DRAFT INITIAL STUDY
Altadena Main Library Renovation Project
Altadena, California

Prepared for:

Altadena Library District
600 E. Mariposa St.
Altadena, California 91001

Prepared by:

CHAMBERS GROUP, INC.
3151 Airway Ave., Suite F208
Costa Mesa, CA 92626
(213) 623-1859

September 2024

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page

LIST OF TABLES

Page

LIST OF FIGURES

Page

SECTION 1.0 – PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

1.1 PROJECT PURPOSE

The Altadena Library District (District) is a small public agency that is considered a California Special District. The District is a public library system that operates two libraries. According to the May 2011 estimate for cities and counties from the Demographic Research Unit, State Department of Finance the Altadena Library District provides library services to a population of approximately 51,737 people including the 43,000 residents of Altadena. The District collaborates with its community to create environments for learning and inspiration, serves as a community center, and brings residents together to share the unique history of Altadena and the San Gabriel Valley.

In 2020, ballot Measure Z was passed, establishing the Altadena Library District Community Facilities District, and authorizing a property tax levy to generate stable local funding for the repair and upgrade of the Altadena Libraries. The Main Library was built in 1967 by well-known Southern California architect Boyd Georgi and landscape architects Eriksson, Peters & Thoms were contracted to design its landscape. Since its completion, minimal changes to the building, landscaping, and the site's physical characteristics have occurred. Retaining the architectural integrity of the existing building is a key focus of this Proposed Project. Due to the age of the structure and the changing needs of the community, the library needs renovation, seismic resistance, improved access, and expansion (Proposed Project). Some phasing may occur due to funding availability; however, this document addresses the Project as a whole. The purpose of the renovation is to maximize use of the library space, improve user experience, improve seismic resilience, replace aging infrastructure, and activate outdoor space to increase visibility and engagement.

1.2 PROJECT BACKGROUND

The Main Library was designed by Boyd Georgi in 1967 with the landscape designed by Eriksson Peters & Thoms, Landscape Architects. Since its construction minor alterations, including replacement of entrance doors at the exterior, and the addition of a lower-level storage area and replacement of carpet and finishes on the interior, have occurred. However, most of its original landscape and building materials (mature trees and concrete planters, concrete block and stuccoed walls, fixed metal windows, steel-framed bridge with wood decking, hexagonal tile at the entry and reading court) remain. The existing parking lot has 50 spaces, two of them are handicapped accessible.

From the north, the upper footbridge provides access to the main entrance on Mariposa Avenue. Secondary access is possible from the southern parking lot along a lower footbridge and two sets of exterior concrete staircases. Both pathways lead to the main entrance. In addition, another staircase leads to the mid-level of the library. The exterior is exposed concrete block and stucco is topped by multi-level, flat roofs with closed eaves and windows floor to ceiling and grouped elevated windows to allow natural light in the building.

1.3 PROJECT LOCATION AND SITE CHARACTERISTICS

1.3.1 Location

The Main Library (the Main) is located at 600 E. Mariposa Street, Altadena, CA 91001, at the southwest corner of Santa Rosa Avenue and Mariposa Street. The community of Altadena is in unincorporated Los Angeles County at the foot of the San Gabriel Mountains (Figure 1). The Main is situated in a residential area surrounded by residences to the South and East across Santa Rosa Avenue, Altadena Senior's Center

to the West, and "Camp Mariposa" (owned by the Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles Chapter) to the North across E. Mariposa Street (Figure 1). The existing Main is approximately 22,000 square feet, and is built into its sloped site, appearing as a two-story building on the south end and one-story on the north end.

1.3.2 General Plan Designation/Zoning

The Project site's Land Use designation is Other Property Type and is zoned Single Family Residential within the Los Angeles County General Plan. Libraries are permitted within Single Family Residential zones with an approved Conditional Use Permit (CUP).

1.3.3 Surrounding Land Uses and Project Setting

The County of Los Angeles (County) designated land uses and zoning surrounding the Project site is provided below as Table 1.

Table 1: Surrounding Land Uses and Zoning

Direction	Land Use	Zoning
North	Recreational	Single Family Residential (R-1)
South	Single Family Residence	Single Family Residential (R-1)
East	Single Family Residence	Single Family Residential (R-1)
West	Single Family Residence	Single Family Residential (R-1)

1.4 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The planned improvements at the Main include an expansion of the building footprint approximately 700 square feet, interior space reconfigurations, access improvements, seismic retrofit, and replacement of aged building infrastructure to address mechanical (elevator and heating, ventilation, and air conditioning [HVAC]), plumbing (including additional and accessible restrooms), and electrical and structural elements of the facility. Infrastructure improvements are expected to include some modernized Audio Visual (AV) spaces with newer technology and updated communications infrastructure and structured cabling. Upgrades to plantings and irrigation and adding outdoor functional spaces are also planned. Project features shown on Figure 2 include the following:

- New Entry/Lobby
- New Community Room Deck
- New Outdoor Reading Court
- New Delivery Loading Zone
- New Entry Wall and Signage
- New Access Ramp
- New Stairs
- Parking lot Re-surfaced and Striped
- Refurbish Existing Bridges

Demolition

Some demolition and grading are required to complete the Main renovation and expansion. The site is approximately 1.72 acres with 0.28-acre being disturbed for improvements. Demolition includes removal

of concrete, pavement, and removal of existing turf, planters, and shrubs. Grading is designed to slope walking paths, landscapes, and other surfaces away from buildings towards on-site drainage features. Areas of pavement and concrete removal include area for the new entry/lobby along much of the south side of the Main and walkways to bridge on north side of facility. Clearing and grubbing would occur at the new outdoor reading court, new entry/lobby, near the path to the bridge on the north side, and the new Community Room Deck.

In the interior there would be some demolition to non-structural walls, doors, and stairways.

Seismic Retrofit

Current known deficiencies of the existing library include inadequate wall anchorage detailing at masonry bearing walls and inadequate horizontal reinforcing in existing masonry wall. The retrofit plan resolves these inadequacies by the addition of a new full height shear wall at the south elevation. Larger columns are planned to replace the existing smaller ones to address performance issues with the glass panels between the low and high roofs. Shotcrete is planned at existing masonry walls to increase the shear strength.

Interior Renovations

The interior changes are focused on accommodating current trends in library use. Traditional spaces such as reading areas, collections, and staff areas are being added/reconfigured. A new space for fabrication lab/makers space would be placed at the lower level. The existing community room will be renovated to remove an unused raised platform and add a kitchen. The kitchen will have a standard residential type refrigerator and sink and will be used as a staging area for catered events. This new facility is not being designed for cooking or dishwashing for events. The sink is being provided for hand washing and incidental use, such as for making coffee.

Also, various types of meeting rooms where persons and organizations can reserve rooms to host in person and virtual meetings will be included. Additional support space such as storage, staff, and infrastructure are included in the proposed interior layout. To accommodate access, a new lobby/exhibit space allows for direct Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) access from the parking lot. An elevator that serves all levels of the building is planned. Reading collections separately located for children, tweens, young adults, and adults have been incorporated into the design.

Exterior Renovations

The landscape scope includes new hardscape areas along with planting and irrigation improvements. The east side of the site along Santa Rosa Avenue would receive minor changes to the existing planting and irrigation. The primary planting palette would consist of native and adapted plantings that require low amounts of irrigation and maintenance. The existing community garden on the south side would be protected in place. The remaining area surrounding the building improvements on the north, south and west sides would receive new planting and irrigations systems. Existing trees would be protected with approximately 9 of 58 trees to be removed. Six of the nine trees planned for removal are in poor condition.

The new pedestrian entry sequence on Mariposa would start with a new low signage wall and a new direct connection to the existing bridge. The North Patio would accommodate events and daily functions and includes a sunken reading court, terraced seating, and a stage. At the southeast building corner, the Community Room Deck extends a raised deck from the building. The new southern edge of the building

would provide parking for approximately 4 bicycles to the east with a planted walkway moving west to the new main building entrance.

1.4.1 Project Construction

The Project is planned to occur in a single phase, estimated to commence in May 2025 and be completed within 14 months. The Main would be closed for public use during construction and users would be directed to utilize services at the Bob Lucas Branch Library. However, it is possible that there may be a short period of time when both the Branch and Main Library are closed during overlapping construction periods. Construction activities would take place between the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Construction Equipment

Construction equipment to be used during construction of the Project upgrades include the following items:

- Jackhammers
- Loaders
- Pick-up trucks
- Backhoes
- Water Truck
- Asphalt paver
- Concrete Mixers
- Cranes
- Nail guns
- Power drills and saws

Staging Areas

Construction trailers and staging areas would be located within the Project site. The staging areas would be located within the parking lot, outside of the construction zone, but within the Project site.

1.4.2 Project Design Features/Best Management Practices

Project Design Features

PDF-1: If Project clearing and construction must occur during the avian nesting season (February to September). A survey for active nests must be conducted by a qualified biologist no more than 2 weeks prior to the activities to determine the presence/absence, location, and status of any active nests on or adjacent to the Project site. If no active nests are discovered or identified, no further mitigation is required. In the event that active nests are discovered on-site, a suitable buffer determined by the qualified biologist (e.g., 30 to 50 feet for passerines) will be established around such active nests. No ground-disturbing activities will occur within this buffer until the biologist has confirmed that breeding/nesting is completed, and the young have fledged the nest. Limits of construction to avoid a nest site will be established in the field by a qualified biologist with flagging and stakes or construction fencing. Construction personnel will be instructed regarding the ecological sensitivity of the fenced area. The results of the survey will be documented and filed with the District within 5 days after the survey.

Best Management Practices

The following design standards are included as part of the Program Design Best Management Practices (BMPs) and would be applied to the Proposed Project:

- Light and Glare: All luminaries, or lighting sources, in connection with the District projects will be installed in such a manner as to minimize glare for pedestrians and drivers and to minimize light spilling onto adjacent properties.
- Cultural Resources: The District will require that the construction contractor, in the event of a cultural resource (i.e., historic or prehistoric artifact, fossilized shell, or bone) is discovered during ground-disturbing activities, stop all work within the immediate area and notify the District and that the find be evaluated by a qualified archaeologist. If the find is determined to be potentially significant, the archaeologist, in consultation with the District and contractor, will develop a treatment plan. All work in the immediate vicinity of the unanticipated discovery will cease until the qualified archaeologist has evaluated the discovery or the treatment plan has been implemented.

1.5 REQUIRED PERMITS AND APPROVALS

Regional Agencies

- Los Angeles County Department of Planning – CUP

Figure 1: Project Vicinity Map

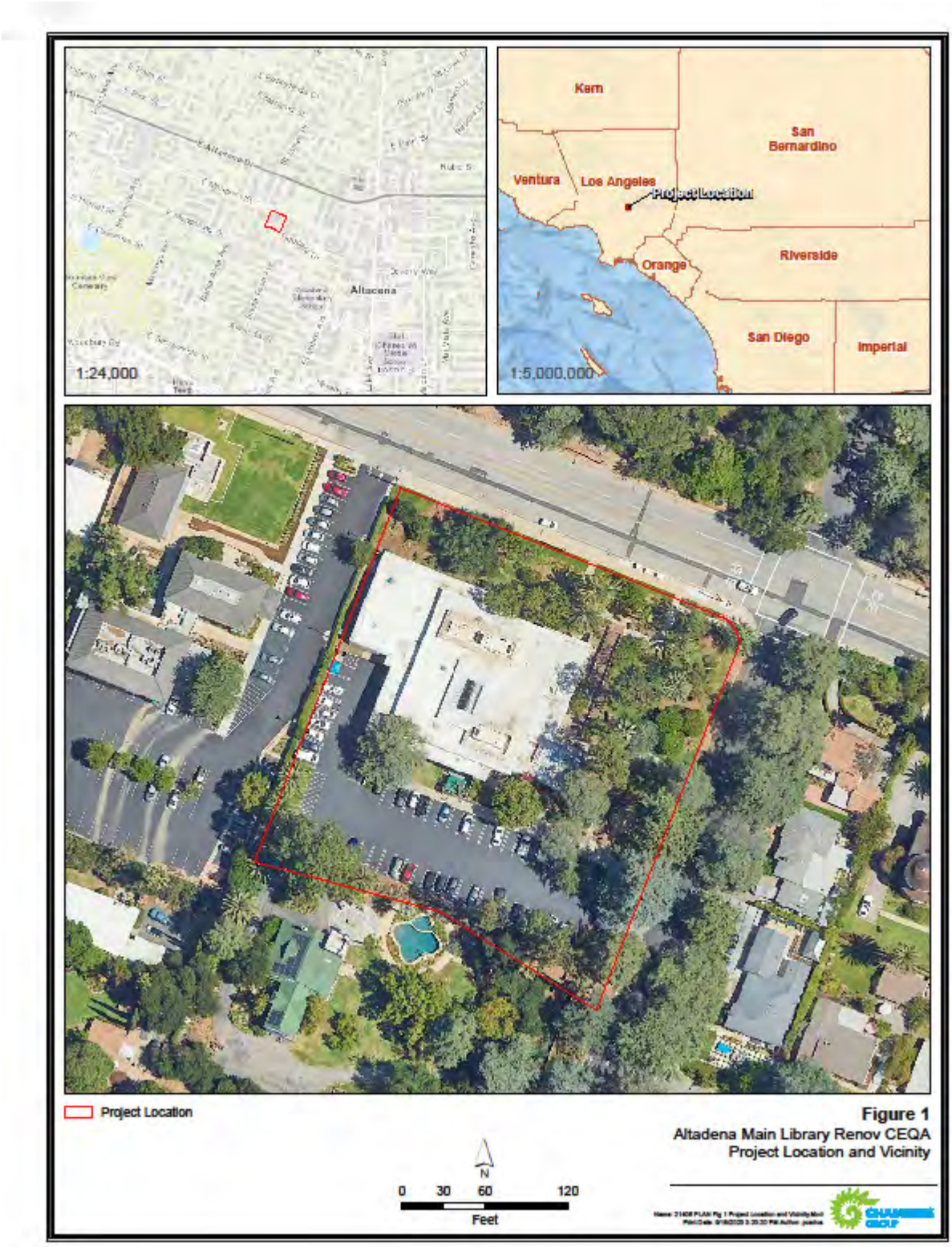

Figure 2
Altadena Main Library Renov CEQA
Site Plan

SECTION 2.0 – ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION

2.1 ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:

The environmental factors checked below would potentially be affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact," as indicated by the checklists on the following pages. For each of the potentially affected factors, mitigation measures are recommended that would reduce the impacts to less than significant levels.

☐ *Aesthetics*	☐ *Agriculture and Forestry Resources*	☐ *Air Quality*
☐ *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*	☐ *Tribal Cultural Resources*
☐ *Utilities /Service Systems*	☐ *Wildfire*	☐ *Mandatory Findings of Significance*

2.2 DETERMINATION

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

1. I find that the project **could not** have a significant effect on the environment, and a **NEGATIVE DECLARATION** will be prepared. ☐
2. 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. ☐
3. I find the proposed project **may have a significant effect** on the environment, and an **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT** is required. ☐
4. 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 pursuant to 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. ☐
5. 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. ☐

_____ _____

Signature Date

_____ _____

Name Title

SECTION 3.0 – 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 a lead agency cites. 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 where 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 offsite as well as onsite, 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 substantial evidence exists that an effect may be significant. If one or more "Potentially Significant Impact" entries are marked 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 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 which were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.
6. Lead agencies are encouraged to incorporate into the checklist references to information sources for potential impacts (e.g., general plans, zoning ordinances). Reference to a previously prepared or outside document should, where appropriate, include a reference to the page or pages where the statement is substantiated.
7. Supporting Information Sources: A source list should be attached, and other sources used, or individuals contacted should be cited in the discussion.
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 significant.

**Note: Instructions may be omitted from final document.*

SECTION 4.0 – CHECKLIST OF ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

4.1 AESTHETICS

1.	AESTHETICS. Except as provided in Public Resources Code Section 21099, would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
(a)	Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	☐	☐	☒	☐
(b)	Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	☐	☐	☒	☐
(c)	Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from publicly accessible vantage point). If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?	☐	☐	☒	☐
(d)	Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	☐	☐	☒	☐

4.1.1 Impact Analysis

a) Would the project have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?

Less Than Significant Impact. The Proposed Project site is located in an urbanized residential area in the unincorporated community of Altadena. The Project site is fully developed and is surrounded by residential uses. The San Gabriel Mountains ridgelines are in close proximity to the Proposed Project site and are recognized as significant ridgeline within the Los Angeles County General Plan (County 2022). The proposed library expansion, interior upgrades, and exterior improvements would largely occur within the footprint of the existing facility. Some of the upgrades would include alterations to the exterior of the existing building; however, these upgrades would have no impact on scenic vistas, as the library will remain a two-story structure built into the existing slope of the Project site. Therefore, implementation of the Proposed Project would result in a less than significant impact associated with scenic vistas.

b) Would the project substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?

Less Than Significant Impact. The nearest State of California (State) highways in the vicinity of the Proposed Project site are Interstate 210 (I-210) and California State Highway 134 (Google Earth 2023). I-210 runs approximately 2 miles west of the site, Highway 134 is located 2.7 miles southwest of the site. Although portions of Interstate I-210 are classified as eligible for State scenic highway designation, the section nearest the Proposed Project site is not identified as being officially designated (California Department of Transportation [Caltrans] 2018). Due to the location of the Proposed Project over a mile to the northeast and no change in the existing height of the building, a less than significant impact would occur.

c) *Would the project Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from publicly accessible vantage point). If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?*

Less Than Significant Impact. The Proposed Project activities include reconfiguration of the library, interior and exterior improvements, and the addition of an exterior reading court for the library. The Project site is zoned as Single Family Residential under the County of Los Angeles Zoning Map (County 2023). The immediate surrounding areas are zoned as Residential. The Project activities as proposed would not conflict with existing zoning or applicable regulations; they would include interior work within the existing building along with landscaping improvements and exterior upgrades. The visual character of the Proposed Project site would be minimally altered to retain the existing design features of the building and original landscaping. The exterior of the buildings would not degrade public view of the site and its surroundings as a result of the improvements and modification. The intent of the Project is to retain the visual character of the library, repair and modernize infrastructure, include additional community spaces, and improve access. Thus, implementation of the Proposed Project would result in less than significant impacts associated with visual character or quality.

d) *Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?*

Less Than Significant Impact. The Proposed Project site currently contains security lighting, parking lighting, indoor lighting, and adjacent street lighting. Lighting at the Main is currently installed to minimize glare for pedestrians and drivers, and to minimize spillover light. The District would be required to implement Altadena Community Standards District design standards established to ensure that expanded structures are compatible with the characteristics of surrounding residential neighborhoods, protecting the light, air, and privacy of existing single-family residences from negative impacts while providing certain flexibility within residential areas (County 2023a). These standards would be applied towards lighting improvements associated with the Project activities. Therefore, implementation of the Proposed Project would result in less than significant impacts associated with new sources of light or glare.

4.2 AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY RESOURCES

2.	**AGRICULTURE & FOREST 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 Department 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 the 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:**	**Potentially Significant Impact**	**Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated**	**Less Than Significant Impact**	**No Impact**
(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 nonagricultural use?	☐	☐	☐	☒
(b)	Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	☐	☐	☐	☒
(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 Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?	☐	☐	☐	☒
(d)	Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	☐	☐	☐	☒
(e)	Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to nonagricultural use or the conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	☐	☐	☐	☒

4.2.1 Impact Analysis

a) Would the project 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 nonagricultural use?

No Impact. The Project site has been identified as Urban and Built-up Land as shown on the Department of Conservation's (DOC's) Important Farmland Finder (DOC 2018). The Project site is zoned R-1 (Single Family Residence). Implementation of the Project would not convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland or Farmland of Statewide Importance. Therefore, no impact would occur.

b) Would the project conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?

No Impact. As noted in previous response 4.2.1 a), no areas are zoned for agricultural use on or near the Project site. The immediate surrounding areas are zoned as Residential. Additionally, Los Angeles County does not contain any areas that participate in Williamson Act contracts (DOC 2022b). Therefore, implementation of the Project would not result in an impact associated with Williamson Act lands or agricultural zoning.

c) Would the project conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?

No Impact. No forest land or timberland is present in or around the Project site of the Main. The proposed building expansion, building upgrades, and addition of an exterior reading court and delivery loading zone would result in removal of existing turf, planters, and shrubs. However, exterior renovations would not conflict with existing zoning for forest land. Therefore, no impact would occur.

d) Would the project result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?

No Impact. The Project site does not include any forest land. The proposed facility renovation, library expansion, and exterior reading court would result in removal of existing turf, planters, trees (9 of 58), and shrubs on-site. However, the Project would add additional landscaping and would use drought-tolerant landscaping. Therefore, implementation of the Project would not result in an impact related to forest land or the conversion of forest land to non-forest use.

e) Would the project involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to nonagricultural use or the conversion of forest land to non-forest use?

No Impact. As noted in the previous responses 4.2.1 a) through d), the Project site and surrounding properties do not contain any farmland of importance or forest land. Therefore, implementation of the Project would not result in any impact associated with conversion of farmland to non-agricultural use or forest land to non-forest land.

4.3 AIR QUALITY

3.	AIR QUALITY. Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management district or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
(a)	Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	☐	☐	☐	☐
(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?	☐	☐	☐	☐
(c)	Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	☐	☐	☐	☐

3.	**AIR QUALITY. Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management district or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:**	**Potentially Significant Impact**	**Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated**	**Less Than Significant Impact**	**No Impact**
(d)	Result in other emissions, such as those leading to odors adversely affecting a substantial number of people?	☐	☐	☒	☐

4.3.1 Environmental Setting

The Proposed Project site is located within the unincorporated community of Altadena in central Los Angeles County. The Proposed Project site is located within the South Coast Air Basin (SCAB), and air quality regulation is administered by the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD). The SCAQMD implements the programs and regulations required by the federal and State Clean Air Acts.

Atmospheric Setting

Air quality is a function of both the rate and location of pollutant emissions under the influence of meteorological conditions and topographical features. Atmospheric conditions such as wind speed, wind direction, and air temperature gradients interact with physical features of the landscape to determine their movement and dispersal and, consequently, their effect on air quality. The combination of topography and inversion layers generally prevents dispersion of air pollutants in the SCAB.

The climate of the SCAB is influenced by the semi-permanent high-pressure zone of the eastern Pacific, which results in a mild climate tempered by cool sea breezes. Although the SCAB has a semiarid climate, the air near the surface is typically moist due to the presence of a shallow marine layer. Except for infrequent periods when dry air is brought into the basin by offshore winds, the ocean effect is dominant. Periods of heavy fog are frequent, and low stratus clouds, often referred to as "high fog," are a characteristic climate feature. Average temperatures measured at Altadena Air Quality Monitoring Station, which is the nearest monitoring station to the Proposed Project site (WRCC 2016), range from an average low of 42.3 degrees Fahrenheit (°F) in January to an average high of 86.8 °F in August. The average minimum temperature is 50°F and the average maximum temperature is 74.1°F. Rainfall averages approximately 22.00 inches a year, with most annual rainfall coming from the fringes of mid-latitude storms from late October to early April, with summers being almost completely dry.

Winds are an important parameter in characterizing the air quality environment of a project site because they determine the regional pattern of air pollution transport and control the rate of dispersion near a source. Daytime winds in the SCAB are usually light breezes from off the coast as air moves regionally onshore from the cool Pacific Ocean. These winds are usually the strongest in the dry summer months. Nighttime winds in the SCAB result from the drainage of cool air off the mountains to the east, and they occur more often during the winter months and are usually lighter than the daytime winds. Between the periods of dominant airflow, periods of air stagnation may occur, both in the morning and evening hours. Whether such a period of stagnation occurs is one of the critical determinants of air quality conditions on any given day.

During the winter and fall months, surface high-pressure systems north of the SCAB, combined with other meteorological conditions, can result in strong winds from the northeast called "Santa Ana winds." These winds normally have durations of a few days before predominant meteorological conditions are

reestablished. The highest wind speed typically occurs during the afternoon due to daytime thermal convection caused by surface heating. This convection brings about a downward transfer of momentum from stronger winds aloft. It is common to have sustained winds of 60 miles per hour with higher gusts during a Santa Ana wind event.

Regulatory Setting

The Proposed Project site lies within the SCAB, managed by the SCAQMD. National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) and California Ambient Air Quality Standards (CAAQS) have been established for the following criteria pollutants: carbon monoxide (CO), ozone (O_3), sulfur dioxide (SO_2), nitrogen dioxide (NO_2), inhalable particulate matter (PM_{10}), fine particulate matter ($PM_{2.5}$), and lead. The CAAQS also set standards for sulfates, hydrogen sulfide, and visibility.

Areas are classified under the federal Clean Air Act as either "attainment" or "nonattainment" areas for each criteria pollutant, based on whether the NAAQS have been achieved. Attainment relative to the State standards is determined by the California Air Resources Board (CARB). The SCAB has been designated by the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as a nonattainment area for O_3 and suspended particulates ($PM_{2.5}$). Currently, the SCAB is in attainment with the ambient air quality standards for CO, SO_2, PM_{10}, and NO_2. The SCAB is designated as partial nonattainment for lead, based on two source-specific monitors in Vernon and in the City of Industry that are both near battery recycling facilities.

The EPA has designated the SCAB as extreme nonattainment for the 8-hour average ozone standard. On October 1, 2015, the EPA instituted the 8-hour ozone NAAQS to 0.070 ppm, effective December 28, 2015, retaining the same form as the previous 1997 and 2008 standards. The 2008 ozone NAAQS are a primary focus of the 2016 Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP).

Additionally, the EPA has designated the SCAB as nonattainment for $PM_{2.5}$. In 1997, the EPA established standards for $PM_{2.5}$ (particles less than 2.5 micrometers), which were not implemented until March 2002. $PM_{2.5}$ is a subset of the PM_{10} emissions and whose standards were developed to complement the PM_{10} standards that cover a full range of inhalable particle matter. For the PM_{10} health standards, the annual PM_{10} standard was revoked by the EPA on October 17, 2006, and the 24-hour average PM_{10} nonattainment status was re-designated to attainment (maintenance) on July 26, 2013.

The 2012 AQMP provides measures to reduce $PM_{2.5}$ emissions to within the federal standard by 2015. On January 25, 2013, the CARB approved the 2012 AQMP that was prepared per the federal Clean Air Act requirements to show attainment of the $PM_{2.5}$ standard by the revised date of 2014. The 2012 AQMP builds upon the approaches taken in the 2007 AQMP utilized to reduce $PM_{2.5}$ emissions in the SCAB. On December 14, 2012, the EPA revised the primary annual $PM_{2.5}$ NAAQS from 15 micrograms per cubic meter ($\mu g/m^3$) to 12 $\mu g/m^3$. The 2016 AQMP includes implementation strategies to meet the revised $PM_{2.5}$ standard.

The SCAB has been designated by CARB as a nonattainment area for O_3, NO_2, PM_{10}, $PM_{2.5}$, and lead. Currently, the SCAB is in attainment with the State ambient air quality standards for CO, SO_2, and sulfates and is unclassified for visibility-reducing particles and hydrogen sulfide. The 2007, 2012, and 2016 AQMPs provide measures to meet the State standards for O_3, NO_2, PM_{10}, and $PM_{2.5}$.

Table 2 presents the designations and classifications applicable to the Proposed Project area.

Table 2: Designations/Classifications for the Project Area

Pollutant	Averaging Time Standard	National Standards Attainment Date	California Standards
Ozone (O_3)	1-Hour (1979) (0.12 ppm)	Nonattainment (Extreme) 2/26/2023	Nonattainment
	8-Hour (1997) (0.08 ppm)	Nonattainment (Extreme) 6/15/2024	
	8-Hour (2008) (0.075 ppm)	Nonattainment (Extreme) 7/20/2032	
	8-Hour (2015) (0.07 ppm)	Pending – Expect Nonattainment beyond 2032	Pending
Carbon Monoxide (CO)	1-Hour (35 ppm) 8-Hour (9 ppm)	Attainment (Maintenance) 6/11/2007 (attained)	Attainment
Nitrogen Dioxide (NO_2)	1-Hour (100 ppb)	Unclassifiable/Attainment Attained	Attainment
	Annual (0.053 ppm)	Attainment (Maintenance) 9/22/1998	
Sulfur Dioxide (SO_2)	1-Hour (75 ppb)	Designation Pending/ Pending	Attainment
	24-Hour (0.14 ppm) Annual (0.03 ppm)	Unclassifiable/Attainment 3/19/1979 (attained)	
Particulate Matter (PM_{10})	24-Hour (150 µg/m^3)	Attainment (Maintenance) 7/26/2013	Nonattainment
Particulate Matter ($PM_{2.5}$)	24-Hour (2006) (35 µg/m^3)	Nonattainment 12/14/2014	Nonattainment
	Annual (2012) (12.0 µg/m^3)	Nonattainment 4/5/2015	
	Annual (1997) (15.0 µg/m^3)	Attainment (final determination pending) 4/5/2015 (attained 2013)	Attainment
Lead (Pb)	3-Months Rolling (0.15 µg/m^3)	Nonattainment (Partial) 12/31/2015	Nonattainment

Obtained from http://www.aqmd.gov/docs/default-source/clean-air-plans/air-quality-management-plans/naaqs-caaqs-feb2016.pdf?sfvrsn=14

4.3.2 Impact Analysis

a) Would the project conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?

Impact to be Determined in the EIR. The purpose of the AQMP is to provide direction that brings an area into compliance with federal and State air quality standards. The Proposed Project involves exterior and interior work on the Main Library. The proposed interior space reconfigurations, access

and parking improvements, seismic retrofit, replacement of aged building infrastructure (HVAC, elevator, plumbing, and electrical) and landscaping activities would require minor amounts of grading and demolition. Operational emissions associated with the Proposed Project would be similar to existing conditions as the library would continue to operate in the same manner. The EIR will provide a full analysis of potential impacts resulting from conflicts or obstruction of applicable air quality plans.

b) *Would the project 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?*

Impact to be Determined in the EIR. Emission will be generated by equipment during construction. Operational emissions associated with the Proposed Project would remain similar to existing conditions, as the library would continue to operate in the same manner without an increase in users. The EIR will provide a full analysis of potential impacts associated with air quality standards or air quality violations.

c) *Would the project expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?*

Impact to be Determined in the EIR. During construction, the Proposed Project would use various pieces of construction equipment, including diesel equipment which would result in the presence of diesel particulate matter on the Project site. The Proposed Project involves interior and exterior work including new hardscape areas along with planting and irrigation improvements, removal of nine of the 58 trees, parking for approximately 4 bicycles, new staff delivery loading zone, a planted walkways moving west to the new main building entrance, various interior improvements, a new deck (an extension of the new Community Room), and the creation of a reading court on the exterior of the building. While there would be indirect temporary exposure to sensitive receptors to construction emissions, the EIR will provide a full analysis of potential impacts.

d) *Would the project result in other emissions, such as those leading to odors adversely affecting a substantial number of people?*

Less Than Significant Impact. Sources of odors associated with the Proposed Project would be from diesel equipment used during construction and uses of paints and solvents. construction activities would be short term. There are no extensive grading or demolition activities on-site that would result in substantial emissions. Exhaust odors from diesel engines may be considered offensive to some individuals but they would be short term and would not likely be noticed for extended periods of time beyond the project site's boundaries. Diesel emissions and other odorous emissions including paints and solvents would disperse rapidly. Operations would be similar to existing conditions. Therefore, implementation of the Proposed Project would result in a less than significant impact associated with objectionable odors.

Issues Requiring Further Study. The EIR will include further study related to conflicts with applicable air quality management plans, short-term construction emissions, long-term operational emissions, a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant, non-stationary source CO hotspot, and exposure of sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations. Cumulative impacts to global climate change will be further discussed in the EIR.

4.4 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

4.	BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES. Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
(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 Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	☐	☐	☒	☐
(b)	Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	☐	☐	☐	☒
(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?	☐	☐	☐	☒
(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?	☐	☐	☐	☒
(e)	Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	☐	☒	☐	☐
(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?	☐	☐	☐	☒

4.4.1 Impact Analysis

a) Would the project have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modification, on any species identified as candidate, sensitive or special status species in local or regional plans, policies or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?

Less Than Significant Impact. The Main is located in an urbanized neighborhood in the unincorporated community of Altadena and was originally built in 1967. Due to the developed nature of the site and surrounding area, no candidate, sensitive, or special status species exist on or around the site. While the Proposed Project site is not suitable habitat, it is possible that birds may be using the existing vegetation and trees for nests within the site and its immediate vicinity. The majority of facility repairs and upgrades would occur in the interior of existing buildings. However, the landscaping improvements, the addition of 4 bicycle parking spaces, exterior reading court, and a new delivery loading zone lot would result in some ground-disturbing activities. Since Project activities would remove 9 trees, and the construction timeline (Spring 2025 into Summer 2026), construction activities might pose a risk to nesting birds. Implementation of PDF-1 (described in the Project Description Section 1.4.2) prevents impacts to nesting birds and would comply with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act

(MBTA), which prohibits the removal of listed migratory birds or their parts, such as eggs and nests, from private property. Therefore, impacts either directly or through habitat modification, on any species identified as candidate, sensitive or special status species would be less than significant.

b) *Would the project have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?*

No Impact. As noted above, the Proposed Project site is an existing library campus located in an urbanized area of the unincorporated community of Altadena. On-site vegetation is limited to ornamental landscaping. No riparian habitat or other sensitive natural communities exist on the Proposed Project site (United States Fish and Wildlife Service [USFWS] 2023). Therefore, implementation of the Proposed Project would not result in impacts associated with riparian habitat or other sensitive natural communities.

c) *Would the project 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?*

No Impact. The Proposed Project site, Main Library, is located in an urbanized area in the community. Onsite vegetation is ornamental landscaping. A review of the USFWS records reveal that no known wetlands exist on-site (USFWS 2023). Therefore, implementation of the Proposed Project would not result in an impact associated with wetlands.

d) *Would the project 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?*

No Impact. As noted above, the Main is located in an urbanized area, and no native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species, established wildlife corridors, or native wildlife nursery sites exist on the Proposed Project site. Therefore, implementation of the Proposed Project would not result in an impact associated with native migratory species or nursery sites.

e) *Would the project conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?*

Less than Significant with Mitigation. As discussed previously, the Proposed Project activities would result in the removal of nine of 58 trees on-site including six street trees. None of the trees that would be removed have special status. The remaining 49 trees, including two coast live oak trees, would be protected in place. Six new trees are currently proposed, including large specimens at the North Patio and Community Plaza. However, the County Municipal Code for Altadena Community Standards (Municipal Code 22.306(3)(d)) requires that mature trees are preserved as part of a CUP that would be required for the Proposed Project. This could result in a significant impact associated with conflicting with a local ordinance. Implementation of Mitigation Measure Bio-1 would reduce the impact associated with conflicting with local ordinances to less than significant.

MM Bio-1 Tree Replacement. The District shall retain a certified arborist to conduct a tree survey and complete a report on the trees subject to removal. The report shall contain the type, size, and condition of the trees proposed for removal. The Tree report shall be submitted to the County to determine the replacement requirements for the trees to comply with County ordinances.

f) Would the project conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Conservancy Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?

No Impact. No adopted habitat conservation plans or natural community conservation plans exist for the County of Los Angeles or the surrounding area, nor is the Proposed Project located in a recognized Significant Ecological Area, or Wildlife habitat linkage (County 2022c). Therefore, implementation of the Proposed Project would not result in impacts associated with an applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan.

4.5 CULTURAL RESOURCES

5.	CULTURAL RESOURCES. Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
(a)	Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to §15064.5?	☒	☐	☐	☐
(b)	Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?	☐	☐	☒	☐
(c)	Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	☐	☐	☒	☐

4.5.1 Environmental Setting

A cultural resource records search was conducted of records maintained by the California Historic Resources Inventory System (CHRIS) at the South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC) at California State University, Fullerton. The records were received by Kleinfelder on September 27, 2022 (SCCIC File No.: 24012.10187). The records search encompassed the Project area and a 0.25-mile buffer radius. The purpose of the record search was to identify if any historic-period cultural resources had been identified and determine if cultural resources studies had been previously documented in the Project area and/or the surrounding 0.25-mile buffer. Further, Kleinfelder reviewed the Built Environment Resource Directory (BERD) to determine if any additional historic-period built environment resources not included in the records search results were recorded.

The results of the records search indicate that no previous cultural resources studies have been conducted within the Project area and that no previously identified cultural resources have been located within the Project area. One previously conducted cultural resource study was identified, but no previously identified historic-period cultural resources have been documented within 0.25 mile of the Project area.

In addition to the records search, an extensive pedestrian survey was conducted in January 2024 by Kleinfelder's Principal Architectural Historian. The interior and exterior of the Main Library were photo documented, then analyzed against the historic context. The full Architectural History Study is included as Appendix A.

As discussed in Appendix A, the CEQA Statute and Guidelines Section (15064.5 (b)(3)) states, impacts on historical resources from a project that follows the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring, and Reconstructing Historic Buildings or the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and Guidelines for

Rehabilitating Historic Buildings, as appropriate, shall be considered less than significant impact. Kleinfelder recommended that the Secretary of the Interior Standards for Rehabilitation (SOI Standards) are the most appropriate of the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties for the proposed Project due to the nature of the Project and the condition of the existing building. Rehabilitation is defined as the act or process of making possible a compatible use for a property through repair, alterations, and additions while preserving those portions or features which convey its historical, cultural, or architectural values. The SOI Standards acknowledge the need to alter or add to a historic building to meet continuing or new uses while retaining the building's historic character. The analysis below provides a summary of the detailed findings in Appendix A.

4.5.2 Impact Analysis

a) Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to §15064.5?

Potentially Significant Impact. Appendix A includes an analysis of if the Project design changes, to character defining features of the Main Library, meet the SOI Standards. The changes are grouped into three categories: 1) site and landscape, 2) building exterior and 3) building interior. The following discussion is a summary of the Project design changes by the three categories and if they meet each of the SOI Standards.

Site and Landscape-

- The removal of nine trees, six of which are in poor condition, will not modify the overall appearance of the landscape in such a way that will compromise the historic integrity of the landscaping plan.
- The built environment landscaping elements such as the footbridges and globe lanterns will be repaired if possible, using in-kind materials in conformance with the SOI Standards.
- Additions to the building, new walkways, and the potential construction of the exterior reading court alter the landscape and the site plan but are compatible with the intent and the design for the space while not creating a false sense of history.

Building Exterior

- The addition of the new entrance and atrium on the south façade of the library will alter character defining features such as the emphasis of horizontal planes, characteristic of Mid-Century Modern architecture. Partially removing the existing fascia creates a visual break in horizontality.
- A portion of the existing concrete masonry unit (CMU) wall on the south façade will be demolished, breaking the visual horizontality, a character-defining feature.
- A portion of the glass windows on the southern façade will be replaced with CMU block (per schematic design) breaking the interior/exterior character-defining feature associated with Mid-Century Modern architecture.
- The main entrance will be altered and replaced with a new set of modern glass doors and an atrium, making it the central focus of the south façade and thus removing the character-defining feature of unassuming recessed entrances.
- The new entrance will consist of double-height glass; however, it might be partially obscured by the existing CMU wall, thus partially obstructing the indoor/outdoor transition.

Building Interior

- Open spaces will be broken with bigger enclosed spaces, notably on the western portion of the interior space, breaking the open plan space.
- Character-defining features of the sunken living room, such as tiled floor, will be preserved except where the new ADA ramp is installed,.
- Wood paneling and millwork will be removed but the carved wood tiles will be reused at the new service desk.

Table 3 (4.1 in Appendix A) summarizes the overall compliance with the SOI Standards

Table 3: Standards Assessment

SOI Standards	Assessment
A property will be used as it was historically or be given a new use that requires minimal change to its distinctive materials, features, spaces, and spatial relationships.	The Altadena Main Library will continue to be used as a public library. Therefore, the Project generally conforms to this standard.
The historic character of a property will be retained and preserved. The removal of distinctive materials or alteration of features, spaces, and spatial relationships that characterize a property will be avoided.	Based on the Project plans, historic character features will be altered, distinctive character defining materials will be removed, and spatial relationships between spaces will be altered. These alterations will result in a significant change in the spatial relationship and to the integrity of materials, design, workmanship, and feeling, particularly for the interior of the building. Therefore, the Project does not generally conform to this standard.
Each property will be recognized as a physical record of its time, place, and use. Changes that create a false sense of historical development, such as adding conjectural features or elements from other historic properties, will not be undertaken.	Based on the Project plans that have been provided, the alterations to the property will be distinct from the historical design, while also complimentary to the intent of the original design. These changes will be differentiated from the historical material and will not create a false sense of history. Therefore, the Project generally conforms to this standard.
Changes to a property that have acquired historic significance in their own right will be retained and preserved.	No changes to the property that have acquired historic significance have been identified. Therefore, the Project generally conforms to this standard.
Distinctive materials, features, finishes, and construction techniques or examples of craftsmanship that characterize a property will be preserved.	Although some materials and finishes will be retained, other of the character-defining features such as wood paneling and millwork, tiles, spatial relationship between the interior and exterior, and emphasis in horizontal panes will be removed. These alterations will result in an overall loss of integrity of materials, design, workmanship, and feeling. Therefore, the Project does not generally conform to this standard.
Deteriorated historic features will be repaired rather than replaced. Where the severity of	Based on the Project plans, historic features such as the trellis/chandelier, will be refurbished rather

SOI Standards	Assessment
deterioration requires replacement of a distinctive feature, the new feature will match the old in design, color, texture, and, where possible, materials. Replacement of missing features will be substantiated by documentary and physical evidence.	than replaced. In addition, the wooden bridges on the exterior of the building will be repaired and/or replaced with in-kind materials. While these specific improvements generally conform to this standard, the building will undergo such significant alterations that other historic features (such as windows and wood paneling) will be removed. These alterations will result in an overall loss of integrity of materials, design, workmanship, and feeling. Therefore, the Project does not generally conform to this standard.
Chemical or physical treatments, if appropriate, will be undertaken using the gentlest means possible. Treatments that cause damage to historic materials will not be used.	Based on the Project plans that have been provided, it does not appear that use of chemical or physical treatments will cause damage to historic materials that will not be modified by removal and new construction. Therefore, the Project generally conforms to this standard.
Archeological resources will be protected and preserved in place. If such resources must be disturbed, mitigation measures will be undertaken.	Appendix A does not address archaeological resources.
New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction will not destroy historic materials, features, and spatial relationships that characterize the property. The new work shall be differentiated from the old and will be compatible with the historic materials, features, size, scale and proportion, and massing to protect the integrity of the property and its environment.	The proposed additions will alter character defining features and will remove/destroy historic materials. These alterations will result in an overall loss of integrity of materials, design, workmanship, and feeling. Therefore, the Project does not generally conform to this standard.
New additions and adjacent or related new construction will be undertaken in a such a manner that, if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the historic property and its environment would be unimpaired.	The majority of the modifications to the building under this Project will permanently modify the building in such a way that, if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the historic property would not be retained. Therefore, the Project does not generally conform to this standard.

As summarized in Table 3, the Project will not conform to all of the SOI Standards and will result in an overall loss of integrity of materials, design, workmanship, and feeling. Impacts to historical resources will be fully analyzed in the EIR.

b) Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?

Less than Significant Impact. As noted above in the Environmental Setting, the results of the records search indicate that no previous cultural resources studies have been conducted within the Project area and that no previously identified cultural resources have been located within the Project area. In addition, if any archaeological resources are encountered during construction activities, the construction BMPs related to cultural resources noted in Section 1.4.2 would be followed. Further, ground disturbance of any native soils or soils not previously disturbed would not occur as part of the Proposed Project. Due to the low potential to encounter archaeological resources, a less than significant impact would occur.

c) Would the project disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?

Less than Significant Impact. As noted in Section 1.4.2, the proposed Project site is located in a residential area, previously disturbed by past activities. No known human remains are known to be in the Project area. Thus, the disturbance of human remains is not expected in conjunction with project grading and excavation activities. While no formal cemeteries, other places of human internment, or burial grounds sites are known to occur within the immediate Project site, human remains could always possibly be encountered during construction. Should human remains be encountered unexpectedly during grading or construction activities, State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 requires that no further disturbance shall occur until the County Coroner has made the necessary findings as to origin and disposition pursuant to Public Resource Code (PCR) Section 5097.98. No further excavation or disturbance of the Project site or any nearby area reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent remains would occur until the County Coroner has determined, within two working days of notification of the discovery, if the remains are human. In the event human remains are discovered, a less than significant impact would occur.

Issues Requiring Further Study. The EIR will include further study related to historical resources.

4.6 ENERGY

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

4.6.1 Impact Analysis

a) 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?

Less than Significant Impact. The Proposed Project involves interior and exterior improvements including interior space reconfigurations, access and parking improvements, seismic retrofit,

replacement of aged building infrastructure (HVAC, elevator, plumbing, and electrical) and landscaping activities, and other improvements. The Proposed Project would, at a minimum, implement California Code of Regulations (CCR) Title 24 Part 6: California's Energy Efficiency Standards for Residential and Nonresidential Buildings. In addition, the proposed repairs and improvements include the installation of energy-efficient systems. The Proposed Project would, therefore, result in a less than significant impact.

b) *Would the project Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?*

Less than Significant Impact. The Proposed Project would comply with the CCR Title 24, which regulates the amount of energy consumed by a new development for heating, cooling, ventilation, and lighting – all of which would apply to the renovation of the Main. The Proposed Project would result in less than significant impacts.

4.7 GEOLOGY AND SOILS

7.	GEOLOGY AND SOILS. Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
(a)	Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				
	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.	☐	☐	☒	☐
	ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?	☐	☐	☒	☐
	iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	☐	☐	☒	☐
	iv) Landslides?	☐	☐	☒	☐
(b)	Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	☐	☐	☒	☐
(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?	☐	☐	☒	☐
(d)	Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property?	☐	☐	☒	☐
(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?	☐	☐	☐	☒
(f)	Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	☐	☐	☐	☒

4.7.1 Impact Analysis

a) i) Would the project directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the 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? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.

Less than Significant Impact. The Project site is not identified to be located within a State-designated Alquist-Priolo Fault Zone. The nearest designated Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone is the Raymond Fault Zone located approximately 4.7 miles south of the Project site (DOC 2021). Further, all construction activities for the Project would be conducted in accordance with the Uniform Building Code as well as County regulations and ordinances, pertaining to the mitigation of potential geologic and seismic impacts. Some improvements include increasing the seismic resilience of the facility. Implementation of the Project would not exacerbate the existing conditions of the library or result in risk of loss, injury, or death involving a rupture of a known fault. Therefore, the Proposed Project would result in a less than significant impact associated with earthquake fault rupture**.**

ii) Would the project directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving strong seismic ground shaking?

Less than Significant Impact. The most significant seismic hazard potentially affecting the Project site is ground shaking from a major earthquake. The Project site is an existing library that would be undergoing upgrades and renovation. Seismic retrofit includes a new full height shear wall at the South elevation, larger columns to replace the existing smaller ones to address performance issues with the glass panels between the low and high roofs, reinforcing in existing masonry wall to increase shear strength. As noted in the previous response, the Project site is not located within a fault zone, and the closest fault is approximately 4.7 miles south. The interior and exterior upgrades proposed as a part of the Project would be conducted in accordance with the Uniform Building Code (UBC), as well as local regulations and ordinances pertaining to the mitigation of potential geologic and seismic impacts. Therefore, implementation of the Project would result in a less than significant impact associated with strong seismic ground shaking.

iii) Would the project directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?

Less than Significant Impact. The Department of Conservation's EQZapp Program identifies the Project site as not being located within a liquefaction zone (DOC 2021). The Project site is an existing library that would be undergoing interior and exterior upgrades. Additionally, all Project activities would be conducted in accordance with the UBC, as well as County regulations and ordinances, pertaining to the mitigation of potential geologic and seismic impacts. Therefore, implementation of the Project would result in a less than significant impact associated with seismic-induced ground failure, including liquefaction.

iv) Would the project directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving landslides?

Less than Significant Impact. Although the Project site has a slight slope in the topography, it is not identified by the Department of Conservation's EQZapp Program as an area prone to

seismically induced landslide (DOC 2021). Therefore, implementation of the Project would result in a less than significant impact associated with landslides.

b) Would the project result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?

Less than Significant Impact. The Project activities including removal of concrete, pavement, and removal of existing turf, trees, planters, and shrubs. Areas of pavement and concrete removal include area for the new entry/lobby along much of the south side of the Main and walkways to bridge on north side of facility. Exterior demolition would require approximately 0.28 acres of ground disruption activities. The majority of work associated with implementation of the Proposed Project involves upgrades within the interior of the existing building. If more than 50 cubic yards of grading would be necessary, a County Grading Permit would be required (County 2017). BMPs to manage soil erosion on the site would be required and if grading occurs after November 1 Erosion and Sediment Control Plans would need to be submitted to the County Building Official (County 2017). Due to past development of the area, the limited amount of ground-disturbing activities associated with the Proposed Project, and County required BMPs, the potential for soil erosion or loss of topsoil would be minimal. Therefore, implementation of the Proposed Project would result in less than significant impacts associated with soil erosion or loss of topsoil.

c) Would the project 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?

Less Than Significant Impact. As noted in Impact 4.7 a) iii, the Proposed Project site is not located within a liquefaction zone, and the soil is not prone to liquefaction (DOC 2021, USDA 2022). Further, the Proposed Project site has been previously graded and developed, and all Project-related activities would be conducted in accordance with the UBC and County regulations and ordinances pertaining to the mitigation of potential geologic and seismic impacts. Therefore, implementation of the Proposed Project would result in less than significant impacts associated with off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse.

d) Would the project be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property?

Less than Significant Impact. Expansive soils possess clay particles that react to moisture changes by shrinking when dry or swelling when wet. These types of soils have the potential to crack building foundations and, in some cases, structurally distress the buildings themselves. Minor to severe damage to overlying structures is possible. However, the Proposed Project is located on Urban Land-Sobaba-Tijunga complex, which has low expansive properties (United States Department of Agriculture [USDA] 2022). The work associated with implementation of the Proposed Project would involve minor ground-disturbing activities. Therefore, the Project would not expose people or the library to adverse effects associated with expansive soils resulting in less than significant impacts.

e) Would the project 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?

No Impact. The Proposed Project site relies on existing wastewater infrastructure to accommodate wastewater disposal requirements. Therefore, implementation of the Proposed Project would not result in an impact associated with soils incapable of supporting septic systems

f) Would the project directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?

No Impact. No known paleontological resources are located on the Proposed Project site. As noted in Section 4.5, the Proposed Project site is located in an urbanized area disturbed by past activities. In addition, if any paleontological resources are encountered during construction activities, the construction BMPs related to cultural resources noted in Section 1.4.2 would be followed. Further, ground disturbance of any native soils or soils not previously disturbed would not occur as part of the Proposed Project resulting in no impacts associated with unique paleontological resources or site or a unique geologic feature.

4.8 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

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

4.8.1 Impact Analysis

a) Would the project generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?

Less than Significant Impact. The Proposed Project would allow for an approximately 700 square feet increase in the size of the Main. Operational, library activities would remain consistent with previous uses with no new activities proposed that would result in long-term increase in operational greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and more energy efficient infrastructure would be installed as part of the renovations. Therefore, implementation of the Proposed Project would result in a less than significant impact associated with GHG emissions.

b) Would the project conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?

Less than Significant Impact. In 2011, SCAQMD prepared an Air Quality-Related Energy Policy that integrates air quality, energy, and climate change issues. It outlines policies to guide and coordinate SCAQMD efforts and provides guidance in developing future clean air programs which includes reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Los Angeles County has adopted a Climate Action Plan for the 2015–2020 period and is in the process of adopting a Climate Action Plan for 2045.

The Proposed Project emissions are short term and would be insignificant in comparison to larger construction projects. The operation of the Proposed Project would not create a significant increase in GHG emissions, as the library would continue to operate in the same manner as previously once the upgrades and repairs have been completed. In addition, the proposed improvements include upgrades to provide energy-efficient systems to improve library conditions. Policy 9 of the Air Quality-

Related Energy Policy includes actions to promote use of energy-efficient appliances (SCAQMD 2011). Therefore, implementation of the Proposed Project would result in a less than significant impact associated with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for reducing the emissions of GHGs.

4.9 HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

9.	HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS. Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
(a)	Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	☐	☐	☒	☐
(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?	☐	☐	☒	☐
(c)	Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	☐	☐	☒	☐
(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?	☐	☐	☐	☒
(e)	For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan had not been adopted, within 2 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?	☐	☐	☐	☒
(f)	Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	☐	☐	☒	☐
(g)	Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires?	☐	☐	☐	☒

4.9.1 Impact Analysis

a) Would the project create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?

Less than Significant Impact. As a library site, the Project would not involve the production or use of a significant amount of hazardous materials. During construction, the Proposed Project would involve the use of equipment that would emit emissions associated with internal combustion engines, (i.e., diesel and gasoline). In addition, other hazardous materials that would be used (e.g., petroleum-based products, paints, solvents, sealers, oils, grease, and cleaning fluids) would be transported, used, stored, and disposed of according to existing regulations, including the manufacturer's product labels and Safety Data Sheets, safeguarding against significant hazards to the public or the environment. The use of these materials would be short term and would occur in accordance with standard construction practices. The use of hazardous materials during library operations would include minimal amounts

of cleaning solvents and fuel for janitorial purposes and chemicals associated with landscaping maintenance. Limited amounts of these types of hazardous materials would be transported or disposed of during routine day-to-day operations. Therefore, implementation of the Proposed Project would result in less than significant impacts associated with the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials.

b) *Would the project 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?*

Less than Significant Impact. The Proposed Project would not include any significant structural renovations that would result in the accidental release of hazardous materials to the environment. Due to the time of original construction (1967) it is possible that the Main contains both asbestos-containing materials (ACM)/asbestos-containing building materials (ACBM) and lead-based paint (LBP).

Construction activities associated with the Proposed Project would require compliance with federal and State laws that regulate construction activities which might involve interaction with ACM or LBP. Regulations require that, prior to demolition, alteration, or renovation, (1) proper notification is given to the SCAQMD (who regulates airborne pollutants) and the local California Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA) office; (2) the District will certify that ACMs have been removed or mitigated by a licensed asbestos abatement contractor certified by the State of California Contractors Licensing Board; and (3) the District will institute an operations and maintenance (O&M) program so that ACMs that are not damaged or LBP that will remain in place are properly managed to prevent exposure to them. These permitting requirements automatically apply to all development associated with the Proposed Project and are standard conditions for approval of the Proposed Project.

Library staff and contractors conducting on-site construction work would be informed of the type of ACBMs that they may encounter and the location of the ACBM. The appropriate employers/contractors and certified Hazardous Materials oversight consultants will implement specific work practices to protect workers, staff, and students from airborne asbestos exposures. Control measures will be implemented that will address worker, staff, and visitor safety during the proposed upgrades.

Compliance with these regulations and implementation of the required safety measures would reduce potential impacts during construction and operation to a level below significant.

Additionally, as noted in previous response 4.9.1 a), the construction phase of the Proposed Project would involve the use of equipment during construction that would emit emissions associated with internal combustion engines (i.e., diesel and gasoline); however, the use of fuels is regulated by the State and would be in compliance with all State regulations during construction. Implementation of the Proposed Project would result in a less than significant impact associated with the release of hazardous materials.

c) *Would the project emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?*

Less than Significant Impact. The implementation of the Proposed Project includes facility repairs and upgrades, exterior repairs, and access and landscaping upgrades to the Main. The schools closest to

the Proposed Project site are the Pasadena Waldorf High School and the Altadena Arts Magnet School, located approximately 0.12 mile southwest and 0.33 mile southeast respectively from the Proposed Project site. As noted in the previous responses, the Proposed Project would involve the use of construction equipment that would emit emissions associated with internal combustion engines (i.e., diesel and gasoline). Once operational, the Proposed Project would involve minimal amounts of cleaning solvents and fuel for janitorial purposes and chemicals for landscaping maintenance which would be subject to federal, State, and local health and safety requirements. Adherence to all local, County, State, and federal policies and regulations would reduce impacts to a level less than significant. Therefore, implementation of the Proposed Project would result in less than significant impacts associated with hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school.

d) *Would the project 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?*

No Impact. The Proposed Project site is not on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 (State Water Resources Control Board [SWRCB] 2023; Department of Toxic Substances Control [DTSC] 2023); therefore, implementation of the Proposed Project would not result in an impact associated with known hazardous materials sites.

e) *For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan had not been adopted, within 2 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?*

No Impact. The Proposed Project site is located approximately 9.5 miles northwest of San Gabriel Valley Airport (Google Earth 2023). Therefore, the implementation of the Proposed Project would not result in an impact associated with a public airport.

f) *Would the project impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?*

Less than Significant Impact. Implementation of the Proposed Project involves a new entrance with ADA compliant pathways, a new delivery loading zone, interior and exterior upgrades, expansion of the facility, and exterior landscaping. These activities would not interfere with established emergency response or emergency evacuation plans and may improve entry and exit in the case of an evacuation. These changes may require an update to the evacuation plan as there would be more options for evacuation. Therefore, a less than significant impact would occur associated with physically interfering with an adopted emergency response or evacuation plan.

g) *Would the project expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires?*

No Impact. The Proposed Project site at the Main is not located within a State- or locally classified very high fire hazard severity zone (Cal Fire 2023). Therefore, implementation of the Proposed Project would not result in an impact associated with wildland fires.

4.10 HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

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

4.10.1 Impact Analysis

a) Would the project violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements, or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality?

Less than Significant Impact. As noted previously, the Main is an existing developed site and is currently in compliance with water quality standards, discharge requirements and is not degrading surface or groundwater quality. Implementation of the Proposed Project involves expansion of the building from approximately 22,000 square feet to a building footprint of approximately 22,700 square feet. The creation of the outdoor reading court and constructing a new delivery loading zone along with other outdoor construction would result in soil disturbance. The site is approximately 1.72 acres with 0.28 acre being disturbed for improvements.

Soil from ground disturbance, along with pollutants from construction activities, has the potential to enter the storm drain system and result in short-term impacts to site drainage during construction periods. However, the Proposed Project would also employ BMPs required by the County for approval of the CUP which would reduce the potential for erosion by implementing erosion and sediment control measures that regulate the amount and quality of runoff from the construction site. After construction the finished grading would slope walking paths, landscapes, and other surfaces away

from buildings towards onsite drainage features to improve management of runoff, and the Main would operate as it is currently. Therefore, implementation of the BMPs during the Proposed Project activities and incorporating grading design to manage runoff would result in less than significant impacts associated with water quality standards or waste discharge requirements.

b) *Would the project substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?*

Less than Significant. The Proposed Project involves facility repairs and upgrades, landscaping upgrades, and expansion at the Main. The Proposed Project site is currently developed, and the majority of ground cover is an impervious surface. The Proposed Project would increase the amount of impervious surfaces with the building expansion, exterior reading court, and new delivery loading area. The footprint of the building is being increased by approximately 700 square feet. However, the Proposed Project would not result in a significant increase in the number of staff or users, and additional water resources would not be required to accommodate any such growth. In addition, new irrigation and infrastructure would be in place to use water more efficiently on the site. Therefore, implementation of the Proposed Project would result in less than significant impacts associated with groundwater recharge or groundwater depletion.

c) i) *Would the project substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site;*

Less than Significant Impact. As noted previously, the Proposed Project site is in an urbanized location and is currently developed and mostly covered in impervious surfaces except for landscaped areas with turf, ornamental shrubs, and trees some that have been there since the original landscaping of the site. The increase in impervious surfaces would be approximately 2,200 square feet as a result of the proposed improvements. Therefore, the Proposed Project would not substantially increase the area of impervious surfaces at the Proposed Project site. Construction resulting in ground-disturbing activities would implement BMPs, identified by the County during the permitting process that would reduce any potential erosion or siltation on- or offsite. Further, the drainage pattern of the Proposed Project site and surrounding area is well established and would be more efficient with the additional grading sloping towards existing drainage features. No streams or rivers are located on or near the Proposed Project site. Therefore, implementation of the Proposed Project would result in less than significant impacts associated with the existing Drainage pattern.

ii) *Would the project substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site;*

Less than Significant Impact. The Proposed Project site is in an urbanized location and the site is currently developed and mostly covered in impervious surface. Further, the Proposed Project would not create or contribute significant runoff. Building expansion and the additional outdoor functional spaces would result in an increase in impervious surfaces. However, the increases in impervious surfaces are minimal on the overall 1.72-acre site, the Proposed Project would not create or contribute a significant increase to surface runoff volume that would exceed the capacity

of the existing stormwater drainage systems. The small amount of grading would slope towards existing drainage structures improving control of drainage on-site. The Proposed Project site does not include any streams or rivers on or near the site; the drainage pattern of the completed Project would be similar to existing conditions. Therefore, implementation of the Proposed Project would result in a less than significant impact associated with surface runoff potentially resulting in flooding.

iii) Would the project substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources or polluted runoff; or

Less than Significant Impact. As noted above, the Proposed Project site is in an urbanized location, and the site is currently developed and covered in impervious surface. Building and landscaping would result in a slight increase in impervious surfaces. The drainage pattern of the completed Project would be similar to existing conditions, and the Proposed Project would not significantly impact stormwater runoff. Further, County required BMPs would reduce any impacts during construction associated with stormwater runoff; implementation of the Proposed Project would result in a less than significant impact associated with stormwater drainage from construction activities.

iv) Would the project substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would impede or redirect flood flows?

No Impact. The Proposed Project is not located within a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) identified 100-year flood hazard area; however, the Proposed Project is located within Zone X (minimal chance of flood hazard) (FEMA 2008). In addition, the on-site soil is not conducive to flooding (USDA 2023). The Proposed Project mostly involves interior and exterior upgrades with approximately 0.23 acres of ground-disturbing activities. Grading would slope towards drainage structures. Therefore, implementation of the Proposed Project would not result in an impact associated with redirecting flood flows in a flood hazard area.

d) Would the project in flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?

No Impact. Seiches or mudflows are not potential hazards in the Proposed Project area. Tsunamis have the potential to impact the coastal area; however, the Proposed Project site is located approximately 24 miles inland and is not located in an inundation or tsunami hazard area. The Proposed Project is not located within a FEMA identified 100-year flood hazard area (FEMA 2008). Implementation of the Proposed Project would not result in an impact associated with inundation by flood hazard, seiche, or tsunami.

e) Would the project conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?

Less Than Significant Impact. The Proposed Project lies within the purview of the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board. The Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board's Basin Plan is designed to preserve and enhance water quality and protect the beneficial uses of all regional waters

(SWRCB 2018). As mentioned above, the Proposed Project would employ BMPs prior to initiation of construction activities and throughout the duration of construction that prevent impacts to water quality as a result of construction activities reducing any impacts to less than significant. Although a small additional delivery loading zone would be constructed for staff, the Proposed Project would not create or contribute a significant increase to surface runoff volume during operations. The Project would be compliant with all city, state, and federal regulations. Therefore, implementation of the Proposed Project would result in a less than significant impact associated with water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan.

4.11 LAND USE AND PLANNING

11.	LAND USE/PLANNING Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
(a)	Physically divide an established community?	☐	☐	☐	☒
(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?	☐	☐	☐	☒

4.11.1 Impact Analysis

a) Would the project physically divide an established community?

No Impact. The Project would be located on a site that has been in use as a public library since it was originally built in 1967. The Project would continue the longstanding presence of a public facility at the Project site. Implementation of the Project includes facility repairs, expansion, and upgrades, landscaping upgrades, and additional outdoor functional spaces. The Project would not change the land uses currently existing at the site or create an incompatible use. The continued use of the site as a library would not result in a new barrier that would divide the established surrounding community; therefore, implementation of the Project would have no impact on an established community.

b) Would the project 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?

No Impact. As described above, the Project site is designated as Other Property Type and zoned as Single Family Residential (R-1). According to the County's zoning code, libraries are conditionally authorized land uses within the R-1 zone (Municipal Code Section 22.18). The Project does not propose a change to the existing land use or zoning designations. Therefore, implementation of the Project would not result in an impact associated with an applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation.

4.12 MINERAL RESOURCES

12.	MINERAL RESOURCES Would the project:	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?	☐	☐	☐	☒
(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?	☐	☐	☐	☒

4.12.1 Impact Analysis

a) Would the project 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?

No Impact. The Main site does not support any mineral resource extraction on-site or within the area. The Project would not result in any loss of availability of oil to the region or State. Further, the Department of Conservation (DOC) does not identify any mines in the community of Altadena (DOC 2023). Therefore, implementation of the Project would not result in an impact associated with mineral resources.

b) Would the project 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?

No Impact. As noted previously, no existing or historic mineral resource sites are present in or around the Project site; therefore, implementation of the Project would not result in an impact associated with a mineral resource recovery site.

4.13 NOISE

13.	NOISE Would the project result in:	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?	☐	☐	☐	☐
(b)	Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	☐	☐	☐	☐
I	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?	☐	☐	☐	☒

4.13.1 Environmental Setting

The North Patio is the location of the new reading court. The nearest receptors to the North Patio of the Main Include the Altadena Senior Center to the west of the facility at a distance of approximately 182 feet (Google Earth 2023). A residence to the east of the Project site is approximately 214 feet away from the North Patio (Google Earth 2023). Table 4 shows the allowable exterior noise levels in a residential area per County Municipal Code:

Table 4: Los Angeles County Exterior Noise Limits

Designate Land Use (Receptors)	Time Interval	Allowable Exterior Noise Level (dB)
Residential	10:00 pm to 7:00 am (nighttime)	45
Residential	7:00 am to 10:00 pm (daytime)	50

4.13.2 Impact Analysis

a) Would the project result in 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?

To Be Determined in the EIR. Implementation of the Proposed Project includes facility repairs and upgrades, landscaping improvements, utility upgrades, installation of a new HVAC and fire sprinkler system, and interior upgrades. Construction is expected to occur in one phase over a 14-month period. Although construction noise may be audible at surrounding properties, construction activities will be limited to the allowable construction times provided in Section 12.08.470 of the County Municipal Code, which restricts construction noise that occurs between 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. Monday through Sunday. Work associated with the Proposed Project would occur both interior and on the exterior of the existing building.

The Proposed Project would increase the size of the library. This increase in use would allow for comfort for existing users. Additionally, the Proposed Project would create more functional spaces outdoors which would increase noise in the vicinity of the library with people talking without sound amplification (microphones). However, the library hours are Monday - Tuesday: 10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m., Wednesday - Friday: 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., Saturday: 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., and Sunday: Closed. There should only be noise from the library during daytime hours. Impacts regarding an increase in noise or an impact associated with noise level standards will be fully analyzed in the EIR.

b) Would the project result in generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?

To Be Determined in the EIR. The work associated with the Proposed Project would occur both inside and outside the existing building **I**mpacts associated with groundborne vibration or groundborne noise will be fully analyzed in the EIR.

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 us airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?*

No Impact. The Proposed Project site is located approximately 9.5 miles southeast of San Gabriel Valley Airport (Google Earth 2023). The Proposed Project would not expose people residing or working in the surrounding area to excessive levels of airport-generated noise. Therefore, the Proposed Project would not result in an impact associated with public airport noise.

Issues Requiring Further Study. Issues requiring further study in the EIR include construction and operation noise impacts, vibration impacts, and potential to expose sensitive receptors to noise above ambient noise levels.

4.14 POPULATION AND HOUSING

14.	POPULATION AND HOUSING. Would the project:	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)?	☐	☐	☐	☒
(b)	Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	☐	☐	☐	☒

4.14.1 Impact Analysis

a) *Would the project 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)?*

No Impact. Implementation of the Project includes facility repairs and upgrades, landscaping upgrades, and facility expansion to Main Library. The upgrades are intended to provide improved facilities for the existing community. Therefore, the Project would not induce population growth in the surrounding areas, nor would it create the need for additional housing. Further, the Project would be located on an existing library site already served by adjacent roadways and utilities infrastructure. Therefore, the implementation of the Project would result in no impacts associated with population growth.

b) *Would the project displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?*

No Impact. The Project site, Main Library, does not contain any residences or housing units and does not involve residential use; implementation of the Project would not result in an impact associated with the displacement of existing housing. Further, as noted previously, the Project would not induce

population growth in the surrounding areas, nor would it create the need for replacement housing; therefore, no impacts would occur.

4.15 PUBLIC SERVICES

15.	PUBLIC SERVICES.	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:				
	i) Fire Protection?	☐	☐	☒	☐
	ii) Police Protection?	☐	☐	☒	☐
	iii) Schools?	☐	☐	☒	☐
	iv) Parks?	☐	☐	☒	☐
	v) Other public facilities?	☐	☐	☐	☒

4.15.1 Impact Analysis

a) i) 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 fire protection?

Less than Significant Impact. Fire protection services are provided to the Main by the County of Los Angeles Fire Department. The Los Angeles County Fire Department Fire Station No. 11, located approximately 0.24 mile to the east of the site, serves as the primary responding station to the Proposed Project site (Google Earth 2023). The Proposed Project includes interior upgrades, building expansion, and other features throughout the campus. Land uses at the Proposed Project site would remain the same as under current conditions, and the Project improvements would not induce a growth in population. Thus, an increase in the demand for fire services resulting from the Proposed Project would not occur. Additionally, the Proposed Project would not result in the need for new or physically altered fire protection facilities. Further, the Proposed Project site is located in an urbanized area in the community that is void of any wildlands that may create significant fire risks to the Proposed Project site. In addition, to ensure conformance with State Fire Codes, the Proposed Project would not result in street closures that would result in inadequate access to the Proposed Project site. Therefore, implementation of the Proposed Project would result in a less than significant impact associated with fire protection.

ii) 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 police protection?

Less than Significant Impact. The County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department will be the provider of law enforcement services to the Proposed Project. The nearest Sheriff's Department location is the Altadena Sheriff's Station, approximately 0.27 mile east of the Project site (Google Earth 2023). As noted previously, the Proposed Project would not induce population growth resulting in the need for additional police services. Therefore, implementation of the Proposed Project would result in a less than significant impact associated with police protection.

iii) 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 schools?

Less than Significant Impact. Implementation of the Proposed Project involves expansion of an existing building, interior and exterior upgrades, and other features throughout the library property boundary. As noted in Section 2.5, the construction would occur in one phase spanning a 14-month period. The potential restrictions on use would be short term, and following construction the Main would return to its fully functioning existing uses. Bob Lucas Memorial Library would be used to support Main Library users during construction, but there could be a possible overlap in construction at the two libraries if the Bob Lucas Memorial Library construction is delayed or extended; however, the overlap in construction would be short term. Therefore, implementation of the Proposed Project would result in a less than significant impact associated with schools.

iv) 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 parks?

No Impact. The Proposed Project activities do not involve the construction of any recreational facilities which could result in a short- or long-term impact on parks and recreation facilities in the vicinity. As noted in previous responses, the Proposed Project would not induce population growth and would not increase the number of library users. Therefore, implementation of the Proposed Project would not result in an impact associated with parks.

v) 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 other public facilities?

No Impact. Implementation of the Proposed Project would not impact any other public facilities not discussed above. Therefore, no impacts to government facilities would occur.

4.16 RECREATION

16.	RECREATION. Would the project:	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?	☐	☐	☐	☒
(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?	☐	☐	☐	☒

4.16.1 Impact Analysis

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?

No Impact. As noted in response 4.15 iv), implementation of the Proposed Project would not increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or any other recreational facilities. There are a minimum of four parks within 1 mile of the Proposed Project including Altadena Triangle Park to the east, Mount Lowe Park to the northeast, Five Corners Park to the north and Charles White Park to the west. The Project would not induce population growth or result in a substantial increase in use that might cause deterioration of these facilities. Therefore, implementation of the Project would result in no impact associated with the deterioration of recreational facilities.

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?

No Impact. The Project site is located at the Main, which provides residents library facilities and is 0.26 mile from Altadena Triangle Park (Google Earth 2023). Implementation of the Project would not require the construction or expansion of off-site recreational facilities. Further, the Project would not induce population growth, which could burden any facility beyond capacity by generating additional recreational users. Therefore, no impact would occur that would construction or expansion of recreational facilities.

4.17 TRANSPORTATION

17.	TRANSPORTATION. Would the project:	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, roadways, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?	☐	☐	☒	☐
(b)	Conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b)?	☐	☐	☒	☐

17.	**TRANSPORTATION.** **Would the project:**	**Potentially Significant Impact**	**Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated**	**Less Than Significant Impact**	**No Impact**
(c)	Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e. g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	☐	☐	☒	☐
(d)	Result in inadequate emergency access?	☐	☐	☐	☒

4.17.1 Impact Analysis

a) Would the project conflict with a program, plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadways, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?

Less than Significant Impact. The Proposed Project would generate minor increases in traffic associated with the short-term construction activities by workers and equipment travelling to and from the Proposed Project. These increases would be minor and limited only to the construction period (Spring 2025–Summer 2026). The Proposed Project would not significantly interfere with the flow of traffic along Lake Avenue, the major thoroughfare in the immediate vicinity, as the Project does not propose any roadwork in the area.

Implementation of the Proposed Project involves expansion of the existing building, interior upgrades, outdoor functional areas, access and landscaping improvements, bicycle parking as well as other various improvements. It would not include activities that would impede any bicycle or pedestrian facilities, as all proposed activities would remain within the campus and would improve access for pedestrians and bicycles. Thus, implementation of the Proposed Project would not conflict with any applicable plans, ordinances, or policies establishing measures of effectiveness for the circulation systems, and the impacts would be less than significant.

b) Would the project Conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b)?

Less than Significant Impact. The Proposed Project site is located within one-half mile of Altadena/Marengo and Altadena/Lake transit stops along E. Altadena Drive. The proximity to multiple transit stops would result in a less than significant impact associated with transportation. Further, the Proposed Project would not induce population growth; it does not include development of land uses that would increase vehicle travel to and from the area. Thus, the impact would be less than significant as a result of implementation of the Proposed Project.

c) Would the project substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?

Less than Significant Impact. The Proposed Project includes a new driveway with delivery loading zone from Mariposa Street. The driveway would be approximately 35 feet to the east of the Altadena Senior Center driveway and would not result in increased hazards due to design features. The changes would occur on the Project site and do not include significant adjustments to the roadways or signals. The Proposed Project uses are compatible with the existing land uses. Less than significant impacts would occur associated with hazards due to a design feature or incompatible uses.

d) Would the project result in inadequate emergency access?

No Impact. All work proposed as a part of the Project would occur entirely within the Main site. There would be an additional delivery loading zone and an access ramp so emergency access may be improved. There are no proposed changes to the roadways that would result in inadequate emergency access. No impact would occur.

4.18 TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES

18.	**TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES. Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code section 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:**	**Potentially Significant Impact**	**Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated**	**Less Than Significant Impact**	**No Impact**
(a)	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	☐	☐	☐	☐
(b)	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 Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.	☐	☐	☐	☐

4.18.1 Environmental Setting

4.18.2 Impact Analysis

a) *Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code section 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 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)?*

b) *Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code section 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 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 Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe?*

4.19 UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS

19.	UTILITIES/SERVICE SYSTEMS. Would the project:	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?	☐	☐	☒	☐
(b)	Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?	☐	☐	☒	☐
(c)	Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	☐	☐	☒	☐
(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?	☐	☐	☒	☐
(e)	Negatively impact the provision of solid waste services or impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?	☐	☐	☒	☐
(f)	Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid wastes?	☐	☐	☒	☐

4.19.1 Impact Analysis

a) Would the project require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or stormwater drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or expansion of which could cause significant environmental effects?

Less than Significant Impact. As noted in previous sections, implementation of the Proposed Project would not result in a substantial increase in usage or size in population. Interior renovations do include additional restrooms for access purposes and a new kitchen. However, the volume of people using the library would not increase so there should not be a substantial increase in wastewater or water usage. The kitchen is not designed for cooking and dishwashing for events. It will mainly be used for staging catered food and hand washing. The existing facility already maintains connections for water, wastewater, electric power, and telecommunication facilities. The Proposed Project would use existing connections and would not require relocation or construction of new utility facilities. Thus, after construction, the generation of wastewater and water usage on the Proposed Project site may be improved from existing conditions with water conserving irrigation and infrastructure upgrades making the addition of the kitchen a minimal increase in water use at the facility. Therefore, implementation of the Proposed Project would result in less than significant impacts associated with water and/or wastewater facilities.

b) Would the project have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal dry and multiple dry years?

Less than Significant. The community of Altadena including the Proposed Project site is served by the Lincoln Avenue Water Company, which receives its water supply from groundwater, surface water, and imported water from Metropolitan Water District sources (Lincoln Avenue Water Company 2021). The Proposed Project does not involve increases in staff populations at the library, and no substantial increase in water supply requirements associated with the project. In addition, the District would comply with local, regional, and State water conservation policies and would follow standard BMPs in order to reduce water consumption. The new kitchen is for staging catered events and was not designed for cooking for large events. The additional restrooms would not significantly increase water usage at the site because there would not be an increase library patronage. The new restrooms are being added for accessibility. Improvements to the plumbing infrastructure and landscape irrigations system would improve water use efficiency. Implementation of the Proposed Project would result in a less than significant impact associated with available water supplies.

c) Would the project result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?

Less than Significant. The Proposed Project would be located on an existing developed site with established sewer line connections that are currently serviced by the County of Los Angeles Sanitation Districts. Further, as noted previously, the Proposed Project would not result in a substantial increase in staff or resident usage. However, a kitchen is being included in the renovations along with additional restrooms for accessibility. The additional restrooms and kitchen would not create a significant net increase in wastewater generation in the region because there will not be an increase in patronage and the kitchen is not designed for cooking for library events. Therefore, implementation of the Proposed Project would not result in an impact associated with new or expanded wastewater treatment facilities.

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?

Less than Significant Impact. The County of Los Angeles Sanitation Districts requires any solid waste produced in association with the Proposed Project to be sent to the Scholl Canyon Landfill in Glendale. As noted in previous responses, the Proposed Project would not result in an increase in the surrounding population; therefore, the Project would not have the potential to result in a substantial increase in waste generation once in operations. Although there is currently a small break room with a kitchenette, a slight increase in waste generation may occur due to the new kitchen. Food waste would be compostable materials that should not be disposed of in the landfill, but there may be an increase in disposal of packaging and disposable kitchen ware than with the existing kitchenette. However, this increase would not be great enough to create an excess of capacity at the local landfill.

During construction, the Proposed Project would result in the generation of solid wastes such as scrap, lumber, concrete, plastics, packaging material, and kitchen and bathroom fixtures. The County of Los Angeles complies with California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) regulations requiring 65% of all construction and demolition (C&D) materials to be recycled. Furthermore, impacts from construction activities would be short term and intermittent and would be mitigated by BMPs and compliance with existing State solid waste reduction statutes. Incorporation of these programs would result in impacts that are less than significant in association with exceeding capacity of local infrastructure or attainment of solid waste reduction goals.

e) Would the project negatively impact the provision of solid waste services or impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?

f) Would the project comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?

e and f) **Less than Significant Impact.** The Proposed Project would not result in a substantial increase in solid waste generation or an increase in population and therefore would not result in an increase in operational solid waste. Thus, the operation of the Proposed Project would not result in an increase in waste generation beyond existing conditions. However, as noted in response 4.19.1 d), the construction activities would generate solid waste materials. During construction and operation of the Proposed Project, the District would comply with all County and State solid waste diversion, reduction, and recycling mandates, including compliance with the county-wide Integrated Waste Management Plan (IWMP). Implementation of material recovery, reuse, and recycling would result in less than significant impact associated with waste regulations.

4.20 WILDFIRE

20.	WILDFIRE. If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project:	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?	☐	☐	☐	☒
(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?	☐	☐	☐	☒

20.	WILDFIRE. If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
(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?	☐	☐	☐	☒
(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?	☐	☐	☒	☐

4.20.1 Impact Analysis

a) Would the project impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?

No Impact. The Project site at Main Library is not located within a State- or locally classified very high fire hazard severity zone (Cal Fire 2023). Additionally, as noted in Impact 4.17, the Project would not result in any hindrance to emergency access routes and would not interfere with any adopted emergency response or evacuation plans. No impacts would occur associated with an adopted emergency or evacuation plan.

b) Would the project, 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?

No Impact. As discussed in Impact 4.20 (a), the Project site is located outside of the State and locally classified very high fire hazard severity zone. The Main is located within established and built-out urbanized environment. No impact would occur associated with exacerbating wildland fire risks.

c) Would the project 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?

No Impact. All proposed activities would occur within the Main campus, which is not located within a very high fire hazard severity zone. Additionally, the Project would not include any activities involving installation or maintenance of roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, or other utilities that may exacerbate a fire risk. No impact would occur that would exacerbate wildland fire risks.

d) Would the project 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?

Less Than Significant. The Project site is not located within a very high fire hazard severity zone (Cal Fire 2022). The topography of the site slopes gradually to the south (Architectural Resources Group 2020). The Main is built onto the existing slope of the library grounds. As discussed in Impact 4.7.1 (a)iv) the Project site not identified by the Department of Conservation's EQZapp Program as an area prone to seismically induced landslides (DOC 2021) and would not pose a risk of post-fire induced landslides. Therefore, the impacts associated with post fire slope instability would be less than significant.

4.21 MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

21.	MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE.	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
(a)	Does the project have the potential to substantially 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, substantially 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?	☒	☐	☐	☐
(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?)	☐	☐	☒	☐
(c)	Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	☐	☐	☒	☐

4.21.1 Impact Analysis

a) Does the project have the potential to substantially 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, substantially 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?

Potentially Significant. The Proposed Project would not have a significant impact on any fish, wildlife, or habitat. Project Design Features will be implemented to minimize or avoid the Proposed Project's environmental effects to nesting birds. Mitigation Measure Bio-1 would reduce impacts associated with conflicts with County ordinances to less than significant by determining the extent of tree replacement (size, type, and number) with the County. Therefore, the Proposed Project activities, including the implementation of the project design features noted in the project description, would have a less than significant impact on degrading the quality of the environment associated with biological resources.

The interior and exterior modifications proposed as a part of the Project would result in the loss of an overall loss of integrity of materials, design, workmanship, and feeling of the historic character-defining features of the Main Library. Mitigation measures CUL-1 and CUL-3 would reduce the severity of the impacts to the Main Library's historic character but would not reduce them to less than significant levels. No known archaeological resources are located on the Proposed Project site. In addition, if any archaeological resources are encountered during construction activities, BMPs noted in Section 1.4.2 related to cultural resources will be followed. The Proposed Project activities, including the implementation of the project design features noted in the project description, would

have a potentially significant impact on degrading the quality of the environment associated with an example of major periods in California history.

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?)*

Less than Significant Impact. Based on the preceding discussion, with implementation of the BMPs and Project Design Features included in this Initial Study (IS), and compliance with existing regulations, the Proposed Project would not result in any significant adverse impacts which could contribute to a cumulatively considerable impact. A less than significant cumulative impact would occur.

c) *Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?*

Less than Significant Impact. The Proposed Project would result in temporary impacts to air quality, noise, and traffic during repair and upgrade activities. The impacts would cease upon completion of construction. However, as discussed in the above analyses for the Project, with implementation of the BMPs and Project Design Features included in this IS, and compliance with existing regulations, the Proposed Project would not result in any unmitigated significant adverse impacts. During operations after the project is completed there would not be a change from existing conditions except for some increase in noise from human voices using the new reading court. This increase would not be outside of the County defined daytime hours and the increase would not be outside of the allowable noise levels for residential land uses. Thus, the Project would not have the potential to result in substantial adverse effects on human beings. As noted in the impact discussions above, a less than significant impact would occur.

SECTION 5.0 – REFERENCES

The following is a list of references used in the preparation of this document.

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire)

2023 Fire Hazard Severity Zone. Accessed September 7, 2023 at https://egis.fire.ca.gov/FHSZ/.California Department of Transportation (Caltrans)

2018 Scenic Highway Mapper. Accessed September 6, 2023 at: https://caltrans.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=465dfd3d807c46cc8e8057116f1aacaa

County of Los Angeles (County)

2023c General Plan. Accessed September 6, 2023 at: https://planning.lacounty.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/9.0_gp_final-general-plan-ch9.pdf

2022 General Plan. Accessed September 5, 2023. Available online at: https://planning.lacounty.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/9.0_gp_final-general-plan-ch9.pdf.

2023a Municipal Code. Accessed September 6, 2023 at: https://library.municode.com/ca/los_angeles_county/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=TIT22PLZO_DIV10COSTDI_CH22.306ALCOSTDI

2023b Municipal Code. Accessed September 6, 2023 at: https://library.municode.com/ca/los_angeles_county/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=TIT22PLZO_DIV6DEST_CH22.126TRPLRE_22.126.030TRRE

2023 Z-Net. Accessed September 5, 2023 at: https://lacounty.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7700eea9d54d46b18efb615f86cba25c.

2022c Municipal Code. Accessed September 7, 2023 at: https://library.municode.com/ca/los_angeles_county/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=TIT22PLZO_DIV3ZO_CH22.18REZO

2017 Grading Guidelines. Accessed September 13, 2023 at: https://dpw.lacounty.gov/ldd/lddservices/docs/Grading_Guidelines.pdf

California State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB)

2018 State and Regional Water Boards. Accessed on September 7, 2023 at: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterboards_map.html

2023 Geotracker database. Accessed Setember 7, 2023 at https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/map/?CMD=runreport&myaddress=altadena%2C+ca

California Department of Conservation (DOC)

2018 Important Farmland Finder. Accessed September 6, 2023 at: https://maps.conservation.ca.gov/DLRP/CIFF/.

2021 Earthquake Zones of Required Investigation. Accessed September 6, 2023 at: https://maps.conservation.ca.gov/cgs/EQZApp/app/

2022 California Williamson Act Finder. Accessed December 18, 2023 at: https://gis.conservation.ca.gov/portal/home/webmap/viewer.html?webmap=18f7488c0a9d4d299f5e9c33b312f312.

2023 Mines Online. Accessed September 7, 2023 at: https://maps.conservation.ca.gov/mol/index.html.

California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC)

2023 Envirostor Database. Accessed September 7, 2023 at https://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/map/?myaddress=altadena%2C+ca

Decibelpro.app (dB):

2024 How Many Decibels Does A Human Speak Normally. Accessed March 11, 2024 at https://decibelpro.app/blog/how-many-decibels-does-a-human-speak-normally/

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

2008 National Hazard Flood Layer. Accessed September 7, 2023 at: https://msc.fema.gov/portal/search?AddressQuery=altadena%2C%20ca#searchresultsanchor.

Google

2023 Google Earth Pro. Accessed September 6-8, 2023.

Lincoln Avenue Water Company

2021 Urban Water Management Plan. Accessed June 28, 2022 at: https://wuedata.water.ca.gov/public/uwmp_attachments/7398090958/FINAL%20LAWC%202020%20UWMP_2021-06-25.pdf

South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD)

2011 Air Quality-Related Energy Policy. Available online at: https://www.aqmd.gov/docs/default-source/planning/Greenhouse-Gases/board-approved-energy-policy-090911.pdf?sfvrsn=6

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)

2023 Web Soil Survey. Accessed September 6, 2023 at: https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/App/WebSoilSurvey.aspx.

United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)

2023 National Wetlands Inventory Mapper. Accessed September 6, 2023 at: https://fwsprimary.wim.usgs.gov/wetlands/apps/wetlands-mapper/.

Western Regional Climate Center (WRCC)

2016 Climate Summary: Altadena. Accessed December 18, 2023 at: https://wrcc.dri.edu/cgi-bin/cliMAIN.pl?ca0144.