

**Initial Environmental Study &
Negative Declaration
SANTA NELLA PARK**

March 2026

Prepared By:

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2222 'M' Street
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INTRODUCTION

1. **Project Title:** Santa Nella Park
2. **Lead Agency Name and Address:** Merced County
Department of Public Works
345 West 7th Street
Merced, CA 95341
3. **Contact Person and Phone Number:** Juan Bravo, Project Manager
(209) 385-7426
4. **Project Location:** Luis Avenue and Vera Cruz Drive,
Santa Nella, CA 95322
5. **Project Sponsor's Name and Address:** Merced County
Department of Public Works
345 West 7th Street
Merced, CA 95341
6. **General Plan Designation:** Neighborhood Commercial (NC), Low Density
Residential (LDR)
7. **Zoning:** Neighborhood Commercial (C-1), Single-Family
Residential (R-1-5000)
8. **Description of Project:**

Project Area and Setting

The County proposes to develop a new public park on a 2.96-acre parcel located the northwest corner of Luis Avenue and Vera Cruz Drive in the unincorporated Santa Nella area of Merced County.

The property is identified by as Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) 373-010-045. A property location map is provided as Figure 1.

The project site consists of fallow land that has been disced for weed control and fire protection. The property is vacant and undeveloped.

Adjacent properties to the north, east and south consist of residential developments which are designated Low Density Residential (LDR) and zoned Single-Family Residential (R-1 and R-1-5000). A pedestrian trail on the site's southwestern side separates the park from residential development.

The project is located within the service boundary of the Santa Nella Community Service District.

Project Description

The unincorporated Santa Nella area is a park-deficient community. Therefore, the County proposes to develop the entirety of the 2.96-acre parcel into a new public park to serve Santa Nella community.

Physical improvements, as shown in Figure 2, include grading 2.96 acres and installing and constructing various park amenities including play areas, a full and half multipurpose sport courts, picnic areas, shade structures, game tables, exercise equipment, and restrooms. Other improvements include the construction of a parking lot and the installation of trees, hardscape and impermeable surfaces as well as turfing and landscaped area, curb, gutter, sidewalks, and a stormwater retention area. The conceptual plan was prepared by an engineering and architectural firm with input obtained from a series of community outreach efforts.

Two driveways would be constructed along Luis Avenue to provide vehicular access to the park and parking lot. Pedestrian entrances would be available throughout the park, including one on Vera Cruz Drive, Luis Avenue, and the corner of Vera Cruz Drive and Luis Avenue.

Water service would be provided by Santa Nella County Water District, and an on-site septic system would be installed for wastewater management.

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

- Merced County Department of Public Works, Division of Building and Safety
- Merced County Department of Public Works, Roads
- Merced County Fire Department
- Merced County Division of Environmental Health

NATIVE AMERICAN CONSULTATION

Have California Native American tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project area requested consultation pursuant to Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 21080.3.1? Yes No

Pursuant to AB 52 and in accordance with California Public Resources Code (PRC) §§ 21080.3.1 and 21080.3.2 and Government Code § 65352.4, the County sent a tribal notification letter to the Table Mountain Rancheria Tribe (TMRT) on August 5, 2025 (dated August 4, 2025). The TMRT responded in a letter dated September 2, 2025 (received September 18, 2025) requesting a cultural resources records search within a ¼-mile radius of the project boundary and copies of any available cultural resources reports.

To address this request, the County requested a record search from the California State University, Stanislaus Central California Information Center (CCIC) on October 10, 2025. The resulting report, received on October 20, 2025, included a review of the following:

- National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)

- California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR)
- California Inventory of Historic Resources (1976)
- California Historical Landmarks
- California Points of Historical Interest listing
- Office of Historic Preservation Built Environment Resource Directory (BERD) and the Archaeological Resources Directory (ARD)
- Survey of Surveys (1989)
- Caltrans State and Local Bridges Inventory
- General Land Office Plats
- Other pertinent historic data available at the CCIC for each specific county

The report was transmitted to TMRT the same day. The report indicated that there are no recorded prehistoric or historic archaeological resources or historic buildings within the project area.

The County follow up with TMRT regarding the CHRIS report on November 7, 2025 but received no response. On December 16, 2025, County staff spoke with TMRT by phone to discuss the findings and the possibility of proceeding with the project with monitoring. TMRT subsequently emailed the County on December 18, 2025 requesting that an archaeologist be retained for the project.

The County consulted with a local archaeologist on January 6, 2026 but determined that retaining an archaeologist was not feasible due to budget constraints. On February 2, 2026, the County informed TMRT of this determination and proposed an alternative approach consisting of weekly pre-construction meetings with construction personnel to review procedures for handling any inadvertent discoveries during ground disturbance. The County also noted that the project area and surrounding land have previously been graded and leveled, and no cultural resources have been identified, consistent with the CHRIS records search. Consultation records and tribal cultural resource information are maintained confidentially in accordance with PRC §§ 21080.3.1 and 21080.3.2 and Government Code § 65352.4.

FIGURE 1
LOCATION MAP



FIGURE 2

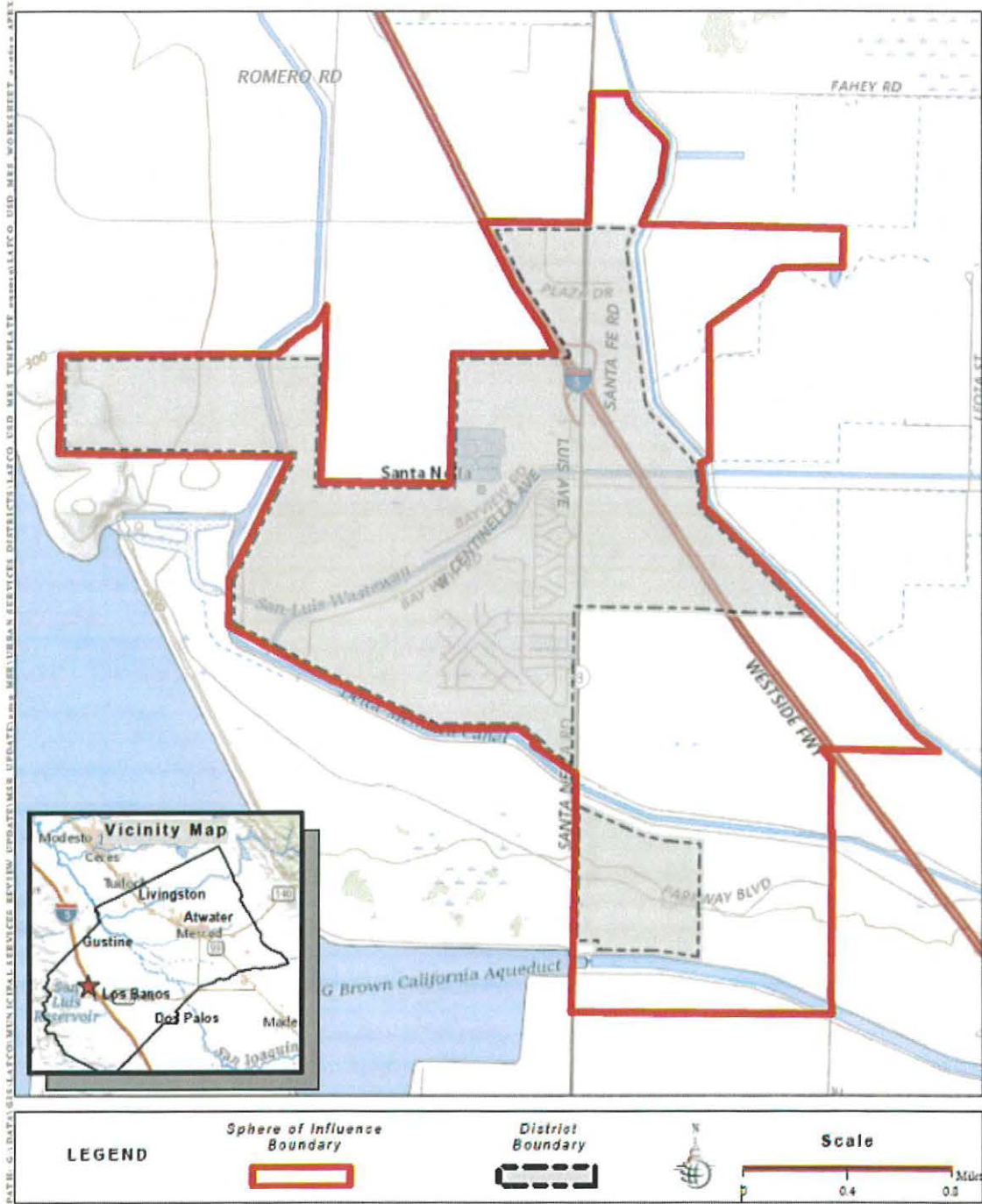


LEGEND

- ① PARK ENTRANCE / EXIT
- ② OFF-STREET PARKING
- ③ RESTROOM
- ④ PLAYGROUND AREA
- ⑤ SHADE SAILS
- ⑥ EXERCISE NODE(S)
- ⑦ GAME TABLES
- ⑧ PICNIC TABLE(S)
- ⑨ STEEL SHADE STRUCTURE
- ⑩ RECREATIONAL TURF AREA
- ⑪ PLANTING AREA
- ⑫ BIORETENTION AREA
- ⑬ PLAY AREA FENCING
- ⑭ FULL MULTI-PURPOSE SPORT COURT
- ⑮ HALF MULTI-PURPOSE SPORT COURT
- ⑯ EARTHEN BERMS
- ⑰ DECOMPOSED GRANITE

FIGURE 3

Santa Nella County Water District Sphere of Influence



ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION

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: _____

March 20, 2026

Printed Name: _____

Juan Bravo
Construction Project Manager
Merced County Department of Public Works

CEQA Analysis Methodology

This Initial Study has been prepared using the “tiering” provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as identified in CEQA Guidelines Section 15152, wherein lead agencies are encouraged to use the analysis contained in Environmental Impact Reports (EIR) for broader projects (i.e., a general plan EIR) as part of the analysis for subsequent specific projects.

Section 15152(e) notes that tiering must be limited to situations where a project is consistent with the general plan and zoning. As described in this Initial Study, the project site land use designation is Santa Nella Urban Community, Neighborhood Residential, and Low Density Residential, and the zoning is Neighborhood Commercial (C-1) and Single-Family Residential (R-1-5000). The County Zoning Code provides that public parks may be allowed by-right in the R-1-5000 zone. Generally, parks would not be allowed in the C-1 zone; however, the County may be exempt from provisions of the Zoning Code pursuant to Merced County Zoning Code Section 18.02.030(A). In this case, the County has made every reasonable effort to comply with the Zoning Code and strict and literal interpretation and enforcement of this Zoning Code would inhibit the County’s ability maintain public health, safety, and general welfare (i.e., developing a community-serving park in a community which is park deficient). Additionally, granting the exemption would not be detrimental to the public health, safety, and general welfare or materially injurious to properties or improvements in the vicinity.

The analysis methodology in this Initial Study makes fundamental use of the CEQA streamlining provisions contained in Section 15183 of the CEQA Guidelines, which addresses projects that are consistent with the established density for a project. Section 15183 states:

15183. PROJECTS CONSISTENT WITH A COMMUNITY PLAN OR ZONING

- (a) CEQA mandates that projects which are consistent with the development density established by existing zoning, community plan, or general plan policies for which an EIR was certified shall not require additional environmental review, except as might be necessary to examine whether there are project specific significant effects which are peculiar to the project or its site. This streamlines the review of such projects and reduces the need to prepare repetitive environmental studies.
- (b) In approving a project meeting the requirements of this section, a public agency shall limit its examination of environmental effects to those which the agency determines, in an initial study or other analysis:
 - 1) are peculiar to the project or the parcel on which the project would be located
 - 2) were not analyzed as significant effects in a prior EIR on the zoning action, general plan, or community plan, with which the project is consistent
 - 3) are potentially significant off-site impacts and cumulative impacts which were not discussed in the prior EIR prepared for the general plan, community plan or zoning action, or
 - 4) are previously identified significant effects which, as a result of substantial new information which was not known at the time the EIR was certified, are determined to have a more severe adverse impact than discussed in the prior EIR

- (c) If an impact is not peculiar to the parcel or to the project, has been addressed as a significant effect in the prior EIR, or can be substantially mitigated by the imposition of uniformly applied development policies or standards, as contemplated by subdivision (e) below, then an additional EIR need not be prepared for the project solely on the basis of that impact.

- (d) This section shall apply only to projects which meet the following conditions:
 - 1) The project is consistent with:
 - A) A community plan adopted as part of a general plan
 - B) A zoning action which zoned or designated the parcel on which the project would be located to accommodate a particular density of development, or
 - C) A general plan of a local agency, and
 - 2) An EIR was certified by the lead agency for the zoning action, the community plan, or the general plan.

- (e) This section shall limit the analysis of only those significant environmental effects for which:
 - 1) Each public agency with authority to mitigate any of the significant effects on the environment identified in the EIR on the planning or zoning action undertakes or requires others to undertake mitigation measures specified in the EIR which the lead agency found to be feasible, and
 - 2) The lead agency makes a finding at a public hearing as to whether the feasible mitigation measures will be undertaken.

- (f) An effect of a project on the environment shall not be considered peculiar to the project or the parcel for the purposes of this section, if uniformly applied development policies or standards have been previously adopted by the county with a finding that the development policies or standards will substantially mitigate that environmental effect when applied to future projects; unless substantial new information shows that the policies or standards will not substantially mitigate the environmental effect.

As stated above, the proposed project is consistent with the General Plan land use designation and with the zoning development density for the site. Therefore, the guidance in Section 15183 applies. Pursuant to section 15183(b), this initial study is used as a tool to evaluate whether any of the circumstances identified in 15183(b)(1) through 15183(b)(4) apply. Where none apply, this is so noted and no further analysis of the environmental effect is required.

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, as indicated by the environmental checklist within this Initial Study.

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics | <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture Resources/
Forestry Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Energy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Geology/ Soils | <input type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse Gas Emissions | <input type="checkbox"/> Hazards & Hazardous Materials |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrology/ Water Quality | <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use/ Planning | <input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Noise | <input type="checkbox"/> Population/ Housing | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | <input type="checkbox"/> Tribal Cultural Resources |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Utilities/ Service Systems | <input type="checkbox"/> Wildfire | <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of
Significance |

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

1. All answers take account of the whole action involved, including off-site as well as on-site, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.
2. Once it has been determined that a particular physical impact may occur, then the checklist answers 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.
3. As described previously, the General Plan EIR is referenced 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)}.
4. Checklist references to information sources for potential impacts (e.g., general plans, zoning ordinances, etc.) are incorporated.
5. "References" – a source list is attached, and other sources used or individuals contacted are cited in the discussion.
5. The explanation of each issue identifies:
 - a. the significance criteria or threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question; and
 - b. the mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less than significant.

ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Ref
1. AESTHETICS – Would the project:					
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?			X		1,2,11
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?			X		1,2,11
c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?			X		1,2,11
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?			X		1,18

Explanation:

The project is located in a predominantly rural area of Merced County, with a mix of residences, businesses, public services and other land uses. The project is located within a housing development where adjacent pastoral fields dominate the landscape. Distance views of Pacific Coast Range hills are visible in the background to the west.

a) The project would involve development of above-ground facilities, including park features such as picnic areas, sports courts, playground, trees and parking lot. These features are similar in size and stature to other structures in the surrounding area, and would not degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings. The proposed project would not obstruct any existing vista, including the Pacific Coastal Range. The project would have a less than significant effect.

b & c) Officially designated state scenic highways within Merced County include State Highway 152 west of Interstate 5, and Interstate 5 from the Stanislaus County line south to Highway 152 (general plan). Both of these highways are in the vicinity of Santa Nella.

The proposed project will not be visible from Interstate 5 or State Highway 152. Project impacts on scenic routes and resources would be less than significant.

d) Exterior street lighting is already present at the project site. Additional new sources of exterior lighting will be introduced by the project at its playground, sports court, and parking lot areas. The project must meet the requirements of Merced County Zoning Code Chapter 18.41 which require the use of directional lighting and minimization of glare and reflection. Compliance with County requirements would limit light trespass, keep lighting levels low, and ensure any light and glare effects are less than significant.

2. AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES – Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Ref
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance to non-agricultural use?				X	1,2,12,18
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson act contract?				X	1,2,12,18
c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forestland (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))?				X	2,18
d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?				X	2
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?			X		2,12,18

Explanation:

a) The proposed project would be located on a small parcel which has not been in agricultural use and is not designated with Agricultural use in the 2030 Merced County General Plan or within the Merced County Zoning Code. No farmland conversion would be required for the proposed park, and therefore, the project would not involve the conversion of Important Farmland. The project would have no impact on farmland conversion.

b) The project site is not within the Williamson Act Agricultural Preserve, nor is it under a Williamson Act contract. The proposed project has no characteristics that would adversely affect existing agricultural production in the vicinity.

c, d) There are no forestlands in the project area or in Merced County. Therefore, the project would have no impact on forest lands.

e) The proposed project would not involve changes in the existing environment that could result in the conversion of existing agricultural or forest land. The project does not involve any off-site improvements or expansions of roadways or infrastructure. The proposed project is located within an approved and existing subdivision, minimizing impacts to the surrounding agricultural environment. The project does not involve additional residential development, and proposed operations are consistent with the zoning and land use designation. Therefore, the proposed project would be less than significant.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Ref
3. AIR QUALITY – Would the project:					
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?			X		20,22
b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?			X		20,22
c) 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 (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?			X		20,22
d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?			X		2
e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?			X		2,20,22

Explanation:

a, b, & c) Merced County is located in the San Joaquin Valley Air Basin. Under both the federal and state Clean Air Acts, the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (SJVAPCD) regulates air quality in Merced County. The SJVAPCD implements air quality management plans to improve health and air quality for residents.

To streamline the process of assessing significance of criteria pollutant emissions from commonly encountered projects, the SJVAPCD has developed a Small Project Analysis Level (SPAL) screening tool. Using project type and size, the SJVAPCD has pre-quantified emissions and determined a level at which it is reasonable to conclude that a project would not exceed applicable thresholds of significance for criteria pollutants.

The proposed project would involve the construction of a 2.96-acre public park with picnic areas, sports courts, playground, restrooms, trees and parking lot. The proposed project is most similar to the city park category identified in the SPAL. This land use category has a 256-acre project size threshold. The proposed project would not exceed the SPAL threshold.

The SPAL estimates that this category of project would generate approximately 20 average trips per day (ADT) which would not exceed the SPAL threshold for vehicle trips for a city park project.

Therefore, the project qualifies to utilize the SPAL approach to conclude that the project would not exceed applicable thresholds of significance for criteria pollutants.

As a result, the project would not be likely to expose sensitive receptors to substantial concentrations of pollutants.

d & e) The SJVAPCD defines sensitive receptors as “facilities that house or attract children, the elderly, people with illness, or others who are especially sensitive to the effects of air pollutants”.

The park will not generate pollutants and hence will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants. The park will not alter air movement, moisture, temperature or cause a change in climate. The park will not create objectionable odors.

Potential pollutants associated with the project would result from the construction period. Construction equipment generates diesel particulate matter (DPM), identified as a carcinogen by the California Air Resources Board. The State of California has determined that DPM from diesel-fueled engines poses a chronic health risk with chronic inhalation exposure. The California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment recommends using a 70 year exposure duration for determining residential cancer risks. Because of the project size and short duration of construction activities with potential to generate toxic air emissions, it is highly unlikely that the construction would pose a toxic risk to nearby residents.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Ref
4. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES – Would the project:					
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?			X		2,8,9
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?			X		2,8,9
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?				X	2,8,9,25
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?				X	2,8,9
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?				X	2
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?				X	2

Explanation:

a & b) According to the 2030 Merced County General Plan Environmental Impact Report, there are many special status plant species and special status animal species within Merced County and listed in the California Department of Fish and Wildlife California Natural Diversity Database.

Of the wildlife species identified in the California Natural Diversity Database, the burrowing owl and Swainson's hawk are the only special status species that have been recorded in the vicinity of the project site. The nearest occurrence of burrowing owls is approximately 0.75 miles south of Santa Nella.

The project site is surrounded by residential development. Vegetation at the project site consists of non-native grasses and weeds. Additionally, the project site is periodically disked and highly disturbed. Due to the intensity of nearby development and regular disturbance of the project site, it is unlikely Swainson's hawks or burrowing owls use the area for intensive foraging or nesting. Therefore, the loss of potential Swainson's hawk or burrowing owl foraging habitat is less than significant.

c) The project site is not located on or near designated wetlands as designated by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's National Wetlands Inventory Wetlands Mapper. The project will have no impact on wetlands.

d) The site is currently a vacant field. Wildlife using the site is limited to those species adapted to landscapes altered by humans and tolerant of human presence. There are no fish in the area, and no fish will be affected by the project.

The Santa Nella Community Specific Plan establishes migratory wildlife corridors which are at least 2,000 feet from the project site.

The proposed project site and its environs are not part of an established native resident or migratory wildlife corridor, and the project would not impact native wildlife movement.

e & f) The project will not conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, nor will it conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved habitat conservation plan.

Therefore, no significant impacts on biological resources are anticipated.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Ref
5. CULTURAL RESOURCES – Would the project:					
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in §15064.5?			X		2
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?			X		2
c) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?			X		2,13

Explanation:

a, b) The project site has been modified and disturbed by previous development, including the construction of the existing single-family homes. The project site is not in the vicinity of any historical landmarks, as determined by the Office of Historic Preservation’s Historic Properties Directory, nor is it on the list of California Historical Resources. The National Register of Historic Places has no listing in the vicinity of the project area.

Given the previously disturbed nature of the site from prior construction and farming operations, the proposed project would have a less than significant impact.

c) No known human remains have been discovered from prior activities. Therefore, no impact is anticipated. In the likelihood that human remains or unrecorded resources could be exposed during future construction activities, Section 7050.5 of the California Health and Safety Code will be implemented. Section 7050.5 requires that all construction and excavation be stopped until the county coroner can determine whether the remains are those of a Native American. If the remains are determined to be Native American, the coroner must contact the California Native American Heritage Commission. In this regard, impacts are considered less than significant.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Ref
6. ENERGY – Would the project:					
a) Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?			X		5
b) Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?			X		2

Explanation:

a & b) The project proposal does not involve any development that would result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources during either construction or operation.

The project will construct an 2.96-acre public park with picnic areas, playground, sports courts, restrooms, trees and parking lot. The project will not conflict with any state or local plans for renewable or energy efficiency, and the project will be required to be in compliance with Title 24 of the California Energy Code, the California Green Building Code, and SJVAPCD’s Rules and Regulations for energy efficiency.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Ref
7. GEOLOGY AND SOILS – Would the project:					
a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:			x		
i. Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault?			x		2,6
ii. Strong seismic ground shaking?			x		2,6
iii. Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?			x		2,6
iv. Landslides?			x		2
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?			x		2,5
c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse?			x		2,6, 23,
d) Be located on expansive soil creating substantial risks to life or property?			x		2, 5, 23
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?			x		2, 16, 27

	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Ref
8. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS – Would the project:					
a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?			X		19, 21
b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?			X		2

Explanation:

a & b) The Merced County General Plan EIR evaluated the increase in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from buildout of the General Plan. The bulk of the County’s GHG emissions come from transportation and agricultural sources.

General Plan EIR Table 11-4, Merced County 2030 General Plan Goals and Policies Relating to GHG Emissions, lists several policies that would have GHG reduction benefits and may be feasible for the proposed project:

AQ-1.7 Heat Island Effect Reduction

LU-9.2 Sustainable Building Practices

LU-9.4 Green Building Standard

NR-2.11 Energy-Efficiency Focused Design

In particular, policy AQ-1.7 requires tree canopy and reflective surface materials to reduce heat island effect. The project will plant at least 100 trees in the new park.

The County will require that the project incorporate GHG reduction measures such as those identified in General Plan policies noted above.

Per the CEQA Guidelines section 15183(c), if an impact is not peculiar to the project site or project and has been addressed in the General Plan EIR, no further analysis is required.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Ref
9. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS - Would the project:					
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?			X		1, 18
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?			X		1, 18
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?			X		1, 18
d) Be located on a site, which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?				X	1, 2, 10, 28
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 for people residing or working in the project area?				X	2
f) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?				X	2
g) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?				X	2,4

Explanation:

a, b, & c) Park operations will not involve transport or disposal of hazardous materials. Application of fertilizers and herbicides will be conducted by County staff and contractors who are trained and certified in safe application of such substances. The park will not emit hazardous substances or waste.

Park construction will involve the use, storage, and disposal of oil, gasoline, diesel fuel, paints, solvents and other hazardous materials. Construction activity must be in compliance with the California Occupational Safety and Health Administration regulations. The Merced County

Division of Environmental Health will require that the project submit a Hazardous Materials Business Plan relating to construction activities. Compliance with these requirements will reduce the hazards related to these materials to a less than significant level.

d) The project site property is not included in the California Department of Toxic Substances Control Hazardous Waste and Substances Site List. Additionally, the site is not included in the California State Water Resources Control Board's Geotracker database of hazardous materials sites. Therefore, no impacts would occur.

e) The project area is not in proximity to any private airstrip. As the project area is 8.5 miles from the Los Banos Municipal Airport and 12 miles from Gustine Municipal Airport, the project site is not located within the 2012 Merced County Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (ALUCP). The proposed use of the site as a park is consistent with the ALUCP. Therefore, no impacts would occur.

f) The project does not interfere with any emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. The site is bordered on two sides by public roads which already support the level of service required. The project park does not obstruct traffic flow or emergency response access of police, fire, and ambulances.

g) According to the General Plan, the project site is not located near any wildland and is within a Local Response Area serviced by Merced County Fire Department. Based on fuel rank, fire rotation, and fire prevention measures, there is little to no threat of wildfire or fire hazard. The proposed project will create an irrigated, regularly mowed park with playfields. Because the project would not expose people or structures to significant risks associated with wildland fire, no impacts would occur.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Ref
10. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY – Would the project:					
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?			X		3, 14
b) Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?			X		2, 17
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:					2, 17, 29
i) Result in a substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site			X		2, 17
ii) Substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or offsite			X		2, 17, 29
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			X		2, 17, 29
iv) Impede or redirect flood flows			X		2, 17
d) In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?.			X		2, 17, 24,
e) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?			X		2

Explanation:

a-c) The proposed project will not violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements. The proposed project will increase the area of impervious surfaces and in turn, increase storm water run-off. The project proposes to utilize existing storm water drain system as proposed in the Santa Nella Community Specific Plan-General Plan Amendment #95-5 (2000). The Department of Public Works regulates storm water retention basin and requires the project to comply with Merced County's MS4 Storm Water Permit (Order No. 2013-001-DWQ) and requirements set forth in the Storm Drainage Design Manual. As such, the proposed

project will not substantially degrade surface or ground water quality; deplete ground water supplies; or impede flood flows, and impacts would be considered less than significant.

d) The project site is located within the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Flood Zone X, an area that is determined to be outside the 100- and 500-year flood plains. Therefore, there would be no impact related to the 100-year flood hazard areas. In the event of flooding due to associated dam failure, all urban areas within the County would be inundated, including the project site. There is very low probability of such occurrence as analyzed by the 2030 Merced County Background Report. Dams are evaluated regularly to verify their structural integrity, including additional stresses that may result from local or regional earthquakes. Additionally, the Merced County Office of Emergency Services (OES), responsible for executing response measures and identifying evacuation routes, receives updated dam inundation information. Therefore, impacts would be considered less than significant.

e) County is currently not under any sustainable groundwater management plan. Given the limited size of the project, and the low water usage design the proposed project will not impede groundwater supplies and recharge and is not expected to conflict or obstruct the implementation of any future water quality control or groundwater management plan. As such, impacts are considered less than significant.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Ref
11. LAND USE AND PLANNING – Would the project:					
a) Physically divide an established community?				X	1, 2, 18
b) Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?			X		1, 2, 18

Explanation:

a) The project vicinity consists of an existing subdivision in an established community and related infrastructure. The existing subdivision has been built out and the proposed project would sit inside the subdivision, thus the proposed project will not divide any established community and no impact would occur.

b) The General Plan Designation for the proposed site is Neighborhood Commercial (NC) and Low Density Residential (LDR). The Zoning for the proposed site is Neighborhood Commercial (C-1) and Single-Family Residential (R-1-5000). Although parks are not allowed in the C-1 zone, Merced County Zoning Code Section 18.02.030(A) allows the County to be exempt from the Zoning Code when the County has made every reasonable effort to comply with the Zoning Code; strict and literal interpretation and enforcement of this Zoning Code would inhibit the County's ability maintain public health, safety, and general welfare; and, granting the exemption would not be detrimental to the public health, safety, and general welfare or materially injurious to properties or improvements in the vicinity. In this case, strict and literal enforcement of the Zoning Code would prevent the County from developing a community-serving park in a community which is park deficient, and the County would design the park to County standards.

The proposed project would not conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect. Therefore, a less than significant impact would occur.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Ref
12. MINERAL RESOURCES – 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?				X	2, 7
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan?				X	2, 7

Explanation:

a & b) The creation of a park on a vacant lot does not result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource. The project site is not mentioned in the general plan or any other known local plan as a mineral resource recovery site. Mineral extraction is not included in project designs.

Therefore, this project has no impact on mineral resources.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Ref
13. NOISE – 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 applicable standards of other agencies?			X		2, 18
b) Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?			X		2, 18
c) For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?				X	1, 2, 18

Explanation:

a & b) The project will not expose the public to noise levels exceeding standards established in the 2030 Merced County General Plan. The project will increase the frequency of noise associated with playground activity and picnicking; however, these noises are not in excess of standards established in the Merced County General Plan. Beyond initial construction, the project would not introduce any new sources of groundborne noise or vibration. The County limits construction activities to weekdays, between 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m., and requires all construction equipment to properly muffled and maintained (MCZC Section 18.41.070). These hours are so defined because they include a period of time where noise sensitivity is at its lowest. Compliance with the County's noise standards will result in less than significant impacts

c) The project area is not in proximity to any private airstrip. As the project area is 8.5 miles from the Los Banos Municipal Airport and 12 miles from Gustine Municipal Airport, the project site is not located within the 2012 Merced County Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (ALUCP). The proposed use of the site as a park is consistent with the ALUCP. There is no public airport or public use airport that will have an impact upon the project.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Ref
14. POPULATION AND HOUSING – Would the project:					
a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?				X	1, 2
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				X	1, 2

Explanation:

a & b) The proposed project does not include any new residential or commercial development.

The proposed project would construct a new 2.96 acre park on a vacant undeveloped lot which is surrounded by existing development. The proposed project intends to accommodate existing and projected recreational demands of the population.

No public infrastructure with the capacity to serve areas beyond the project site would be constructed, removed or affected.

The proposed project would not result in displacement of existing housing or people, and would not necessitate the construction of replacement housing elsewhere. Therefore, no impacts would occur.

Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Ref
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15. PUBLIC SERVICES - Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, or the 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 following public services:

a) Fire protection?		X		1, 2
b) Police protection?		X		1, 2
c) Schools?			X	1, 2
d) Parks?			X	1, 2
e) Other public facilities?			X	1, 2

Explanation:

a) The project site will contain a playground, picnic areas and sports courts. The site is currently not actively used. The active use of the site for recreation could potentially increase fire hazards and other emergency incidents that may increase the demand for fire and/or emergency services at the project site.

The project site is served by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CalFIRE) through a contractual arrangement with Merced County.

Merced County Fire Station 72 is located at 29190 W. Centinella Avenue in Santa Nella, which is approximately 500 feet from the proposed park site.

Prior to final plan approval, CalFire would verify that the proposed project has been designed to conform to code. The project will not create a need for new or physically altered fire protection facilities or equipment.

b) Merced County Sheriff Office (MCSO) provides police protection services to the project area. The increased activity at the project site will require an occasional law enforcement response, but will not impact MCSO service ratios or response times, nor will it generate a need for new or physically altered law enforcement facilities or equipment.

c, d, & e) The project will not require a new school or alterations to any schools.

Currently there are no parks in the area, so the proposed park will not have an impact on any existing parks.

The project will not create a need for any other governmental facilities.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Ref
16. RECREATION – 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?			X		1,2
b) Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?			X		1,2

Explanation:

a, b)

In Merced County, regulations for parkland are found in Chapter 17.44 of the Merced County Code. The purpose of this chapter is to implement the intent of the master recreational plan for Merced County, by realizing the need for the provision of additional local recreational parks for the enjoyment, health, welfare, and the general Well-being of the residents of the unincorporated territory of the County of Merced. The proposed project will provide much needed recreational facility to the community. The impact on the new facility would be less than significant since the proposed project is designed for the community itself.

The project will not create a need for any other governmental facilities.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Ref
17. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC – Would the project:					
a) Conflict with a program, plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?			X		1,15
b) Conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines §15064.3, subdivision (b)?			X		2
c) Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?			X		18
d) Result in inadequate emergency access?			X		2,18

Explanation:

a,b,c, & d) When the project site is converted from a vacant lot to a public park with playground, picnic areas and sports courts, the project is estimated to generate an average of 20 vehicle trips per day. The minor increase in traffic is not expected to significantly impact traffic or transportation.

It will not increase hazards due to a geometric design feature or incompatible uses. Access to the site will be provided by an entrance from Luis Avenue, as shown on Figure 2.

The proposed project does not conflict with any circulation plans, policies, programs, or policies. Therefore, no significant impacts on transportation or traffic are anticipated.

Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Ref
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18. TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCE -

- | | | | | |
|---|--|--|---|------|
| a) Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code §21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is: | | | X | |
| i) Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or | | | X | 2,13 |
| 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 Resource Code § 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe. | | | X | 2,13 |

Explanation:

a) The project site has been modified and disturbed by previous farming operations, and no known tribal, cultural, historical, or archeological resources have been located on-site. The project site does not appear eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources or in a local register, nor does it appear to be a resource to a California Native American Tribe.

If human remains or unrecorded resources are exposed during construction activities, Section 7050.5 of the California Health and Safety Code will be implemented. Section 7050.5 requires that all construction and excavation stop until the County Coroner can determine whether the remains are those of a Native American. If the remains are determined to be Native American, the coroner must contact the California Native American Heritage Commission. Compliance with these standard procedures ensures that the project impacts are less than significant.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Ref
19. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS – 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?			X		2,16,17
b) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?			X		2
c) Result in a determination by the water 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?			X		2,16
d) Generate solid waste in excess of state or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?			X		2,16
e) Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?			X		2,16

Explanation:

a-e) The project site will be served by an existing water service provided by the Santa Nella Water district, existing sewer, and existing storm drain system. Department of Public works has reviewed the project and determined that the existing infrastructure is sufficient for the proposed project. Compliance with the On-site Wastewater Treatment System (OWTS) standards, Well Ordinances, and Hazardous Waste Materials policies will ensure impacts are considered less than significant.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Ref
20. WILDFIRE – Would the project:					
a) Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?				X	2,4
b) Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?				X	2,4
c) Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?				X	2,4
d) Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?				X	2,4

Explanation:

a, b, c, & d) As described in the Hazards and Hazardous Materials section, the project site is not located near any wildland and is within a Local Response Area serviced by Merced County Fire Department. Based on fuel rank, fire rotation, and fire prevention measures, there is little to no threat of wildfire or fire hazard. As a result, there is no impact.

Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	Ref
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21. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE -

- | | | | |
|----|--|---|-------|
| a) | Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory? | X | 2,8,9 |
| b) | Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable?
("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.) | X | 1,2,3 |
| c) | Does the project have environmental effects that will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly? | X | 1,2,3 |

Explanation:

a, b, & c) Review of the proposed project does not have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory.

Cumulative impacts to resources may result from residential, commercial, industrial, and highway development, as well as from agricultural development and the conversion to more intensive agricultural cultivation. These land use activities can degrade habitat and species diversity through consequences such as displacement and fragmentation of habitats and populations, alteration of hydrology, contamination, erosion, sedimentation, disruption of migration corridors, changes in water quality, and introduction or promotion of predators. They can also contribute to potential community impacts identified for the project, such as changes in community character, traffic patterns, housing availability, and employment.

Due to the nature and scope of the project our finding is that there is no cumulative impact, nor was there would the project cause substantial adverse effect to human beings, whether directly or indirectly.

REFERENCES

1. 2030 Merced County General Plan
2. 2030 Merced County General Plan Background Report
3. 2030 Merced County General Plan Environmental Impact Report (EIR)
4. Cal Fire – California Fire Hazard Severity Zone Map
5. California Building Code
6. California Department of Conservation – California Earthquake Hazards Zone Application (EQ Zapp)
7. California Department of Conservation – Mines and Mineral Resources Map
8. California Department of Fish and Wildlife – Threatened and Endangered Species Listing
9. California Department of Fish and Wildlife – California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB)
10. California Department of Toxic Substance Control (DTSC) – List of Hazardous Waste and Substances Site
11. California Department of Transportation – California Scenic Highway Mapping System
12. California Division of Land Resource Protection – Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program (FMMP)
13. California Health and Safety Code
14. California State Water Resources Control Board – Storm Water Program
15. Merced County Association of Governments – 2018 Regional Plan
16. Merced County - Regulation of Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems Ordinance (Title 9, Chapter 9.54)
17. Merced County – Regulation of Stormwater (Title 9, Chapter 9.53)
18. Merced County - Zoning Ordinance (Title 18)
19. Plot Plan Review No. PPR17-042 Exhibit E (Appendix N: Infill Environmental Checklist Form and Attachments)
20. San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District – Guidance for Assessing and Mitigating Air Quality Impacts (GAMAQI)
21. San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District – Guidance for Valley Land-use Agencies in Addressing GHG Emission Impacts for New Projects Under CEQA
22. San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District – Small Project Analysis Level (SPAL)
23. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service – Web Soil Survey
24. U.S. Department of Homeland Security – FEMA Flood Map Center
25. U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service – Natural Wetlands Inventory, Wetlands Mapper
26. County of Merced Water and Sewer Service Providers Review (LAFCO) September 17, 2021
26. Preliminary Geotechnical Report dated September 25, 2024(O’Del Engendering)
27. County of Merced, Santa Nella Community Specific Plan, May 5, 2000
28. California State Water Resources Control Board, Geotracker Database
29. Santa Nella Community Specific Plan-General Plan Amendment #95-5 (2000).

