



County of Sacramento

Mitigated Negative Declaration

Pursuant to Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Article 6, Sections 15070 and 15071 of the California Code of Regulations and pursuant to the Procedures for Preparation and Processing of Environmental Documents adopted by the County of Sacramento pursuant to Sacramento County Ordinance No. SCC-116, the Environmental Coordinator of Sacramento County, State of California, does prepare, make, declare, publish, and cause to be filed with the County Clerk of Sacramento County, State of California, this Mitigated Negative Declaration re: The Project described as follows:

1. Control Number: PLER2023-00127

2. Title and Short Description of Project: Elkhorn Boulevard Complete Streets

Sacramento County Department of Transportation (SacDOT) proposes to construct the Elkhorn Boulevard Complete Streets Project (project), including a separated Class IV bikeway, Class II bike lanes, green striping, intersection improvements with signal modifications/video detection, bus turnouts, an ADA accessible bus stop, and closure of one sidewalk gap along Elkhorn Boulevard (between Cantel Way and Thomas Drive). Improvements are also proposed along a portion of Walerga Road and Don Julio Boulevard (north and south of the Elkhorn Boulevard intersection). A non-infrastructure component that would implement Safe Routes to Schools and community education and encouragement programs is also included as part of the project. The overall construction area of the project would be approximately 3.29 acres and includes approximately 1.51 acres for improvements to sidewalk, curb and gutter, curb ramps, and pavement rehabilitation adjacent to curb lines and approximately 1.78 acres for pavement rehabilitation. The maximum excavation depth during project construction would be 13-feet for the signal pole foundations

3. Assessor's Parcel Number: Various

4. Location of Project: The project site is located along Elkhorn Boulevard, between the intersections of Watt Avenue and Don Julio Boulevard, in the North Highlands community

5. Project Applicant: Sacramento County Department of Transportation

6. Said project will not have a significant effect on the environment for the following reasons:

- It will not 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.
- It will not have the potential to achieve short-term, to the disadvantage of long-term, environmental goals.
- It will not have impacts, which are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable.
- It will not have environmental effects, which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly.

7. As a result thereof, the preparation of an environmental impact report pursuant to the Environmental Quality Act (Division 13 of the Public Resources Code of the State of California) is not required.

8. The attached Initial Study has been prepared by the Sacramento County Planning and Environmental Review Division in support of this Mitigated Negative Declaration. Further information may be obtained by contacting the

Planning and Environmental Review Division at 827 Seventh Street, Room 225, Sacramento, California, 95814, or phone (916) 874-6141.

Julie Newton
Environmental Coordinator
County of Sacramento, State of California

COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW
INITIAL STUDY

PROJECT INFORMATION

CONTROL NUMBER: PLER2023-00127

NAME: Elkhorn Boulevard Complete Streets

LOCATION: The project site is located along Elkhorn Boulevard, between the intersections of Watt Avenue and Don Julio Boulevard, in the North Highlands community (Plate IS-1).

ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NUMBERS: Various

APPLICANT:

Sacramento County
Department of Transportation
4111 Branch Center Road
Sacramento, CA 95827
Attention: Josh Iniguez/Spencer Ord

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Sacramento County Department of Transportation (SacDOT) proposes to construct the Elkhorn Boulevard Complete Streets Project (project), including a separated Class IV bikeway, Class II bike lanes, green striping, intersection improvements with signal modifications/video detection, bus turnouts, an ADA accessible bus stop, and closure of one sidewalk gap along Elkhorn Boulevard (between Cantel Way and Thomas Drive) (Plates IS-2.1-2.6). Improvements are also proposed along a portion of Walerga Road and Don Julio Boulevard (north and south of the Elkhorn Boulevard intersection). A non-infrastructure component that would implement Safe Routes to Schools and community education and encouragement programs is also included as part of the project. The overall construction area of the project would be approximately 3.29 acres and includes approximately 1.51 acres for improvements to sidewalk, curb and gutter, curb ramps, and pavement rehabilitation adjacent to curb lines and approximately 1.78 acres for pavement rehabilitation. The maximum excavation depth during project construction would be 13-feet for the signal pole foundations.

Plate IS-1: County Vicinity Map

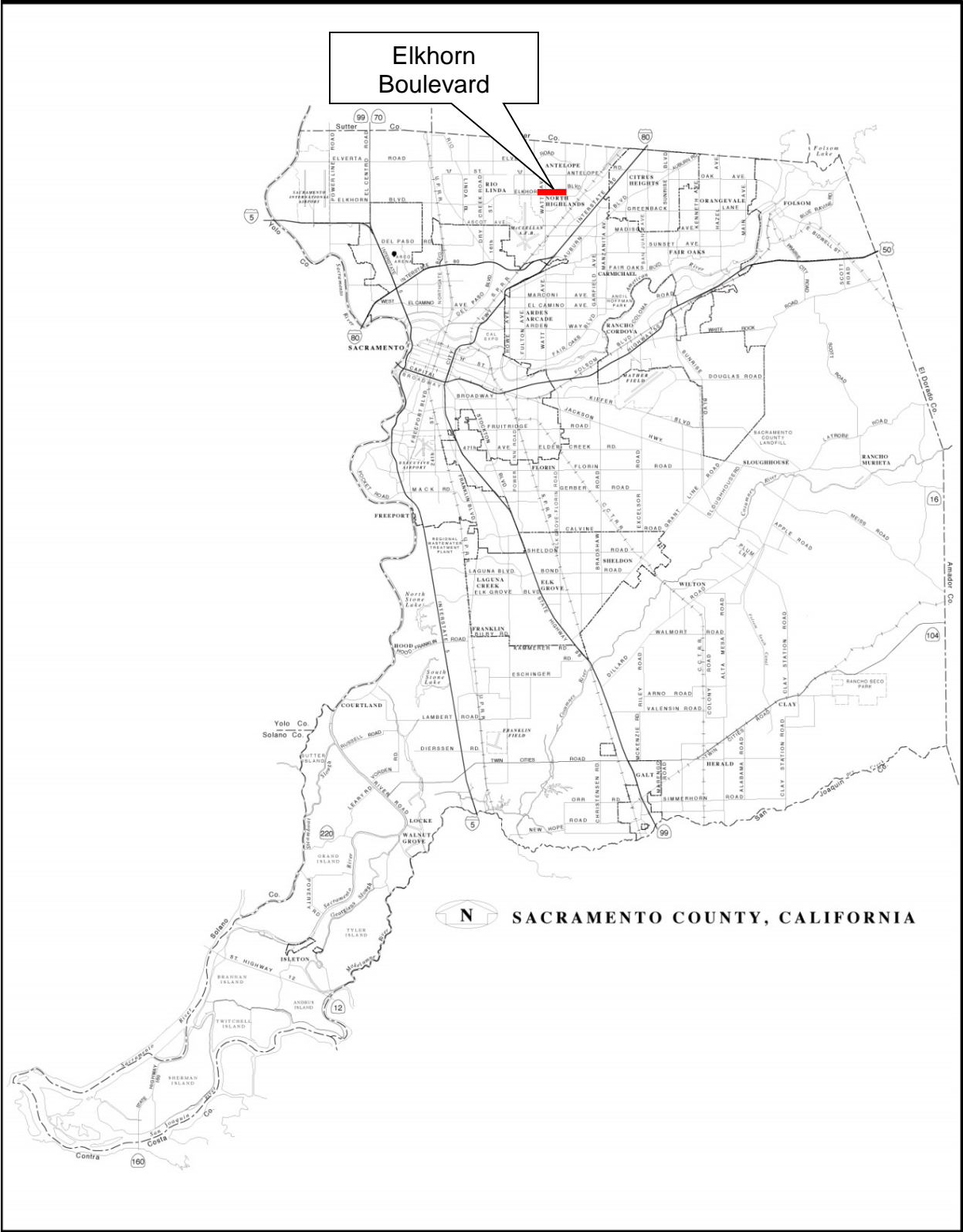


Plate IS-2.1: Project Location Map (1 of 6)

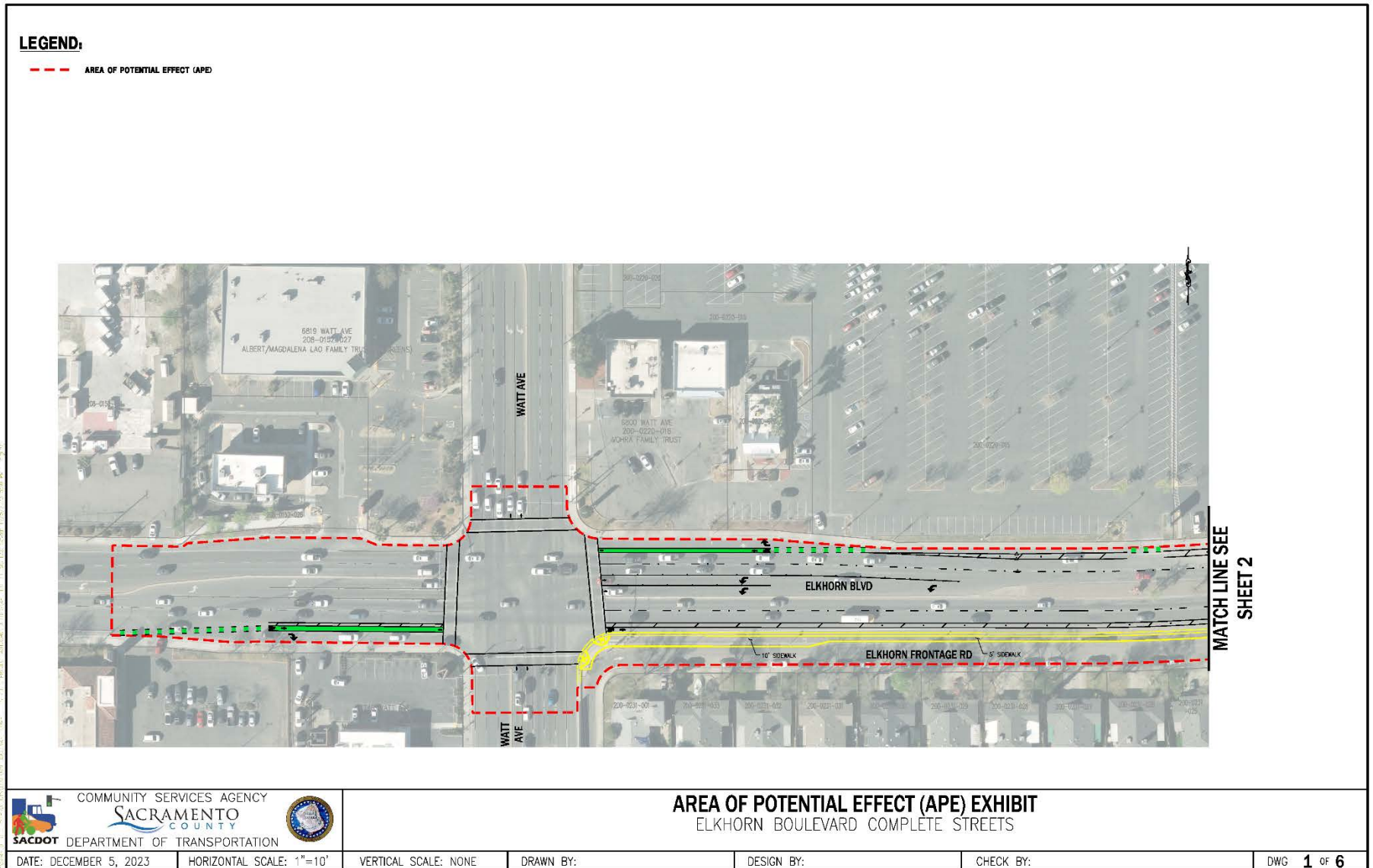
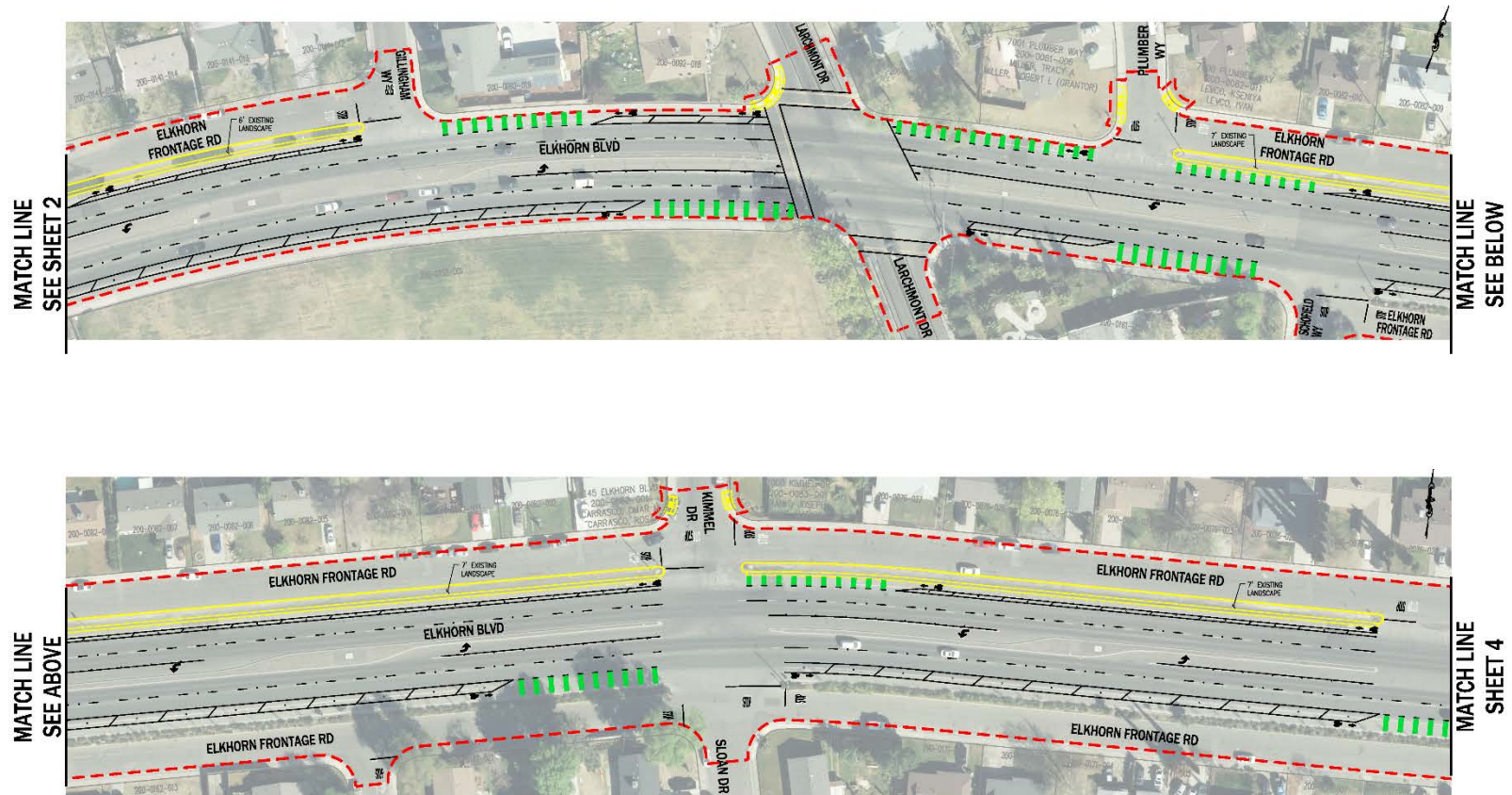


Plate IS-2.2: Project Location Map (2 of 6)



Plate IS-2.3: Project Location Map (3 of 6)



 <p>COMMUNITY SERVICES AGENCY SACRAMENTO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION</p>		<p>AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECT (APE) EXHIBIT ELKHORN BOULEVARD COMPLETE STREETS</p>				
DATE: DECEMBER 5, 2023	HORIZONTAL SCALE: 1"=10'	VERTICAL SCALE: NONE	DRAWN BY:	DESIGN BY:	CHECK BY:	DWG 3 of 6

Plate IS-2.4: Project Location Map (4 of 6)

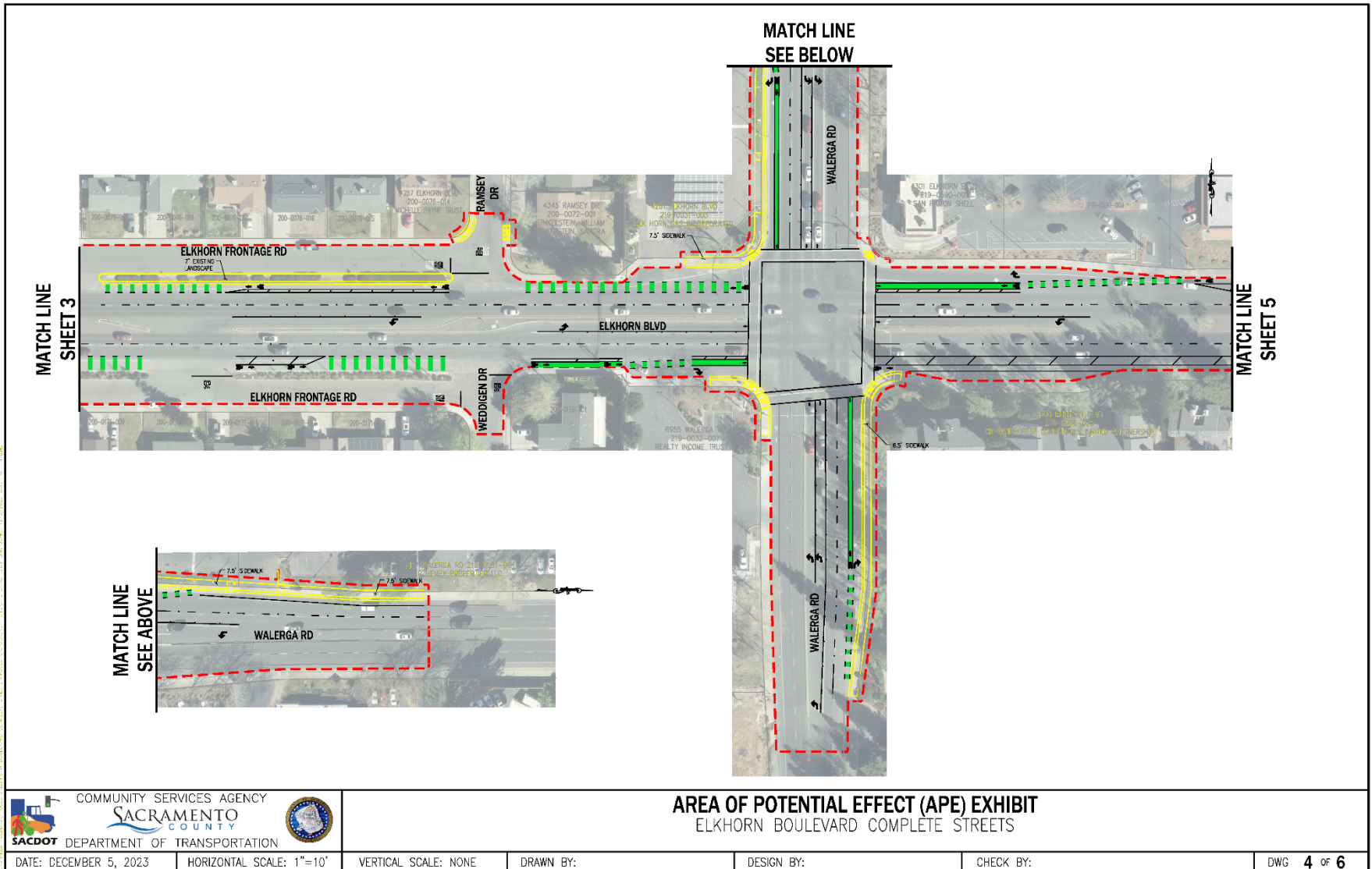


Plate IS-2.5: Project Location Map (5 of 6)



AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECT (APE) EXHIBIT
ELKHORN BOULEVARD COMPLETE STREETS

DATE: DECEMBER 5, 2023	HORIZONTAL SCALE: 1"=10'	VERTICAL SCALE: NONE	DRAWN BY:	DESIGN BY:	CHECK BY:	DWG 5 OF 6
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Plate IS-2.6: Project Location Map (6 of 6)



COMMUNITY SERVICES AGENCY
SACRAMENTO
COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECT (APE) EXHIBIT
ELKHORN BOULEVARD COMPLETE STREETS

DATE: DECEMBER 5, 2023	HORIZONTAL SCALE: 1"=10'	VERTICAL SCALE: NONE	DRAWN BY:	DESIGN BY:	CHECK BY:	DWG 6 OF 6
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ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The project site is within the North Highlands/Old Foothill Farms community of unincorporated Sacramento County (Plate IS-1). The site is located on the west and east peripheries of Elkhorn Boulevard, extending approximately 1.8 miles between Watt Avenue and Don Julio Boulevard (Plates IS-2.1-2.6). The project site is fully developed with mature trees and landscaping, with the exception of one vacant 7.38± acre parcel, and the site exists within an urbanized corridor. Overall, the project site is relatively flat but does have changes in grade elevation from Elkhorn Boulevard at the Watt Avenue intersection at 90± feet to a maximum rise of 150± feet along the intersection of Elkhorn Boulevard and Don Julio Boulevard.

ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

Appendix G of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) provides guidance for assessing the significance of potential environmental impacts. Based on this guidance, Sacramento County has developed an Initial Study Checklist (located at the end of this report). The Checklist identifies a range of potential significant effects by topical area. The topical discussions that follow are provided only when additional analysis beyond the Checklist is warranted.

LAND USE

This section supplements the Initial Study Checklist by analyzing if the project would:

- Physically divide an established community;
- Conflict with a land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect;
- Induce substantial population growth; or
- Displace substantial numbers of existing housing or people.

CONFLICTS WITH LAND USE PLANS, POLICIES OR REGULATIONS FOR MITIGATING AN ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECT

Within the project site, between Watt Avenue and Don Julio Boulevard, Elkhorn Boulevard is designated as thoroughfare (pre-2030) in the Sacramento County 2030 General Plan Transportation Diagram. Walerga Road and Don Julio Boulevard are designated as an arterial – 4 lanes (pre-2030) in the Sacramento County 2030 General Plan Transportation Diagram. Past the project site, Elkhorn Boulevard continues to Interstate 80, eventually becoming Greenback Lane.

The project site is within the North Highlands/Old Foothill Farms Community Plan. General Plan designations for the project site are Low Density Residential, Medium Density Residential, Commercial/Office, and Transit Oriented Development. Community Plan designations for the project site are Shopping Center (SC), General Commercial (GC), Limited Commercial (LC), Residential Density 5 acres (RD-5), Residential Density 10 acres (RD-10) Residential Density 20 acres (RD-20), and Special Planning Area (SPA). Zoning for the project site is SPA, RD-10., RD-5, LC, SC, and RD-20. The project will not conflict with a land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect. The project will provide pedestrian connectivity and safety mechanisms to improve walkability, biking, and transit usage along the Elkhorn Boulevard corridor. Specific topical policy consistency discussions are included elsewhere in this document as appropriate. Implementation of the project would not create a use that is inconsistent with the current land use designations and environmental impacts associated with land use are considered ***less than significant***.

PHYSICALLY DIVIDE AN ESTABLISHED COMMUNITY

In order to develop the project, right-of-way (ROW) acquisition would need to be obtained from adjacent property owners. The project would require acquisition for public utilities public facilities easements (PUPFE) and temporary construction easements (TCE). Table IS-1 indicates the properties to be acquired as a result of the project by noting each property by APN, address, total parcel size, and amount to be acquired in acres. Only minor amounts of ROW strips will be acquired from individual property owners and businesses and no full property takes or business relocations are expected. The area to be acquired includes driveways, curb, gutter, and sidewalk, and roadside vegetation/trees. Total right-of-way ROW to be acquired for PUPFE will be from four parcels totaling approximately 7,972 square feet. Temporary construction easements will be acquired for six parcels totaling approximately 10,041 square feet.

Table IS-1: ROW Acquisition List

APN	Address	Total Parcel Size (square feet)	Public Utilities Public Facilities Easement (PUPFE) (square feet)	Temporary Construction Easement (TCE) (square feet)
200-0400-004	Watt Avenue	321,473	5196.11	4726.72
219-0031-003	4261 Elkhorn Boulevard	36,590	1655.72	1614.57
219-0031-004	7117 Walerga Road	92,783	437.88	1071.08
219-0036-025	4400 Elkhorn Boulevard	426,888	682.51	1599.5

200-0220-023	3661 Elkhorn Boulevard	134,600	0	941.45
200-0220-024	3661 Elkhorn Boulevard	42,919	0	87.26

Compensation for ROW acquisition is typically carried out during the appraisal and compensation negotiations between the County and individual property owners. Sacramento County purchases rights-of-way by notifying the owners that the County requires them; informing the owners of their right to fair compensation; negotiating with the owner or the owner's representatives; and paying the agreed market value for the required ROW.

If agreement cannot be reached, the County may file a condemnation action in court; exercising the government's right of eminent domain as provided by the Constitution. In such a case, the court hears testimonies relative to the value of the lands and/or easements the County wishes to acquire. Based on the evidence presented by the County and the landowner, the court will make a determination on what is fair compensation. Either party may appeal the judge's decision if they are dissatisfied with the compensation awarded.

Typically, acquisition from either a willing seller or by eminent domain would only affect those areas of land actually needed for project construction or facilities, and would thus not affect the remainder of each parcel. In some cases, the property owners may need to obtain waivers from mortgage holders and/or revise title insurance policies to cover a change in property description, as a result of selling a small portion of their land.

In acquiring property, the County (and the courts, if involved) would consider not only the value of the land, but the value of anything on the land. They would also consider whether there would be any effect on the remaining parcel by taking a portion of the property. Such effects are termed severance damages. If a public agency wishes to purchase half of a parcel, for example, that purchase may decrease the value of the remainder. In such cases, public agencies often buy the entire parcel since it can be less costly.

Although permanent ROW acquisition would be required to construct the project, this would not result in physically dividing an established community. Additionally, implementation of the project would not displace a substantial number of existing housing or necessitate construction of replacement housing elsewhere. Therefore, land use impacts would be ***less than significant***.

PUBLIC SERVICES

This section supplements the Initial Study Checklist by analyzing if the project would

- Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of services, including water supply, wastewater treatment and disposal, provision of

- electric or natural gas service, provision of emergency services, provision of public school services, and provision of park and recreation services; or
- Exceed the capacity of an existing stormwater or sewage system.

The project site is located within the service area of unincorporated Sacramento County where waste supply, wastewater, stormwater and solid waste collection services are provided to the North Highlands community. The project is not expected to increase the demands on public services, as it is a public infrastructure project to improve pedestrian access along an existing roadway. No significant impacts to public services are expected as a result of project approval.

UTILITIES

The existing utilities within the project site consist of underground and overhead lines and associated poles. See Table IS-2, below, for information on utility relocation due to the project. One existing fire hydrant will require relocation due to the project. The fire hydrant is located within the County ROW at the northwest corner of Elkhorn Boulevard and Walerga Road; thus, the utility owner will be responsible for the relocation. Sacramento County will acquire the necessary easement to accommodate the new improvements and new location for this fire hydrant. Additionally, one Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) owned streetlight will require relocation at the southeast corner of Elkhorn Boulevard and Larchmont Drive. The project will also adjust sanitary sewer manholes, water valve boxes, and utility access points to grade at various locations. The utilities affected include, but are not limited to, Sacramento Suburban Water District, PG&E underground gas, Comcast, SMUD underground electricity, and AT&T Underground communication. The project will comply with all permitting and compliance relating to the relocation of public utilities.

Table IS-2: Utility Relocation List

Utility Type	Location on Power Inn Road	Relocate to
Fire Hydrant	Northeast Corner of Elkhorn Blvd and Walerga Road; Within the County ROW	To Be Determined
Streetlight/SMUD Owned	Southeast corner of Elkhorn Boulevard and Larchmont Drive	To Be Determined

As set forth in utility coordinating procedures for cities and counties, adopted on November 19, 1992 by the Joint Utilities Coordination Committee – American Public Works Association (APWA), each utility is obligated to relocate their facilities when necessary to make way for the proper governmental use of the streets. For this reason, procedures have been established to assist cities, counties, and utilities in coordinating public improvement projects. These procedures set guidelines for project engineers

responsible for the development of plans and specifications for city and county projects, to coordinate with utility providers during the design and pre-construction phases of the work.

The objectives of coordination are to identify utility locations and to minimize service interruption. These objectives are met by providing affected utility providers with the necessary construction plans showing project limits, centerline, rights-of-way, and other pertinent information. Utilities are then able to plan and initiate possible utility relocation prior to project construction.

Standard practices for locating, working around and relocating public utility lines, including coordination with affected agencies, will ensure that impacts related to utilities will be ***less than significant***.

AIR QUALITY

This section supplements the Initial Study Checklist by analyzing if the project would:

- Result in cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is in non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?

The project site is located in the Sacramento Valley Air Basin (SVAB). The SVAB's frequent temperature inversions result in a relatively stable atmosphere that increases the potential for pollution. Within the SVAB, the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District (SMAQMD) is responsible for ensuring that emission standards are not violated. Project related air emissions would have a significant effect if they would result in concentrations that either violate an ambient air quality standard or contribute to an existing air quality violation (Table IS-3). Moreover, SMAQMD has established significance thresholds to determine if a project's emission contribution significantly contributes to regional air quality impacts (Table IS-4).

Table IS-3: Air Quality Standards Attainment Status

Pollutant	Attainment with State Standards	Attainment with Federal Standards
Ozone	Non-Attainment (1 hour Standard ¹ and 8 hour standard)	Non-Attainment, Classification = Severe -15* (8 hour ³ Standards) Attainment (1 hour standard ²)
Particulate Matter 10 Micron	Non-Attainment (24 hour Standard and Annual Mean)	Attainment (24 hour standard)
Particulate Matter 2.5 Micron	Attainment (Annual Standard)	Non-Attainment (24 hour Standard) and Attainment (Annual)
Carbon Monoxide	Attainment (1 hour and 8 hour Standards)	Attainment (1 hour and 8 hour Standards)

Nitrogen Dioxide	Attainment (1 hour Standard and Annual)	Unclassified/Attainment (1 hour and Annual)
Sulfur Dioxide ⁴	Attainment (1 hour and 24 hour Standards)	Attainment/unclassifiable ⁵
Lead	Attainment (30 Day Standard)	Attainment (3-month rolling average)
Visibility Reducing Particles	Unclassified (8 hour Standard)	No Federal Standard
Sulfates	Attainment (24 hour Standard)	No Federal Standard
Hydrogen Sulfide	Unclassified (1 hour Standard)	No Federal Standard
<p>1. Per Health and Safety Code (HSC) § 40921.59(c), the classification is based on 1989-1001 data, and therefore does not change.</p> <p>2. Air Quality meets Federal 1-hour Ozone standard (77 FR 64036). EPA revoked this standard, but some associated requirements still apply. The SMAQMD attained the standard in 2009.</p> <p>3. For the 1997, 2008 and the 2015 Standard.</p> <p>4. Cannot be classified</p> <p>5. Designation was made as part of EPA's designations for the 2010 SO₂ Primary National Ambient Air Quality Standard – Round 3 Designation in December 2017</p> <p>* Designations based on information from http://www.arb.ca.gov/desig/changes.htm#reports</p> <p>Source: SMAQMD. "Air Quality Pollutants and Standards". Web. Accessed: December 3, 2018. http://airquality.org/air-quality-health/air-quality-pollutants-and-standards</p>		

Table IS-4: SMAQMD Significance Thresholds

	ROG ¹ (lbs/day)	NO _x (lbs/day)	CO (µg/m ³)	PM ₁₀ (lbs/day)	PM _{2.5} (lbs/day)
Construction (short-term)	None	85	CAAQS ²	80 ^{3*}	82 ^{3*}
Operational (long-term)	65	65	CAAQS	80 ^{3*}	82 ^{3*}
<p>1. Reactive Organic Gas</p> <p>2. California Ambient Air Quality Standards</p> <p>3*. Only applies to projects for which all feasible best available control technology (BACT) and best management practices (BMPs) have been applied. Projects that fail to apply all feasible BACT/BMPs must meet a significance threshold of 0 lbs/day.</p>					

CONSTRUCTION EMISSIONS/SHORT-TERM IMPACTS

Short-term air quality impacts are mostly due to dust (PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}) generated by construction and development activities, and emissions from equipment and vehicle engines (NO_x) operated during these activities. Dust generation is dependent on soil type and soil moisture, as well as the amount of total acreage actually involved in clearing, grubbing and grading activities. Clearing and earthmoving activities comprise

the major source of construction dust generation, but traffic and general disturbance of the soil also contribute to the problem. Sand, lime or other fine particulate materials may be used during construction and stored on-site. If not stored properly, such materials could become airborne during periods of high winds. The effects of construction activities include increased dust fall and locally elevated levels of suspended particulates. PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} are considered unhealthy because the particles are small enough to inhale and damage lung tissue, which can lead to respiratory problems.

CONSTRUCTION PARTICULATE MATTER EMISSIONS

The Guide to Air Quality Assessment in Sacramento County (SMAQMD Guide) includes screening criteria for construction-related particulate matter. Projects that are 35 acres or less in size will generally not exceed the SMAQMD's construction PM₁₀ or PM_{2.5} thresholds of significance provided that the project does not:

- Include buildings more than 4 stories tall;
- Include demolition activities;
- Include significant trenching activities;
- Have a construction schedule that is unusually compact, fast-paced, or involves more than 2 phases (i.e., grading, paving, building construction, and architectural coatings) occurring simultaneously;
- Involve cut-and-fill operations (moving earth with haul trucks and/or flattening or terracing hills); or,
- Require import or export of soil materials that will require a considerable amount of haul truck activity.

PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} emissions during project construction can be reduced through compliance with institutional requirements for dust abatement and erosion control. These institutional measures include the SMAQMD "District Rule 403-Fugitive Dust" and measures in the Sacramento County Code relating to land grading and erosion control [Title 16, Chapter 16.44, Section 16.44.090(K)].

The project site is less than 35 acres and does not involve buildings more than 4 stories tall; demolition activities; significant trenching activities; an unusually compact construction schedule; cut-and-fill operations; or, import or export of soil materials requiring a considerable amount of haul truck activity. Therefore, the project meets the SMAQMD Guide screening criteria for PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}.

The SMAQMD Guide includes a list of Basic Construction Emissions Control Practices that should be implemented on all projects, regardless of size. Dust abatement practices are required pursuant to SMAQMD Rule 403 and California Code of Regulations, Title 13, sections 2449(d)(3) and 2485; the SMAQMD Guide simply lays

out the basic practices needed to comply. These requirements are already required by existing rules and regulations and have also been included as mitigation.

CONSTRUCTION OZONE PRECURSOR EMISSIONS (NO_x)

The SMAQMD Guide currently provides screening criteria for construction-related ozone precursor emissions (NO_x) similar to those which will be implemented for particulate matter. Projects that are 35 acres or less in size will generally not exceed the SMAQMD's construction NO_x thresholds of significance provided that the project does not:

- Include buildings more than 4 stories tall;
- Include demolition activities;
- Include significant trenching activities;
- Have a construction schedule that is unusually compact, fast-paced, or involves more than 2 phases (i.e., grading, paving, building construction, and architectural coatings) occurring simultaneously;
- Involve cut-and-fill operations (moving earth with haul trucks and/or flattening or terracing hills);
- Require import or export of soil materials that will require a considerable amount of haul truck activity; or,
- Require soil disturbance (i.e., grading) that exceeds 15 acres per day. Note that 15 acres is a screening level and shall not be used as a mitigation measure.

CONSTRUCTION EMISSIONS CONCLUSION

The screening criteria for construction emissions related to both particulate matter and ozone precursors are almost identical, as shown above. As noted, the project site is less than 35 acres (3.29± acres) and does not involve buildings more than 4 stories tall; significant trenching activities; an unusually compact construction schedule; or import or export of soil materials requiring a considerable amount of haul truck activity. The project shall comply with SMAQMD Basic Construction Emissions Control Practices (Mitigation Measure A). Therefore, the project falls below the SMAQMD Guide screening criteria for construction emissions related to both Particulate Matter and Ozone precursors and impacts are ***less than significant with mitigation***.

HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

This section supplements the Initial Study Checklist by analyzing if the project would:

- Develop within a 100-year floodplain as mapped on a federal Flood Insurance Rate Map or within a local flood hazard area?
- Create substantial sources of polluted runoff or otherwise substantially degrade ground or surface water quality?

FLOODPLAIN

The project limits are located within the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Zone X, as determined by the 2012 FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM). Flood Zone X is defined as an “area determined to be outside the 500-year floodplain”, which indicates there is a less than 0.2 percent chance of a flood event occurring on the site for any given year. A small portion of the project site along Elkhorn Boulevard before the Watt Avenue intersection is also located within FEMA Flood Zone AH, a Special Flood Hazard Area with a 1% annual chance of shallow flooding. The project will maintain existing drainage patterns and any drainage facilities that are installed will connect to existing drainage facilities located along Elkhorn Boulevard. Impacts related to hydrology and flooding are considered ***less than significant***.

WATER QUALITY

CONSTRUCTION WATER QUALITY: EROSION AND GRADING

Construction exposes bare soil, which can be mobilized by rain or wind and displaced into waterways or become an air pollutant. Construction equipment can also track mud and dirt onto roadways, where rains will wash the sediment into storm drains and thence into surface waters. After construction is complete, various other pollutants generated by site use can also be washed into local waterways. These pollutants include, but are not limited to, vehicle fluids, heavy metals deposited by vehicles, and pesticides or fertilizers used in landscaping.

Sacramento County has a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Municipal Stormwater Permit issued by the Regional Water Board. The Municipal Stormwater Permit requires the County to reduce pollutants in stormwater discharges to the maximum extent practicable and to effectively prohibit non-stormwater discharges. The County complies with this permit in part by developing and enforcing ordinances and requirements to reduce the discharge of sediments and other pollutants in runoff from newly developing and redeveloping areas of the County.

The County has established a Stormwater Ordinance (Sacramento County Code 15.12). The Stormwater Ordinance prohibits the discharge of unauthorized non-stormwater to the County’s stormwater conveyance system and local creeks. In addition to complying with the County’s ordinances and requirements, construction sites disturbing one or more acres are required to comply with the State’s General Stormwater Permit for Construction Activities (CGP). CGP coverage is issued by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/stormwater/construction.shtml and enforced by the Regional Water Board. Coverage is obtained by submitting a Notice of Intent (NOI) to the State Board prior to construction and verified by receiving a WDI#.

The CGP requires preparation and implementation of a site-specific Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) that must be kept on site at all times for review by the State inspector.

The project must include an effective combination of erosion, sediment and other pollution control BMPs in compliance with the County ordinances and the State's CGP. Erosion controls should always be the *first line of defense*, to keep soil from being mobilized in wind and water. Examples include stabilized construction entrances, tackified mulch, 3-step hydroseeding, spray-on soil stabilizers and anchored blankets. Sediment controls are the *second line of defense*; they help to filter sediment out of runoff before it reaches the storm drains and local waterways. Examples include rock bags to protect storm drain inlets, staked or weighted straw wattles/fiber rolls, and silt fences.

In addition to erosion and sediment controls, the project must have BMPs in place to keep other construction-related wastes and pollutants out of the storm drains. Such practices include but are not limited to: filtering water from dewatering operations, providing proper washout areas for concrete trucks and stucco/paint contractors, containing wastes, managing portable toilets properly, and dry sweeping instead of washing down dirty pavement.

The proposed BMPs of the project should be appropriate for the unique site conditions, including topography, soil type, and anticipated volumes of water entering and leaving the site during the construction phase. Project compliance with requirements outlined above, as administered by the County and the Regional Water Board will ensure that project-related erosion and pollution impacts are ***less than significant***.

OPERATION: STORMWATER RUNOFF

Development and urbanization can increase pollutant loads, temperature, volume and discharge velocity of runoff over the predevelopment condition. The increased volume, increased velocity, and discharge duration of stormwater runoff from developed areas has the potential to greatly accelerate downstream erosion and impair stream habitat in natural drainage systems. Studies have demonstrated a direct correlation between the degree of imperviousness of an area and the degradation of its receiving waters. These impacts must be mitigated by requiring appropriate runoff reduction and pollution prevention controls to minimize runoff and keep runoff clean for the life of the project.

The County requires that projects include source and/or treatment control measures on selected new development and redevelopment projects. Source control BMPs are intended to keep pollutants from contacting site runoff. Examples include “No Dumping-Drains to Creek/River” stencils/stamps on storm drain inlets to educate the public, and providing roofs over areas likely to contain pollutants, so that rainfall does not contact the pollutants. Treatment control measures are intended to remove pollutants that have already been mobilized in runoff. Examples include vegetated swales and water quality detention basins. These facilities slow water down and allow sediments and pollutants to settle out prior to discharge to receiving waters. Additionally, vegetated facilities provide filtration and pollutant uptake/adsorption. Project compliance with requirements outlined above will ensure that project related stormwater pollution impacts are ***less than significant***.

BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

This section supplements the Initial Study Checklist by analyzing if the project would:

- Have a substantial adverse effect on any special status species, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, or threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community?
- Have a substantial adverse effect on riparian habitat or other sensitive natural communities?
- Have a substantial adverse effect on streams, wetlands, or other surface waters that are protected by federal, state, or local regulations and policies?
- Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources?

A search of the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) and United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) species lists were used to determine the potential habitats and species which could be impacted by the project. Review of the CNDDDB and the USFWS species lists indicates that some sensitive habitats, plants, and animals occur within the Rio Linda and Citrus Heights 7.5-minute United States Geologic Survey (USGS) quadrangles. However, none of those species identified by the USFWS and CNDDDB as species of concern, rare, threatened, or endangered are known to occur within the project limits. The closest occurrence of a listed species is approximately one (1) mile from the project limits.

NON-NATIVE TREES AND SHADE CANOPY

SACRAMENTO COUNTY GENERAL PLAN CONSERVATION ELEMENT

The Sacramento County General Plan Conservation Element contains several policies aimed at preserving tree canopy within the County. These are:

CO-145. Removal of non-native tree canopy for development shall be mitigated by creation of new tree canopy equivalent to the acreage of non-native tree canopy removed. New tree canopy acreage shall be calculated using the 15-year shade cover values for tree species.

CO-146. If new tree canopy cannot be created on-site to mitigate for the non-native tree canopy removed for new development, project proponents (including public agencies) shall contribute to the Greenprint funding in an amount proportional to the tree canopy of the specific project.

CO-147. Increase the number of trees planted within residential lots and within new and existing parking lots.

CO-149. Trees planted within new or existing parking lots should utilize pervious cement and structured soils in a radius from the base of the tree necessary to maximize water infiltration sufficient to sustain the tree at full growth.

The 15-year shade cover values for tree species referenced in policy CO-145 are also referenced by the Sacramento County Zoning Code, Chapter 30, Article 4, and the list is maintained by the Sacramento County Department of Transportation, (SacDOT) Landscape Planning and Design Division. The list includes more than seventy trees, so is not included here, but it is available at <http://www.planning.saccounty.net/> under the “Environmental Documents CEQA/NEPA Overview” heading. Policy CO-146 references the Greenprint program, which is run by the Sacramento Tree Foundation and has a goal of planting five million trees in the Sacramento region.

SACRAMENTO COUNTY GENERAL PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ELEMENT

The Sacramento County General Plan Environmental Justice Element contains several policies aimed at preserving tree canopy within the County. These are:

EJ-23. The County will achieve an equitable tree canopy in Environmental Justice (EJ) communities.

EJ-24. Increase tree canopy coverage to at least 35 percent in all unincorporated County neighborhoods by 2040, especially those that are in EJ communities.

EJ-25. Consistently enforce existing Tree Protection Ordinances including zoning code, the Tree Ordinance (SCC 19.04) and the Tree Preservation Ordinance (SCC 19.12).

Implementation Measures (EJ Communities)

During California Environmental Quality Act review of impacts for public works, private development, revitalization and master planning projects in under-canopied EJ Communities, mitigation shall be required that provides an extra 25% tree replacement and said mitigation shall be directed to the same EJ community where the impact occurs. (PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW)

PROJECT TREE SETTING

Three (3) non-native trees will be removed as a result of the project. These trees include two (2) redwood trees and one (1) maple tree. The trees measure between a diameter at breast height (dbh) of 13.20” to 28.50”, and are located on APN: 219-0036-025-0000. The property is a multi-family apartment complex zoned RD-20 (Residential Density 20 acres). See Table IS-7 and Plate IS-3 for a Preliminary Inventory List and Map of trees that will be removed due to project construction. Non-native shrubs will also be removed to accommodate project construction. No protected native or oak tree species will be removed or impacted due to project construction.

The full project site falls within the Environmental Justice community of North Highlands/Foothill Farms (Plate IS-4). According to the Sacramento County General Plan Environmental Justice Element, North Highlands/Foothill Farms currently achieves a tree canopy considered equitable to adjacent non-EJ communities (Sacramento County EJ Element, p.51). North Highlands/Foothill Farms is also subject to the Countywide Policy EJ-24 which proposes a minimum 35 percent increase in tree canopy by 2040.

DISCUSSION OF PROJECT IMPACTS: NON-NATIVE TREES AND SHADE CANOPY

The total non-native tree canopy loss due to the proposed removal of three (3) non-native trees is estimated at approximately 4,720 square feet of canopy. To compensate for the loss of non-native tree canopy, tree plantings consistent with General Plan policy CO-145 will be required. This will be accomplished by planting enough trees from the County's approved landscape tree list so that planted trees yield an equivalent amount of canopy utilizing the SacDOT 15-year shade values. Mitigation will require either on-site replanting of non-native trees to the greatest extent feasible, or payment into the Greenprint program.

As an EJ community, North Highlands/Foothill Farms requires maintenance of an equitable tree canopy and demonstrable progress toward the 2040 goal of 35 percent net increase in overall tree canopy. This increases the need for on-site replacement of non-native trees with an equivalent amount of canopy utilizing the SacDOT 15-year shade values. As such, removal of non-native tree canopy for development shall be mitigated by creation of new tree canopy equivalent to 125% the square footage of non-native tree canopy removed (Mitigation Measure D). Impacts associated with non-native tree canopy removal are ***less than significant with mitigation***.

Table IS-5: Trees Proposed for Removal

Tree Species	dbh/Dripline (radius)	Canopy Area (square feet)	Notes
Redwood	22.70"	1,620	Tree located within grass area next to sidewalk along Walerga Road
Maple	13.20"	548	Tree located within grass area next to sidewalk along Walerga Road
Redwood	28.50"	2,552	Tree located within grass area next to sidewalk along Walerga Road

Plate IS-3: Tree Removal Exhibit

P:\SHARED FOLDERS\PROJECTS\ELKHORN BOULEVARD COMPLETE STREETS PROJECT\AUTOCAD\EXHIBITS\TREE REMOVAL EXHIBIT.DWG

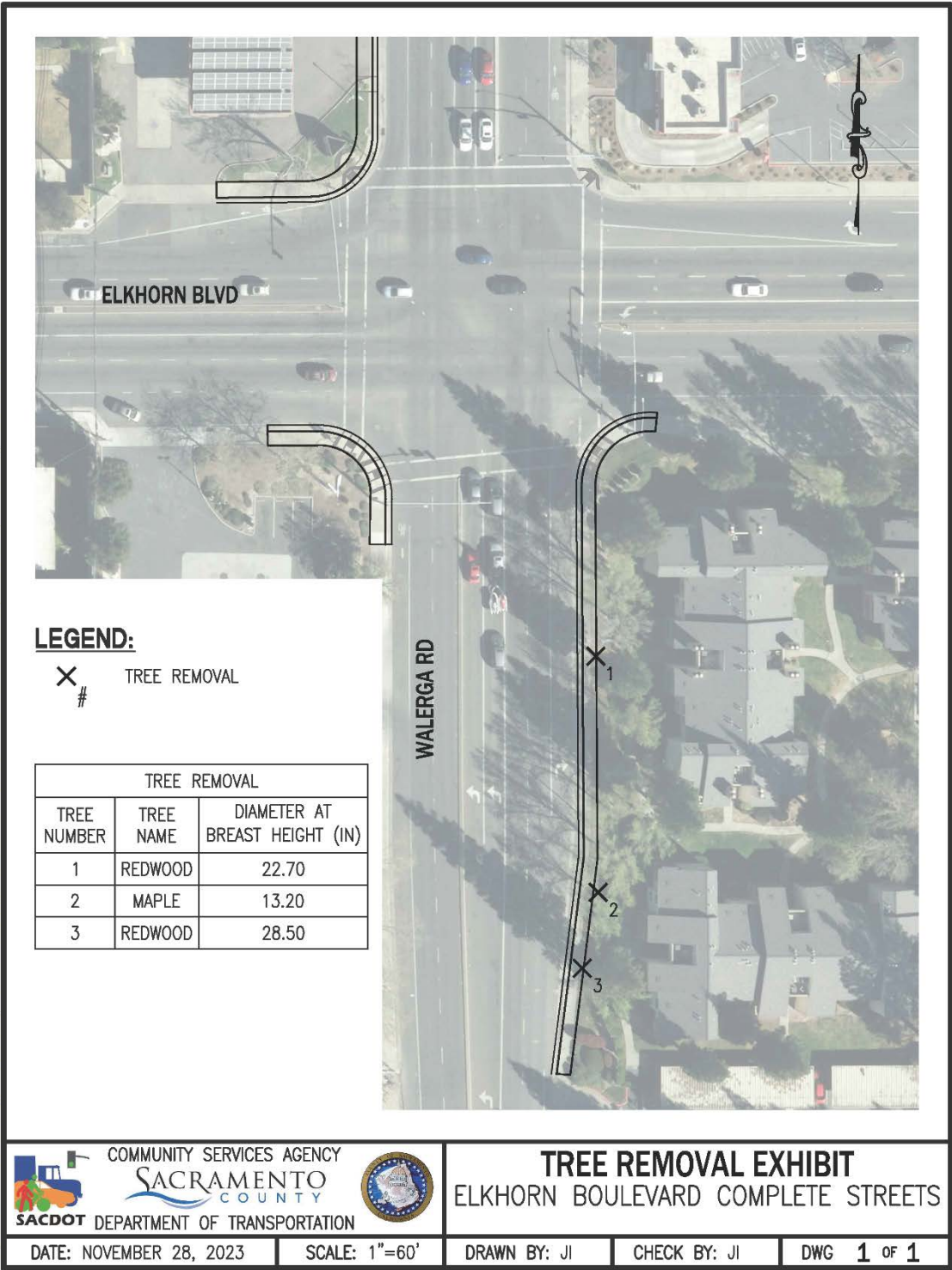
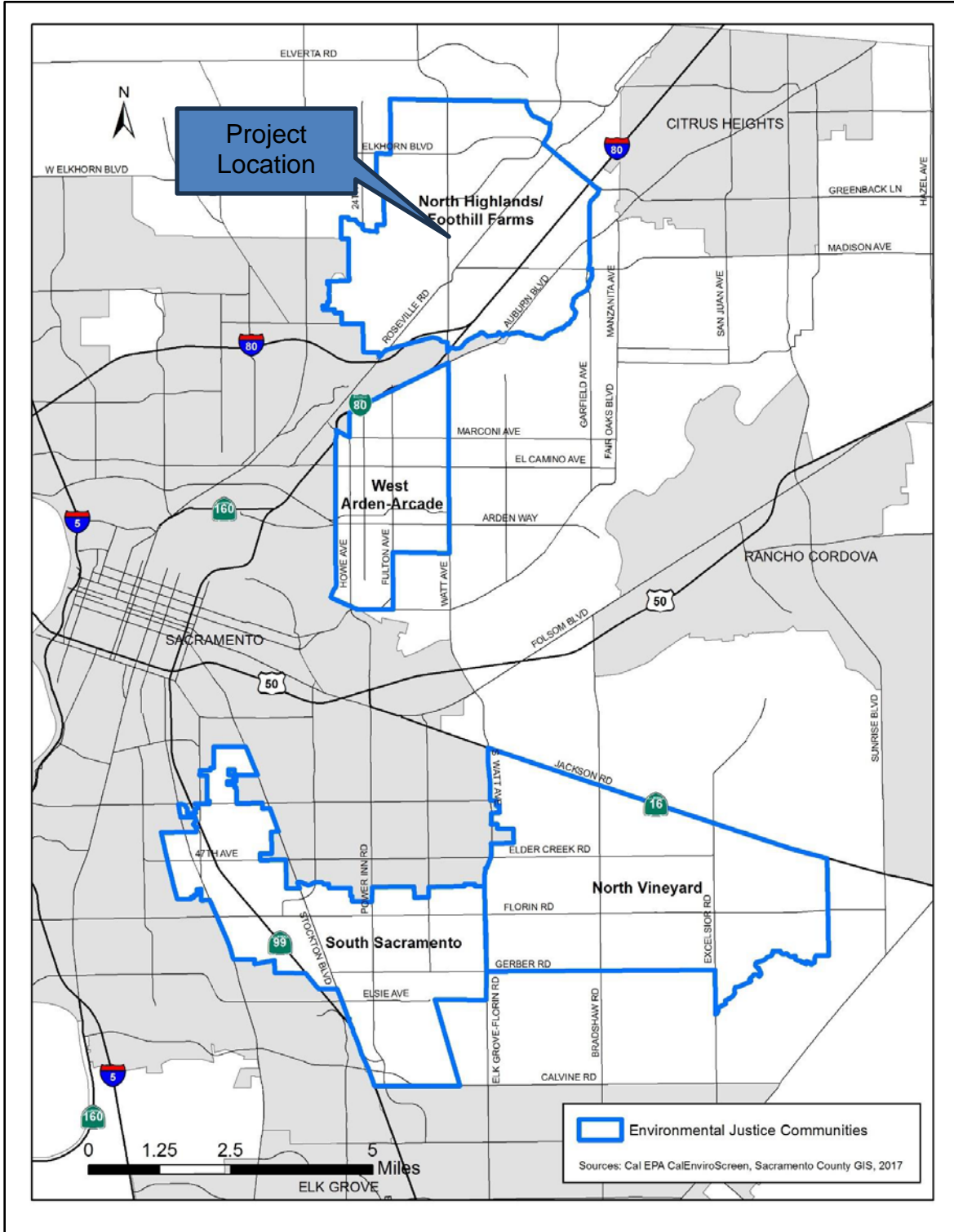


Plate IS-4: Sacramento County Environmental Justice Communities



NESTING RAPTORS AND MIGRATORY BIRDS TREATY ACT

Raptors are defined as members of the order Falconiformes (vultures, eagles, hawks, and falcons) and the order Strigiformes (owls). Common species of raptors found locally include Cooper's hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*) red-tailed hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*), red-shouldered hawk (*Buteo lineatus*), Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*) American kestrel (*Falco sparverius*), barn owl (*Tyto alba*), and great horned owl (*Bubo virginianus*).

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) of 1918 established federal responsibilities for the protection of nearly all species of birds, their eggs, and nests. Section 16 U.S.C. 703-712 of the Act states "unless and except as permitted by regulations, it shall be unlawful at any time, by any means or in any manner, to pursue, hunt, take, capture, kill, attempt to take, capture or kill" a migratory bird, nest or egg of any such bird. Section 3(18) of the Federal Endangered Species Act defines the term "take" means to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or to attempt to engage in any such conduct. Causing a bird to abandon an active nest may cause harm to egg(s) or chick(s) and is therefore considered "take". A migratory bird is any species or family of birds that live, reproduce or migrate within or across international borders at some point during their annual life cycle.

While Elkhorn Boulevard itself is developed and the project site is located in a highly developed retail/commercial and residential neighborhood, it is noted that the removal of trees has the potential to result in a "take" and that it is the responsibility of SacDOT to comply with the provisions of MBTA. In order to avoid "take", SacDOT may choose to limit tree removal to a time period outside of the nesting season, or trees will need to be surveyed for birds prior to removal. If the trees are removed during the nesting season (generally March through mid-September), all mature trees within 500 feet of project construction activities shall be surveyed for nesting raptors. If nesting raptors are observed, the project applicant shall consult with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and determine the appropriate measures that must be implemented. If no nesting raptors are observed, no further mitigation will be required. With implementation of recommended mitigation, impacts to nesting and migratory raptors are ***less than significant***.

TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES

This section supplements the Initial Study Checklist by analyzing if the project would:

- Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource as defined in Public Resources Code 21074?

A “Tribal Cultural Resource” is defined as sites, features, places, cultural landscapes, sacred places, and objects with cultural value to a California Native American tribe that are either included or determined to be eligible for inclusion in the California Register of Historical Resources (California Register) or included in a local register of historical resources, or a resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant.

SACRAMENTO COUNTY GENERAL PLAN CONSERVATION ELEMENT

The Sacramento County General Plan Conservation Element contains several policies aimed at preserving Tribal Cultural Resources within the County:

CO-150. Utilize local, state and national resources, such as the NCIC, to assist in determining the need for a cultural resources survey during project review.

CO-152. Consultations with Native American tribes shall be handled with confidentiality and respect regarding sensitive cultural resources on traditional tribal lands.

CO-155. Native American burial sites encountered during preapproved survey or during construction shall, whenever possible, remain in situ. Excavation and reburial shall occur when in situ preservation is not possible or when the archeological significance of the site merits excavation and recording procedure. On-site reinterment shall have priority. The project developer shall provide the burden of proof that off site reinterment is the only feasible alternative. Reinterment shall be the responsibility of local tribal representatives.

CO-156. The cost of all excavation conducted prior to completion of the project shall be the responsibility of the project developer.

CO-157. Monitor projects during construction to ensure crews follow proper reporting, safeguards, and procedures.

DISCUSSION OF PROJECT IMPACTS: TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES

County Planning and Environmental Review (PER) conducted a records search on December 19, 2023, with the North Central Information Center (NCIC) to identify any registered archaeological sites or known resources within a one-fourth mile radius of the project area. Project area is defined as the geographic area where project development would be implemented. The search results indicated the project area is not sensitive for archaeological resources.

County PER submitted a Sacred Lands File request to the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) on December 19, 2023, for additional information of known ancestral territories or sacred lands within a one (1) mile radius of the project site. On January 16, 2024, NAHC replied with negative results.

County PER distributed AB-52 notifications to all consulting tribes within Sacramento County on January 8th and January 10th, 2024. At a monthly tribal consultation meeting on February 27th 2024, the United Auburn Indian Community (UAIC) responded to consult, confirming that the project occurs within their ancestral territory, and in close proximity to known resources. UAIC's representatives requested a Tribal Cultural Resources discussion section be in the Initial Study with an "Inadvertent Discoveries" advisory and paid tribal monitoring mitigation (Mitigation Measures E and F). Thus, impacts relating to Tribal Cultural Resources are ***less than significant with mitigation***.

HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

This section supplements the Initial Study Checklist by analyzing if the project would:

- Create a significant hazard to the public or environment through routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials or if it will create reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment;
- Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school, or;
- Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites and, as a result, creates a significant hazard to the public or environment.

CREATE A HAZARD THROUGH UPSET OR RELEASE OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Sacramento County is responsible for enforcing the state regulations, both in the City of Sacramento and the County, governing hazardous waste generators, hazardous waste storage, and underground storage tanks (including inspections, enforcement and removals). The Sacramento County Environmental Management Department (EMD) regulates the use, storage and disposal of hazardous materials in Sacramento County by issuing permits, monitoring regulatory compliance, investigating complaints, and other enforcement activities. The EMD oversees remediation of certain contaminated sites resulting from leaking underground storage tanks.

The GeoTracker program, which is a resource for identifying environmental data (including the location of leaking storage tanks, cleanup sites, disposal sites, monitoring wells, sites with hazardous waste permits and the status of such sites) for regulated facilities, is maintained by the State Water Resources Control Board. A search of the GeoTracker database indicated the presence of (8) leaking underground storage tank (LUST) cleanup sites within the project length or 0.25 mile from the project site. All cleanups are currently listed as resolved. Additionally, an open site assessment for soil contamination associated with an existing dry cleaner's business was within 0.25 of the

project site. A search of the Envirostor database did not indicate the presence of known HAZMAT sites within the project length. The project is not located on a known hazardous materials site.

LEAD IN ROADSIDE SOILS

The project involves the ROW acquisition of several properties within the plan area. The Land Use section of this document details which parcels will be subject to acquisitions as well as the extent of said acquisitions. Generally speaking, ROW will be acquired along various portions of both sides of Elkhorn Boulevard and Walerga Road to a width from approximately 1 to 30± feet.

Historically, lead was a common fuel additive, and as such, there is a possibility that the roadside soils may be contaminated with lead. This is called aerially deposited lead (ADL). Since construction of the project will disturb soil along Elkhorn Boulevard, and portions of Walerga Road and Don Julio Boulevard, which may contain lead deposited by passing automobiles, requirements outlined in Title 8, Section 1532.1, will apply to the project pursuant to the California Code of Regulations. A Lead Compliance Plan will be required based upon the determination of applicability by a certified and/or registered professional.

Segments of the project limits within the various roadway locations have either been fully paved or partially paved with exposed soil. Construction workers will be required to follow Title 8 OSHA rules/regulation pertaining to lead exposure, and in addition, notification and compliance with Title 8, Section 1532.1 will be addressed in contracting and construction documents for potential hazardous waste/material issues associated with soil potentially containing ADL. Mitigation is included requiring the preparation of a Site Investigation prior to ground disturbing activities. With mitigation, project impacts associated with hazards and hazardous materials are considered ***less than significant***.

ENVIRONMENTAL MITIGATION MEASURES

Mitigation Measures A-F are critical to ensure that identified significant impacts of the project are reduced to a level of less than significant. Pursuant to Section 15074.1(b) of the CEQA Guidelines, each of these measures must be adopted exactly as written unless both of the following occur: (1) A public hearing is held on the proposed changes; (2) The hearing body adopts a written finding that the new measure is equivalent or more effective in mitigating or avoiding potential significant effects and that it in itself will not cause any potentially significant effect on the environment.

MITIGATION MEASURE A: BASIC CONSTRUCTION EMISSIONS CONTROL PRACTICES

The following Basic Construction Emissions Control Practices are considered feasible for controlling fugitive dust from a construction site. The practices also serve as best management practices (BMPs), allowing the use of the non-zero particulate matter

significance thresholds. Control of fugitive dust is required by District Rule 403 and enforced by District staff.

1. Water all exposed surfaces two times daily. Exposed surfaces include, but are not limited to soil piles, graded areas, unpaved parking areas, staging areas, and access roads.
2. Cover or maintain at least two feet of free board space on haul trucks transporting soil, sand, or other loose material on the site. Any haul trucks that would be traveling along freeways or major roadways should be covered.
3. Use wet power vacuum street sweepers to remove any visible trackout mud or dirt onto adjacent public roads at least once a day. Use of dry power sweeping is prohibited.
4. Limit vehicle speeds on unpaved roads to 15 miles per hour (mph).
5. All roadways, driveways, sidewalks, parking lots to be paved should be completed as soon as possible. In addition, building pads should be laid as soon as possible after grading unless seeding or soil binders are used.

The following practices describe exhaust emission control from diesel powered fleets working at a construction site. California regulations limit idling from both on-road and off-road diesel-powered equipment. The California Air Resources Board (CARB) enforces idling limitations and compliance with diesel fleet regulations.

1. Minimize idling time either by shutting equipment off when not in use or reducing the time of idling to 5 minutes [California Code of Regulations, Title 13, sections 2449(d)(3) and 2485]. Provide clear signage that posts this requirement for workers at the entrances to the site.
2. Provide current certificate(s) of compliance for CARB's In-Use Off-Road Diesel-Fueled Fleets Regulation [California Code of Regulations, Title 13, sections 2449 and 2449.1]. For more information contact CARB at 877-593-6677, doors@arb.ca.gov, or www.arb.ca.gov/doors/compliance_cert1.html.

Maintain all construction equipment in proper working condition according to manufacturer's specifications. The equipment must be checked by a certified mechanic.

MITIGATION MEASURE B: MIGRATORY BIRD NEST PROTECTION

To avoid impacts to nesting migratory birds the following shall apply:

1. If construction activity (which includes clearing, grubbing, or grading) is to commence within 50 feet of nesting habitat between February 1 and August 31, a survey for active migratory bird nests shall be conducted no more than 14 days prior to construction by a qualified biologist.

2. Trees slated for removal shall be removed during the period of September through January, in order to avoid the nesting season. Any trees that are to be removed during the nesting season, which is February through August, shall be surveyed by a qualified biologist and would only be removed if no nesting migratory birds are found.

3. If active nest(s) are found in the survey area, a non-disturbance buffer, the size of which has been determined by a qualified biologist, shall be established and maintained around the nest to prevent nest failure. All construction activities shall be avoided within this buffer area until a qualified biologist determines that nestlings have fledged, or until September 1.

MITIGATION MEASURE C: NON-NATIVE TREE CANOPY

Removal of approximately 4,720 square feet of non-native tree canopy for sidewalk and roadway improvements shall be mitigated by creation of new tree canopy equivalent to the acreage of non-native tree canopy removed plus 25% pursuant to General Plan policy (1,180± square feet). New tree canopy acreage shall be calculated using the SacDOT 15-year shade cover values for tree species. Preference is given to on-site mitigation, but if this is infeasible, then funding shall be contributed to the Sacramento Tree Foundation's Greenprint program in an amount proportional to the tree canopy lost (as determined by the 15-year shade cover calculations for the tree species to be planted through the funding, with the cost to be determined by the Sacramento County Tree Foundation).

MITIGATION MEASURE D: INADVERTENT DISCOVERY OF CULTURAL RESOURCES OR TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES

In the event that human remains are discovered in any location other than a dedicated cemetery, work shall be halted, and the County Coroner contacted. For all other potential tribal cultural resources [TCRs], archaeological, or cultural resources discovered during project's ground disturbing activities, work shall be halted until a qualified archaeologist and/or tribal representative may evaluate the resource.

1. Unanticipated human remains. Pursuant to Sections 5097.97 and 5097.98 of the State Public Resources Code, and Section 7050.5 of the State Health and Safety Code, if a human bone or bone of unknown origin is found during construction, all work is to stop, and the County Coroner and the Planning and Environmental Review shall be immediately notified. If the remains are determined to be Native American, the coroner shall notify the Native American Heritage Commission within 24 hours, and the Native American Heritage Commission shall identify the person or persons it believes to be the most likely descendent from the deceased Native American. The most likely descendent may make recommendations to the landowner or the person responsible for the excavation work, for means of treating or disposition of, with appropriate dignity, the human remains and any associated grave goods.

2. Unanticipated cultural resources. In the event of an inadvertent discovery of cultural resources (excluding human remains) during construction, all work must halt within a 100-foot radius of the discovery. A qualified professional archaeologist, meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards for prehistoric and historic archaeology, shall be retained at the Applicant's expense to evaluate the significance of the find. If it is determined due to the types of deposits discovered that a Native American monitor is required, the Guidelines for Monitors/Consultants of Native American Cultural, Religious, and Burial Sites as established by the Native American Heritage Commission shall be followed, and the monitor shall be retained at the Applicant's expense.

a. Work cannot continue within the 100-foot radius of the discovery site until the archaeologist and/or tribal monitor conducts sufficient research and data collection to make a determination that the resource is either 1) not cultural in origin; or 2) not potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places or California Register of Historical Resources.

b. If a potentially eligible resource is encountered, then the archaeologist and/or tribal monitor, Planning and Environmental Review staff, and project proponent shall arrange for either 1) total avoidance of the resource, if possible; or 2) test excavations or total data recovery as mitigation. The determination shall be formally documented in writing and submitted to the County Environmental Coordinator as verification that the provisions of CEQA for managing unanticipated discoveries have been met.

MITIGATION MEASURE E: COMPENSATED CONSTRUCTION MONITORING BY OFFICIAL TRIBAL MONITOR

The project is required to retain an official tribal monitor from the United Auburn Indian Community to observe all ground disturbance activities to occur during the construction phase:

- 1. Communication Protocols for Monitoring:** The applicant shall develop a set of communication protocols, to the satisfaction of the County and tribes, to identify all points of contact and to ensure that tribes are notified when the applicant will proceed with authorized construction activities. Points of contact will be established for the applicant, construction supervisor, monitoring tribes, and County Archaeologist, and the contact numbers and email addresses must be documented and shared among all parties. Points of contact are responsible for identifying backup representatives in the event they are unable to perform due to an absence or other reasons.
- 2. Tribal Monitoring:** All construction-related ground-disturbing activity shall be monitored by a qualified tribal representative from UAIC on this Project to ensure that the procedures for unanticipated discoveries are addressed expeditiously and in accordance with the plan. The requirements for a monitor should be

inclusive of all day and night construction activity that has the potential to result in ground disturbance. "Ground-disturbing activity" is defined herein as any activities that have the potential to disturb soil beyond that which was reasonably visible to tribal representatives and archaeologists during the pre- Project pedestrian survey. This includes grading; trenching; excavation for below-ground utility installation or foundation work; and any other below the ground activities. Monitoring is not required for backfilling of previously excavated areas, placement of equipment into excavated areas, reseeding, or revegetation, regrading or contouring of soil that was previously monitored, or for any aboveground Project activity or construction that does not include ground disturbance, but monitors are allowed to observe upon request.

The applicant is responsible for contacting tribal monitors whenever ground disturbance is to occur. If tribal monitors do not respond within 24 hours of the notification, the applicant will notify the County that contact was made with no response received and may proceed with ground disturbance following the guidelines of Measure E.

Tribal monitors will have the authority to request a temporary and reasonable pause of ground-disturbing activities within 50 feet of a discovery of up to 30 minutes to safely examine the ground more closely for indications of potential tribal cultural resources, without being impeded by construction equipment. Positive findings do not have a time limit for evaluation and recovery. In the event of the discovery of a potential tribal cultural resource, the procedures in Mitigation Measure F shall apply.

MITIGATION MEASURE F: HAZARDOUS MATERIALS (ADL)

1. Prior to construction, County Department of Transportation will conduct a Site Investigation (SI). The SI will identify the levels of lead contained in soils within the proposed areas of disturbance within the Project Area. If the levels of lead are below regulatory thresholds, per 22 CCR §66261.24, no further action is required. However, if levels of lead exceed the regulatory thresholds, the contractor will prepare a project specific Lead Compliance Plan, which will include measures to prevent and minimize worker exposure to lead and identify appropriate disposal locations if soils cannot be used as fill for the project, per regulatory standards.

MITIGATION MEASURE COMPLIANCE

Comply with the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for this project, including the payment of 100% of the Planning and Environmental Review staff costs, and the costs of any technical consultant services incurred during implementation of that Program.

INITIAL STUDY CHECKLIST

Appendix G of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) provides guidance for assessing the significance of potential environmental impacts. Based on this guidance, Sacramento County has developed the following Initial Study Checklist. The Checklist identifies a range of potential significant effects by topical area. The words "significant" and "significance" used throughout the following checklist are related to impacts as defined by the California Environmental Quality Act as follows:

- 1 Potentially Significant indicates there is substantial evidence that an effect MAY be significant. If there are one or more "Potentially Significant" entries an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is required. Further research of a potentially significant impact may reveal that the impact is actually less than significant or less than significant with mitigation.
- 2 Less than Significant with Mitigation applies where an impact could be significant but specific mitigation has been identified that reduces the impact to a less than significant level.
- 3 Less than Significant or No Impact indicates that either a project will have an impact but the impact is considered minor or that a project does not impact the particular resource.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
1. LAND USE - Would the project:					
a. Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?			X		The project is consistent with environmental policies of the Sacramento County General Plan, North Highlands Community Plan, and Sacramento County Zoning Code. The project will comply with recommended mitigation measures, including impacts related to biological and cultural resources. A less than significant impact will result.
b. Physically disrupt or divide an established community?				X	The project will not create physical barriers that substantially limit movement within or through the community. No impact will occur.
2. POPULATION/HOUSING - Would the project:					
a. Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area either directly (e.g., by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (e.g., through extension of infrastructure)?				X	The proposed infrastructure project is intended to service existing or planned development and will not induce substantial unplanned population growth. No impact will occur.
b. Displace substantial amounts of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				X	The project will not result in the removal of existing housing, and thus will not displace substantial amounts of existing housing. No impact will occur.
3. AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES - Would the project:					
a. Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance or areas containing prime soils to uses not conducive to agricultural production?				X	The project site is not designated as Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance on the current Sacramento County Important Farmland Map published by the California Department of Conservation. The site does not contain prime soils. No impact will occur.
b. Conflict with any existing Williamson Act contract?				X	No Williamson Act contracts apply to the project site. No impact will occur.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
c. Introduce incompatible uses in the vicinity of existing agricultural uses?				X	The project does not occur in an area of agricultural production. No impact will occur.
4. AESTHETICS - Would the project:					
a. Substantially alter existing viewsheds such as scenic highways, corridors or vistas?				X	The project does not occur in the vicinity of any scenic highways, corridors, or vistas.
b. In non-urbanized area, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings?				X	The project is not located in a non-urbanized area. No impact will occur.
c. If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?				X	Construction will not substantially degrade the visual character or quality of the project site. No impact will occur.
d. Create a new source of substantial light, glare, or shadow that would result in safety hazards or adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?				X	The project will not result in a new source of substantial light, glare or shadow that would result in safety hazards or adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area. No impact will occur.
5. AIRPORTS - Would the project:					
a. Result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the vicinity of an airport/airstrip?				X	The project occurs outside of any identified public or private airport/airstrip safety zones. No impact will occur.
b. Expose people residing or working in the project area to aircraft noise levels in excess of applicable standards?				X	The project occurs outside of any identified public or private airport/airstrip noise zones or contours. No impact will occur.
c. Result in a substantial adverse effect upon the safe and efficient use of navigable airspace by aircraft?				X	The project does not affect navigable airspace. No impact will occur.
d. Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?				X	The project does not involve or affect air traffic movement. No impact will occur.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
6. PUBLIC SERVICES - Would the project:					
a. Have an adequate water supply for full buildout of the project?				X	The project will not result in increased demand for water supply. No impact will occur.
b. Have adequate wastewater treatment and disposal facilities for full buildout of the project?				X	The project will not require wastewater services. No impact will occur.
c. Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?			X		The project will not require solid waste services, but will generate solid waste debris with project construction. This impact is considered temporary and will result in a less than significant impact.
d. Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the construction of new water supply or wastewater treatment and disposal facilities or expansion of existing facilities?				X	The project will not require construction or expansion of new water supply, wastewater treatment, or wastewater disposal facilities. No impact will occur.
e. Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of storm water drainage facilities?			X		Minor extension of infrastructure would be necessary to serve the project. New gutter facilities are proposed within existing roadways and other developed areas, and the extension of facilities would take place within areas of existing infrastructure. Less than significant impacts would result from stormwater facility extension.
f. Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of electric or natural gas service?			X		Some utility lines may be routed underground to accommodate the project. Existing utility lines are located along existing roadways and other developed areas, and the relocation of lines would take place within areas already proposed for development as part of the project. Less than significant impacts would result from utility extension.
g. Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of emergency services?				X	The project would not increase demand for emergency services. No impact will occur.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
h. Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of public school services?				X	The project will not require the use of public school services. No impact will occur.
i. Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of park and recreation services?				X	The project will not require park and recreation services. No impact will occur.
7. TRANSPORTATION - Would the project:					
a. Conflict with or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b) – measuring transportation impacts individually or cumulatively, using a vehicles miles traveled standard established by the County?			X		The transportation project will reduce/have no impacts on vehicle miles traveled and is presumed to cause a less than significant transportation impact.
b. Result in a substantial adverse impact to access and/or circulation?				X	The project is intended to improve existing access and/or circulation patterns. No impacts are anticipated as a result of the project.
c. Result in a substantial adverse impact to public safety on area roadways?			X		The project will be required to comply with applicable access and circulation requirements of the County Improvement Standards and the Uniform Fire Code. Upon compliance, impacts are less than significant.
d. Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?				X	The project supports the alternative transportation policies of the Sacramento County General Plan, the Alternative Transportation Plan and other adopted policies, plans or programs supporting alternative transportation. No impact will occur.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
8. AIR QUALITY - Would the project:					
a. Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is in non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?		X			The project does not exceed the screening thresholds established by the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District and will not result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is in non-attainment. A less than significant impact will result. Compliance with existing dust abatement rules and standard construction mitigation for vehicle particulates will ensure that construction air quality impacts are less than significant.
b. Expose sensitive receptors to pollutant concentrations in excess of standards?			X		See Response 8a. A less than significant impact will result.
c. Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?				X	The project will not generate objectionable odors. No impact will occur.
9. NOISE - Would the project:					
a. Result in generation of a temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established by the local general plan, noise ordinance or applicable standards of other agencies?			X		The project is not in the vicinity of any uses that generate substantial noise, nor will the completed project generate substantial noise. The project will not result in exposure of persons to, or generation of, noise levels in excess of applicable standards. A less than significant impact will result.
b. Result in a substantial temporary increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity?			X		Project construction will result in a temporary increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity. This impact is less than significant due to the temporary nature of the these activities, limits on the duration of noise, and evening and nighttime restrictions imposed by the County Noise Ordinance (Chapter 6.68 of the County Code). A less than significant impact will result.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
c. Generate excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels.				X	The project will not involve the use of pile driving or other methods that would produce excessive groundborne vibration or noise levels at the property boundary. No impact will occur.
10. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY - Would the project:					
a. Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or substantially interfere with groundwater recharge?				X	The project will not substantially increase water demand over the existing use. No impact will occur.
b. Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the project area and/or increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner that would result in flooding on- or off-site?				X	The project does not involve any modifications that would substantially alter the existing drainage pattern and or/increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner that would lead to flooding. No impact will occur.
c. Develop within a 100-year floodplain as mapped on a federal Flood Insurance Rate Map or within a local flood hazard area?			X		Portions of the project area are in a local flood hazard area, but not in a federally mapped floodplain. Compliance with the County Floodplain Management Ordinance, County Drainage Ordinance, and Improvement Standards will assure less than significant impacts. Refer to the Hydrology discussion in the Environmental Effects section above.
d. Place structures that would impede or redirect flood flows within a 100-year floodplain?				X	The project site is not within a 100-year floodplain. No impact will occur.
e. Develop in an area that is subject to 200 year urban levels of flood protection (ULOP)?				X	The project is not located in an area subject to 200-year urban levels of flood protection (ULOP). No impact will occur.
f. Expose people or structures to a substantial risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?				X	The project will not expose people or structures to a substantial risk of loss, injury, or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam. No impact will occur.
g. Create or contribute runoff that would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems?				X	Adequate on- and/or off-site drainage improvements will be required pursuant to the Sacramento County Floodplain Management Ordinance and Improvement Standards. No impact will occur.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
h. Create substantial sources of polluted runoff or otherwise substantially degrade ground or surface water quality?			X		Compliance with the Stormwater Ordinance and Land Grading and Erosion Control Ordinance (Chapters 15.12 and 14.44 of the County Code respectively) will ensure that the project will not create substantial sources of polluted runoff or otherwise substantially degrade ground or surface water quality. A less than significant impact will result.
11. GEOLOGY AND SOILS - Would the project:					
a. Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including risk of loss, injury or death involving 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?			X		Sacramento County is not within an Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone. Although there are no known active earthquake faults in the project area, the site could be subject to some ground shaking from regional faults. The Uniform Building Code contains applicable construction regulations for earthquake safety that will ensure less than significant impacts.
b. Result in substantial soil erosion, siltation or loss of topsoil?			X		Compliance with the County's Land Grading and Erosion Control Ordinance will reduce the amount of construction site erosion and minimize water quality degradation by providing stabilization and protection of disturbed areas, and by controlling the runoff of sediment and other pollutants during the course of construction. A less than significant impact will result.
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, soil expansion, liquefaction or collapse?				X	The project is not located on an unstable geologic or soil unit. No impact will occur.
d. Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available?				X	The project does not require the use of a public sewer or septic system. No impact will occur.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
e. Result in a substantial loss of an important mineral resource?				X	The project is not located within an Aggregate Resource Area as identified by the Sacramento County General Plan Land Use Diagram, nor are any important mineral resources known to be located on the project site. No impact will occur.
f. Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?			X		No known paleontological resources (e.g. fossil remains) or sites occur at the project location. A less than significant impact will result.
12. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES - Would the project:					
a. Have a substantial adverse effect on any special status species, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, or threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community?			X		No special status species are known to exist on or utilize the project site, nor would the project substantially reduce wildlife habitat or species populations. Refer to the Biological Resources discussion in the Environmental Effects Section above.
b. Have a substantial adverse effect on riparian habitat or other sensitive natural communities?				X	No sensitive natural communities occur on the project site, nor is the project expected to affect natural communities off-site. No impact will occur.
c. Have a substantial adverse effect on streams, wetlands, or other surface waters that are protected by federal, state, or local regulations and policies?				X	No protected surface waters are located on or adjacent to the project site. No impact will occur.
d. Have a substantial adverse effect on the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species?		X			Resident and/or migratory wildlife may be displaced by project construction; however, impacts are not anticipated to result in significant, long-term effects upon the movement of resident or migratory fish or wildlife species, and no major wildlife corridors would be affected. Mitigation is incorporated to conduct migratory bird nest surveys prior to construction and a less than significant impact will result.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
e. Adversely affect or result in the removal of native or landmark trees?				X	No native and/or landmark trees occur on the project site, nor is it anticipated that any native and/or landmark trees would be affected by off-site improvement required as a result of the project. No impact will occur.
f. Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources?		X			The project proposes the removal of three non-native trees. Mitigation is included to ensure impacts are less than significant. Refer to the Biological Resources discussion in the Environmental Effects section above.
g. Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan or other approved local, regional, state or federal plan for the conservation of habitat?				X	There are no known conflicts with any approved plan for the conservation of habitat. No impact will occur.
13. CULTURAL RESOURCES - Would the project:					
a. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource?				X	No historical resources would be affected by the proposed project. No impact will occur.
b. Have a substantial adverse effect on an archaeological resource?		X			The Northern California Information Center was contacted regarding the project. A record search indicated that the project site is not considered sensitive for archaeological resources. Nonetheless, mitigation has been recommended in the event of inadvertent discoveries during project construction. A less than significant impact will result.
c. Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?		X			No known human remains exist on the project site. Nonetheless, mitigation has been recommended to ensure appropriate treatment should remains be uncovered during project implementation. A less than significant impact will result.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
14. TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES - Would the project:					
a. Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource as defined in Public Resources Code 21074?		X			Notification pursuant to Public Resources Code 21080.3.1(b) was provided to the tribes and request for consultation was received. Refer to the Tribal Cultural Resources discussion in the Environmental Effects section above.
15. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS - Would the project:					
a. Create a substantial hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?				X	The project does not involve the transport, use, and/or disposal of hazardous material. No impact will occur.
b. Expose the public or the environment to a substantial hazard through reasonably foreseeable upset conditions involving the release of hazardous materials?		X			There is potential for lead to be present in the soils at the project site. Mitigation is incorporated to reduce impacts and a less than significant impact will result.
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	The project does not involve the use or handling of hazardous material. No impact will occur.
d. Be located on a site that is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5, resulting in a substantial hazard to the public or the environment?				X	A search of the Geotracker database indicated the presence of one Clean Up Program site and eight LUST cleanup sites within the project length and 0.25 miles from the project area. All cleanups are currently listed as resolved, with the exception of the one Clean Up Program site, located outside of the project limits. A search of the Envirostor database did not indicate the presence of known HAZMAT sites. The project is not located on a known hazardous materials site. No impact will occur.
e. Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response or emergency evacuation plan?				X	The project would not interfere with any known emergency response or evacuation plan. No impact will occur.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
f. Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to or intermixed with urbanized areas?				X	The project is within the urbanized area of the unincorporated County. There is no significant risk of loss, injury, or death to people or structures associated with wildland fires. No impact will occur.
16. ENERGY – Would the project:					
a. Result in potentially significant environmental impacts due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction?			X		The project promotes compliance with Title 24, Green Building Code, will ensure that all project energy efficiency requirements are net resulting in less than significant impacts.
b. Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?			X		The project will comply with Title 24, Green Building Code, for all project efficiency requirements. A less than significant impact will result.
17. 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		GHG emissions associated with the project would occur over the short term from construction activities, consisting primarily of emissions from equipment exhaust. The project is within the screening criteria for construction related impacts related to air quality.
b. Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation for the purpose of reducing the emission of greenhouse gases?				X	The project is consistent with County policies adopted for the purpose of reducing the emission of greenhouse gases. No impact will occur.

INITIAL STUDY PREPARERS

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APPENDICES

There are no appendices associated with this environmental document.

The environmental document is available to view online at:

<http://planningdocuments.sacounty.net>

The direct link is:

<https://planningdocuments.sacounty.net/projectdetails.aspx?projectID=9413&communityID=10>