
Grp Volume(v), veh/h	192	0	95	201	0	0	110	0	407	25	379	79
Grp Sat Flow(s),veh/h/ln	1827	0	1452	1747	0	0	1781	0	1815	1781	1870	1523
Q Serve(g_s), s	9.8	0.0	5.9	10.6	0.0	0.0	5.9	0.0	13.9	1.3	13.5	2.9
Cycle Q Clear(g_c), s	9.8	0.0	5.9	10.6	0.0	0.0	5.9	0.0	13.9	1.3	13.5	2.9
Prop In Lane	0.48		1.00	0.20		0.22	1.00		0.14	1.00		1.00
Lane Grp Cap(c), veh/h	241	0	191	268	0	0	140	0	913	45	841	685
V/C Ratio(X)	0.80	0.00	0.50	0.75	0.00	0.00	0.79	0.00	0.45	0.55	0.45	0.12
Avail Cap(c_a), veh/h	407	0	324	462	0	0	286	0	913	120	841	685
HCM Platoon Ratio	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Upstream Filter(I)	1.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Uniform Delay (d), s/veh	40.6	0.0	38.9	39.0	0.0	0.0	43.7	0.0	15.4	46.5	18.3	15.4
Incr Delay (d2), s/veh	6.0	0.0	2.0	4.2	0.0	0.0	9.4	0.0	1.6	10.2	1.7	0.3
Initial Q Delay(d3),s/veh	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
%ile BackOfQ(50%),veh/ln	4.6	0.0	2.1	4.6	0.0	0.0	2.8	0.0	5.5	0.7	5.7	1.0
Unsig. Movement Delay, s/veh												
LnGrp Delay(d),s/veh	46.6	0.0	40.9	43.2	0.0	0.0	53.1	0.0	16.9	56.7	20.1	15.7
LnGrp LOS	D	A	D	D	A	A	D	A	B	E	C	B
Approach Vol, veh/h		287			201			517			483	
Approach Delay, s/veh		44.7			43.2			24.6			21.3	
Approach LOS		D			D			C			C	

Timer - Assigned Phs	1	2		4	5	6		8				
Phs Duration (G+Y+Rc), s	6.9	53.0		17.2	12.1	47.9		19.3				
Change Period (Y+Rc), s	4.5	4.5		4.5	4.5	4.5		4.5				
Max Green Setting (Gmax), s	6.5	48.5		21.5	15.5	39.5		25.5				
Max Q Clear Time (g_c+I1), s	3.3	15.9		11.8	7.9	15.5		12.6				
Green Ext Time (p_c), s	0.0	2.4		0.9	0.1	2.3		0.8				

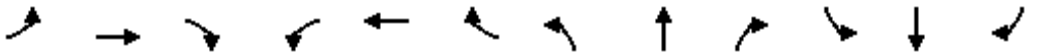
Intersection Summary												
HCM 6th Ctrl Delay			29.9									
HCM 6th LOS			C									

Movement	EBL	EBT	EBR	WBL	WBT	WBR	NBL	NBT	NBR	SBL	SBT	SBR
Lane Configurations												
Traffic Volume (veh/h)	50	67	140	38	96	36	78	435	32	22	443	45
Future Volume (veh/h)	50	67	140	38	96	36	78	435	32	22	443	45
Initial Q (Qb), veh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ped-Bike Adj(A_pbT)	1.00		0.92	1.00		0.92	1.00		0.96	1.00		0.96
Parking Bus, Adj	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Work Zone On Approach		No			No			No			No	
Adj Sat Flow, veh/h/ln	1870	1870	1870	1870	1870	1870	1870	1870	1870	1870	1870	1870
Adj Flow Rate, veh/h	59	79	165	43	108	40	90	500	37	29	583	59
Peak Hour Factor	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.89	0.89	0.89	0.87	0.87	0.87	0.76	0.76	0.76
Percent Heavy Veh, %	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Cap, veh/h	104	139	192	57	143	53	115	900	67	48	912	744
Arrive On Green	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.06	0.52	0.52	0.03	0.49	0.49
Sat Flow, veh/h	783	1048	1452	394	988	366	1781	1715	127	1781	1870	1526
Grp Volume(v), veh/h	138	0	165	191	0	0	90	0	537	29	583	59
Grp Sat Flow(s),veh/h/ln	1831	0	1452	1748	0	0	1781	0	1842	1781	1870	1526
Q Serve(g_s), s	7.5	0.0	11.7	11.1	0.0	0.0	5.2	0.0	20.6	1.7	24.5	2.2
Cycle Q Clear(g_c), s	7.5	0.0	11.7	11.1	0.0	0.0	5.2	0.0	20.6	1.7	24.5	2.2
Prop In Lane	0.43		1.00	0.23		0.21	1.00		0.07	1.00		1.00
Lane Grp Cap(c), veh/h	242	0	192	253	0	0	115	0	967	48	912	744
V/C Ratio(X)	0.57	0.00	0.86	0.75	0.00	0.00	0.79	0.00	0.56	0.60	0.64	0.08
Avail Cap(c_a), veh/h	269	0	214	415	0	0	194	0	967	105	912	744
HCM Platoon Ratio	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Upstream Filter(I)	1.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Uniform Delay (d), s/veh	42.9	0.0	44.7	43.3	0.0	0.0	48.6	0.0	16.8	50.7	20.1	14.4
Incr Delay (d2), s/veh	2.3	0.0	25.9	4.5	0.0	0.0	11.1	0.0	2.3	11.3	3.4	0.2
Initial Q Delay(d3),s/veh	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
%ile BackOfQ(50%),veh/ln	3.4	0.0	5.4	4.9	0.0	0.0	2.6	0.0	8.5	0.9	10.5	0.7
Unsig. Movement Delay, s/veh												
LnGrp Delay(d),s/veh	45.2	0.0	70.7	47.8	0.0	0.0	59.7	0.0	19.1	62.0	23.5	14.6
LnGrp LOS	D	A	E	D	A	A	E	A	B	E	C	B
Approach Vol, veh/h		303			191			627			671	
Approach Delay, s/veh		59.1			47.8			24.9			24.4	
Approach LOS		E			D			C			C	

Timer - Assigned Phs	1	2		4	5	6		8				
Phs Duration (G+Y+Rc), s	7.4	59.8		18.5	11.3	55.9		19.8				
Change Period (Y+Rc), s	4.5	4.5		4.5	4.5	4.5		4.5				
Max Green Setting (Gmax), s	6.2	55.3		15.5	11.5	50.0		25.0				
Max Q Clear Time (g_c+I1), s	3.7	22.6		13.7	7.2	26.5		13.1				
Green Ext Time (p_c), s	0.0	3.4		0.2	0.1	3.7		0.7				

Intersection Summary												
HCM 6th Ctrl Delay			32.9									
HCM 6th LOS			C									

ATTACHMENT D



Movement	EBL	EBT	EBR	WBL	WBT	WBR	NBL	NBT	NBR	SBL	SBT	SBR
Lane Configurations												
Traffic Volume (veh/h)	78	101	81	40	117	56	96	306	53	40	288	60
Future Volume (veh/h)	78	101	81	40	117	56	96	306	53	40	288	60
Initial Q (Qb), veh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ped-Bike Adj(A_pbT)	1.00		0.92	1.00		0.93	1.00		0.96	1.00		0.96
Parking Bus, Adj	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Work Zone On Approach		No			No			No			No	
Adj Sat Flow, veh/h/ln	1870	1870	1870	1870	1870	1870	1870	1870	1870	1870	1870	1870
Adj Flow Rate, veh/h	92	119	95	45	131	63	110	352	61	53	379	79
Peak Hour Factor	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.89	0.89	0.89	0.87	0.87	0.87	0.76	0.76	0.76
Percent Heavy Veh, %	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Cap, veh/h	112	144	204	56	163	78	139	732	127	68	813	662
Arrive On Green	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.08	0.47	0.47	0.04	0.43	0.43
Sat Flow, veh/h	798	1032	1457	326	949	456	1781	1542	267	1781	1870	1522
Grp Volume(v), veh/h	211	0	95	239	0	0	110	0	413	53	379	79
Grp Sat Flow(s),veh/h/ln	1830	0	1457	1732	0	0	1781	0	1810	1781	1870	1522
Q Serve(g_s), s	11.5	0.0	6.1	13.6	0.0	0.0	6.2	0.0	15.9	3.0	14.7	3.2
Cycle Q Clear(g_c), s	11.5	0.0	6.1	13.6	0.0	0.0	6.2	0.0	15.9	3.0	14.7	3.2
Prop In Lane	0.44		1.00	0.19		0.26	1.00		0.15	1.00		1.00
Lane Grp Cap(c), veh/h	256	0	204	297	0	0	139	0	858	68	813	662
V/C Ratio(X)	0.82	0.00	0.47	0.80	0.00	0.00	0.79	0.00	0.48	0.78	0.47	0.12
Avail Cap(c_a), veh/h	385	0	306	432	0	0	270	0	858	113	813	662
HCM Platoon Ratio	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Upstream Filter(I)	1.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Uniform Delay (d), s/veh	42.8	0.0	40.5	40.7	0.0	0.0	46.3	0.0	18.3	48.7	20.5	17.2
Incr Delay (d2), s/veh	8.6	0.0	1.7	6.9	0.0	0.0	9.7	0.0	1.9	17.1	1.9	0.4
Initial Q Delay(d3),s/veh	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
%ile BackOfQ(50%),veh/ln	5.6	0.0	2.2	6.1	0.0	0.0	3.0	0.0	6.5	1.6	6.4	1.1
Unsig. Movement Delay, s/veh												
LnGrp Delay(d),s/veh	51.4	0.0	42.1	47.6	0.0	0.0	56.1	0.0	20.2	65.8	22.4	17.6
LnGrp LOS	D	A	D	D	A	A	E	A	C	E	C	B
Approach Vol, veh/h		306			239			523			511	
Approach Delay, s/veh		48.5			47.6			27.8			26.2	
Approach LOS		D			D			C			C	

Timer - Assigned Phs	1	2		4	5	6		8				
Phs Duration (G+Y+Rc), s	8.4	53.0		18.8	12.5	48.9		22.0				
Change Period (Y+Rc), s	4.5	4.5		4.5	4.5	4.5		4.5				
Max Green Setting (Gmax), s	6.5	48.5		21.5	15.5	39.5		25.5				
Max Q Clear Time (g_c+I1), s	5.0	17.9		13.5	8.2	16.7		15.6				
Green Ext Time (p_c), s	0.0	2.5		0.9	0.1	2.3		0.8				

Intersection Summary												
HCM 6th Ctrl Delay			34.3									
HCM 6th LOS			C									

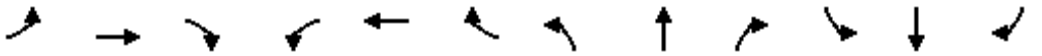
Intersection	
Int Delay, s/veh	1.3

Movement	EBT	EBR	WBL	WBT	NBL	NBR
Lane Configurations						
Traffic Vol, veh/h	152	42	11	179	34	8
Future Vol, veh/h	152	42	11	179	34	8
Conflicting Peds, #/hr	0	10	10	0	10	10
Sign Control	Free	Free	Free	Free	Stop	Stop
RT Channelized	-	None	-	None	-	None
Storage Length	-	-	-	-	0	-
Veh in Median Storage, #	0	-	-	0	0	-
Grade, %	0	-	-	0	0	-
Peak Hour Factor	92	92	89	89	92	92
Heavy Vehicles, %	2	2	2	2	2	2
Mvmt Flow	165	46	12	201	37	9

Major/Minor	Major1		Major2		Minor1	
Conflicting Flow All	0	0	221	0	433	208
Stage 1	-	-	-	-	198	-
Stage 2	-	-	-	-	235	-
Critical Hdwy	-	-	4.12	-	6.42	6.22
Critical Hdwy Stg 1	-	-	-	-	5.42	-
Critical Hdwy Stg 2	-	-	-	-	5.42	-
Follow-up Hdwy	-	-	2.218	-	3.518	3.318
Pot Cap-1 Maneuver	-	-	1348	-	580	832
Stage 1	-	-	-	-	835	-
Stage 2	-	-	-	-	804	-
Platoon blocked, %	-	-		-		
Mov Cap-1 Maneuver	-	-	1335	-	563	816
Mov Cap-2 Maneuver	-	-	-	-	563	-
Stage 1	-	-	-	-	827	-
Stage 2	-	-	-	-	789	-

Approach	EB	WB	NB
HCM Control Delay, s	0	0.4	11.5
HCM LOS			B

Minor Lane/Major Mvmt	NBLn1	EBT	EBR	WBL	WBT
Capacity (veh/h)	598	-	-	1335	-
HCM Lane V/C Ratio	0.076	-	-	0.009	-
HCM Control Delay (s)	11.5	-	-	7.7	0
HCM Lane LOS	B	-	-	A	A
HCM 95th %tile Q(veh)	0.2	-	-	0	-



Movement	EBL	EBT	EBR	WBL	WBT	WBR	NBL	NBT	NBR	SBL	SBT	SBR
Lane Configurations												
Traffic Volume (veh/h)	50	80	140	43	112	57	78	435	36	39	443	45
Future Volume (veh/h)	50	80	140	43	112	57	78	435	36	39	443	45
Initial Q (Qb), veh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ped-Bike Adj(A_pbT)	1.00		0.92	1.00		0.93	1.00		0.96	1.00		0.96
Parking Bus, Adj	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Work Zone On Approach		No			No			No			No	
Adj Sat Flow, veh/h/ln	1870	1870	1870	1870	1870	1870	1870	1870	1870	1870	1870	1870
Adj Flow Rate, veh/h	59	94	165	48	126	64	90	500	41	51	583	59
Peak Hour Factor	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.89	0.89	0.89	0.87	0.87	0.87	0.76	0.76	0.76
Percent Heavy Veh, %	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Cap, veh/h	97	155	200	59	156	79	115	818	67	66	849	691
Arrive On Green	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.06	0.48	0.48	0.04	0.45	0.45
Sat Flow, veh/h	708	1127	1456	349	915	465	1781	1699	139	1781	1870	1523
Grp Volume(v), veh/h	153	0	165	238	0	0	90	0	541	51	583	59
Grp Sat Flow(s),veh/h/ln	1835	0	1456	1728	0	0	1781	0	1839	1781	1870	1523
Q Serve(g_s), s	8.1	0.0	11.4	13.7	0.0	0.0	5.2	0.0	22.4	2.9	25.6	2.3
Cycle Q Clear(g_c), s	8.1	0.0	11.4	13.7	0.0	0.0	5.2	0.0	22.4	2.9	25.6	2.3
Prop In Lane	0.39		1.00	0.20		0.27	1.00		0.08	1.00		1.00
Lane Grp Cap(c), veh/h	252	0	200	295	0	0	115	0	885	66	849	691
V/C Ratio(X)	0.61	0.00	0.83	0.81	0.00	0.00	0.78	0.00	0.61	0.77	0.69	0.09
Avail Cap(c_a), veh/h	372	0	295	417	0	0	198	0	885	107	849	691
HCM Platoon Ratio	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Upstream Filter(I)	1.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Uniform Delay (d), s/veh	42.0	0.0	43.4	41.3	0.0	0.0	47.7	0.0	19.7	49.4	22.4	16.1
Incr Delay (d2), s/veh	2.4	0.0	11.5	7.7	0.0	0.0	11.0	0.0	3.1	16.9	4.5	0.2
Initial Q Delay(d3),s/veh	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
%ile BackOfQ(50%),veh/ln	3.7	0.0	4.6	6.2	0.0	0.0	2.6	0.0	9.5	1.6	11.3	0.8
Unsig. Movement Delay, s/veh												
LnGrp Delay(d),s/veh	44.4	0.0	54.9	49.0	0.0	0.0	58.8	0.0	22.9	66.3	26.9	16.3
LnGrp LOS	D	A	D	D	A	A	E	A	C	E	C	B
Approach Vol, veh/h		318			238			631			693	
Approach Delay, s/veh		49.8			49.0			28.0			28.9	
Approach LOS		D			D			C			C	

Timer - Assigned Phs	1	2		4	5	6		8				
Phs Duration (G+Y+Rc), s	8.3	54.3		18.7	11.2	51.5		22.2				
Change Period (Y+Rc), s	4.5	4.5		4.5	4.5	4.5		4.5				
Max Green Setting (Gmax), s	6.2	49.8		21.0	11.5	44.5		25.0				
Max Q Clear Time (g_c+I1), s	4.9	24.4		13.4	7.2	27.6		15.7				
Green Ext Time (p_c), s	0.0	3.3		0.8	0.1	3.4		0.8				

Intersection Summary			
HCM 6th Ctrl Delay		34.7	
HCM 6th LOS		C	

Intersection	
Int Delay, s/veh	1.7

Movement	EBT	EBR	WBL	WBT	NBL	NBR
Lane Configurations						
Traffic Vol, veh/h	121	34	9	169	42	10
Future Vol, veh/h	121	34	9	169	42	10
Conflicting Peds, #/hr	0	10	10	0	10	10
Sign Control	Free	Free	Free	Free	Stop	Stop
RT Channelized	-	None	-	None	-	None
Storage Length	-	-	-	-	0	-
Veh in Median Storage, #	0	-	-	0	0	-
Grade, %	0	-	-	0	0	-
Peak Hour Factor	92	92	89	89	92	92
Heavy Vehicles, %	2	2	2	2	2	2
Mvmt Flow	132	37	10	190	46	11

Major/Minor	Major1		Major2		Minor1	
Conflicting Flow All	0	0	179	0	381	171
Stage 1	-	-	-	-	161	-
Stage 2	-	-	-	-	220	-
Critical Hdwy	-	-	4.12	-	6.42	6.22
Critical Hdwy Stg 1	-	-	-	-	5.42	-
Critical Hdwy Stg 2	-	-	-	-	5.42	-
Follow-up Hdwy	-	-	2.218	-	3.518	3.318
Pot Cap-1 Maneuver	-	-	1397	-	621	873
Stage 1	-	-	-	-	868	-
Stage 2	-	-	-	-	817	-
Platoon blocked, %	-	-		-		
Mov Cap-1 Maneuver	-	-	1384	-	604	856
Mov Cap-2 Maneuver	-	-	-	-	604	-
Stage 1	-	-	-	-	859	-
Stage 2	-	-	-	-	803	-

Approach	EB	WB	NB
HCM Control Delay, s	0	0.4	11.2
HCM LOS			B

Minor Lane/Major Mvmt	NBLn1	EBT	EBR	WBL	WBT
Capacity (veh/h)	640	-	-	1384	-
HCM Lane V/C Ratio	0.088	-	-	0.007	-
HCM Control Delay (s)	11.2	-	-	7.6	0
HCM Lane LOS	B	-	-	A	A
HCM 95th %tile Q(veh)	0.3	-	-	0	-

APPENDIX B-
BIOLOGICAL SITE ASSESSMENT
JULY 2024

PROJECT: GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT 22-03 AND CR&R WASTE TRANSFER FACILITY BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT REPORT EL CENTRO, CALIFORNIA

July, 2024

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Figure 1 Regional and Project Location Map

Figure 2 Biological Resources Map

Figure 3 Site Plans

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A general biological survey was conducted on February 15, 2024 within the proposed site; 3 additional burrowing owl protocol surveys were also performed. The approximately 8.95 acres of the project site is located within the City of El Centro, Imperial County, CA.

No federal or state botanical or zoological endangered, threatened species, or species of special concern were found within the project site areas or buffer survey zone during this survey. No wetlands or jurisdictional issues were observed.

Burrowing owls, a California Species of Special Concern, were not found on project site. Four protocol California Department of Fish and Wildlife 2012 Staff Report site visits were performed to comply with California Department of Fish and Wildlife focused survey requirements.

One Migratory Bird Treaty Act avian nest (killdeer) was found on site; ground nesting species.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 LOCATION

The site is approximately 1,125 linear feet east of the southeast corner of Dogwood Avenue and Ross Avenue with a legal description of lots 15 through 22 and lots 39 through 40, El Centro Homes Acres, City of El Centro, County of Imperial, State of California with Assessor's Parcel Numbers: 054-061-032;-033;-034;-035;-036;-037;-038;-039;and-042.Surrounding land uses and setting: The site consists of eight (8) undeveloped parcels that encompass 8.95 acres located in the southeast portion of the City of El Centro, near the vicinity of Ross Avenue and Montenegro Way. The site is currently vacant property and has historically been used for agricultural purposes.

1.2 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project consists of a general plan amendment (GPA 22-03) affecting 8.95 acres of vacant land located within the City of El Centro, California. CR and R, the property owner, is proposing to construct a solid waste transfer station at the project site. The 66,575 square foot transfer station building and onsite improvements consisting of parking areas, stormwater detention basins, CNG vehicle fuel dispensers, and vehicle scales will be constructed on a 7 acres portion of the project site. The remaining 1.95 acres that front Ross Avenue will remain vacant. Additional project elements include partial width roadway construction along the eastern project boundary connecting the site to Ross Avenue and extension of public water, sewer, storm drain infrastructure within the public right-of-way to existing facilities on Ross Avenue.

The project site is within a larger, approximate 72-acre area bounded by Ross Avenue to the north, existing agricultural fields to the east, Dealwood Road to the south, Dogwood Avenue to the west that was designated for General Commercial Land Uses as part of the El Centro 2040 General Plan Update approved by the City in June of 2021. GPA 22-03 would revert the designated land use in the Land Use Element to General Industrial Land Uses consistent with the existing MG-General Manufacturing Zone.

The project is located in the El Centro Home Acres subdivision, located in the southeastern portion of the City of El Centro. Currently, it is a mixture of heavy commercial and light industrial users where the common uses include contractor shops and storage yards and equipment rental and storage yards. Uses immediately surrounding the project site are as follows:

- North: Vacant land, Ross Avenue, and a telecommunications tower

- East: Agricultural land
- South: Vacant land
- West: Contractor storage yard

The proposed project will change the general plan designation from General Commercial to General Manufacturing of 8.95 acres of vacant land for the purposes of constructing a waste transfer station.

Construction is expected to take 3-4 months; utility hookup will be located in north portion of the site.

1.3 POSSIBLE APPLICABLE ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATIONS

1.3.1 STATE OF CALIFORNIA

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Title 14 CA Code of Regulations 15380 requires that endangered, rare or threatened species or subspecies of animals or plants be identified within the influence of the project. If any such species are found, appropriate measures should be identified to avoid, minimize or mitigate to the extent possible the effects of the project.

Native Plant Protection Act CDFG Code Section 1900-1913 prohibits the taking, possessing, or sale within the stare of any plant listed by CDFG as rare, threatened, or endangered. Landowners may be allowed to take these species if CDFG is notified at least 10 days prior to plant removal or if these plants are found within public right of ways.

CA Fish and Game Codes 3503, 3503.5. 3513 protect migratory birds, bird nests and eggs including raptors (birds of prey) and raptor nests from take unless authorized by CDFW.

CA Fish and Game Code Section **1600, as amended** regulates activities that substantially diverts or obstructs the natural flow of any river, stream or lake or uses materials from a streambed. This can include riparian habitat associated with watercourses.

State of CA Fully Protected Species identifies and provides additional protection to species that are rare or face possible extinction. These species may not be taken or possessed at any time except for scientific research or relocation for protection of livestock.

California Endangered Species Act (CESA) protects all native species of fishes, amphibians, reptiles, birds, mammals, invertebrates, and plants, and their habitats, threatened with extinction and those experiencing a significant decline which, if not halted, would lead to a threatened or endangered designation, will be protected or preserved.

Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, as amended is administered by the State Water Resource Control Board (SWRCB) to protect water quality and is an avenue to implement CA responsibilities under the federal Clean Water Act. This act regulates discharge of waste into a water resource.

1.3.1 FEDERAL

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA: 42 United States Code (U.S.C.) 4321 et seq) established national environmental policy and goals for the protection, maintenance and enhancement of the environment. A process is available for implementation goals within federal agencies. NEPA requires federal agencies to consider the environment in processing proposed actions.

Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531-1544) protects federal listed threatened and endangered species from unlawful take (harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, kill ,wound, collect, capture, trap or attempt to do so) or significantly modify habitat. If a proposed project would jeopardize a threatened or endangered species, then a Section 7 consultation with a federal agency could be required.

Migratory Bird Treaty Act (50 Code Federal Regulations (CFR) 10.13)is a federal statute with several foreign countries to protect species that migrate between countries. Over 850 species are listed and may not be disrupted during nesting activities. It is illegal to collect any part (nest, feather, eggs, etc.) of a listed species, disturb species while nesting or offer for trade or barter any listed species or parts thereof.

Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668-668c) protects bald and golden eagles from take (harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, kill ,wound, collect, capture, trap or attempt to do so) or interference with breeding, feeding or sheltering activities.

Clean Water Act, 1972 (CWA 33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.) regulates discharges into waters of the U.S. EPA is given the responsibility to implement programs to prevent pollution.

2.0 BIOLOGICAL SURVEY METHODOLOGIES

The purpose of the surveys was to determine the inventory of biological resources at the time of the survey; the possibility of the existence of endangered, threatened, sensitive or species of concern within project area: map habitats, and ascertain the probability of the presence of sensitive species on site.

2.1 FIELD SURVEYS

2.1.1 GENERAL BIOLOGICAL SURVEY

The survey was intended to assess presence or the potential for species to occur based on habitat suitability.

California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB), California Native Plant Society database (CNPS), United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)/Carlsbad office Sensitive Species list (ICaP), field guides, personal contacts and other methods were utilized to ascertain potential for sensitive species on the site.

Pedestrian biological survey of the approximately 8.95 -acre project area and buffer zones, where possible, to document vegetation and animals was conducted by biologists Glenna Barrett, Adolpho Ng and Jeremy Scheffler, as indicated in Table 1: Field Survey Schedule. The surveys were conducted to develop an inventory of species (plant and animal) present at the time of the surveys, map vegetative communities, if present and ascertain the potential for occurrence of sensitive, endangered or threatened species within the project area and vicinity.

TABLE 1: FIELD SURVEY SCHEDULE

Date/Conditions	Surveyors	Survey Time
02/15/24 46-49ºF 0-3 mph, 0-15% cloud cover	Glenna Barrett/Jeremy Scheffler	0730-0830
05/07/24 66-71ºF 0-3 mph, 0% cloud cover	Glenna Barrett/Adolph Ng	0735-0835
05/29/24 78-82ºF 8-10 mph, 0-15% cloud cover	Glenna Barrett/Adolph Ng	0730-0830
06/19/24 78-81ºF 4-8 mph, 0% cloud cover	Glenna Barrett/Adolph Ng	0705-0830
Total all surveyors		8.0 hrs.

Garmin GPS, binoculars, thermometer, anemometer and digital cameras were used.

2.1.2 JURISDICTIONAL DELINEATION

FEMA Map 06025C1725C rates the area as Zone X: (No screen on Map): Area of Minimal Flood Hazard Zone X.

There are no blue line waterways on the jurisdictional map (Quadrangle Map:El Centro).

Fish and Game Code section 1602 requires an entity to notify CDFW prior to commencing any activity that may do one or more of the following: substantially divert or obstruct the natural flow of any river, stream, or lake; substantially change or use any material from the bed, channel or bank of any river, stream, or lake; or deposit debris, waste or other materials that could pass into any river, stream or lake. This project will not do any of the following: substantially divert or obstruct the natural flow of any river, stream, or lake; substantially change or use any material from the bed, channel or bank of any river, stream, or lake; or deposit debris, waste or other materials that could pass into any river, stream or lake

There are drainage ditches and canals that would not meet the criteria for wetlands by either USACE or CDFW; the habitat should not be considered jurisdictional by either agency. This project will not adversely affect either water conveyance systems as water and sewage

utilities will be provided by the City of El Centro. Agricultural exemptions exist for activities associated with ongoing agricultural operations. The drainage ditches and canal adjacent to the project are operated by the IID. The system will remain in an IID easement following completion of the proposed project. These drainage ditches and canal connect upgradient and downgradient to offsite properties with agricultural activities that would continue to operate following implementation of the proposed project. The project will not terminate their operation or function for agricultural purposes.

2.2 LITERATURE REVIEW

Potential occurrence for endangered, threatened, sensitive, species of concern and noxious weeds was determined by perusal of appropriate data bases which included:

- CA Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB)
- CA Native Plant Society (CNPS) Rare Plant Program
- USFWS Bird Species of Conservation Concern (ICaP)
- UFWS Critical Habitat for Threatened & Endangered Species Website
- CA Food and Agriculture Department Noxious Weed Information Project

3.0 EXISTING CONDITIONS

3.1 TOPOGRAPHY AND SOILS

This site is located in Imperial County and is found in the southern part of the county. Landforms are alluvial fans derived from igneous rock and are typically sand to fine sand. The soil type is 100% Imperial Silty Clay, wet (114). 0-2% slope and moderately well drained; does not flood or pond. Depth to water table is typically greater than 80 inches. This soil is considered farmland of statewide importance if irrigated and drained.

The elevation on this site is approximately -43 feet (below mean sea level).

3.2 VEGETATION

3.2.1 VEGETATION COMMUNITY

Vegetation has been divided into communities that are groups of plants that usually coexist within the same area. This area is considered the Colorado Desert. No native vegetation is present as this area historically has been converted into agricultural property. It is now routinely disked for fire control as directed by the City of El Centro Fire Department.

Table 2: Vegetative Communities

Parcels	Acreage	Description	Vegetative Communities
054-061-032;-033;-034;-035;-036;-037;-038;-039;and-042	8.95	Vacant lot	Rudera (2.24 acres)/bare ground (6.71 acres)

3.2.2 AGRICULTURE

Site is currently a vacant lot; historically agricultural.

3.2.3 VEGETATION

The site is not under cultivation and is a vacant lot with ruderal vegetation. Previous usage included agricultural crops. Protocols for Surveying and Evaluating Impacts to Special Status Native Plant Populations and Sensitive Natural Communities (California Department of Fish and Wildlife) states that it is appropriate to conduct a botanical field survey when:

Natural (or naturalized) vegetation occurs in an area that may be directly or indirectly affected by a project (project area), and it is unknown whether or not special status plants or sensitive natural communities occur in the project area.

No natural or naturalized vegetation occurs in this previously agricultural cultivated property which is now a vacant lot. This property has been dedicated to agricultural production for decades prior to becoming a vacant lot thus eliminating any native species through cultivation practices which include disking, planing, rototilling, floating, harvesting and pesticide applications. It is now routinely disked for fire control as directed by the City of El Centro Fire Department.

3.3 WILDLIFE

3.3.1 INVERTEBRATES

The project site is a vacant lot. Typical pests in ruderal vegetation area such as ants, grasshoppers, aphids, beetles would be expected; identified in Appendix C.

3.3.2 AMPHIBIANS

Reliable moisture is a requirement for a portion of amphibian life cycle. The project site is a vacant lot. No amphibians were observed on site. Due to the lack of reliable, available water, none would be expected.

3.3.3 REPTILES

The project site is a vacant lot. Reptiles utilize habitat dependent upon their dietary requirements. Some species diet includes vegetation while others consume insects. All require vegetation for shelter. No lizards were found and would not be expected.

3.3.4 BIRDS

Bird species diversity varies with seasons, variety and quality of vegetative communities.

Birds were observed in the vicinity. List of species observed is found in Appendix C.

3.3.5 MAMMALS

Signs of mammals were observed on sites but were assumed to be canines and rabbits. Bats are not expected; roosting sites are not available. The mammals that were found are identified in Appendix C.

3.3.6 FISH

The project site is a vacant lot. There are no permanent water sources observed on site; no fish would be expected.

3.4 SENSITIVE BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

3.4.1 SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES

TABLE 3. SPECIAL-STATUS WILDLIFE SPECIES WITH POTENTIAL TO OCCUR ON PROJECT SITE

Special-Status Species	Legal Status	Found	Potential for Occurrence
Burrowing owl (BUOW) *Athene cunicularia*	Federal: None State: CSC	No BUOW but signs observed	There is an agricultural area to the east that could be BUOW foraging habitat. No burrows were found onsite. No foraging habitat; possible burrowing habitat
Flat-tailed horned lizard (FTHL) *Phrynosoma mcallii*	Federal: None State: Protected,	No	Highly disturbed vacant lot. No loose soils occur on site. No FTHL, scat or tracks were identified in the general

	Species of Special Concern		biological survey. This area is not within a FTHL Management Area. Not expected
Le Conte's thrasher *Toxostoma lecontei*	CDFW: Species of Concern	No	Highly disturbed vacant lot acreage with no available nesting opportunities; not expected
Loggerhead shrike *Lanius ludovicianus*	CDFW: Species of Concern	No	Very low on site – Highly disturbed acreage with no available nesting opportunities. Lizards which are prey were not seen
Northern Harrier *Circus cyaneus*	CDFW: SC Species of Concern	No	Low populations of prey observed not expected to be found hunting in area or nesting
Yuma clapper rail (Ridgeway Rail) *Rallus longirostris yumanensis*	Fed:Endangered Ca: Threatened	No	None observed or heard; Cattails not found in dense stands, no water habitat. Not expected.

3.4.2 RIPARIAN HABITAT OR SENSITIVE NATURAL COMMUNITIES

Based upon the level of disturbance or habitat conversion within adjacent areas, vegetative communities are considered rare or sensitive. Rare vegetation types that are converted and degraded can disrupt the integrity of the ecological functions of natural environments. This can lead to the loss of sensitive plant species and a resulting decrease in biodiversity. Wetland or riparian habitat communities are considered sensitive by CDFW.

3.4.3 Jurisdictional Waters

Wetlands and other “waters of the United States” that are subject to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and/or Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act are under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers (ACOE).

3.4.4 Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Corridors

The ability for wildlife to freely move about an area and not become isolated is considered connectivity and is important to allow dispersal of a species to maintain exchange genetic characteristics; forage (food and water) and escape from predation.

3.4.5 California Desert Conservation Area (CDCA)

This project is not within or immediately adjacent to an Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) of the CDCA.

4.0 PROPOSED PROJECT IMPACT

The proposed impacts are summarized in this section.

4.1 IMPACT TO SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES

If this project has a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modification or elimination, on any plant or animal species that is considered endangered, threatened, candidate for listing or special status species either through federal or state regulations, this project would be considered to have a significant impact.

4.1.1 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

No special status and priority plants or animals were observed. The approximately 9 acres are highly disturbed due to previous agricultural cultivation and no adverse impact is expected directly on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service when avoidance, minimization and mitigation recommendations are followed.

Biological resources found are listed in Table 4 and Figure 3 Biological Resources Map.

TABLE 4 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Location	Description	Recommendations
1. BUOW forage habitat could be found offsite to east in agricultural field; possible burrow habitat could be found in Central Drain 3H offsite	Agricultural field; not presently planted	No BUOW or active burrows were found on site but preconstruction surveys between 14-30 days prior to construction round breaking should be performed as well as a 24 hour prior to construction
2. Various	Mourning dove, (Appendix C)	Preconstruction surveys

4.1.2 SENSITIVE WILDLIFE

4.1.2.1 MBTA NESTING

Construction Impact

There are no small trees on site that encourage bird nesting. Ground nesting species, such as lesser nighthawk, black-necked stilt or killdeer could use the area.

If construction is planned to begin during nesting season (generally February 1 through August 31 dependent upon weather factors), the project area and a 500-foot buffer area should be surveyed to determine presence/absence of nesting. If nests are found, an appropriate buffer zone for the species should be maintained during construction until juveniles have fledged.

There will be no impacts to nesting raptors on site due to the absence of suitable large trees for nesting.

Operations and Maintenance Indirect Impact

ELECTROCUTION

The 66,575 square foot transfer station building and onsite improvements consisting of parking areas, stormwater detention basins, CNG vehicle fuel dispensers, and vehicle scales will be constructed on a 7 acres portion of the project site. the remaining 1.95 acres that front Ross Road will remain vacant. Additional project elements include partial width roadway construction along the eastern project boundary connecting the site to Ross Road and extension of public water, sewer, storm drain infrastructure within the public right-of-way to existing facilities on Ross Road. Best management practices will be practiced to avoid any exposure to electrocution.

LIGHTING

During Project construction and operation, all nonessential lighting throughout the Project area will be restricted and project will avoid or limit the use of artificial light, within the boundaries of safe operations, during the hours of dawn and dusk when many wildlife species are most active. The project shall ensure, within the boundaries of safe operation, that lighting for Project activities is shielded, cast downward, and does not spill over onto other properties or upward into the night sky. The project shall ensure use of LED lighting, within the boundaries of safe operations with a correlated color temperature of 3,000 Kelvins or less, proper disposal of hazardous waste, and recycling of lighting that contains toxic compounds with a qualified recycler.

4.2 IMPACT TO RIPARIAN HABITAT OR SENSITIVE NATURAL COMMUNITIES

The distribution of riparian plant species is largely driven by hydrological and soil variables and riparian plant communities frequently occur in relatively distinct zones along streamside elevational and soil textural gradients.

There is no riparian vegetation found on site, therefore this project should not have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat.

4.3 IMPACT TO JURISDICTIONAL WATERS

There are no wetlands or waters of the U.S. found on site; therefore this project will have no impact on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means.

4.4 IMPACT TO WILDLIFE MOVEMENT AND NURSERY SITES

This project site is in an agricultural community and subjected to continuous disturbance such as harvesting, cultivating, renovating, weeding, seeding, irrigation among other activities. Site is located to the east of SR 111, south of East Ross Road and as a result of these existing barriers, the project will not interfere substantially with the currently restricted movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites.

4.5 IMPACT TO AIRPORTS

This project has no components that will attract avian populations that would impact airports. It is approximately 4.15 miles from Imperial Airport, CA, which is the closest airport. No impact upon airports is expected.

4.6 CEQA IMPACTS

Possible CEQA significant impacts that could include the following within the parameters of this project:

TABLE 5: EXPECTED IMPACTS

Area	Endangered/threatened/ Species of Concern Habitat	Riparian Habitat	Wetlands	Wildlife Corridors	Local Ordinances	Waters of the U.S.
8.95 acres	None with avoidance/minimization/mitigation measures listed	No	No	No	No	No

5.0 RECOMMENDED AVOIDANCE, MINIMIZATION AND MITIGATION MEASURES

5.1 SENSITIVE WILDLIFE

5.1.1 BURROWING OWL

Suitable burrowing owl/burrow habitat has not been confirmed on the site after focused burrowing owl surveys conducted in accordance with the Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation (2012 or most recent version). No burrowing owls are detected during the focused surveys, therefore a Burrowing Owl Plan is not required.

Preconstruction burrowing owl surveys shall be conducted between 14 and 30 days prior to the start of Project-related activities and within 24 hours prior to ground disturbance, in accordance with the Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation (2012 or most recent version). Preconstruction surveys should be performed by a qualified biologist following the recommendations and guidelines provided in the Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation. If the preconstruction surveys confirm occupied burrowing owl habitat, Project activities shall be immediately halted. The qualified biologist shall coordinate with CDFW and prepare a Burrowing Owl Plan that shall be submitted to CDFW for review and approval prior to commencing Project activities. As required per the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) protocol guidelines, pre-construction take-avoidance surveys shall be conducted.

A preconstruction survey should be performed 14-30 days and 24 hours prior to initiating ground disturbance. Report should be submitted to the appropriate agency. A Burrowing Owl Plan should be prepared with consultation with CDFW, if BUOW are found.

As an avoidance activity, it is recommended that construction foremen and workers and onsite employees be given bilingual worker training by a qualified biologist regarding burrowing owl that would include the following:

Permittee shall conduct an education program for all persons employed or otherwise working on the Project prior to performing any work on-site. The education program shall consist of a presentation from a Designated Biologist or safety manager with access to the Designated Biologist that includes a brief discussion of the biology of the habitats and species identified in this letter expected and present at this site. The Designated Biologist or safety manager with access to the Designated Biologist shall also include as part of the education program a brief discussion information about the distribution and habitat needs of any protected species that may be present, legal protections for those species, penalties for violations, and Project-specific protective measures included in this Agreement. Interpretation shall be provided for non-English- speaking workers, and the same instruction shall be provided for any new workers prior to their performing work on-site. The Permittee shall prepare and distribute wallet-sized cards or a fact sheet that contains this information for workers to carry on-site. Upon completion of the education program, employees shall sign a form stating they attended the education program and understand all protection measures. These forms shall be filed at the worksite offices and be available to CDFW upon request. The education program shall be repeated annually for part of the Project extending more than one (1) year. Copies of the education program materials shall be maintained at the Project site for workers to reference as needed.

A biologist should be consulted immediately if a dead or injured bird is found on site.

Minimization Measures

BUOW where not found on site and or in the Imperial Irrigation District Right of Way (IIDROW) in water conveyance system (canals/drains). Those systems belong to the IID and BUOWs found on IIDROW are the responsibility of the IID (Quantified Settlement Agreement (QSA) requirement. Even though BUOW or suitable burrowing owl foraging habitat has not been

confirmed on the site; a qualified biologist should complete an initial take avoidance survey between 14-30 day; and within 24 hours prior to ground disturbance activities using the recommended methods described in the Detection Surveys found in SDFW Staff Report (2012) section above. Implementation of avoidance and minimization measures would be triggered by positive owl presence on the site where project activities will occur. The development of avoidance and minimization approaches would be informed by monitoring the burrowing owls prior to vegetation removal or ground-disturbing activities. If burrowing owls are detected during the focused take avoidance preconstruction surveys, the qualified biologist and Project proponent shall prepare a Burrowing Owl Plan that shall be submitted to CDFW for review and approval prior to commencing Project activities. The Burrowing Owl Plan shall describe proposed avoidance, monitoring, passive relocation, minimization, and/or mitigation actions. The Burrowing Owl Plan shall include the number and location of occupied burrow sites, acres of burrowing owl habitat that will be impacted, details of site monitoring, and details on proposed buffers and other avoidance measures if avoidance is proposed. If impacts to occupied burrowing owl habitat or burrow cannot be avoided, the Burrowing Owl Plan shall also describe minimization and compensatory mitigation actions that will be implemented. Proposed implementation of burrow exclusion and closure should only be considered as a last resort, after all other options have been evaluated as exclusion is not in itself an avoidance, minimization, or mitigation method and has the possibility to result in take. The Burrowing Owl Plan shall identify compensatory mitigation for the temporary or permanent loss of occupied burrow(s) and habitat consistent with the "Mitigation Impacts" section of the 2012 Staff Report and shall implement CDFW-approved mitigation prior to initiation of Project activities. If impacts to occupied burrows cannot be avoided, information shall be provided regarding adjacent or nearby suitable habitat available to owls. If no suitable habitat is available nearby, details regarding the creation and funding of artificial burrows (numbers, location, and type of burrows) and management activities for relocated owls shall also be included in the Burrowing Owl Plan. The Project proponent shall implement the Burrowing Owl Plan following CDFW review and approval.

It is recommended to avoid direct or indirect impacts to BUOW, a preconstruction survey for this species should be conducted. If BUOW is present, mitigation will be required. Minimization measures could include preconstruction surveys within 14-30 days and 24 hours of start of ground breaking activities and bilingual worker training.

Mitigation Measures

1. If occupied burrows are found on site, and if necessary, the burrows shall be passively relocated by a qualified biologist outside of nesting season and an appropriate number of artificial burrows shall be installed. If possible, these burrows shall be installed as close as possible to the passively relocated burrows. A Burrowing Owl Plan should be prepared to address activities and conservation efforts and submitted to CDFW.

2. If not in the active construction areas, the occupied burrows can be sheltered in place with appropriate materials under the supervision of a qualified biologist and accordance with the approved Burrowing Owl Plan.

3. If occupied burrows are sheltered, a biological monitor shall monitor areas of active construction; schedule to be determined by qualified biologist. This biologist will ensure that the project complies with these mitigation measures and will have the authority to halt activities if they are not in compliance. The biologist will inspect the construction areas periodically for the presence of BUOWs.

4. If work is stopped for longer than 30 days, area will be resurveyed prior to restart of construction.

5.1.2 MIGRATORY BIRDS AND NON-MIGRATORY BIRD SPECIES

Regardless of the time of year, nesting bird surveys shall be performed by a qualified avian biologist no more than 3 days prior to vegetation removal or ground-disturbing activities. Pre-construction surveys shall focus on both direct and indirect evidence of nesting, including nest locations and nesting behavior. The qualified avian biologist will make every effort to avoid potential nest predation as a result of survey and monitoring efforts. If active nests are found during the pre-construction nesting bird surveys, a qualified biologist shall establish an appropriate nest buffer to be marked on the ground. Nest buffers are species specific and shall be at least 300 feet for passerines and 500 feet for raptors. A smaller or larger buffer may be determined by the qualified biologist familiar with the nesting phenology of the nesting species and based on nest and buffer monitoring results. Construction activities may not occur inside the established buffers, which shall remain on site until a qualified biologist determines the young have fledged or the nest is no longer active. Active nests and adequacy of the established buffer distance shall be monitored daily by the qualified biologist until the qualified biologist has determined the young have fledged or the Project has been completed. The qualified biologist has the authority to stop work if nesting pairs exhibit signs of disturbance after concurrence with CDFW

Presence of nesting birds should be monitored throughout the year. Ground nesting species could be present during the nesting season.

It is recommended that construction foremen and workers and onsite employees be given bilingual worker training by a qualified biologist regarding nesting birds that would include the following:

Permittee shall conduct an education program for all persons employed or otherwise working on the Project prior to performing any work on-site. The education program shall consist of a presentation from a Designated Biologist or safety manager with access to the Designated Biologist that includes a brief discussion of the biology of the habitats and species identified in this letter expected and present at this site. The Designated Biologist or safety manager with access to the Designated Biologist shall also include as part of the education program a brief discussion information about the distribution and habitat needs of any protected species that may be present, legal protections for those species, penalties for violations, and Project-specific protective measures included in this Agreement. Interpretation shall be provided for non-English- speaking workers, and the same instruction shall be provided for any new workers prior to their performing work on-site. The Permittee shall prepare and distribute wallet-sized cards or a fact sheet that contains this information for workers to carry on-site. Upon completion of the education program, employees shall sign a form stating they attended the education program and understand all protection measures. These forms shall be filed at the worksite offices and be available to CDFW upon request. The education program shall be repeated annually for part of the Project extending more than one (1) year. Copies of the education program materials shall be maintained at the Project site for workers to reference as needed.

5.1.2 INVASIVE PLANTS

Any saltcedar or russian thistle found on site should be removed in a manner that will not distribute plant seeds or plant material as overseen by project biologist prior to construction. Use of covered trailers to remove invasive species to an approved landfill is recommended.

Equipment brought onsite should be clean to prevent importing invasive species to site.

Permittee shall include a brief invasive species education program for all persons working on the Project prior to the performing any work on-site. The education program shall consist of a presentation from a Designated Biologist or safety manager with access to the Designated Biologist that includes a brief discussion of the invasive species currently present within the Project site as well as those that may pose a threat to or have the potential to invade the Project site. The brief discussion shall include a physical description of each species and information regarding their habitat preferences, local and statewide distribution, modes of dispersal, and impacts. The education program shall also include a brief discussion of Best Management Practices (BMPs) to be implemented at the Project site to avoid the introduction and spread of invasive species into and out of the Project site. Note: the WEAP presentation shall not exceed 15-20 minutes.

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APPENDIX A
SENSITIVE BOTANICAL AND ZOOLOGICAL SPECIES (CNDDB/CNPS) SPECIES

APPENDIX A
SENSITIVE BOTANICAL AND ZOOLOGICAL SPECIES (CNDDB/CNPS/USFWS LISTS)
El Centro Quadrangle (Nine Quad Search) February, 2024

BOTANICAL SPECIES	STATUS[1]	DESCRIPTION OF SPECIES	HABITAT	OBSERVATION/ SITE POTENTIAL
Chaparral sand-verbena *Abronia villosa var aurita*	State: S2.2 (not very threatened); CNPS list:1B.2 (rare, threatened in Ca; fairly endangered in Ca.)	Likes full sun, and sandy soil. Sand-verbena has gray foliage with pinkish purple flowers, and the flowers are fragrant. It does not tolerate weeds and needs bare ground. 80-1600m (263-5249ft	Chaparral, Coastal Shrub, and desert dunes/sandy areas.	No habitat; none observed
Sand Food *Pholisma sonorae*	State: 1B.2	its fleshy stem extending up to two meters-six feet below the surface and emerging above as a small rounded or ovate form	It is a parasitic plant which attaches to the roots of various desert shrubs such as wild buckwheats, ragweeds, plucheas, and Tiquilia plicata and T. palmeri to obtain nutrients.	No habitat; none observed
Mud Nama *Nama stenocarpum*	State: S2.2 (not very threatened)	Size: 0.26 - 1.3 ft tall	This tiny annual herb grows on the muddy embankments of ponds and lakes. It is also reported to utilize river embankments.	No habitat; none observed

BOTANICAL SPECIES	STATUS[1]	DESCRIPTION OF SPECIES	HABITAT	OBSERVATION/ SITE POTENTIAL
Gravel Milk-Vetch *Astragalus sabulonum*	State: S2.2 (not very threatened)	Annual Perennial Growth Habit: Forb/herb Native Status: L48 N	Found in sandy or gravelly areas; 100-650feet.; flowers between Feb-Jul	No habitat; none observed
California satintail *Imperata brevifolia*	CNDDB Ranks G2, S2.1; CNS: 2.1	This plant can be weedy or invasive. Grass or grass-like plant, including grasses (Poaceae), sedges (Cyperaceae), rushes (Juncaceae), arrow-grasses (Juncaginaceae), and quillworts (Isoetes).	It is native to the southwestern United States from California to Texas and northern Mexico, where it grows in arid regions where water is available.	No habitat; none observed
Hairy Stickleaf *Mentzelia hirsutissima*	CNDDB Ranks G3, S2S3; CNPS: 2.3	Annual to shrub; hairs needle-like, stinging, or rough	Creosote Bush Scrub	No habitat; none observed

BOTANICAL SPECIES	STATUS[1]	DESCRIPTION OF SPECIES	HABITAT	OBSERVATION/ SITE POTENTIAL
Brown turbans *Malperia tenuis*	CNDDB Ranks G4, S1.3; CNPS: 2.3	is recognized by its annual duration, linear leaves densely arranged along stems or concentrated near bases of stems, loosely arranged heads, and pappi of two kinds of scales.	Sonoran Desert Scrub is the general habitat for Brown Turbans. Near Ocotillo it grows on arid slopes with shallow soils, rocky surface rubble with few large boulders, and little competition from shrubs.	No habitat; none observed
Pink Fairy Duster *Calliandra eriophylla*	CNDDB Ranks G5, S2S3; CNPS: 2.3	Fairy Duster is a low, densely branched shrub 8 to 48 inches high. The leaves are formed by 2-to-4 pairs of 1/4-inch, oblong leaflets. It is a member of the Pea Family (Fabaceae) which includes acacias and mimosas.	Open hillsides, sandy desert washes and slopes below 5,000 feet.	No habitat; none observed

BOTANICAL SPECIES	STATUS[1]	DESCRIPTION OF SPECIES	HABITAT	OBSERVATION/ SITE POTENTIAL
Abrams's Spurge *Chamaesyce abramisiana*	CNPS list: 2	Annual herbaceous blooms Sept/Nov. Common spurge in area has large purple spot and is prostrate; Abram's is not as colorful.	Sonoran Desert Shrub	No habitat; no Abrams's spurge found.
Parish's desert-thorn *Lycium parishii*	CNPS list: 2B.3	Perennial shrub	Coastal shrub, Sonoran Desert scrub	No habitat; none observed
ZOOLOGICAL SPECIES	**STATUS[1]**	**DESCRIPTION OF SPECIES**	**HABITAT**	**OBSERVATION/ SITE POTENTIAL**
Birds				
Yuma Ridgeway rail *Rallus longirostris yumanensis*	Fed: Endangered Ca: Threatened	A chickenlike marsh bird with a long, slightly drooping bill and an often upturned tail. Light brownish with dark streaks above. Rust-colored breast; bold, vertical gray and white bars on the flanks; white undertail coverts	Lives in freshwater and brackish marshes. Prefers dense cattails, bulrushes, and other aquatic vegetation. Nests in riverine wetlands near upland, in shallow sites dominated by mature vegetation, often in the base of a shrub. Prefers denser cover in winter than in summer. Very shy.	None observed or heard; Cattails not found; no suitable habitat on site or in adjacent drain.

ZOOLOGICAL SPECIES	STATUS[1]	DESCRIPTION OF SPECIES	HABITAT	OBSERVATION/ SITE POTENTIAL
Burrowing Owl *Athene cunicularia*	CDFW: SC Species of Concern	Small raptors that nest in burrows that have been borrowed from other species in open grassland areas. Have adapted well in Imperial County using canals/drains/ditches to establish burrows and foraging for insects in agricultural fields	Open, dry annual or perennial grasslands; deserts & scrublands	None observed; no sign observed.
Mountain plover *Charadrius montanus*	CDFW: SC Species of Concern	The mountain plover is 8 to 9.5 inches (20 to 24 cm) long and weighs about 3.7 ounces (105 grams). Its wingspread is 17.5 to 19.5 inches (44.5 to 49.5 cm). Both sexes are of the same size. It has no band across the breast. The upperparts are sandy brown and the underparts and face are whitish. There are black feathers on the forecrown and a black stripe from each eye to the bill (the stripe is brown and may be indistinct in winter); otherwise the plumage is plain.	It breeds in the high plains of North America from extreme southeastern Alberta and southwestern Saskatchewan to northern New Mexico and the Texas panhandle, as well as an isolated site in the Davis Mountains of West Texas. About 85 percent of the population winters in the San Joaquin and Imperial Valleys in California. Its winter range also extends along the U.S.-Mexican border, more extensively on the Mexican side. The mountain plover needs about 70 acres of territory for breeding, and about 25 acres for survival in non-breeding times.	No habitat; none observed

ZOOLOGICAL SPECIES	STATUS[1]	DESCRIPTION OF SPECIES	HABITAT	OBSERVATION/ SITE POTENTIAL
Northern harrier *Circus hudsonius*	CDFW: SC Species of Concern	The northern harrier is 41–52 cm (16–20 in) long with a 97–122 cm (38–48 in) wingspan. It resembles other harriers in having distinct male and female plumages. The sexes also differ in weight, with males weighing 290 to 400 g (10 to 14 oz), with an average of 350 g (12 oz), and females weighing 390 to 750 g (14 to 26 oz), with an average of 530 g (19 oz). Among standard measurements, the wing chord is 32.8 to 40.6 cm (12.9 to 16.0 in), the tail is 19.3 to 25.8 cm (7.6 to 10.2 in) and the tarsus is 7.1 to 8.9 cm (2.8 to 3.5 in). It is relatively long winged and long tailed, having the longest wing and tail relative to its body size of any raptor occurring in North America.	This medium-sized raptor breeds on moorland, bogs, prairies, farmland coastal prairies, marshes, grasslands, swamps and other assorted open areas. A male will maintain a territory averaging 2.6 km2 (1.0 sq mi), though male territories have ranged from 1.7 to 150 km2 (0.66 to 57.92 sq mi).	None observed; not expected

ZOOLOGICAL SPECIES	STATUS[1]	DESCRIPTION OF SPECIES	HABITAT	OBSERVATION/ SITE POTENTIAL
Vermillion flycatcher *Pyrocephalus rubinus*	CDFW: SC Species of Concern	Length: 5 inches. The adult male has a Bright red cap, throat and underparts; with a Black eyeline, nape, back, wings, and tail. The Immature male similar to female but has variable amount of red on underparts. The female and immature has Brown upperparts with White underparts with faint streaks on breast with an undertail coverts tinged pink The adult male Vermilion Flycatcher is very distinctive. The female and immatures are more nondescript but the streaking on the breast and pink tinge to the undertail coverts distinguish them from other flycatchers.	Frequents streams and ponds in arid areas; agricultural areas	None observed; not expected.

ZOOLOGICAL SPECIES	STATUS[1]	DESCRIPTION OF SPECIES	HABITAT	OBSERVATION/ SITE POTENTIAL
Summer tanager *Piranga rubra*	CDFW: SC Species of Concern	Adults have stout pointed bills and measure 17 cm (6.7 in) in length and 29 g (1.0 oz) in weight. Adult males are rose red and similar in appearance to the hepatic tanager, although the latter has a dark bill; females are orangish on the underparts and olive on top, with olive-brown wings and tail. As with all other birds, all red and orange colorations are acquired through their diet.	Their breeding habitat is open wooded areas, especially with oaks, across the southern United States, extending as far north as Iowa. These birds migrate to Mexico, Central America and northern South America. This tanager is an extremely rare vagrant to western Europe.	No habitat; none observed or expected
Western grebe/ *Aechmophorusoccidentalis*	CDFW: SC Species of Concern	22-29" (56-74 cm). Slender, long-necked, long-billed, sharply black and white. Compare to Clark's Grebe, also to loons in winter plumage.	Lakes, sloughs; in winter, bays, ocean. Summers mainly on fresh water lakes with large areas of both open water and marsh vegetation; rarely on tidal marshes. Winters mainly on sheltered bays or estuaries on coast, also on large fresh water lakes, rarely on rivers.	No habitat; none observed or expected

ZOOLOGICAL SPECIES	STATUS[1]	DESCRIPTION OF SPECIES	HABITAT	OBSERVATION/ SITE POTENTIAL
Crissal Thrasher *Toxostoma crissale*	CDFW Species of Concern	A large thrasher found in the Southwestern United States to central Mexico. The bird grows to 32 cm (12.5 inches) and has a deeply curved bill. It can be found near water in dense underbrush, and in the low desert near canyon chaparral; seldom flies in the open.	Dense vegetation along streams/washes in mesquite/willows/arrowweed	L None observed; no habitat
Gila Woodpecker *Melanerpes uropygialis*	Fed: - CDFW Endangered	Bill black to grayish black with dark red to reddish hazel eyes. About 9.3 inches long with brownish green or bluish legs and feet. Black and white barring on back male has red cap on head. Buff-brown face, neck and breast with barred rump and central tail feathers.	Uncommon to resident in southern California along the Colorado River, and locally near Brawley. Occurs mostly in desert riparian and desert wash habitats. Cottonwoods and other desert riparian trees, shade trees, and date palms supply cover.	L No suitable habitat; no palm trees or other trees on site.

ZOOLOGICAL SPECIES	STATUS[1]	DESCRIPTION OF SPECIES	HABITAT	OBSERVATION/ SITE POTENTIAL

Loggerhead shrike *Lanius ludovicianus*	CDFW: Species of Special Concern	The loggerhead shrike is a medium-sized passerine. “Loggerhead" refers to the relatively large size of the head as compared to the rest of the body. It measures approximately 9 inches from bill to tail. The wing and tail length are about 3.82 and 3.87 inches long, respectively. It weighs on average 50 grams, with a range of 45-60 grams for a healthy adult shrike. The adult plumage of the loggerhead shrike is grey above with a white to pale grey breast and black tarsi and feet. The bird possesses a black mask that extends across the eyes to its bill.	The bird requires an open habitat with an area to forage, elevated perches, and nesting sites. They are often found in open pastures or grasslands and appear to prefer red-cedar and hawthorn trees for nesting. The hawthorn's thorns and the cedar's pin-like needles protect and conceal the shrike from predators.	No habitat; none observed or expected
ZOOLOGICAL SPECIES	**STATUS[1]**	**DESCRIPTION OF SPECIES**	**HABITAT**	**OBSERVATION/ SITE POTENTIAL**
California Black Rail	CDFW: Threatened	The smallest of all rails, the black rail is slate-colored, with a	Most commonly occurs in tidal emergent wetlands dominated by	L

Laterallus jamaicensis coturniculus		black bill, red eyes and a white-speckled back. The legs are moderately long and the toes are unwebbed. The sexes are similar.	pickleweed or in brackish marshes with bulrushes in association with pickleweed. In freshwater, usually found in bulrushes, cattails, and saltgrass and in immediate vicinity of tidal sloughs. Typically occurs in the high wetland zones near upper limit of tidal flooding, not in low wetland areas with considerable annual or daily fluctuations in water levels. Nests are concealed in dense vegetation, often pickleweed, near upper limits of tidal flooding	None observed; no habitat on site

ZOOLOGICAL SPECIES	STATUS[1]	DESCRIPTION OF SPECIES	HABITAT	OBSERVATION/ SITE POTENTIAL
Leopard frog *Lithobates yavapaiensis*	CDFW:Species of concern	Tan, gray-brown or light gray-green to green above; yellow below. Vague upper lip stripe, tuberculate skin. Dark network on rear of thighs; yellow groin color often extends onto rear of belly and underside of legs. Male will exhibit a swollen and darkened thumb base.	Find in desert grassland and in woodlands. Uses permanent water sources, stays near water. Breed Feb-April. Bullfrogs are predators	L Not expected on site. Only drain as water source offsite.
Sonoran Desert toad *Incillius alvarius*	CDFW: SC	Large: 7.5 inches or more in length. Smooth, typically olive-green/brown skin, cranial crests, and prominent, elongated glands on both sides of the back of the head (parotoid glands) and on the hind legs. Young toads have small dark, orange-tipped spots on the back. Larger tadpoles are gray or brown with a rounded tail tip, and grow to about 2.25 inches.	Sonoran Desert scrub, semi-desert grasslands. Can be tied to permanent water, such as major rivers or the edges of agriculture. May be found many miles from water, particularly during the summer monsoons. Most Sonoran Desert toads are found at night during the monsoon season, but they may emerge a month or more before the summer rains begin, particularly in areas of permanent water. Can be found in rodent burrows or underground retreats.	L None observed. No habitat present on site.

ZOOLOGICAL SPECIES	STATUS[1]	DESCRIPTION OF SPECIES	HABITAT	OBSERVATION/ SITE POTENTIAL
Northern leopard frog *Lithobates pipiens*	CDFW: SC	2-3½ inches long and has randomly distributed black spots on its back, sides, and legs. Each spot is surrounded by a light halo. The background colors of the frog can range from gold to green. Gold or brown dorsolateral ridges often stand out in contrast. White belly with no other markings	NLF needs permanent water for overwintering, floodplains and marshes for breeding, and wet meadows and fields for foraging	L No habitat on site
Flat-tailed horned lizard *Phrynosoma mcallii*	CNDDB Rank: G3; S2 CDFG: SC	A small (up to 87 mm or 3.4" from snout to vent), exceptionally flat and wide lizard with a long (for a horned lizard) broad, flat tail and a dark stripe running down the middle of the back.	occupy a small range in the Sonoran Desert of southwestern California, southwestern Arizona, and extreme northern Mexico.	L No sandy habitat
Colorado Desert fringe-toed lizard *Uma notata*	CNDDB Rank: G3, S2; CDFW: SC	2 3/4 to 4 4/5 inches long from snout to vent (7 - 12.2 cm). (Stebbins 2003) The tail is about the same length as the body.	Sparsely-vegetated arid areas with fine wind-blown sand, including dunes, flats with sandy hummocks formed around the bases of vegetation, washes, and the banks of rivers. Needs fine, loose sand for burrowing.	L No sandy habitat

ZOOLOGICAL SPECIES	STATUS[1]	DESCRIPTION OF SPECIES	HABITAT	OBSERVATION/ SITE POTENTIAL
American Badger *Taxidea taxus*	CDFW: Species of Concern	Burrowing animals that feed on ground squirrels, rabbits, gophers and other small animals. Prefer grasslands, agricultural areas.	Found in drier open areas with friable soils	L None seen; no burrows observed with badger characteristics observed. Not expected because of low prey opportunity
Pocketed free-tailed bat *Nyctinomops femorosaccus*	CNDDB Rank: G4, S2S3; CDFW: SC	A small fold, or "pocket" in the wing membrane of the free-tailed bat, near its knee, gives this bat its common name. Pocketed free-tailed bats have large ears and long wings, and fly rapidly, generally pursuing insects on the wing. They eat many kinds of insects, but seem to prefer small moths.	It occurs in the arid lowlands of the desert Southwest, and primarily roosts in crevices in rugged cliffs, slopes, and tall rocky outcrops.	L No nesting habitat

ZOOLOGICAL SPECIES	STATUS[1]	DESCRIPTION OF SPECIES	HABITAT	OBSERVATION/ SITE POTENTIAL
Western Mastiff Bat *Eumops perotis californicus*	CNDDB Rank: G5T4, S3; CDFW: SC	Eumops perotis can be distinguished from all other North American molossid (free-tail) species based on size. With a forearm of 73-83 mm, it is North America's largest species.	In California, the E. perotis is most frequently encountered in broad open areas. Generally, this bat is found in a variety of habitats, from dry desert washes, flood plains, chaparral, oak woodland, open ponderosa pine forest, grassland, montane meadows, and agricultural areas.	L Low prey opportunity or roosting areas
Western Yellow bat *Lasiurus xanthinus*	CDFW: Species of Concern	Consumes small to medium-sized, night flying insects. Yellow color/short ears.	Roosts in leafy vegetation the deserts of the southwestern United States. Roosts among the dead fronds of palm trees and cottonwoods	L Not expected; no palms and no cottonwood trees found on site.
Big free tailed bat *Nyctinonmops macrotis*	CDFW: Species of Concern	Body length of 5 1/8 to 5 3/4", with a 17" wingspan, which makes it bigger than other free tailed bats. Fur is reddish brown to dark brown, with hairs white at base. Tail extends past membrane at least an inch. Big ears are joined at base and extend out over face like a hat. Eats mostly moths, some crickets, grasshoppers, ants, various other insects.	Lives in rocky areas of desert scrub or coniferous forests. During day roosts in crevices on cliff faces.	L None seen. Not expected; no roosting habitat.

ZOOLOGICAL SPECIES	STATUS[1]	DESCRIPTION OF SPECIES	HABITAT	OBSERVATION/ SITE POTENTIAL
Yuma hispid cotton rat *Sigmodon hispidus eremicus*	CDFW: Species of Concern	Small furry mammal	are among the most widely distributed species of rodents, occurring contiguously in grassland and savanna settings from Virginia, Nebraska, and Arizona in North America (Cameron and Spencer 1981) to Venezuela in South America (Voss 1992).	No habitat; none observed
California leaf-nosed bat *Macrotus californicus*	CDFW: Species of Concern	The California leaf-nosed bat weighs between 12 and 20 grams, has a wingspan of over 30 centimeters and a body length of over 6 centimeters, and is brown in color. As its name implies, it has a triangular fleshy growth of skin, called a noseleaf, protruding above the nose.	can be found in Sonoran and Mojave Desert scrub habitats in the Colorado River valley in southern California, Nevada and Arizona, and throughout western Mexico. It is non-migratory and does not hibernate. Its natural habitat is hot deserts.	No habitat; none observed
Pallid bat *Antrozous pallidus*	CDFW: Species of Concern	Pallid bats have a head and body length of approximately 2.75 inches (6.2-7.9 cm), forearm length of approximately 2.1 inches (4.5–6 cm),[5] a tail of approximately 1.75 inches (3.9-4.9 cm), and a wingspan of 15-16 inches (38–40 cm).[6][7] They weigh 14-25 grams.	ranges from western Canada to central Mexico.	No habitat; none observed

ZOOLOGICAL SPECIES	STATUS[1]	DESCRIPTION OF SPECIES	HABITAT	OBSERVATION/ SITE POTENTIAL
Palm Springs pocket mouse *Perognathus longimembris bangsi*	CDFW: Species of Concern	Small heteromyid rodent with length of about 110 to 151 mm and weight from 8 to 11 g. There are usually two small patches of lighter hairs at the base of the ear. There is no a tail-crest, and an unlobed antitragus in the outer ear.	Creosote scrub, desert scrub, and grasslands, with loosely packed or sandy soils with sparse to moderately dense vegetative cover. P. l. bangsi occurs only in the Coachella Valley, where substantial agricultural and urban/suburban conversion of habitat, especially in the valley floor, has occurred over the last century. The species occurs only in native habitats.	No habitat

Special Status Species that Occur in Imperial County (USFWS)				
Common Name Scientific Name	**Status[1] Federal/CDFG /CNPS**	**DESCRIPTION OF SPECIES**	**Habitat**	**Suitability Of Habitat In Survey Area**
Plants				
Peirson's milk-vetch *Astragalus magdalenae var. peirsonii*	T/E/1B	Silvery, short-lived perennial plant that is somewhat broom like in appearance. A member of the pea and bean family, it can grow to 2.5 feet tall and is notable among milkvetches for its greatly reduced leaves. Peirson´s milkvetch produces attractive, small purple flowers , generally in March or April, with 10 to 17 flowers per stalk. It yields inflated fruit similar to yellow-green pea pods with triangular beaks.	Desert dune habitats. In California, known from sand dunes in the Algodones Dunes system of Imperial County. Was known historically from Borrego Valley in San Diego County and at a site southwest of the Salton Sea in Imperial County	None observed. No dune habitat

Common Name Scientific Name	Status[1] Federal/CDFG /CNPS	DESCRIPTION OF SPECIES	Habitat	Suitability Of Habitat In Survey Area
Birds				
California brown pelican *Pelecanus occidentalis*	E/E/- No longer endangered	Large size and brown color. Adults weigh approximately 9 pounds, and have a wingspan of over 6 feet. They have long, dark bills with big pouches for catching and holding fish. Pelicans breed in nesting colonies on islands without mammal predators. Roosting and loafing sites provide important resting habitat for breeding and non-breeding birds.	Open water, estuaries, beaches; roosts on various structures, such as pilings, boat docks, breakwaters, and mudflats	None observed. No open water onsite besides canals.
Southwestern willow flycatcher *Empidonax traillii extimus*	E/-/-	Small; usually a little less than 6 inches in length, including tail. Conspicuous light-colored wingbars. Lacks the conspicuous pale eye-ring of many similar *Empidonax* species. Overall, body brownish-olive to gray-green above. Throat whitish, breast pale olive, and belly yellowish. Bill relatively large; lower mandible completely pale. The breeding range of extimus includes Arizona and adjacent states.	At low elevations, breeds principally in dense willow, cottonwood, and tamarisk thickets and in woodlands, along streams and rivers. Migrants may occur more widely. Prefers riparian willow/cottonwood but will use salt cedar thickets	None Observed. No suitable tamarix thickets or available water for habitat

Common Name Scientific Name	Status[1] Federal/CDFG /CNPS	DESCRIPTION OF SPECIES	Habitat	Suitability Of Habitat In Survey Area
Yuma clapper rail *Rallus longirostris yumanensis*	E/T/-	A chickenlike marsh bird with a long, slightly drooping bill and an often upturned tail. Light brownish with dark streaks above. Rust-colored breast; bold, vertical gray and white bars on the flanks; white undertail coverts. Very shy.	Lives in freshwater and brackish marshes. Prefers dense cattails, bulrushes, and other aquatic vegetation. Nests in riverine wetlands near upland, in shallow sites dominated by mature vegetation, often in the base of a shrub. Prefers denser cover in winter than in summer..	None observed or heard; no suitable habitat; survey did not find cattail habitat
Yellow-billed cuckoo *Coccyzus americanus*	C/E/-	Medium-sized cuckoo with gray-brown upperparts and white underparts. Eye-rings are pale yellow. Bill is mostly yellow. Wings are gray-brown with rufous primaries. Tail is long and has white-spotted black edges. Sexes are similar.	Found in forest and open woodlands, especially in areas with dense undergrowth, such as parks, riparian woodlands, and thickets	None observed; no habitat on site

Common Name Scientific Name	Status[1] Federal/CDFG /CNPS	DESCRIPTION OF SPECIES	Habitat	Suitability Of Habitat In Survey Area
Bald eagle *Haliaeetus leucocephalus*	T, PD/E/-	The distinctive white head and tail feathers Beak and eyes yellow. Bald Eagles are about 29 to 42 inches long, can weigh 7 to 15 pounds, and have a wing span of 6 to 8 feet.	Found on shores, lake margins, and near large rivers. Nests in large trees. Winters at lakes, reservoirs, river systems, and some rangelands and coastal wetlands (breeding range is mainly in mountainous habitats near reservoirs, lakes and rivers, mainly in the northern two-thirds of California)	None observed; no habitat
Least tern *Sterna antillarum*	E/E/-	Small tern. During breeding, black cap ending at white forehead. Short white eyestripe. Bill yellow with black tip. Back light gray. Underside white. Black leading edge to wing. In nonbreeding plumage has black eyestripe extending to back of head, white top of head, and black bill. Size: 21-23 cm (8-9 in) Wingspan: 48-53 cm (19-21 in) Weight: 30-45 g (1.06-1.59 ounces)	Shallow areas of estuaries, lagoons, and at the joining points between rivers and estuaries	None observed; no habitat

Common Name Scientific Name	Status[1] Federal/CDFG /CNPS	DESCRIPTION OF SPECIES	Habitat	Suitability Of Habitat In Survey Area
Least Bell's Vireo *Vireo bellii pusillus*	E/E/-	Drab gray to green above and white to yellow below. It has a faint white eyering and two pale wingbars; has pale whitish cheeks and forehead and greenish wings and tail. longer tail and subtle wingbars. The song is a varied sequence of sharp, slurred phrases that typically end with an ascending or descending note.	Formerly a common and widespread summer resident below about 2,000 feet in western Sierra Nevada. Also was common in coastal southern California, from Santa Barbara County south, below about 4,000 feet east of the Sierra Nevada. Prefers thickets of willow, and other low shrubs afford nesting and roosting cover	None observed; no habitat on site. Thickets are not present
Mountain plover *Charadrius montanus*	FPT/SC/-	Medium-sized plover with pale brown upperparts, white underparts, and brown sides. Head has brown cap, white face, and dark eyestripe. Upperwings are brown with black edges and white bars; underwings are white. Tail is brown-black with white edges. Sexes are similar.	Avoids high and dense cover. Uses open grass plains, plowed fields with little vegetation, and open sagebrush areas. Likes to follow livestock grazing or burned off fields.	None observed; not expected on site; could be found in adjacent fields planted to Bermuda or alfalfa

Common Name Scientific Name	Status[1] Federal/CDFG /CNPS	DESCRIPTION OF SPECIES	Habitat	Suitability Of Habitat In Survey Area
Black rail *Laterallus jamaicensis coturniculus*	-/T/-	The smallest of all rails, the black rail is slate-colored, with a black bill, red eyes and a white-speckled back. The legs are moderately long and the toes are unwebbed. The sexes are similar.	Most commonly occurs in tidal emergent wetlands dominated by pickleweed or in brackish marshes with bulrushes in association with pickleweed. In freshwater, usually found in bulrushes, cattails, and saltgrass and in immediate vicinity of tidal sloughs. Typically occurs in the high wetland zones near upper limit of tidal flooding, not in low wetland areas with considerable annual or daily fluctuations in water levels. Nests are concealed in dense vegetation, often pickleweed, near upper limits of tidal flooding	None observed; no habitat
Raptors				
Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus*	D/E/-	Large, powerful falcon; pointed winged falcon silhouette. Strong shallow wingbeats may dive at speeds up to 100 mph. Dark with dark hooded effect. Blue gray below with narrow bars Long-winged, long tailed hawk. Habitually flys low over open fields and marshes watching and listening for prey such as rodents and birds. (I observed Harrier with a white faced ibis as prey). Perches low or on ground. Low slow flight.	Most often found along coastlines or marshy habitats. Nest in cliffs and have been known to nest in tall buildings	None observed. No waterfowl for prey or cliffs/tall buildings for nesting

Common Name Scientific Name	Status[1] Federal/CDFG /CNPS	DESCRIPTION OF SPECIES	Habitat	Suitability Of Habitat In Survey Area
Northern Harrier *Circus cyaneus*	-/SC/-	Blue gray above pale reddish below; small size. Tip of tail squared off. Nesting occurs in dense tree stands which are cool, moist, well shaded and usually near water. Hunt in openings at the edges of woodlands and also brushy pastures.	Marshes, open fields. Nests in reeds	Not observed on site
Sharp-shinned Hawk *Accipiter striatus*	-/SC/-	Gray and white with black on shoulders and under bend of wing. Graceful flyer. Adults have bright red eyes. Medium size hawk; about 15 inches long and about 12 ounces. Males pale with rufous shoulders and thigh feathers. White tail washed with rufous. Wide head wings in shallow v when soaring.	Sharp-shinned hawks may appear in woodland habitats during winter and migration periods and are often common in southern California in the coastal lowlands and desert areas; winters in woodlands and other habitats except alpine, open prairie and bare desert	. Not observed
White tailed Kite *Elanus leucurus*	/E/		Found in open country; like to perch on treetop. May be seen hovering prior to attack of a rodent.	None observed

Common Name Scientific Name	Status[1] Federal/CDFG /CNPS	DESCRIPTION OF SPECIES	Habitat	Suitability Of Habitat In Survey Area
Ferruginous hawk *Buteo regalis*	/SC/		Found in arid to semiarid regions, as well as grasslands and agricultural areas in southwestern Canada, western United States, and northern Mexico.	None observed; could possibly hunt in adjacent fields
Mammals				
Bighorn sheep *Ovis canadensis*	E/E/-	Sheep have short hair which is light gray to grayish brown, except around their stomachs and rump, where it is creamy white. Their tails are about four inches long. Full-grown rams weigh between 180 and 240 pounds,	Desert Bighorn sheep occupy a variety of plant communities, ranging from mixed-grass hillsides, shrubs. Avoids dense vegetation	None observed; no habitat

Common Name Scientific Name	Status[1] Federal/CDFG /CNPS	DESCRIPTION OF SPECIES	Habitat	Suitability Of Habitat In Survey Area
Reptiles and Amphibians				
Desert tortoise *Gopherus agassizii*	T/T/-	A herbivore that may attain a length of 9 to 15 inches in upper shell (carapace) length. The tortoise is able to live where ground temperature may exceed 140 degrees F because of its ability to dig underground burrows and escape the heat. At least 95% of its life is spent in burrows. Their shells are high-domed, and greenish-tan to dark brown in color. Desert tortoises can grow from 4–6"in height and weigh 8–15 lb (4–7 kg) when fully grown. The front limbs have heavy, claw-like scales and are flattened for digging. Back legs are more stumpy and elephantine	Dry, flat, and gravelly or sandy ground in desert shrub communities where annual and perennial grasses are abundant. Frequent habitats with a mix of shrubs, forbs, and grasses	None observed; habitat not favorable

Common Name Scientific Name	Status[1] Federal/CDFG /CNPS	DESCRIPTION OF SPECIES	Habitat	Suitability Of Habitat In Survey Area
Flat-tailed horn lizard *Phrynosoma mcallii*	PT/-/-	Closely related to Desert horned lizard (scat indistinquishable); only found in Imperial, Riverside County,Ca and Yuma area, Az. Small round lizard with distinquishing round spots on back. Diet of ants; needs sandy soil, shade bushes to survive.	Desert washes/sandy areas with vegetative cover. Diet of ants	No habitat; none observed
Fish				
Desert pupfish *Cyprinodon macularius*	E/E/-	Small, silvery-colored fish with 6 to 9 dark bands on its sides. Grows to a full average length of only 2.5 inches; develop quickly, sometimes reaching full maturity within 2 to 3 months. Although their average life span is 6 to 9 months, some survive more than one year. Pupfish have a short, scaled head with an upturned mouth. The anal and dorsal fins are rounded with the dorsal sometimes exhibiting a dark blotch. The caudal fin is convex at the rear.	Springs, seeps, and slow-moving drains directly draining into Salton Sea in Salton Sink basin and backwaters and sloughs of the Colorado River	None observed; no habitat; no drains on site;

Common Name Scientific Name	Status[1] Federal/CDFG /CNPS	DESCRIPTION OF SPECIES	Habitat	Suitability Of Habitat In Survey Area
Razorback Sucker *Xyrauchen texanus*	Fed/CA: Endangered	One of the largest suckers in North America, can grow to up to 13 pounds and lengths exceeding 3 feet. The razorback is brownish-green with a yellow to white-colored belly and has an abrupt, bony hump on its back shaped like an upside-down boat keel	Colorado River	None observed; no habitat

USFWS Birds of Conservation Concern					
Common Name	**Species Name**	**Habitat**	**Potential Onsite**	**Region 8 Imperial County**	**National Rating**
Bald Eagle	*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*	Nests on tall trees or on cliffs in forested areas near large bodies of water. Winters in coastal areas, along large rivers, and large unfrozen lakes.	Not expected. No tall trees; not observed in area	X	X
Swainson's Hawk	*Buteo swainsoni*	Breeds in open country such as grassland, shrubland, and agricultural areas. Usually migrates in large flocks often with Broad-winged Hawks. Winters in open grasslands and agricultural areas of Southern America.	May migrate through. Not observed in area		X
Peregrine Falcon	*Falco peregrinus*	Inhabits open wetlands near cliffs for nesting. Also uses large cities and nests on buildings.	No open wetlands or nesting area.	X	X
Black Rail	*Laterallus jamaicensis*	Nests in high portions of salt marshes, shallow freshwater marshes, wet meadows, and flooded grassy vegetation.	No salt or freshwater marshes; no vegetation	X	X

Common Name	Species Name	Habitat	Potential Onsite	Region 8 Imperial County	National Rating
Snowy Plover	*Chardrius alexandrinus*	Barren to sparsely vegetated sand beaches, dry salt flats in lagoons, dredge spoils deposited on beach or dune habitat, levees and flats at salt-evaporation ponds, river bars, along alkaline or sailne lakes, reservoirs, and ponds.	No habitat; not observed	X	X
Mountain Plover	*Charadrius montanus*	Breeds on open plains at moderate elevations. Winters in short-grass plains and fields, plowed fields, and sandy deserts.	Not expected on site; no habitat Could be found in adjacent agricultural fields if planted to Bermuda or alfalfa	X	X
Black Oystercatcher	*Haematopus bachmani*	Rocky seacoasts and islands, less commonly sandy beaches.	No habitat; not observed	X	X
Solitary Sandpiper	*Tringa solitaria*	Breeds in taiga, nesting in trees in deserted songbird nests. In migration and winter found along freshwater ponds, stream edges, temporary ponds, flooded ditches and fields, more commonly in wooded regions, less frequently on mudflats and open marshes.	No habitat; not observed		X

Common Name	Species Name	Habitat	Potential Onsite	Region 8 Imperial County	National Rating
Lesser Yellowlegs	*Tringa flavipes*	Breeds in open boreal forest with scattered shallow wetlands. Winters in wide variety of shallow fresh and saltwater habitats.	No habitat; not observed		X
Upland Sandpiper	*Bartramia longicauda*	Native prairie and other dry grasslands, including airports and some croplands.	No habitat; not observed		X
Whimbrel	*Numenius phaeopus*	Breeds in various tundra habitat, from wet lowlands to dry heath. In migration, frequents various coastal and inland habitats, including fields and beaches. Winters in tidal flats and shorelines, occasionally visiting inland habitats.	Could be found in adjacent agricultural fields if planted to Bermuda or alfalfa	X	X
Long-billed Curlew	*Numenius americanus*	Nests in wet and dry uplands. In migration and winter found on wetlands, grain fields, lake and river shores, marshes, and beaches.	Could be found in adjacent agricultural fields if planted to Bermuda or alfalfa	X	X
Short-billed Dowitcher	*Limnodromus griseus*	Breeds in muskegs of taiga to timberline, and barely into subarctic tundra. Winters on coastal mud flats and brackish lagoons. In migration prefers saltwater tidal flats, beaches, and salt marshes. Also found in	Could be found in adjacent agricultural fields if planted to Bermuda or alfalfa	X	X

		freshwater mud flats and flooded agricultural fields.			
Common Name	**Species Name**	**Habitat**	**Potential Onsite**	**Region 8 Imperial County**	**National Rating**
Aleutian Tern	*Sterna aleutica*	Nest on flat vegetated islands on or near the coast. Vegetation includes dwarf-shrub tundra, grass and sedgemeadows, and coastal marsh. Migration and winter habitat not known, probably pelagic.	No habitat; not observed		X
Least Tern	*Sterna antillarum*	Seacoasts, beaches, bays, estuaries, lagoons, lakes and rivers, breeding on sandy or gravelly beaches and banks of rivers or lakes, rarely on flat rooftops of buildings.	No habitat; not observed		X
Gull-billed Turn	*Sterna nilotica*	Breeds on gravelly or sandy beaches. Inters in salt marshes, estuaries, lagoons and plowed fields, along rivers, around lakes and in freshwater marshes.	No habitat; not observed		X
Black Skimmer	*Rynchops niger*	Breeds in large colonies on sandbars and beaches. Forages in shallow bays, inlets, and estuaries.	No habitat; not observed	X	X
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	*Coccyzus americanus*	Open woodlands with clearings, orchards, dense scrubby vegetation, mainly cottonwood, willow, and adler, often along water.	No habitat; not observed	X	X
Black Swift	*Cypseloides niger*	Nests on steep ledges on cliffs or canyons. Migrates and winters over coastal lowlands.	No habitat; no swifts observed in area	X	X

Common Name	Species Name	Habitat	Potential Onsite	Region 8 Imperial County	National Rating
Costa's Hummingbird	*Calypte costae*	Primarily low deserts and arid brushy foothills, but also chaparral and coastal sage scrub closer to the coast. Often visits ornamental plantings and feeders in desert communities. In migration and winter frequents a wider variety of habitats, occasionally ranging into pine-oak woodlands in adjacent mountains.	No habitat; not observed – no feeders or nectar sources in area	X	X
Calliope Hummingbird	*Stellula calliope*	Open montane forest, mountain meadows, and thickets of willow and alder. In migration and winter also in chaparral, oak and pine-oak woodlands, deserts, and gardens.	No habitat; not observed	X	X
Rufous Hummingbird	*Selasphorus rufus*	Breeds in a variety of forested habitats where flowers are found. Frequents montane meadows and just about anywhere else with flowers or feeders during migration. Winters primarily in pine and pine-oak forests in Mexico, but most birds wintering farther north are attracted either to flowers or feeders in gardens.	No habitat; not observed – no feeders or nectar in area.		X

Common Name	Species Name	Habitat	Potential Onsite	Region 8 Imperial County	National Rating
Allen's Hummingbird	*Selasphorus sasin*	Breeds in coastal sage scrub, chaparral, and riparian corridors within coastal forests. In Mexico winters in forest edge and scrub clearings with flowers. The resident population on the mainland of southern California is largely restricted to suburban neighborhoods where feeders and flowers are plentiful.	No habitat; not observed. No feeders or nectar in area	X	X
Lewis's Woodpecker	*Melanerpes lewis*	Breeds in open arid conifer, oak, and riparian woodlands: rare in coastal areas. Winters in breeding habitat, and oak savannas, orchards, and even in towns.	No habitat; not observed	X	X
Olive-sided Flycatcher	*Contopus cooperi*	Montane and northern coniferous forests, at forest edges and openings such as meadows, and at ponds and bags. Winters at forest edges and clearings where tall trees or snags are present.	No habitat; not observed	X	X
Willow Flycatcher	*Empidonax trailii*	Breeds in moist, shrubby areas, often with standing or running water. Winters in shrubby clearings and early successional growth.	No habitat on site; not observed	X	X
Loggerhead Shrike	*Lanius ludovicianus*	Open or brushy areas.	No prey base available on site May be seen passing through area	X	X

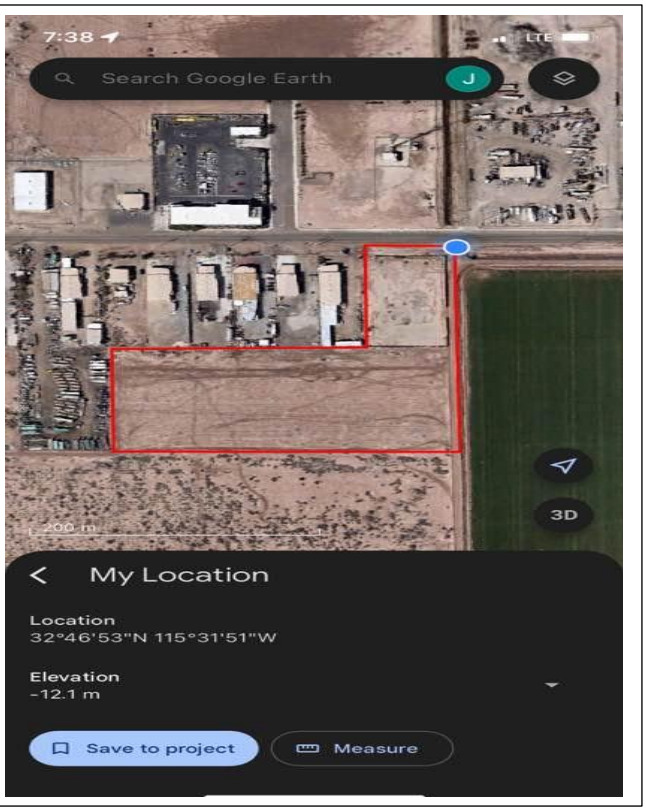
Common Name	Species Name	Habitat	Potential Onsite	Region 8 Imperial County	National Rating
Bell's Vireo	*Vireo bellii*	Dense, low, shrubby vegetation generally early successional stages in riparian areas, brushy fields, young second-growth forest or woodland, scrub oak, coastal chaparral, and mesquite brushlands, often near water in arid regions.	No habitat; not observed	X	X
Gray Vireo	*Vireo vicinior*	Found in desert scrub, mixed oak-juniper and pinyon-juniper woodlands, dry chaparral, and thorn scrub in hot, arid mountains and high-plains.	No habitat; not observed	X	X
LeConte's Thrasher	*Toxostoma lecontei*	Desert scrub, mesquite, tall riparian brush and, locally, chaparral.	No habitat; not observed	X	X
Yellow Warbler	*Dendroica petechia*	Breeds in wet, decidious thickets, especially in willows and adler. Also in shrubby areas, old fields, gardens and orchards. In southern Florida and farther south, found in mangroves.	No habitat; not observed	X	
Common Yellowthroat	*Geothlypis trichas*	Thick vegetation from wetlands to prairies to pine forests. Frequently near water.	No habitat; not observed	X	
Rufous-winged Sparrow	*Aimophila carpalis*	Found in flat areas of tall desert grass mixed with brush and cactus, and thorn scrub.	No habitat; not observed		X

Common Name	Species Name	Habitat	Potential Onsite	Region 8 Imperial County	National Rating
Brewer's Sparrow	*Euphagus cyanocephalus*	Found in a variety of habitats, but prefers open, human-modified areas, such as farmland, fields, residential lawns, and urban parks.	No habitat; not observed	X	X
Black-chinned Sparrow	*Spizella atrogularis*	Arid brushland, commonly in tall and fairly dense sagebrush, and dry chaparral. Often in rocky, rugged country from sea level to around 8,900 ft (2700m).	No habitat; not observed	X	X
Tricolored Blackbird	*Agelaius tricolor*	Breeds in marsh vegetation, particulalry cattails, near grain fields, riparian scrublnd, and forests, but always near water. Dairies and feedlots also commonly used for foraging. Urban and suburban areas occasinoally utilized, particularly park lawns. Cultivated lands also suitable for foraging. Large night-time roosts form during nonbreeding season in cattail marshes near foraging grounds.	No habitat; not observed	X	X
Lawrence's Goldfinch	*Carduelis lawrencei*	Prefers dry interior foothills, mountain valleys, open woodlands, chaparral, and weedy fields. Often found near isolated water sources such as springs and cattle troughs.	No habitat; not observed	X	X

CNPS Species or Community Level	
G1 = Less than 6 viable element occurrences (EOs) OR less than 1,000 individuals OR less than 2,000 acres.	
G2 = 6-20 EOs OR 1,000-3,000 individuals OR 2,000-10,000 acres.	
G3 = 21-80 EOs OR 3,000-10,000 individuals OR 10,000-50,000 acres.	
G4 = Apparently secure; this rank is clearly lower than G3 but factors exist to cause some concern; i.e., there is some threat, or somewhat narrow habitat.	
G5 = Population or stand demonstrably secure to ineradicable due to being commonly found in the world.	
State Ranking	
The state rank (S-rank) is assigned much the same way as the global rank, except state ranks in California often also contain a threat designation attached to the S-rank.	The R-E-D Code contains information on Rarity, Endangerment, and Distribution, ranked as a 1, 2, or 3 for each value (as below). This code was originally known as the R-E-V-D Code (through the 3rd edition 1980), and the V (Vigor) was removed in the 4th edition (1984).
S1 = Less than 6 EOs OR less than 1,000 individuals OR less than 2,000 acres	**R - Rarity**
S1.1 = very threatened	1 – Rare, but found in sufficient numbers and distributed widely enough that the potential for extinction is low at this time
S1.2 = threatened	2 – Distributed in a limited number of occurrences, occasionally more if each occurrence is small
S1.3 = no current threats known	3 – Distributed in one to several highly restricted occurrences, or present in such small numbers that it is seldom reported
S2 = 6-20 EOs OR 1,000-3,000 individuals OR 2,000-10,000 acres	**E - Endangerment**
S2.1 = very threatened	1 – Not very endangered in California
S2.2 = threatened	2 – Fairly endangered in California
S2.3 = no current threats known	3 – Seriously endangered in California
S3 = 21-80 EOs or 3,000-10,000 individuals OR 10,000-50,000 acres	**D - Distribution**
S3.1 = very threatened	1 – More or less widespread outside California
S3.2 = threatened	2 – Rare outside California
S3.3 = no current threats known	3 – Endemic to California
S4 = Apparently secure within California; this rank is clearly lower than S3 but factors exist to cause some concern; i.e. there is some threat, or somewhat narrow habitat. NO THREAT RANK.	
S5 = Demonstrably secure to ineradicable in California. NO THREAT RANK.	

Sources: CDFW/CNDDB 2024, California Wildlife 2024; CNPS 2024 USFWS, 20124	
State/CDFW:	**[1]Status: Federal:**
E = Listed as an endangered species; or previously known as “rare, fully protected”	E = Listed as an endangered species
T = Listed as a threatened species	T = Listed as a threatened species
SC = species of special concern (designation intended for use as a management tool and for information; species of special concern have no legal status (www.dfg.ca.gov/wildlife/species/ssc/birds.html))	C = Candidate for listing
CNPS (California Native Plant Society):	D = Delisted
1B = Rare, threatened, or endangered in California or elsewhere	PD = Proposed for delisting/PT = Proposed for threatened status
2= Plants rare, threatened,or endangered in Ca, but more common elsewhere	
3=Plants about which more information is needed	
Habitat Suitability Codes: H = Habitat is of high suitability for this species M = Habitat is of moderate suitability for this species L = Habitat is of low suitability for this species	

APPENDIX B
PHOTOGRAPHS



1. Location where pictures taken just south of Ross Road



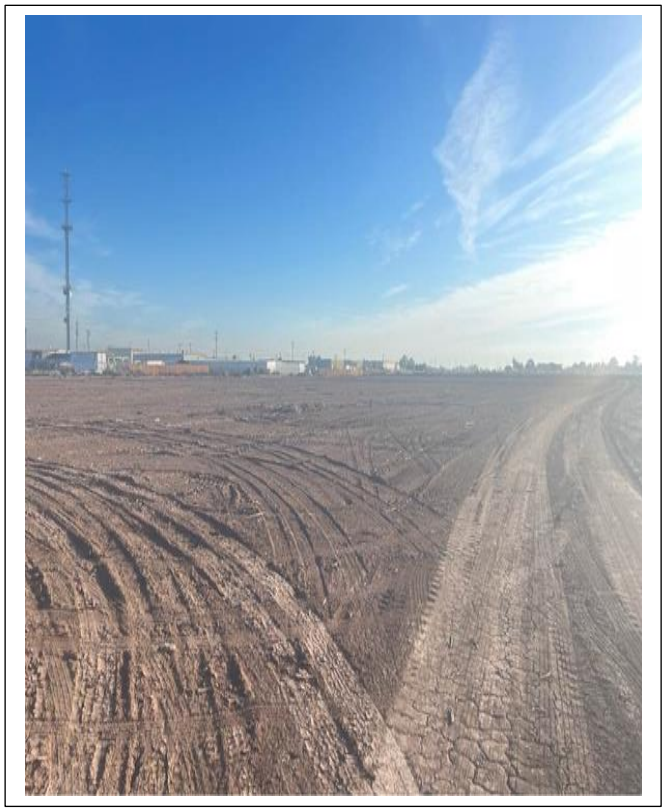
2. Facing east at Central Drain Three H which is directly east of project site.



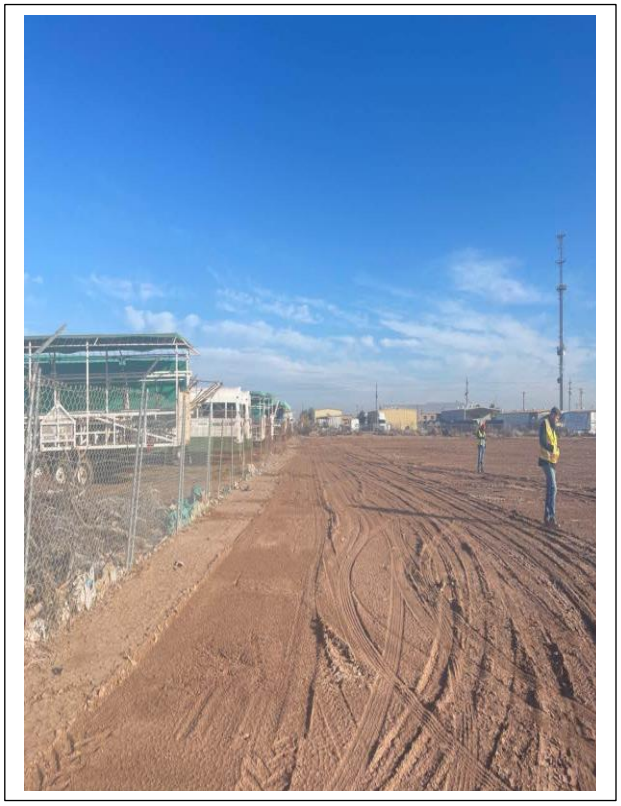
3. Facing west at north perimeter of project site along Ross road



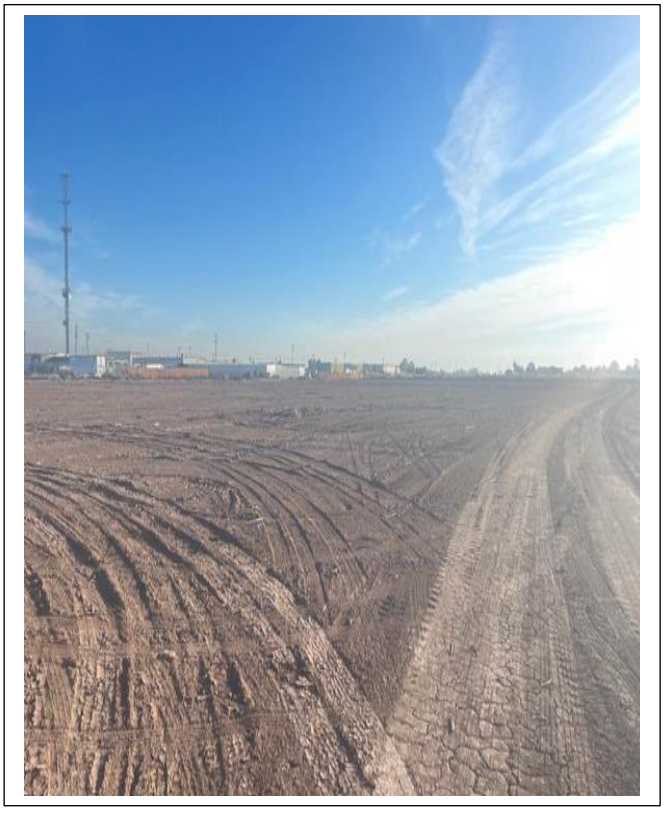
4. SE corner facing north at project and Ross Rd; ruderal vegetation to right



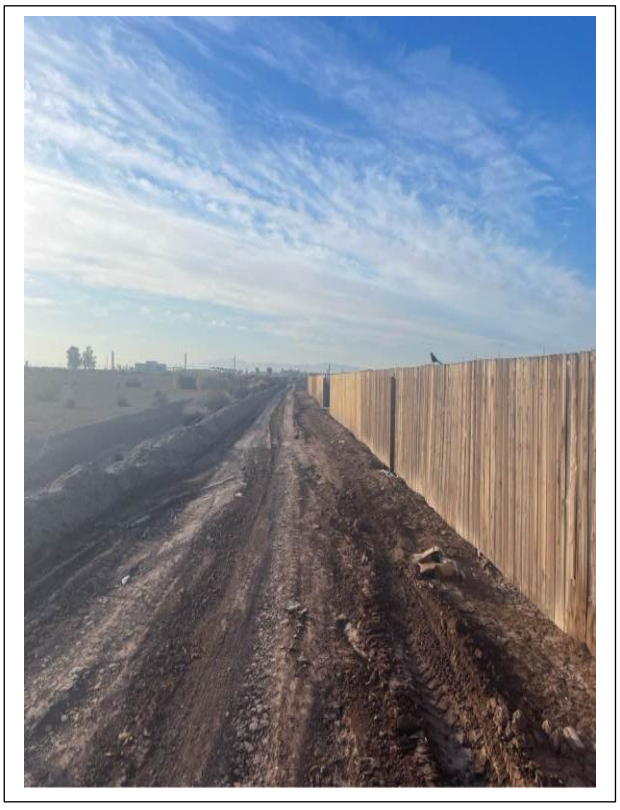
5. Looking at a project and RV repair to the west



6. Facing north at the SW corner at project and RV repair to the west



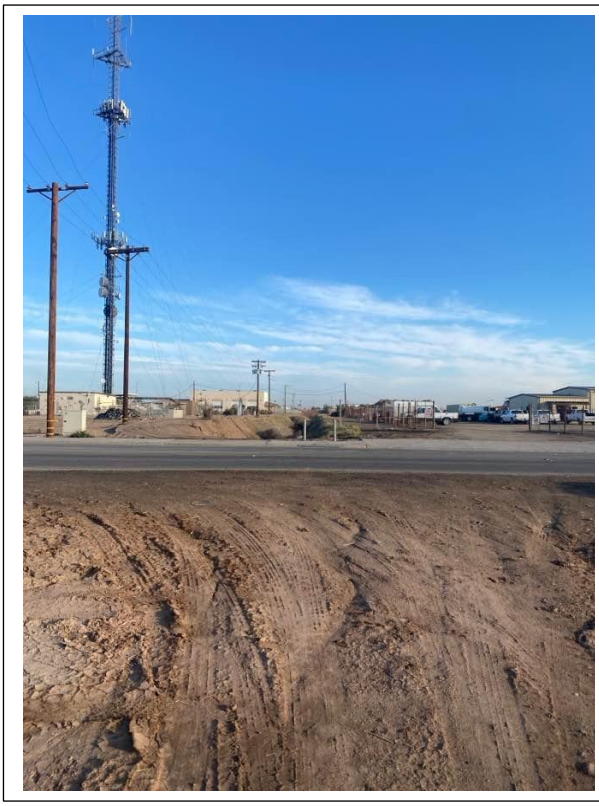
7. Facing NE at the SW corner looking at project.



8. Facing south at east perimeter of project site; grackle on fence



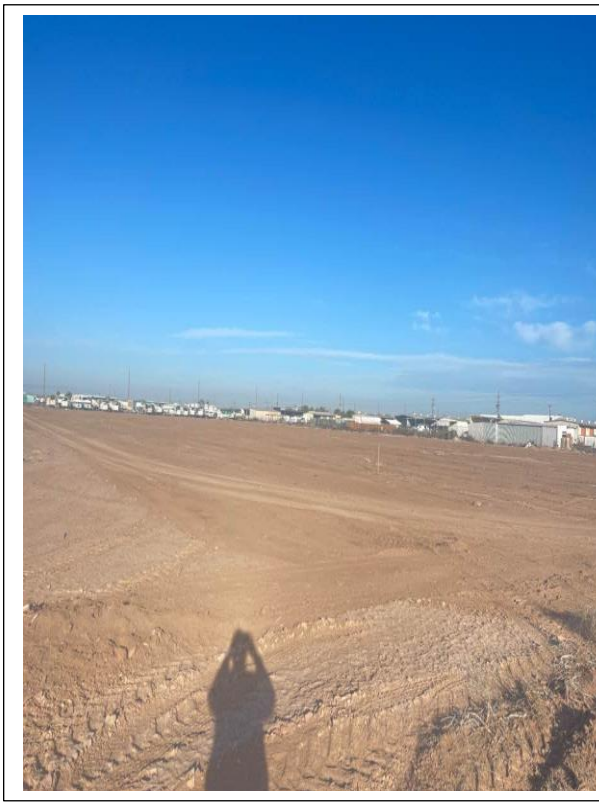
9. Looking south just south of ross road



10. Looking north just south of Ross Road; offsite industrial site



11. Looking east from northwest part of site; vacant lot



12. SE corner facing NW at project storage business and RV repair

APPENDIX C
SPECIES FOUND ONSITE AND VICINITY

ZOOLOGICAL SPECIES OBSERVED ON OR NEAR SITE		
Common name	***Scientific name***	
Birds		**Onsite/offsite/status**
Eurasian collared dove	*Streptopelia decaocto,*	Offsite/Invasive
Great-tailed Grackle	*Quiscalus mexicanus*	Onsite/MBTA
House Sparrow	*Passer domesticus*	Offsite/None
Lesser Nighthawk	*Chordeiles acutipennis*	Onsite/MBTA
Killdeer (nesting on site- successful)	*Charadrius vociferus*	Onsite/MBTA
Mourning dove	*Zenaida macroura*	Onsite/MBTA
Northern Mockingbird	*Mimus polyglottos*	Offsite/MBTA
Red-winged blackbird	*Agelaius phoeniceus*	Offsite/MBTA
Rock pigeon	*Columba livia*	Offsite/None
Western meadowlark	*Sturnella neglecta*	Offsite/MBTA
Insects		
Ants	*Various*	Onsite
Mammals		**Onsite/offsite**
Canine tracks	*various*	Both
Cottontail rabbit	*Sylvilagus audubonii*	Onsite

BOTANICAL SPECIES OBSERVED ON OR NEAR SITE		
Common name	**Scientific name**	**CNPS Classification**
Big Saltbush	*Atriplex lentiformis*	None
Iodine bush	*Allenrolfea occidentalis*	None
Saltcedar	*Tamarix spp.*	Ca Noxious Weed Cal-IPC rating: High *
Russian Thistle	*Salsola tragus*	Ca Noxious Weed Cal-IPC rating: Limited *

*High – These species have severe ecological impacts on physical processes, plant and animal communities, and vegetation structure. Their reproductive biology and other attributes are conducive to moderate to high rates of dispersal and establishment. Most are widely distributed ecologically. *Limited – These species are invasive but their ecological impacts are minor on a statewide level or there was not enough information to justify a higher score. Their reproductive biology and other attributes result in low to moderate rates of invasiveness. Ecological amplitude and distribution are generally limited, but these species may be locally persistent and problematic.

APPENDIX D
BUOW CDFW PROTOCOL SURVEY REPORT

PROJECT: GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT 22-03 AND CR&R WASTE TRANSFER FACILITY PROTOCOL BURROWING OWL SURVEY REPORT EL CENTRO, CALIFORNIA

July, 2024

Prepared for:

CR&R

c/o John McNamara

P.O. Box 125

11292 Western Avenue

Stanton, CA 90680

Prepared by:

Barrett Biological Enterprises, Inc

Certified as performed in accordance with established biological practices by:



Marie S. Barrett, Biologist

760.427.7006

BURROWING OWL 2012 STAFF PROTOCOL SURVEYS
CCR PROJECT

BUOW PROTOCOL SURVEYS (2012 CDFW Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation)

Summary: As directed by 2012 Staff Report to insure comprehensiveness and detection probability, 2 biologists performed five pedestrian surveys (2/15,5/7,5/29,6/19/24 after dawn and prior to 10 AM; minimal wind) of BUOW habitat and 500 foot buffer zone of the CR&R Waste Transfer Facility Project, located approximately 1,125 linear feet east of the southeast corner of Dogwood Avenue and Ross Avenue with a legal description of lots 15 through 22 and lots 39 through 40, El Centro Homes Acres, City of El Centro, County of Imperial, State of California with Assessor's Parcel Numbers: 054-061-032;-033;-034;-035;-036;-037;-038;-039;& -042. A compilation of vegetation is included in this report. The survey consisted of the approximately 9 acres that will be utilized and a 500 foot buffer area to include any possible raptor nesting areas. Private property was surveyed by binoculars.

No BUOWs, no active burrows or signs were found during the surveys.

The following equipment is expected to be found on site during construction activities: Air Compressor, Backhoe, Bobcat Tractor, Concrete Mixer, Loader, Bulldozer, Jack Hammer, Pavement Roller, Street Sweeper, Man Lift, Dump Truck, Mobile Crane, Excavator/Scraper.

A draft Construction Schedule is not available at this time and will be submitted when completed; table of vegetation and zoological species, biologist qualifications, photographs, and Maps are attached.

Table 1: Field Survey Schedule

Date/Conditions	Surveyors	Survey Time
02/15/24 46-49°F 0-3 mph, 0-15% cloud cover	Glenna Barrett/Jeremy Scheffler	0730-0830
05/07/24 66-71°F 0-3 mph, 0% cloud cover	Glenna Barrett/Adolph Ng	0735-0835
05/29/24 78-82°F 8-10 mph, 0-15% cloud cover	Glenna Barrett/Adolph Ng	0730-0830
06/19/24 78-81°F 4-8 mph, 0% cloud cover	Glenna Barrett/Adolph Ng	0705-0830
Total all surveyors		8.0 hrs.

Garmin GPS, binoculars, thermometer, anemometer and digital cameras were used.

Table: Spring Survey 2024 CDFW Protocol (Staff Report 2012) BUOW Surveys CR&R WASTE TRANSFER FACILITY

Burrow locations	Description	Habitat Assessment/ BUOW Survey 02/15/24 46-49ºF 0-3 mph, 0-15% cloud cover Glenna Barrett/Jeremy Scheffler 0730-0830	2nd BUOW Survey 05/07/24 66-71ºF 0-3 mph, 0% cloud cover Glenna Barrett/Adolph Ng 0735-0835	3rd BUOW Survey 05/29/24 78-82ºF 8-10 mph, 0-15% cloud cover Glenna Barrett/Adolph Ng 0730-0830	4th BUOW Survey 06/19/24 78-81ºF 4-8 mph, 0% cloud cover Glenna Barrett/Adolph Ng 0705-0830
None	None	No BUOW/burrows/ signs observed	No BUOW/burrows /signs observed	No BUOW/burrows/ signs observed	No BUOW/burrows/ signs observed
		Total Numbers of Burrows/BUOW **Offsite**: Active burrows: 0 Occupied burrows: 0 Adult BUOW: 0 Juvenile BUOW: 0	Total Numbers of Burrows/BUOW Offsite: Active burrows:0 Occupied burrows: 0 Adult BUOW: 0 Juvenile BUOW: 0	Total Numbers of Burrows/BUOW Offsite: Active burrows:0 Occupied burrows: 0 Adult BUOW: 0 Juvenile BUOW: 0	Total Numbers of Burrows/BUOW Offsite: Active burrows:0 Occupied burrows: 0 Adult BUOW: 0 Juvenile BUOW: 0

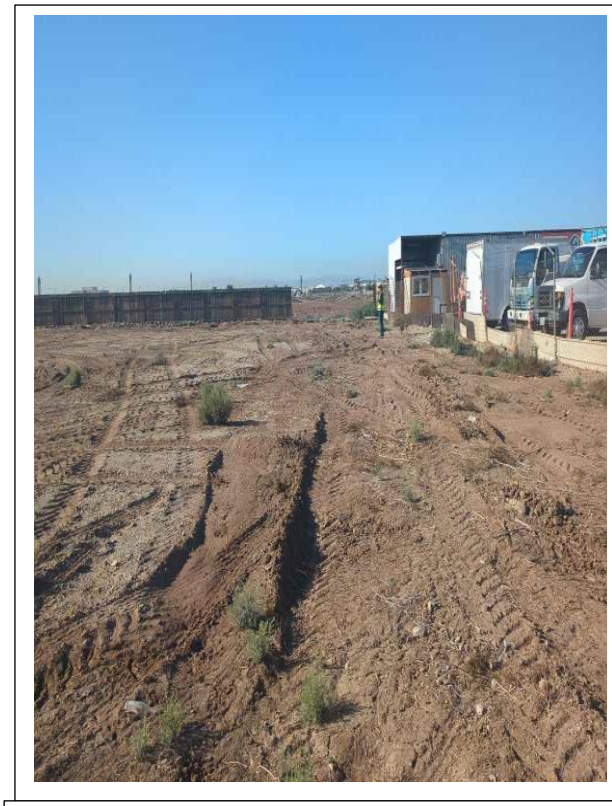
ZOOLOGICAL SPECIES OBSERVED ON OR NEAR SITE		
Common name	***Scientific name***	
Birds		**Onsite/offsite/status**
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Great-tailed Grackle	*Quiscalus mexicanus*	Onsite/MBTA
House Sparrow	*Passer domesticus*	Offsite/None
Lesser Nighthawk	*Chordeiles acutipennis*	Onsite/MBTA
Killdeer (nesting on site- successful)	*Charadrius vociferus*	Onsite/MBTA
Mourning dove	*Zenaida macroura*	Onsite/MBTA
Northern Mockingbird	*Mimus polyglottos*	Offsite/MBTA
Red-winged blackbird	*Agelaius phoeniceus*	Offsite/MBTA
Rock pigeon	*Columba livia*	Offsite/None
Western meadowlark	*Sturnella neglecta*	Offsite/MBTA
Insects		
Ants	*Various*	Onsite
Mammals		**Onsite/offsite**
Canine tracks	*various*	Both
Cottontail rabbit	*Sylvilagus audubonii*	Onsite

BOTANICAL SPECIES OBSERVED ON OR NEAR SITE		
Common name	**Scientific name**	**CNPS Classification**
Big Saltbush	*Atriplex lentiformis*	None
Iodine bush	*Allenrolfea occidentalis*	None
Saltcedar	*Tamarix spp.*	Ca Noxious Weed Cal-IPC rating: High *
Russian Thistle	*Salsola tragus*	Ca Noxious Weed Cal-IPC rating: Limited *

*High – These species have severe ecological impacts on physical processes, plant and animal communities, and vegetation structure. Their reproductive biology and other attributes are conducive to moderate to high rates of dispersal and establishment. Most are widely distributed ecologically. *Limited – These species are invasive but their ecological impacts are minor on a statewide level or there was not enough information to justify a higher score. Their reproductive biology and other attributes result in low to moderate rates of invasiveness. Ecological amplitude and distribution are generally limited, but these species may be locally persistent and problematic.



1. Killdeer nest found on site 5/7



2. Looking South from the opposite end of the fenced lot; no BUOW, burrows or signs observed 5/7



3. Project site facing southwest; no BUOW, burrows or signs observed 5/7



4. Facing North from the Southeast corner of site; dirt road onsite; no BUOW, burrows or signs observed 5/29



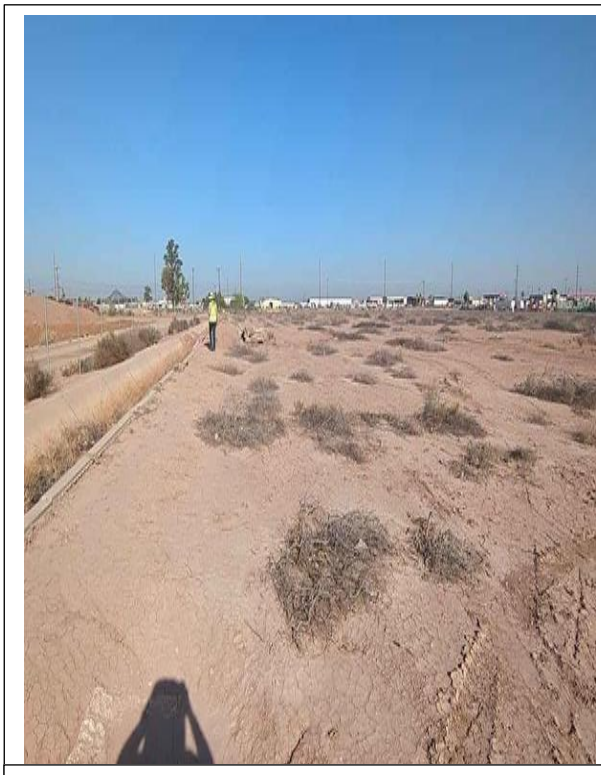
5. Facing West from the Southeast corner of site; dirt road on site, no BUOW, burrows or signs observed 5/29



6. The KILL seen last survey was absent; assume the nest was successful and left the area, no BUOW, burrows or signs observed 5/29



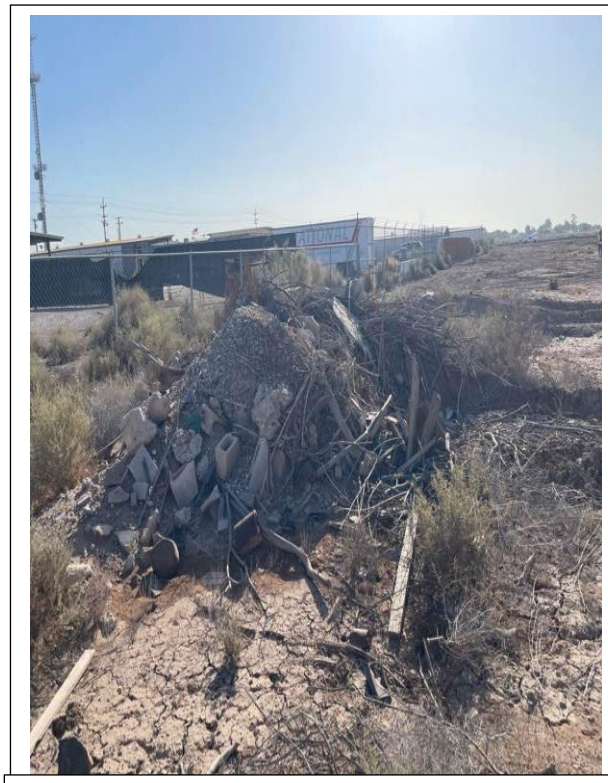
7. Facing East from the South side of site; no BUOW, burrows or signs observed 5/29



8. Facing West from the halfway point of the South end of the South buffer zone; abandoned ditch; no BUOW, burrows or signs observed 6/19



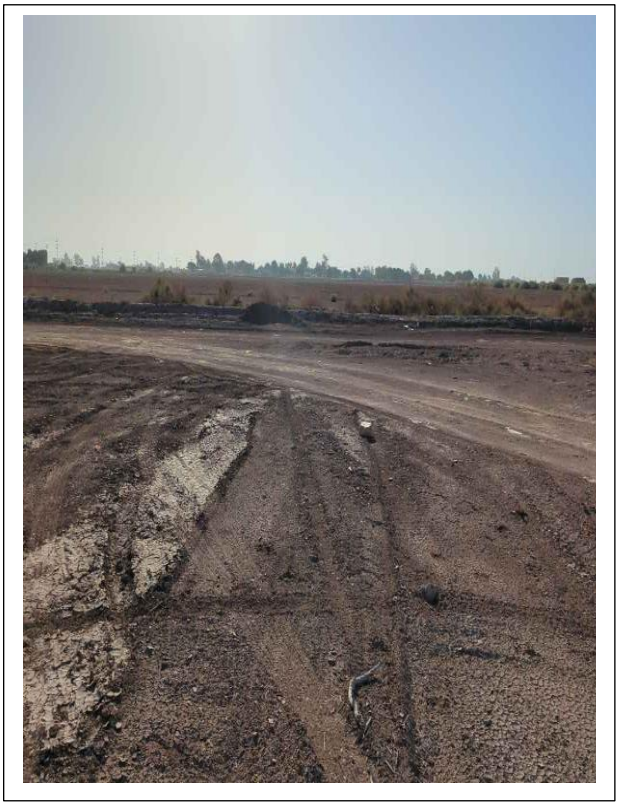
9. Facing West from the halfway point of the North side of site; no BUOW, burrows or signs observed 6/19



10. Pile of concrete and other debris. No buow sign observed; no BUOW, burrows or signs observed 6/19



11. Ross Road facing south at project area; no BUOW, burrows or signs observed 6/19



12. Facing East from the Southeast corner of site; no BUOW, burrows or signs observed 6/19


Communication tower
American Diesel Repair
United Food Trading
Ferguson
Airgas Store
SoCalGas
Nortrango Way
Industry Way
S Dogwood Rd & Ross Ave
Ross Ave
Ross Ave
Ross Ave
Ross Ave
Central Drain Three H
El Centro RV Repair & Supply
Inland TRP (El Centro)
Arctic Air Conditioning
Ruderal vegetation
Agriculture
CR&R WASTE TRANSFER FACILITY
Biological Resources Map
Vacant lot
Ruderal vegetation
S Dogwood Rd
S31
Vacant lot
Google Earth
Image © 2024 Airbus
75
N
400 ft

APPENDIX E
QUALIFICATIONS

GLENNA MARIE BARRETT

PO Box 636 Imperial, California 92251 (760) 425-0688
glennabarrett@outlook.com

PROFILE

Organized and focused individual, adept at implementing multifaceted projects while working alone or as an integral part of a team .Skilled in client/employee communications ,report preparation ,program analyses and development. Cost conscious ,safety oriented and empathetic .A strong communicator with excellent interpersonal skills ,which allows development of rapport with individuals on all levels . A sound professional attitude ,strong work ethic and pride in personal performance.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Senior Biologist Barrett's Biological Surveys, Imperial County, CA April 2016-currently.
Principal Biological Consultant, Barrett Enterprises. Imperial, CA December 2001 - currently. Compile information and complete local, state, and federal government forms; such as conditional use permits, reclamation plan applications, Financial Assurance Cost Estimates, zone changes, CEQA, Environmental Evaluation Committee responses, and 501 (c)(3) tax exemption applications. Act as liaison between local businesses and local, state, and federal government agencies. Certified to survey for Flat-Tailed Horned Lizards in California and Arizona. Certified to survey for the Desert Tortoise.

Kruger- Environmental Compliance Coordinator (ECC) for Seville Solar Complex for a 626-acre solar farm in Imperial County, CA. Compiled and submitted data and reports for APCD such as equipment lists and man hours, water hours for dust suppression; Planning reports such as weekly monitoring reports and scheduling with the third party monitor for work on BLM land; Assisted in writing the Emergency Response Action Plan; CDFW quarterly reports for the Incidental Take Permit for the Flat Tail Horned Lizard (FTHL), CNDDB reports, FTHL Observation Data Sheets, site tours and any other information required by CDFW; Agriculture Commissioner's Office quarterly reports; provided the hazardous reporting information for the CERS online reporting system; assisted writing the FTHL ITP; trained new hires; contacted various local businesses for different on-call services; also provided any updates for plans and schedules necessary throughout the life of the project; etc. (January 2015- March 2016).

Grant writing experience: Awarded two grants for BUOW educational programs for $15,000 each from Imperial Valley Community Foundation. Awarded $35,700 for a total of $75,000 with matching funds to establish the Imperial Valley Small Business Development Center with the Imperial Reginal Alliance. Awarded $450,000 from the California Public Utilities Commission for a broadband connectivity initiative in Imperial County with Imperial Reginal Alliance and Imperial Valley Economic Development Corporation (IVEDC).

FIELD EXPERIENCE

Ms. Barrett has done the field work and contributed to the required reports for the following projects:

- **8ME-Burrowing Owl/MBTA/Avian Mortality Monitoring and training for the Mount Signal Solar Projects** in Calexico, CA (April 2010-2022**)**
- **Salton Sea Species Conservation Habitat Project** - Imperial County, CA: Nov 2020 -July 2022 monitoring construction for desert pupfish, Ridgway Rails and other species. Found both species on site and consulted with agencies for protective measures.
- **Burrtec- FTHL/MBTA Surveys** in Salton City, CA: Team leader for eight people to complete a pre-construction site sweep for 320 acres in Imperial County. 2014-2022
- **Applied Biological Consulting- Approved Biological Monitor on DPV2**: The 500kV transmission line traverses approximately 153 mi from Bythe, CA to Menifee in Riverside County, CA. Crossing private, state and Federal lands, such as the Bureau of Land Management [BLM],

U.S. Forest Service [USFS]. Desert tortoise, nesting birds, fringe toed lizard, flat tailed lizard (November 2011 to May 31, 2013)

- **Chandi Group,** Conduct Habitat Assessment Survey (as outlined in Western Riverside Multispecies Habitat Conservation Plan: Burrowing Owl/Narrow Endemic Species) within the City of Jurupa Valley, Riverside County, 2015

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Received Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a focus on Management, along with Economics and Leadership minors, December 2000. Humboldt State University, Arcata, CA.

Special Status/listed species observed/ identified, surveyed, monitored and/or relocated: Mohave desert tortoise, Coachella valley milkvetch, Desert kit fox, Mountain lion, Coachella valley fringe toed lizard, Mohave fringe toed lizard, Stephen's kangaroo rat, Mohave ground squirrel, Coast horned lizard, Flat-Tail Horned lizard, Burrowing Owl.

Extensive knowledge in southwestern United States, non-migratory and migratory avian biology and ecology. Strong knowledge of common Flora and Fauna communities associated with Southern California and surrounding environs. CEQA, NEPA, California Endangered Species Act (CESA) and Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA) knowledge gained through work experience. I have excellent analytical skills, multi-tasking and writing abilities. My past work experience has provided me with many years of hands on experience working with and managing others to find practical solutions to solve problems and achieve common goals.

CERTIFICATIONS/ WORKSHOPS

- Desert Pupfish Training CA Department of Fish and Wildlife Sharon Keeney, Summer/Fall 2019-21
- Introduction to Plant Identification CA Native Plant Society June. 2019
- FTHL Workshop, 2008 El Centro BLM office.
- Yuma Clapper Rail Training Colorado River Yuma Bird Festival AZ Game and Fish 2008
- USFW Desert Tortoise Egg Handling Desert Tortoise Council Survey Techniques Workshop Certificate, 2008 and 2010.
- Anza Borrego State Park Wildflower Identification Workshop, 2010.
- Southwest Willow Flycatcher Workshop Kernville, CA, 2010.
- SCE TRTP Construction Monitoring Training Class and WEAP Redlands, CA 2011.
- DPV2 Construction Monitoring Training Class and WEAP Santa Ana, CA 2011.
- Helicopter flight trained on DPV2, 2012.
- Certified to handle/ move venomous snakes on DPV2, 2012.
- Bat monitoring with Ms. Pat Brown BLM El Centro, CA Office, 2010.
- Salton Sea International Bird Festival 2007 Coordinator
- Mountain Plover/ Long-billed Curlew surveys, L.A. Museum of Natural History
- Presented at the Fourth Annual BUOW Symposium in Pasco, Washington, 2014.
- Board Member- Colorado River Citizens Forum, 2014-2016.
- BUOW Educational outreach grantee from IVCF, interacting with IID, IVROP, ICFB, Ag Commissioner's Office, 2015.
- Friends of the Sonny Bono National Wildlife Refuge, Member 2015



Adolfo Ng

Biologist

Animal enthusiast with willingness to learn about all types of animals and the world we share with them.

ngadolfo@gmail.com | 7606758893 | El Centro, United States

EDUCATION

Biology, A.S.-T
Imperial Valley College
01/2020 - 06/2021

Biology (Emphasis in Zoology), B.S.
San Diego State University
08/2021 - 05/2023

WORK EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant
Sun Valley Research Center
02/2019 - 06/2021 *Imperial, California*
Achievements/Tasks
- Assisted in the transition of paper-based database into a cloud-based database
- Identify potential participants for ongoing research studies
- Reach out potential participants for ongoing research studies

Contact : Judy Galindo - (760) 545-0123

Biologist
Barrett Biological Enterprises Inc.
01/2024 - Present *Imperial, California*
Achievements/Tasks
- Construction monitoring
- Construction surveys
- Searching for potential burrows and wildlife at construction sites
- Observed set up one-way doors to keep burrowing owls out of burrows

Contact : Glenna Barrett - (760) 425-0688

SKILLS

MS Office | Teamwork-oriented | Fast learner | Adaptible | Patient

MONITORING JOBS WITH BBE

Monitoring Description
- Monitoring included being mentored in avian and mammal identification/recognition of appropriate habitat/avoidance, minimization and mitigation of construction impacts/worker environmental training/proper documentation of monitoring observations

Big Rock Solar (01/2024 - Present)
- Monitoring done with Jeremy Scheffler, Crystal Shore, Jacob Calanno, Shawna Bishop and Michel Remington.
- Hours Done: 56.

New River Improvement Project (01/2024 - Present)
- Monitoring done with Glenna Barrett and Crystal Shore.
- Accepted to monitor New River Improvement Project by CDFW, Bermuda Dunes, Ca.
- Hours Done: 80.

SURVEYS CONDUCTED

Weist Lake (02/06/2024)
With Crystal Shore, Michel Remington, Jacob Calanno and Glenna Barrett

CR&R - 1st Survey (02/15/2024)
With Jeremy Scheffler and Glenna Barrett

CR&R - 1st BUOW Survey (04/10/2024)
With Glenna Barrett

ICOE - 1st BUOW Survey (04/10/2024)
With Michel Remington and Glenna Barrett

ICOE - 2nd BUOW Survey (05/01/2024)
With Glenna Barrett

McCabe (04/30/2024)
With Jeremy Scheffler and Glenna Barrett

TRAINING DONE

Marsh Bird Survey Training Workshop by Arizona Game and Fish Department
Use the National Marsh Bird Monitoring Protocol to identify all the common calls of secretive marsh birds that occur along the Lower Colorado River.

TRAINING DONE

California Bumble Bee Atlas Training by Xerces Society
Identify and survey bumble bees according to the Xerces Society's Scientific Collecting Permit (SCP) in California

LANGUAGES

English
Native or Bilingual Proficiency

Spanish
Native or Bilingual Proficiency

INTERESTS

Science | Research | Animals | Conservation | Music | Animal Care | Computers | Biology

Jeremy Scheffler
181 Branding Iron
Imperial, CA 92251
jscheffler29@gmail.com
760-457-5154

INTRO:

I am a recent graduate from CSU Chico, and I majored in Environmental Science. I pride myself on my problem-solving abilities and my capacity to view situations through different perspectives to find a solution.

EDUCATION:

August 2016- May 2020 — ***California State University, Chico***
Undergraduate, Senior GPA: 3.04
Environmental Science: Atmosphere & Climate
Pathway Minor: Sustainability

August 2012- June 2016 — ***Imperial High School, Imperial, CA***
Diploma, June 2016 GPA: 3.4

SKILLS:

-Experience with tools
-Knowledge of Plant and Insects
-Experience creating/presenting reports
-Analyzing Data
-Experience with groups to complete assignments
-Experience with inspection of ag commodities
-Familiarity with ArcGIS software
-Communication (Written & Verbal)

EXPERIENCE:

April 11,2021 — **Wildlife Biologist**, Imperial County, Niland, CA
Working with Barrett's Biological Surveys performed transects on 100 acres observing for desert tortoise, Harwoods' milkvetch and American badger.

April 2, 2021 — ***Wildlife Biologist,*** Imperial County, Winterhaven, CA
Working with Barrett's Biological Surveys performed a pedestrian nesting bird survey on a linear project of 1mile. Found nesting egrets in a rookery.

March 1 - Current (2021) — ***Agriculture Biologist,*** **Imperial County, El Centro, CA**
-Enforce compliance of CCR and CFAC
-Inspect and investigate pesticide use and incidents
-Sample and ship specimens to lab for ID

September 21 - February 16 (2021) — ***Agriculture Technician,*** **CDFA, Winterhaven, CA**
-Enforce CA Food and Ag Code
-Inspect Ag commodities for invasive pests
-Input necessary data into computer

January 24 – May 15 (2020) — ***Teaching Assistant/ Grader,*** **Shane Mayor, CSU Chico**
-Teaching Assistant for the Weather Class
-Assist Students With Help on Course Material
-Grade Assignments and Tests

RELEVANT COURSE WORK:

-Ecology (Fall 2018)
-Earth System Science (Sp. 2019)
-Sustainability Issues (Fall 2019)
-Evolutionary Biology (Sp. 2018)
-Water & Soils (Fall 2017)
-Senior Seminar in Environmental Science (Sp. 2020)

ACHIEVEMENTS:

Spring 2020	***Sustainability Leadership*, Certificate,** CSU Chico
Spring 2020	***Dean's Honor List,* Certificate,** CSU Chico
Fall 2019	***Dean's Honor List,* Certificate**, CSU Chico

FIGURE 1
REGIONAL LOCATION/ PROJECT LOCATION MAP

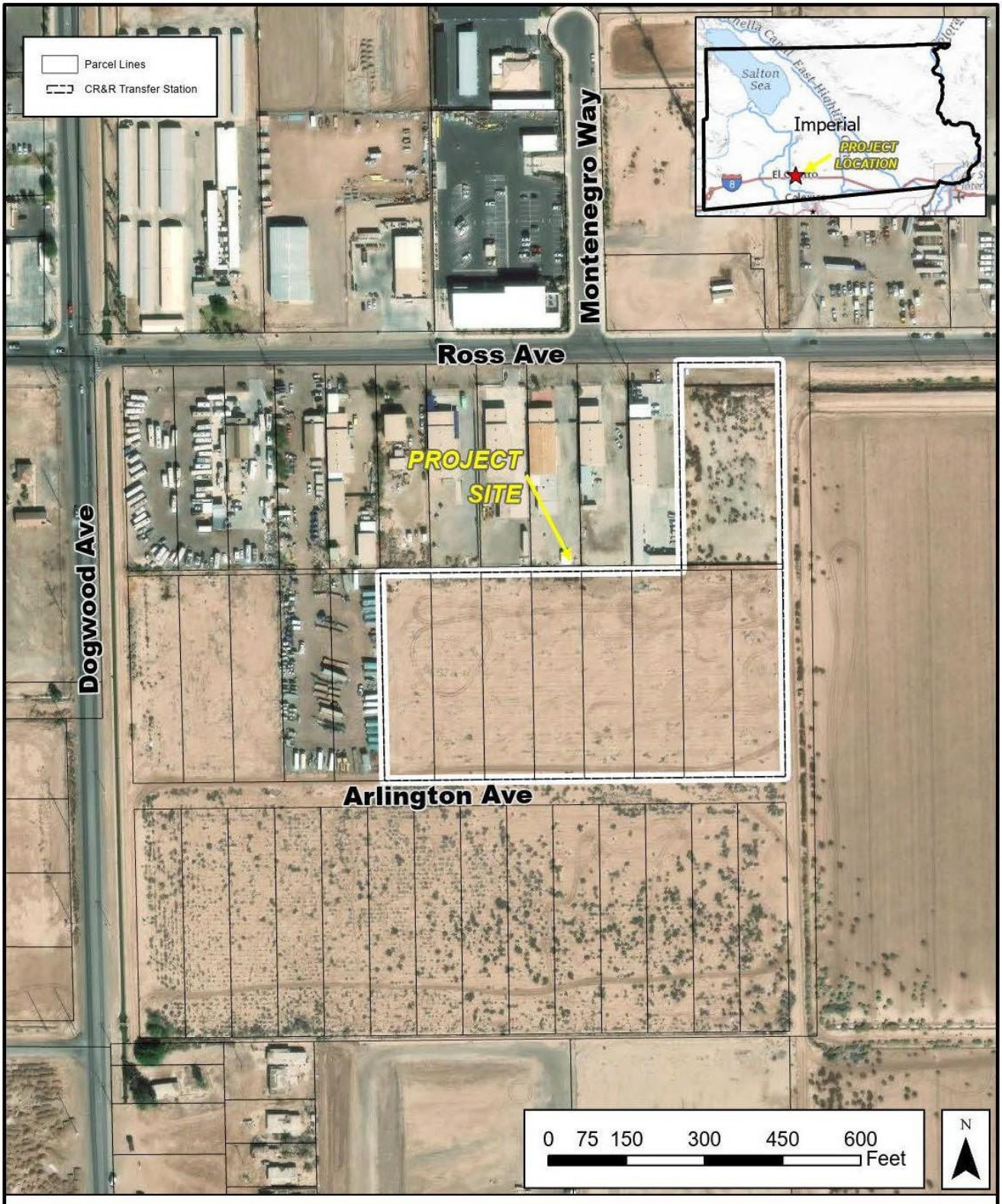

Parcel Lines
CR&R Transfer Station
Montenegro Way
Ross Ave
Dogwood Ave
PROJECT SITE
Arlington Ave
Salton Sea
Imperial
PROJECT LOCATION
0 75 150 300 450 600
Feet
N
CR&R Transfer Station
Project Location Map
City of El Centro

FIGURE- 1

FIGURE 2
BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES MAP


Communication tower
American Diesel Repair
United Food Trading
Ferguson
Airgas Store
SoCalGas
Nantucket Way
Industry Way
S Dogwood Rd & Ross Ave
Ross Ave
Ross Ave
Ross Ave
Ross Ave
Central Drain Three H
El Centro RV Repair & Supply
Inland TRP (El Centro)
Arctic Air Conditioning
Ruderal vegetation
Agriculture
CR&R WASTE TRANSFER FACILITY
Biological Resources Map
Vacant lot
Ruderal vegetation
S Dogwood Rd
S31
Vacant lot
Google Earth
Image © 2024 Airbus
86
N
400 ft

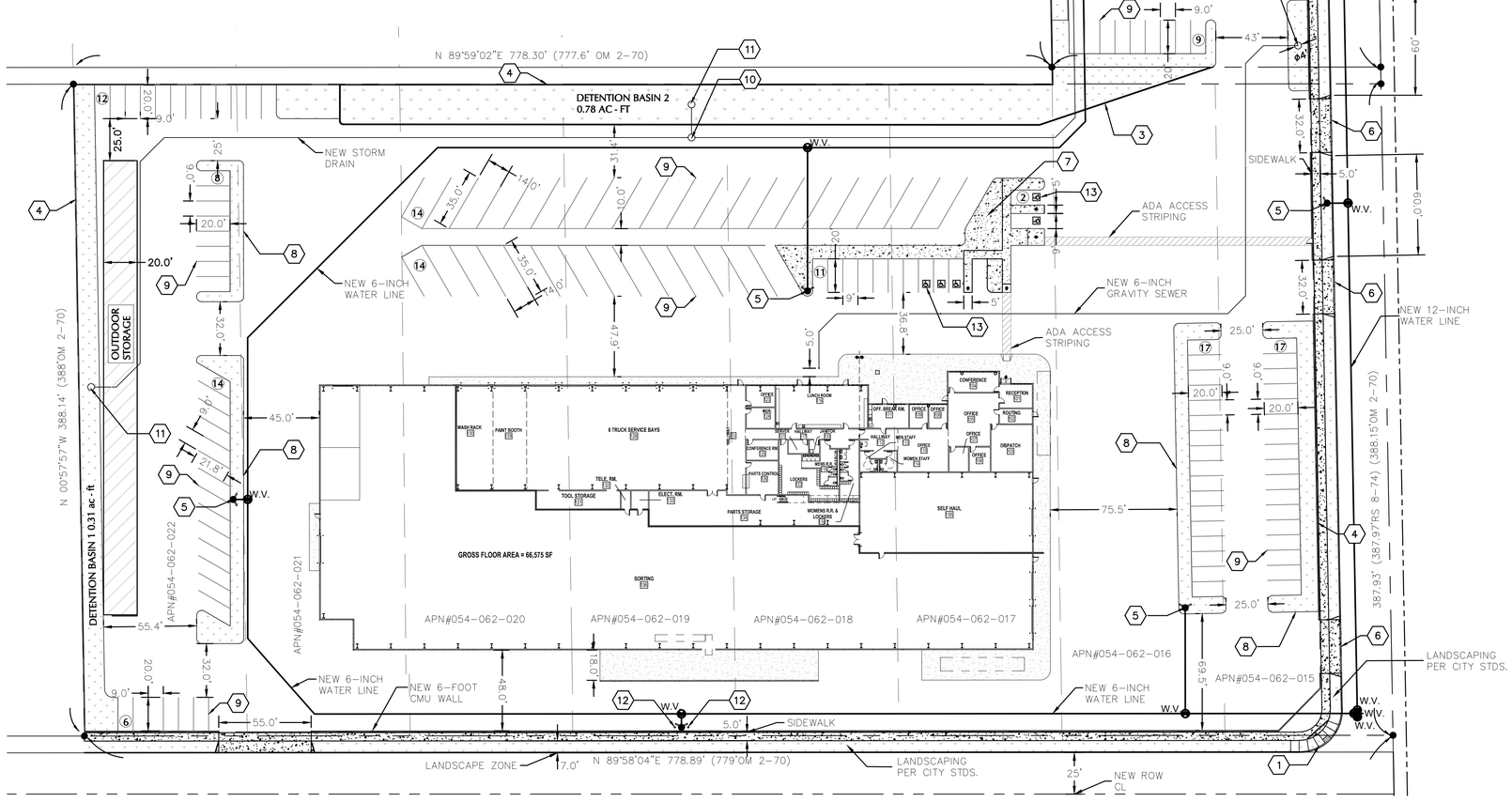
FIGURE 3
SITE PLANS

ZONING ANALYSIS

PARKING			
Sec. 29-129.	Accessible parking spaces required.		
Table 29-129.1	(4) Number of required spaces	5 Accessible Spaces	5 Accessible Spaces
Table 29-134	(b) Parking Layout	1 per 500 square feet of gross floor area	135 ParkingSpaces
SETBACKS			
Table 29-70.1	(d) Minimum building setbacks, in feet:	No requirement	
	(1) Front:		
	(2) Rear:		
	a. Abutting a nonresidential zone:	No requirement	
	(3) Side:		
	a. Abutting a non-residential zone	No requirement	
	b. Exterior side	No requirement	
	(4) Between main buildings	No requirement	
	(5) Abutting interior driveways and open parking	No requirement	
BUILDING HEIGHT			
Table 29-70.1	(f) Maximum building height, in feet	75 feet	
FENCING			
29-71(i)(3)(b)	(i) Special landscaping requirements for new development in the MBP zone:		6-ft CMU Wall
LOT SIZE			
		No requirement	
GROSS FLOOR AREA			
Table 29-128.1	Manufactuing and industrial uses (including open manufacturing or assembly areas).		(GFA)= 66,575 SF
LANDSCAPE AREA			
29-142(e)		At least fifteen (15) percent of the net lot	15.20%

RETENTION CALCULATIONS

RETENTION VOLUME			
Detention Volume Required (Q = CiA)		100-yr, 24-hr	1.47 ac-ft
		10-yr, 24-hr	0.94 ac-ft
		1-yr, 24-hr	0.20 ac-ft
RETENTION VOLUME PROVIDED			
Detention Basin	Area (sf)	Vol (cf) @ Max Depth 3 ft	ac-ft
1	4474	13422	0.31
2	11380	34140	0.78
3	3469	10407	0.24
4	4416	13248	0.30
		Total	1.63



LEGEND

- NEW CONCRETE
- NEW OUTDOOR STORAGE AREA
- NEW LOW MOW TURF OR OTHER LANDSCAPING

SCHEDULE OF WORK

1. NEW ADA RAMP COE STD ..... SEE DETAIL XXX
2. NEW SIDEWALK COE STD ..... SEE DETAIL XXX
3. NEW VERTICAL CURB COE STD ..... SEE DETAIL XXX
4. NEW CMU WALL ..... SEE DETAIL XXX
5. NEW FIRE HYDRANT COE STD ..... SEE DETAIL XXX
6. NEW DRIVEWAY COE STD ..... SEE DETAIL XXX
7. NEW CNG COMPRESSOR ..... SEE DETAIL XXX
8. NEW VERTICAL CURB WITH LANDSCAPED AREA ..... SEE DETAIL XXX
9. NEW THERMOPLASTIC STRIPING PARKING STRIPES ..... SEE DETAIL XXX
10. NEW STORMWATER MH. ..... SEE DETAIL XXX
11. NEW RETENTION BASIN DRAIN ..... SEE DETAIL XXX
12. NEW BOLLARDS ..... SEE DETAIL XXX
13. NEW ADA STRIPING ..... SEE DETAIL XXX

N

40 0 40 80 120

PRELIMINARY PLAN
NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

CR&R SITE PLAN

CR&R WASTE TRANSFER FACILITY

SCALE:	AS SHOWN
DATE:	DEC, 2022
DES. BY:	J.B.
DRAWN BY:	P.M.
SURVEYED BY:	STAFF
JOB. No.:	022-0215
SHEET	1 OF 1

NICKLAUS ENGINEERING, INC.
1851 West 24th Street Yuma, Arizona 85364
Phone: (928) 344-8374
www.neiaw.com

C-1

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N:\2022\022-0215.00000 CR&R Solid Waste Transfer Station\06 Technical\02 - Drawings\Civil\CR_R Site Plan 20Dec2022.dwg

APPENDIX C-
SYSTEM IMPACT STUDY

CR&R Environmental Services

Southeast corner of S Dogwood Road and Ross Avenue
in the City of El Centro

System Impact Study

An Analysis for the
Imperial Irrigation District

FINAL REPORT
8/20/2024

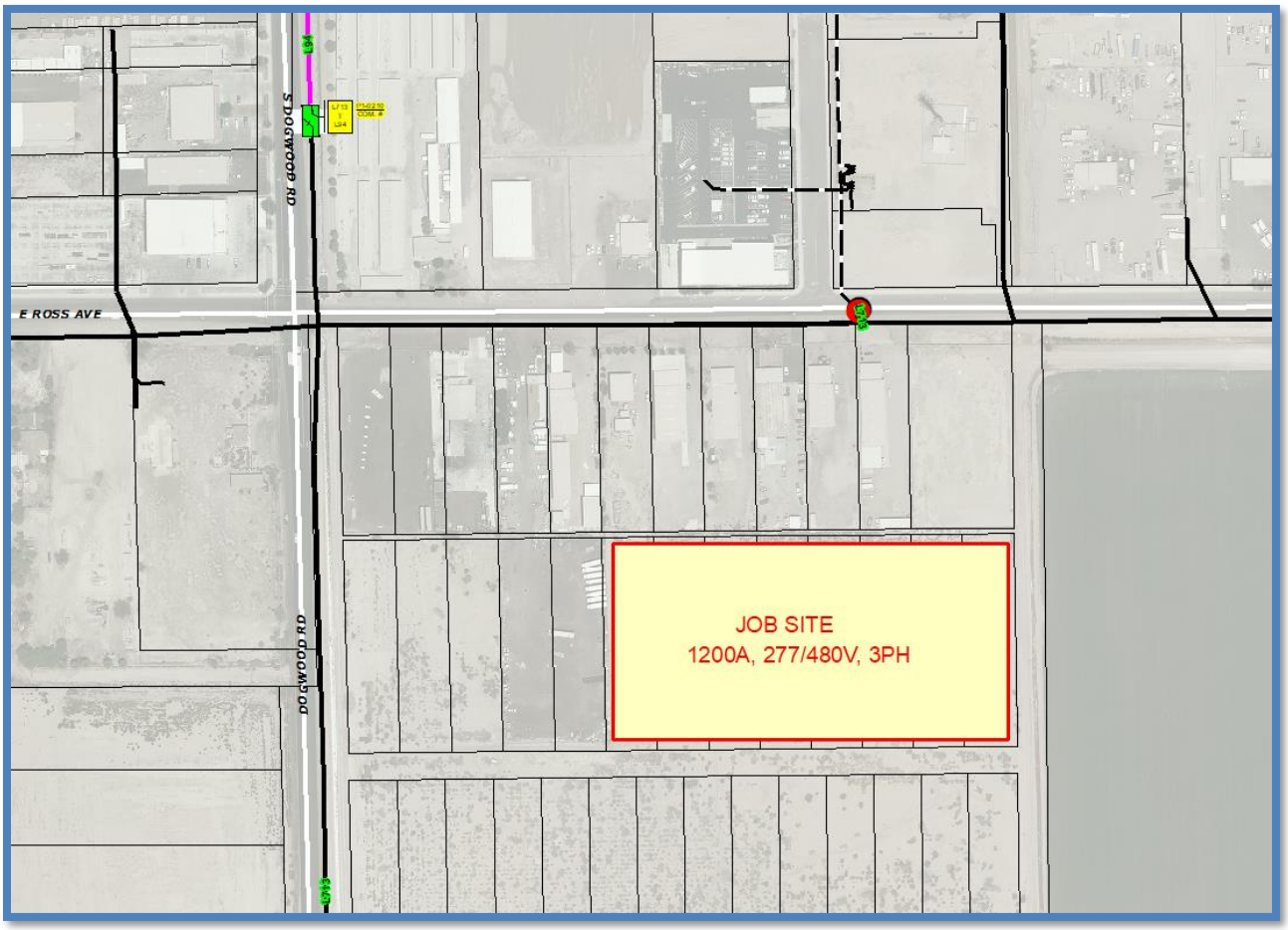
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SYSTEM IMPACT STUDY (SIS) **3**
PRE-CUSTOMER **4**
POST-CUSTOMER 4
MITIGATIONS 5
CONCLUSIONS 5

Project Description

"CR&R Environmental Services" submitted an application requesting a "1200A, 277/480V, 3Ø" service to be located at southwest corner of S Dogwood Road & Ross Avenue in the City of El Centro, CA. Customer provided the complete application including load summary and electrical drawings.

Point of Service



Scope of the Study

Using the customer's data, the "Distribution System Planning" (DSP) department incorporated the proposed load into the current distribution model. The "System Impact Study" (SIS) will assess the effects of connecting this customer to the IID distribution system and provide the following details:

- Verify if IID can fulfill the customer's service request.
- Identify any adverse impacts on the IID distribution system resulting from this customer's interconnection.

System Impact Study (SIS)

SIS was conducted for the following scenarios: Pre-Project, Post-project, and Mitigations (System Upgrades), if any.

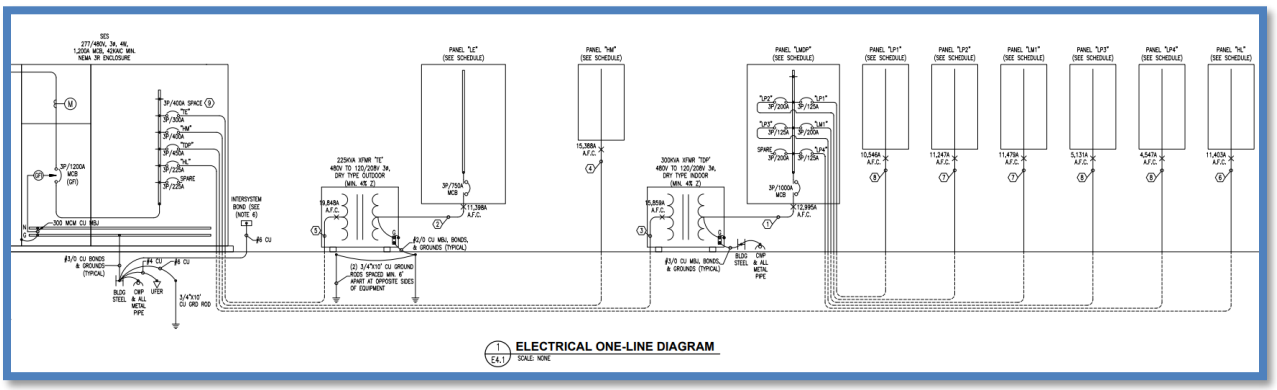
Pre-Customer

Feeder L713 is located at the North side of Customer property. This feeder has a load of 178.0 Amps with three (3) additional projects in the queue list that will raise the load to 252.7 Amps on feeder L713.

Customer	Substation	Bank #	Feeder	Existing Peak Load (2023)	Add Amps @ Primary Side	Expected Load
Customer 1	IV Mall	1	L713	178.0	22.2	200.1
Customer 2	IV Mall	1	L713	200.1	6.4	206.6
Customer 3	IV Mall	1	L713	206.6	46.2	252.7

Post-Customer

The table below depicts the data provided by the customer, IID used this information to develop the SIS.



The proposed project will add 22.2 Amps to IID Distribution System. After interconnecting customer project, the load will increase to 274.9 Amps on feeder L713. IID did not find any capacity issues after interconnecting proposed customer on feeder L713.

Customer	Substation	Bank #	Feeder	Existing Peak Load (2023)	Add Amps @ Primary Side	Expected Load
Customer 1	IV Mall	1	L713	178.0	22.2	200.1
Customer 2	IV Mall	1	L713	200.1	6.4	206.6
Customer 3	IV Mall	1	L713	206.6	46.2	252.7
CR&R	IV Mall	1	L713	252.7	22.2	274.9

A voltage analysis was performed to assess the potential impact on the IID distribution system. After connecting the proposed customer to feeder L713, IID confirmed that voltage levels remained within acceptable limits, indicating no issues. This ensured the proper functioning of the electrical system and the successful integration of the new customer.

Mitigations

No offsite upgrades are required to provide service to the requested customer load.

Conclusions

"CR&R Environmental Services" submitted an application requesting a "1200A, 277/480V, 3Ø" service to be located at southwest corner of S Dogwood Road & Ross Avenue in the City of El Centro, CA. Customer provided the complete application including load summary and electrical drawings.

According with the study results, DSP did not find any negative impacts to the IID distribution system due to the interconnection of "CR&R Environmental Services". No offsite upgrades are required to provide service to the requested customer load.