Water Tank 1 (Cunningham Tank) Replacement Project

Initial Study / Mitigated Negative Declaration

February 2025

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Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration

Project: Water Tank 1 (Cunningham Tank) Replacement Project

Project Proponent, Property Owner, and Lead Agency:

City of San Bruno
Public Works Department
567 El Camino Real
San Bruno, CA 94066

Availability of Documents: The Initial Study for this Mitigated Negative Declaration is available for review at: https://www.sanbruno.ca.gov/Tank-1-Replacement-MND. The appendices may be viewed at : https://www.sanbruno.ca.gov/Tank-1-Replacement-MND-Appendices.

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PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The City of San Bruno's (City) Water Tank 1 (Cunningham Tank) is located off Cunningham Way, adjacent to Highway 280, and is one of eight storage tanks used as part of the City's water distribution system. The existing 2.5-million-gallon (MG) welded steel tank was constructed in 1964 and receives water from San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) and discharges water into the City's distribution system through a connection to serve Pressure Zone (PZ) 1/4. Tank 1 is the only storage tank serving this zone, which is the City's largest water pressure zone and generally encompasses the eastern quarter of the City. The City receives surface water purchased from SFPUC, surface water purchased from the North Coast County Water District (NCCWD), and groundwater produced from the City's wells.

The existing tank has seismic deficiencies that no longer meet the latest codes and standards for water tank structures. Therefore, the project proposes to replace the existing 2.5 MG welded-steel potable water tank (116 feet diameter and 32 feet tall) with a new 3.5 MG prestressed concrete water tank (112 feet in diameter with a 60-foot, 6-inch tall wall height and domed roof). Approximately 42 feet-6 inches of the tank wall will be visible above the ground. To accommodate the additional capacity, the new tank will be buried approximately 18 feet below grade surface to minimize the overall height of the structure. The new tank will occupy the same footprint as the existing tank.

Additionally, the project involves revising arrangement and depth of the waterlines, site drainage, and other components linked to the larger capacity and partially buried tank, widening of the existing access road and construction of a retaining wall, a new chemical building with retaining wall, and replacement of an existing drainage pipe.

PROPOSED FINDINGS

The City has reviewed the attached Initial Study and determined that the Initial Study identifies potentially significant project effects, but:

1. Revisions to the project plans incorporated herein as mitigation would avoid or mitigate the effects to a point where no significant effects would occur; and

2. There is no substantial evidence, in light of the whole record before the agency, that the project may have a significant effect on the environment. Therefore, pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Sections 15064(f)(3) and 15070(b), a Mitigated Negative Declaration has been prepared for consideration as the appropriate CEQA document for the project.

BASIS OF FINDINGS

Based on the environmental evaluation presented in the attached Initial Study, the project would not cause significant adverse effects related to; aesthetics, agricultural and forestry resources, energy, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous emissions, hydrology and water quality, noise, population and housing, transportation, utilities/service systems, and wildfire. Additionally, the project would have no impacts related to agricultural and forest resources, land use and planning, mineral resources, population and housing, public services, recreation, and wildfire. Further, the project does not have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable.

The environmental evaluation has determined that the project would have potentially significant impacts on air quality, biological resources, cultural and tribal cultural resources, geology and soils (paleontological resources), and hazardous materials, as described below. Mitigation Measures have been recommended in the Initial Study and will be incorporated into the project to reduce potentially significant impacts to less than significant levels.

Mitigation Measures

The project could result in significant adverse effects to air quality, biological resources, cultural and tribal cultural resources, geology and soils (paleontological resources), and hazardous materials. However, the project includes the mitigation measures listed below, which reduce these impacts to a less-than-significant level. With implementation of these mitigation measures, the project would not substantially degrade the quality of the environment, 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, or substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal. Nor would the project cause substantial adverse effects on humans, either directly or indirectly.

Mitigation Measures Incorporated into the Project:	
Impact AQ-1: Project construction may have short-term adverse health risks associated with PM2.5 exhaust emissions.	**Mitigation Measure AQ-1:** To reduce potential, short-term adverse health risks associated with PM2.5 exhaust emissions, including emissions of DPM generated during project construction activities, the City shall require its designated contractors, contractor's representatives, and/or other appropriate personnel to comply with the following construction equipment restrictions: • All mobile construction equipment greater than 50 horsepower in size shall meet with U.S. EPA and CARB Tier IV final exhaust emission standards. This may be achieved via the use of equipment with engines that have been certified to meet U.S. EPA and CARB Tier IV final emissions standards, or through the use of equipment that has been retrofitted with a CARB-verified diesel emission control strategy (e.g., particulate filter) capable of reducing exhaust PM2.5 emissions to levels that meet U.S. EPA and CARB Tier IV final emissions standards. As an alternative to having all mobile construction equipment greater than 50 horsepower meet U.S. EPA and CARB Tier IV final exhaust emission standards, the contractor may prepare and submit a refined construction health risk assessment to the City once additional project-specific construction information is known (e.g., specific construction equipment type, quantity, engine tier, and runtime by phase). The refined health risk assessment shall demonstrate and identify any measures necessary such that the proposed project's incremental carcinogenic health risk at nearby sensitive receptor locations is below the applicable BAAQMD threshold of 10 cancers in a million.

Mitigation Measures Incorporated into the Project:	
Impact BIO-1: Potential Impacts to Nesting Birds. The proposed project could impact nesting birds protected under the federal MBTA and California Fish and Game Code. Birds could nest in the trees, shrubs or structures in or near the project site.	**Mitigation Measure BIO-1:** Pre-Construction Survey for Nesting Birds. Project construction (including staging) shall occur outside of the bird nesting season if possible (defined as the time between September 1st and January 31st). If construction starts during the bird nesting season between February 1st and August 31st, a qualified biologist shall perform a pre-construction survey to identify active bird nests on or near the site, including staging areas. The pre-construction survey shall take place no more than seven days prior to the start of construction, and if more than seven days pass with no construction activities, another pre-construction survey shall be required. The survey shall include all trees, shrubs, and structures on the site, and all trees, shrubs, and structures within a 250-foot radius of the site, as well as trees and shrubs on and within a 250-foot radius of the selected staging area. If an active, native bird nest is found during the survey, the biologist shall designate a construction-free buffer zone (typically 500 feet for raptors, and 250 feet for other birds) around the nest to remain in place until the young have fledged. The qualified biologist shall be contacted immediately if a bird nest is discovered during project construction. The results of the survey and nest monitoring (if applicable) will be documented, and any nest buffer zones shall be flagged for avoidance prior to the start of construction.
Impact BIO-2: Potential Impacts to Roosting Bats. The proposed project could impact roosting bats if they are present in the existing water tank or trees to be removed from the project site.	**Mitigation Measure BIO-2:** Roosting Bat Surveys and Avoidance. Not less than 30 days before the start of construction-related activities (including but not limited to mobilization and staging, clearing, grubbing, tree removal, vegetation removal, fence installation, demolition, and grading), a roosting bat habitat assessment shall be conducted by a qualified biologist. The survey shall include the existing water tank, trees to be removed, and a fifty-foot buffer around the water tank and trees. If staging area Alternative 2 is selected, this area shall also

Mitigation Measures Incorporated into the Project:	
	be included in the habitat assessment. If no suitable bat roosting habitat is identified during the survey, then no further action is required. If suitable bat roosting habitat is identified during the survey, follow-up dusk emergence survey(s) shall be conducted by qualified biologist(s) of the suitable bat roosting habitat. Dusk survey(s) will verify if bats are present and/or will determine the number of bats present and will also include the use of acoustic equipment to determine species of bats present. If a special-status bat or occupied maternity or colony roost is detected, CDFW shall be consulted to determine appropriate measures, such as the establishment of a no-disturbance buffer. The results of the surveys shall be documented.
Impact BIO-3: Potential Impacts to San Francisco Dusky-Footed Woodrats. If the project site and/or Staging Area Alternative 2 (if selected) contains woodrat houses, the project could accidentally harm or disturb San Francisco dusky-footed woodrats.	**Mitigation Measure BIO-3:** Preconstruction Survey and Avoidance of San Francisco Dusky-footed Woodrats. A qualified biologist shall conduct a preconstruction survey for woodrat houses of the San Francisco dusky-footed woodrat within 30 days before the start of construction activities on the project site and/or Staging Area Alternative 2 (if selected). To the extent feasible, impacts to woodrat nests will be avoided by maintaining a minimum 5-foot buffer between project activities and nests. The results of the survey shall be documented. If avoidance is not possible, a woodrat relocation plan shall be prepared by the qualified biologist in consultation with CDFW. Relocation generally involves first choosing an alternate location for the house material based on the following criteria: 1) proximity to current nest location; 2) safe buffer distance from planned work; 3) availability of food resources; and 4) availability of cover. An alternate house structure will then be built at the chosen location. Subsequently, during the evening hours (i.e., within 2 hours prior to sunset), a qualified biologist will slowly

Mitigation Measures Incorporated into the Project:	
	dismantle the existing woodrat house to allow any woodrats to flee and seek cover. All sticks from the nest will be collected and spread over the alternate structure. However, alternative relocation measures can be employed as advised by a qualified wildlife biologist in consultation with CDFW. Note that relocation must occur during the non-breeding season, generally between late summer and early fall.
Impact BIO-4: The proposed project could impact trees protected by the City of San Bruno Heritage Tree Ordinance.	**Mitigation Measure BIO-4: Heritage Tree Protection and Replacement.** **Tree Protection During Construction** The City shall follow the tree protection recommendations in the HMH Arborist Report, dated January 2, 2024 during all phases of construction. The tree protection measures shall be installed and followed at the water tank site and at the Alternative #2 Staging Area if that area is selected for project staging. These tree protection measures will be placed on the construction drawings. **Site preparation:** All existing trees shall be fenced within or at the drip line (foliar spread) of the tree. Depending on the location of the tree the fencing may not be able to be at the dripline. Examples of this would be public right of way, near property lines or around existing structures to remain. Where complete drip line fencing is not possible, the addition of straw waddles and orange snow fencing wrapping the trunk shall be installed per the tree protection detail. The fence should be a minimum of six feet high, made of galvanized 11-gauge wire mesh with galvanized posts or any material superior in quality. A tree protection zone (TPZ) sign shall be affixed to fencing at appropriate intervals as determined by the arborist on site. See tree protection detail in the HMH Arborist Report for additional information, including tree protection zone sign. If the fence is within the drip line of the trees, the

Mitigation Measures Incorporated into the Project:	
	foliar fringe shall be raised to offset the chance of limb damage from active construction. **Active Construction:** All contractors, subcontractors and other personnel shall be warned that encroachment within the fenced area and dripline is prohibited without the consent of the certified arborist on the job. This includes, but is not limited to, storage of lumber and other materials, disposal of paints, solvents or other noxious materials, parked cars, grading equipment or other heavy equipment. If construction activity needs to happen in the TPZ the fence can be moved temporarily for delivery of construction materials. The contractor should make accommodations to off load items such as trusses, timber, plasterboard, wallboard, concrete, gypsum board, flooring, roofing or any other heavy construction material outside the foliar spread of the tree so there is no heavy equipment needed that could cause damage to the canopy of the tree or compact the root zone. The tree protection fencing should be reestablished per the plans and details immediately after any activity through the TPZ. Penalties, based on the cost of remedial repairs and the evaluation guide published by the International Society of Arboriculture, shall be assessed for damages to the trees. **Grading/excavating:** All grading plans that specify grading within the drip line of any tree, or within the distance from the trunk as outlined in the site preparation section above when said distance is outside the drip line, shall first be reviewed by a certified arborist. Provisions for aeration, drainage, pruning, tunneling beneath roots, root pruning or other necessary actions to protect the trees shall be outlined by an arborist. If trenching is necessary within the area as described above, said trenching shall be undertaken by hand labor and dug directly beneath the trunk of the tree. All roots 2 inches or larger shall

Mitigation Measures Incorporated into the Project:	
	be tunneled under and other roots shall be cut smoothly to the trunk side of the trench. The trunk side should be draped immediately with two layers of untreated burlap to a depth of 3 feet from the surface. The burlap shall be soaked nightly and left in place until the trench is back filled to the original level. An arborist shall examine the trench prior to back filling to ascertain the number and size of roots cut, so as to suggest the necessary remedial repairs. **Remedial repairs:** An arborist shall have the responsibility of observing all ongoing activities that may affect the trees and prescribing necessary remedial work to ensure the health and stability of the trees. This includes, but is not limited to, all arborist activities brought out in the previous sections. In addition, pruning, as outlined in International Society of Arboriculture Best Management Practices: Pruning and ANSI A300 Part 1 Standard Practices: Pruning, shall be prescribed as necessary. Fertilizing, aeration, irrigation, pest control and other activities shall be prescribed according to the tree needs, local site requirements, and state agricultural pest control laws. All specifications shall be in writing. For pest control operations, consult the local county agricultural commissioner's office for individuals licensed as pest control advisors or pest control operators. Final inspection: Upon completion of the project, the arborist shall review all work undertaken that may impact the existing trees. Special attention shall be given to cuts and fills, compacting, drainage, pruning and future remedial work. An arborist should submit a final report in writing outlining the ongoing remedial care following the final inspection. **Heritage Tree Removal** The City shall prepare a revegetation plan that follows the requirements of the Heritage

Mitigation Measures Incorporated into the Project:	
	Tree Ordinance and replace any Heritage Tree removed by the project with a suitable native species as identified by a certified Arborist. The tree replacement shall be a minimum of either two 24-inch box size trees, or one 36-inch box size tree, for each heritage tree removed. The revegetation plan shall be developed with the intent to maximize the screening benefit of the replanted trees. The City or its contractor shall follow all recommendations in the HMH Arborist Report dated January 18, 2024 arborist's report for proper tree planting and care. Replacement trees shall be monitored for a minimum of ten years to ensure their survival, and replaced if they die.
Impact CUL-1: Construction of the project could potentially result in disturbance to unknown archaeological resources.	**Mitigation Measure CUL-1a:** Inadvertent Discovery of Archaeological Resources. The City shall retain a Professional Archaeologist on an "on- call" basis during ground disturbing construction activities to review, identify and evaluate any potential cultural resources that may be inadvertently exposed during construction. The Professional Archaeologist shall review and evaluate any discoveries to determine if they are historical resource(s) and/or unique archaeological resources under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). If the Professional Archaeologist determines that any cultural resources exposed during construction constitute a historical resource and/or unique archaeological resource under CEQA, he/she shall notify the City and other appropriate parties of the evaluation and recommend mitigation measures to mitigate to a less-than significant impact in accordance with California Public Resources Code Section 15064.5. Mitigation measures may include avoidance, preservation in-place, recordation, additional archaeological testing and data recovery among other options. The completion of a formal Archaeological Monitoring Plan (A.M.P)

Mitigation Measures Incorporated into the Project:	
	and/or Archaeological Treatment Plan (ATP) that may include data recovery may be recommended by the Professional Archaeologist if significant archaeological deposits are exposed during ground disturbing construction. Development and implementation of the A.M.P and ATP and treatment of significant cultural resources will be determined by the City in consultation with any regulatory agencies. A Monitoring Closure Report shall be filed with the City at the conclusion of ground disturbing construction if archaeological and Native American monitoring of excavation was undertaken. **Mitigation Measure CUL-1b:** Cultural Resources Awareness Training. Prior to the start of ground disturbing construction activities, the City shall implement a Worker Awareness Training (WAT) program for cultural resources. Training shall be required for all construction personnel participating in ground disturbing construction to alert them to the archaeological sensitivity of the project area and provide protocols to follow in the event of a discovery of archaeological materials. The training shall be provided by a professional archaeologist in association with a member of the Ohlone Native American community. The professional archaeologist shall develop and distribute for job site posting an "ALERT SHEET" summarizing potential archaeological finds that could be exposed and the protocols to be followed as well as points of contact to alert in the event of a discovery. Training shall be scheduled at the discretion of the contractor in consultation with the City. **Mitigation Measure CUL-1c:** Stop Work Order. The City shall retain a professional archaeologist on an “on-call” basis to review and identify any potential archaeological discoveries during construction. In the event

Mitigation Measures Incorporated into the Project:	
	any unanticipated prehistoric or significant historic period cultural materials are exposed during construction grading and/or excavation, operations should stop within 50 feet of the find and a qualified Professional Archaeologist contacted for identification, evaluation and further recommendations consistent with CEQA and City of San Bruno requirements as required by San Bruno General Plan Chapter 6 Environmental Resources and Conservation Element Guiding Policies for Historical and Cultural Resources (ERC-39).
Impact CUL-2: Project excavation could disturb previously unknown buried archaeological resources and/or human remains.	**Mitigation Measure CUL-2a:** Construction Plans. The City of San Bruno shall note on any plans that require ground disturbing excavation that there is a potential for exposing buried cultural resources including prehistoric Native American burials. Significant prehistoric cultural resources are defined as human burials, features or other clusterings of finds made, modified or used by Native American peoples in the past. The prehistoric and protohistoric indicators of prior cultural occupation by Native Americans include artifacts and human bone, as well as soil discoloration, shell, animal bone, sandstone cobbles, ashy areas, and baked or vitrified clays. Prehistoric materials may include: a. Human bone - either isolated or intact burials. b. Habitation (occupation or ceremonial structures as interpreted from rock rings/features, distinct ground depressions, differences in compaction (e.g., house floors). **Mitigation Measure CUL-2b:** Inadvertent Discovery of Human Remains. In accordance with Section 7050.5, Chapter 1492 of the California Health and Safety Code and

Mitigation Measures Incorporated into the Project:	
	Sections 5097.94, 5097.98 and 5097.99 of the Public Resources Code, if potential human remains are found, the lead agency (City of San Bruno) staff and the San Mateo County Coroner shall be immediately notified of the discovery. The coroner would provide a determination regarding the nature of the remains within 48 hours of notification. No further excavation or disturbance of the identified material, or any area reasonably suspected to overlie additional remains, can occur until a determination has been made. If the County Coroner determines that the remains are, or are believed to be, of Native American ancestry, the coroner would notify the Native American Heritage Commission within 24 hours. In accordance with California Public Resources Code, Section 5097.98, the Native American Heritage Commission must immediately notify those persons it believes to be the Most Likely Descendant from the deceased Native American. Within 48 hours of this notification, the Most Likely Descendant would recommend to the lead agency their preferred treatment of the remains and associated grave goods.
Impact GEO-1: Project construction could unearth paleontological resources, including fossils.	**Mitigation Measure GEO-1: Stop-work provision**. If paleontological resources are discovered during construction, ground-disturbing activities shall halt immediately until a qualified paleontologist can assess the significance of the discovery. Depending on determinations made by the paleontologist, work may either be allowed to continue once the discovery has been recorded, or if recommended by the paleontologist, recovery of the resource may be required, in which ground-disturbing activity within the area of the find would be temporarily halted until the resource has been recovered. If treatment and salvage is required, recommendations shall be consistent with Society of Vertebrate Paleontology guidelines and current professional standards. The City of San Bruno shall ensure that information on the

Mitigation Measures Incorporated into the Project:	
	nature, location, and depth of all finds is readily available to the scientific community through university curation or other appropriate means.
Impact HAZ-1: Demolition, removal, and transport of hazardous materials originating on the project site or materials including soils disturbed during construction containing lead-based paint, asbestos containing materials, or PCBs, in exposure of workers or the environment to a hazardous material.	**Mitigation Measure HAZ-1a:** The City shall undertake the completion of the hazardous materials testing (including but not limited to lead based paints and soils containing lead paint contamination, PCBs, and ACMs) at the site for any site materials or features that would be disturbed by project activities, including the retaining wall near the site's entrance that will be removed for the widened access road. and will disclose the results to contractors bidding on the construction project. Project specifications state the contractor shall undertake "due diligence inquiry" to meet the requirements of Project Specifications Section 00 72 00, General Conditions, 9.1.C Environmental and Toxics Warranty. Therefore, the contractor will be responsible for not installing any new hazardous materials and shall inform the City in the event undetected hazardous materials are uncovered during construction. **Mitigation Measure HAZ-1b:** Hazardous Material and Debris Management. Based on the results of the hazardous materials testing, the contractor shall develop and implement a hazardous material and debris management and disposal plan for the hazardous materials that are to be encountered and removed from the project site. The plan shall be designed to prevent releases of hazardous materials in quantities that could pose a risk to human health and the environment, as determined using appropriate BAAQMD, RWQCB, DTSC, and/or other appropriate agency screening thresholds. The plan shall identify the receiving qualified landfill and present proof of waste acceptance. The plan shall specify measures to minimize airborne dust during building

Mitigation Measures Incorporated into the Project:	
	deconstruction and soil movement to protect construction workers and neighboring residents from exposure to hazardous material emissions. The plan shall address protection of worker exposure to airborne lead paint particulates through use of personal protective gear, clear identification of the location of hazardous materials, and removal by properly trained/certified workers, and proper cover and transport of hazardous materials, etc.

WATER TANK 1 (CUNNINGHAM TANK) REPLACEMENT PROJECT

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Chapter 1. Introduction

This Initial Study (IS) evaluates the potential environmental effects of a project to replace an existing 2.5-MG potable water tank in San Bruno, California. These proposed activities constitute a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

The City of San Bruno (City) is the CEQA Lead Agency for the project. No responsible or trustee agencies have been identified. The proposed tank will require State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water approval prior to commissioning the tank. An encroachment permit from the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) may be required if the contractor utilizes a nearby Caltrans property for staging.

1.1 PROJECT BACKGROUND AND OVERVIEW

The City currently owns and operates a 2.589-acre parcel at 461 Cunningham Way (APN 019-300-140), situated between I-280 and residential housing on Cunningham Way where an existing water tank, Cunningham Tank No. 1 (Tank No. 1) is located at an elevation of approximately 255 feet. The Cunningham Tank No. 1 is one of eight storage tanks in the City of San Bruno. The tank is constructed of welded steel and is the largest storage tank in the San Bruno water system at 32 feet in height with a diameter of 116 feet and a storage capacity of 2.5 million gallons (MG) of potable water.

The tank receives water from the San Francisco Public Utility Commission (SFPUC) from an 8-inch pipe connection and discharges water into the distribution system through a 16-inch pipe connection. Due to seismic issues, the tank can only be safely filled to a water height of 22 feet, which is 10 feet short of its 32-foot maximum.

In a joint effort with the SFPUC, the City is proposing to replace the existing 2.5 MG welded steel tank with a larger 3.5 MG prestressed concrete tank to provide additional potable water for the area. Partial funding for the tank is provided by the SFPUC, and the remainder by the City. The replacement tank would be connected to the existing water infrastructure pipelines to receive and discharge water. The new tank would be constructed of concrete and would occupy roughly the same footprint as the existing tank. The new tank would be placed partially below grade to reduce its visible height above ground.

Additionally, the project involves revising the arrangement and depth of the waterlines, site drainage, and other components linked to the larger capacity and partially buried tank, widening the existing access road and constructing a retaining wall, a new equipment building with retaining wall, and replacement of an existing drainage pipe.

1.2 REGULATORY GUIDANCE

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA; Public Resources Code § 21000 et seq.) and the CEQA Guidelines (14 CCR §15000 et seq.) establish the City as the lead agency for the project. The lead agency is defined in CEQA Guidelines Section 15367 as, “the public agency which has the principal responsibility for carrying out or approving a project.” The lead agency is responsible for preparing the appropriate environmental review document under CEQA. The

San Bruno City Council serves as the decision-making body for the City and is responsible for adopting the CEQA document and approving the project.

CEQA Guidelines Section 15070 states that a public agency shall prepare a proposed Negative Declaration or a Mitigated Negative Declaration when:

1. The Initial Study shows that there is no substantial evidence, in light of the whole record before the agency, that the project may have a significant effect on the environment, or

2. The Initial Study identifies potentially significant effects, but:

    - Revisions in the project plans made before a proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration and Initial Study are released for public review would avoid the effects or mitigate the effects to a point where no significant effects would occur, and

    - There is no substantial evidence, in light of the whole record before the agency, that the project as revised may have a significant effect on the environment.

Pursuant to Section 15070, the City has determined a Mitigated Negative Declaration is the appropriate environmental review document for the project.

To ensure that the mitigation measures and project revisions identified in a Mitigated Negative Declaration are implemented, CEQA Guidelines Section 15097(a) requires the City to adopt a program for monitoring or reporting on the revisions which it has required in the project and the measures it has imposed to mitigate or avoid significant environmental effects. The City shall prepare a Mitigation, Monitoring and Reporting Plan based on the mitigation measures contained in this IS/MND.

1.3 LEAD AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

The lead agency for the project is the City of San Bruno. The contact persons for the lead agency are:

Sandrine Ganry, PE Senior Engineer, West Yost (project design)
Phone: 503-451-2157
Email: sganry@westyost.com

Talha Amar, PE, Engineer;
Phone: 650-616-7065
Email: pwengineering@sanbruno.ca.gov.

1.4 DOCUMENT PURPOSE AND ORGANIZATION

The purpose of this document is to evaluate the potential environmental effects of the proposed water tank replacement. This document is organized as follows:

- Chapter 1 – Introduction. This chapter introduces the project and describes the purpose and organization of this document.

- Chapter 2 – Project Description. This chapter describes the project location, area, site, objectives, and characteristics.

- Chapter 3 – Environmental Checklist and Responses. This chapter contains the Environmental Checklist that identifies the significance of potential environmental impacts (by environmental issue) and a brief discussion of each impact resulting from implementation of the proposed project. This chapter also contains the Mandatory Findings of Significance.

- Chapter 4 – Report Preparation. This chapter provides a list of those involved in the preparation of this document.

- Appendices

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Chapter 2. Project Description

2.1 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The purpose of the project is to replace a seismically deficient potable water tank with a larger water tank that meets current seismic requirements and that provides additional storage capacity within the City's water infrastructure.

2.2 PROJECT LOCATION AND SITE DESCRIPTION

The project is located at 461 Cunningham Way (APN 019-300-140), situated between I-280 and residential housing on Cunningham Way in the southern part of the City of San Bruno (See Figure 2.2-1 and Figure 2.2-2). This site is accessed off a small driveway between two single-family properties on Cunningham Way on the north side of the site. A 12-foot paved access road extends south approximately 360 feet to the site's entry gate. The site contains an existing 2.5-MG welded steel tank, which is approximately 116 feet in diameter (10,563 square feet) and 32 feet tall. The bottom of the tank sits at-grade at an elevation of 228 feet. The tank is surrounded by a minimum 12-foot-wide access road. The paved areas surrounding the tank drain to concrete valley gutters along the edge of paving, ultimately draining toward catch basins which transfer stormwater off site to the City's stormwater collection infrastructure at Cunningham Way. The undeveloped area surrounding the existing tank consists of well vegetated slopes to the north, west, and south. The slope drops off to the east towards the adjacent residential homes on Cunningham Way. The site is fenced with chain link fencing for security. Existing site photos are contained in Figure 2.2-3 through Figure 2.2-8 Site Photographs.

2.3 PROPOSED PROJECT

Proposed Improvements

The project analyzed in this study includes the following improvements as provided by the project design engineers including 90% project plans, 90% project specifications, and data request responses, which included construction equipment data (Lee & Ro 2024a, 2024b, and 2023) which utilized information from a project specific geotechnical report prepared for the project (Brierly Associates 2024):

Proposed Tank

The project proposes to construct a new prestressed concrete, 3.5 MG capacity, standard: American Water Works Association (AWWA) D110-13 potable water tank that is partially buried, on the south side of the site in the same footprint as the existing steel tank. Figure 2.3-1 shows the existing tank and Figure 2.3-2 shows the new proposed tank layout. The tank is to have a diameter of 112 feet and a total height of 60 feet-6inches. The planned finished grade around the tank varies in elevation from 229 feet-6 inches to 232 feet-6 inches, and the tank floor will be located at an elevation of 213 feet-6 inches. This configuration will result in an approximately 18-foot buried section of the tank wall, with approximately 42 feet-6 inches of the tank wall visible above the ground.

The replacement tank will be supported on a reinforced concrete ring wall foundation that is connected to the reinforced concrete tank floor. The tank foundation will sit atop the compacted aggregate base, and ring drain will be placed around the foundation to drain water from adjacent and beneath the tank.

The tank will be constructed with a cast in place concrete corewall using vertical threadbars, wrapped strand, and a shotcrete cover coat. The wall will also be a taper design due to the hydrostatic load imposed on the wall. It was calculated to be 14.5 inches thick at the base tapering to 10 inches thick at the top. The taper will be on the inner wall with the outer portion remaining vertically straight. The dome on top of the tank will be 11 feet in height from the top of the tank wall, making the total height of the structure 71.5 feet (see Figure 2.3-3).

The tank subgrade foundation will be 2 feet thick with a minimum 6-inch base composed of Class 2 aggregate road base compacted to a minimum of 95% maximum density per ASTM[1] D1557. The tank floor will be six inches thick that will transition to an 18-inch minimum thickness ring footing supporting the wall. The diameter of the tank will be 112 feet (9,847 square feet in area). Heights per elevations are shown in Table 2.3-1 below.

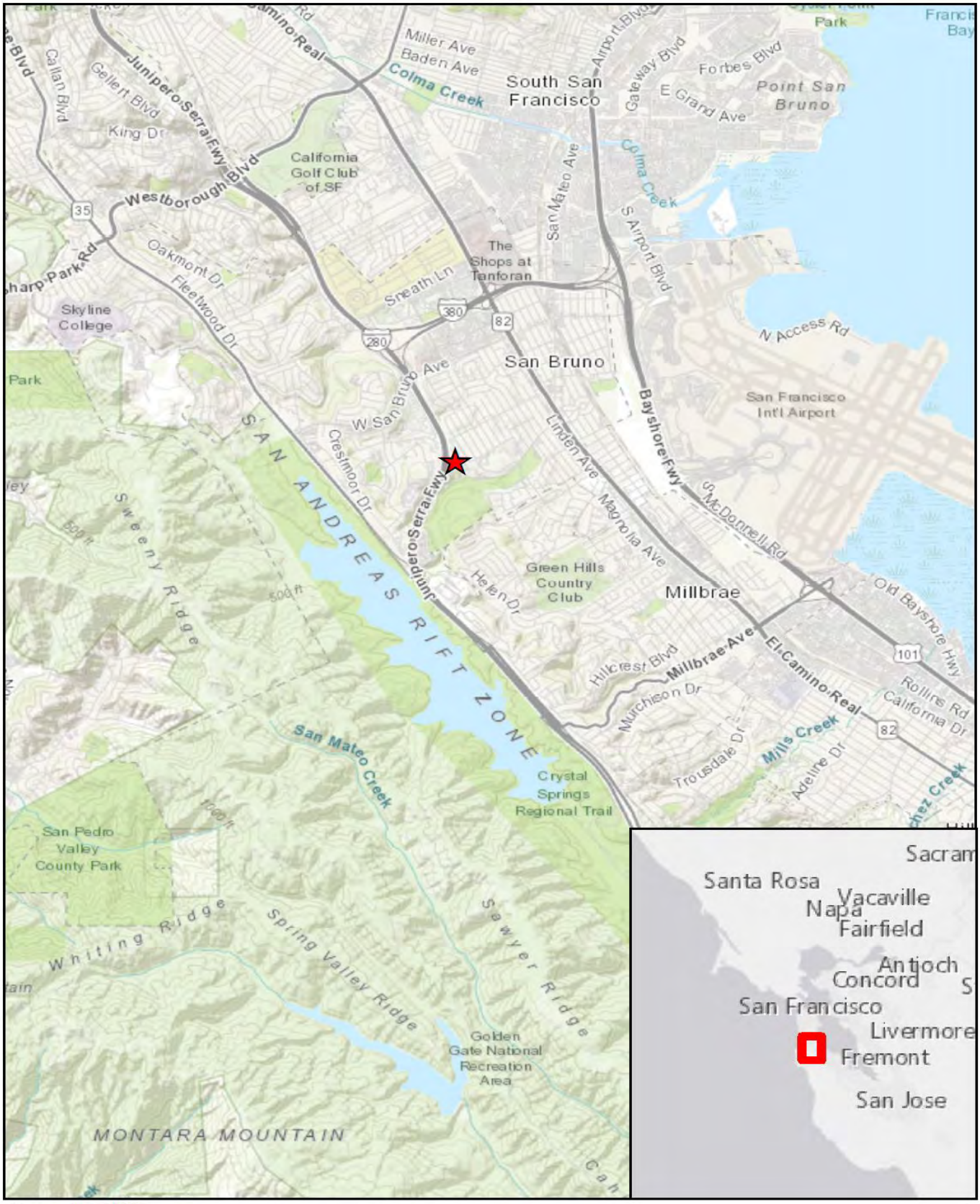
Table 2.3-1 New Tank Elevations

Reference Point	Elevation from top of Tank Floor	Elevations
Top of Tank Structure (Dome)	71 feet, 6 inches	283 feet
Top of Tank Wall	60 feet, 6 inches	272 feet
Overflow Elevation	56 feet	269 feet, 6 inches
High Water Level	49 feet	262 feet, 6 inches
Low Water Level	2 feet	215.5 ft
Top of Floor	0	213.5 ft

Source: Lee & Ro 2023

The top of the tank will be domed. The original flat slab column supported roof was found to be infeasible due to the increasing the length of the columns. With the increased wall height along with a large freeboard requirement, the columns approached their structural limits with 24-inch diameter concrete columns. Additionally, the columns are also vulnerable to damage in the event of an earthquake. To address this issue, it was proposed to replace the existing flat column-supported concrete roof with a free-spanning concrete dome roof. This modification will enhance the structural integrity of the tank. The concrete dome will rise approximately 11 feet of vertical height at the center as a 1:10 rise over the diameter which will make it more visually prominent than the cover of the existing water tank. The dome will be cast in place with a thickened edge and transition to a uniform 4 inches thickness for most of the dome area.

1. ASTM: American Society for Testing and Materials



Source: Esri 2023

Project Location

0 0.375 0.75 1.5 2.25 3 Miles

N

Figure 2.2-1 Project Location

Figure 2.2-2 Project Vicinity

Water Tank 1 (Cunningham Tank) Replacement Project IS/MND

MIG

View of north entrance to Cunningham Way

Source: MIG, December 2023

View of Cunningham Way south toward the I-280 freeway onramp

Figure 2.2-3 Site Photos 1 and 2

View of entrance of tank access easement road

Existing access road and area of proposed new retaining wall.

Source: MIG, December 2023

Figure 2.2-4 Site Photos 3 and 4

View of existing drainage pipe to be replaced.

Proposed location of new equipment building just north of the tank. *Source: MIG, December 2023*

Figure 2.2-5 Site Photos 5 and 6

East side of existing tank looking southwest.

Source: MIG, December 2023

Figure 2.2-6 Site Photo 7

West side of existing tank looking south.

Source: MIG, December 2023

Figure 2.2-7 Site Photo 8

Source: MIG, December 2023

North view of the access driveway to the project site

Figure 2.2-8 Site Photo 9

Water Tank 1 (Cunningham Tank) Replacement Project

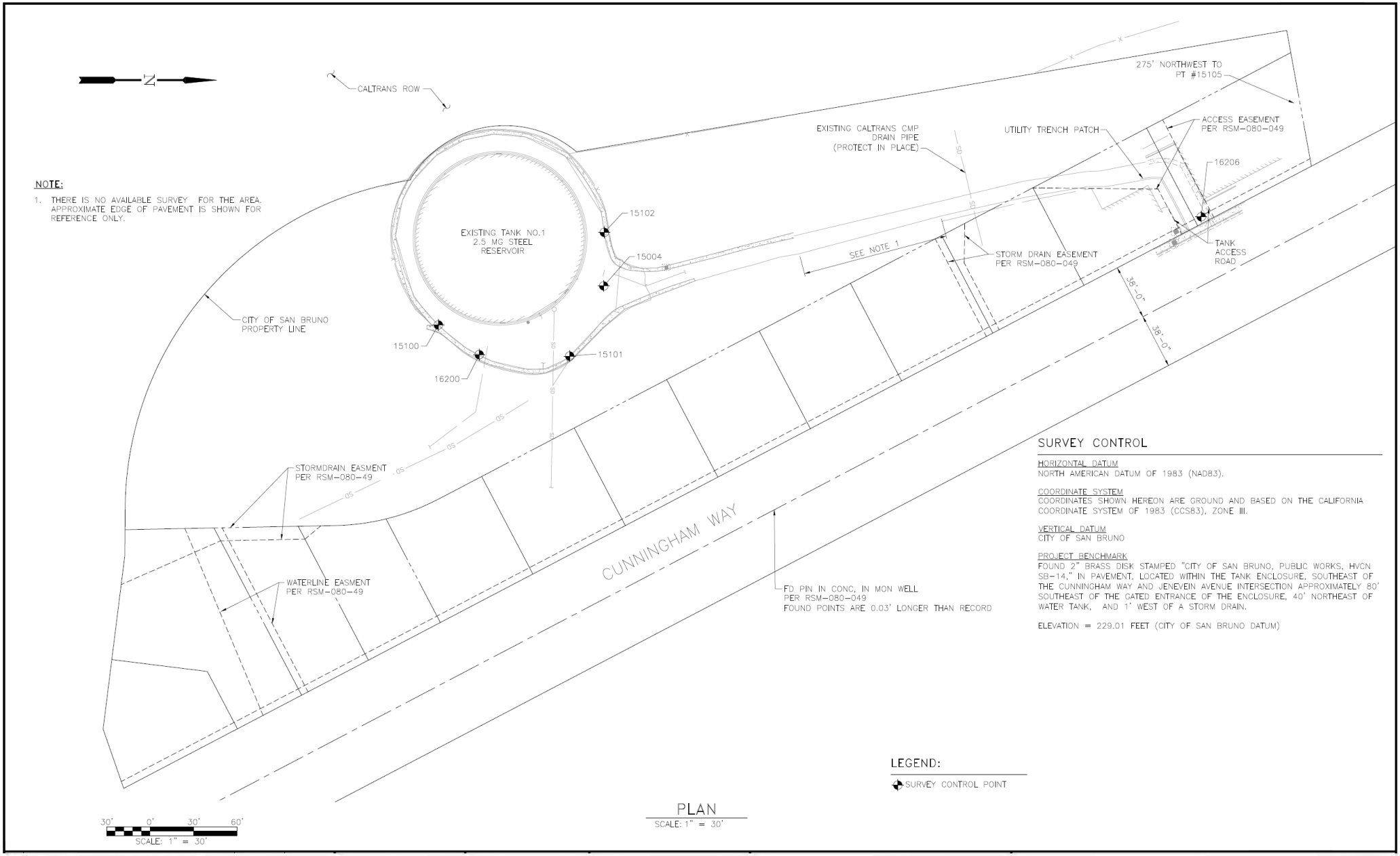


Figure 2.3-1 Existing Tank No. 1 Details

Water Tank 1 (Cunningham Tank) Replacement Project IS/MND

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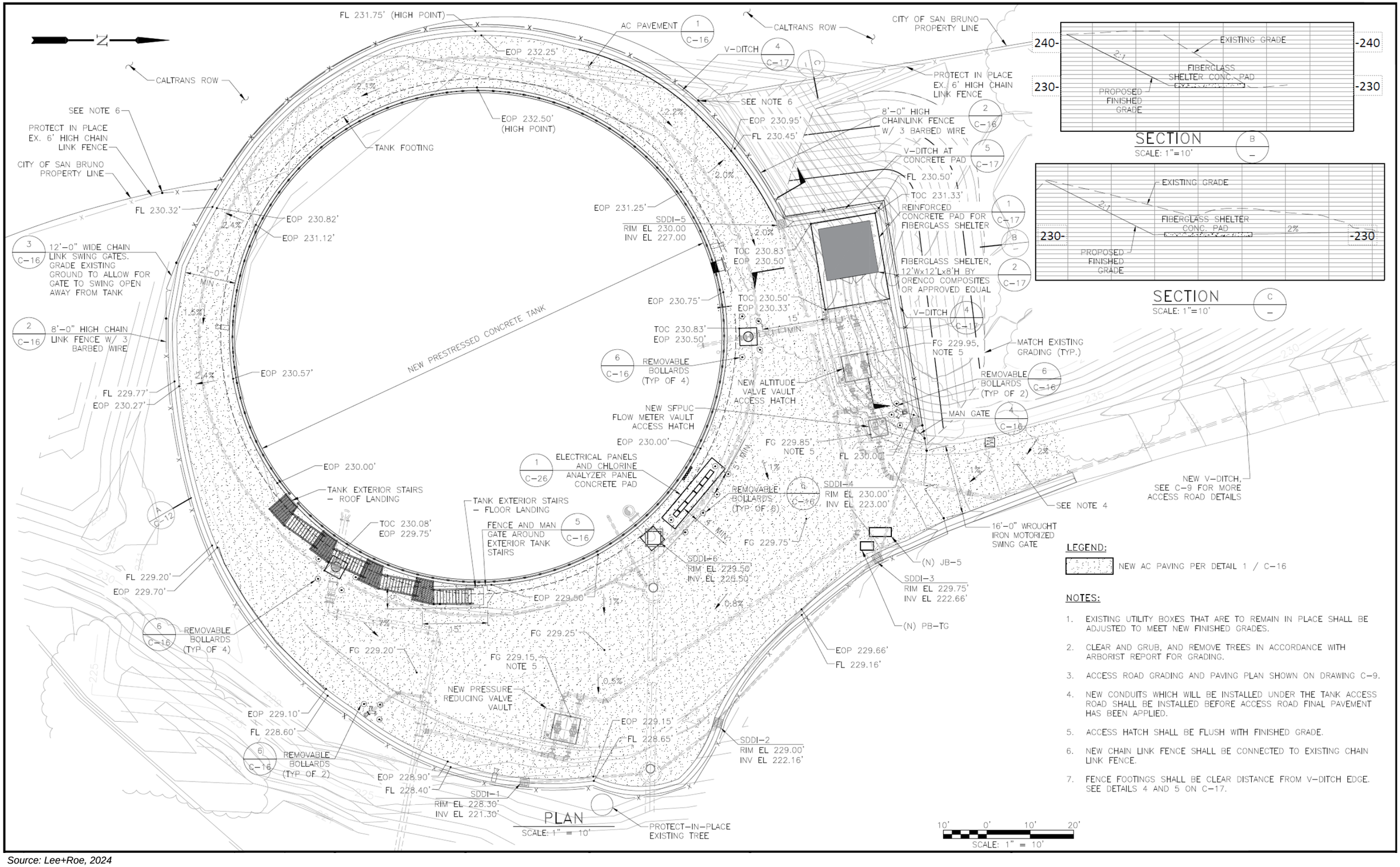

Source: Lee+Roe, 2024

Figure 2.3-2 New Tank Details

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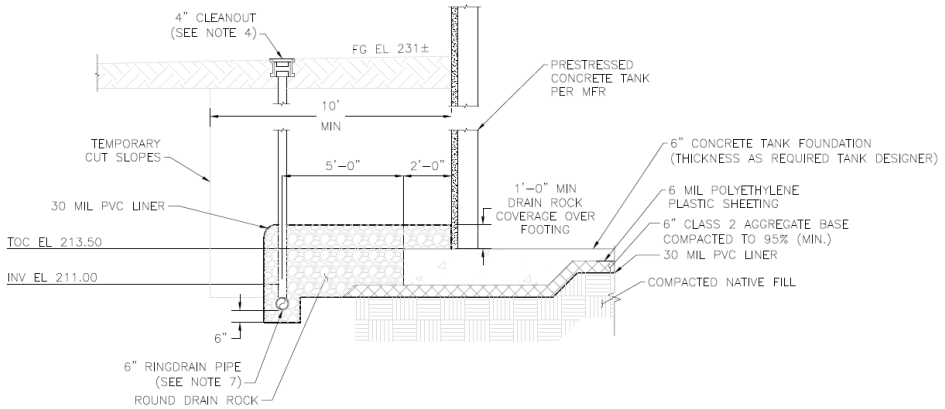
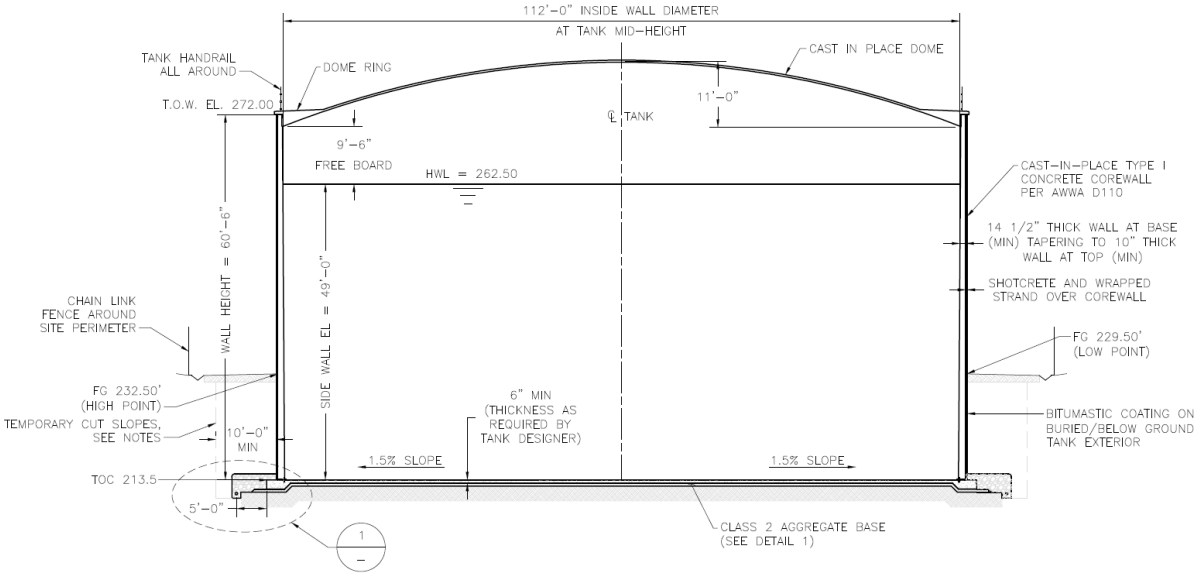


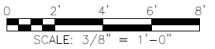
DETAIL 1
SCALE: 3/8" = 1'-0"



SECTION A
SCALE: 3/32" = 1'-0"
C-5

NOTES:

1. CONTRACTOR SHALL PROVIDE TEMPORARY SHORING SLOPES AND SHORING AS REQUIRED.
2. TEMPORARY SHORING, BRACING, AND CUT/FILL SHALL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CALIFORNIA STATE SAFETY STANDARDS CAL/OSHA.
3. FOR ADDITIONAL SUBGRADE PREPARATION REQUIREMENTS, SEE SPECIFICATIONS AND APPLICABLE SOILS REPORT.
4. CLEANOUTS SHALL BE INSTALLED PER CITY STANDARD DETAIL SS-02. CAST IRON LID SHALL BE MARKED "DRAIN".
5. ENSURE THAT WALL CAN RESIST FORCES FROM COMPACTION AND ACCESS ROAD LOADING.
6. CONTRACTOR SHALL ADJUST THE BASE COURSE PER TANK DESIGNERS FOUNDATION.
7. 6" RING DRAIN SHALL BE PERFORATED SDR-35 AND 0.5% SLOPE MINIMUM. TOP OF PIPE MUST BE 6" BELOW 6" CONCRETE TANK FOUNDATION AT HP. BOTTOM OF PIPE MUST BE 6" MIN FROM BOTTOM OF TRENCH AND WRAPPED W/ 30 MIL PVC LINER.



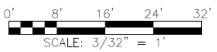


Figure 2.3-3 New Tank Elevation Details

Retaining Walls

The approximately 12 feet wide by 450 feet long access road will be widened near a turn near the entrance for approximately 180 to 200 feet to allow construction truck to turn onto the access road. A soil nail wall will be constructed to support this permanent cut slope to the west (see Figure 2.3-4). The final configuration of the widened access road and wall has yet to be finalized, but it will vary in height from a few to approximately 10 feet in height. The wall is to be finished with shotcrete and v-ditch will be located at the top of the wall to intercept and drain surface water from the above slope.

A second retaining wall will be constructed for the new 24 square-foot equipment building that will be constructed just north of the tank. The new equipment building will require cutting into the hillside and the installation of a soil nail to retaining wall to accommodate the new building.

Tree Trimming and Removal

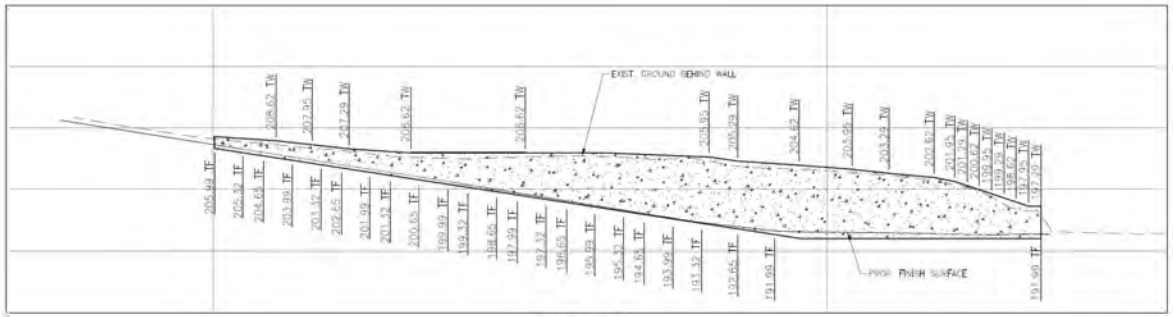
The project will require tree trimming around the existing tank and access driveway to accommodate construction activities including construction of the tank. The project will also require tree removal to widen the entrance driveway and accommodate the excavation required to bury the new tank below grade. An arborist report has been prepared for the project which surveyed approximately 44 trees in or near the work area and identifies at least 36 trees for removal (HMH 2024). Tree removal and trimming is also required for installation of a new pipe connection and replacement of an exposed drainage pipe, both located on the eastern side of the tank. See Section 3.4, Biological Resources for a detailed discussion of tree removal.

Seismic Design Features

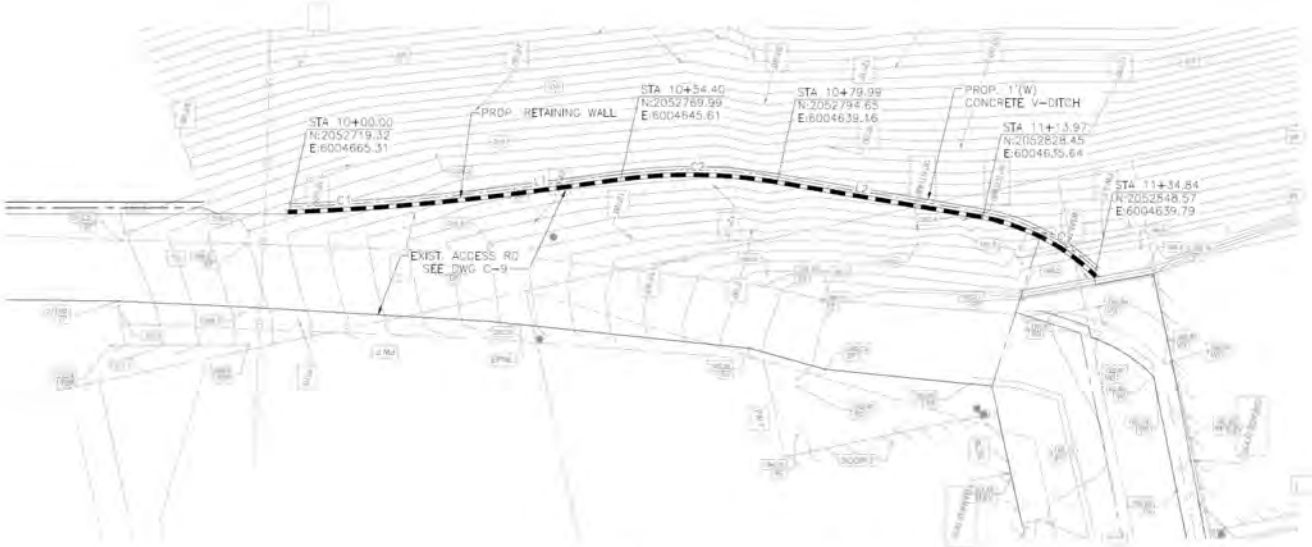
Given the high seismicity in the area, the design of the tank includes seismic protection measures for both seismic isolation and seismic flexibility. These include the use of a seismic valve which is designed to close on detection of both movement and loss of pressure or excessive flow. The seismic valve actuator will be extended to finished grade to provide controlled operation and indicator viewing. To further enhance the overall seismic adaptability, the tank design will utilize buried double-ball expansion joints installed on both the inlet and outlet tank piping. Loose base materials such as sandy soil and pea gravel shall be used to enable movement of material in seismic events or settling.

Construction

Project construction will require a sequenced approach and would generally include the following phases: 1) establish limits of construction and install storm water/erosion control features; 2) tree removal and trimming; 3) grading and retaining wall construction to widen entrance road; 4) install new flow meter, pressure reducing station and all required piping and appurtenances; 5) demolish existing tank and remove all associated materials; 6) excavation for new tank, and 7) new tank construction. A comprehensive list of construction activities is presented below.



PROFILE
SCALE: 1"=10' HOR
1"=1' VERT



PLAN
SCALE: 1" = 10'

WALL LINE AND CURVE TABLE				
LINE #/CURVE #	LENGTH	RADIUS	BEARING/DELTA	TANGENT
C1	40.07	395.67	5°48'11"	20.05
C2	25.79	84.67	17°27'09"	13.00
C3	21.08	34.33	35°10'31"	10.88
L1	14.28		N23°23'17"W	
L2	33.95		N05°56'08"W	

Source: Lee+Roe 2024

Figure 2.3-4 Soil Nailed Wall at Tank Access Road Plan

Water Tank 1 (Cunningham Tank) Replacement Project IS/MND

Prior to construction, the contractor will establish the limits of the construction area and install the required storm water Best Management Practice (BMPs) per the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP). As step one of construction, a new flow meter, pressure reducing station (PRS), and its associated valve vaults will be installed with all the required piping and appurtenances. After the connection to the existing water lines has been established and the new flow meter and the PRS valve vault have been tested and operational, the existing tank can be dewatered and taken out of service.

Tree removal and excavation for widening the access road will also occur during the early phases of project construction. A retaining wall (soil nail wall) will be constructed to hold the new cut bank in place After completion of the soil nail wall and commissioning of the new PRS valve vault system, the existing tank can be decommissioned and demolished along with all the tank site appurtenances. Testing for hazardous materials will occur before actual demolition. If hazardous materials are found to be present, containment and proper disposal will be required.

After the tank is demolished, the excavation for the new tank will begin. Excavation will be to a depth of approximately 20 feet from the existing finished grade and will need to extend a minimum of 10 feet from the outside wall of the proposed tank. Slope stability will be required per the site-specific geotechnical recommendations (Brierley Associates [Brierley] 2024) which state temporary slopes should be braced or sloped according to Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) requirements assuming Soil Type B. Once excavation is completed, the new piping and related appurtenances can be installed and stubbed out.

Excess earthwork material will be hauled off site to a receiving facility or landfill. Material to be used as tank backfill will be stored off site at an available site nearby.

Once the excavation for the tank is complete the construction of the new tank will begin. The tank will be made with cast-in-place concrete. Building of the tank will be performed in several stages. First will be the concrete wall footing and floor. Next will be the concrete wall sections which will be prestressed later in the construction phase and finally the tank concrete dome room. Connections to the stubbed-out piping will then be made to the yard piping. Once the tank construction is completed, it will undergo a leak test before it can be backfilled and compacted.

Once construction of the tank is completed, the tank site can be restored including installation of a new road around the tank, V-ditch, fencing, and gate, etc. A concrete pad with a fiberglass reinforced plastic (FRP) shelter will be installed on the north side of the site. Electrical components such as cameras, lights, and controllers will also be installed.

Construction Phasing

Construction of the project is anticipated to begin in June 2025 year and is anticipated to be completed by December 2026, approximately 18 months. Night-time construction is not anticipated for the project.

The anticipated sequence of construction will be as follows:

1. Site preparation and tree removal, access road widening

2. Soil nail wall installation

3. PRV vault, valve, and bypass piping installation, bypass to be set up
4. Demolition of existing steel tank
5. Excavation/shoring
6. Tank piping Installation
7. Subgrade prep/floor work
8. Tank wall construction
9. Tank roof construction
10. Prestressing and finishing tank exterior
11. Yard piping and site drainage
12. Altitude vault and valve installation
13. Stairs and tank appurtenances
14. Fiberglass shelter installation
15. Finishing- AC, V-ditch, fencing
16. Landscaping and tree planting

Table 2.3-2 shows the phases of the construction of the tank and approximate duration and anticipated number of employees per each phase.

Table 2.3-2 Tank Construction Phases

Phase	Duration (Working Days)	# employees
Phase 1: Site Preparation	30 days	13
Phase 2: Soil Nail Wall Installation	15 days	8
Phase 3: PRV Vault Installation and Bypass	40 days	6
Phase 4: Demolition of Steel Tank	25 days	14
Phase 5: Excavation/Shoring	60 days	12
Phase 6: Tank Piping Instillation	15 days	12

Table 2.3-2 Tank Construction Phases		
Phase	**Duration (Working Days)**	**# employees**
Phase 7: Subgrade Prep/Floor Work (gravel compaction included)	45 days	14
Phase 8: Tank Wall Construction	45 days	14
Phase 9: Tank Roof Construction	35 days	12
Phase 10: Prestressing and Finishing Tank Exterior	30 days	8
Phase 11: Yard Piping and Site Drainage	60 days	8
Phase 12: Altitude vault and valve installation	20 days	6
Phase 13: Stairs and Tank Appurtenances	15 days	8
Phase 14: Fiberglass Shelter Installation	45 days	13
Phase 15: Finishing – AC, V-ditch, Fencing and Gates	25 days	8
Phase 16: Landscaping/Tree Planting	15 days	8
Total	**520 days**	**164 employees**
Source: Lee & Ro 2024		

The expected construction equipment type and numbers of days and hours in use for the project are provided below in Table 2.3-3.

Table 2.3-3 Project Construction Equipment Estimates				
Equipment Type	**Phase Equipment is Used in**	**No. on Site**	**No. of Active Workdays In Use**	**Typical Hours per Day in Use**
Loader (duals as an excavator)	7,9,10	2	90	7
Paver	11	1	10	6
Roller	8,10	1	10	5
F-250 Trucks (3/4 Ton)	1,2,3,4,5,7,12,13,14,15	4	250	8
Flatbed Truck	1,2,3,4,5,7,12,13,14,15	2	250	8
End Dump Trucks	2,11	4	60	8

Table 2.3-3 Project Construction Equipment Estimates				
Equipment Type	**Phase Equipment is Used in**	**No. on Site**	**No. of Active Workdays In Use**	**Typical Hours per Day in Use**
Scraper	1,7,10,13	1	10	8
Water Truck	7	1	10	4
Dozer	7,8,9,10	2	250	7
Crane (40 ton)	2,3,4,5,6,10,12,13	1	300	8
Crane (100 ton)	2,3,4,5,6,10,12,13	1	10	4
Concrete Truck	2,3,8	6	150	8
Ariel Lift Truck w/ Boom	1,3,4,5	2	185	8
Welding Equipment	1,6,13,14,15	1	30	8
Forklift	1,6,13,14,15	1	500	8
Source: Lee & Ro 2024				

Allowable construction hours are specified in San Bruno Municipal Code Title 6, Chapter 6.16 Noise Regulations, Section 6.16.070 Construction of Buildings and Projects which states:

> *No person shall, within any residential zone, or within a radius of five hundred feet therefrom, operate equipment or perform any outside construction or repair work on any building, structure, or other project, or operate any pile driver, power shovel, pneumatic hammer, derrick, power hoist, or any other construction-type device which shall exceed, between the hours of seven a.m. and ten p.m., a noise level of eighty-five decibels as measured at one hundred feet, or exceed between the hours of ten p.m. and seven a.m. a noise level of sixty decibels as measured at one hundred feet, unless such person shall have first obtained a permit therefor from the director of public works. No permit shall be required to perform emergency work. (Ord. 1897 § 3, 2021; Ord. 1354 § 1; prior code § 16-4.7)*

Construction activities will include demolition of the existing water tank, soil cut, fill, and excavation, and off-hauling of materials and debris. Table 2.3-4 provides area, volume, and lineal feet estimates for construction materials and debris. Volume and truckload estimates for demolition activities related to the new tank and retaining wall is provided in Table 2.3-5.

Table 2.3-4 Vendor Material Deliveries and Material Import Estimates			
Deliveries	**Areas (SF)**	**Volumes (CY)**	**Lineal Feet**
30 mil PVC Liner	12876	n/a	n/a

Table 2.3-4 Vendor Material Deliveries and Material Import Estimates			
Floor	10943	203	n/a
Roof	10281	127	n/a
Wall	20771.8	785.4	n/a
Shotcrete	21050.8	126.7	n/a
Wall Footing	1951.1	108.4	355
Shelter Slab	231.0	n/a	n/a
Import Materials	**Areas (SF)**	**Volumes (CY)**	**Lineal Feet**
Aggregate Base Rock	12876	238	n/a
Shotcrete	21050.8	126.7	n/a
Source: Lee & Ro 2024			

Table 2.3-5 Demolition Off-Haul Estimates		
Material	**Volumes (CY)**	**Truckloads**
Earthwork for Retaining Wall	170	17
Shelter and Valve Vault Area	355	35
New Excavation	9,472	948
Backfill	3,225	323
Fence	24	3
Source: Lee & Ro 2024		

Off-Site Staging Area(s)

The project will require off-site staging for material stockpiling and equipment storage. Two suitable potential sites have been identified and include:

1. San Bruno Senior Center parking lot. Only a portion of the parking would be needed. The City will reach out to the senior center community services and discuss if they are willing to allow the contractor to use the parking lot or part of the parking lot for a staging area.

2. The parcel next to the senior center which is the green space area between the on- and off-ramp of Highway 280, at the south corner of Cunninham Way. The site is owned by the City of

San Bruno. Use of this site may require traffic control plans approved by Caltrans because of its proximity to the on/off ramp.

The construction staging locations have been reviewed and approved by the City of San Bruno. The City reserves the right to modify or designate additional staging areas in coordination with the general contractor or relevant property owners.

A section of the perimeter fence, approximately 100 linear feet in length, located at the southwest portion of the site, encroaches on Caltrans right-of-way. The City of San Bruno has submitted an encroachment permit application to Caltrans for the removal, temporary relocation, and reinstallation of a permanent fence in this area.

2.4 PROJECT SPECIFICATIONS AND BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

The project's 90% Design Plans and Project Specifications contain the following project-specific specifications that will be applied to the project by the City of San Bruno to help avoid or reduce potential environmental impacts, as shown on Table 2.4-1. These specifications will be implemented by the project's construction contractor and enforced by the City. Because these are included in the project plans and specifications they are considered part of the project and not mitigation. The table also includes Best Management practices to reduce already less than significant impacts of the project.

Table 2.4-1: Specifications Included as Part of the Project

Topic or Section	***Specifications***
Project Specifications Document Section 00 72 00, General Conditions 9. Warranty, guaranty, and inspection of work 9.1 Warranty and Guaranty	9.1C Environmental and Toxics Warranty: The covenants, warranties and representations contained in this paragraph 9.1C are effective continuously during contractor's Work on the Project and following cessation of labor for any reason including, but not limited to, Project completion. Contractor covenants, warrants, and represents to City that: 1. To contractor's knowledge after due inquiry, no lead or asbestos containing materials were installed or discovered in the Project at any time during contractor's construction thereof. If any lead or asbestos containing materials were discovered, contractor made immediate written disclosure to City. 2. To contractor's knowledge after due inquiry, no electrical transformers, light fixtures with ballasts or other equipment containing PCBs are or were located on the Project at any time during contractor's construction thereof. 3. To contractor's knowledge after due inquiry, no storage tanks for gasoline or any other toxic substance are or were located on the Project at any time during contractor's construction thereof. If any such materials were discovered, contractor made immediate written disclosure to City.

Table 2.4-1: Specifications Included as Part of the Project	
	4. Contractor's operations concerning the Project are and were not in violation of any applicable environmental federal, state, or local statute, law or regulation dealing with hazardous materials substances or toxic substances and no notice from any governmental body has been served upon contractor claiming any violation of any such law, ordinance, code or regulation, or requiring or calling attention to the need for any work, repairs, construction, alteration, or installation on or in connection with the Project in order to comply with any such laws, ordinances, codes, or regulations, with which contractor has not complied. If there are any such notices with which contractor has complied, contractor shall provide City with copies thereof.
Project Specifications Document 00 72 00, General Conditions 13.5 Notice Of Hazardous Waste Or Materials Conditions	13.5A: Contractor shall give a written Notice of Hazardous Materials Condition to City promptly, before any of the following conditions are disturbed (except in an emergency as required by paragraph 16.4 of this Document), and in no event later than 24 hours after first observance of any: 1. Material that contractor believes may be hazardous waste or hazardous material, as defined in Section 25117 of the Health and Safety Code (including, without limitation, asbestos, lead, PCBs, petroleum and related hydrocarbons, and radioactive material) that is required to be removed to a Class I, Class II, or Class III disposal site in accordance with provisions of existing law ("hazardous material"); or 2. Other material that may present an imminent substantial danger to persons or property exposed thereto in connection with Work at the Site ("other materials").
Project Specifications Document 00 72 00, General Conditions 16. Working Conditions and Prevailing Wages 16.1 Use of Site/Sanitary Rules	16.1A All portions of the Work shall be maintained at all times in neat, clean and sanitary condition. Contractor shall furnish toilets for use of contractor's and Subcontractors' employees on the Site where needed, and their use shall be strictly enforced. All toilets shall be properly secluded from public observation, and shall be located, constructed and maintained subject to City's approval. 16.1B: Contractor shall confine construction equipment, the storage of materials and equipment and the operations of workers to the Site and land areas identified in and permitted by Contract Documents and other land and areas permitted by applicable laws and regulations, rights of way, permits and easements or as designated by City, and shall not unreasonably encumber the premises with construction equipment or other materials or equipment. Contractor shall assume full responsibility for any damage to any such land or area, any improvement located

Table 2.4-1: Specifications Included as Part of the Project	
	thereon, or to the owner or occupant thereof resulting from the performance of Work. 16.1C During the progress of the Work, contractor shall keep the Site and the Project free from accumulations of waste materials, rubbish and other debris resulting from the Work. At the completion of the Work, contractor shall clean the site, remove all waste materials, rubbish and debris from and about the Site as well as all tools, appliances, construction equipment and machinery, surplus materials and SWPPP components. Contractor shall leave the premises clean and ready for occupancy by City at Substantial Completion of Work. Contractor shall restore to original condition all property not designated for alteration by Contract Documents. 16.1D: Contractor shall not load nor permit any part of any structure or pavement to be loaded in any manner that will endanger the structure or pavement, nor shall contractor subject any part of Work or adjacent property to stresses or pressures that will endanger it. Contractor shall conduct all necessary existing conditions investigation regarding structural, mechanical, electrical or any other system existing, shall perform Work consistent with such existing conditions, and shall have full responsibility for insufficiencies or damage resulting from insufficiencies of existing systems, equipment or structures to accommodate performing the Work.
Project Specifications Document 00 72 00, General Conditions 16. Working Conditions and Prevailing Wages 16.3 Responsibility For Safety And Health	16.3A: Contractor shall ensure that its and each tier of Subcontractors' employees, agents and invitees comply with applicable health and safety laws while at the Site. These laws include the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 and rules and regulations issued pursuant thereto, and City's safety regulations as amended from time to time. Contractor shall comply with all City directions regarding protective clothing and gear.
Project Specifications Document 00 72 00, General Conditions 16. Working Conditions and Prevailing Wages 16.8 Environmental Controls	16.8 Environmental Controls 16.8A: Contractor shall comply with all rules, regulations, ordinances, and statutes that apply to any Work performed under the Contract Documents including, without limitation, any toxic, water, stormwater management and soil pollution controls and air pollution controls specified in Government Code Section 11017. Contractor shall be responsible for insuring that contractor's employees, subcontractors, and the public are protected from exposure to airborne hazards or contaminated water, soil, or other toxic materials used during or generated by activities on the Site or associated with the Project.

Table 2.4-1: Specifications Included as Part of the Project	
Project Specifications Document 00 72 00, General Conditions 16. Working Conditions and Prevailing Wages 16.9 Shoring Safety Plan	16.9B: At least five days in advance of any excavation five feet or more in depth, contractor shall submit to City a detailed plan showing the shoring, bracing and sloping design (including calculations) and other provisions to be made for worker protection from the hazard of caving ground during the excavation, as required by Labor Code Section 6705. A civil or structural engineer registered in shall prepare and sign any plan that varies from the shoring system standards established by the State Construction Safety Orders. 16.9C: During the course of Work, contractor shall be responsible for determining where sloping, shoring, and/or bracing is necessary and the adequacy of the design, installation, and maintenance of all shoring and bracing for all excavation, including any excavation less than five feet in depth. Contractor will be solely responsible for any damage or injuries that may result from excavating or trenching. City's acceptance of any Drawings showing the shoring or bracing design or Work schedule shall not relieve contractor of its responsibilities under this paragraph 16.9.
Project Specifications Document 00 73 00 Special Conditions	2. The construction site and any off-site staging areas must be secured by temporary chain linked fencing, with a minimum height of 72 inches, unless the building code requires additional protection. The chain link fence is to be made of galvanized steel and must include a top and bottom rail. The fencing must be adequately anchored to prevent movement and the effects of wind. No visible gaps in the fencing are allowed, including between panels or under them. Gates must be sliding or in-swinging and close tightly with no gaps in or around them. When the construction site or off-site staging area is adjacent to any public right-of-way, the fence adjacent to the right-of-way shall have a visual/dust barrier or screening. The screen is to be constructed of green knitted polyethylene or canvas securely fixed to the inside face of the fencing and shall be maintained in a taut condition throughout the project. No twisted wire is to protrude on the exterior side of the fence. No tears or rips greater than 2" in any dimension will be allowed. Any screening that is torn or ripped or fencing or barricades that have been defaced will be replaced at the contractor's expense within 48 hours. In addition to the required screening, any wood barricades or temporary chain link fencing facing a public roadway shall be setback two (2) feet from any property line or sidewalk, if site conditions allow. All areas visible from the public right-of-way shall be maintained free of weeds and litter.

Table 2.4-1: Specifications Included as Part of the Project	
	Any construction site or staging area fencing facing a public roadway shall include a sign, securely installed on the fence that is made of durable and waterproof materials that provides the following information: the name and emergency contact telephone number of the general contractor. The sign lettering shall be large enough to be read from 10 feet away and the sign shall not extend above the top of the fence. The sign language and graphics need to be approved by City staff prior to installation.
Project Specifications Part II, General Requirements, Section 01 51 00, Temporary Facilities and Controls, Part I - General	1.9 Tree and Plant Protection A. Root protection: No storage of materials or equipment will be allowed within the Dripline. Whenever possible, excavation shall be on a radial line, diverging from the tree trunk. B. Exposure to harmful substances: No storage or dumping of any substances that may be harmful to trees shall occur at any location on the Site. C. Where construction is to be performed in the vicinity of trees and shrubbery, the Work shall be carried on in a manner that will cause minimum damage. City will designate any trees that are to be removed. Under no circumstances are additional trees to be removed without written permission from City. Trees and shrubbery that are not to be removed shall be protected from injury or damage resulting from contractor's operations.
Project Specifications Part II, General Requirements, Section 0151 00, Temporary Facilities and Controls, Part I - General	1.10 Water Control A. Grade Site to drain. B. Maintain excavations free of water. C. Protect Site from ponding or running water. D. Provide water barriers as required to protect Site from soil erosion.
Project Specifications Part II, General Requirements, Section 01 51 00, Temporary Facilities and Controls, Part I - General	1.11 Noise Control A. When required by OSHA Standards, construction workers shall be provided with ear protection to operate equipment. B. Work that produces noise levels above ambient will not be permitted prior to 8:00 a.m.
Project Specifications Part II, General Requirements, Section 01 51 00, Temporary	1.12 Traffic Control B. Traffic Control Measures: 1. Traffic control and safety precautions shall conform with the current edition of Caltrans “Manual of Uniform Traffic Control

Table 2.4-1: Specifications Included as Part of the Project	
Facilities and Controls, Part I - General	Devices," all provisions of the City of San Bruno encroachment permit, and with these Specifications. 2. The contractor shall submit a traffic control plan to the Engineer for approval prior to commencing the work. Unless otherwise approved by the Engineer, the traffic control plan shall be wet stamped by either a Registered Civil or Traffic Engineer. 3. Pay for all costs for traffic signage, including flagging. 4. Provide safe passage for vehicular and pedestrian traffic through the Work area at all times. 5. Traffic on two-lane streets may be reduced to one lane provided that, with all restriction of traffic flow, flaggers, cones, signs, and barricades are furnished as required by City. Permit the traffic equal flow time in each direction. 6. Maintain access to public and private buildings, businesses and driveways. Provide approved metal "bridge" or temporary backfill for access when and where required within ½ hour after request by City except that emergency vehicles and personnel shall be provided immediate access at all times. 7. Restore access to all residences for all non-working hours, holidays, and weekends.
Project Specifications Part II, General Requirements, Section 01 51 00, Temporary Facilities and Controls, Part I - General	1.13 Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan A. Prior to commencement of Work at the Site, provide City a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) prepared in accordance with NPDES General Permit No. CAS 000002 (Water Quality Order 99-08-DWQ) issued by the State Water Resources Control Board. B. Prepare the SWPPP in accordance with the requirements of Section A of the NPDES General Permit. Develop and implement a monitoring program in accordance with requirements set forth in Section B of the NPDES General Permit to verify compliance with the NPDES General Permit. C. Submit SWPPP to City for review in accordance with Section 01 33 00 (Submittal Procedures). The SWPPP shall be reviewed by City prior to commencement of Work at the Site. D. The SWPPP shall include a Site map. Geometric equations, notes, details, and all data not related to water pollution control work shall be removed to improve clarity. A copy of the Drawings shall be used as a base sheet with the pertinent stage of construction drawn in as an overlay to accurately reflect Site conditions at various phases of construction.

Table 2.4-1: Specifications Included as Part of the Project	
	E. Revise and update the SWPPP whenever there is a change in construction operations that may affect the Site drainage patterns or discharge of pollutants to surface waters, groundwaters, or a separate municipal storm sewer system. F. Failure to fully comply with the requirements of the NPDES General Permit shall subject contractor to all fines, damages, and job delays incurred due to failure to implement the SWPPP. G. A copy of the approved SWPPP, together with updates and revisions, shall be kept at the Site. Contractor shall furnish copies of the SWPPP at the request of City.
Project Specifications Part II, General Requirements, Section 01 56 36 Temporary Site Security and Safety, Part I – General	1.5 Safety Requirements A. Standards: Contractor shall maintain the Project in accordance with state and local safety and insurance standards. B. Hazards Control: 1. Contractor shall store volatile wastes in covered metal containers and remove from premises daily. 2. Contractor shall prevent accumulation of wastes that create hazardous conditions. 3. Contractor shall provide adequate ventilation during use of volatile or noxious substances. C. Contractor shall conduct cleaning and disposal operations to comply with local ordinances and anti-pollution laws. 1. Do not burn or bury rubbish or waste material on the Site. 2. Do not dispose of volatile wastes such as mineral spirits, oil, or paint thinner in storm or sanitary sewer drains. 3. Do not dispose of wastes into streams or waterways.
Project Specifications Part II, General Requirements, Section 01 71 13, Mobilization, Site Maintenance, Demobilization, Part I General	3. Tree Protection Prior to commencement of any construction activity beneath or within 10’ of the dripline of a Street or Heritage tree, the contractor shall present a Tree Protection Plan to the City for approval. The Tree Protection Plan shall be prepared by a certified arborist to assess impacts of the proposed construction to the tree(s), recommend mitigation to reduce impacts to the tree(s) to a less than significant level, and identify construction guidelines to be followed through all phases of the project, and may include care after construction.
Project Specifications Part II, General	1.2 Progress Cleaning

Table 2.4-1: Specifications Included as Part of the Project	
Requirements, Section 01 74 00, Cleaning, Part I General	A. Contractor shall perform cleaning to ensure that any streets and other City and public properties are maintained free from accumulation of waste materials, dust, mud, and debris. B. Where required, contractor shall wet down surfaces to lay dust and prevent the blowing of dust to nearby residences or public properties. C. Contractor shall keep all paved roads clean and free of dust, mud, and debris resulting from contractor's operations. Daily cleanup throughout the job will be necessary as contractor progresses with its Work, but extra attention to cleanup shall be made prior to weekends and holidays. Without limiting the foregoing, contractor shall remove trench spoil along traveled ways daily; grade and vacuum broom surfaces initially where applicable and later water flush with high-pressure sprays, being careful to avoid downstream contamination. D. All dust, mud, spoils, and construction debris shall be removed daily from all roadways, ditches, shoulders, and private property (fills or spoils placed on private property at private property owner's written request excepted). E. Disposal of Materials: 1. All waste materials, debris, and rubbish shall be legally disposed of at sites to be chosen by contractor in accordance with applicable local, state, and federal regulations. 2. Contractor is cautioned that the City of San Bruno and County of San Mateo have regulations governing the disposal of rubble, broken pavement, and similar materials. 3. Become familiarized with the requirements of the agency having jurisdiction over any contemplated disposal site and shall comply with all such requirements. F. All excess soil from performance of Work shall be legally disposed at sites to be chosen by contractor in accordance with applicable local, state, and federal regulations. If contractor elects to dispose of soil on any private property, prior to any dumping, a letter allowing such dumping shall be obtained from the property owner and presented to City. Contractor is advised that the property owner is required to obtain a grading permit from City. In addition, placement of fill in wetland areas is subject to permit procedures of the US Army Corps of Engineers. At the completion of Work, a letter from each affected property owner will be required releasing contractor, City, and any City consultant from future liability.

Table 2.4-1: Specifications Included as Part of the Project	
Project Specifications, Part III Technical Provisions, Division 2 – Existing Conditions, Section 02 40 00 Demolition, Modifications, and Relocation Part 1 – General 1.01 Statutory Requirements	A. The work of this Section shall comply with current versions, with revisions, of the following: 1. Construction Safety Orders, Division of Industrial Safety, State of California. 2. California Department of Transportation Traffic Manual. 3. California Department of Health Services (DHS). 4. California Division of Occupational Safety and Health (Cal-OSHA). 5. California Code of Regulations (CCR). 6. Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD).
Project Specifications, Part III Technical Provisions, Division 2 – Existing Conditions, Section 02 40 00 Demolition, Modifications, and Relocation Part 1 – General 1.10 Special Conditions	A. Lead Paint Cleanup 1. The contractor shall take all necessary precautions to prevent any environmental contamination of the surrounding area due to the presence of lead paint on the storage tank and appurtenances to be removed. 2. The contractor shall follow all federal, state, and local regulations governing the cleanup and disposal of lead paint contamination. B. Lead Compliance Plan 1. Prior to the start of work, provide and implement a written plan describing lead emitting activities and the means by which the exposures will be controlled that includes but is not limited to the determination of the Permissible Exposure Limit (PEL) of airborne lead, the measurement of the Action Level (AL) of airborne lead, the prevention of exposure to the contractor's workers, workers in the City buildings and the public, how waste and by-products will be profiled to determine lead content and how any lead-containing waste will be handled, transported and legally disposed of. It is the contractor's responsibility to determine correctly whether their waste is hazardous. 2. Contractor shall also supply a copy of any written notifications provided to and required by Cal-OSHA before conducting lead-emitting construction work. All construction work disturbing lead-containing components shall comply with the Cal-OSHA 8CCR 1532.1, Lead in Construction Standard. Training of workers who may be exposed to lead or other hazardous substances shall comply with the requirements of 8CCR 5194, Hazard Communication. Contractor shall also meet certification requirements per the EPA's Lead-Based Paint Renovation, Repair

Table 2.4-1: Specifications Included as Part of the Project	
	and Painting (RRP) rule (www.epa.gov/getleadsafe or call 800-424-LEAD).
Project Specifications, Part III Technical Provisions, Division 2 – Existing Conditions, Section 02 40 00 Demolition, Modifications, and Relocation Part 3 – Execution 3.01 General	D. Dispose of all demolition materials, equipment and debris from the site and in conformance with all existing applicable laws and regulations. E. Debris and refuse generated by demolition operations shall be disposed of by the contractor at his expense. The contractor shall not allow the accumulation of debris or refuse in any quantity that represents a health or safety hazard or that impairs any operation on site. All debris and refuse shall be disposed of off-site in a timely manner. No debris or refuse shall be used as fill material or to fill voids caused by the removal of structures. Care shall be taken to prevent spillage on haul routes. Any such spillage shall be removed immediately and the area shall be cleaned to the satisfaction of the City and the agency having jurisdiction. F. Pollution Controls: Use water sprinkling, temporary enclosures and other suitable methods to limit the amount of dust and dirt rising and scattering in the air to the lowest practical level. Comply with governing regulations pertaining to environmental protection. 1. Do not use water when it may create hazardous or objectionable conditions such as ice, flooding, and pollution. 2. Clean adjacent structures, facilities, and improvements of dust, dirt and debris caused by demolition operations. Return adjacent areas to conditions existing prior to the start of the work.
Project Specifications, Part III Technical Provisions, Division 31, Earthwork Section 31 11 00 Clearing and Grubbing Part 2 Materials	2.02 Preservation of Trees, Shrubs, and Other Plant Material A. Save and protect plant materials (trees, shrubbery, and plants) beyond the limits of clearing and grubbing from damage resulting from the work. No filling, excavating, trenching, or stockpiling of materials will be permitted within the drip line of these plant materials. The drip line is defined as a circle drawn by extending a line vertically to the ground from the outermost branches of a plant or group of plants. To prevent soil compaction within the drip line area, no equipment will be permitted within this area. B. When trees are close together, restrict entry to area within drip line by fencing. In areas where no fence is erected, protect the trunks of trees 2 inches or greater in diameter by encircling the trunk entirely with boards held securely by 12-gauge wire and staples. This protection shall extend from ground level to a height of 6 feet.

Table 2.4-1: Specifications Included as Part of the Project	
	C. Cut and remove tree branches where necessary for construction. Remove branches other than those required for a balanced appearance of any tree. Treat cuts with a tree sealant.
Project Specifications, Part III Technical Specifications, Division 31, Section 31 22 00 Grading	Part 1 - General 1.01 Work Included A. Rough and finish grading of site. B. Dust alleviation and control. C. Cleanup and disposal of excess material. D. Provision of all material, equipment, and apparatus not specifically mentioned herein or noted on the plans, but which are obviously necessary to complete the work specified. E. The contractor shall be familiar with the soil conditions on the site, whether covered in the Soils Report or not, and shall thoroughly understand all recommendations associated with the grading. F. The contractor shall obtain a permit from the State Department of Industrial Relations, Division of Safety and Health (DOSH) for trenches or excavations five feet (5') deep or deeper. The contractor shall submit a copy of the permit to the Engineer prior to initiating any work requiring such permit. G. The contractor shall comply with erosion control measures to prevent run-off of sediment and other unsuitable materials to the storm drain system. Part 3 - Execution 3.11 Maintenance A. Protect graded areas from traffic and erosion. Keep free of trash and debris. Repair and re-establish grades in settled, eroded, and damaged areas. B. Where completed areas are disturbed by construction operations or adverse weather, scarify, reshape, and compact to required density.
Construction General Notes #14 - Pollution Prevention	A. The contractor shall comply with the city's non-point source pollution prevention ordinance and the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Ordinance and the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan best management practices (BMPs) for this project. B. The contractor shall create and submit a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) as described in the Specification. C. The contractor shall be responsible for monitoring for the presence of contaminated soil and/or groundwater during the course of the work. The contractor shall immediately notify the

Table 2.4-1: Specifications Included as Part of the Project	
	inspector if any suspect materials are encountered. Contact shall be immediately by Telephone with written notification within 3 working days.

Best Management Practices

The Initial Study analysis of construction noise determined that the construction noise impacts would be less than significant. The following best management practices (BMPs) recommended in the Initial Study would further reduce already less than significant impacts:

Construction Noise

1) Notify Residential Land Uses of Planned Construction Activities. This notice shall be provided at least two (2) weeks prior to the start of any construction activities, describe the noise control measures to be implemented by the project, and include the name and phone number of the designated contact for the City and contractor staff responsible for project construction. This notice shall be provided to the owner/occupants of residential dwelling units north and east of the site along Cunningham Way and Hawthorne Avenue within 350 feet of the project site.

2) Restrict Work Hours: The City Municipal Code Section 6.16.070, states that all construction-related work activities, including material deliveries, shall be restricted to the hours of 7:00 AM to 10:00 PM, seven days a week. The City and/or its contractor shall post a sign at all entrances to the construction site informing contractors, subcontractors, other workers, etc. of this requirement. Additionally, Table 2.4-1 lists Project Specifications Part II, General Requirements, Section 01 51 00, Temporary Facilities and Controls, Part I – General; B) Work that produces noise levels above ambient will not be permitted prior to 8:00 AM. Thus, project construction specifications present a more restrictive morning hour construction start time compared to the Municipal Code requirement.

3) Construction Equipment Selection, Use, and Noise Control Measures: The following measures shall apply to construction equipment used at the project site:

a. Electric hook-ups shall be provided for stationary equipment (e.g., pumps, compressors, welding sets). This measure shall be subject to the approval of the local electric utility.

b. All stationary noise generating equipment shall be shielded and located as far as possible from residential land uses given site and active work constraints. Shielding may consist of a three-or four-sided enclosure provided the structure/enclosure breaks the line of sight between the equipment and the receptor and provides for proper ventilation and equipment operation.

c. Heavy equipment engines shall be equipped with standard noise suppression devices such as mufflers, engine covers, and engine/mechanical isolators, mounts, and be maintained in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations during active construction activities.

d. Pneumatic tools shall include a suppression device on the compressed air exhaust.

e. No radios or other amplified sound devices shall be audible beyond the property line of the construction site.

2.5 REQUIRED APPROVALS

The City is both the proponent and the Lead Agency for the proposed project. The proposed project does not require permit approval from other regulatory agencies. The proposed tank will require State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water approval prior to commission of the tank (bringing the tank on line). An easement from the California Department of Transportation may be required if the City chooses to utilize the Caltrans on/off ramp property adjacent to Cunningham Way for staging.

Chapter 3. Environmental Checklist and Responses

1. **Project Title**: Water Tank 1 (Cunningham Tank) Replacement Project Initial Study / Mitigated Negative Declaration

2. **Lead Agency Name and Address**: City of San Bruno Public Works Department, 567 El Camino Real, San Bruno, CA 94066

3. **Contact Persons and Phone Number:** Sandrine Ganry, PE Senior Engineer (Design) 503-451-2157; Email: Sandrine Ganry, sganry@westyost.com, Talha Amar, P.E., Engineer; Phone: 650-616-7065, Email: pwengineering@sanbruno.ca.gov

4. **Project Location:** 461 Cunningham Way, San Bruno, California, 94066

5. **Project Sponsor's Name and Address:** Same as the Lead Agency

6. **General Plan Designation:** Parks/Open Space

7. **Zoning:** O-Open Space

8. **Description of the Project:** The project proposes to replace a structurally deficient 2.5-million-gallon steel water storage tank with a new 3.5-million-gallon concrete water storage tank in the City of San Bruno.

9. **Surrounding Land Uses and Setting:** The project site is primarily surrounded by single-family homes to the east and to the north. The on- and off-ramp for Highway I-280 is located southwest of the project site at the corner of Cunningham Way. San Mateo County-owned Juniper Serra Park I located south of the project site along Crystal Springs Road.

10. **Other public agencies whose approval is required:** None, except Caltrans if the staging area next to the Cunningham Way on-ramp to 280 is utilized by the project. The proposed tank will require State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water approval prior to commission the tank.

11. **Have California Native American tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project area requested consultation pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.3.1? If so, is there a plan for consultation that includes, for example, the determination of significance of impacts to tribal cultural resources, procedures regarding confidentiality, etc.?** No California Native American tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project area have requested consultation with the City of San Bruno pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.3.1.

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED

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

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

DETERMINATION: (To be completed by the Lead Agency)

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

☐ I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

☒ I find that although the proposed project COULD have a significant effect on the environment, there WILL NOT be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

☐ I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.

☐ I find that the proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document 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.

☐ 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 (print)	Title

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 in the parentheses following each question. 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 off-site 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 there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant. If there are one or more "Potentially Significant Impact" entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.

4. "Negative Declaration: Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated" applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from "Potentially Significant Impact" to a "Less Than Significant Impact." The lead agency must describe the mitigation measures, and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level (mitigation measures from "Earlier Analyses," as described in item 5 below, 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. This is only a suggested form, and lead agencies are free to use different formats; however, lead agencies should normally address the questions from this checklist that are relevant to a project's environmental effects in whatever format is selected.

9. The explanation of each issue should identify:

    a. the significance criteria or threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question; and

    b. the mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less than significance.

3.1 AESTHETICS

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
*Would the project:**				
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) In non-urbanized areas, 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 points.) 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?	☐	☐	☒	☐
*Except as provided in Public Resources Code Section 21099kl				

Environmental Setting

The City's General Plan describes San Bruno as a visually rich community, located between the coastal range and San Francisco Bay along the northern Peninsula. The downtown serves as the primary urban element which provides visual interest due to its pedestrian scale and historic architecture and many natural features—the western hills, canyon open spaces, mature trees, and views of San Francisco Bay—contribute to a variety of visual resources for local residents (City of San Bruno 2009).

Scenic Views

The General Plan Land Use Element contains information on views within the City and describes the topography as playing a key role in shaping San Bruno's urban character. Hills to the north and west provide a prominent visual backdrop to the commercial areas adjacent to El Camino Real. San Bruno Mountain and Sweeney Ridge both rise approximately 1,200 feet above mean high water sea level. The topography gradually flattens out from the western ridgeline toward San Francisco Bay. The eastern city limits are located within two miles of the San Fransisco Bay; the San Francisco International Airport is situated along the Bay shore itself. There are many vantage points within the City to view either San Bruno Mountain and Sweeny Ridge, or San Francisco Bay and the distant East Bay hills. These views are highly

valued by the residents of San Bruno. City of San Bruno Land Use Element Figure 2-3 Viewshed from Selected Locations identifies areas of the City that are visible from three different viewpoint locations to illustrate areas of the City which comprise key elements of the viewshed within the City. The project site is not identified as being visible for any of the 3 viewpoint locations. See Figure 3.1-1 Land Use Element Viewsheds from Selected Locations

Views of the Project Site:

The project site is located in the City's southwestern hilly area, immediately above single-family homes on Cunningham Way, and immediately below I-280. The site has a long access road traversing the slope up to the existing water tank at an elevation of approximately 230 feet mean sea level. The project site, sandwiched between homes on Cunningham Way and I-280 is not part of a scenic vista. Because of the hilly terrain surrounding the site and existing development and vegetation, views of the project site are limited to the immediately surrounding area.

The slope below the access road is comprised of the fences and the backyards of the homes along Cunningham Way. The slope above the access road is densely vegetated with native and non-native shrubs and trees in various degrees of health and vigor. The existing tank's location on the slope above the adjacent homes somewhat limits the views of the existing water tank from the interior of the homes unless a resident looks up towards the tank. The water tank is additionally screen by existing vegetation including several large Heritage trees. Existing site photos are contained in Figure 2.2-3 through Figure 2.2-8 Site Photographs in the Project Description.

Scenic Corridors

A scenic corridor can be described as a roadway or highway with unique or distinctive physical or cultural features. According to the State (Caltrans' Scenic Highway Guidelines), a scenic highway should go through an area of outstanding scenic quality, containing striking views, flora, geology, and other unique natural attributes. The Department of Transportation (Caltrans) manages the State Scenic Highway Program. Caltrans provides guidance to local government agencies, community organizations and citizens that are pursuing the official designation of a State Scenic Highway. Interstate-280 is designated by Caltrans as a State Scenic Highway. Most of the San Bruno I-280 segment is lined with tall, shady trees, with partial views of San Francisco Bay and SFO to the east and views of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area and the Crystal Springs Watershed lands to the west.

The project site is adjacent to the I-280 North freeway Onramp at Cunningham Way (see Figure 2.2-2). I-280 southbound passing the project site is designated by Caltrans as a state scenic highway. However, I-280 northbound passing the project site is eligible for designation as a state scenic highway (Caltrans 2019). The tank is partially visible to drivers entering I-280 north via the onramp at Cunning Ham Way (see Figure 3.1-2).

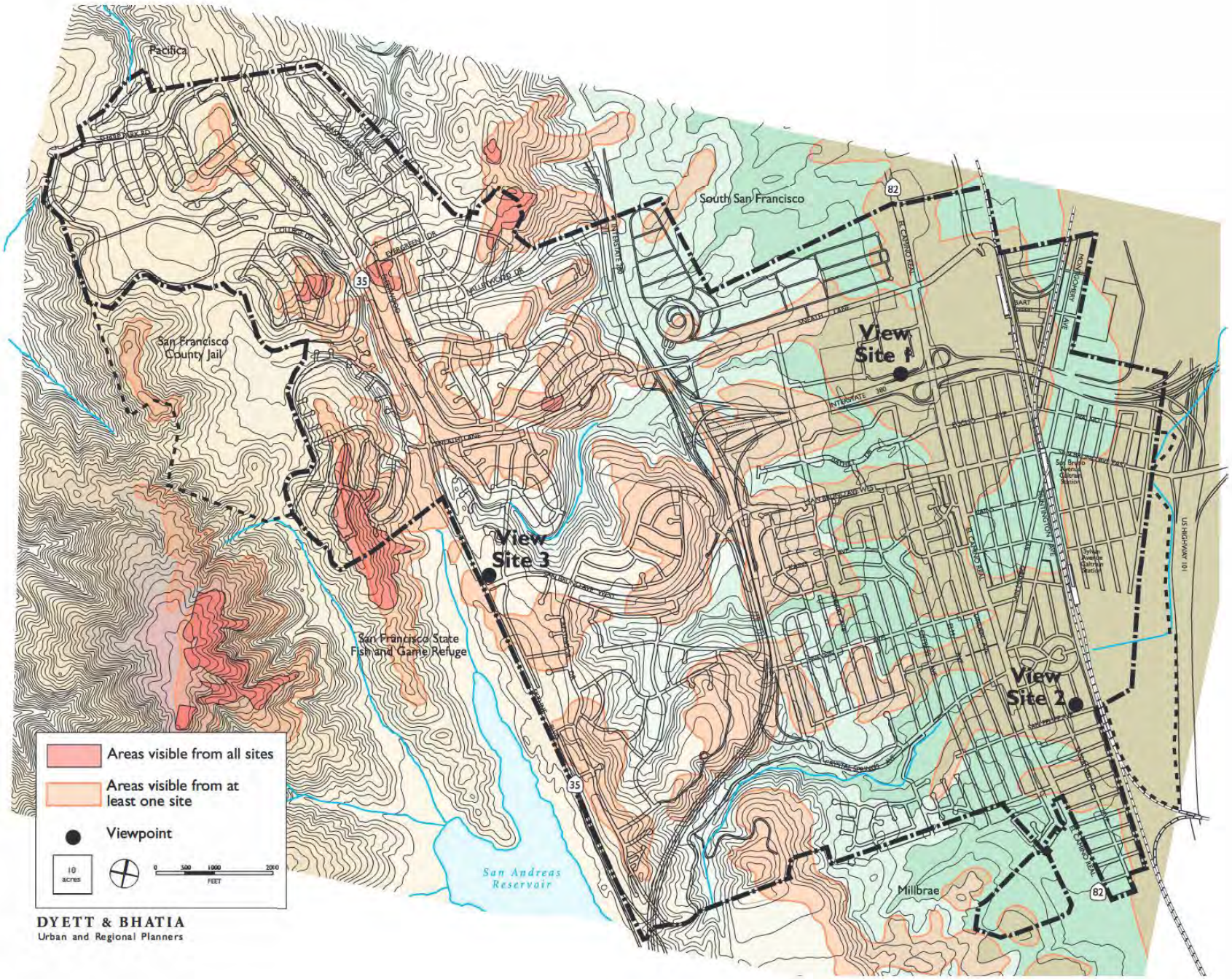


Figure 3.1-1 Land Use Element Viewsheds from Selected Locations

Water Tank 1 (Cunningham Tank) Replacement Project IS/MND

Photo 1. Partial view of tank when entering I-280 north onramp

Source: MIG, December 2023

Photo 2. Partial view of tank looking right when on I-280 north onramp

Source: MIG, December 2023

Figure 3.1-2 Partial Views of Tank from I-280 On-ramp

Regulatory Setting

State

California State Scenic Highway Program

In 1963, the State Legislature established the California Scenic Highway Program through Senate Bill 1467. The bill declared the development of scenic highways will not only add to the pleasure of the residents of this State, but will also play an important role in encouraging the growth of the recreation and tourist industries upon which the economy of many areas of California depend. Senate Bill 1467 added Sections 260 through 263 to the Streets and Highways Code. In these statutes the State proclaims intent to establish the State's responsibility for the protection and enhancement of California's natural scenic beauty by identifying those portions of the State highway system which, together with adjacent scenic corridors, require special conservation treatment. Scenic corridors consist of land that is visible from, adjacent to, and outside the highway right-of-way, and is comprised primarily of scenic and natural features. Topography, vegetation, viewing distance, and/or jurisdictional lines determine the corridor boundaries. Existing law provides Caltrans with full possession and control of all State highways. This legislation places the Scenic Highway Program under the stewardship of Caltrans. The legislation further declares the intent of the State to assign responsibility for the regulation of land use and development along scenic highways to the appropriate State and local governmental agencies. A county highway component was later added to the Scenic Highway Program in Section 154 of the Streets and Highways Code.

Local Regulations

San Bruno General Plan

The San Bruno General Plan contains policies aimed at preserving the City's scenic viewsheds and roadways and strives to preserve the City's scenic roadways, and community character. The following policies are applicable to the project:

Land Use Element:

LUD-E: Ensure that new development, especially in residential neighborhoods, is sensitive to existing uses, and is of the highest quality design and construction.

Transportation Element:

> *Policy T-27*: Continue to support beautification efforts along Interstate 280, an officially designated State Scenic Highway.
>
> *Policy T-C:* Preserve and enhance the unique natural features that constitute San Bruno's scenic roadways, as well as the visual quality of major gateways into the city.
>
> *Policy ERC-10:* Require incorporation of native plants into landscape plans for new development as feasible— especially in areas adjacent to natural areas, such as

canyons or scenic roadways. Require preservation of mature trees, as feasible, during design and construction.

Discussion

Would the project:

a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?

Less than Significant Impact. For purposes of determining significance under CEQA, a scenic vista is defined as a viewpoint that provides expansive views of a highly valued landscape for the benefit of the public. Land Use Element Figure 2-3 Viewsheds from Selected Locations identifies areas of the City that are visible from three different viewpoint locations to illustrate areas which comprise key elements of the viewshed within the City. The project site is not identified as being visible from any of the three viewpoint locations. The project site is not clearly visible from lower elevations with the City because of the topography and screening vegetation surrounding the water tank site. However, the new water tank would be more visible because it would be approximately 8 feet taller than the existing water tank and many of the screening trees would be removed during construction. Mitigation Measure BIO-4 would require the replanting of all Heritage Trees removed and would require the revegetation plan to focus on maximizing the screening value of the replacement trees. However, since the project site is not part of a scenic vista the proposed project would have a less than significant impact on a scenic vista.

The water tank site is not visible from areas west of I-280 because of topography and the new water tank would not impact any scenic vistas from regional open space areas to the west. Visual impacts to I-280, a State designated Scenic Highway are described below. The project would have a less than significant impact on scenic vistas.

b) 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 project site is adjacent to the I-280 North freeway on-ramp at Cunningham Way (see Figure 2.2-2). I-280 southbound passing the project site is designated by Caltrans as a state scenic highway. However, I-280 northbound passing the project site is eligible for designation as a state scenic highway (Caltrans 2019).

As shown in Figure 3.1-2 the existing tank is partially visible to drivers from the I-280 North onramp at Cunningham Way. Although the new tank would be bigger and taller than the existing tank, visibility of the tank would be in the peripheral vision of the driver, is heavily obstructed by trees, and only lasts a few seconds as the individuals drive by. Project construction would require extensive grading of the downhill side of the slope where the water tank site is located as well as the removal of approximately 36 trees around the water tank site (see Figure 3.4-2 Existing Trees Surveyed Map in Section 3.4, Biological Resources). Most of the trees identified for removal are along the access road and the east side of the project site. There are approximately 11 trees that would be removed on the hillside above the water tank and closest to I-280 that could provide

screening of the new tank for motorists on I-280. Mitigation Measure BIO-4 requires the replacement of all Heritage Trees removed and the preparation of a revegetation plan that maximizes the screening value of the replanted trees.

The new water tank would be approximately 40-feet, 6-inches above grade level. This is approximately eight feet higher than the existing water tank. Although the new water tank would be taller than the existing water tank and some trees, that currently screen the site from motorists on I-280, would be removed, the project would not adversely impact the scenic quality of the I-280 viewshed because many screen trees would remain in the area between the project site and I-280 (see Figure 2.2-2). These trees are located at the southern end of the project site and in the Caltrans right-of-way between the northbound and southbound entrance and exit ramps. These trees would not be impacted by project construction The project would have a less than significant impact on a state scenic highway.

c) In non-urbanized areas, 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 a 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 project is located in an urbanized area adjacent to I-280 to the west and residential homes along Cunningham Way to the east and north. The existing tank is partially screened from the view of pedestrians and drivers along Cunningham Way as it is situated above street level on the slope and is screened from view behind several tall trees. The proposed tank would be taller than the existing tank by about 8 feet. Project construction would require the removal of approximately 36 trees, many of them classified as Heritage Trees (see discussion in Section 3.4 Biological Resources). This tree removal would remove the vegetative screening of the new water tank and allow it to be much more visible from the adjacent residential area until replanted trees mature and provide screening. Mitigation Measure BIO-4 requires the replacement of all Heritage Trees removed and the preparation of a revegetation plan that maximizes the screening value of the replanted trees.

Project construction would temporarily disrupt the visual character of the site due to the required excavation and cutting of the slope above the access road, the presence of construction vehicles, cranes, signage, and general construction debris. Although the proposed tank would be larger and taller, its design would conform with the City's design requirements and would not conflict with the City's General Plan policies related to visual resources as presented in Section 3.1.2, above. The project site is not within an identified viewshed and it would not impact views from a scenic roadway. Therefore, the project would not conflict with applicable General Plan policies regulations governing scenic quality. Impacts would be less than significant.

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 water tank design would require new exterior nighttime lighting for operational and security purposes that would be motion-activated. Security lighting would be both pole mounted and mounted on the outside of the new water tank. The lighting would be designed according to the City of San Bruno Municipal Code requirements for exterior lighting and would be designed with downward directed and shielded lighting. Existing

trees and shrubs provide some level of screening of night security lighting at the existing tank; however, construction of the new water tank would result in the removal of a number of trees along the slope facing the Cunningham Way residences. The motion activated security lighting may shine into some of the homes below the water tank until the replanted vegetation matures to provide screening. Because of the assumed short duration of any motion activated night lighting, any nighttime glare to the adjacent residences along Cunningham Way is expected to be less than significant.

3.2 AGRICULTURAL AND FOREST RESOURCES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:*				
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland) as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	☐	☐	☐	☒
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 non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	☐	☐	☐	☒
*In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding 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.				

Environmental Setting

The project site is located in the City of San Bruno and all proposed project improvements would occur within an existing, urban area. The California Department of Conservation Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program identifies the area as Urban and Built-up Land. The project site is not under a Williamson Act Contract. (California Department of Conservation 2022).

Regulatory Setting

Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program

The California Department of Conservation's Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program (FMMP) assesses the location, quality, and quantity of agricultural land and conversion of these lands over time. Agricultural land is rated according to soil quality and irrigation status. The best quality land is called Prime Farmland. In CEQA analyses, the FMMP classifications and published county maps are used, in part, to identify whether agricultural resources that could be affected are present on or near the project site.

Discussion

Would the project:

a) **Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland) as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?**

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 non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?**

No Impact. (Responses a – e). The proposed project would not impact Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance, forest land, or land under a Williamson Act contract as none are present on site (California Department of Conservation 2018). The project would not convert or cause the conversion of any farmland or forest land to a non-agricultural/non-forest use because the project site is within urban and built-up land surrounded by urban uses. Thus, the project would not result in impacts to any agricultural or forestry resources.

3.3 AIR QUALITY

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:*				
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?	☐	☒	☐	☐
d) Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people?	☐	☐	☒	☐
*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.				

Environmental Setting

Air quality is a function of pollutant emissions and topographic and meteorological influences. Physical atmospheric conditions such as air temperature, wind speed and topography influence air quality.

Criteria Air Pollutants

Federal, state, and local governments control air quality through the implementation of laws, ordinances, regulations, and standards. The federal and state governments have established ambient air quality standards for “criteria” pollutants considered harmful to the environment and public health. National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) have been established for carbon monoxide (CO), lead (Pb), nitrogen dioxide (NO2), ozone (O3), fine particulate matter (particles 2.5 microns in diameter and smaller, or P.M.2.5), inhalable coarse particulate matter (particles 10 microns in diameter and smaller, or P.M.10), and sulfur dioxide (SO2). California Ambient Air Quality Standards (CAAQS) are more stringent than the national standards for the pollutants listed above and include the following additional pollutants: hydrogen sulfide (H2S), sulfates (SOx), and vinyl chloride. In addition to these criteria pollutants, the federal and state governments have classified certain pollutants as hazardous air pollutants (HAPs) or toxic air contaminants (TACs), such as asbestos and diesel particulate matter (DPM).

San Francisco Bay Area Air Basin

The proposed project is located in the San Francisco Bay Area Air Basin (SFBAAB), an area of non-attainment for both the 1-hour and 8-hour state ozone standards, and the national 24-hour

P.M.2.5 standard (BAAQMD 2023b, Table 5-1 SFBAAB Designation Status). The SFBAAB is comprised of nine counties: all of Alameda, Contra Costa, Santa Clara, San Francisco, San Mateo, Marin, Napa, and the southern portions of Solano and Sonoma.

The San Francisco Bay Area is generally characterized by a Mediterranean climate with warm, dry summers and cool, damp winters. During the summer daytime high temperatures near the coast are primarily in the mid-60s, whereas areas farther inland are typically in the high-80s to low-90s. Nighttime low temperatures on average are in the mid-40s along the coast and low to mid-30s inland.

The Mediterranean climate is seen along most of the West Coast of North America and is primarily due to a (typically dominating) high-pressure system, located off the west coast of North America, over the Pacific Ocean. During the summer and fall months the high-pressure ridge is at its strongest and therefore provides a more stable atmosphere. Warm temperatures and a stable atmosphere associated with the high-pressure ridge provide favorable conditions for the formation of photochemical pollutants (e.g., O3 and secondary particulates (e.g., nitrogen oxides (NOx) and SO2).

Varying topography and limited atmospheric mixing throughout the SFBAAB restrict air movement resulting in reduced dispersion and higher concentrations of air pollutants. The SFBAAB is most susceptible to air pollution during the summer when cool marine air flowing through the Golden Gate can become trapped under a layer of warmer air (a phenomenon known as an inversion) and is prevented from escaping the valleys and bays created by the Coast Ranges.

Existing Emissions Sources

The existing water tank site generates emissions from routine maintenance vehicle trips to and from the site, from the use of landscaping equipment to maintain the site, and the use of consumer products (e.g., cleaning supplies). These existing emissions contribute to local and regional air quality conditions.

Sensitive Receptors

A sensitive receptor is defined by the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) as a facility or land use that include members of the population that are particularly sensitive to the effects of air pollution, such as children, seniors, or people will illnesses (BAAQMD 2023b, Appendix F) These typically include residences, hospitals, and schools. Sensitive air quality receptors within 1,000 feet of the project site include:

- Single-family residential receptors north and east of the site along Cunningham Way and Hawthorne Avenue. The closest of these receptors area approximately 80 feet from the project site.
- Student receptors at Parkside Middle School, approximately 630 feet east of the project site.
- Receptors at the San Bruno Senior Center, approximately 980 feet southeast of the site.

Regulatory Setting

State Regulations

CARB In-Use Off-Road Diesel Vehicle Regulation

CARB's In-Use Off-Road Diesel Equipment regulation is intended to reduce emissions of NOx and PM from off-road diesel vehicles, including construction equipment, operating within California. The regulation imposes limits on idling; requires reporting equipment and engine information and labeling all vehicles reported; restricts adding older vehicles to fleets; and requires fleets to reduce their emissions by retiring, replacing, or repowering older engines or installing exhaust retrofits for PM. The requirements and compliance dates of the off-road regulation vary by fleet size, and large fleets (fleets with more than 5,000 horsepower) must meet average targets or comply with Best Available Control Technology requirements beginning in 2014. CARB has off-road anti-idling regulations affecting self-propelled diesel-fueled vehicles 25 horsepower and up. The off-road anti-idling regulations limit idling on applicable equipment to no more than five minutes, unless exempted due to safety, operation, or maintenance requirements. In 2022, CARB approved amendments requiring the use of renewable diesel fuel starting January 1, 2024. Fleets comprised of Tier 4 final or zero emission equipment are exempt from this requirement.

CARB On-Road Heavy-Duty Diesel Vehicle (In-Use) Regulation

CARB's On-Road Heavy-Duty Diesel Vehicles (In-Use) regulation (also known as the Truck and Bus Regulation) is intended to reduce emission of NOX, P.M., and other criteria pollutants generated from existing on-road diesel vehicles operating in California. The regulation applies to nearly all diesel-fueled trucks and buses with a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) greater than 14,000 pounds that are privately or federally owned, and for privately and publicly owned school buses. Heavier trucks and buses with a GVWR greater than 26,000 pounds must comply with a schedule by engine model year or owners can report to show compliance with more flexible options. Fleets complying with the heavier trucks and buses schedule must install the best available P.M. filter on 1996 model year and newer engines, and replace the vehicle eight years later. Trucks with 1995 model year and older engines had to be replaced starting in 2015. Replacements with a 2010 model year or newer engine meet the final requirements, but owners can also replace the equipment with used trucks that have a future compliance date (as specified in regulation). By 2023, all trucks and buses must have at least 2010 model year engines with few exceptions.

Regional Regulations

Bay Area Air Quality Management District

The BAAQMD is the agency primarily responsible for maintaining air quality and regulating emissions of criteria and toxic air pollutants within the SFBAAB. The BAAQMD carries out this responsibility by preparing, adopting, and implementing plans, regulations, and rules that are designed to achieve attainment of state and national air quality standards. The BAAQMD is the agency primarily responsible for maintaining air quality and regulating emissions of criteria and toxic air pollutants within the SFBAAB. The BAAQMD carries out this responsibility by preparing, adopting, and implementing plans, regulations, and rules that are designed to

achieve attainment of state and national air quality standards. The BAAQMD currently has 14 regulations containing more than 100 rules that control and limit emissions from sources of pollutants. Table 3.3-1 summarizes the major BAAQMD rules and regulations that may apply to the proposed project.

Table 3.3-1: Potentially Applicable BAAQMD Rules and Regulations

Regulation	Rule	Description
1 – General Provisions and Definitions	1 – General Provisions and Definitions	301 – Public Nuisance: Establishes that no person shall discharge quantities of air contaminants or other materials which cause injury, detriment, nuisance or annoyance to any considerable number or person or the public; or which endangers the comfort, repose, health, or safety of any such person or the public.
6 – Particulate Matter	1 – General Requirements	Limits visible particulate matter emissions.
6 – Particulate Matter	6 – Prohibition of Trackout	Limits the quantity of particulate matter through control of trackout of solid materials on paved public roads from construction sites that are greater than one acre in size.
8 – Organic Compounds	3 – Architectural Coatings	Sets forth VOC limitations and requirements for architectural coatings. Traffic marking coatings are required to meet a standard of 100 g/L.

Source: BAAQMD, 2023b

On April 29, 2017, the BAAQMD adopted its Spare the Air-Cool the Climate 2017 Clean Air Plan (Clean Air Plan). The 2017 Clean Air Plan updates the most recent Bay Area ozone plan, the 2010 Clean Air Plan, in fulfillment of state ozone planning requirements. The Plan focuses on the three following goals:

- Attain all state and national air quality standards.
- Eliminate disparities among Bay Area communities in cancer health risk from toxic air contaminants; and
- Reduce Bay Area GHG emissions to 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030, and 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050.

The plan includes 85 distinct control measures to help the region reduce air pollutants and has a long-term strategic vision which forecasts what a clean air Bay Area will look like in the year 2050. The control measures aggressively target the largest source of GHG, ozone pollutants, and particulate matter emissions – transportation. The 2017 Clean Air Plan includes more incentives for electric vehicle infrastructure, off-road electrification projects such as Caltrain and shore power at ports, and reducing emissions from trucks, school buses, marine vessels, locomotives, and off-road equipment (BAAQMD 2017).

Local Regulations

City of San Bruno General Plan

Chapter 6, Environmental Resources and Conservation, of the San Bruno General Plan includes the following goals and policies to address air quality that may be applicable to the proposed project (City of San Bruno, 2009):

- *ERC-26:* Require dust abatement actions for all new construction and redevelopment projects.

- *ERC-34:* Require that adequate buffer distances be provided between odor sources and sensitive receptors, such as schools, hospitals, and community centers.

Discussion

Would the project:

a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?

No Impact. The proposed project would not conflict with nor obstruct implementation of the BAAQMD 2017 Clean Air Plan. The 2017 Clean Air Plan includes increases in regional construction, area, mobile, and stationary source activities, and operations in its emission inventories and plans for achieving attainment of air quality standards. Chapter 5 of the 2017 Clean Air Plan contains the BAAQMD's strategy for achieving the plan's climate and air quality goals. The proposed project would not result in a change in land use, population, or vehicle miles traveled. The 2017 Clean Air Plan's focus on long-term air quality improvement would account for the proposed project's short-term construction emissions. Thus, the proposed project would not conflict with the 2017 Clean Air 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?

Less Than Significant Impact. The proposed project involves the demolition of an existing steel water tank and the construction of a new concrete water tank. These activities would generate off-road equipment exhaust, motor vehicle exhaust, and fugitive dust emissions. Construction activities would include site preparation, demolition of the existing tank, excavation/shoring, new tank construction, yard piping and drainage, vault instillation, finishing, and landscaping phases. The project's potential construction emissions were estimated using

the California Emissions Estimator Model (CalEEMod), Version 2022.1. The modeling is based on default CalEEmod assumptions, with the following project-specific modifications:

- **Construction Equipment:** CalEEMod default assumptions for construction equipment were modified to reflect project-specific construction activities, phasing, and timelines.
- **Material Removal and Import Activities:** Approximately 32,798 square feet of debris off-haul was added to the model to account for demolition of the existing water tank, as provided by the City. Approximately 3,760 cubic yards of material import was added to the model to account for import of aggregate base rock, shotcrete, earthwork for retaining wall, and backfill, as provided by the City.
- **Fugitive Dust Control Measures:** Fugitive dust control measures contained in the Project Specifications (see Table 2.4-1) were incorporated in the construction emissions modeling.

The project's estimated construction criteria air pollutant emissions are presented in Table 3.3-2. Refer to Appendix A for detailed CalEEMod assumptions and output files.

Table 3.3-2: Estimated Unmitigated Project Construction Criteria Air Pollutant Emissions

Year[(A)]	Pollutant Emissions (Tons Per Year)						
	ROG	NO_x	CO	$P.M._{10}$		$P.M._{2.5}$	
				Dust	Exhaust	Dust	Exhaust
2024	0.3	3.2	2.7	0.1	0.1	<0.1	0.1
2025	0.1	0.5	0.5	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1
Year[(A)]	**Pollutant Emissions (Average Pounds per Day)[(B)]**						
	ROG	**NO_x**	**CO**	**$P.M._{10}$**		**$P.M._{2.5}$**	
				Dust	**Exhaust**	**Dust**	**Exhaust**
2024	1.8	17.7	14.8	0.4	0.7	0.1	0.7
2025	0.3	2.6	0.5	0.1	0.1	<0.1	0.1
BAAQMD CEQA Threshold	**54**	**54**	**--**	**BMPs**	**82**	**BMPs**	**82**
Potentially Significant Impact?	**No**	**No**	**No**	**No**	**No**	**No**	**No**

Source: BAAQMD 2023b, MIG 2023. See Appendix A.

(A) Emissions estimates assume construction begins in January 2024.

As shown in Table 3.3-2 unmitigated construction emissions associated with the proposed project would be below all BAAQMD significance thresholds for criteria air pollutant emissions. For all projects, the BAAQMD recommends implementation of nine "Basic Best Management Practices for Construction-Related Fugitive Dust Emissions" to reduce construction fugitive dust emissions levels; these basic measures are also used to meet the BAAQMD's best management practices (BMPs) threshold of significance for construction fugitive dust emissions (i.e., the implementation of all basic construction measures renders fugitive dust impacts a less than significant impact). The BAAQMD's recommended fugitive dust BMPs are as follows (BAAQMD 2023b, Table 5-2):

- B-1: All exposed surfaces (e.g., parking areas, staging areas, soil piles, graded areas, and unpaved access roads) shall be watered two times per day.

- B-2: All haul trucks transporting soil, sand, or other loose material off-site shall be covered.

- B-3: All visible mud or dirt trackout onto adjacent public roads shall be removed using wet power vacuum street sweepers at least once per day. The use of dry power sweeping is prohibited.

- B-4: All vehicle speeds on unpaved roads shall be limited to 15 mph.

- B-5: All roadways, driveways, and sidewalks to be paved shall be completed as soon as possible. Building pads shall be laid as soon as possible after grading unless seeding or soil binders are used.

- B-6: All excavation, grading, and/or demolition activities shall be suspended when average wind speeds exceed 20 mph.

- B-7: All trucks and equipment, including their tires, shall be washed off prior to leaving the site.

- B-8: Unpaved roads providing access to sites located 100 feet or further from a paved road shall be treated with a 6- to 12-inch layer of compacted layer of wood chips, mulch, or gravel.

- B-9: Publicly visible signs shall be posted with the telephone number and name of the person to contact at the lead agency regarding dust complaints. This person shall respond and take corrective action within 48 hours. The Air District's General Air Pollution Complaints number shall also be visible to ensure compliance with applicable regulations.

As mentioned in Section 2.4, the proposed project would incorporate Project Specifications, including Section 01 74 00 Cleaning which states the contractor shall perform cleaning to ensure any streets, other City and public properties are maintained free from accumulation of dust, wet down surfaces to lay dust and prevent the blowing of dust to nearby residences or public properties, and vacuum broom surfaces. Additionally, it requires all dust, mud, spoils and construction debris to be removed daily from roadways, ditches, shoulders, and private property. Thus, the City's dust control requirements are commensurate with the BAAQMD's guidelines. The proposed project's potential construction emissions, therefore, would be less than significant.

Once constructed, the proposed project would not change the overall operation of the water tank site and, therefore, would not increase operations-related emissions (i.e., the project would not change vehicle trips, landscaping operations, etc.). For this reason, operational emissions were not estimated for the project. This impact would be less than significant.

<u>Cumulative Impact Discussion</u>

The SFBAAB is an area of non-attainment for national and state ozone, state PM_{10}, and national and state $PM_{2.5}$ air quality standards (BAAQMD 2023a Table 5-1). As shown in Table 3.3-2, the BAAQMD has established project-level thresholds of significance for criteria air pollutants. The BAAQMD's project-level thresholds are also the levels at which the BAAQMD has determined that a project's individual contribution to the cumulative impact of non-attainment is cumulatively considerable (BAAQMD 2023a). As discussed under impact discussions a) and b) above, the proposed project does not conflict with the BAAQMD's *2017 Clean Air Plan* and would not result in construction or operational emissions that exceed BAAQMD thresholds of significance. As such, the proposed project would not result in a cumulatively considerable contribution to regional air quality impacts.

c) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?

Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated. The proposed project's construction activities would emit TACs that have the potential to disperse and result in adverse health risks at sensitive receptor locations near the project site. Construction emissions would have the potential to expose sensitive receptors to DPM, a TAC; therefore, a construction health risk assessment (HRA) was prepared for the proposed project. The analysis below identifies health risk estimates and discusses health risk considerations with regard to the activities proposed by the project. See Appendix B Health Risk Assessment for details on the parameters used in the air dispersion modeling and methodology employed for estimating potential health risks.

Once operational, the project would generate similar emissions as those associated with the existing water tank since the proposed project would not change operations and operation of the water tank does not involve substantial level of TAC emissions. Since the proposed project would not change operations, it would not result in a significant operations related air quality impact.

Construction Health Risk Assessment (HRA)

The predicted locations of the annual, unmitigated point of maximum impact (PMI) and the maximum exposed individual receptor (MEIR) for DPM exposure are shown in Figure 3.3-1. The predicted PMI is located immediately west of the project site. Since the PMI for DPM exposure is located on land that is not occupied by a receptor on a permanent basis, lifetime excess cancer risks and chronic non-cancer health hazards, which are based on exposure to annual average pollutant concentrations, were not estimated for the modeled PMI. Accordingly, health risks were assessed at the modeled MEIR location. For both years of construction, the MEIR for DPM exposure is located at the single-family residence at 415 Cunningham Way. The HRA evaluated worst-case carcinogenic and non-carcinogenic risks to child (3rd trimester, 0-2 years, and 2-16 years) and adult (16-30 years and 30-70 years) receptors. Table 3.3-3 shows the excess health risks associated with unmitigated construction of the proposed project.

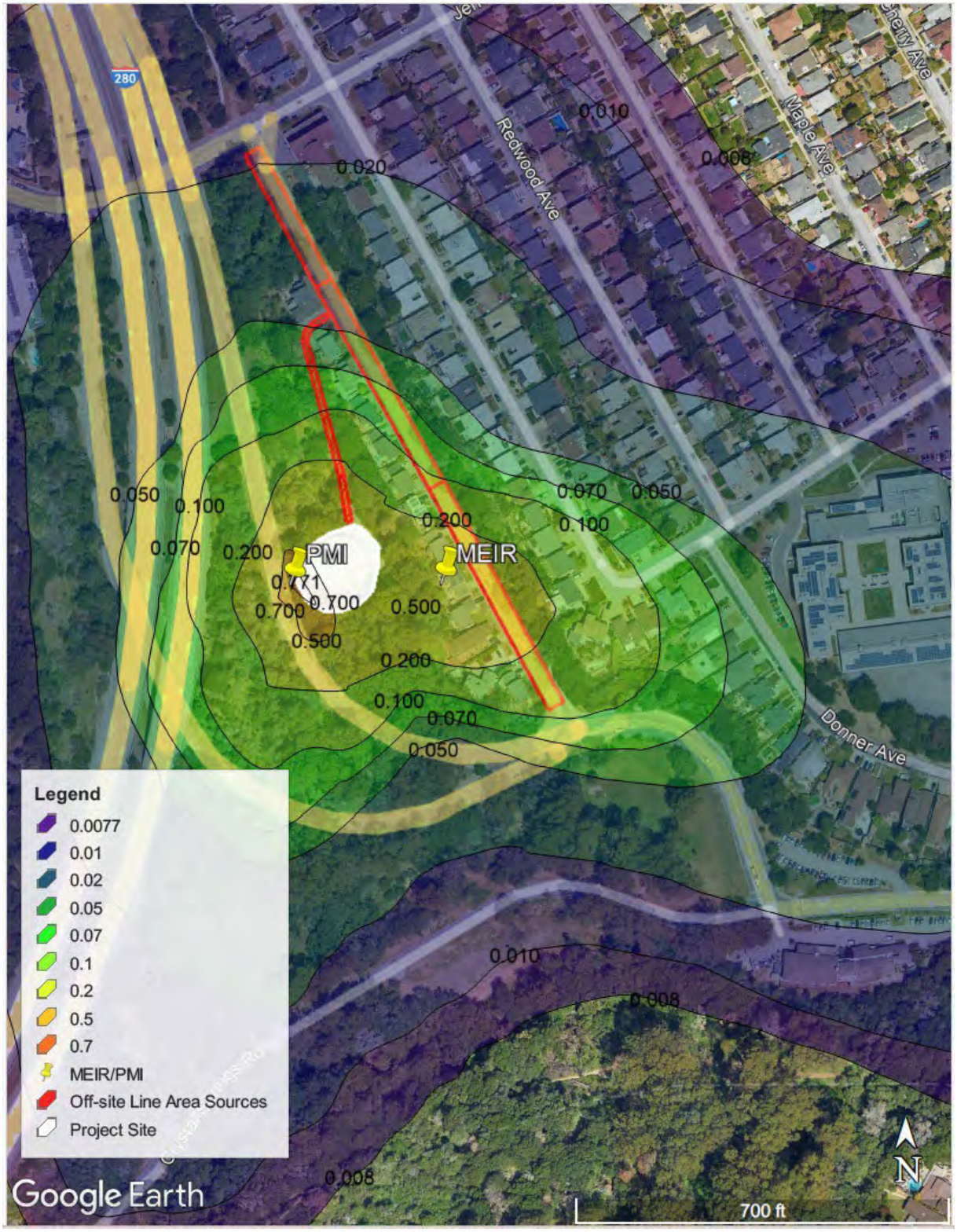
Table 3.3-3: Unmitigated Project Construction DPM Excess Cancer Risk	
Receptor Age Range[(A)]	**Health Risk Increase at MEIR[(B)] (Excess Cancer Risk per Million Population)**

Residential Child Receptor (3rd Trimester)	67.1
Residential Child Receptor (0-2 Years of Age)	78.6
Residential Child Receptor (2 -16 Years of Age)	12.4
Residential Adult Receptor (16 to 30 Years of Age)	1.9
Residential Adult Receptor (30 to 70 Years of Age)	1.7
BAAQMD Significance Threshold	10
Threshold Exceeded?	**Yes**

Source: MIG, 2024 (see Appendix B)

(A) Excess cancer risk estimate assumes the receptor is in the infant stage at the beginning of exposure and proceeds to child and adult stages over time.
(B) MEIR is located at 550982.91 m E and 4163319.30 m N

Figure 3.3-1: Construction Health Risk Assessment – Year 1 Unmitigated DPM Concentrations (µg/m^3)



As shown in Table 3.3-3, excess cancer risk associated with unmitigated construction of the proposed project may exceed the BAAQMD-recommended significance threshold value of 10 excess cancers per million population, in particular for child receptors less than 16 years of age. To reduce potential $PM_{2.5}$ (and DPM) emissions generated by project construction activities, Mitigation Measure AQ-1 would be incorporated into the project (presented below).

Table 3.3-4 shows the proposed project's excess health risks with implementation of mitigation measure AQ-1.

Table 3.3-4: Mitigated Project Construction DPM Excess Cancer Risk

Receptor Age Range(A)	**Health Risk Increase at MEIR(B) (Excess Cancer Risk per Million Population)**
Residential Child Receptor (3rd Trimester)	6.3
Residential Child Receptor (0-2 Years of Age)	7.4
Residential Child Receptor (2 -16 Years of Age)	1.2
Residential Adult Receptor (16 to 30 Years of Age)	0.2
Residential Adult Receptor (30 to 70 Years of Age)	0.2
BAAQMD Significance Threshold	10
Threshold Exceeded?	**No**

Source: MIG, 2024 (see Appendix B)

(A) Excess cancer risk estimate assumes the receptor is in the infant stage at the beginning of exposure and proceeds to child and adult stages over time.

(B) MEIR is located at 550982.91 m E and 4163319.30 m N

As shown in Table 3.3-4, the calculated risks at the MEIR remain greatest for infant receptors that are in their 3rd trimester and young children up to 2 years of age when construction activities are initiated; however, with the implementation of mitigation measure AQ-1, the calculated excess individual cancer risk for each age group would not exceed the BAAQMD's recommended significance threshold of 10 excess cancers per million population. With mitigation, the project would not result in significant carcinogenic health risks at sensitive receptor locations.

> **Impact AQ-1:** Project construction could result in significant health risks from diesel particular emissions from construction equipment.
>
> **Mitigation Measure AQ-1:** To reduce potential short-term adverse health risks associated with $PM_{2.5}$ exhaust emissions, including emissions of DPM generated during project construction activities, the City shall require its designated contractors, contractor's representatives, and/or other appropriate personnel to comply with the following construction equipment restrictions:
>
> - All mobile construction equipment greater than 50 horsepower in size shall meet with U.S. EPA and CARB Tier IV final exhaust emission standards. This may be achieved via the use of equipment with engines that have been certified to meet

U.S. EPA and CARB Tier IV final emissions standards, or through the use of equipment that has been retrofitted with a CARB-verified diesel emission control strategy (e.g., particulate filter) capable of reducing exhaust $PM_{2.5}$ emissions to levels that meet U.S. EPA and CARB Tier IV final emissions standards.

As an alternative to having all mobile construction equipment greater than 50 horsepower meet U.S. EPA and CARB Tier IV final exhaust emission standards, the contractor may prepare and submit a refined construction health risk assessment to the City once additional project-specific construction information is known (e.g., specific construction equipment type, quantity, engine tier, and runtime by phase). The refined health risk assessment shall demonstrate and identify any measures necessary such that the proposed project's incremental carcinogenic health risk at nearby sensitive receptor locations is below the applicable BAAQMD threshold of 10 cancers in a million.

Effectiveness: This measure would reduce potential carcinogenic health risks by approximately 91%.

Implementation: The City shall include this requirement on all appropriate bid, contract, and engineering and site plan (e.g., grading and other improvement plans) documents.

Timing: During construction activities.

Monitoring: The City shall review all appropriate bid, contract, and engineering and site plan documents for inclusion of this requirement and verify the construction equipment used during construction that is greater than 50 horsepower in size meets the Tier IV final emission standards.

Implementation of Mitigation Measure AQ-1 would ensure that the project would not have a significant impact from diesel particulate emission on sensitive populations. **(Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated)**

Non-Carcinogenic Health Hazard from Exposure to DPM

The maximum annual average DPM concentration at any receptor location would be approximately 0.41765 $\mu g/m^3$, which would occur at the MEIR during the first year of unmitigated construction activities. Based on the chronic inhalation reference exposure level for DPM (5 $\mu g/m^3$), the calculated chronic hazard quotient during the maximum exposure to DPM concentration would be approximately 0.08353, which is below the BAAQMD's non-cancer hazard index threshold value of 1.0. The proposed project, therefore, would not result in significant non-carcinogenic health risks to receptors from DPM exposure.

d) Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people?

Less Than Significant Impact. The proposed project could generate odors from the following sources and activities:

- Evaporation of gasoline, oil, and other fluids that can escape from pumps, hoses, and tanks in construction equipment and motor vehicles (e.g., haul trucks, tow trucks, and other vehicles).

- Off-gassing of volatile compounds from asphalt surfaces (e.g., paving of pathways around the water tank).

- Emissions from heavy-duty construction equipment exhaust pipes (e.g., a loader, dozer, scraper, etc.).

Construction of the project would generate typical odors associated with construction activities, such as vehicle exhaust odors. The odors generated by the project would be intermittent and localized in nature and would disperse quickly. During operation, the proposed project is anticipated to emit similar odors as those associated with the existing water tank since land use and operations would remain the same. Therefore, the project would not create emissions or odors that adversely affect a substantial number of people. This impact would be less than significant.

3.4 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	☐	☒	☐	☐
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 Wildlife 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?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Environmental Setting

The project site is bordered by developed, urban land including Jenevain Avenue to the north, single-family houses and Cunningham Way to the east, Cunningham Way and the Cunningham Way entrance and exit ramps to I-280 to the south, and I-280 to the west. Junipero Serra Park is located about 200 feet to the south but is separated from the site by Cunningham Way and Crystal Springs Road. There is also open space about 0.7 mile west of the site in the area surrounding the San Andreas Lake. San Bruno Mountain State and County Park is about three miles to the north of the site, and the San Francisco Bay is approximately 2.2 miles to the east.

However, the project area is generally urban, with roads, buildings, and urban landscaping separating the site from areas of natural habitat.

Two staging area locations are under consideration: the San Bruno Senior Center parking lot, located about 900 feet west of the water tank (Alternative 1); and a green area next to the Senior Center, about 500 feet west of the water tank (Alternative 2).

Existing Vegetation and Landcover Types

There are three landcover types on the project site, including developed, Eucalyptus-Acacia, and coast live oak, described below and shown on Figure 3.4-1 Vegetation Map.

Developed. Within the project site, this area includes the existing water tank, paved area surrounding the water tank, and the paved access road. In addition, the San Bruno Senior Center parking lot (Alternative 1) is a potential staging area. These areas are fully developed and unvegetated.

Eucalyptus- Acacia. The area surrounding the water tank is primarily vegetated with nonnative Australian trees including blue gum eucalyptus (*Eucalyptus globulus*), blackwood acacia (*Acacia melanoxylon*), and silver wattle (*Acacia dealbata*). One native tree species, Monterey pine (*Pinus radiata*) is also present but is not dominant in the overstory. The native toyon (*Heteromeles arbutifolia*) and nonnative French broom (*Genista monspessulana*) are common in the understory. This vegetation type is also present on the perimeter of staging area Alternative 2: green area next to the Senior Center. This vegetation type corresponds mostly closely to the *Eucalyptus* spp.- *Ailanthus altissima- Robinia psuedoacacia* Semi-Natural Alliance (Eucalyptus- tree of heaven- black locust groves) in the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's (CDFW) Vegetation Classification and Mapping Program (VegCAMP). It corresponds most closely to the *Eucalyptus globulus* Association, which is not a sensitive natural community (CDFW, 2023).

Coast Live Oak. Native coast live oaks (*Quercus agrifolia*) and the dominant species along the water tank access road. Himalayan blackberry (*Rubus armeniacus*) and cotoneaster (*Cotoneaster* sp.) are present in the understory. This vegetation type corresponds mostly closely to the *Quercus agrifolia* Alliance (coast live oak woodland and forest) in VegCAMP. It corresponds most closely to the *Quercus agrifolia* Association, which is not a sensitive natural community (CDFW, 2023).

Annual Nonnative Grassland. The central part of staging area Alternative 2: green area next to the Senior Center is vegetated with nonnative annual grassland. This site was not reviewed during the site visit, but likely is dominated by nonnative annual grasses such as bromes (*Bromus* spp.), wild oats (*Avena* species), and foxtails (*Hordeum murinum*). This vegetation type corresponds mostly closely to the *Avena* spp.-*Bromus* spp. Semi-Natural Alliance (wild oats and annual brome grasslands) in VegCAMP. It is unknown which association this area corresponds to, but none of the associations for this alliance are sensitive natural communities (CDFW, 2023).

Source: Esri 2024

0 0.02250.045 0.09 0.135 0.18 Miles

Vegatation Communities

- Annual Non-Native Grassland1
- Coastal Live Oak
- Eucalyptus-Acacia
- Developed
- Project Boundary

Figure 3.4-1 Vegetation Map

Water Tank 1 (Cunningham Tank) Replacement Project

Wildlife

A site visit was conducted for the project by MIG biologist Megan Kalyankar on November 29, 2023. The following bird species were observed at the project site during the site visit: American crow (*Corvus branchyrhynchos*), California scrub-jay (*Apelocoma californica*), chestnut-backed chickadee (*Poecile rufescens*), and an unknown species of gull (flyover). Other wildlife that commonly occurs in urban environments are also likely present in the project area. Some examples may include native species such as the California slender salamander (*Batrachoseps attenuatus*), western fence lizard (*Sceloporus occidentalis*), American robin (*Turdus migratorius*), house finch (*Haemorhous mexicanus*), northern raccoon (*Procyon lotor*), striped skunk (*Mephitis mephitis*); and the non-native species such as house sparrow (*Passer domesticus*), rock pigeon (*Columba livia*), fox squirrel (*Sciurus niger*), Virginia opossum (*Didelphis virginiana*), and brown rat (*Rattus norvegicus*).

Special-Status Species

For the purposes of this document, special-status species include those plant and animals listed, proposed for listing or candidates for listing as threatened or endangered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) or the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) under the Federal Endangered Species Act (FESA); those listed or proposed for listing as rare, threatened or endangered by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA); animals designated as California Fully Protected (CFP) or California Species of Special Concern (CSSC) by the CDFW; and plants listed as California Rare Plant Rank (CRPR) 1A, 1B, 2, 3 and 4 on the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants (Inventory).

The potential occurrence of special-status plant and animal species at the project site was initially evaluated by developing a list of special-status species that are known to or have the potential to occur in the vicinity of the project area based on a six-quad search (U.S. Geological Survey 7.5 minute quadrangle where the project is located and the five surrounding quads on land) search of current database records (e.g., California Natural Diversity Database [CNDDB] and CNPS Electronic Inventory records), and review of the USFWS list of federal endangered and threatened species (using their online tool Information for Planning and Consultation or IPaC). Citizen science databases including eBird (Cornell Lab of Ornithology), iNaturalist, and Calflora were also reviewed for the project area. The potential for occurrence of those species included on the list was then evaluated based on the habitat requirements of each species relative to the habitat conditions documented in the project area. If there are no documented occurrences within five miles of the project area, if there is clearly no suitable habitat present, and/or if the project area is clearly outside of the expected range of the species, these species were eliminated from further consideration and are not discussed further. All remaining species were then evaluated for their potential to occur in or near the project site based on the presence of suitable habitat and nearby occurrences.

Special-status Plants

A total of seventy (70) special-status plant species occur or historically occurred in the project region according to the CNPS Inventory (CNPS, 2023), CNDDB records (CNDDB, 2023), and IPaC (USFWS, 2023). Sixty-seven (67) of these species are not expected to occur on the project site or potential staging areas for at least one of the following reasons: (1) lack of

suitable habitat types; (2) absence of specific microhabitat or edaphic requirements (e.g., serpentine or alkaline soils); and/or (3) the species is presumed extirpated or is not expected to occur in the project vicinity due to range and/or lack of nearby occurrences. The other three species are:

- Franciscan onion, (*Allium peninsulare-var. franciscanum*), CRPR 1B.2;
- bent-flowered fiddleneck (*Amsinckia lunaris*), CRPR 1B.2; and
- western leatherwood (*Dirca occidentalis*), CRPR 1B.2.

These species have a low potential to occur because although there are nearby occurrences and/or the habitat type is potentially suitable, the project site is developed with a water tank, isolated from natural habitat areas, and often disturbed by human activity. The eucalyptus and oak woodland on the site also lacks a well-developed understory, and eucalyptus trees are known to be allelopathic (toxic to understory plants). The vegetated staging area (Alternative 2) is small, surrounded by urban development, dominated by nonnative and/or invasive vegetation, and is considered unlikely to support special-status plant species. Staging area Alternatives 1 and 3 are developed and have no potential to support special-status plants.

Special-status species plants with past occurrences within five miles of the project site are included in a table in Appendix C along with their listing status, range, habitat requirements, life form and blooming period, and potential to occur on the project site; other special-status plants evaluated for potential occurrence in the project area are listed below the table.

Special-status Animals

A total of thirty-eight (38) special-status animal species occur or historically occurred in the project region according to CNDDB records (CNDDB, 2023) and IPaC (USFWS, 2023). Thirty-one (31) special-status animal species are not expected to occur due to a lack of suitable habitat, known nearby occurrences, and/or because the project site is outside of their usual range. The other seven species are:

- Western bumblebee (*Bombus occidentalis*), Candidate for listing as Endangered under CESA (SCE);
- monarch butterfly- California overwintering population (*Danaus plexippus plexippus* pop. 1); Candidate for listing under FESA (FC);
- Merlin (*Falco columbarius*), on the CDFW Watchlist;
- American peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus anatum*) delisted under FESA and CESA;
- Pallid bat (*Antrozous pallidus*), California Species of Special Concern (CSSC);
- Townsend's big-eared bat (*Corynorhinus townsendii*), CSSC; and
- San Francisco dusky-footed woodrat (*Neotoma fuscipes annectens*).

These species have a low potential to occur because although there are nearby occurrences and/or the habitat type is potentially suitable, the project site is developed with a water tank, isolated from natural habitat areas, and often disturbed by human activity. The eucalyptus and oak woodland on the site also lacks a well-developed understory and nectar sources for western bumblebee and monarch butterfly are very limited. There is no nesting habitat for American peregrine falcon on or near the project site, and merlin do not nest in the project region. Pallid bat and Townsend's big-eared bat are very sensitive to human disturbance, and the existing water tank and surrounding eucalyptus trees appeared to lack bat roosting habitat, though no formal assessment was done. No woodrat houses (stick nests) were observed on the project site during the November 2023 site visit. The three staging areas under consideration are also unlikely to support these species for the same reasons described above, although the staging areas were not reviewed on foot during the site visit.

All special-status animal species evaluated for their potential occurrence on the project site are included in Appendix C along with listing status, range, habitat requirements, and potential to occur at or near the project site.

Sensitive Habitats and Jurisdictional Features

Sensitive habitats include critical habitat and essential fish habitat designated by the USFWS or NMFS; aquatic and riparian habitats under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), and/or California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW); and sensitive vegetation communities as defined by CDFW. There is no critical habitat, essential fish habitat, jurisdictional waters or habitat, or CDFW sensitive vegetation communities on or adjacent to the project site or staging areas. El Zanjon Creek and associated riparian habitat is located about 800 feet south of the water tank and about 200 feet south of staging area Alternatives 1 and 2.

Regulatory Setting

Federal Regulations

Endangered Species Act

The Federal Endangered Species Act (FESA) of 1973, as amended, provides the regulatory framework for the protection of plant and animal species (and their associated critical habitats), which are formally listed, proposed for listing, or candidates for listing as endangered or threatened under FESA. FESA has the following four major components: (1) provisions for listing species, (2) requirements for consultation with the United States (U.S.) Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) (3) prohibitions against "taking" (i.e., harassing, harming, hunting, shooting, wounding, killing, trapping, capturing, or collecting, or attempting to engage in any such conduct) of listed species, and (4) provisions for permits that allow incidental "take". Recovery plans and the designation of critical habitat for listed species are defined in FESA.

Under Section 7 of FESA, any federal agency that is authorizing, funding, or carrying out an action that may jeopardize the continued existence of federally listed threatened or endangered species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of critical habitat for these species must consult with the federal agency that oversees the protection of that species, typically the

USFWS and/or NMFS, depending on the species that may be affected. Non-federal agencies and private entities can seek authorization for take of federally listed species under Section 10 of FESA, which requires the preparation of a Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP).

U.S. Migratory Bird Treaty Act

The U.S. Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA; 16 USC §§ 703 et seq., Title 50 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Part 10) states it is "unlawful at any time, by any means or in any manner, to pursue, hunt, take, capture, kill; attempt to take, capture or kill; possess, offer for sale, sell, offer to barter, barter, offer to purchase, purchase, deliver for shipment, ship, export, import, cause to be shipped, exported, or imported, deliver for transportation, transport or cause to be transported, carry or cause to be carried, or receive for shipment, transportation, carriage, or export any migratory bird, any part, nest, or egg of any such bird, or any product, whether or not manufactured, which consists, or is composed in whole or in part, of any such bird or any part, nest or egg thereof…" In short, under MBTA it is illegal to disturb a nest that is in active use, since this could result in killing a bird, destroying a nest, or destroying an egg. The USFWS enforces MBTA. The MBTA does not protect some birds that are non-native or human-introduced or that belong to families that are not covered by any of the conventions implemented by MBTA.

State Regulations

California Environmental Quality Act

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA, Public Resources Code Sections 21000 et. seq.) requires public agencies to review activities which may affect the quality of the environment so that consideration is given to preventing damage to the environment. When a lead agency approves a development project that could affect the environment, it must disclose the potential environmental effects of the project. This is done with an "Initial Study and Negative Declaration" (or Mitigated Negative Declaration) or with an "Environmental Impact Report." Certain classes of projects are exempt from detailed analysis under CEQA if they meet specific criteria and are eligible for a Categorical Exemption.

CEQA Guidelines Section 15380 defines endangered, threatened, and rare species for purposes of CEQA and clarifies that CEQA review extends to other species that are not formally listed under the state or federal Endangered Species acts but that meet specified criteria. The state maintains a list of sensitive, or "special-status," biological resources, including those listed by the state or federal government or the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) as endangered, threatened, rare or of special concern due to declining populations. During CEQA analysis for a proposed project, the California Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDB) is usually consulted. CNDDB relies on information provided by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), USFWS, and CNPS, among others. Under CEQA, the lists kept by these and any other widely recognized organizations are considered when determining the impact of a project.

California Endangered Species Act

The California Endangered Species Act (CESA; Fish and Game Code 2050 et seq.) generally parallels FESA. It establishes the policy of the State to conserve, protect, restore, and enhance threatened or endangered species and their habitats. Section 2080 of the California Fish and Game Code prohibits the take, possession, purchase, sale, and import or export of endangered, threatened, or candidate species, unless otherwise authorized by permit or by the regulations. "Take" is defined in Section 86 of the California Fish and Game Code as to "hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill, or attempt to hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill." This definition differs from the definition of "take" under FESA. CESA is administered by CDFW. CESA allows for take incidental to otherwise lawful projects but mandates that State lead agencies consult with the CDFW to ensure that a project would not jeopardize the continued existence of threatened or endangered species.

Fully Protected Species and Species of Special Concern

The classification of California fully protected (CFP) species was the CDFW's initial effort to identify and provide additional protection to those animals that were rare or faced possible extinction. Lists were created for fish, amphibians and reptiles, birds, and mammals. Most of the species on these lists have subsequently been listed under CESA and/or FESA. The Fish and Game Code sections (§5515 for fish, §5050 for amphibian and reptiles, §3511 for birds, §4700 for mammals) deal with CFP species and state that these species "…may not be taken or possessed at any time and no provision of this code or any other law shall be construed to authorize the issuance of permits or licenses to take any fully protected species" (CDFW Fish and Game Commission 1998). "Take" of these species may be authorized for necessary scientific research. This language makes the CFP designation the strongest and most restrictive regarding the "take" of these species. In 2003, the code sections dealing with CFP species were amended to allow the CDFW to authorize take resulting from recovery activities for state-listed species. In 2023, the code was amended to allow take permits for infrastructure and renewable energy projects and remove American peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus anatum*) and brown pelican (*Pelecanus occidentalis*) from the list of CFP (California Senate Bill 147).

California species of special concern (CSSC) are broadly defined as animals not listed under the FESA or CESA, but which are nonetheless of concern to the CDFW because they are declining at a rate that could result in listing, or historically occurred in low numbers and known threats to their persistence currently exist. This designation is intended to result in special consideration for these animals by the CDFW, land managers, consulting biologists, and others, and is intended to focus attention on the species to help avert the need for costly listing under FESA and CESA and cumbersome recovery efforts that might ultimately be required. This designation also is intended to stimulate collection of additional information on the biology, distribution, and status of poorly known at-risk species, and focus research and management attention on them. Although these species generally have no special legal status, they are given special consideration under CEQA during project review.

California Fish and Game Code

Sections 3503.5 and 3513 Nesting Birds. Nesting birds, including raptors, are protected under California Fish and Game Code Section 3503, which reads, "It is unlawful to take, possess, or needlessly destroy the nest or eggs of any bird, except as otherwise provided by this code or

any regulation made pursuant thereto." In addition, under California Fish and Game Code Section 3503.5, "it is unlawful to take, possess, or destroy any birds in the orders Falconiformes or Strigiformes (birds-of-prey) or to take, possess, or destroy the nest or eggs of any such bird except as otherwise provided by this code or any regulation adopted pursuant thereto." Passerines and non-passerine land birds are further protected under California Fish and Game Code 3513. As such, CDFW typically recommends surveys for nesting birds that could potentially be directly (e.g., actual removal of trees/vegetation) or indirectly (e.g., noise disturbance) impacted by project-related activities. Disturbance during the breeding season could result in the incidental loss of fertile eggs or nestlings, or otherwise lead to nest abandonment. Disturbance that causes nest abandonment and/or loss of reproductive effort is considered "take" by CDFW.

Sections 4150-4155 Non-Game Mammals. Sections 4150-4155 of the California Fish and Game Code protect non-game mammals, including bats. Section 4150 states "A mammal occurring naturally in California that is not a game mammal, fully protected mammal, or fur-bearing mammal is a nongame mammal. A non-game mammal may not be taken or possessed except as provided in this code or in accordance with regulations adopted by the commission." The non-game mammals that may be taken or possessed are primarily those that cause crop or property damage. Bats are classified as non-game mammals and are protected under the California Fish and Game Code, in addition to being protected if they are a listed species (e.g., CSSC, CFP, state or federal threatened, or state or federal endangered).

Local Regulations

City of San Bruno General Plan

The following goals and policies from the Environmental Resources and Conservation Element of the City of San Bruno General Plan (City of San Bruno, 2009) apply to protection of biological resources at the project site:

Guiding Principal ERC-B: Protect the natural environment, including wildlife, from destruction during new construction or redevelopment within San Bruno.

> *Policy ERC-5:* Preserve critical habitat areas and sensitive species within riparian corridors, hillsides, canyon areas, tree canopies, and wetlands that are within the City's control. Protect declining or vulnerable habitat areas from disturbance during design and construction of new development.
>
> *Policy ERC-10:* Require incorporation of native plants into landscape plans for new development as feasible— especially in areas adjacent to natural areas, such as canyons or scenic roadways. Require preservation of mature trees, as feasible, during design and construction.
>
> *Policy ERC-11:* Prohibit the use of any new non-native invasive plant species in any landscaped or natural area. Develop a program for abatement of nonnative invasive species in open space or habitat areas.
>
> *Policy ERC-16:* Conduct presence/absence biological surveys for sensitive plant and animal species in natural areas prior to any construction activities proposed adjacent to

or within identified natural areas. If no special status species are detected during these surveys, then construction-related activities may proceed. If listed special status species are found with the construction zone, then avoid these species and their habitat or consult with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and/or California Department of Fish and Game.

Policy ERC-17: If construction activities, including tree removal activities, are required adjacent to or within natural areas, then avoid activities during March through June unless a bird survey is conducted to determine that the tree is unused during the breeding season by avian species that are protected under California Fish and Game Codes 3503, 3503.5, and 3511.

San Bruno Municipal Code

Chapter 8.25- Heritage Trees. Chapter 8.25 of the San Bruno Municipal Code states that: "It is unlawful for any person to remove, or cause to be removed, any heritage tree from any parcel of property in the city without obtaining a permit to do so." (Section 8.25.030). Heritage trees are defined as:

1. Any native bay (*Umbellularia californica*), buckeye (*Aesculus* species), oak (*Quercus* species), redwood (*Sequoia sempervirens*), or pine (*Pinus radiata*) tree that has a diameter of six inches or more measured at fifty-four inches above natural grade;

2. Any tree or stand of trees designated by resolution of the city council to be of special historical value or of significant community benefit;

3. A stand of trees, the nature of which makes each dependent on the others for survival; or

4. Any other tree with a trunk diameter of ten inches or more, measured at fifty-four inches above natural grade.

It is the City's practice that any trees removed with a valid tree removal permit shall be replaced in accordance with the recommendation of the City Arborist. Replacement recommendations shall be formulated on the basis of location, condition, value, age, and reasons for tree removal. Tree replacement shall be a minimum of either two 24-inch box size trees, or one 36-inch box size tree, for each heritage tree removed. Any tree removal or pruning on city-owned open space or park parcels conforming to best management practices recommended by a certified arborist may be exempted from reforestation requirements by the director of public works or designee (Section 8.25.060).

Discussion

Would the project:

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

Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated. As described in the Environmental Setting above, all special-status species that occur in the project region are not expected to or have a low potential to occur on or near the project site and potential staging areas. Therefore, the proposed project is not expected to impact special-status species. In the unlikely event that special-status birds, special-status bats, or San Francisco dusky-footed woodrats occur at the project site and/or staging area, they would be protected by Mitigation Measures BIO-1 through BIO-3, listed below. Special-status plants and insects (western bumblebee and monarch butterfly) are not expected to be impacted by the project.

Nesting Birds

The project area contains habitat for a variety of common nesting and migratory bird species. All native birds and their nests are protected by the federal MBTA and California Fish and Game Code. Project construction could disturb special-status and common nesting birds in the vicinity of the project alignment due to construction noise and activity. Such disturbance could cause stress-related behavior changes or even nest abandonment. Mitigation Measure BIO-1, listed below, would prevent potential impacts to nesting birds.

Impact BIO-1: Potential Impacts to Nesting Birds. The proposed project could impact nesting birds protected under the federal MBTA and California Fish and Game Code. Birds could nest in the trees, shrubs or structures in or near the project site.

Mitigation Measure BIO-1: Pre-Construction Survey for Nesting Birds. Project construction (including staging) shall occur outside of the bird nesting season if possible (defined as the time between September 1st and January 31st). If construction starts during the bird nesting season between February 1st and August 31st, a qualified biologist shall perform a pre-construction survey to identify active bird nests on or near the site, including staging areas. The pre-construction survey shall take place no more than seven days prior to the start of construction, and if more than seven days pass with no construction activities, another pre-construction survey shall be required. The survey shall include all trees, shrubs, and structures on the site, and all trees, shrubs, and structures within a 250-foot radius of the site, as well as trees and shrubs on and within a 250-foot radius of the selected staging area. If an active, native bird nest is found during the survey, the biologist shall designate a construction-free buffer zone (typically 500 feet for raptors, and 250 feet for other birds) around the nest to remain in place until the young have fledged. The qualified biologist shall be contacted immediately if a bird nest is discovered during project construction. The results of the survey and nest monitoring (if applicable) will be documented, and any nest buffer zones shall be flagged for avoidance prior to the start of construction.

Effectiveness: This measure would minimize and/or avoid impacts to nesting birds to less than significant levels.

Implementation: The City of San Bruno or its contractor.

Timing: Pre-construction phase (within seven days prior to site disturbance) and construction phase (if nest monitoring is required).

Monitoring: The qualified biologist's written report will include all survey and monitoring results, and implementation of any avoidance and minimization measures.

Roosting Bats

The existing water tank and/or trees on the project site could provide habitat for roosting bats. The project must comply with the provisions of the California Fish and Game Code to protect non-game mammals, including bats. Mitigation Measure BIO-2, listed below, would prevent significant impacts to roosting bats.

Impact BIO-2: Potential Impacts to Roosting Bats. The proposed project could impact roosting bats if they are present in the existing water tank or trees to be removed from the project site.

Mitigation Measure BIO-2: Roosting Bat Surveys and Avoidance. Not less than 30 days before the start of construction-related activities (including but not limited to mobilization and staging, clearing, grubbing, tree removal, vegetation removal, fence installation, demolition, and grading), a roosting bat habitat assessment shall be conducted by a qualified biologist. The survey shall include the existing water tank, trees to be removed, and a fifty-foot buffer around the water tank and trees. If staging area Alternative 2 is selected, this area shall also be included in the habitat assessment. If no suitable bat roosting habitat is identified during the survey, then no further action is required.

If suitable bat roosting habitat is identified during the survey, follow-up dusk emergence survey(s) shall be conducted by qualified biologist(s) of the suitable bat roosting habitat. Dusk survey(s) will verify if bats are present and/or will determine the number of bats present, and will also include the use of acoustic equipment to determine species of bats present. If a special-status bat or occupied maternity or colony roost is detected, CDFW shall be consulted to determine appropriate measures, such as the establishment of a no-disturbance buffer. The results of the surveys shall be documented.

Effectiveness: This measure would minimize and/or avoid impacts to roosting bats to less than significant levels

Implementation: The City of San Bruno or its contractor.

Timing: Pre-construction phase (not less than 30 days prior to site disturbance).

Monitoring: The qualified biologist's written report will include all survey results, and implementation of any avoidance and minimization measures.

San Francisco Dusky-footed Woodrat

Although unlikely, it is possible that the project site or Staging Area Alternative 2 contains woodrat houses due to nearby known occurrences and riparian habitat (across Cunningham Way to the north of El Zanjon Creek). If present, staging area activities have the potential to accidentally destroy or disturb woodrat houses. Mitigation Measure BIO-3, listed below, would prevent any impacts to woodrat houses.

> **Impact BIO-3: Potential Impacts to San Francisco Dusky-Footed Woodrats.** If the project site and/or Staging Area Alternative 2 (if selected) contains woodrat houses, the project could accidentally harm or disturb San Francisco dusky-footed woodrats.
>
> **Mitigation Measure BIO-3: Preconstruction Survey and Avoidance of San Francisco Dusky-footed Woodrats.** A qualified biologist shall conduct a preconstruction survey for woodrat houses of the San Francisco dusky-footed woodrat within 30 days before the start of construction activities on the project site and/or Staging Area Alternative 2 (if selected). To the extent feasible, impacts to woodrat nests will be avoided by maintaining a minimum 5-foot buffer between project activities and nests. The results of the survey shall be documented.
>
> If avoidance is not possible, a woodrat relocation plan shall be prepared by the qualified biologist in consultation with CDFW. Relocation generally involves first choosing an alternate location for the house material based on the following criteria: 1) proximity to current nest location; 2) safe buffer distance from planned work; 3) availability of food resources; and 4) availability of cover. An alternate house structure will then be built at the chosen location. Subsequently, during the evening hours (i.e., within 2 hours prior to sunset), a qualified biologist will slowly dismantle the existing woodrat house to allow any woodrats to flee and seek cover. All sticks from the nest will be collected and spread over the alternate structure. However, alternative relocation measures can be employed as advised by a qualified wildlife biologist in consultation with CDFW. Note that relocation must occur during the non-breeding season, generally between late summer and early fall.
>
> **Effectiveness:** This measure would minimize and/or avoid impacts to San Francisco dusky-footed woodrats to less than significant levels
>
> **Implementation:** The City of San Bruno or its contractor.
>
> **Timing:** Pre-construction phase (within 30 days prior to site disturbance).
>
> **Monitoring:** The qualified biologist's written report will include all survey results. A written relocation plan shall be prepared in consultation with CDFW if needed.

Implementation of Mitigation Measure BIO-1, BIO-2, andBIO-3 would ensure that the project would not have significant impacts on special status species. **(Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated)**

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 Wildlife or US Fish and Wildlife Service?

No Impact. There is no riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community on or adjacent to the project site or staging areas. Therefore, the proposed project would not impact riparian habitat or any other sensitive natural community.

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?

No Impact. There are no state or federally protected wetlands or other aquatic habitat on or adjacent to the project site or staging areas (NWI, 2023; verified during site visit). Therefore, the proposed project would not impact wetlands or other aquatic habitat.

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?

No Impact. The project would not interfere with wildlife movement or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors or impede the use of wildlife nursery sites. There are existing barriers to wildlife movement in the project area due to urban development. In addition, the proposed project is the replacement of an existing water tank and would not create any new barriers to wildlife movement. There are no known wildlife nursery sites in the project area, such as a bat maternity colony or heron rookery. Therefore, the proposed project is not expected to impact wildlife movement or nursery sites.

e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance (including the County Heritage and Significant Tree Ordinances)?

Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated. An Arborist Report has been prepared for the project (HMH. 2024), and included in Appendix D. HMH conducted a tree inventory of 44 trees located within the limit of work outlined in Exhibit A of the arborist report. Thirty-nine (39) of the trees inventoried are classified as heritage trees under the City of San Bruno Municipal Code. A total of 36 trees are recommended for removal in the Arborist Report, however, this analysis assumes any of the 44 surveyed trees could be removed as a result of the project. Figure 3.4-2 Existing Trees Surveyed Map shows the estimate extent of project grading and the numbered trees that were surveyed. Table 3.4-1 shows the tree quantity by species list. A summary of the Arborist Report Findings is provided following Figure 3.4-2.

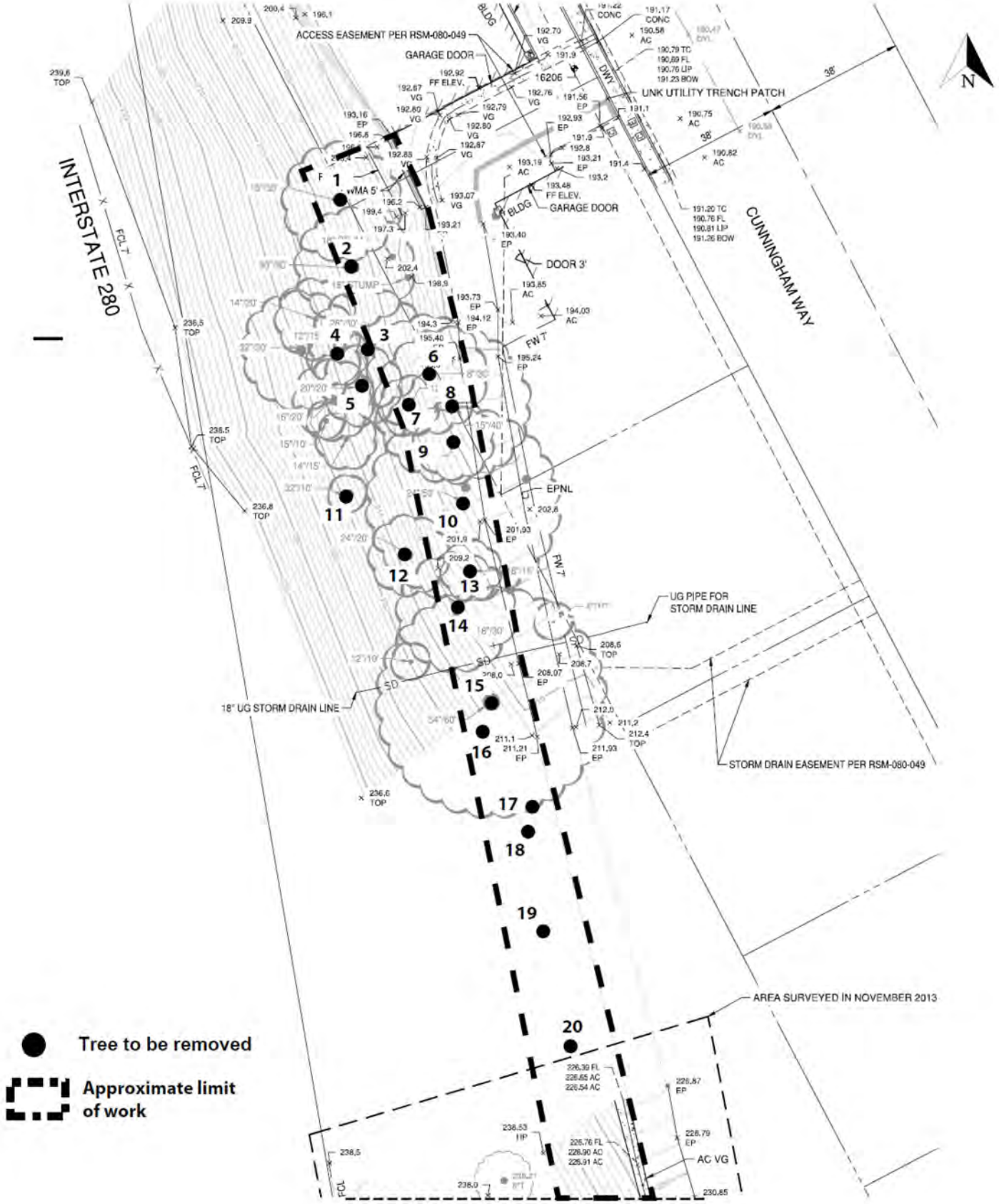


Figure 3.4-2 Draft Tree Removal Map

Water Tank 1 (Cunningham Tank) Replacement Project

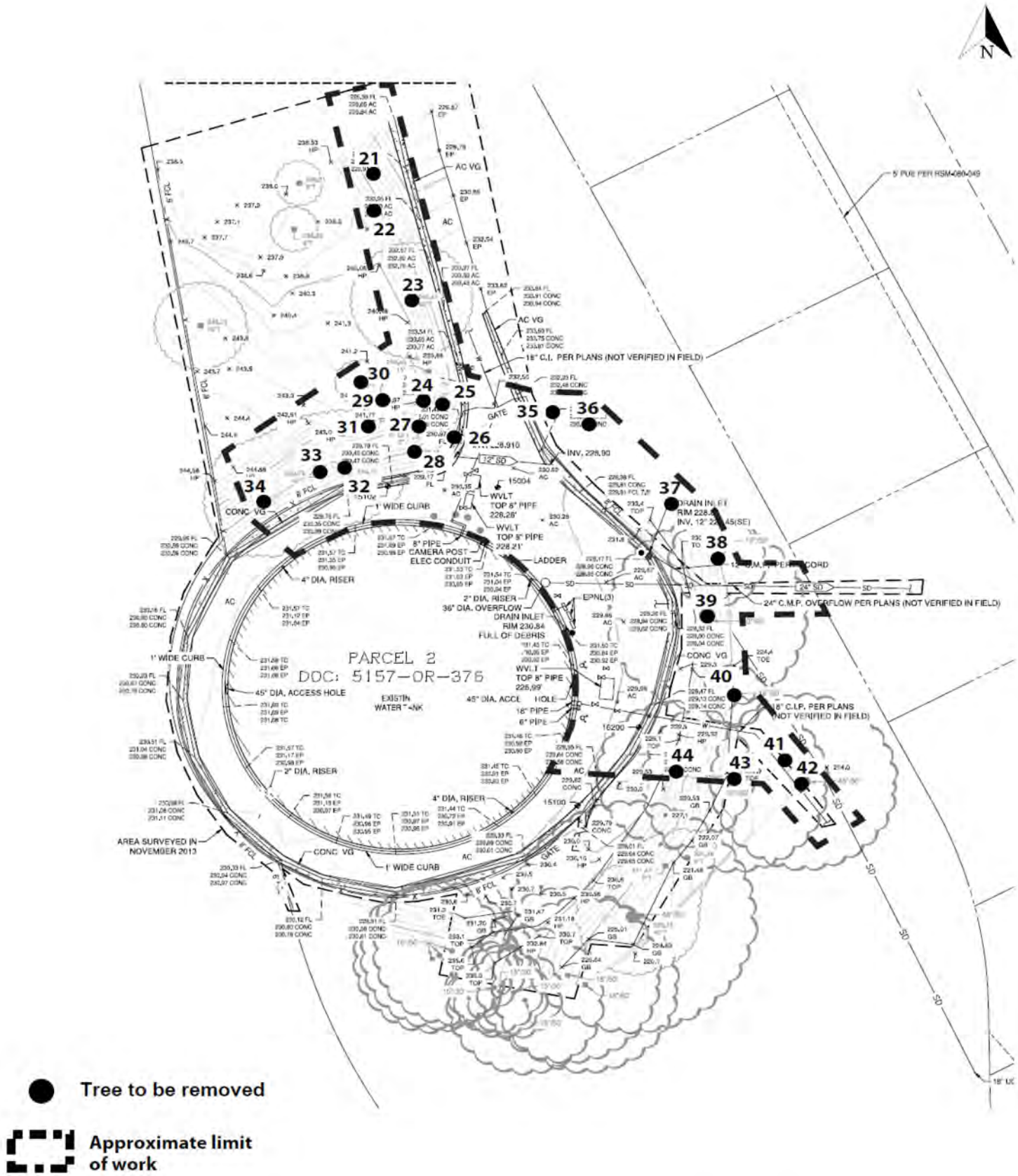


Figure 3.4-2 Draft Tree Removal Map (continued)

Water Tank 1 (Cunningham Tank) Replacement Project

Species: *Acacia dealbata* (Silver Wattle)
Quantity: 4
Tree Numbers: 40 – 41, 43 – 44
Observations / Recommendations: There are four silver wattles that were inventoried. Silver wattles are considered moderately invasive by the California Invasive Plants Council (Cal IPC). They spread underground as well as by seed and resprout easily after being cut. They can also have allelopathic effects which prevent other plants such as native plants from growing beneath them. Tree 40 is a spreading meandering tree that emerges from the ground and has many trunks spreading from it. There is an active beehive in the base of the trunk. Tree 41 is a multi-trunk tree where it is clear there was a central trunk that is now gone. Tree 43 and 44 both have a severe lean. It is generally recommended to remove invasive species. The bees should be relocated prior to removal.

Species: *Acacia melanoxylon* (Blackwood Acacia)
Quantity: 3
Tree Numbers: 26 – 27, 36
Observations / Recommendations: There are three Blackwood acacia that were inventoried. Blackwood acacia is a species that is considered invasive by Cal IPC. They spread via root suckers and seeds. These trees will probably require removal due to development, but it is recommended to remove invasive species regardless.

Species: *Eucalyptus globulus* (Blue Gum)
Quantity: 7
Tree Numbers: 28 – 31, 34, 39, 42
Observations / Recommendations: There are seven blue gum trees that were inventoried. They are all in moderate shape and health and several of them are very large specimens. They are another species that is considered invasive by Cal IPC. They are also considered to raise the risk of fire danger. These trees will probably require removal due to development, but it is recommended to remove invasive species regardless.

Species: *Heteromeles arbutifolia* (Toyon)
Quantity: 1
Tree Numbers: 24
Observations / Recommendations: Toyon is mostly considered a shrub but there was one toyon inventoried that was large enough to be considered a tree. It is in moderate shape and health. It is being crowded by the nearby trees and shrubs, has cracks in the bark and some of the leaves are curling, which is probably the result of a pest.

Species: *Pinus radiata* (Monterey Pine)
Quantity: 12
Tree Numbers: 2 – 5, 10 – 13, 15, 23, 32 – 33
Observations / Recommendations: There are eleven Monterey pine trees in various conditions. Two are very large multi trunk specimens. Tree 2 is in moderate health and shape, but it is on a steep slope above a residential property. If there is any grading beneath the canopy, it is recommended to remove the tree due to risk of failure. Trees 3 – 5 were further away from the project area of disturbance but all three trees are dead and on a steep slope and should be removed due to the potential risk of falling. Trees 10 and 12 are in moderate condition. Tree 10 has crown die back and tree 12 is leaning. Tree 11 is another tree that was further away from the project area of disturbance, but because it is dead and poses a risk of falling, it is recommended for removal. Tree 13 is dead and recommended for removal. Tree 15

is a large specimen but appears to be in decline. There are several dead branches and sap leak. The tree may require removal due to development, but if it is retained, it should be pruned and monitored. Tree 32 is in moderate shape and condition. Tree 33 is dead and should be removed.

Species: *Quercus agrifolia* (Coast Live Oak)
Quantity: 16
Tree Numbers: 1, 6 – 9, 14, 16 – 22, 25, 35, 38
Observations / Recommendations: There are 16 coast live oaks that were inventoried. Most of the trees are in moderate shape and health. Almost all of them are infested by what appears to be leaf galls and have dead spots on the foliage. Generally, all the trees would benefit from structural pruning and removal of dead material. Tree 1 has the most severe leaf gall issues with much of the foliage appearing brown. The tree is leaning and could pose a risk for falling. Due to this risk, this tree should be removed. Trees 6 – 8 are in moderate shape and condition, but may need to be removed due to development. They are crowded by each other, have cracks in the bark and dead branches. Tree 8 has fungus growing beneath it which is a sign of potential root problems. Tree 9 has a dead tree leaning on it which has caused structural problems. This tree should be removed. Tree 14 is in moderate condition but also has fungus at the base. Tree 16 is growing beneath tree 15 and has not developed a proper canopy. Trees 17 & 18 are crowded next to each other and have cracks in the bark. Trees 19 – 22, 25 and 35 are all in moderate shape and health. Tree 38 is on the edge of a steep slope over a residential property. It was too hazardous to get close to the tree to tag or measure it, so the size was estimated. Due to the hazardous location and potential for falling, this tree is recommended for removal.

Species: *unknown* (unknown)
Quantity: 1
Tree Numbers: 37
Observations / Recommendations: Because of the thick brush and steep slope, it was impossible to get close to this tree to identify it, tag it, or measure it. It is dead and is hazardous and should be removed.

Table 3.4-1 Tree Quantity by Species

Species	Quantity	% of Site
Acacia dealbata	4	9%
Acacia melanoxylon	3	7%
Eucalyptus globulus	7	16%
Heteromeles arbutifolia	1	2%
Pinus radiata	12	27%
Quercus agrifolia	16	36%
Unknown	1	2%
Total Trees	**44**	**100%**

The proposed project will remove up to 39 Heritage Trees as defined in the San Bruno Municipal Code Heritage Tree Ordinance (Chapter 8.25), either through construction or because

the HMH Arborist Report recommends their removal due to poor health or hazardous conditions. The City will follow the requirements of the Heritage Tree Ordinance in terms or replanting Heritage Trees removed by the project. It is the City's practice that trees removed with a valid tree removal permit shall be replaced in accordance with the recommendation of the City Arborist. Replacement recommendations shall be formulated on the basis of location, condition, value, age, and reasons for tree removal. Tree replacement shall be a minimum of either two 24-inch box size trees, or one 36-inch box size tree, for each heritage tree removed.

Project construction could damage or injure trees that are not being removed. The arborist report makes recommendations for tree projection for trees not being removed during the different phases of construction, including site preparation, active construction, and excavation and grading. These tree protection measures are incorporated into the project and included in Mitigation Measure BIO-4.

Project construction could require the removal of up to 44 Heritage Trees and could damage or injure remaining trees adjacent to the construction areas. Mitigation Measure BIO-4 would reduce this impact to less than significant levels.

> **Impact BIO-4: Potential Impacts to Heritage Trees.** The proposed project could impact trees protected by the City of San Bruno Heritage Tree Ordinance (Municipal Code Chapter 8.25).
>
> **Mitigation Measure BIO-4: Heritage Tree Protection and Replacement.**
>
> Tree Protection During Construction
>
> The City shall follow the tree protection recommendations in the HMH Arborist Report, dated January 2, 2024 during all phases of construction. The tree protection measures shall be installed and followed at the water tank site and at the Alternative #2 Staging Area if that area is selected for project staging. These tree protection measures will be placed on the construction drawings.
>
> **Site preparation:** All existing trees shall be fenced within or at the drip line (foliar spread) of the tree. Depending on the location of the tree the fencing may not be able to be at the dripline. Examples of this would be public right of way, near property lines or around existing structures to remain. Where complete drip line fencing is not possible, the addition of straw waddles and orange snow fencing wrapping the trunk shall be installed per the tree protection detail. The fence should be a minimum of six feet high, made of galvanized 11-gauge wire mesh with galvanized posts or any material superior in quality. A tree protection zone (TPZ) sign shall be affixed to fencing at appropriate intervals as determined by the arborist on site. See tree protection detail in the HMH Arborist Report for additional information, including tree protection zone sign. If the fence is within the drip line of the trees, the foliar fringe shall be raised to offset the chance of limb damage from active construction.
>
> **Active Construction:** All contractors, subcontractors and other personnel shall be warned that encroachment within the fenced area and dripline is prohibited without the consent of the certified arborist on the job. This includes, but is not limited to, storage of lumber and other materials, disposal of paints, solvents or other noxious materials,

parked cars, grading equipment or other heavy equipment. If construction activity needs to happen in the TPZ the fence can be moved temporarily for delivery of construction materials. The contractor should make accommodations to off load items such as trusses, timber, plasterboard, wallboard, concrete, gypsum board, flooring, roofing or any other heavy construction material outside the foliar spread of the tree so there is no heavy equipment needed that could cause damage to the canopy of the tree or compact the root zone. The tree protection fencing should be reestablished per the plans and details immediately after any activity through the TPZ. Penalties, based on the cost of remedial repairs and the evaluation guide published by the International Society of Arboriculture, shall be assessed for damages to the trees.

Grading/excavating: All grading plans that specify grading within the drip line of any tree, or within the distance from the trunk as outlined in the site preparation section above when said distance is outside the drip line, shall first be reviewed by a certified arborist. Provisions for aeration, drainage, pruning, tunneling beneath roots, root pruning or other necessary actions to protect the trees shall be outlined by an arborist. If trenching is necessary within the area as described above, said trenching shall be undertaken by hand labor and dug directly beneath the trunk of the tree. All roots 2 inches or larger shall be tunneled under and other roots shall be cut smoothly to the trunk side of the trench. The trunk side should be draped immediately with two layers of untreated burlap to a depth of 3 feet from the surface. The burlap shall be soaked nightly and left in place until the trench is back filled to the original level. An arborist shall examine the trench prior to back filling to ascertain the number and size of roots cut, so as to suggest the necessary remedial repairs.

Remedial repairs: An arborist shall have the responsibility of observing all ongoing activities that may affect the trees and prescribing necessary remedial work to ensure the health and stability of the trees. This includes, but is not limited to, all arborist activities brought out in the previous sections. In addition, pruning, as outlined in International Society of Arboriculture Best Management Practices: Pruning and ANSI A300 Part 1 Standard Practices: Pruning, shall be prescribed as necessary. Fertilizing, aeration, irrigation, pest control and other activities shall be prescribed according to the tree needs, local site requirements, and state agricultural pest control laws. All specifications shall be in writing. For pest control operations, consult the local county agricultural commissioner's office for individuals licensed as pest control advisors or pest control operators.

Final inspection: Upon completion of the project, the arborist shall review all work undertaken that may impact the existing trees. Special attention shall be given to cuts and fills, compacting, drainage, pruning and future remedial work. An arborist should submit a final report in writing outlining the ongoing remedial care following the final inspection.

Heritage Tree Removal

The City shall prepare a revegetation plan that follows the requirements of the Heritage Tree Ordinance and replace any Heritage Tree removed by the project with a suitable native species as identified by a certified Arborist. The tree replacement shall be a minimum of either two 24-inch box size trees, or one 36-inch box size tree, for each heritage tree removed. The revegetation plan shall be developed with the intent to maximize the screening benefit of the replanted trees. The City or its contractor shall follow all recommendations in the HMH Arborist Report dated January 18, 2024 arborist's report for proper tree planting and care. Replacement trees shall be monitored for a minimum of ten years to ensure their survival, and replaced if they die.

Effectiveness: This measure would protect trees not being removed and would compensate for impacts to Heritage Trees to less than significant levels.

Implementation: The City of San Bruno or its contractor.

Timing: Prior to, during, and following construction.

Monitoring: The City of San Bruno or its contractor shall monitor compliance with the arborist report. Replacement trees shall be monitored for a minimum of ten years to ensure their survival.

Implementation of Mitigation Measure BIO-4 would ensure the project's compliance with the City's Heritage Tree Ordinance. **(Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated)**

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?

No Impact. There is no adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan that applies to the project site or staging areas. Thus, the proposed project would not conflict with such a plan.

3.5 CULTURAL RESOURCES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
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 dedicated cemeteries?	☐	☒	☐	☐

The following discussion is based on an archaeological resources assessment report prepared by Basin Research Associates (Basin), dated January 2024 [Appendix E, Confidential – held on file at the City].

The Basin report incorporates the findings of a historic map search, prehistoric and historic site record, and literature search, as well as a field inventory. The studies were completed for the Area of Potential Effect (APE) and the two potential offsite construction staging areas. The historic map and historic and prehistoric records search was completed by the California Historical Resources Information System, Northwest Information Center, Sonoma State University, Rohnert Park (CHRIS/NWIC File No. 23-0519 dated 11/16/2023). Basin Research Associates conducted the field inventory of the two construction staging areas. In addition, selected reference material available on the web, the Bancroft Library at the University of California, Berkeley, and BASIN, San Leandro was also consulted. Sources included:

- National Register of Historic Places listings for San Mateo County, California;
- Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) Built Environment Resources Directory for San Mateo County;
- California Historical Resources list with the most recent updates of the National Register of Historic Places; California Historical Landmarks; and, California Points of Historical Interest as well as other evaluations of properties reviewed by the State of California Office of Historic Preservation;
- Archaeological Determinations of Eligibility (California OHP 2023);
- California History Plan (California OHP 1973);
- California Inventory of Historic Resources (California OHP 1976);
- Five Views: An Ethnic Sites Survey for California (California OHP 1988); and,

- Various regional/local reports, general plan related, lists and maps.

The Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) was contacted for a search of the Sacred Lands File (SLF) record search. The results were positive. Letters soliciting additional information were sent to the 11 Native American individuals associated with the six tribal groups recommended by the NAHC.

Responses to the outreach were received from Ms. Desiree Muñoz and Ms. Carla Marie Muñoz of the Costanoan Rumsen Carmel Tribe, who responded via email, January 16, 2024 and recommended Native American monitoring. They also forwarded their response to tribal members Mr. Henry Muñoz and Mr. Samuel Rodriguez for further discussion about the Cunningham Tank Project. No further responses were provided from the Costanoan Rumsen Carmel tribal members. Mr. Andrew Galvan of the Ohlone Indian Tribe, responded via email, January 19, 2024 and recommended: (1) cultural sensitivity training by both a member of the Ohlone community and a qualified archaeologist take place before ground disturbing activities are undertaken; and, (2) the project conditions of approval should include a standard inadvertent discovery clause. Mr. Galvan did not recommend Native American monitoring.

Environmental Setting

The project site is on the San Francisco Peninsula south of San Bruno Mountain with the ecological resources of the eastern San Francisco bayshore in close proximity. El Zanjon Creek, in the vicinity of the project site and now channelized, ran south of Crystal Springs Road. This creek would have provided a year-round source of water and riparian resources. Travel would have been relatively easy along the creek between the marshy bayshore and rugged hills.

The tank site is within the Coastal prairie-scrub mosaic and near the formerly extensive Coastal salt marsh. It is located at an elevation of approximately 255 feet above sea level with geology/soils mapped as Qc, Colma Formation (Pleistocene).

The Area of Potential Effects (APE) for Archaeology includes the area within which an activity may directly or indirectly cause changes in the character or use of historic properties, should any be present within the APE. For the purposes of the IS/MND, the APE includes the project site plus a 0.25-mile radius.

As discussed in Chapter 2, Project Description, the project will require the use off-site staging areas. Two staging area locations are under consideration: the San Bruno Senior Center parking lot and an open area next to the on-/off-ramps to I-280 near Cunningham Way. The potential construction staging areas will have minimal subsurface impacts due to existing pavement or the placement of protective gravel on the existing surface.

<u>Prehistoric</u>

Native American

The project site appears to have been located in a favorable environment for prehistoric use with water and a variety of ecological niches available for resource exploitation in the alluvial plain, foothills and bay margins. The known prehistoric archaeological sites appear to have

been selected for relative accessibility, protection from seasonal flooding, and proximity to a diversified resource base.

Prehistoric site types within the project site include habitation sites ranging from villages to temporary campsites, stone tool and other manufacturing areas, quarries for tool stone procurement, cemeteries usually associated with large villages, isolated burial sites, rock art locations, bedrock mortars or other milling feature sites and trails.

Archaeological information suggests a slow steady increase in the prehistoric population over time with an increasing focus on permanent settlements with large populations in later periods. This change from hunter-collectors to an increased sedentary lifestyle is due both to more efficient resource procurement as well as a focus on staple food exploitation, the increased ability to store food at village locations, and the development of increasing complex social and political systems including long-distance trade networks.

Ethnographic

Ethnographically the area is within the boundaries of the group known as the "Costanoan", derived from the Spanish word Costanos ("coast people" or "coastal dwellers") who occupied the central California coast as far east as the Diablo Range. The descendants of these Native Americans now prefer to be called Ohlone. In 1770, the Ohlone lived in approximately 50 separate and politically autonomous tribelets with each group having one or more permanent villages surrounded by a number of temporary camps. Physiographic features usually defined the territory of each group which generally supported a population of approximately 200 persons with a range of between 50-500 individuals. The camps were used to exploit seasonally available floral and faunal resources.

The project site is within the Ramaytush subdivision of the Costanoan (Ohlone/Costanoan), which included much of present-day San Mateo and San Francisco counties. Based on Spanish mission records and archaeological data, researchers have estimated a population of 1400 for the Ramaytush group in 1770. Research by Milliken (1983, 1995, 1996) indicates that no recorded Native American villages are present near the tank site.

Because of their proximity to Mission San Francisco (Mission Dolores), tribelets in the general project area were probably among the first in the area to be absorbed into the mission system and lose their distinct cultural identity. The Ohlone aboriginal lifeway apparently disappeared by about 1810 due to introduced European diseases, a declining birth rate and the impact of the mission system. The Ohlone were transformed from hunters and gatherers into agricultural laborers who lived at the missions and worked with former neighboring groups such as the Esselen, Yokuts, and Miwok. Later, due to the secularization of the Missions by Mexico in 1834, most of the aboriginal population gradually moved to ranchos to work as manual laborers. Thus, multi-ethnic Indian communities grew up in and around former Ohlone territory, and it was these people who provided the ethnological data between 1878 and 1933 which forms the basis of most descriptions of the ethnographic inhabitants of the San Francisco Bay area.

Historic

Hispanic Period

During the Spanish Period (1769-1810) the philosophy of government was directed at the founding of presidios, missions, and pueblos with the land held by the Crown whereas the later Mexican policy stressed individual ownership of the land. In contrast, the Mexican Period (1822-1846) was noted for granting vast tracts of land to individuals. On the Peninsula, 18 ranchos were granted from mission lands.

Spanish explorers in the late 1760s and 1770s were the first Europeans to transverse the San Francisco Peninsula and interior areas. The first party, that of Gaspar de Portola and Father Juan Crespi, traveled up the coast in search of Monterey Bay having failed to recognize it based on previous descriptions. In the fall of 1769, they first sighted San Francisco Bay from nearby Sweeney Ridge. Sergeant Jose Francisco Ortega scouted the area although his exact route remains uncertain. One of their Expedition Camps several miles southwest of the project area included a camp near a lagoon now covered by San Andreas Lake on November 4 and on their return on November 12th, 1769. The second Hispanic exploration party, that of Fernando Javier Rivera and Father Francisco Palou, reached the San Francisco Peninsula in late 1774. The same route was followed by Hezeta in 1775. In September 1775 Hezeta and Fray Francisco Palou named the creek "San Bruno" on the north slope of the mountain for Hezeta's patron saint "Bruno". In 1776, Colonel Juan Bautista de Anza and Father Pedro Font traveled from Monterey to San Francisco to select settlement sites. On Tuesday, March 26, 1776, Font who accompanied Anza's expedition commented in his diary on the existence of "a good-sized village situated on the banks of the arroyo of San Matheo". A few months after the return of Anza and Font to Monterey, Lieutenant Jose Moraga led a party of 193 colonists up the Peninsula to settle at the Mission (Dolores) and the San Francisco Presidio, also camping on San Mateo Creek en route. The Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail [1776] places their northward route along present-day El Camino Real/Route 82 and their return along Skyline Boulevard.

Within the province of Alta California, four institutions were used to settle the land: the Missions, the Presidios, the Pueblos, and the Ranchos. Of the four, the Missions were the most successful. Starting in 1769, 21 missions were established by the Franciscan priests along the California coast between San Diego and San Francisco. The first task of the missions was to Christianize the natives, but they also became the main force behind the economic development of Spanish California. In contrast to the missions, only three Presidios were established and served as a token line of defense for the missions. Mission San Francisco de Asis (also known as Mission San Francisco Dolores for its location on Arroyo de los Dolores) was formally established on October 9, 1776, the 6th of the 21 missions founded in California. As one of seven missions located within Ohlone territory, Mission San Francisco would have been the mission with the greatest impact on the aboriginal population living in the vicinity. Moreover, the mission provided for all the religious needs of the Peninsula until the American Period. By 1800, almost all of the Native Americans of the Peninsula had been brought into the mission fold, and as a result the mission area became overcrowded.

The process of converting the natives was highly successful at Mission San Francisco and in the 1780s Palou established a rancheria in San Pedro Valley to re-settle the neophytes and provide food for both the Mission and Presidio. This settlement was successful until 1791, when

an epidemic decimated the native population. Soldiers from the presidio were sent out to round up new converts from the East Bay, and soon a new rancheria was established in San Mateo.

In 1793, an adobe was built at the rancheria near San Mateo Creek along El Camino Real, the trail which connected the San Francisco outpost with Monterey. This "Hospice" or Outpost of Mission Dolores also functioned as a waystation from Santa Clara to Mission Dolores. In addition, a 1797 report to the Spanish viceroy noted that San Bruno Mountain was one of six good pastures available to the mission. As a consequence, the area south of the mountain in the 1830s was called Rodeo Viejo, that is, "old roundup corral".

By 1800, 30 mission-trained Native Americans were living in and around the San Mateo Creek adobe. The neophytes raised wheat, corn, and vegetables, and tended herds of sheep and cattle. Soon other outlying herding stations were established on the east side of the Peninsula, each run by a handful of Indian workers living in one or two huts. The San Mateo rancheria was by far the largest of these agricultural outposts, as well as a stopping place for travelers on El Camino.

The project site is within the former ranch lands of Presidio de San Francisco, a cattle ranch and later, Rancho Buri Buri, granted to Jose Antonio Sanchez by Governor Arguello on December 11, 1827, as a temporary grant and by Governor Castro on September 18, 1835 in fee. This grant was patented by his heirs on October 17, 1872 for 14,639.19 acres.

No adobe or palizada structures are known to have existed in or adjacent to the project site. The corral de Buri Buri was near Sneath Lane, specific location unknown, on San Bruno Creek (also known as the Sanjon de Buriburi or Buriburi gulch). In addition, the nearby woods in the hills were known as the montes de BuriBuri.

American Period

Beginning in the mid-19th century, most all of the rancho and pueblo lands were subdivided as a result of population growth, the American takeover, and the confirmation of property titles. The initial population explosion on the Peninsula was associated with the Gold Rush (1848), followed later by the construction of the transcontinental railroad (1869). Still later, European immigration and the development of a prosperous dairy industry had an impact on population growth in the area. Until about World War II, San Mateo County was dominated by a predominantly agricultural or rural land-use pattern. Former ranchos underwent a transformation in concert with the growth of transportation systems, the City of San Francisco, and other towns south of the city in San Mateo County. These major transportation nodes included El Camino Real, former toll roads, and later the San Jose and San Francisco Railroad in 1863 (later Southern Pacific Railroad 1906-1907), the electric service in 1903 and the Bayshore Highway. The San Francisco earthquake and fire of 1906 and post-World War II settlement were responsible for notable growth spurts in the communities along the Peninsula.

San Mateo County was created in 1856 from the southern part of San Francisco County and enlarged by annexing part of Santa Cruz County in 1868. The San Bruno toll road, predecessor of Bayshore Highway, was built along the bayshore east of San Francisco International Airport ca. 1860. This thoroughfare attracted entrepreneurs who combined the services of hotels, restaurants, stores, and resorts along the toll road.

The City of San Bruno is located about two miles south of South San Francisco and about 2.5 miles north of Millbrae. According to one source, San Bruno, the town, owes its name to the creek named by Palou in November or December 1774. Alternatively, the town's namesake was the Mountain which was the named after patron saint of Bruno Hezeta during his 1775 exploration of the study area. By the 1780s "San Bruno" was also the Spanish name for the Indian village of Shiplishkin at San Bruno Lake (near present Villa Avenue and El Camino, Colma).

The City of San Bruno has been referred as "The Crossroads Community", that is where El Camino Real/Route 82, toll road, and railroad cross. In addition, the study area was noted for dairies prior to urbanization. The city grew around Richard Cunningham's San Bruno House [Hotel] (1862) at the railroad crossing and the San Bruno toll road (present-day San Mateo Avenue at Sierra Point). The name "San Bruno" was also used for the San Francisco San Jose Railroad station at former Fourteen Mile House7 in 1863 around which the city developed. The station is/was located about 1.25 miles northeast of the project site, east of El Camino Real/Route 82. Regular service through San Bruno Station began on January 16, 1864. The San Bruno post office was established in September 1875, discontinued, and re-established at various intervals until April 1898. The City of San Bruno grew rapidly as a result of its location at the crossing of El Camino and San Mateo Avenue, the only roads for refugees from the San Francisco Earthquake and fire. The City voted for incorporation in December 1914.

The San Bruno General Plan shows the growth of the city at intervals beginning with 1915 and as of 1939, 1956, 1980, and 2001. The project site was an outlier of the City of San Bruno until the mid-1950s. Interstate 280 (I-280), the Junipero Serra Freeway, the most notable feature in the vicinity of the project site, became part of the Interstate Highway System in September 1955. Crystal Springs Road, located just south of the project site, was built up the canyon about 1860 “apparently by the water company.” And provides access to both I-280 and Cunningham Way via a short connector.

Findings

The Basin report was prepared to identify known and/or potentially significant cultural resources and/or Native American tribal cultural resources listed on or eligible for the California Register of Historic Resources (CRHR) within or immediately adjacent to the project site. The CHRIS/NWIC records review was negative for archaeological and/or built environment sites in or within a 0.25-mile radius of the project site. No cultural resource studies on file include the project site or adjacent areas.

The Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) review of the Sacred Lands File (SLF) was positive. However, no Native American villages, traditional use areas or contemporary use areas or other features of significance have been identified in or adjacent to the project site and associated construction staging areas. The requests for information sent to the 11 Native American individuals representing six tribes did not result in the identification of a specific location within the project site or adjacent areas. The Costanoan Rumsen Carmel Tribe recommended Native American monitoring of construction. However, Mr. Andrew Galvan, Chairperson, The Ohlone Indian Tribe, recommended: (1) cultural sensitivity training by both a member of the Ohlone community and a qualified archaeologist take place before ground disturbing activities are undertaken; and (2) the project conditions of approval should include a

standard inadvertent discovery clause. Mr. Galvan did not recommend Native American monitoring.

No Hispanic era expedition routes or features (dwellings, corrals, roads, etc.) have been identified in or adjacent to the project site. Additionally, no American Period archaeological sites have been reported or identified in or adjacent to the project site.

No listed, known significant and/or potentially significant California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR), National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) or local cultural resources/historic properties, landmarks, points of interest, etc. have been identified in or adjacent to the project site.

The archaeological field review was negative for the tank replacement site. The field review of the two construction staging areas was negative as no native soils could be inspected due to the existing hardscape in two areas and the third area had been modified during past freeway and road construction.

Research conducted for the project site and surrounding area suggests a low potential for subsurface prehistoric and/or historic deposits either within or immediately adjacent to the project APE. Existing impacts within the project site include prior excavation/subsurface disturbance for the construction of the current tank, the construction of the existing access road and the installation and on-going repair of subsurface infrastructure. No unexpected discoveries of significant archaeological resources have been reported for the past 50 years based on archival research.

Regulatory Setting

Federal Regulations

National Historic Preservation Act

Federal protection is legislated by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and the Archaeological Resource Protection Act of 1979. These laws maintain processes for determination of the effects on historical properties eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Section 106 of the NHPA and related regulations (36 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Part 800) constitute the primary federal regulatory framework guiding cultural resources investigations and require consideration of effects on properties that are listed or eligible for listing in the NRHP. Impacts to properties listed in the NRHP must be evaluated under CEQA.

State Regulations

California Environmental Quality Act

Pursuant to CEQA, a historical resource is a resource listed in, or eligible for listing in, the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR). In addition, resources included in a local register of historic resources or identified as significant in a local survey conducted in accordance with state guidelines are also considered historic resources under CEQA, unless a preponderance of the facts demonstrates otherwise. Per CEQA, the fact that a resource is not

listed in or determined eligible for listing in the CRHR or is not included in a local register or survey shall not preclude a Lead Agency from determining that the resource may be a historic resource as defined in California Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 5024.1. CEQA applies to archaeological resources when (1) the archaeological resource satisfies the definition of a historical resource or (2) the archaeological resource satisfies the definition of a "unique archaeological resource." A unique archaeological resource is an archaeological artifact, object, or site that has a high probability of meeting any of the following criteria:

1. The archaeological resource contains information needed to answer important scientific research questions and there is a demonstrable public interest in that information.

2. The archaeological resource has a special and particular quality such as being the oldest of its type or the best available example of its type.

3. The archaeological resource is directly associated with a scientifically recognized important prehistoric or historic event or person.

California Register of Historical Resources

The California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR) is administered by the State Office of Historic Preservation and encourages protection of resources of architectural, historical, archeological, and cultural significance. The CRHR identifies historic resources for state and local planning purposes and affords protections under CEQA. Under Public Resources Code Section 5024.1(c), a resource may be eligible for listing in the CRHR if it meets any of the NRHP criteria.

Historical resources eligible for listing in the CRHR must meet the significance criteria described previously and retain enough of their historic character or appearance to be recognizable as historical resources and to convey the reasons for their significance. A resource that has lost its historic character or appearance may still have sufficient integrity for the CRHR if it maintains the potential to yield significant scientific or historical information or specific data.

The concept of integrity is essential to identifying the important physical characteristics of historical resources and, therefore, in evaluating adverse changes to them. Integrity is defined as "the authenticity of a historical resource's physical identity evidenced by the survival of characteristics that existed during the resource's period of significance." The processes of determining integrity are similar for both the CRHR and NRHP and use the same seven variables or aspects to define integrity that are used to evaluate a resource's eligibility for listing. These seven characteristics include 1) location, 2) design, 3) setting, 4) materials, 5) workmanship, 6) feeling, and 7) association.

California Native American Historical, Cultural, and Sacred Sites Act

The California Native American Historical, Cultural, and Sacred Sites Act applies to both state and private lands. The act requires that upon discovery of human remains, construction or excavation activity must cease and the county coroner be notified.

Public Resources Code Sections 5097 and 5097.98

Section 15064.5 of the CEQA Guidelines specifies procedures to be used in the event of an unexpected discovery of Native American human remains on non-federal land. These procedures are outlined in Public Resources Code Sections 5097 and 5097.98. These codes protect such remains from disturbance, vandalism, and inadvertent destruction, establish procedures to be implemented if Native American skeletal remains are discovered during construction of a project, and establish the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) as the authority to resolve disputes regarding disposition of such remains.

Pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 5097.98, in the event of human remains discovery, no further disturbance is allowed until the county coroner has made the necessary findings regarding the origin and disposition of the remains. If the remains are of a Native American, the county coroner must notify the NAHC. The NAHC then notifies those persons most likely to be related to the Native American remains. The code section also stipulates the procedures that the descendants may follow for treating or disposing of the remains and associated grave goods.

Health and Safety Code, Sections 7050 and 7052

Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 declares that, in the event of the discovery of human remains outside a dedicated cemetery, all ground disturbances must cease, and the county coroner must be notified. Section 7052 establishes a felony penalty for mutilating, disinterring, or otherwise disturbing human remains, except by relatives.

California Penal Code Section 622.5

California Penal Code Section 622.5 provides misdemeanor penalties for injuring or destroying objects of historic or archaeological interest located on public or private lands but specifically excludes the landowner.

Government Code Section 6254(r)

Government Code explicitly authorizes public agencies to withhold information from the public relating to Native American graves, cemeteries, and sacred places maintained by the Native American Heritage Commission.

Government Code Section 6250 et. seq.

Records housed in the Information Centers of the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) are exempt from the California Public Records Act.

Local Regulations

City of San Bruno General Plan

The following policies from Chapter 6 of the San Bruno General Plan relate to protection of historic and cultural resources, and are applicable to the project:

- *ERC-F:* Preserve and enhance historic and cultural resources within the city, particularly within the historic Downtown area.

- *ERC-35:* Develop criteria for designation of local historic or cultural resources. Designation may not be based solely on the age of a resource, but rather special qualities, detailing, people, or events associated with it. Resources may also include special signage and/or landmarks known to city residents.

- *ERC-39:* Continue to protect archaeological sites and ERC-39 resources from damage. Require that areas found to contain significant indigenous artifacts be examined by a qualified archaeologist for recommendations concerning protection and preservation.

- *ERC-45:* If, prior to grading or construction activity, an ERC-45 area is determined to be sensitive for paleontological resources, retain a qualified paleontologist to recommend appropriate actions. Appropriate action may include avoidance, preservation in place, excavation, documentation, and/ or data recovery, and shall always include preparation of a written report documenting the find and describing steps taken to evaluate and protect significant resources.

Discussion

Would the project:

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

No Impact. There are no recorded historical resources located within the APE or the construction staging areas that would be affected by the project.

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

Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated. The CHRIS/NWIC records search conducted for the project site indicated that no known archeological resources have been identified within the APE. As stated, the archaeological field review of the two construction staging areas was negative as no native soils could be inspected due to the existing hardscape in one area and the second area had been modified during past freeway and road construction (Alternative 2). Additionally, no unexpected discoveries of significant archaeological resources have been reported for the past 50 years based on archival research. Therefore, the APE and construction staging areas appear to have a low archaeological sensitivity for unexpected discoveries of prehistoric archaeological resources. Although archaeological discovery is unlikely, in the event that archaeological resources are discovered, implementation of Mitigation

Measure CUL-1a and CUL-1b would bring project related impacts to a less-than-significant level.

Impact CUL-1: Construction of the project could potentially result in disturbance to unknown archaeological resources.

> **Mitigation Measure CUL-1a: Inadvertent Discovery of Archaeological Resources**. The City shall retain a Professional Archaeologist on an “on- call” basis during ground disturbing construction activities to review, identify, and evaluate any potential cultural resources that may be inadvertently exposed during construction. The Professional Archaeologist shall review and evaluate any discoveries to determine if they are historical resource(s) and/or unique archaeological resources under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).
>
> If the Professional Archaeologist determines that any cultural resources exposed during construction constitute a historical resource and/or unique archaeological resource under CEQA, he/she shall notify the City and other appropriate parties of the evaluation and recommend mitigation measures to mitigate to a less-than significant impact in accordance with California Public Resources Code Section 15064.5. Mitigation measures may include avoidance, preservation in-place, recordation, additional archaeological testing and data recovery among other options. The completion of a formal Archaeological Monitoring Plan (A.M.P) and/or Archaeological Treatment Plan (ATP) that may include data recovery may be recommended by the Professional Archaeologist if significant archaeological deposits are exposed during ground disturbing construction. Development and implementation of the A.M.P and ATP and treatment of significant cultural resources will be determined by the City in consultation with any regulatory agencies.
>
> A Monitoring Closure Report shall be filed with the City at the conclusion of ground disturbing construction if archaeological and Native American monitoring of excavation was undertaken.
>
> **Mitigation Measure CUL-1b: Cultural Resources Awareness Training.** Prior to the start of ground disturbing construction activities, the City shall implement a Worker Awareness Training (WAT) program for cultural resources. Training shall be required for all construction personnel participating in ground disturbing construction to alert them to the archaeological sensitivity of the project area and provide protocols to follow in the event of a discovery of archaeological materials. The training shall be provided by a professional archaeologist in association with a member of the Ohlone Native American community. The professional archaeologist shall develop and distribute for job site posting an "ALERT SHEET" summarizing potential archaeological finds that could be exposed and the protocols to be followed as well as points of contact to alert in the event of a discovery. Training shall be scheduled at the discretion of the contractor in consultation with the City.
>
> **Mitigation Measure CUL-1c: Stop Work Order.** The City shall retain a professional archaeologist on an “on-call” basis to review and identify any potential archaeological discoveries during construction. In the event any unanticipated prehistoric or significant historic period cultural materials are exposed during construction grading and/or

excavation, operations should stop within 50 feet of the find and a qualified Professional Archaeologist contacted for identification, evaluation and further recommendations consistent with CEQA and City of San Bruno requirements as required by San Bruno General Plan Chapter 6 Environmental Resources and Conservation Element Guiding Policies for Historical and Cultural Resources (ERC-39).

Effectiveness: These measures would reduce adverse impacts to archaeological resources to less than significant.

Implementation: City designated professional archaeologist

Timing: Construction phase

Monitoring: City of San Bruno.

Implementation of mitigation measures Mitigation Measure CUL-1a, CUL-1b, and CUL-1c would ensure that the project would not have a significant impact on buried archaeological resources.

c) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries?

Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated. As stated, no known archaeological resources have been identified within the APE or the two construction staging areas. Therefore, the project is not anticipated to disturb human remains. However, in the event human remains are inadvertently discovered, the project will implement the following mitigation measures that would reduce potential impacts to a less than significant level.

Impact CUL-2: Project excavation could disturb previously unknown buried archaeological resources and/or human remains.

Mitigation Measure CUL-2a: Construction Plans. The City of San Bruno shall note on any plans that require ground disturbing excavation that there is a potential for exposing buried cultural resources including prehistoric Native American burials. Significant prehistoric cultural resources are defined as human burials, features or other clusterings of finds made, modified, or used by Native American peoples in the past. The prehistoric and protohistoric indicators of prior cultural occupation by Native Americans include artifacts and human bone, as well as soil discoloration, shell, animal bone, sandstone cobbles, ashy areas, and baked or vitrified clays. Prehistoric materials may include:

a. Human bone - either isolated or intact burials.

b. Habitation (occupation or ceremonial structures as interpreted from rock rings/features, distinct ground depressions, differences in compaction (e.g., house floors).

Mitigation Measure CUL-2b: Inadvertent Discovery of Human Remains. In accordance with Section 7050.5, Chapter 1492 of the California Health and Safety Code and Sections 5097.94, 5097.98 and 5097.99 of the Public Resources Code, if potential human remains are found, the lead agency (City of San Bruno) staff and the San Mateo

County Coroner shall be immediately notified of the discovery. The coroner would provide a determination regarding the nature of the remains within 48 hours of notification. No further excavation or disturbance of the identified material, or any area reasonably suspected to overlie additional remains, can occur until a determination has been made. If the County Coroner determines that the remains are, or are believed to be, of Native American ancestry, the coroner would notify the Native American Heritage Commission within 24 hours. In accordance with California Public Resources Code, Section 5097.98, the Native American Heritage Commission must immediately notify those persons it believes to be the Most Likely Descendant from the deceased Native American. Within 48 hours of this notification, the Most Likely Descendant would recommend to the lead agency their preferred treatment of the remains and associated grave goods.

Effectiveness: These measures would reduce adverse impacts to buried archaeological resources and human remains to less than significant.

Implementation: City of San Bruno, County of San Mateo

Timing: Pre-construction and construction phase

Monitoring: City of San Bruno.

Implementation of Mitigation Measures CUL-2a and CUL-2b would ensure that the project would not have a significant impact on buried archaeological resources.

3.6 ENERGY

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Environmental Setting

Energy consumption is closely tied to the issues of air quality and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, as the burning of fossil fuels and natural gas for energy has a negative impact on both, and petroleum and natural gas currently supply most of the energy consumed in California.

In general, California's per capita energy consumption is relatively low, in part due to mild weather that reduces energy demand for heating and cooling, and in part due to the State's proactive energy efficiency programs and standards. According to the California Energy Commission, Californians consumed about 287,826 gigawatt hours (GWh) of electricity and 11,711 million therms of natural gas in 2022 (CEC 2024a and CEC 2024b).

In 2022, total electricity use in San Mateo County was 4,177 million kilowatt hours (kWh), including 2,581 million kWh of consumption for non-residential land uses (CEC 2024a). Natural gas consumption was 204 million therms in 2022, including 90 million therms from non-residential uses (CEC 2024b).

Energy conservation refers to efforts made to reduce energy consumption to preserve resources for the future and reduce pollution. It may involve diversifying energy sources to include renewable energy, such as solar power, wind power, wave power, geothermal power, and tidal power, as well as the adoption of technologies that improve energy efficiency and adoption of green building practices. Energy conservation can be achieved through increases in efficiency in conjunction with decreased energy consumption and/or reduced consumption from conventional energy sources.

Regulatory Setting

Since increased energy efficiency is so closely tied to the State's efforts to reduce GHG emissions and address global climate change, the regulations, policies, and action plans aimed at reducing GHG emissions also promote increased energy efficiency and the transition to renewable energy sources. The U.S. EPA and the State address climate change through numerous pieces of legislation, regulations, planning, policy-making, education, and implementation programs aimed at reducing energy consumption and the production of GHG.

The proposed project would not involve the development of facilities that include energy intensive equipment or operations. While there are numerous regulations that govern GHG emissions reductions through increased energy efficiency, the following regulatory setting description focuses only on regulations that: 1) provide the appropriate context for the proposed project's potential energy usage; and 2) may directly or indirectly govern or influence the amount of energy used to develop and operate the proposed improvements. For example, the project would not result in permanently occupied buildings and thus the State building code requirements pertaining to energy efficiency are not discussed below. See the Environmental and Regulatory Setting discussion in Section 3.8, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, for a description of the key regulations related to global climate change, energy efficiency, and GHG emission reductions.

State Regulations

Senate Bill 350 (Clean Energy and Pollution Reduction Act) and Senate Bill 100

SB 350 was signed into law in September 2015 and establishes tiered increases to the state's Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS). The bill requires 40 percent of the state's energy supply to come from renewable sources by 2024, 45 percent by 2027, and 50 percent by 2030. SB 350 also set a new goal to double the energy efficiency savings in electricity and natural gas through energy efficiency and conservation measures. The state's RPS program was further strengthened by the passage of SB 100 in 2018. SB 100 revised the state's RPS Program to require retail sellers of electricity to serve 50 percent and 60 percent of the total kilowatt-hours sold to retail end-use customers be served by renewable energy sources by 2026 and 2030, respectively, and requires 100 percent of all electricity supplied come from renewable sources by 2045.

Low Carbon Fuel Standard Regulation

CARB initially approved the LCFS regulation in 2009, identifying it as one of the nine discrete early action measures in the 2008 Scoping Plan to reduce California's GHG emissions. The LCFS regulation is designed to encourage the use of cleaner low-carbon transportation fuels in California, encourage the production of those fuels, and therefore, reduce GHG emissions and decrease petroleum dependence in the transportation sector. The LCFS regulation defines a Carbon Intensity, or "CI," reduction target (or standard) for each year, which the rule refers to as the "compliance schedule."

The LCFS regulation initially required a reduction of at least 10 percent in the CI of California's transportation fuels by 2020. CARB approved some amendments to the LCFS in December 2011, which were implemented on January 1, 2013. In September 2015, the Board approved the re-adoption of the LCFS, which became effective on January 1, 2016, to address procedural deficiencies in the way the original regulation was adopted. The 2015 rulemaking included many amendments, updates, and improvements to the program, including a compliance schedule that maintained the 2009 LCFS regulation's target of a 10 percent reduction in average carbon intensity by 2020 from a 2010 baseline. In 2018, the Board approved amendments to the regulation, which included strengthening and smoothing the carbon intensity benchmarks through 2030 in-line with California's 2030 GHG emission reduction target enacted through SB 32, adding new crediting opportunities to promote zero emission vehicle adoption, alternative jet

fuel, carbon capture and sequestration, and advanced technologies to achieve deep decarbonization in the transportation sector (CARB, 2020).

Discussion

Would the project:

a) Result in a 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 consists of the demolition of an existing steel water tank and the construction of a new concrete water tank. Construction activities would require the use of heavy-duty off-road construction equipment and on-road vehicles (e.g., passenger vehicles truck trips for deliveries and hauling) that would combust fuel, primarily diesel and gasoline. The use of this fuel energy would be necessary to construct the project. The proposed project would not change the operation of the new water tank once constructed, result in new operations-related vehicle miles travelled, or result in new natural gas demand at the site. As described in Section 1.1, the new water tank would have a 3.5 million gallon capacity compared to the existing tank's 2.5 million gallon capacity; however, this increase in capacity would not require substantially more pumping for operation of the new water tank and the newer equipment would be more efficient, in terms of energy consumption, than the existing equipment. The project, therefore, would not result in the wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources. This impact would be less than significant.

b) Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?

No Impact. As discussed under response a), the proposed project involves replacement of an existing water tank with a new tank and associated infrastructure. There are no state or local plans for renewable energy or energy efficiency that directly apply to the proposed project. The project, therefore, would not conflict with nor obstruct a state or local plan adopted for the purposes of increasing the amount of renewable energy or energy efficiency. No impact would occur.

3.7 GEOLOGY AND SOILS

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
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? *Note: 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?	☐	☒	☐	☐

Environmental Setting

The following discussion is based on a Geotechnical Report prepared by Brierly Associates (Draft, February 9, 2024) for the tank site and which also incorporates another Geotechnical Data Report prepared for the access driveway by ENGEO dated July 13, 2023. These reports are included in this Initial Study as Appendix F.

Site Geology

The project site is mainly underlain at shallow depths by sandstone and siltstone bedrock of the Colma Formation. A thin layer of undocumented fill or colluvium up to a couple feet overlies the Colma Formation (Brierly 2024). According to the California Geological Survey Seismic Hazard Maps application, the site is located within an identified earthquake induced landslide zone, but not within an earthquake fault zone or liquefaction zone.

Surface Conditions

Site topography slopes downward from I-280 towards the access road serving the existing water tank along Cunningham Way to the east at an approximate 0.5H:1V slope. Low lying vegetation covers the site except in paved areas and the existing tank, and trees and dry brush are present throughout the project site. It appears that the site was originally graded to create the tank pad and access road that likely to mostly reside in cut (excavated) areas. Fill areas are mostly located to the east of the tank pad and access road.

Faults and Seismic Conditions

The project site is not located within an Earthquake Fault Zone as defined by the Alquist-Priolo Special Studies Act of 1972 (CGS, 2023).

The project site is in a seismically active area and could experience strong ground shaking during a significant earthquake. Nearby active faults capable of generating strong seismic ground shaking at the site include the San Andreas, San Gregorio, and Pilarcitos faults; but strong shaking will be considerable with rupture on the San Adreas fault due to its size and proximity to the project site.

The Brierley Geotechnical report noted that several previous geotechnical and geologic reports were reviewed and used to assist preparation of the Brierley Geotechnical Report. These included a Geologic Assessment of Geologic Conditions (Godwin 2023), Fault Study by Cornerstone Earth Group (January 2014), Cornerstone Earth Group Geotechnical Investigation (April 2014) and ENGO Fault Trench Exploration (October 2014). It should be noted these studies were undertaken when a different design than the one currently proposed was being considered. These previous reports note the potential for fault traces at the project site, however, the Brierley Geotechnical Report (2024) concludes the project site is not crossed by the Serra Fault and does not expect surface fault rupture hazard to be a concern for the project.

Ground Lurching

Ground lurching is the permanent horizontal movement of soils, sediment, or fill located on relatively steep slopes, embankments, or scarps due to earthquake induced strong shaking. Ground lurching is often characterized by downslope movement of slopes, ground cracking, and slope bulging. Although it is possible ground lurching could occur at the site, the risk to proposed improvements is low given the minor amounts and composition of materials prone to ground lurching (fill and colluvium) that are present.

Seismic Slope Instability

The project site is located within an earthquake-induced landslide zone as mapped by California Geological Survey (Brierley 2024). However, Brierley (2024) considered the risk of seismic slope instability at the project site as low based on their review surface and subsurface data and noted that two other previous studies at the site reached similar conclusions.

Groundwater

No static or perched groundwater was observed in subsurface explorations at the site extending to a depths of 27.5 and 30 feet. It is expected that groundwater will be encountered deeper than the depth of the proposed improvements at the site. However, it was noted that groundwater levels may vary seasonally and that perched groundwater may be present following heavy rains.

Expansive Soils

Based on review of geotechnical laboratory data from the Brierley and previous Geotechnical studies performed at the project site, it was determined that the onsite soils and bedrock have a low expansion potential.

Paleontological Resources

The paleontological resources of an area are a function of the types of sedimentary deposits present in the vicinity. “The City is primarily divided into three subareas with distinctive geological characteristics.… the area east of I-280 is underlain by deposits of the Colma Formation, which is Quaternary-aged (about 1 million years old). Although the Colma Formation may include occasional small marine and nonmarine invertebrate fossils, the dynamic formation and resulting structural complexity of the Franciscan Assemblage resulted in the presence of few fossils.” (Dyett & Bhatia 2008).

Regulatory Setting

State Regulations

Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act

The Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act regulates development in California near known active faults due to hazards associated with surface fault ruptures. There are no Alquist-Priolo earthquake fault zones on the project site (CDC 2022).

Seismic Hazard Mapping Act

The Seismic Hazard Mapping Act was passed in 1990 following the Loma Prieta earthquake to reduce threats to public health and safety and to minimize property damage caused by earthquakes. The act directs the U.S. Department of Conservation to identify and map areas prone to the earthquake hazards of liquefaction, earthquake-induced landslides, and amplified ground shaking. The act requires site-specific geotechnical investigations to identify potential seismic hazards and formulate mitigation measures prior to permitting most developments designed for human occupancy within the Zones of Required Investigation.

California Building Code

The 2022 California Building Codes (CBC) cover grading and other geotechnical issues, building specifications, and non-building structures.

California Public Resources Code

Section 5097 of the Public Resources Code specifies the procedures to be followed in the event of the unexpected discovery of historic, archaeological, and paleontological resources, including human remains, historic or prehistoric resources, paleontological resources on nonfederal land. The disposition of Native American burials falls within the jurisdiction of the California Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC). Section 5097.5 of the Code states the following:

> *No person shall knowingly and willfully excavate upon, or remove, destroy, injure or deface any historic or prehistoric ruins, burial grounds, archaeological or vertebrate paleontological site, including fossilized footprints, inscriptions made by human agency, or any other archaeological, paleontological or historical feature, situated on public lands, except with the express permission of the public agency having jurisdiction over such lands. Violation of this section is a misdemeanor.*

Local Regulations

San Bruno General Plan

The following policies from the Health and Safety Element and Environmental Resources and Conservation Element of the City's General Plan relate to geology and seismic resources and are applicable to the project:

- *HS-3:* Require geotechnical investigation of all sites, HS-3 except single-family dwellings, proposed for development in areas where geologic conditions or soil types are subject to landslide risk, slippage, erosion, liquefaction, or expansive soils. (Require submission of geotechnical investigation and demonstration that the project conforms to all recommended mitigation measures prior to City approval.

- *HS-4:* Prevent soil erosion by retaining and replanting HS-4 vegetation, and by siting development to minimize grading and landform alteration.

- *HS-5:* Require preparation of a drainage and erosion HS-5 control plan for land alteration and vegetation removal on sites greater than 10,000 square feet. in size.

- *HS-7:* Development in areas subject to seismic hazards, including ground shaking, liquefaction, and seismically-induced landslides will comply with guidelines set forth in the most recent version of the California Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 117.

- *HS-10:* Recommend a geologic report by a qualified geologist for construction or remodeling of all structures, including single-family dwellings, proposed within 100 feet of a historically active or known active fault. Geologic reports should recommend minimum setbacks, siting and structural safety standards, to reduce potential seismic

hazards. Geologic reports must be filed with the State Geologist by the City within 30 days of receipt.

- *ERC 39:* Continue to protect archaeological sites and resources from damage. Require that areas found to contain significant indigenous artifacts be examined by a qualified archaeologist for recommendations concerning protection and preservation.

- *ERC-45:* If, prior to grading or construction activity, an area is determined to be sensitive for paleontological resources, retain a qualified paleontologist to recommend appropriate actions. Appropriate action may include avoidance, preservation in place, excavation, documentation, and/or data recovery, and shall always include preparation of a written report documenting the find and describing steps taken to evaluate and protect significant resources.

Discussion

Would the project:

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 significant evidence of a known fault?

No Impact. A review of the California Department of Conservation (CDC) Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone Map indicates that the project site is not located on or near an Alquist-Priolo fault zone (CDC 2023a, Brierley 2024). Therefore, there would be no project related impact.

ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?

Less Than Significant Impact. The project is located in the seismically active San Francisco Bay Region. Significant earthquakes have occurred in the San Francisco Bay Area and are believed to be associated with crustal movements along a system of subparallel fault zones that generally trend in a northwesterly direction. The project proposes to replace a structurally deficient water tank with a larger, taller water tank. Strong ground-shaking at the project site will probably occur during the design life of the project as a result of a major earthquake on one of the active faults in the region. However, the project would not create potential for or exacerbate existing conditions related to seismic ground shaking. Desing and construction of the proposed project will adhere to the seismic design parameters and recommendations contained in the Brierley Geotechnical Report (2024). Therefore, this impact is considered less than significant.

iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?

Less Than Significant Impact. Soil liquefaction results from loss of strength during cyclic loading, such as imposed by earthquakes. Soil most susceptible to liquefaction is clean, loose, saturated, uniformly graded, fine-grained sand. The project site is located in a liquefaction zone (CDC 2023b). The risk of regional subsidence of uplift, soil liquefaction, and lateral spreading,

and landslides is considered very low to negligible for the project site based on review of topographic data and the interpreted subsurface conditions (Brierley 2024). Therefore, the project would have a less than significant impact on seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction.

iv) Landslides?

No Impact. Based on the California Geologic Survey Seismic Hazard Maps, the site is located within an earthquake-induced landslide zone. However, as noted above in Response a) iii), the risk of landslides is considered very low to negligible based on review of topographic data and interpreted subsurface conditions (Brierley 2024). Therefore, the impact would be less than significant.

b) Result in significant soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?

Less Than Significant Impact. The entire tank area is paved and will continue to be after the project is implemented. In order to reduce the potential for erosion during project construction, erosion control measures would be implemented as discussed in Section 2.4, Standard Specifications which includes preparation and implementation of a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP). See Section 3.10 Hydrology and Water Quality of this document for a complete discussion regarding erosion.

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?

Less Than Significant Impact. Subsidence is the sinking of the Earth's surface in response to geologic or man-induced causes. Lateral spreading involves the lateral movement of a liquefied soil layer (and overlying layers) toward a free face. Lateral spreading is typically associated with liquefaction of one or more subsurface layers near the bottom of an exposed slope. As noted above, the risk of regional subsidence of uplift, soil liquefaction, and lateral spreading, and landslides is considered very low to negligible for the project site based on review of topographic data and the interpreted subsurface conditions (Brierley 2024). Additionally, the proposed project will not house people for residence or work. Further, the project would be designed and constructed according to site and project specific seismic design requirements for seismic safety, which would allow the propose water tank to resist major earthquakes without collapse. Therefore, the project would have a less than significant impact on landslide potential, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse.

d) Be located on expansive soil, as noted in the 2010 California Building Code, creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property?

Less Than Significant Impact. Expansive soil is a soil/clay that is prone to expansion or shrinkage due directly to variation in water volume. Expansive soils swell when exposed to large amounts of water and shrink when the water evaporates. The geotechnical study determined that onsite soils and bedrock have a Low Expansion Potential per Section 1803.5.3 of the 2022 California Building Code (Brierley 2024). Therefore, the impact is considered less than significant.

e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?

No Impact. No Impact. No wastewater or septic tank systems are proposed as part of the proposed project. Therefore, the project would have no impact on soils supporting the disposal of wastewater.

f) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?

Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation. Due to the geology of the area, there are few fossils or paleontological resources in the City (Dyett & Bhatia 2008). Therefore, the project has a low risk of encountering unique paleontological resources, however the possibility remains that the project could encounter paleontological resources. Mitigation Measure GEO-1 would ensure that if discovered, paleontological resources would be protected. Implementation of Mitigation Measure GEO-1 would reduce potentially significant impacts to a less than significant level.

The project has a low risk of encountering unique paleontological resources as there are few fossils or paleontological resources in the City. However, there is still a possibility that the project could encounter paleontological resources. Mitigation Measure GEO-1 would ensure that if discovered, paleontological resources would be protected. Implementation of Mitigation Measure GEO-1 would reduce potentially significant impacts to a less than significant level.

Impact GEO-1: Project construction could unearth paleontological resources, including fossils.

Mitigation Measure GEO-1: Stop-work provision. If paleontological resources are discovered during construction, ground-disturbing activities shall halt immediately until a qualified paleontologist can assess the significance of the discovery. Depending on determinations made by the paleontologist, work may either be allowed to continue once the discovery has been recorded, or if recommended by the paleontologist, recovery of the resource may be required, in which ground-disturbing activity within the area of the find would be temporarily halted until the resource has been recovered. If treatment and salvage is required, recommendations shall be consistent with Society of Vertebrate Paleontology guidelines and current professional standards. The City of San Bruno shall ensure that information on the nature, location, and depth of all finds is readily available to the scientific community through university curation or other appropriate means.

Effectiveness: This measure would minimize and/or avoid impacts to unknown paleontological resources.

Implementation: The City of San Bruno or its contractor

Timing: Construction phase

Monitoring: The City shall require a report to document and evaluate a potential resource and provide recommendations for treatment of the resource(s).

3.8 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

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

Environmental Setting

Gases that absorb and emit infrared thermal radiation (heat) in the atmosphere and affect regulation of the Earth's temperature are known as greenhouse gases (GHGs). There are many compounds present in the Earth's atmosphere which are GHGs, including but not limited to water vapor (H_2O), carbon dioxide (CO_2), methane (CH_4), and nitrous oxide (N_2O). GHGs allow solar radiation (sunlight) to enter the atmosphere freely. When solar radiation strikes the earth's surface, it is either absorbed by the atmosphere, land, and ocean surface, or reflected back toward space. The land and ocean surface that has absorbed solar radiation warms up and emits infrared radiation toward space. GHGs absorb some of this infrared radiation and "trap" the energy in the earth's atmosphere. Entrapment of too much infrared radiation produces an effect commonly referred to as the "Greenhouse effect." Human activities since the beginning of the Industrial Revolution (approximately 1750) have increased atmospheric GHG concentrations. Average global surface temperatures have risen as a result of GHG emissions. This increase in globally averaged surface temperatures is commonly referred to as "Global Warming," although the term "Global Climate Change" is preferred because effects associated with increased GHG concentrations are not just limited to higher global temperatures (NOAA, 2023).

GHGs that contribute to climate regulation are a different type of pollutant than criteria or hazardous air pollutants because climate regulation is global in scale, both in terms of causes and effects. Some GHGs are emitted to the atmosphere naturally by biological and geological processes such as evaporation (water vapor), aerobic respiration (carbon dioxide), and off-gassing from low oxygen environments such as swamps or exposed permafrost (methane); however, GHG emissions from human activities such as fuel combustion (e.g., carbon dioxide) and refrigerants use (e.g., hydrofluorocarbons) significantly contribute to overall GHG concentrations in the atmosphere, climate regulation, and global climate change.

Human production of GHG has increased steadily since pre-industrial times (approximately pre-1880) and atmospheric carbon dioxide concentrations have increased from a pre-industrial value of 280 parts per million (ppm) in the early 1800's to 422 ppm in December 2023 (NOAA 2024). The effects of increased GHG concentrations in the atmosphere include climate change (increasing temperature and shifts in precipitation patterns and amounts), reduced ice and snow

cover, sea level rise, and acidification of oceans. These effects in turn will impact food and water supplies, infrastructure, ecosystems, and overall public health and welfare.

The 1997 United Nations' Kyoto Protocol international treaty set targets for reductions in emissions of four specific GHGs – carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, and sulfur hexafluoride – and two groups of gases – hydrofluorocarbons and perfluorocarbons. These GHGs are the primary GHGs emitted into the atmosphere by human activities. The six common GHGs are described below.

Carbon Dioxide (CO_2) is released to the atmosphere when fossil fuels (oil, gasoline, diesel, natural gas, and coal), solid waste, and wood or wood products are burned.

Methane (CH_4) is emitted during the production and transport of coal, natural gas, and oil. Methane emissions also result from the decomposition of organic waste in municipal solid waste landfills and the raising of livestock.

Nitrous oxide (N_2O) is emitted during agricultural and industrial activities, as well as during combustion of solid waste and fossil fuels.

Sulfur hexafluoride (SF_6) is commonly used as an electrical insulator in high voltage electrical transmission and distribution equipment such as circuit breakers, substations, and transmission switchgear. Releases of SF_6 occur during maintenance and servicing as well as from leaks of electrical equipment.

Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) and perfluorocarbons (PFCs) are generated in a variety of industrial processes.

GHG emissions from human activities contribute to overall GHG concentrations in the atmosphere and the corresponding effects of global climate change (e.g., rising temperatures, increased severe weather events such as drought and flooding). GHGs can remain in the atmosphere long after they are emitted. The potential for a GHG to absorb and trap heat in the atmosphere is considered its global warming potential (GWP). The reference gas for measuring GWP is CO_2, which has a GWP of one. By comparison, CH4 has a GWP of 25, which means that one molecule of CH_4 has 25 times the effect on global warming as one molecule of CO_2. Multiplying the estimated emissions for non-CO_2 GHGs by their GWP determines their carbon dioxide equivalent (CO_2e), which enables a project's combined global warming potential to be expressed in terms of mass CO_2 emissions. GHG emissions are often discussed in terms of Metric Tons of CO_2e, or $MTCO_2e$.

Regulatory Setting

State Regulations

California Air Resources Board (CARB) is the lead agency for implementing Assembly Bill (AB) 32, the California Global Warming Solutions Act adopted by the Legislature in 2006. AB 32 requires the CARB to prepare a Scoping Plan containing the main strategies that will be used to achieve reductions in GHG emissions in California.

Executive Order B-30-15, 2030 Carbon Target and Adaptation, issued by Governor Brown in April 2015, sets a target of reducing GHG emissions by 40 percent below 1990 levels in 2030. By directing state agencies to take measures consistent with their existing authority to reduce GHG emissions, this order establishes coherence between the 2020 and 2050 GHG reduction goals set by AB 32 and seeks to align California with the scientifically established GHG emissions levels needed to limit global warming below two degrees Celsius.

To reinforce the goals established through Executive Order B-30-15, Governor Brown went on to sign SB 32 and AB 197 on September 8, 2016. Senate Bill 32 made the GHG reduction target to reduce GHG emissions by 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030 a requirement as opposed to a goal. Assembly Bill 197 gives the Legislature additional authority over CARB to ensure the most successful strategies for lowering emissions are implemented, and requires CARB to, "protect the state's most impacted and disadvantaged communities …[and] consider the social costs of the emissions of greenhouse gases."

On September 16, 2022, Governor Newson signed into law AB 1279, the California Climate Crisis Act, and SB 1020, the Clean Energy, Jobs, and Affordability Act of 2022. AB 1279 codified California's 2045 carbon neutrality goal and established a GHG emission reduction target of 85% below 1990 levels. SB 1020 set targets for the retail sale of electricity of 90% clean electricity by 2035 and 95% by 2040, and 100% by 2045. It also set a target for 100% clean electricity for electricity serving state agencies by 2035.

CARB Scoping Plan

On December 14, 2017, CARB adopted the second update to the Scoping Plan, the 2017 Climate Change Scoping Plan Update (2017 Scoping Plan Update; CARB 2017). The primary objective for the 2017 Climate Change Scoping Plan is to identify the measures required to achieve the mid-term GHG reduction target for 2030 (i.e., reduce emissions by 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030) established under EO B-30-15 and SB 32. The 2017 Climate Change Scoping Plan identifies an increased need for coordination among State, regional, and local governments to realize the potential for GHG emissions reductions that can be gained from local land use decisions. The third update to the scoping plan, the 2022 Scoping Plan, was released in May 2022 and adopted by CARB in December 2022 (CARB 2022). The plan presents a scenario for California to meet the State goal of reducing GHG emissions 40% below 1990 levels by 2030 and to achieve carbon neutrality by 2045 (CARB 2022).

Regional Regulations

BAAQMD 2017 Clean Air Plan

As discussed in Section 3.3, Air Quality, the BAAQMD's 2017 Clean Air Plan is a multi-pollutant plan focused on protecting public health and the climate (BAAQMD 2017a). The 2017 Clean Air Plan lays the groundwork for a long-term effort to reduce Bay Area GHG emissions 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030 and 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050, consistent with GHG reduction targets adopted by the state of California. As opposed to focusing solely on the nearer 2030 GHG reduction target, the 2017 Clean Air Plan makes a concerted effort to imagine and

plan for a successful and sustainable Bay Area in the year 2050. In 2050, the Bay Area is envisioned as a region where:

- Energy efficient buildings are heated, cooled, and powered by renewable energy.
- The transportation network has been redeveloped with an emphasis on non-vehicular modes of transportation and mass transit.
- The electricity grid is powered by 100 percent renewable energy; and
- Bay Area residents have adopted lower-carbon intensive lifestyles (e.g., purchasing low-carbon goods in addition to recycling and putting organic waste to productive use).

The 2017 Clean Air Plan includes a comprehensive, multipollutant control strategy that is broken up into 85 distinct measures and categorized based on the same economic sector framework used by CARB for the AB 32 Scoping Plan Update.[2] The accumulation of all 85 control measures being implemented support the three overarching goals of the plan. These goals are:

- Attain all state and national air quality standards.
- Eliminate disparities among Bay Area communities in cancer health risk from toxic air contaminants; and
- Reduce Bay Area GHG Emissions to 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030 and 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050.

Local Regulations

City of San Bruno General Plan

Chapter 8 of the San Bruno General Plan includes policy PFS-70 which may be applicable to the proposed project. Policy PFS-70 aims to facilitate environmentally sensitive construction practices by:

- Promote use of products that are durable and allow efficient end-of-life disposal (e.g. reusable, recyclable, biodegradable);
- Promoting the purchase of locally or regionally available materials; and
- Promoting the use of cost-effective design and construction strategies that reduce resource and environmental impacts.

[2] The sectors included in the AB 32 Scoping Plan Update are: stationary (industrial) sources, transportation, energy, buildings, agriculture, natural and working lands, waste management, water, and super-GHG pollutants.

Discussion

Global climate change is the result of GHG emissions worldwide; individual projects do not generate enough GHG emissions to influence global climate change. Thus, the analysis of GHG emissions is by nature a cumulative analysis focused on whether an individual project's contribution to global climate change is cumulatively considerable.

Would the project:

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

Less Than Significant Impact. Construction activities are anticipated to take approximately 18 months and would generate GHG emissions from equipment fuel combustion as well as worker, vendor, and haul trips to and from the project site. As estimated using CalEEMod, mitigated project construction activities could generate a total of up to approximately 552 $MTCO_2e$. Construction activities would cease to emit GHGs upon completion. Once operational, the project would consume electricity associated with water conveyance and distribution. However, electricity consumption associated with the project would be more efficient than existing operation of the water tank and, therefore, the project is anticipated to generate less GHG emissions than the existing water tank over time. This impact is less than significant.

b) Conflict with an applicable policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?

No Impact. The proposed project would not conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing GHG emissions, including the 2022 Scoping Plan. The policies contained in the 2022 Scoping Plan generally apply to larger projects and uses that result in long-term trip generation and energy consumption (e.g., commercial buildings, residential structures, etc.) and not to a water tank replacement project. No impact would occur.

3.9 HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
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 has not been adopted, within 2 miles of a public airport or public use airport, 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?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Environmental Setting

The project site is an existing potable water tank site. No hazardous materials are stored on site for tank operations, although routine maintenance of the existing water tank requires the use of paints and cleansers that would contain small amounts of hazardous materials. A Lead Survey Report was prepared to assess whether or not lead-based paint is present on the existing tank and or related piping (Forensic Analytical Consulting Services 2018). The report involved the collection and evaluation of 10 samples and seven of the samples were found to contain lead.

Lead is primarily regulated in California by Cal/OSHA and the California Department of Public Health. The current Cal/OSHA Lead in Construction Safety Standard (8 CCR 1532.1) regulation applies to all construction work where an employee may be occupationally exposed to lead. Therefore, work performed on surfaces (including manual demolition, scraping, welding, etc.) containing any amount of lead must comply with the standard, including an exposure

assessment (personal air monitoring) to determine if the airborne lead exposure levels are within acceptable limits.

Since lead was detected in the paint and components on the existing tank, 8 CCR 1532.1 applies to any work that will disturb these components. Other components represented by the positive lead samples in the Summary of Lead Testing Laboratory Results shall be considered to be lead-containing until proven otherwise.

Regulatory Setting

Federal Regulations

United States Environmental Protection Agency

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was created in 1970 to serve as a single source collection of all federal research, monitoring, standard-setting, and enforcement activities to make sure there is appropriate protection of the environment. The EPA's duty is to create and enforce regulations that protect the natural environment and apply the laws passed by Congress. The EPA is also accountable for establishing national criteria for various environmental programs and enforcing compliance.

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act

The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) provides a Federal "Superfund" to clean up uncontrolled or abandoned hazardous waste sites as well as accidents, spills, and other emergency releases of pollutants and contaminants into the environment. Through CERCLA, the EPA was given power to seek out those parties responsible for any release and assure their cooperation in the cleanup.

Resource Conservation and Recovery Act

The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) enacted in 1976 governs the disposal of solid waste and hazardous materials. The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act gives the EPA the power to control the generation, transportation, treatment, storage, and disposal of hazardous substances that cannot be disposed of in ordinary landfills. It also allows for each state to apply their own hazardous waste programs instead of implementing the federal program. on the condition that the state's program. is just as strict in its requirements. This state program. must be permitted by the EPA in order to be used.

State Regulations

California Environmental Protection Agency

The California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA) was established in 1991 and is comprised of: the California Air Resources Board, the State Water Resources Control Board, the Regional Water Quality Control Board, CalRecycle, the Department of Toxic Substances Control, the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, and the Department of Pesticide Regulation. This integrated group amalgamates all of California's environmental authority agencies into one and has led the state of California in developing and applying

numerous progressive environmental policies in America. The primary goal of the Cal/EPA is to restore, protect, and enhance the environment.

San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board

The San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) is one of nine regional water quality control boards that exercise rulemaking and regulatory activities by basins throughout the state. The boards were created by the landmark Porter-Cologne Act. The San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board covers Region 2, which includes Alameda, Contra Costa, San Francisco, Santa Clara (north of Morgan Hill), San Mateo, Marin, Sonoma, Napa, Solano Counties.

The RWQCB oversees cases involving groundwater contamination within the San Francisco Bay Area from Spills, Leaks, Incidents and Clean-up (SLIC) cases. The County of San Mateo's Department of Environmental Health, however, is charged with oversight of most leaking underground storage tank (LUST) cases through its Underground Storage Tank Program. In the incidence of a spill at a project site, the City or the City's contractor would notify the County of San Mateo to determine which agency would be the lead regulator - County, RWQCB or Department of Toxic Substance Control (DTSC).

Cortese List

The provisions in Government Code Section 65962.5 are commonly referred to as the "Cortese List." The Cortese list was authorized by the state legislature in 1985. A list of several types of hazardous materials sites is gathered by several agencies as directed by the statute.

Under Government Code Section 65962.5.(a), the Department of Toxic Substances Control shall compile and update as appropriate, but at least annually, and shall submit to the Secretary for Environmental Protection, a list of the following:

1. All hazardous waste facilities subject to corrective action pursuant to Section 25187.5 of the Health and Safety Code.

2. All land designated as hazardous waste property or border zone property pursuant to Article 11 (commencing with Section 25220) of Chapter 6.5 of Division 20 of the Health and Safety Code.

3. All information received by the Department of Toxic Substances Control pursuant to Section 25242 of the Health and Safety Code on hazardous waste disposals on public land.

4. All sites listed pursuant to Section 25356 of the Health and Safety Code.

Under Government Code Section 65962.5. (c) the State Water Resources Control Board shall compile and update as appropriate, but at least annually, and shall submit to the Secretary for Environmental Protection, a list of the following:

1. All underground storage tanks for which an unauthorized release report is filed pursuant to Section 25295 of the Health and Safety Code.

2. All solid waste disposal facilities from which there is a migration of hazardous waste and for which a California regional water quality control board has notified the Department of Toxic Substances Control pursuant to subdivision (e) of Section 13273 of the Water Code.

3. All cease and desist orders issued after January 1, 1986, pursuant to Section 13301 of the Water Code, and all cleanup or abatement orders issued after January 1, 1986, pursuant to Section 13304 of the Water Code, that concern the discharge of wastes that are hazardous materials.

The proposed project site is not on the Hazardous Waste and Substances Sites (Cortese) List (DTSC 2021).

California Department of Toxic Control

The California Department of Toxic Control, a department of the Cal/EPA, is the primary agency in California for regulating hazardous waste, cleaning up existing contamination, and finding ways to reduce the amount of hazardous waste produced in California. The California Department of Toxic Control regulates hazardous waste primarily under the authority of the Federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act and the California Health and Safety Code (primarily Division 20, Chapters 6.5 through 10.6, and Title 22, Division 4.5). Other laws that affect hazardous waste are specific to handling, storage, transportation, disposal, treatment, reduction, cleanup, and emergency planning.

Local Regulations

San Bruno General Plan

The Health and Safety Element of the City's General Plan lists the following goals and policies that are applicable to the project:

HS-A: Reduce the risk of loss of life, injuries, loss of HS-A property, or resources due to natural hazards. Recognize the interrelationship between potential land use plans and land capacity constraints.

HS-D: Ensure the health, safety, and welfare of San Bruno residents by requiring appropriate use, disposal, and transport of hazardous materials.

HS-24: Control the transport of hazardous substances HS-24 to minimize potential hazards to the local population. Identify appropriate regional and local routes for transportation of hazardous materials, and require that fire and emergency personnel can easily access these routes for response to spill incidents.

HS-30: Regulate development on sites with known or HS-30 suspected contamination of soil and/or groundwater to ensure that construction workers, the public, future occupants, and the environment are adequately protected from hazards associated with contamination, in accordance with federal, State, and local rules, regulations, policies, and guidelines.

Discussion

Would the project:

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

Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation. Proposed tank operations require ongoing transport, use, or disposal of limited amounts of hazardous materials as the new equipment building will accommodate the storage of aqueous ammonia and sodium hypochlorite that will be held in 25-gallon vats. These will be stored according to the manufacturer's specifications for safe storage. Therefore, the impact of proposed tank operations regarding ongoing transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials is considered less than significant.

Small quantities of fuels or fluids could be accidentally released into the environment during construction. As described in Section 3.10 Hydrology and Water Quality below, the project requires preparation of a SWPPP which would include provisions for the handling, use, and storage of these materials on site and at the staging area(s) during construction. The SWPPP policies focus on spill prevention and spill response/clean-up. With the compliance of applicable regulations and the implementation of standard construction hazardous materials BMPs, the proposed project would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving hazardous materials.

The project will require demolition and construction activities that could involve disturbance and or disposal of materials containing lead (including lead based paint) and potentially other hazardous substances (i.e., polychlorinated biphenyl [PCBs] or asbestos containing materials [ACMs] in piping, caulking, lighting, etc.), and removal of the existing tank foundation and other earthwork involving soils that may require special handling or disposal, such as oil containing soils beneath the existing tank as part of the existing tank foundation.

As stated in the project description, in Table 2.4-1, the 90% Project Specifications Section 00 72 00, General Conditions, 9.1.C Environmental and Toxics Warranty, requires the project contractor to covenant, warrant, and represent to the City that:

1. To the contractor's knowledge, after due inquiry, no lead or asbestos containing materials, were installed or discovered in the project at any time during the contractor's construction, and if any lead or asbestos containing materials were discovered, the Contractor made immediate written disclosure to the City,

2. To the contractor's knowledge, after due inquiry, electrical transformers, light fixtures with ballasts or other equipment containing PCBs were located on the project at any time during the Contractor's construction thereof,

3. To the contractor's knowledge after due inquiry, no storage tanks for gasoline or any other toxic substances are or were located on the project at any time during the Contractor's construction thereof. If any such materials were discovered, the Contractor made immediate written disclosure to the City, and

4. That the contractor's operations concerning the Project are and were not in violation of any applicable environmental federal, state, or local statute, law or regulation dealing with hazardous materials substances or toxic substances and no notice from any governmental body has been served upon Contractor claiming any violation of any such law, ordinance, code or regulation, or requiring or calling attention to the need for any work, repairs, construction, alteration, or installation on or in connection with the Project in order to comply with any such laws, ordinances, codes, or regulations, with which contractor has not complied. If there are any such notices with which Contractor has complied, contractor shall provide City with copies thereof.

Additionally, Table 2.4-1 also contains Project Specifications, 00 72 00, General Conditions, 13.5 Notice of Hazardous Waste or Materials Conditions, 13.5 A which states the contractor shall give a written Notice of Hazardous Materials Condition to City promptly, before any of the following conditions are disturbed, and in no event later than 24 hours after first observance of any:

1. Material that contractor believes may be hazardous waste or hazardous material, as defined in Section 25117 of the Health and Safety Code (including, without limitation, asbestos, lead, PCBs, petroleum and related hydrocarbons, and radioactive material) that is required to be removed to a Class I, Class II, or Class III disposal site in accordance with provisions of existing law ("hazardous material"); or

2. Other material that may present an imminent substantial danger to persons or property exposed thereto in connection with Work at the Site ("other materials").

Other Project Specifications related to hazards or wastes include Sections:

- 00 72 00 General Conditions 16.1 Use of Site/Sanitary Rules
- 01 56 36 Temporary Site Security and Safety 1.5 B Hazards Control
- 01 74 00 Cleaning, A. Accumulation of Waste and E. Disposal of Materials

Project Specifications Section 02 40 00 Demolition Modifications and Relocation, Part 1 General, 1.10 Special Conditions deals specifically with Lead Based Paint Cleanup:

A. Lead Paint Cleanup

1. The Contractor shall take all necessary precautions to prevent any environmental contamination of the surrounding area due to the presence of lead paint on the storage tank and appurtenances to be removed.

2. The Contractor shall follow all federal, state, and local regulations governing the cleanup and disposal of lead paint contamination.

B. Lead Compliance Plan

1. Prior to the start of work, provide and implement a written plan describing lead emitting activities and the means by which the exposures will be controlled that includes but is not limited to the determination of the Permissible Exposure Limit

(PEL) of airborne lead, the measurement of the Action Level (AL) of airborne lead, the prevention of exposure to the Contractor's workers, workers in the City buildings and the public, how waste and by-products will be profiled to determine lead content and how any lead-containing waste will be handled, transported and legally disposed of. It is the Contractor's responsibility to determine correctly whether their waste is hazardous.

2. Contractor shall also supply a copy of any written notifications provided to and required by Cal-OSHA before conducting lead-emitting construction work. All construction work disturbing lead-containing components shall comply with the Cal-OSHA 8CCR 1532.1, Lead in Construction Standard. Training of workers who may be exposed to lead or other hazardous substances shall comply with the requirements of 8CCR 5194, Hazard Communication. Contractor shall also meet certification requirements per the EPA's Lead=Based Paint Renovation, Repair and Painting (RRP) rule (www.epa.gov/getleadsafe or call 800-424-LEAD).

If the tank or localized soil samples around the tank contain contamination that exceeds the state hazardous waste threshold, the waste materials will need to be disposed of at a landfill facility that is permitted to accept California non-RCRA hazardous waste. Site preparation for project construction will require the removal and disposal of the existing steel water tank, grading, trenching, and application of stabilizers to project soils. Any materials exported from the project site for disposal will need to be tested for contamination and disposed of at a landfill that is licensed to accept the quantities, levels, and types of potentially contaminated refuse generated.

The County of San Mateo requires hazardous materials in excess of 100 kilograms per month be handled by an appropriate commercial hazardous waste management company (San Mateo County Health, 2021). The disposal of the non-RCRA hazardous soil may be accepted by Waste Solutions Group in San Francisco located at 100 Cargo Way, San Francisco, CA 94124, approximately 20 miles from the Project Site. The non-hazardous soil can be accepted at local landfills through South Bay Waste Management Authority (SBWMA), Rethink Waste. According to the County of San Mateo (https://www.smchealth.org/solidwaste), there is one active landfill in the county; Ox Mountain, owned and operated by Republic Services and located near Half Moon Bay in unincorporated San Mateo County. Ox Mountain is a Class III Municipal Solid Waste Landfill which accepts all types of solid waste but is prohibited from accepting hazardous waste. The landfill is located at 12310 San Mateo Rd (Hwy 92), Half Moon Bay, CA 94019, approximately 9 miles from the Project Site. The Shoreway Environmental Center Transfer Station accepts certain trash and recyclables such as construction & demolition debris, dirt, and concrete/asphalt (http://www.sbrecycling.net/about/). It is located at 333 Shoreway Road, San Carlos, CA 94070, approximately 10 miles from the Project Site.

Project construction activities could encounter contaminated and hazardous waste that could adversely impact the environment if not properly handled and disposed of. Mitigation Measures HAZ-1 and HAZ-2 would reduce this impact to less than significant.

Impact HAZ-1 Demolition, removal, and transport of hazardous materials originating on the project site or materials including soils disturbed during construction containing lead-based paint, asbestos containing materials, or PCBs, in exposure of workers or the

environment to a hazardous material.

Mitigation Measure HAZ-1a: Hazardous Materials Testing. The City shall undertake the completion of the hazardous materials testing (including but not limited to lead based paints and soils containing lead paint contamination, PCBs, and ACMs) testing at the site for any site materials or features that would be disturbed by project activities, including the retaining wall near the site's entrance that will be removed for the widened access road. and will disclose the results to contractors bidding on the construction project. Project specifications state the contractor shall undertake "due diligence inquiry" to meet the requirements of Project Specifications Section 00 72 00, General Conditions, 9.1.C Environmental and Toxics Warranty. Therefore, the contractor will be responsible for not installing any new hazardous materials and shall inform the City in the event undetected hazardous materials are uncovered during construction.

Mitigation Measure HAZ-1b: Hazardous Material and Debris Management. Based on the results of the hazardous materials testing, the contractor shall develop and implement a hazardous material and debris management and disposal plan for the hazardous materials that are to be encountered and removed from the project site. The plan shall be designed to prevent releases of hazardous materials in quantities that could pose a risk to human health and the environment, as determined using appropriate BAAQMD, RWQCB, DTSC, and/or other appropriate agency screening thresholds.

The plan shall identify the receiving qualified landfill and present proof of waste acceptance. The plan shall specify measures to minimize airborne dust during building deconstruction and soil movement to protect construction workers and neighboring residents from exposure to hazardous material emissions. The plan shall address protection of worker exposure to airborne lead paint particulates through use of personal protective gear, clear identification of the location of hazardous materials, and removal by properly trained/certified workers, and proper cover and transport of hazardous materials, etc.

Effectiveness: This measure would ensure compliance with state and federal regulations regarding the handling and disposal of hazardous materials.

Implementation: by City or its contractor

Timing: Prior to and during construction.

Monitoring: The hazardous waste management plan shall be submitted to the City Public Works Department or San Mateo County Environmental Health Services for review and approval prior to start of construction. The City or its contractor shall submit written documentation of landfill acceptance of hazardous waste and implementation of worker and residential protective measures taken during site deconstruction. Copies of all documentation shall be kept on file at the City Public Works Department.

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?

Less Than Significant Impact. As stated above, the operation of the proposed water tank would involve the routine transport, use, or disposal of limited hazardous materials. Construction activities at the project site would involve intermittent and temporary use and handling of potentially hazardous substances related to demolition of the existing tanks and preparation of the site for construction of the replacement tank. These materials would be used in small quantities. Therefore, It is not anticipated that the quantities of hazardous materials used during construction would be large enough to create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving release.

c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or hazardous waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?

Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation. The project site is within one-quarter mile of Parkside Middle School, located approximately 775 feet east of the project site. Other schools closest to the project site include St. Andrews Preschool, approximately 0.40 mile to the southeast and John Muir Elementary School, located approximately 0.65 mile west of the project site. As discussed, construction activities would involve temporary use and handling of potentially hazardous substances. See Response a) above for Project Specifications related to pollution prevention and handling of hazardous materials and Mitigation Measures HAZ-1 and HAZ-2 to prevent significant impacts from encountering hazardous materials on the site. Additionally, a health risk assessment was prepared for the project's construction emissions and found that implementation of Mitigation Measure AQ-1 would reduce maximum exposure to DPM concentration to below the BAAQMD's non-cancer hazard index threshold. Therefore, the impact is considered Less than Significant with Mitigation.

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?

No Impact. The project site is not included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 (otherwise known as the Cortese List)(CalEPA 2023, DTSC EnviroStor 2023). No proposed project activities would extend onto this adjacent site, therefore there would be no impact to soil or groundwater at the adjacent site.

e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area?

No Impact. The project site is located approximately 1.75 miles west of the San Francisco International Airport. According to the City's General Plan Health and Safety Element, the project site is not located within the 65 dB Aircraft Noise Exposure Contour. Therefore, the proposed project is not located within a noise impact zone and would not expose people working in the area to excessive noise levels. According to the Comprehensive Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan for the Environs of San Francisco International Airport, the project site is within the Airport Influence Area but outside the Airport Safety Zones (City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County 2012). However, the project proposes to replace an water tank at an existing

water facility and all construction activities would be confined to the project site. Therefore, the project would not 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?

Less Than Significant Impact. The project proposes to replace a structurally deficient water tank in a residential area. During construction, the contractor would maintain access for emergency vehicles for the duration of construction and therefore would not significantly impair or physically interfere with an adopted emergency evacuation plan. After project construction is completed, there would be no impediment to vehicular or emergency vehicle access. Thus, the proposed project would have a less-than-significant impact on emergency plans.

g) Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires?

Less Than Significant Impact. According to Public Facilities and Services Element of the City's General Plan, the project site is within a Wildland Urban Interface Zone. The nearest fire hydrant is located along Cunningham Way east of the project site and approximately 230 feet north of the I-280 freeway on-ramp. The project would replace an existing water tank with a larger water tank. The project would not introduce new structures or permanently change the level of exposure to risk of loss, injury, or death from wildland fires. The proposed project would permanently improve overall water system capabilities, and emergency response. During construction, the Project will temporarily increase levels of activity and population at the Project Site. Likewise, Project implementation involves temporary use of materials and activities that could increase fire risk. Standard implementation of the City's plan check process for project plans specifications and estimates and the City's standard application of the construction inspection process will ensure that the contractor implements a contingency plan and safety measures, such as the availability of fire extinguishers on the construction site for emergency response should an accident occur during construction. For these reasons, exposure of people or structures to significant risk due to wildland fires would be less than significant.

3.10 HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or groundwater 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 flooding 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?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Environmental Setting

The City of San Bruno is located in a highly urbanized area west of San Francisco Bay (City of San Bruno, 2003). Due to historic development, most surface water resulting from precipitation goes directly into a storm drain system. Three surface water channels within the City – San Bruno, Huntington, and Crystal Springs Creeks – are incorporated into the system and largely have been channelized into underground storm drain piping, although the upper portions of San Bruno and Crystal Springs Creeks are in a natural state. These drainages flow west to east, with those areas that remain surface water channels characterized by riparian woodlands in the upper reaches and willow riparian habitat in the lower, slower-moving reaches prior to eventually draining into San Francisco Bay.

The project site is located in the Colma Creek-Frontal San Francisco Bay Estuaries watershed. Runoff from the project site drains into Huntington Creek which flows to the San Francisco Bay. Huntington Creek Watershed encompasses approximately one square mile, with a total stream length of more than three miles. Huntington Creek begins just east of Skyline Boulevard and flows through storm drain pipes and culverts to its subsurface juncture with San Bruno Creek drainage system near the intersection of San Bruno and San Mateo Avenues. There are no streams, ponds, or other surface water features located at the project site.

As stated in Section 3.7, Groundwater was not encountered in any borings and test pits dug at the project site during exploratory drilling. However, fluctuations in groundwater levels occur due to many factors including seasonal fluctuation, underground drainage patterns, regional fluctuations, and other factors.

Regulatory Setting

The following paragraphs describe the applicable federal, state, and local laws and agencies that provide the regulatory framework for analyzing potential hydrology and water quality impacts.

Federal Regulations

Federal Clean Water Act

The Clean Water Act (CWA) is the primary federal legislation governing water quality and forms the basis for several state and local laws throughout the nation. The objective of the CWA is "to restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Nation's waters." Important and applicable sections of the Act are:

- Section 404 authorizes the United States (U.S.) Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to regulate the discharge of dredged or fill material to waters of the U.S., including wetlands. The USACE issues individual site-specific or general (Nationwide) permits for such discharges.

- Sections 303 and 304 provide for water quality standards, criteria, and guidelines. The State implements Section 303 through the State Water Resources Control Board and Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), as discussed below. Section 304 requires the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to publish water quality criteria that accurately reflects the latest scientific knowledge on the kind of effects and extent of effects that pollutants in water may have on health and welfare. Section 304 also provides guidance to the State in adopting water quality standards.

- Section 401 requires an applicant for any Federal permit that proposes an activity that may result in a discharge to "waters of the U.S." to obtain certification from the State that the discharge will comply with other provisions of the CWA. In California, a Water Quality Certification is provided by the State Water Resources Control Board and/or RWQCB.

- Section 402 establishes the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), which is a permitting system for the discharge of any pollutant (except for dredge or fill material) into waters of the U.S. In California, this permit program is administered by the RWQCBs, and is discussed in detail below.

National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

The CWA has nationally regulated the discharge of pollutants to the waters of the U.S. from any point source since 1972. In 1987, amendments to the CWA added Section 402(p), which established a framework for regulating nonpoint source storm water discharges under the NPDES. The NPDES General Construction Permit requirements apply to clearing, grading, and disturbances to the ground such as excavation. Construction activities on one or more acres are subject to a series of permitting requirements contained in the NPDES General Construction Permit. This permit requires the preparation and implementation of a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) that includes Best Management Practices (BMPs) to be implemented during project construction. The project sponsor is also required to submit a Notice of Intent (NOI) with the State Water Resources Control Board Division of Water Quality. The NOI includes general information on the types of construction activities that would occur on the site.

State Regulations

Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act

The state's Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, as revised in December 2007 (California Water Code Sections 13000-14290), provides for protection of the quality of all waters of the State of California for use and enjoyment by the people of California. It further provides that all activities that may affect the quality of waters of the state shall be regulated to obtain the highest water quality that is reasonable, considering all demands being made and to be made on those waters. The Act also establishes provisions for a statewide program for the control of water quality, recognizing that waters of the state are increasingly influenced by interbasin water development projects and other statewide considerations, and that factors such as precipitation, topography, population, recreation, agriculture, industry, and economic development vary regionally within the State. The statewide program for water quality control is, therefore, administered most effectively on a local level with statewide oversight. Within this framework, the Act authorizes the State Water Resources Control Board and RWQCBs to oversee the coordination and control of water quality within California.

State Water Resources Control Board

Created by the California State Legislature in 1967, the State Water Resources Control Board holds authority over water resources allocation and water quality protection within the State. The five-member State Water Resources Control Board allocates water rights, adjudicates water right disputes, develops statewide water protection plans, establishes water quality standards, and guides the nine RWQCBs. The mission of the State Water Resources Control Board is to, "preserve, enhance, and restore the quality of California's water resources, and ensure their proper allocation and efficient use for the benefit of present and future generations." The proposed project is under the jurisdiction of the San Francisco Bay RWQCB.

Regional and Local Regulations

San Mateo Countywide Water Pollution Prevention Plan

The Federal CWA and the California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act require that large urban areas discharging storm water into the San Francisco Bay or the Pacific Ocean have a NPDES permit to prevent harmful pollutants from being dumped or washed by storm water runoff, into the storm water system, then discharged into local waterbodies. The San Mateo Countywide Water Pollution Prevention Program was established in 1990 as a

collaboration between 22 member agencies comprised of the County of San Mateo and cities on the Peninsula, including the City of San Bruno. The Countywide Program holds a Municipal Regional Permit (MRP) that covers countywide stormwater discharges pursuant to the NPDES program under the Clean Water Act. The MRP is part of NPDES permit CAS612008, administered by the San Francisco Regional Water Quality Control Board. MRP implementation programs include water quality monitoring and pesticide, mercury, polychlorinated biphenyl, and copper controls. The NPDES permit requires both construction and post-construction storm water control including erosion control, run-on and run-off control, sediment control, active treatment systems, and non-stormwater management.

Flood Zone Mapping

The National Flood Insurance Program. branch of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) maintains maps of floodways and floodplains for the United States. FEMA maps these areas on Flood Insurance Rate Maps or FIRMs. A typical FIRM will show specific flood hazard areas, flood risk zones, and floodplains at a local level of detail. In some identified flood hazard zones, certain types of construction and/or uses are prohibited or property owners are required to carry flood insurance. The project site is located within a designated Zone X, which is an area of minimal flood hazard and outside the 500-year flood zone.

San Bruno General Plan

The Environmental Resources and Conservation Element of the City's General Plan outlines goals and policies aimed at enhancing and protecting water quality within the City. The following goals and policies are applicable to the project.

- *ERC 19:* Regulate new development—specifically industrial uses—as well as construction and demolition practices to minimize pollutant and sediment concentrations in receiving waters and ensure waterbodies within San Bruno and surface water discharged into San Francisco Bay meets or exceeds relevant regulatory water quality standards.

- *ERC-20:* Require implementation of Best Management ERC-20 practices to reduce accumulation of non-point source pollutants in the drainage system originating from streets, parking lots, residential areas, businesses, and industrial operations.

- *ECR-22:* Regularly measure and monitor water quality ERC-22 in San Bruno's surface water to ensure maintenance of high-quality water for consumption by humans and other species throughout the region.

- *ECR-23:* Regulate new development to minimize stormwater runoff rates and volumes generated by impervious surfaces, and maximize recharge of local groundwater aquifers when feasible. Utilize the recommendations provided in the Bay Area Stormwater Management Agency's Start at the Source Design Guidance Manual for Stormwater Quality Protection.

- ECR-24: Require that new development incorporate features into site drainage plans that reduce impermeable surface area and surface runoff volumes. Such features may include:

    - Additional landscaped areas including canopy trees and shrubs;

- Reducing building footprint;
- Removing curbs and gutters from streets; and parking areas where appropriate to allow stormwater sheet flow into vegetated areas;
- Permeable paving and parking area design;
- Stormwater detention basins to facilitate infiltration; and
- Building integrated or subsurface water retention facilities to capture rainwater for use in landscape irrigation and other non-potable uses.

The following goals and policies outlined in the Health and Safety Element of the General Plan are applicable to the project:

- *HS-18:* Require developers to implement erosion and HS-18 sedimentation control measures to maintain an operational drainage system, preserve drainage capacity, and protect water quality.
- *HS-20:* Retain existing open space areas that serve as HS-20 detention ponds in order to retain stormwater, recharge aquifers, and prevent flooding.
- *HS-22:* Require that construction-related grading and HS-22 other activities comply with the Association of Bay Area Governments' (ABAG) Manual of Standards for Erosion and Sediment Control Measures and with the California Stormwater Quality Association (CASQA), Stormwater Best Management Practice Handbook for Construction.
- *HS-D*: Protect sites subject to flooding hazards by implementing storm drainage improvements, and by requiring building design and engineering that meets or exceeds known flood risk requirements.
- *HS-1:* Regulate development, including remodeling or structural rehabilitation, to assure adequate mitigation of safety hazards on sites having a history or threat of slope instability, erosion, subsidence, seismic dangers (including those resulting from liquefactions, ground failure, ground rupture), flooding, and/or fire hazards.
- *HS-2:* Review and revise the City's Building Code, Zoning Ordinance, and Subdivision requirements to safeguard against seismic, geologic, and safety hazards. Mitigation should include:
    - Consideration of flooding and fire hazards in siting and designing new development.

Discussion

Would the project:

a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality?

Less Than Significant Impact. The project is required to obtain coverage under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Construction General Permit as the project would impacts more than one acre of land and construction activities could indirectly cause degradation of surface and/or ground water quality due to potential erosion and transport of fine sediments downstream from the construction area. As noted in Section 2.4, Table 2.4-1, project specifications require the contractor to prepare and implement a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP). Additionally, the contractor shall be responsible for monitoring for the presence of contaminated soil and/or groundwater during the course of the work. Further, The contractor shall comply with erosion control measures to prevent run-off of sediment and other unsuitable materials to the storm drain system. With implementation of these measures, project construction would not violate water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or substantially degrade surface or ground water quality. Impacts would be less than significant.

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

No Impact. The project proposes to replace a structurally deficient water tank with a larger water tank along with the construction of a small equipment building. Overall Implementation of the project would increase the amount of impervious surface on the project site by approximately 3,000 square feet due to the cut slopes for the new equipment building and widened access road. The project would not use groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin, or create demand for water supply. As a result, there would be no impacts to groundwater supplies, recharge, or management.

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 flooding 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?

Less than Significant Impact (i-iv). The proposed project would replace an existing potable water tank with a new tank. The new tank will increase the water storage capacity at the site through an overall increase in tank height, by placing the floor elevation of the tank below grade and increasing the above ground tank height. The tank's diameter would be reduced by four feet from 116 feet to 112 feet. The existing hillside to the north of the tank would be cut back in two places to accommodate a small equipment building near the entrance gate and a wider turn radius at the access road near Cunningham Way. Retaining walls would be installed in these areas and the widened areas would be covered with asphalt concrete paving. Graded areas above the retaining walls or disturbed due to removal and replacement of on-site drainage facilities would be restored following construction to prevent erosion. As noted above, the contractor will be required to prepare and implement at SWPPP to protect water quality and prevent erosion during construction (see response to Question a above). Approximately 3,000 square feet. of new impervious surfaces are anticipated at the site. However, this increase in impervious surface would result in a small increase in storm water runoff and is not expected to result in on or off-site flooding. Therefore, the project would not result in substantial erosion or siltation on- of off-site; substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site; 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 impede or redirect flood flows.

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

Less Than Significant Impact. The project is located within FEMA Flood Zone X, which is defined as an area with minimal flood hazard (FEMA 2019). The new equipment building will accommodate the storage of aqueous ammonia and sodium hypochlorite that will be held in sealed vats that hold 25 gallons each. These will be stored according to the manufacturer's specifications for safe storage.

A tsunami is a large tidal wave generated by an earthquake, landslide, or volcanic eruption. Tsunami inundation maps have been developed for the San Francisco Bay area. The project site is not within a tsunami inundation zone (California Department of Conservation, 2023), and therefore, it would not be subject to flooding from a tsunami.

Seiches are waves that oscillate in enclosed water bodies, such as reservoirs, lakes, ponds, swimming pools, or semi-enclosed bodies of water. No reservoirs, lakes, ponds, swimming pools, or enclosed bodies of water are located near the project site that could affect the project site to cause a release of pollutants due to inundation. As noted above, the proposed hazardous materials stored at the site would be stored according to the manufacture's specifications for safe storage. Therefore, this impact would be less than significant.

e) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?

No Impact. The project proposes to replace an existing potable water tank and does not include features or new uses that would conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan. Project construction could impact water quality through erosion or the accidental release of hazardous chemicals or materials into stormwater runoff. The project will be required to prepare a construction SWPPP that will

require implementation measures to protect water quality during construction. The project also would not result in an increase demand for groundwater. Therefore, the project would not affect groundwater supplies, quality, or management.

3.11 LAND USE AND PLANNING

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
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?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Environmental Setting

The project site is located within the southwestern portion of the City of San Bruno just east of I-280. The project site is bounded by Cunningham Way to the east and south and Jenevein Avenue to the North and I-280 to the west. Cunningham Way connects to the I-280 north on-ramp, and to the I-280 south off-ramp, south of the project site (See Figure 2.2-2).

Land uses surrounding the project site are primarily residential, with single-family neighborhoods located to the east. I-280 is located just west of the project site. Open space exists south of the project site along Crystal Springs Road. The project site is designated as Parks/Open Space (O-Open Space zoning), by the San Bruno General Plan.

Regulatory Setting

Local

San Bruno General Plan

The project site is designated as Parks/Open Space by the San Bruno General Plan. However, land surrounding the project site is designated as Single-Family Residential (R-1 zoning) and is primarily developed with single-family residences. The following General Plan policies apply to the proposed project:

- *LUD-E:* Ensure that new development, especially in residential neighborhoods, is sensitive to existing uses, and is of the highest quality design and construction.
- *LUD-3:* During plan review, protect the residential character of established neighborhoods by ensuring that new development conforms to surrounding design and scale.
- *LUD-76:* Assure that new development mitigates impacts on existing public services, including transit services, water, sewer, and storm drainage systems, police and fire protection, libraries, and parks and recreation facilities.

- *LUD-79:* Provide ongoing code enforcement to preserve and enhance residential neighborhoods for San Bruno residents.

Impact Discussion

Would the project:

a) Physically divide an established community?

No Impact. The project proposes to replace an existing structurally deficient 2.5 MG water tank with a new 3.5 MG water tank on a parcel zoned for Open Space. Project activities would be confined to the project site. The project does not include any physical barriers such as new roads, structures, or fences such that existing land use patterns would change resulting in a division of an established community. No impact would occur.

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?

No Impact. As stated, the project proposes to replace a structurally deficient water tank. The use of the property would not change. The proposed project would not conflict with the goals, policies or actions of the San Bruno General Plan or with the San Bruno Municipal Code. Additionally, the project site is not within a specific plan area. Consistent with General Plan policies protecting the residential character of established neighborhoods, the new water tank has been designed with sensitivity to its visibility from residences along Cunningham Way by sinking approximately 18 feet of the new tank below grads, with approximately 42 feet-6 inches of the tank wall visible above the ground. The tree replanting plan required by Mitigation Measure BIO-4 would be focused on replanting trees to establish a vegetative screening of the new tank.

No other land use plans or regulations apply to the project. Therefore, replacement of the water tank would not conflict with any land use plan or regulation adopted for the purposes of mitigating an environmental effect. No impact would occur.

3.12 MINERAL RESOURCES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
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?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Environmental Setting

According to the San Bruno General Plan, there are no mineral resources or recovery sites within the City of San Bruno (City of San Bruno 2009).

Discussion

Would the project:

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?

No Impact (Responses a – b). There are no known mineral resources of regional value or local importance on or adjacent to the project site. The project is the replacement of an existing 2.5 MG steel water tank with a 3.5 MG concrete water tank within the same site. The project would not result in the loss of availability of known mineral resources. No impact would occur.

3.13 NOISE

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project result in:				
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 in other applicable standards of other agencies?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c) For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Environmental Setting

Noise may be defined as loud, unpleasant, or unwanted sound. The frequency (pitch), amplitude (intensity or loudness), and duration of noise all contribute to the effect on a listener, or receptor, and whether the receptor perceives the noise as objectionable, disturbing, or annoying.

The Decibel Scale (dB)

The decibel scale (dB) is a unit of measurement that indicates the relative amplitude of a sound. Sound levels in dB are calculated on a logarithmic basis. An increase of 10 dB represents a tenfold increase in acoustic energy, while 20 dBs is 100 times more intense, 30 dBs is 1,000 more intense, and so on. In general, there is a relationship between the subjective noisiness, or loudness of a sound, and its amplitude, or intensity, with each 10 dB increase in sound level perceived as approximately a doubling of loudness.

Sound Characterization

There are several methods of characterizing sound. The most common method is the “A-weighted sound level,” or dBA. This scale gives greater weight to the frequencies of sound to which the human ear is typically most sensitive. Thus, most environmental measurements are reported in dBA, meaning decibels on the A-scale. Human hearing matches the logarithmic A-weighted scale, so that a sound of 60 dBA is perceived as twice as loud as a sound of 50 dBA. In a quiet environment, an increase of 3 dB is usually perceptible, however, in a complex noise environment such as along a busy street, a noise increase of less than 3 dB is usually not

perceptible, and an increase of 5 dB is usually perceptible. Normal human speech is in the range from 50 to 65 dBA. Generally, as environmental noise exceeds 50 dBA, it becomes intrusive and above 65 dBA noise becomes excessive. Nighttime activities, including sleep, are more sensitive to noise and are considered affected over a range of 40 to 55 dBA.

Sound levels are typically not steady and can vary over a short time period. The equivalent noise level (L_{eq}) is used to represent the average character of the sound over a period of time. The L_{eq} represents the level of steady noise that would have the same acoustical energy as the sum of the time-varying noise measured over a given time period. L_{eq} is useful for evaluating shorter time periods over the course of a day. The most common L_{eq} averaging period is hourly, but L_{eq} can describe any series of noise events over a given time period.

Variable noise levels are values that are exceeded for a portion of the measured time period. Thus, L01 is the level exceeded one percent of the time and L90 is the level exceeded 90 percent of the time. The L90 value usually corresponds to the background sound level at the measurement location.

Noise exposure over the course of an entire day is described by the day/night average sound level, or L_{dn}, and the community noise equivalent level, or CNEL. Both descriptors represent the 24-hour noise impact on a community. For L_{dn}, the 24-hour day is divided into a 15-hour daytime period (7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.) and a nine-hour nighttime period (10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.) and a 10 dB “penalty” is added to measure nighttime noise levels when calculating the 24-hour average noise level. For example, a 45 dBA nighttime sound level would contribute as much to the overall day-night average as a 55 dBA daytime sound level. The CNEL descriptor is similar to L_{dn}, except that it includes an additional 5 dBA penalty beyond the 10 dBA for sound events that occur during the evening time period (7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.) The artificial penalties imposed during L_{dn} and CNEL calculations are intended to account for a receptor’s increased sensitivity to sound levels during quieter nighttime periods.

Sound Propagation

The energy contained in a sound pressure wave dissipates and is absorbed by the surrounding environment as the sound wave spreads out and travels away from the noise generating source. Theoretically, the sound level of a point source attenuates, or decreases, by 6 dB with each doubling of distance from a point source. Sound levels are also affected by certain environmental factors, such as ground cover (asphalt vs. grass or trees), atmospheric absorption, and attenuation by barriers. Outdoor noise is also attenuated by the building envelope so that sound levels inside a residence are from 10 to 20 dB less than outside, depending mainly on whether windows are open for ventilation or not.

When more than one point source contributes to the sound pressure level at a receiver point, the overall sound level is determined by combining the contributions of each source. Decibels, however, are logarithmic units and cannot be directly added or subtracted together. Under the dB scale, a doubling of sound energy corresponds to a 3 dB increase in noise levels. For example, if one noise source produces a sound power level of 70 dB, two of the same sources would not produce 140 dB – rather, they would combine to produce 73 dB.

Under controlled conditions in an acoustical laboratory, the trained, healthy human ear can discern 1-dB changes in sound levels when exposed to steady, single-frequency ("pure-tone") signals in the mid-frequency (1,000–8,000 Hz) range. In typical noisy environments, changes in noise of 1 to 2 dB are generally not perceptible. However, it is widely accepted that people can begin to detect sound level increases of 3 dB in typical noisy environments. Further, a 5-dB increase is generally perceived as a distinctly noticeable increase, and a 10-dB increase is generally perceived as a doubling of loudness.

Noise Effects

Noise effects on human beings are generally categorized as:

- Subjective effects of annoyance, nuisance, and/or dissatisfaction
- Interference with activities such as speech, sleep, learning, or relaxing
- Physiological effects such as startling and hearing loss

Most environmental noise levels produce subjective or interference effects; physiological effects are usually limited to high noise environments such as industrial manufacturing facilities or airports. Predicting the subjective and interference effects of noise is difficult due to the wide variation in individual thresholds of annoyance and past experiences with noise; however, an accepted method to determine a person's subjective reaction to a new noise source is to compare it to the existing environment without the noise source, or the "ambient" noise environment. In general, the more a new noise source exceeds the ambient noise level, the more likely it is to be considered annoying and to disturb normal activities.

Under controlled conditions in an acoustical laboratory, the trained, healthy human ear is able to discern 1-dB changes in sound levels when exposed to steady, single-frequency ("pure-tone") signals in the mid-frequency (1,000–8,000 Hz) range. In typical noisy environments, changes in noise of 1 to 2 dB are generally not perceptible. However, it is widely accepted that people are able to begin to detect sound level increases of 3 dB in typical noisy environments. Further, a 5 dB increase is generally perceived as a distinctly noticeable increase, and a 10 dB increase is generally perceived as a doubling of loudness that would almost certainly cause an adverse response from community noise receptors.

Groundborne Vibration

Vibration is the movement of particles within a medium or object such as the ground or a building. As is the case with airborne sound, groundborne vibrations may be described by amplitude and frequency. Vibration amplitudes are usually expressed in peak particle velocity (PPV) or root mean squared, in inches per second (in/sec). PPV represents the maximum instantaneous positive or negative peak of a vibration signal and is most appropriate for evaluating the potential for building damage. Human response to groundborne vibration is subjective and varies from person to person.

Existing Noise Environment

The City's noise environment consists of transportation and stationary related noise sources. The San Bruno General Plan Health and Safety Element identifies roadway traffic, aircraft noise from San Francisco International Airport, railway, and industrial activities as the predominant noise sources in the City. The project site is currently developed and consists of a steel water tank with an access road via Cunningham Way. The primary sources of noise at and around the water tank are automobiles and trucks traveling along Interstate 280 (I-280), Cunningham Way, and aircraft flyovers.

MIG collected ambient noise measurements in the vicinity of the project site between approximately 10:00 AM on Thursday, January 11 to 10:00 AM on Friday, January 12, 2024 (see Appendix G). The ambient noise levels were digitally measured and stored using two Larson Davis SoundTrack LxT sound level meters that meet American National Standards Institute (ANSI) requirements for a Type 1 integrating sound level meter. Each sound meter was calibrated immediately before and after the monitoring period using a reference one-kilohertz (1kH) check frequency and 114 dB (Larson Davis Soundtrack LxT) sound pressure level and found to be operating within normal parameters for sensitivity. Short-term measurements were periodically collected over the sample periods in 1-second intervals for each Larson Davis meter. These intervals were selected to capture short-term noise events and increases in noise levels above typical background conditions.

Weather conditions during the monitoring were generally clear skies and temperatures ranged from approximately 40 to 55 degrees (Fahrenheit). Wind conditions were approximately 4-miles per hour from the west-northwest.

The ambient noise monitoring conducted included three short-term (ST) and one long-term (LT) measurements at locations selected to:

- Provide direct observations and measurements of existing noise sources at and in the vicinity of the project site; and
- Determine typical ambient noise levels associated with water tank operations.

The ambient noise monitoring locations are described below and shown in Figure 3.13-1

- Site ST-1 was located near the residential property at 465 Cunningham Way, approximately three feet from the curb.
- Site ST-2 was located at the corner of Niles Avenue and Hawthorne Avenue.
- Site ST-3 was located on the parking area at the northeast corner of Cunningham Way and Crystal Springs Road, north of the San Bruno Senior Center.
- Site LT-1 was located on the northern portion of the site, approximately three feet from the perimeter fence.

Figure 3.13-1 Ambient Noise Monitoring Locations

Table 3.13-1 summarizes the results of the short-term measurements at each location ST-1, ST-2, and ST-3, respectively in comparison with concurrent measurements from LT-1. Table 3.13-2 shows the results of the long-term measurements at location LT-1.

Table 3.13-1: Summary of Measured Short-Term Ambient Noise Levels (dBA) on Thursday January 11, 2024

Site	Start Time	Duration	Measured Noise Level		
			L_{eq}	L_{min}	L_{max}
ST-1	10:25 AM	20 Minutes	65.7	52.2	86.3
LT-1	10:25 AM	20 Minutes	59.4	55.3	70.7
ST-2	10:56 AM	20 Minutes	55.6	48.0	70.3
LT-1	10:56 AM	20 Minutes	58.6	52.3	68.1
ST-3	11:33 AM	20 Minutes	72.2	46.7	98.9
LT-1	11:33 AM	20 Minutes	62.1	52.0	85.9

Source: MIG 2024

Table 3.13-2: Measured Long-Term Ambient Noise Levels (dBA) in the Project Area

Day / Site	Duration	Measured Range in Hourly Noise Levels (dBA L_{eq})(A)			
		Daytime (7 AM to 7 PM)	Evening (7 PM to 10 PM)	Nighttime (10 PM to 7 AM)	Calculated CNEL(B)
Thursday, January 11, 2024, to Friday, January 12, 2024					
LT-1	24 hours	58.4 – 61.0	56.7 – 61.0	46.2 – 58.3	62.5

Source: MIG 2024

(A) The L_{eq} value represents the equivalent steady-state noise level that would contain the same amount of acoustical energy as the time-varying noise level during the listed hour. Values are the lowest and highest measured hourly L_{eq} values during the listed period.

(B) The 24-hour CNEL value is calculated by applying a 5 dB penalty to measured evening noise levels and a 10 dB penalty to measured nighttime noise levels.

Based on observations made during the monitoring, traffic along Interstate 280 (I-280) as well as nearby roadways (Cunningham Way, Crystal Springs Road) were key contributors to the ambient noise environment. Road work activities occurred along Cunningham Way which had an impact on ambient noise levels in the vicinity of ST-1. Noise levels measured at location ST-2 were primarily associated with light traffic along Niles Avenue and Hawthorne Avenue, as well as pedestrian traffic. Noise levels measured at location ST-3 were primarily associated with traffic along Cunningham Way and Crystal Springs Road. Based on the results of the monitoring presented in Table 3.13-1, traffic and road work activities were the predominant sources of noise observed on January 11, 2024. Higher noise levels measured at ST-3 compared to those at ST-1 or ST-2 are mainly associated with traffic along Cunningham Way.

Sensitive Receptors

Noise sensitive receptors are areas where unwanted sound or increases in sound may have an adverse effect on people or land uses. Residential areas, hospitals, schools, and parks are

examples of noise receptors that could be sensitive to changes in existing environmental noise levels. Sensitive noise receptors in proximity of the project site include:

- Single-family residential receptors east and north of the site along Cunningham Way. The closest of these receptors is approximately 80 feet east of the project site.
- Student receptors at Parkside Middle School, approximately 630 feet east of the project site.
- Receptors at the San Bruno Senior Center, approximately 980 feet southeast of the site.

Regulatory Setting

Local Regulations

San Bruno General Plan

Section 7-5 of the Health and Safety Element of the San Bruno General Plan seeks to reduce potential noise and safety impacts along transportation corridors, including highways, railroads, and San Francisco International Airport (SFO). Table 7-1 of the Health and Safety Element contains outdoor noise environment guidelines. Normally acceptable noise levels for industrial, manufacturing, utilities, and agriculture are <75 DNL, while noise levels of 70-80 DNL are conditionally acceptable and above 75 CNEL is normally unacceptable (City of San Bruno, 2009).

San Bruno Municipal Code

Section 6.16.070 of the City Code states that no person shall, within any residential zone, or within a radius of five hundred feet therefrom, operate equipment or perform any outside construction or repair work on any building, structure, or other project, or operate any pile driver, power shovel, pneumatic hammer, derrick, power hoist, or any other construction-type device which shall exceed, between the hours of seven a.m. and ten p.m., a noise level of eighty-five decibels as measured at one hundred feet, or exceed between the hours of ten p.m. and seven a.m. a noise level of sixty decibels as measured at one hundred feet, unless such person shall have first obtained a permit therefor from the director of public works.

Discussion

Would the project result in:

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 in other applicable local, state, or federal standards?

Less than Significant Impact. As described in more detail below, the construction and operation of the proposed project would generate noise levels from a variety of sources. Project construction could temporarily increase noise levels in the vicinity of the water tank but would be less than significant (see discussion below). Best Management Practices included below would further reduce the already less than significant impact. During this time, construction equipment

(e.g., cranes, dozers, dumpers, etc.) would be required to demolish and remove the existing water tank and construct the new water tank. These activities could temporarily increase noise levels in the project area. Construction noise would be intermittent, occurring only when equipment is in operation, and the City would comply with Municipal Code Section 6.16.070 – Construction of buildings and projects, which limits construction noise levels to 85 dB during daytime hours of 7:00 AM to 10:00 PM. Additionally, Table 2.4-1 lists Project Specifications Part II, General Requirements, Section 01 51 00, Temporary Facilities and Controls, Part I – General; B Work that produces noise levels above ambient will not be permitted prior to 8:00 a.m. Thus, project construction specifications present a more restrictive morning hour construction start time than the Municipal Code. Given the project's compliance with the City's Standard Specifications, the project would not generate a significant temporary noise impact, nor would it conflict with an applicable standard. The impact is considered less than significant.

Construction Noise

The construction of the proposed project is anticipated to begin in June 2024. Construction activities would include site preparation, demolition of the steel tank, excavation/shoring, tank piping, tank wall and roof construction, prestressing and finishing, and landscaping. In general, construction activities would involve the use of worker vehicles, delivery trucks, and heavy-duty construction equipment such as (but not limited to) backhoes, tractors, excavators, cranes, material lifts, and air compressors. These types of construction activities would generate noise and vibration from the following sources:

- Heavy equipment operations at different work areas. Some heavy equipment would consist of mobile equipment such as a backhoe or excavator that would move around work areas; other equipment would consist of stationary equipment (e.g., cranes or material hoists/lifts) that would generally operate in a fixed location until work activities are complete. Heavy equipment generates noise from engine operation, mechanical systems, and components (e.g., fans, gears, propulsion of wheels or tracks), and other sources such as back-up alarms. Mobile equipment generally operates at different loads, or power outputs, and produces higher or lower noise levels depending on the operating load. Stationary equipment generally operates at a steady power output that produces a constant noise level.

- Vehicle trips, including worker, vendor, and haul truck trips. These trips are likely to primarily occur on Cunningham Way.

Typical construction noise levels at different distances are shown in Table 3.13-3.

Table 3.13-3: Typical Construction Equipment Noise Levels

Equipment	Noise Level at 50 feet (L_{max})[A]	Percent Usage Factor[B]	Predicted Equipment Noise Levels (L_{eq})[C]					
			50 Feet	80 Feet	100 Feet	150 Feet	200 Feet	250 Feet
Backhoe	80	40	76	72	70	66	64	62
Bulldozer	85	40	81	77	75	71	69	67
Compressor	80	40	76	72	70	68	66	64

Table 3.13-3: Typical Construction Equipment Noise Levels								
Equipment	**Noise Level at 50 feet (L_{max})(A)**	**Percent Usage Factor(B)**	**Predicted Equipment Noise Levels (L_{eq})(C)**					
			50 Feet	**80 Feet**	**100 Feet**	**150 Feet**	**200 Feet**	**250 Feet**
Concrete Mixer	85	40	81	77	75	73	71	69
Crane	85	16	77	73	71	67	65	63
Delivery Truck	84	40	80	76	74	72	70	68
Excavator	85	40	81	77	75	73	71	69
Front End Loader	80	40	76	72	70	68	66	64
Generator	82	50	79	75	73	71	69	67
Man Lift	85	20	78	74	72	70	68	66
Paver	85	50	82	78	76	74	72	70
Pneumatic tools	85	50	82	78	76	72	70	68
Pumps	77	50	74	70	68	66	64	62
Roller	85	20	78	74	72	70	68	66
Scraper	85	40	81	77	75	73	71	69
Tractor	84	40	80	76	74	72	70	68

Sources: Caltrans, 2013; FHWA, 2010

(A) L_{max} noise levels based on manufacturer's specifications.

(B) Usage factor refers to the amount (percent) of time the equipment produces noise over the time period

(C) Estimate does not account for any atmospheric or ground attenuation factors. Calculated noise levels based on Caltrans, 2013: Leq (hourly) = Lmax at 50 feet – 20log (D/50) + 10log (UF), where: Lmax = reference Lmax from manufacturer or other source; D = distance of interest; UF = usage fraction or fraction of time period of interest equipment is in use.

With regard to construction noise, demolition, site preparation, and grading phases typically result in the highest temporary noise levels due to the use of heavy-duty equipment such as dozers, excavators, graders, loaders, scrapers, and trucks. As shown in Table 3.13-3, the worst-case noise levels associated with the operation of equipment such as a dozer, excavator, and paver are predicted to be approximately 82 dBA Leq at a distance of 50 feet from the equipment operating area. At a distance of 100 feet, the noise from equipment would be 76 dBA Leq for a single piece of equipment and up to 79 dBA Leq for two pieces of equipment operating in close proximity at the same time. Section 6.16.070 of the City's Municipal Code limits construction noise, if occurring within 500 feet of a residential zone, to 85 dB as measured at 100 feet during the hours of 7:00 AM to 10:00 PM. The proposed project site is within 500 feet of a residential zone and, as described above, construction noise levels would be less than 85 dB as measured at 100 feet. Therefore, the project would comply with the City's daytime construction noise regulations. Additionally, Table 2.4-1 lists Project Specifications Part II, General Requirements, Section 01 51 00, Temporary Facilities and Controls, Part I – General; B Work that produces noise levels above ambient will not be permitted prior to 8:00 a.m. Thus, project construction specifications present a more restrictive morning hour construction start time than the Municipal Code. The project would not involve nighttime activities and, therefore, would not violate the City's nighttime noise regulations. This impact would be less than significant.

Although the project would not generate construction noise levels that exceed City standards, construction activities could occur approximately 80 feet from sensitive receptors on Cunningham Way. The project could also include locating a staging area near the San Bruno Senior Center. The noise from equipment operating near the edge of the project site would be 78 dBA L_{eq} for a single piece of equipment and up to 81 dBA L_{eq} for two pieces of equipment operating in close proximity at the same time. In addition, use of the access road from Cunningham Way to the project site would generate noise from truck pass by trips. Typical noise levels associated with truck pass by trips along the access road would be approximately 80 dBA at a distance of 20 feet. Noise from construction activities may pose a temporary interference or annoyance effect on nearby sensitive receptors but would not result in adverse physiological effects on human receptors in the surrounding area. Based on the results of the monitoring presented in Table 3.13-3 construction noise levels of 81 dBA L_{eq} would be approximately 10 to 20 dB louder than the average ambient noise environment. Based on the results of the noise monitoring present in Table 3.13-3, construction noise levels would likely be similar to typical L_{max} noise levels measured during the monitoring in the vicinity of the project area. However, construction activities would be intermittent and increased noise levels associated with construction activities would not persist in a particular area as construction equipment moves around the project site. To reduce the potential for the proposed project's construction activities to result in a temporary increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project site that could annoy sensitive noise receptors and/or interfere with the normal use and enjoyment of residential properties, MIG recommends the project incorporate BMPs for construction noise control:

Construction Noise Control Best Management Practices

1) *Notify Residential Land Uses of Planned Construction Activities.* This notice shall be provided at least two (2) weeks prior to the start of any construction activities, describe the noise control measures to be implemented by the project, and include the name and phone number of the designated contact for the City and contractor staff responsible for project construction. This notice shall be provided to the owner/occupants of residential dwelling units north and east of the site along Cunningham Way and Hawthorne Avenue within 350 feet of the project site.

2) *Restrict Work Hours:* In accordance with City Municipal Code Section 6.16.070, all construction-related work activities, including material deliveries, shall be restricted to the hours of 7:00 AM to 10:00 PM, seven days a week in accordance with. The City and/or its contractor shall post a sign at all entrances to the construction site informing contractors, subcontractors, other workers, etc. of this requirement. Additionally, Table 2.4-1 lists Project Specifications Part II, General Requirements, Section 01 51 00, Temporary Facilities and Controls, Part I – General; B Work that produces noise levels above ambient will not be permitted prior to 8:00 a.m. Thus, project construction specifications present a more restrictive morning hour construction start time.

3) *Construction Equipment Selection, Use, and Noise Control Measures*: The following measures shall apply to construction equipment used at the project site:

a. Electric hook-ups shall be provided for stationary equipment (e.g., pumps, compressors, welding sets). This measure shall be subject to the approval of the local electric utility.

b. All stationary noise generating equipment shall be shielded and located as far as possible from residential land uses given site and active work constraints. Shielding may consist of a three-or four-sided enclosure provided the structure/enclosure breaks the line of sight between the equipment and the receptor and provides for proper ventilation and equipment operation.

c. Heavy equipment engines shall be equipped with standard noise suppression devices such as mufflers, engine covers, and engine/mechanical isolators, mounts, and be maintained in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations during active construction activities.

d. Pneumatic tools shall include a suppression device on the compressed air exhaust.

e. No radios or other amplified sound devices shall be audible beyond the property line of the construction site.

The BMPs listed above include the City to providing advance warning of the proposed project's construction activities, restricting work hours to periods when humans are less sensitive to elevated noise levels in accordance with San Bruno Municipal Code requirements, and implementing equipment noise control measures. By providing advanced notice of construction activities and implementing equipment control measures, the potential for project construction noise levels to surprise or annoy residential receptors or interfere with normal use of residential properties would be greatly reduced.

b) Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?

Less Than Significant Impact. The potential for groundborne vibration and noise is typically greatest when vibratory or large equipment such as pavers are in operation. For the proposed project, these types of equipment would primarily operate during vault installation of the site work. This equipment would, at worst-case, operate at least 115 feet or more from any structure, with considerable intervening elevation differences and other factors that would reduce direct transmission of groundborne vibration to nearby buildings. The proposed project, therefore, would not generate substantial or excessive groundborne vibration levels.

c) For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?

No Impact. The project site is located approximately 1.75 miles west of the San Francisco International Airport. According to the City's General Plan Health and Safety Element, the project site is not located within the 65 dB Aircraft Noise Exposure Contour. Therefore, the proposed project is not located within a noise impact zone and would not expose people working in the area to excessive noise levels.

3.14 POPULATION AND HOUSING

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Induce a 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?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Environmental Setting

Based on information from the U.S. Census Bureau, the City of San Bruno population was estimated to be approximately 41,533 in 2022, with a population distribution of approximately 7,999 persons per square mile as of 2020. As of 2021 the average number of persons per household is 2.83 (U.S. Census Bureau 2022).

Discussion

Would the project:

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?

No Impact. (Responses a – b). The project proposes to replace a structurally deficient 2.5 MG-water tank with a 3.5 MG water tank in the City of San Bruno. The project does not propose the establishment of new housing, businesses, or the extension of roads or infrastructure. Therefore, the project would not induce unplanned population growth and would not remove any existing housing, nor would it displace any people necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere. No impact would occur.

3.15 PUBLIC SERVICES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) 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?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Environmental Setting

Fire Protection

The San Bruno Fire Department (SBFD) serves the residents of San Bruno. There are two stations servicing the City: Fire Station 51, located approximately 0.70-mile northeast of the project site at 555 El Camino Real, and Fire Station 52, located approximately 1.35 miles northwest of the project site at 1999 Earl Avenue. Fire Station 51 serves the residents east of Interstate 280. Fire Station 52 serves residents west of Interstate 280. In addition to direct fire suppression and prevention, SBFD performs support functions such as emergency medical services, S.W.A.T Medics, rescue services, and hazardous and toxic materials emergency response services (SBPD 2023).

Police

The San Bruno Police Department (SBDP) provides police services for the City. SBPD is located at 1177 Huntington Avenue, approximately 1.5 miles north of the project site. SBPD has 50 sworn officers and over 60 employees. The Department provides a wide range of law enforcement services to the community and responds to over 32,000 calls for service each year (SBPD 2023).

Schools

The City has 18 preschools, 9 elementary schools, 1 middle school, and 2 high schools. The San Bruno Park Elementary School District operates seven elementary schools and one middle school. The South San Francisco Unified School District has one elementary school located in

San Bruno. The San Mateo Union High School District operates eight schools, two of which, Capuchino High School and Peninsula High School are in San Bruno (City of San Bruno 2008).

Parks

The City of San Bruno Parks Maintenance Division is responsible for the maintenance of all the City's outdoor recreation sites, The City has about 96 acres of parks and open space land divided into 18 parks, 12 baseball fields, 8 soccer fields, 2 football fields, and one dog park - several of which are located on 4 different school sites covering 25 acres (City of San Bruno 2023). The Live Oak Nature Trail Loop, located approximately 970 feet south of the project site along Crystal Springs Road, is owned and managed by San Mateo County. The closest park to the project site is the Live Oak Nature Trail Loop.

Impact Discussion

Would the project:

a) 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?

iii) Schools?

iv) Parks?

v) Other public facilities?

No Impact (Responses i - v). The purpose of the proposed project is to replace a structurally deficient 2.5 MG steel water storage tank with a new 3.5 MG concrete water storage tank. The project does not propose any new development and therefore would not induce population growth and would not impact the provision of public services. The project would not require new fire protection or police services that would result in the need for physically altered governmental facilities. The project would not increase enrollment at local schools or require the provision of new or physically altered schools, nor increase the use of local and regional parks or require the provision of new or physically altered parks or other governmental facilities. Additionally, the project would not adversely impact public service ratios. Therefore, the project would have no impact.

3.16 RECREATION

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) 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) Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Environmental Setting

The City of San Bruno has about 96 acres of parks and open space land divided into 18 parks covering 71 acres, 12 baseball fields, 8 soccer fields, 2 football fields, and one dog park - several of which are located on 4 different school sites covering 25 acres. The Live Oak Nature Trail Loop, located approximately 970 feet south of the project site on Crystal Springs Road, is owned and managed by San Mateo County. The City of San Bruno Recreation Division includes a Senior Center and offers activities, such as sports programs, and exercise classes. The closest recreational facility is the San Bruno AYSO - Region 249 soccer field located approximately 900 feet west of the project site across I-280.

Discussion

Would the project:

a) Increase the use of existing neighborhood or regional parks or other recreational facilities such that significant physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?

b) Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?

No Impact (Responses a - b). The proposed project is the replacement of an existing water tank and would not result in any use of recreational facilities. No impact to recreational or park facilities would occur.

3.17 TRANSPORTATION

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Conflict with a program., plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle, and pedestrian facilities?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3(b), which pertains to vehicle miles travelled?	☐	☐	☐	☒
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?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Environmental Setting

The project site is located at 461 Cunningham Way, situated between I-280 North entrance ramp and residential housing on Cunningham Way in the southern part of the City of San Bruno This site is accessed off a small driveway between two single-family properties on Cunningham Way on the north side of the site. Vehicle traffic to the site is limited to City Public Works Department staff and vendors for routine maintenance activities. The site is secured with a fence and locked gate.

Impact Discussion

Would the project:

a) Conflict with a program, plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle, and pedestrian facilities?

No impact. The project would not conflict with a program, plan, ordinance, or policy addressing the circulation system because the project is the replacement of an existing potable water tank which does not generate traffic. Project improvements do not involve changes to the local road system and would not alter any existing transit, public roadway, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities. Therefore, no impact would occur.

b) Conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3(b), which pertains to vehicle miles travelled?

No Impact. The project proposes to replace an existing potable water tank which does not generate traffic. The project does not involve new land uses that have the potential to generate

vehicle miles traveled (VMT). Therefore, the project will not conflict with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3(b).

c) 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 project includes widening the existing access driveway to facilitate access of construction equipment at the site. The project does not propose new public roads or intersections or changes to the land use of the project site or area. Therefore, the project would not increase hazards due to a geometric design feature or incompatible uses.

d) Result in inadequate emergency access?

No Impact. The project maintains a 12-foot access roadway around the tank site and along the access driveway. Construction vehicles would use designated access routes and emergency access on Cunningham Way would be maintained during construction. Therefore, the project would not impact emergency access.

3.18 TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resources, 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:				
i) Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k)?	☐	☒	☐	☐
ii) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code 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.	☐	☒	☐	☐

Environmental Setting

Please see Section 3.5, Cultural Resources for information about the cultural and tribal cultural setting at the project site. This information is summarized from the Archaeological Resources Assessment Report prepared for the project (Basin 2024).

Regulatory Setting

Federal

Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990

The Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) of 1990 sets provisions for the intentional removal and inadvertent discovery of human remains and other cultural items from federal and tribal lands. It clarifies the ownership of human remains and sets forth a process for repatriation of human remains and associated funerary objects and sacred religious objects to the Native American groups claiming to be lineal descendants or culturally affiliated with the remains or objects. It requires any federally funded institution housing Native American remains or artifacts to compile an inventory of all cultural items within the museum or with its agency and to provide a summary to any Native American tribe claiming affiliation.

State

Native American Heritage Commission, Public Resources Code Sections 5097.9 – 5097.991

Section 5097.91 of the Public Resources Code (PRC) established the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), whose duties include the inventory of places of religious or social significance to Native Americans and the identification of known graves and cemeteries of Native Americans on private lands. Under Section 5097.9 of the PRC, a state policy of noninterference with the free expression or exercise of Native American religion was articulated along with a prohibition of severe or irreparable damage to Native American sanctified cemeteries, places of worship, religious or ceremonial sites or sacred shrines located on public property. Section 5097.98 of the PRC specifies a protocol to be followed when the NAHC receives notification of a discovery of Native American human remains from a county coroner. Section 5097.5 defines as a misdemeanor the unauthorized disturbance or removal of archaeological, historic, or paleontological resources located on public lands.

California Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 2001

Codified in the California Health and Safety Code Sections 8010–8030, the California Native American Graves Protection Act (NAGPRA) is consistent with the federal NAGPRA. Intended to "provide a seamless and consistent state policy to ensure that all California Indian human remains and cultural items be treated with dignity and respect," the California NAGPRA also encourages and provides a mechanism for the return of remains and cultural items to lineal descendants. Section 8025 established a Repatriation Oversight Commission to oversee this process. The act also provides a process for non–federally recognized tribes to file claims with agencies and museums for repatriation of human remains and cultural items.

Assembly Bill 52

Assembly Bill (AB) 52 specifies that a project that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, as defined, is a project that may have a significant effect on the environment. AB 52 requires a lead agency to begin consultation with a California Native American tribe that is traditionally and culturally affiliated with the geographic area of the proposed project, if the tribe requests in writing to the lead agency, to be informed by the lead agency of proposed projects in that geographic area and the tribe requests consultation, prior to determining whether a negative declaration, mitigated negative declaration, or environmental impact report is required for a project.

No Native American tribes contacted the City of San Bruno under AB52, and thus AB52 consultation was not required as part of the project.

Discussion

Would the project:

a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resources, 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:

i) Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k)?

ii) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code 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?

Less Than Significant with Mitigation. Under CEQA, a significant resource is one that is listed in a California or local historic register or is eligible to be listed. As such, lead agencies have a responsibility to evaluate such resources against the California Register criteria prior to making a finding as to a proposed project's impacts to historical resources (PRC § 21084.1, 20174, 14 CCR § 15064.5(3).

It is possible for a lead agency to determine that an artifact, site, or feature is considered significant to a local tribe, without necessarily being eligible for the CRHR. A determination of such by a lead agency would make an artifact a significant resource under CEQA.

As discussed in Section 3.5, Cultural Resources, no recorded Tribal Cultural Resources are known to be within the project APE, according to the aforementioned CHRIS record search via the NWIC at Sonoma State University.

The NAHC was contacted for a SLF records search. The results were positive for tribal resources in the project area. Letters soliciting additional information were sent to the 11 Native American individuals associated with the six tribal groups recommended by the NAHC (See Section 3.5, for a list of names and tribes). None of the individuals contacted are members of a federally recognized tribe/entity.

As stated in Section 3.5, Ms. Desiree Muñoz and Ms. Carla Marie Muñoz, Costanoan Rumsen Carmel Tribe, responded via email, and recommended Native American monitoring. They also forwarded their response to tribal members Mr. Henry Muñoz and Mr. Samuel Rodriguez for further discussion about the Cunningham Tank Project. No further responses were provided from the Costanoan Rumsen Carmel tribal members. Mr. Andrew Galvan, The Ohlone Indian Tribe, responded via email and recommended: (1) cultural sensitivity training by both a member of the Ohlone community and a qualified archaeologist take place before ground disturbing activities are undertaken; and, (2) the project conditions of approval should include a standard inadvertent discovery clause. Mr. Galvan did not recommend Native American monitoring.

As recommended by Mr. Galvan, implementation of Mitigation Measures CUL-1a and CUL-1b and CUL-2a and CUL-2b (see Section 3.5.3) would safeguard any tribal cultural resources if they are found to be present at the project site.

3.19 UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a) Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or stormwater drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunication 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) Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Environmental Setting

Potable Water

Most of the City's drinking water supply comes from the San Francisco Regional Water System (SFRWS), which is a wholesaler owned and managed by the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC). The supply consists of surface water and local groundwater that are rigorously protected and carefully managed by the SFPUC and San Bruno. These sources are diverse in both the origin and the location with the surface water stored in reservoirs located in the Sierra Nevada, Alameda County, San Mateo County, and groundwater stored in a deep underground aquifer located in the northern part of San Mateo County.

The City's Public Works Department (Water Division) owns, operates, and maintains the potable water distribution system that serves drinking water to users within the City. The City receives surface water purchased from the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC), surface water purchased from North Coast County Water District (NCCWD), and groundwater produced

from the City's wells. The City's water service area encompasses about 5.4 square miles and is generally contiguous with the City limits. As stated in Section 1.1, the Cunningham Tank is one of eight water storage tanks used as part of the City's water distribution system.

Solid Waste

Solid waste, recyclable materials, and compostable material collection within the City of San Bruno is provided through a franchise agreement with Recology San Bruno. Solid waste from the City is disposed of at the San Bruno Transfer Station, located at 101 Tanforan Road (Cal Recycle 2023). Material is then transferred from the facility to a permitted landfill with capacity. The transfer station has a permitted capacity of approximately 768 tons per day; the facility currently receives approximately 198 tons of waste per day. The transfer station has an average excess capacity of 570 tons per day.

Wastewater

Wastewater collected by the City is treated at the South San Francisco-San Bruno Water Quality Control Plant (WQCP). The City operates and maintains the wastewater collection system that conveys wastewater from San Bruno to an interceptor in South San Francisco. The wastewater system includes gravity pipelines, lift stations, and force mains. The City meters its sewer collection system, and the volume of wastewater collected within the City during 2019/20 was 2.15 million gallons per day (MGD). The City owns WQCP capacity rights to an average dry weather flow of 3.8 MGD. The existing water tank operation does not generate any wastewater.

Regulatory Setting

Local

San Bruno Urban Water Management Plan

The purpose of the San Bruno Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) is to provide a planning tool for the City for developing, managing, and delivering municipal water supplies to the City's water service area. Since its founding in 1914, the City has had a long history of providing a reliable water supply to its customers. To continue to meet the water needs of the community, the City carefully manages its available water resources. This plan provides the City with a comprehensive water management action plan for guidance as water supply and/or demand conditions change. The Urban Water Management Planning Act (Act) requires larger water suppliers that provide water to urban users (whether directly or indirectly) to develop UWMPs every five years. UWMPs evaluate conditions for the next 20 to 25 years, so these regular updates ensure continued long-term water supply planning. The City sells and distributes treated water directly to individual water users (e.g., residences and businesses). Since the City provides water to more than 3,000 customers, it is required to prepare a UWMP.

San Bruno General Plan

The following goals and policies from the Public Services and Facilities Element of the General Plan are applicable to the project:

- PFS-C: Ensure that the City's water supply systems are adequate to serve the city's present and anticipated needs, and that water conservation is implemented in all residences and businesses.

- PFS-8: Require expansion of the City's water distribution system proportionate with new development's fair share of demand.

- PFS-9: Upgrade the water distribution system as necessary to provide adequate water pressure to meet fire safety standards and to respond to emergency peak water supply needs.

- PFS-13: Establish water conservation Best Management Practices (BMPs) and require them for new development and for municipal buildings and facilities.

Impact Discussion

Would the project:

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

Less than Significant Impact. The proposed project would replace the existing seismically deficient 2.5 MG steel water tank with a new 3.5 MG prestressed concrete tank that meets current seismic design requirements and to provide additional potable water for the water supply system. Although the new water tank would increase overall water storage capacity in the system, the added storage would go toward serving existing, established communities and would not induce population growth. The project would improve the overall efficiency, supply, and reliability of the City's water distribution system. The construction of proposed project could have significant environmental impacts as discussed in this Initial Study, however, mitigation measures recommended in this Initial Study would reduce all construction impacts to less than significant levels.

The project would not require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded wastewater treatment, stormwater drainage, electric power, natural gas or telecommunications facilities, and water service in community would not be interrupted during project construction. The project does not have connections to any septic or other sewer systems and would not generate wastewater that would require new or expanded facilities. This impact would be less than significant.

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

No Impact. The proposed project would replace the existing 2.5 MG steel water tank which does not meet current seismic standards with a new 3.5 MG prestressed concrete tank designed to meet current seismic requirements and to provide additional potable water for the water supply system. The project's objectives include modernizing the water infrastructure with a new water tank that meets seismic requirements and to expand Water Tank 1's storage capacity from 2.5 MG to 3.5 MG to better serve the community with increased water storage and firefighting capability. The project would improve the overall efficiency, supply, and reliability of the City's water distribution system. The project would have a beneficial impact on water supplies available during 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?

No Impact. The existing water tank site does not generate any wastewater. The proposed project improves water storage capacity at an existing water facility and would also not generate any wastewater. Additionally, the project does not involve generation of wastewater from the expansion of land uses such as recreation, retail, or residences. For these reasons, the project would not result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider that it has inadequate capacity to serve demand from the project 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?

Less than Significant Impact. Some construction waste would be generated by the project over the short-term from the demolition of the existing tank and the construction of the new tank. The City of San Bruno has adopted an ordinance (Chapter 10.23 of the Municipal Code) requiring Construction and Demolition (C&D) debris be recycled. Any complete demolition, alteration or new construction of a building that is valued over $50,000 must complete the "Recycling and Waste Reduction Form." Construction on an existing building requires that at least 50% of the C&D debris shall be recycled. Construction on a new building requires that at least 65% of the C&D debris shall be recycled. As the water tank replacement is a City sponsored project it would require the construction contractor to comply with the C&D Ordinance requirements.

Any waste at the construction site that is not classified as C&D would be collected as required by applicable provisions of Chapter 10.20, Garbage and Refuse, of the San Bruno Municipal Code, which would require the project contractor to contract with local solid waste collection agencies for the collection and disposal of all garbage at the project site. Therefore, the proposed project would not 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 and would comply with federal, State, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste. This impact would be less than significant.

e) Comply with Federal, State, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?

No Impact. Following construction, the project would not generate any solid waste. As there would be no long-term impact and short-term impacts would be managed through compliance with the City of San Bruno Municipal Code requirements for the recycling of C&D and the proper disposal of regular garbage generate at the construction site, the project would comply with all applicable Federal, State, and local waste reduction requirements, and impacts would be less than significant.

3.20 WILDFIRE

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project:				
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?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Require the installation 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?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Environmental Setting

The project site is in an urbanized area located between I-280 to the west and single-family homes along Cunningham Way to the east. The Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) maps the site as an Wildland Urban Interface Influence Zone because of the steep topography and vegetated nature of the site (ABAG 2024). The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire) maps areas of significant fire hazards in the state. These areas are identified based on weather, terrain, fuels, and other factors. According to Cal Fire's Fire Hazard Severity Zone (FHSZ) Map, the project site is located in a Local Responsibility Area. There are no areas within the City that are located in a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone or near a State Responsibility Area. (CAL FIRE, 2023).

Impact Discussion

If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project:

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?

c) Require the installation 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?

No Impact (Responses a - d). As discussed in Section 3.20.1, the project site is not located within or near a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone or a State Responsibility Area. There are no formal evacuation routes or emergency response plans near the project site that would be impacted by the project. The project would not result in any changes to the roadway network, result in a population that would need to evacuate, and it would not add traffic to an evacuation situation. The water tank site would not be occupied and thus would not expose any occupants to pollutant concentrations from a wildfire.

The construction of the new water tank could result in the removal of up to 44 trees and it would require excavation and grading to place the tank approximately 20 feet below existing grade. This construction work would not exacerbate fire risk or result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment. The construction would be conducted in such a manner, consistent with all project specifications, BMPs and Mitigation Measures identified in this Initial Study to prevent significant impacts to the environment.

The project site is steeply sloping. Project construction would require widening of the access road to allow construction vehicle access and the construction of a soil nail retaining wall to hold the cut slope in place. In the event of a wildland fire burning all vegetation on the project site, the City would conduct post-fire evaluations of the project slopes to ensure their stability. The proposed project would have no impact on wildfire hazards.

3.21 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 the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the efforts 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?	☐	☒	☐	☐

Discussion

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?

Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated. As discussed in the previous sections of this Initial Study, the proposed project would not degrade the quality of the environment with the implementation of the identified mitigation measures and standard specifications. As discussed in Section 3.4 Biological Resources, with implementation of the identified mitigation measures (MM BIO-1, MM BIO-2, MM BIO-3, and MM BIO-4), the project would not significantly impact sensitive species or habitats. As discussed in Section 3.5 Cultural Resources, Section 3.18 Tribal Cultural Resources, and Section 3.7 Geology and Soils, with implementation of the identified mitigation measures (MM CUL-1a through MM CUL-1c, MM CUL-2a and MM CUL-2b, and MM GEO-1), the project would result in a less than significant impact on archaeological and paleontological resources.

b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the efforts of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?

Less Than Significant. Under Section 15065(a)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines, a lead agency shall find that a project may have a significant effect on the environment where there is substantial evidence that the project has potential environmental effects "that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable." As defined in Section 15065(a)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines, cumulatively considerable means "that the incremental effects of an individual project are significant when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects." Using this definition, a project that has no impact in a given impact category cannot have a cumulatively considerable contribution because its contribution is zero.

The project evaluated in this Initial Study is limited to the replacement of one existing seismically deficient water tank with a new water tank that will meet current seismic design requirements. Due to the nature of this proposed project, many types of operational impacts that are frequently associated with development projects (e.g., housing, offices, commercial uses, etc.) would not occur. For example, as described in Section 3 of this Initial Study, operation of the new water tank would have no adverse impacts on agriculture and forestry resources, land use, mineral resources, population and housing, public services, recreation, vehicle miles traveled,, and wildfire.

There are no other projects proposed or that would be under construction in the same general area as the proposed project. Therefore, short-term, construction related impacts of the project (e.g., equipment/vehicle emissions, dust emissions, hazardous materials disposal and potential soil contamination, noise and vibration, biological impacts to special status species, tree removal, and water quality from erosion) would not combine with the impacts of other projects and would not be cumulatively considerable. As described in Section 3.13 Noise, the noise sources that could occur during the demolition of the existing water tank and installation of the new water tank would not generate a permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project once completed. Furthermore, mitigation measures and standard specifications are included in the project to reduce construction-related impacts to a less-than-significant level.

As described in Section 3.4 Biological Resources, the project could affect sensitive biological resources in both the short- and long-term. These impacts, however, would not result in a cumulatively significant loss of such resources, because there are no other proposed projects or projects that would be under construction in the same general area as the proposed project. In addition, the project would implement a number of measures to reduce impacts on both common and special-status species, as described in Section 3.4. Therefore, the project would not contribute to cumulative impacts on biological resources.

There are no planned or proposed developments in the project area that could contribute to cumulative aesthetic, air quality, hydrology and water quality, public services, recreation, or utilities and service systems impacts. The project's archaeological, biological resources, and geology and soils impacts are specific to the project area and would not contribute to cumulative impacts elsewhere.

The project's impacts to GHG emissions are discussed in Section 3.8, and it was concluded that the project would have a less than significant impact on GHG emissions.

Based on the discussion above, the project would not result in cumulatively considerable impacts.

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

Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated. The project could have potentially significant impacts on air quality, biological resources, cultural and tribal cultural resources, geologic resources, and release of hazardous materials into the environment. However, mitigation measures have been identified and included in the project (MM AQ-1, MM BIO-1, MM BIO-2, MM BIO-3, MM BIO-4, MM CUL-1a through MM CUL-1c, MM CUL-2a, MM CUL-2b, MM GEO-1, and MM HAZ-1 and HAZ-2) to reduce these impacts to less-than-significant levels. The project would have a less than significant impact or no impact on all other resource areas. The project also includes the City's standard specifications to address potential dust, erosion and water quality and safety during construction to further reduce adverse effects on human beings.

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