



PALMDALE

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NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Pursuant to Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, Sections 15072 and 15073, as amended to date, this is to advise that the City of Palmdale, which is the lead agency overseeing this project, has completed a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the proposed project described below.

Project No.: Conditional Use Permit 11-006 Major Modification and Site Plan Review 20-004

Project Location: Approximately 15 acres located at the southwest corner of Hillcrest Drive and Avenue S in the R-1-7,000 zone (APN 3051-015-905), City of Palmdale, County of Los Angeles.

Project Description: The proposed project involves the phase two expansion of the existing Sam Yellen Community Park, which will include the construction of futsal courts, community activity building, open air plaza, mounded turf areas, shaded picnic area, playground area with shade structures, multi-use grass turf area, exercise stations, restroom building, bio-retention basin, multi-use paved trail, and an 84-space parking lot.

Public Review Period: The Mitigated Negative Declaration is available for public review and comment pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Sections 15072 and 15073 (California Environmental Quality Act). All comments must be submitted in writing to the address below. Please refer to this project by the project numbers listed above. If you have no comment, no reply is necessary. The City of Palmdale does not limit public comments to only the circulation period. Comments can be submitted for consideration up until final action is taken by a vote of the approving authority. The review period has not been shortened pursuant to Section 15105 of the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines. The comment period during which the City will receive comments on the Mitigated Negative Declaration is:

Starting Date: May 5, 2020

Ending Date: May 24, 2020

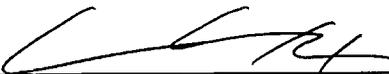
Public Hearing: The City of Palmdale Planning Commission is scheduled to make a decision regarding this project and the associated Mitigated Negative Declaration on

June 11, 2020, in the City Council Chambers at 38300 Sierra Highway, Palmdale, California, 93550 at 7:00 p.m.

Responses and Comments: Please send your written comments to:

Assistant Planner Clarence "Skip" Smith
City of Palmdale, Economic and Community Development Department
38250 Sierra Highway
Palmdale, California 93550
Phone (661) 267-5207, FAX (661) 267-5233
Email: clsmith@cityofpalmdale.org

Document Availability: The environmental document is available on the City website at www.cityofpalmdale.org.



Carlene Saxton
Acting Planning Manager

5/4/2020

Date

CITY OF PALMDALE
Sam Yellen Community Park Phase II
Conditional Use Permit 11-006 Major Modification No. 1;
Site Plan Review 20-004
INITIAL STUDY /MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Prepared for:

CITY OF PALMDALE
38250 SIERRA HIGHWAY
PALMDALE, CA 93550

Prepared by:



BARANEK
Consulting Group

9984 Scripps Ranch Boulevard, #138
San Diego, CA 92131
Contact: Kim Baranek, Principal

DISTRIBUTION LIST

Lozeau Drury, LLP
1939 Harrison Street, Suite 150
Oakland, CA 94612

Baranek Consulting Group, Inc.
9984 Scripps Ranch Boulevard, #138
San Diego, CA 92131

CITY STAFF

Case Planner
City Engineer
Director of Parks and Recreation
Director of Public Works
Amilcar Naef, Public Works Project Manager

STATE AGENCIES

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
California Highway Patrol
Lahontan Region Water Quality Control Board

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

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Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts
Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Antelope Valley Community College
Antelope Valley Union High School District
Palmdale School District

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AT&T Long Distance (email only)
Palmdale Water District
Southern California Edison (2 copies)
Southern California Gas

OTHER

Antelope Valley Air Quality Management District
Antelope Valley Archaeological Society
Palmdale Chamber of Commerce
Sun Village Town Council

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B	Preliminary Drainage Study (Maav Engineering, April 2, 2020)
C	Biological Resources Letter Report (ECORP Consulting, April 8, 2020)

1. INTRODUCTION

A. Purpose and Background of the Initial Study

To evaluate the environmental impacts of implementing Phase II of a community park in the City of Palmdale, CA.

B. Lead Agency

City of Palmdale

C. Technical Studies

- Geotechnical Study Report (Converse Consultants, March 6, 2020)
- Preliminary Drainage Study (Maav Engineering, April 2, 2020)
- Biological Resources Letter Report (ECORP Consulting, April 8, 2020)
- Cultural Resources Records Search and Literature Review for the Yellen Park Project (ECORP Consulting, April 22, 2020)

2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

A. Project Location

The approximately 15-acre project site is situated in the City of Palmdale in the 5100 block of E Avenue S, south of the road at its intersection with Hillcrest Drive. See Figure 1 for the project site location within the City.

B. Project Setting

The project site is vacant. The site features bare ground, which contains predominantly weedy species but no native habitat, as described below under Biological Resources. The property is relatively flat with a ground elevation of between 2,690 and 2,700 feet above mean sea level (MSL). Phase I of the park is immediately west of the Phase II site and contains a number of recreation improvements including a dog park, exercise stations, multi-purpose play field, playground, picnic tables, restrooms, and 100-space parking lot. In addition to

Phase I park improvements, the site is surrounded by the travel lanes for E Avenue S and Hillcrest Avenue on the north and east, Buena Vista Elementary School and Yellen Learning Center are to the south. Single-family residences and Pueblo Learning Center occur north of the project site, while a community commercial shopping center (i.e., Walmart Super Center) is situated west of the Phase I park. The site is zoned residential (R-1-7,000). Figure 2 contains an aerial photograph of the project area.

C. Proposed Actions Addressed in the IS/MND

- Conditional Use Permit
- Site Plan Review

D. Project Components

The approximately 15 acre expansion of Sam Yellen Community Park would consist of the addition of six lighted futsal courts, a community activity building, an open air plaza, informal mounded turf areas, shaded picnic area with built-in barbeques, expanded playground area with shade structures, multi-use grass turf area, exercise stations, restroom building, bio-retention basin, multi-use paved trail, 84-space parking lot and driveway connection/drop off area from E Avenue S and parking lot driveway connection to Hillcrest Drive. Figure 3 contains the site plan with the layout of proposed recreation facilities and various site improvements.

The proposed park would feature a number of required and sustainable design elements. The community activity building would feature storefront glass panels to allow for natural lighting. The new parking area would be constructed of porous asphalt pavement to allow infiltration of runoff. The bio-retention basin would be sized to accommodate post-construction runoff from the site. Court lighting would be in compliance with the City's design standards and be shielded to prevent overspill. Landscaping would be climate appropriate and drought tolerant. Point source (i.e., drip) irrigation systems would be utilized, consistent with the City's Water Conservation Ordinance. Recycled water connections would be constructed to allow the City to irrigate with recycled water when it becomes available in the future. All facilities would be designed in accordance with the City's engineering and landscape design standards.

Once constructed, the expanded park would be open to the public from 6AM to 10PM seven days a week similar to other parks in the City.

E. Regulatory Requirements, Permits, and Approvals

To implement the proposed project, the following agreements, permits, and approvals are anticipated:

- Conditional Use Permit
- Site Plan Review
- Building Permits
- Grading Permit
- Air Quality Permits
- Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) General Permit
- Encroachment Permit

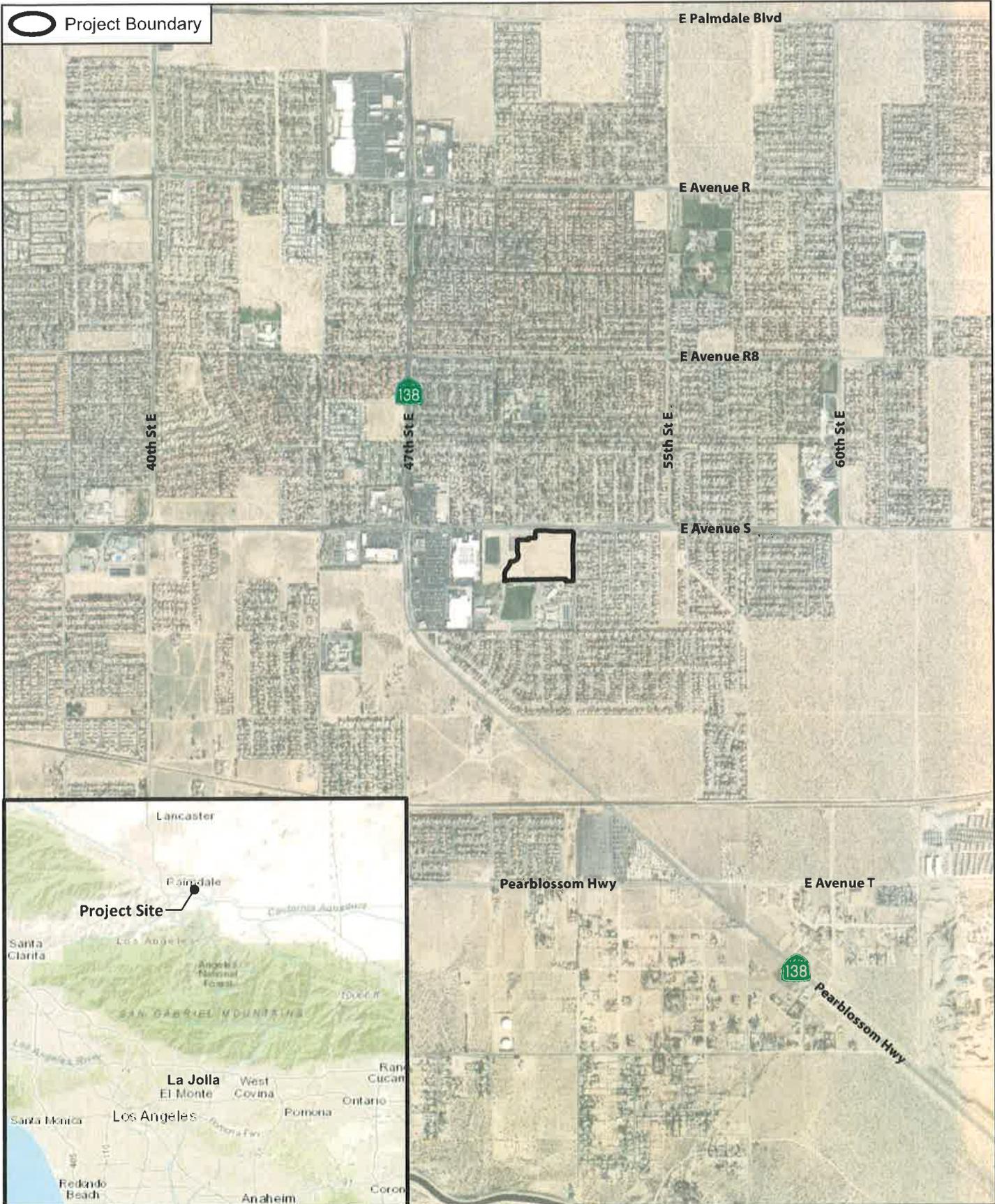


Figure 1

Project Location Map and Aerial



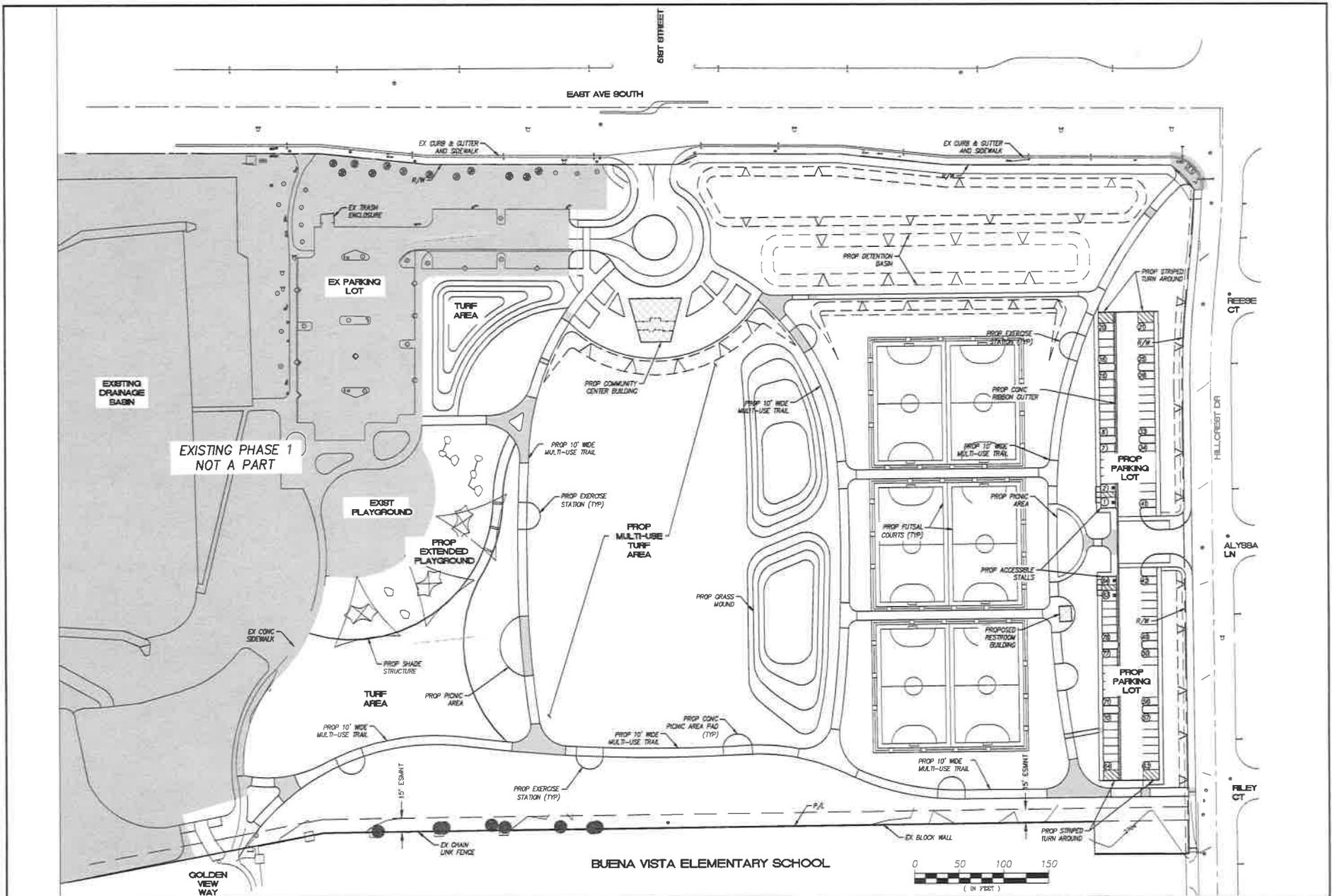
Figure 2

Aerial Photograph

BARANEK
Consulting Group

N
0
150
Feet

YELLEN COMMUNITY PARK II



Source: KTUA, Civil Sense 2020

Figure 3

3. ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

A. Background

1. Project Title:

Sam Yellen Community Park – Phase II

2. Lead Agency Name and Address:

City of Palmdale
Economic and Community Development Department
Planning Division
38250 Sierra Highway
Palmdale, CA 93550

3. Contact Person and Phone Number:

City of Palmdale
Economic and Community Development Department
Planning Division
38250 Sierra Highway
Palmdale, CA 93550
Clarence D. "Skip" Smith, Jr., Assistant Planner
(661) 267-5207

4. Project Location:

South side of E Avenue S, between 50th and 52nd Street East, at the intersection with Hillcrest Drive (APN: 3051-015-905)

5. Project Applicant's Name and Address:

City of Palmdale

Public Works Department
 38250 Sierra Highway
 Palmdale, CA 93550

6. Existing Land Use / Zoning / General Plan:

	SURROUNDING LAND USE	ZONING	GENERAL PLAN
SITE	Undeveloped/vacant	R-1-7,000 (Single-family Residential, minimum lot size of 7,000 square feet)	SFR-3 (single-family residential, 3.1-6 dwelling units per acre)
NORTH	Residential	R-1-7,000 (Single-family Residential, minimum lot size of 7,000 square feet)	SFR-3 (single-family residential, 3.1-6 dwelling units per acre)
SOUTH	School	PF-S	PF
EAST	Residential	R-1-7,000 (Single-family Residential, minimum lot size of 7,000 square feet)	SFR-3 (single-family residential, 3.1-6 dwelling units per acre)
WEST	Park	R-1-7,000 (Single-family Residential, minimum lot size of 7,000 square feet)	SFR-3 (single-family residential, 3.1-6 dwelling units per acre)

7. Description of Project:

The approximately 15 acre expansion of Sam Yellen Community Park would consist of the addition of six lighted futsal courts, a community activity building, an open air plaza, informal mounded turf areas, shaded picnic area with built-in barbeques, expanded playground area with shade structures, multi-use grass turf area, exercise stations, restroom building, bio-retention basin, multi-use paved trail, 84-space parking lot and driveway connection/drop off area from E Avenue S and parking lot driveway connection to Hillcrest Drive. Figure 3 contains the site plan with the layout of proposed recreation facilities and

various site improvements.

The proposed park would feature a number of required and sustainable design elements. The community activity building would feature storefront glass panels to allow for natural lighting. The new parking area would be constructed of porous asphalt pavement to allow infiltration of runoff. The bio-retention basin would be sized to accommodate post-construction runoff from the site. Court lighting would be in compliance with the City's design standards and be shielded to prevent overspill. Landscaping would be climate appropriate and drought tolerant. Point source (i.e., drip) irrigation systems would be utilized, consistent with the City's Water Conservation Ordinance. Recycled water connections would be constructed to allow the City to irrigate with recycled water when it becomes available in the future. All facilities would be designed in accordance with the City's engineering and landscape design standards.

Once constructed, the expanded park would be open to the public from 6AM to 10PM seven days a week similar to other parks in the City.

8. Surrounding Land Uses and Setting:

Phase I Yellen Park improvements, including dog park, multi-purpose field, picnic areas, restrooms, and fitness stations, occur immediately west of the Phase II park site. The site is bounded on the other sides by the travel lanes for E Avenue S and Hillcrest Drive on the north and east, and Buena Vista Elementary School and Yellen Learning Center to the south. Single-family residences and Pueblo Learning Center occur across E Avenue S from the project site to the north and northwest, while a commercial shopping center is situated west of the Phase I park. Single-family residences are also across Hillcrest Drive from the site.

B. 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. Potentially significant impacts that are mitigated to "Less Than Significant" are now shown here.

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

C. Determination

On the basis of this initial evaluation: (Select one)

- 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 the mitigation measures described on an attached sheet have been added to the project. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
- I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect(s) 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, if the effect is a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated". 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, there WILL NOT be a significant effect in this case because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR pursuant to applicable standards and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project.

This initial study was prepared by:

5/4/2020
Date



Carlene Saxton
Acting Planning Manager

D. Evaluation of Environmental Impacts

Each of the responses in the following environmental checklist considers the whole action involved, including project-level, cumulative, on-site, off-site, indirect, construction, and operational impacts. A brief explanation is provided for all answers and supported by the information sources cited.

1. 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).
2. A “Less Than Significant Impact” applies when the proposed project would not result in a substantial and adverse change in the environment. This impact level does not require mitigation measures.
3. A “Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated” applies when the proposed project would not result in a substantial and adverse change in the environment after additional mitigation measures are applied.
4. “Potentially Significant Impact” is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect is significant. If there are one or more “Potentially Significant” entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
I AESTHETICS. Except as provided in Public Resources Code Section 21099, would the Project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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 point). If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare that would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Project Impacts and Mitigation Measures

- a) **No Impact.** There are no designated scenic vistas or corridors in the project area. The General Plan recognizes the scenic backdrop to the City, including the significant ridgelines of the San Gabriels, the Sierra Pelona and the Ritter and Portal Ridges that form the City's skyline views. The proposed park improvements would not obscure or alter these scenic backdrops to the City. Therefore, the proposed park improvements would not obstruct views or result in an impact on scenic resources visible from designated vistas or corridors.
- b) **No Impact.** The project site was previously graded and contains no trees, rock outcrops or historic structures that would be removed as part of the proposed park improvements. The nearest locally designated scenic highways, Sierra Highway (south of Avenue S) and Pear Blossom Highway, are south of the project site. The proposed park improvements would not alter scenic resources viewed from these highways. Therefore, the proposed park improvements would not have an impact on scenic resources as viewed from the highway.
- c) **Less than Significant Impact.** The proposed park would be built in an urbanized

area of the City and would be an allowable use in the R-1-7,000 zone with approval of a Conditional Use Permit and Site Plan Review. The park improvements would comply with the development regulations in the municipal code and applicable General Plan policies. The design would implement Goal CD 8 (*use of landscaping to reinforce community identity, to create a pleasant environment, to control erosion and promote natural percolation of stormwater, to provide protection from wind and hot summer sun, and to integrate new development into the surrounding district*) and Goal CD 9 (*incorporate a high quality of design into planning for public buildings, capital improvement projects, rights-of-way, drainage facilities, open spaces, and other land uses owned or initiated by the City of Palmdale, to contribute to a cohesive sense of plan, exchange the overall quality of development in the City, and perpetuate the image which the City wishes to create*) of the Community Design Element of the General Plan by using landscape materials that are compatible with the existing park and surrounding neighborhoods and compliment the community activity building and other recreation amenities proposed on site. The community activity building would feature high quality construction materials that are complimentary to existing development in the project area. In addition, the plant palette would be compatible with the water needs of the local desert climate, while providing visual interest. The bio-retention basin would feature landscape materials in its interior that would be compatible with the park landscaping theme while being compatible with periodic inundation events. Therefore, the project would create a positive visual character on site and would not conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality.

- d) **Less than Significant Impact.** The project site is in an urbanized area of the City that currently features night lighting. Lighting would be installed at the futsal courts and for wayfinding along parking, picnic, and trail areas. The futsal light standards would be deflected away from adjacent properties and public rights-of-way and of an intensity compatible with the residential neighborhood, as required by Palmdale Municipal Code. All other lighting would be downward focused as well. Therefore, the increase in night lighting would not adversely affect nighttime views in the local area.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	
II AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY RESOURCES. In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997), prepared by the California Department of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. 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 nonagricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b)	Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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))?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d)	Result in the loss of forestland or conversion of forestland to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e)	Involve other changes in the existing environment, which due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to nonagricultural use or conversion of forestland to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Project Impacts and Mitigation Measures

- a) **No Impact.** The site does not contain soils identified for farmland use. The Environmental Resources Element of the General Plan maps the project site as “Other Land” (refer to Exhibit ER-1A). Therefore, its conversion to park use would not impact any agricultural resources.
- b) **No Impact.** The project site is in an urbanized area, zoned for residential use (R-1-7,000) but consists of a park and playground use. The project would not impact agricultural lands.
- c) **No Impact.** The project site is in an urbanized area, zoned for residential use (R-1-7,000) but consists of a park and playground use. The project would not

impact forestry or timberland resources.

- d) **No Impact.** The project site is vacant, devoid of natural vegetation, in particular forests, and would not impact forestry or timberland resources.
- e) **No Impact.** The project site is in an urbanized area, zoned for residential use (R-1-7,000) but consists of a park and playground use and would not convert farmland or agricultural lands to park use.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact	
III AIR QUALITY. Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management district or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the Project:					
a)	Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c)	Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d)	Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Project Impacts and Mitigation Measures

- a) **Less than Significant Impact.** The proposed project would implement a planned park identified as a future recreation facility in the General Plan. Park construction and operations would produce short and long-term criteria pollutant emissions. However, because the park is a planned facility, those emissions are accounted for in the Mojave Desert Air Basin’s emissions projections. Therefore, emissions associated with the proposed project would not conflict with or obstruct the ability of the region to attain the goals established by the South Coast Air Quality Management District for the air basin.
- b) **Less than Significant Impact.** Park construction and operations would produce short and long-term criteria pollutant emissions, including particulate matter and ozone for which the Mojave Desert Air Basin is in non-attainment for the state

standards. Implementation of the park and recreation improvements on site would cause short-term emissions of both criteria pollutants during construction, but would also eliminate a potential source of wind-driven fugitive dust and particulate matter by conducting dust control during construction as required by the City regulations and securing soil surfaces on the property with turf, landscaping, buildings and hardscape improvements described under Project Description. Minimal amounts of particulate matter would be anticipated during facility operations as the primary source of emissions would be from vehicular sources. The amount of traffic generated by park users would not create a substantial new source of ozone as it would serve the local community and schools, some of which could use alternative transportation to access the facilities. As noted above under item a, the project's emissions have been accounted for in the air quality management planning for the air basin. Therefore, the proposed project would not result in a cumulatively considerable increase in criteria pollutant emissions.

- c) **Less than Significant Impact.** The nearest sensitive receptors are Buena Vista elementary school and Yellen Learning Center situated immediately south of the project, while residences occurring in the local vicinity. Construction of the park would require the use of heavy equipment that would emit criteria pollutants. However, because the site has been previously disturbed and covered with excess fill and minor grading would be required, emissions would be short-term and not extensive in scope. Heavy concentrations of construction emissions would not be expected because of the limited extent and short-term nature of the construction efforts. Operational emissions from vehicles and energy sources would be minimal and not cause a concentration of emissions nearby that would adversely affect local sensitive receptors. Therefore, the proposed project would not expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations.
- d) **No Impact.** As a park and recreation facility containing recreational amenities, there would be no sources of odors constructed on site. Therefore, the proposed project would not produce odors that would adversely affect a substantial number of people.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
IV BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES. Would the Project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate,	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

	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 or regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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 nesting sites?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e)	Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Project Impacts and Mitigation Measures

- a) **Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated.** The project site is disturbed and developed and does not provide any suitable habitat for special-status plant or wildlife species. The developed/landscaped areas of the project site included a landscaped area with ornamental trees and mostly bare compact sandy ground with multiple herbaceous nonnative weedy species. Because trees and nesting substrates, such as structures, are present in the project area, there is the potential for birds protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act to occur on and immediately off the project site. If construction were to occur during the bird breeding season (approximately February 15 through August 31), there would be a potential to have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species by Section 3505 of the State Fish and Game Code. In addition, although the project site does not currently contain any active burrowing owl burrows, construction disturbances during the nesting season (February to July) have the potential to impact nesting burrowing owls. As such, the following mitigation measures are required to reduce potential impacts to

sensitive species below a significant level. Implementation of the protection measures described in Mitigation Measures BIO-1 through BIO-3 before and during construction would result in a less than significant impact to nesting birds.

- b) **Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated.** A limited amount of riparian plant species was observed along the southern project boundary and fence line between the project site and the adjacent elementary school. Additional riparian vegetation, in the form of mulefat shrubs were observed immediately adjacent to the site on the school property near the southwestern corner. These riparian species are not identified in local or regional plans, policies or regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The area containing these resources is within an existing 15-foot wide easement to the Palmdale Water Department and would be avoided by the proposed project, as noted below under Item IV.c. To ensure impacts are avoided, the project would implement Mitigation Measure BIO-4. Therefore, upon implementation of BIO-4, less than significant impacts to riparian species would occur.
- c) **Less than Significant Impact.** No riparian or wetland habitat was observed on site. However, a limited amount of riparian plant species was observed along the southern project boundary and fence line between the project site and the adjacent elementary school. Additional riparian vegetation, in the form of mulefat shrubs were observed immediately adjacent to the site on the school property along the southwestern corner. No grading or improvements are proposed along the southern property line as part of the proposed project. Therefore, the proposed project would not have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands.
- d) **No Impact.** The project site contains disturbed and developed areas that does not provide any suitable habitat for special-status plant or wildlife species. In addition, the area is urbanized and does not contain any wildlife corridors or wildlife nesting sites. Therefore, the proposed project would not 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 nesting sites.
- e) **No Impact.** The City has an ordinance to protect and preserve desert vegetation, and particularly Joshua trees. The project site contains disturbed and developed areas that do not contain native desert vegetation. The only Joshua tree observed in the project area is within the landscape along Avenue S and would remain in

place. Therefore, the proposed project would not conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance.

- f) **No Impact.** The project site contains disturbed and developed areas that do not contain native desert vegetation. The City does not have an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan. Instead, the City's biological resources protection policies are contained in the General Plan and the municipal code, neither of which apply to the proposed project due to the lack of direct impacts to sensitive resources. Therefore, the proposed project would not conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan.

Mitigation Measures

- BIO-1:** A pre-construction nesting bird survey of the project site shall be conducted prior to the start of ground-disturbing activities if such activities are scheduled for the nesting bird season (approximately February 15 through August 31). The pre-construction nesting bird survey shall be conducted by a qualified biologist to ensure that active bird nests will not be disturbed or destroyed. The survey shall be completed no more than three days prior to initial ground disturbance. The nesting bird survey shall include the project site and adjacent areas where project activities have the potential to affect active nests, either directly or indirectly due to construction activity or noise. If an active nest is identified, a qualified biologist shall establish an appropriate disturbance limit buffer around the nest using flagging or staking. Construction activities shall not occur within any disturbance limit buffer zone until the nest is deemed inactive by the qualified biologist.
- BIO-2:** A pre-construction presence/absence survey for burrowing owl shall be conducted by a qualified biologist within 30 days prior to any on-site ground disturbing activity. The survey shall be conducted pursuant to the recommendations and guidelines established by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). In the event these species are not identified within the project limits, no further mitigation is required. If, during the pre-construction survey, the burrowing owl is found to occupy the site, Mitigation Measure **BIO-3** shall be required.
- BIO-3:** If burrowing owls are identified during the survey period, the following actions shall be taken to offset impacts prior to the start of ground disturbing activities:

- a) Active nests within the areas scheduled for disturbance or degradation shall be avoided from February 1 through September 15, and a minimum 250-foot buffer shall be provided until fledging has occurred. Following fledging, owls may be passively relocated by a qualified biologist. If impacts on occupied burrows in the non-nesting period are unavoidable, on-site passive relocation techniques may be used if approved by the CDFW to encourage owls to move to alternate burrows outside of the impact areas.
- b) If relocation of the owls is approved for the site by the CDFW, the City shall require the developer to hire a qualified biologist to prepare a plan for relocating the owls to a suitable site. The relocation plan shall include all of the following:
- The location of the nest and owls proposed for relocation;
 - The location of the proposed relocation site;
 - The number of owls involved and the time of year when the relocation is proposed to take place;
 - The name and credentials of the biologist who will be retained to supervise the relocation;
 - The proposed method of capture and transport for the owls to the new site;
 - A description of site preparation at the relocation site (e.g., enhancement of existing burrows, creation of artificial burrows, one-time or long-term vegetation control); and,
 - A description of efforts and funding support proposed to monitor the relocation.

BIO-4: The final project design shall avoid all grading and disturbance of the riparian species present along the southwest property line of the project site. This avoidance requirement shall be verified by the City through the Site Plan Review process prior to approval of the construction drawings. The riparian area shall be identified and flagged in the field by a qualified biologist prior to and throughout the duration of project construction.

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	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
V CULTURAL RESOURCES. Would the Project:				
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to in §15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource as defined in Public Resources Code Section 21083.2 and 21084.1, and CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5, respectively?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Disturb any Native American tribal cultural resources or human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Project Impacts and Mitigation Measures

- a) **No Impact.** Based on a review of records at the Office of Historic Preservation, National Register of Historic Places, California Historic Landmarks, General Land Office, and Caltrans Bridge Local and State Inventories, there are no recorded historic resources within or in the vicinity of the project site. A review of historical aerial photographs and maps indicate that the project area was never developed. Therefore, the proposed project would not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to in §15064.5.

- b) **Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated.** A records search was conducted through the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) at the South Central Coast Information Center (SCCIC) of the project area and within 1 mile of the site to ascertain the potential for archaeological resources. Based on the records search results, there are 15 cultural resources previously recorded within one mile of the project site, including 13 historic-period resources and two pre-contact lithic scatters. No cultural resources have been previously recorded on the project site, including during a prior cultural resources investigation for the first phase of the park. Based on a review of soil maps and water sources in the project area, as well as information derived from a site-specific geotechnical investigation, the property is covered by 1.5 to 5 feet of imported fill material. However, there is a low to moderate potential for buried pre-contact sites below the level of previous disturbance. Therefore, there is the potential to cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource as defined in Public Resources Code Section 21083.2 and 21084.1, and CEQA

Guidelines Section 15064.5. Implementation of the protection measures described in Mitigation Measures CUL-1 through CUL-3 during construction would result in a less than significant impact to unknown buried archaeological resources.

- c) **Less than Significant Impact.** Based on a records search and prior cultural resources investigation of the project site, there is no evidence to suggest there is potential for buried Native American tribal cultural resources or human remains on the project site. Therefore, the proposed project would not have the potential for impacts to Native American tribal cultural resources or human remains. Refer to the Tribal Cultural Resources discussion below under Item XVIII.

Mitigation Measures

- CUL-1:** In the event that cultural resources are discovered during project activities, all work in the immediate vicinity of the find (within a 60-foot buffer) shall cease and a qualified archaeologist meeting Secretary of Interior standards shall be hired to assess the find. Work on the other portions of the project outside of the buffered area may continue during this assessment period. Additionally, the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians Cultural Resources Department (SMBMI) shall be contacted, as detailed within Mitigation Measure TCR-1, regarding any pre-contact finds and be provided information after the archaeologist makes his/her initial assessment of the nature of the find, so as to provide Tribal input with regards to significance and treatment.
- CUL-2:** If significant pre-contact cultural resources, as defined by CEQA (as amended, 2015), are discovered and avoidance cannot be ensured, the archaeologist shall develop a Monitoring and Treatment Plan, the drafts of which shall be provided to SMBMI for review and comment, as detailed within Mitigation Measure TCR-1. The archaeologist shall monitor the remainder of the project and implement the Plan accordingly.
- CUL 3:** If human remains or funerary objects are encountered during any activities associated with the project, work in the immediate vicinity (within a 100-foot buffer of the find) shall cease and the County Coroner shall be contacted pursuant to State Health and Safety Code §7050.5 and that code enforced for the duration of the project.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
VI ENERGY. Would the Project:				
a) Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Project Impacts and Mitigation Measures

- a) **Less than Significant Impact.** The park improvements would involve energy usage during construction and operations. Construction energy would not be inefficient or wasteful given that the project is the second phase of a park site that has already undergone rough grading. In addition, all construction equipment usage would be kept to a minimum and the energy usage would be on par for standard construction activities. Operational energy usage would primarily be associated with electrification of field lighting, building lighting and wayfinding. A certain amount of energy would also be required to heat/air condition the community activity building and to run irrigation equipment. All lighting and electrical fixtures, including heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) equipment, would comply with City and state codes for energy efficiency. Therefore, the proposed project would not result in a significant environmental impact related to energy usage.
- b) **No Impact.** The park improvements would be constructed and operated in accordance with City and state codes for energy efficiency. Drought tolerant landscaping would be used to minimize potable water needs of the park. Overhead field lighting fixtures would be light emitting diode (LED) to minimize demand for electricity. In addition, once the City transitions to using recycled water for irrigation, the landscape would be irrigated using recycled water. Therefore, the proposed project would not obstruct any plans for energy efficiency, including the City's Energy Action Plan.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
VII GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS. Would the Project:				
a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Project Impacts and Mitigation Measures

- a) **Less than Significant Impact.** The park project would generate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions during construction through the use of construction equipment, materials deliveries, and construction worker travel. Facility operations would generate GHG emissions through new mobile sources (i.e., cars), indirect emissions related to water, lighting and maintenance activities. Both phases of the project would also generate GHG emissions related to solid waste management. Long-term GHG emissions would be minimized because the park is proposed in an urban area near where users already live, attend school and shop such that trip consolidation would occur. In addition, bicycle and pedestrian access would be available to the project site allowing park users to use non-vehicular modes of travel to access the recreation facilities. Landscaping would include canopy and shade trees that would provide carbon sequestration opportunities on site. Recycling receptacles would be integrated on site to reduce solid waste disposed of in landfills. Energy usage and related GHG emissions would be minimized through compliance with local and state energy conservation requirements (see item VI a and b).
- b) **Less than Significant Impact.** The City adopted an Energy Action Plan which contains implementation strategies for reducing GHG emissions within its jurisdiction. Implementation policies that would relate to park facilities include exceeding Title 24 energy efficiency standards, reducing municipal water usage by using recycled water (when available), supplying renewable energy for City facilities through a Power Purchase Agreement, and employing low emissions vehicles for City operations/maintenance. Therefore, the GHG emissions produced by the project would not impede the City's ability to implement the GHG reduction strategies in its Energy Action Plan.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
VIII GEOLOGY AND SOILS. Would the Project:				
a) Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of injury, damage or death involving:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based upon on other substantial evidence of a known fault?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iv) Landslides?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geological feature?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Project Impacts and Mitigation Measures

a ii, iii **Less than Significant Impact.** The project site has no active faults and is not located within a currently designated State of California Earthquake Fault Zone. The San Andrea Fault is situated approximately 2.1 miles from the project site. Moderate to strong ground shaking may occur during the lifetime of the project. The recreation facilities proposed on site would be designed and constructed in accordance with the recommendations in the project-specific geotechnical study report to comply with all applicable state and local codes related to seismic

hazards. Therefore, the risk to human health or property from ground shaking or failure would not be considered significant.

- a i, iv) **No Impact.** No active faults project towards or extend across the project site. The project site is relatively flat and no located near any hillside terrain that would result in seismically induced landslides. Therefore, the proposed project would not be exposed to hazards from fault rupture or landslides.
- b) **Less than Significant Impact.** The project site currently is vacant and would be stabilized with recreational facilities and landscaping to prevent the loss of top soil. The proposed project would be required to comply with all erosion control regulations in the City's Grading Ordinance and NPDES permit requirements protecting water quality from sedimentation effects. Although some soil disturbance would be required during construction, compliance with local and state regulations would ensure there would not be a substantial loss of top soil or erosion.
- c) **Less than Significant Impact.** The project site is relatively flat and is not located within a mapped Seismic Hazard Zone for liquefaction. Undocumented and artificial fills exist on site but would be excavated and recompacted as recommended in the project-specific geotechnical study report to create proper foundations for the proposed recreational facilities. Therefore, the project would not be exposed to unstable soil conditions or cause unstable soil conditions offsite.
- d) **No Impact.** The project site contains soils that exhibit a very low expansive potential according to the site-specific geotechnical study report. Therefore, the proposed project would not be exposed to hazards related to expansive soils.
- e) **No Impact.** The proposed project would connect to the local sewer system and not be served by septic tanks. Therefore, there is no need for on-site soils to be acceptable for septic tank use.
- f) **Less than Significant Impact.** The proposed project was disturbed as part of the construction for Yellen Park Phase I. According to the General Plan exhibits, the project site is not in an area of high probability for significant paleontological resources. The site is underlain with undocumented and artificial fills and the majority of grading would not disturb native formational materials such that impacts to paleontological resources would not occur. The lighting standards would require cast-in-drilled-hole pile foundations that would be anchored into the native formation; however, the extent of disturbance required for the lighting fixtures

would be minimal. Therefore, the proposed project would not directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
IX HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS. Would the Project:				
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, emission or disposal of hazardous materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonable foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan area or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within 2 miles of a public airport or a public use airport, result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Project Impacts and Mitigation Measures

a, b) **Less than Significant Impact.** During project construction activities, small amounts of hazardous materials may be present on site (such as fuels, lubricants, solvents, etc.); however, these materials would be present in small quantities and typical of those used in construction activities. These materials would be stored, handled, used, and disposed of in accordance with applicable regulations and

requirements, and would not create a significant hazard to the public or environment. Operational maintenance of the park facilities would require the routine use of small quantities of hazardous materials, such as cleaning supplies and landscape maintenance equipment. Therefore, the proposed project would not create a significant hazard to the public or environment.

- c) **Less than Significant Impact.** The proposed project's construction activities would produce diesel particulate emissions in the vicinity of the elementary school and learning center south of the project site. However, the short-term temporary nature of the construction activities would limit exposure to the hazardous emissions and not be a long-term source of hazardous emissions in the project area. All construction equipment would comply with the latest regulations with regard to pollution control further limiting exposure. Therefore, the proposed project would not result in emissions that would cause a substantial hazard to the local schools.
- d) **No Impact.** An Envirostar database search was conducted on the Department Toxic Substances Control website to ascertain if any recorded hazardous materials sites occur in the project area. The closest recorded hazardous contamination site is a closed site situated at the Shell Service Center along 47th Street at E Avenue S. Therefore, the proposed project site is not on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5.
- e) **No Impact.** The project site is not located within the Plant 42 Air Installation Compatibility Use Zone (AICUZ) or its over-flight area; therefore, no safety hazards or noise impacts to park users related to those aircraft operations would occur.
- f) **No Impact.** The General Plan Safety Element identifies an emergency evacuation route along Avenue S. The proposed project would construct driveway connections to E Avenue S and Hillcrest Drive. Those new driveways would be designed to comply with City street design requirements and would not affect any emergency evacuation activities along those roads. All other park improvements would be internal to the site and not affect any emergency response activities or plans for the City. Therefore, the proposed project would not have the potential to interfere with any emergency response or evacuation plan.
- g) **No Impact.** The project site is not located within a wildfire hazard zone in the General Plan Safety Element. The project site surrounded by roads and urban development and would have no interface with undeveloped lands which could expose the park to wildland fires. Therefore, the proposed project would not

expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires.

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

Project Impacts and Mitigation Measures

- a) **Less than Significant Impact.** The proposed park and recreation facilities would be designed to comply with the City's drainage standards and stormwater quality requirements. Construction best management practices (BMPs), such as erosion control measures, would be implemented to prevent water quality impacts. A

detention basin would be installed and stormwater would be directed to the basin after construction to prevent the discharge of urban contaminants that could degrade surface water quality. Flows would be directed from the basin to the local storm drain system. Therefore, the proposed project would not violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality.

- b) **No Impact.** The proposed project would not rely on groundwater supplies for potable water use on site. The project would feature a detention basin to capture, treat, infiltrate and convey stormwater runoff. The new parking area would be constructed of porous asphalt pavement to allow infiltration of runoff. The landscape areas would also be pervious, thus enabling infiltration to occur. Therefore, the proposed project would not decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin.
- c) **Less than Significant Impact.** The proposed project would be graded to maintain the natural drainage pattern produced by the project site by draining to the northern direction. Grading would not alter any watercourse or stream as none occur on site. Park and recreation facilities and amenities would create both pervious and impervious surfaces. Erosion would be prevented through the use of construction BMPs and stabilization of the site by the park facilities, including landscaping. Stormwater capture and conveyance would be integrated into the project design. All storm drain systems would be designed to accommodate all flows, in accordance with the City's engineering design standards. The detention basin would be specifically sized to meet the City's requirement for peak flow reduction. With properly designed systems in place, no off-site flooding would occur. Therefore, the proposed project would not substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course or a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces.
- d) **No Impact.** The project site is outside any flood hazard zone defined within the City. In addition, the project would not be subjected to inundation by tsunami given its location about 45 miles inland from the Pacific Ocean. The only source of potential seiche impacts within the project area is Littlerock Reservoir, located approximately six miles to the southwest of the project site. Therefore, the proposed project would not be subject to significant tsunami, seiche, mudflow, or dam inundation impacts.
- e) **No Impact.** Because the project design would feature water quality protection

features and comply with applicable regulations, it would not substantially impede infiltration and would not require the use of groundwater. Therefore, the proposed project would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XI LAND USE AND PLANNING. Would the Project:				
a) Physically divide an established community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Project Impacts and Mitigation Measures

- a) **No Impact.** The project site is vacant land planned for future park development, with approval of a Conditional Use Permit and Site Plan Review. Therefore, the proposed project would expand an existing park in the local community and not remove any existing development or physically divide an established community.

- b) **No Impact.** The project site is disturbed and vacant and does not contain any environmental resources for which the City has adopted policies to protect. Specifically, the project site does not feature any sensitive biological resources, cultural or archaeological resources, floodplains, geologic hazards or other environmental conditions that are protected by City policy. Therefore, the proposed project would not conflict with any land use plan or policy adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating a significant effect.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XII 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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Project Impacts and Mitigation Measures

a, b) **No Impact.** The project site is not designated as a Mineral Resource Extraction (MRE) area nor is it adjacent to an MRE-designated area such that it would affect the ability to extract such resources (refer to Exhibits ER-57 and ER-58 of the General Plan). Therefore, the proposed project would not result in the loss of known mineral resources of value to the state or local government.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XIII NOISE. Would the Project:				
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Project Impacts and Mitigation Measures

a) **Less than Significant Impact.** According to the Noise Element of the General

Plan, playgrounds are normally acceptable where community noise levels are up to 70 dBA (refer to Table N-1). The project site is proposed along E Avenue S, which is a major arterial road in the project area that would expose the park and its users to community noise. Projections in the General Plan indicate that future noise levels would be less than 70 dBA along the project frontage with E Avenue S. The project's contribution to ambient transportation noise in the project area would be minimal given the low amount of daily traffic (55 daily trips) to be generated by the park compared to the amount of traffic that is currently carried by E Avenue S in the (i.e., 0.2 percent increase in existing daily traffic). Operational noise would also be attributable to the futsal courts and multi-purpose turf area wherein crowd and player noise would periodically increase while play is active. Soccer game noise would be created primarily by the shouts of spectators and referee whistles. Game noise would be a temporary increase in ambient conditions which would end immediately after activities cease and would not be a sustained source of noise. The futsal courts are proposed 150 feet from Hillcrest Drive and 50 feet from the southern property line, which would minimize noise transmission to nearby noise sensitive uses (i.e., residences and schools). Therefore, permanent increases in ambient noise attributable to the project would not be substantial in nature because of the intermittent character of courts/field noise and the distance between the active play areas and nearby noise-sensitive uses which would lessen noise levels at the property lines.

Construction noise would also temporarily increase ambient noise levels; however, construction activities are restricted by the City during the most noise-sensitive times of the day (i.e., between the hours of 8:00 PM and 6:30 AM on weekdays and all day Sunday) according to General Plan Policy N1.2.2 and Palmdale Municipal Code, Chapter 8.28.

Therefore, the proposed project would not generate substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the City General Plan.

- b) **No Impact.** The only source of vibration associated with the project would occur during construction. However, major vibratory equipment, such as pile drivers, would be necessary to install the park facilities. Once complete, there would be no vibration or groundborne noise generated by the park operations. Therefore, the proposed project would not generate excessive groundborne vibration or noise levels.
- c) **No Impact.** The project site is situated over 2 miles from Airforce Plant 42 and is

not within the Frequent Overflight Area or the 65 dBA CNEL contour for that facility. Therefore, the proposed project would not expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels as a result of aircraft noise.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XIV POPULATION AND HOUSING. 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)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Project Impacts and Mitigation Measures

- a) **No Impact.** The proposed project is a park and recreation development that would serve the existing and future resident population of the City and not result in an increase in unplanned population growth. In addition, it would not extend any roads or infrastructure to an area that is not currently served by such public facilities. Therefore, the proposed project would not induce population growth in the City.
- b) **No Impact.** The project site is currently vacant and planned for future residential or park use (with a Conditional Use Permit and Site Plan Review). Development of the proposed park facilities would not displace any existing uses and would not impact any existing people or housing. Therefore, the proposed project would not necessitate the construction of replacement housing elsewhere.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XV PUBLIC SERVICES. Would the Project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the following public services:				
a) Fire protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Police protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Other public facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Project Impacts and Mitigation Measures

- a) **Less than Significant Impact.** The project site is in the service area for Los Angeles County Fire Station No. 93, located at 5624 E Ave R, Palmdale, CA. Construction and operation of the proposed park would increase demand on fire protection and emergency medical responses. However, the demand associated with the park would be minor in comparison to adding new residents. Therefore, the proposed project would not result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with fire protection facilities.
- b) **Less than Significant Impact.** The project site is in the service area for Palmdale Sheriff Station, located at 750 E Ave Q, Palmdale, CA. Construction and operation of the proposed park would increase demand on police protection. However, the demand associated with the park would be minor in comparison to adding new residents. Therefore, the proposed project would not result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with fire protection facilities.
- c) **No Impact.** The proposed project is a park and recreation development that would not increase the number of school-age children in the project area. Therefore, the proposed project would not result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with school facilities.
- d) **No Impact.** The proposed project is a park and recreation development that would increase the amount of community park land in the project area. The improvements would expand the recreational offerings at the existing (Phase I) Yellen Community Park offsetting any increase in demand by residents in the area.

The proposed project would not trigger the need for new park facilities elsewhere in the community. Therefore, the proposed project would not result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with park facilities.

- e) **No Impact.** The proposed project would not affect any other public services triggering the need for new facilities or to physically alter existing facilities.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XVI RECREATION				
a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood or regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Does the project include recreational facilities or required the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which would have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Project Impacts and Mitigation Measures

- a) **No Impact.** The proposed project would result in the construction of new community park and recreation facilities to serve the existing and future population in the area. The new recreation facilities would slow the physical deterioration of existing park and recreation facilities by providing additional options to local residents.
- b) **Less than Significant Impact.** The proposed project consists of the construction of new community park and recreation facilities on a vacant site. The new recreation facilities would expand the existing Yellen Community Park adjacent to the project site. The park improvements would comply with the Palmdale Municipal Code and would not result in significant physical impacts upon implementation of all mitigation identified in this Initial Study/MND. Therefore, the proposed recreational facilities would not have an adverse physical effect on the environment.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XVII TRANSPORTATION. Would the Project:				
a) Conflict with a program plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Would the project conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b)(1)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curve or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g. farm equipment)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in inadequate emergency access?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Project Impacts and Mitigation Measures

- a) **Less than Significant Impact.** E Avenue S is a major arterial road that currently carries 22,175 daily trips in the project vicinity. Hillcrest Drive is a local road that carries 2,509 daily trips south of E Avenue S and adjacent to the project site. The nearest major intersection in the project area occurs 0.25 mile west of the project site where Avenue S intersects with 47th Avenue. Both adjacent roads are built to their planned capacity, consistent with the Circulation Element of the General Plan. The project would produce 55 daily trips in the project area which is not substantial in relation to the local circulation network. Existing and planned pedestrian connections and bicycle lanes could be used by park users to access the new recreation facilities using alternative modes of travel. Therefore, the proposed project would not conflict with a program plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities.
- b) **Less than Significant Impact.** The proposed project would generate a minor amount of new traffic due to operation of expanded recreational amenities at Yellen Community Park. Up to 55 daily trips would be attracted to the expanded park, based on General Plan trip rate for recreation park use. Although the project site is not situated within ½ mile of a transit station, it is located within walking distance of schools and residences whose users and occupants could rely on existing sidewalks and bike lanes to access the project site. Bicycle parking would also be provided on the project site to encourage non-motorized travel. The proposed multi-use trail could also be used by pedestrians and bicycle users to traverse

through the park to other uses in the project area. Therefore, the proposed project would not conflict with or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines related to transportation impacts.

- c) **No impact.** The project design would comply with the City’s engineering design standards for driveway connections with local roads. Off-street parking would be provided on site at levels that would prevent roadway hazards. No sharp curves or dangerous intersections are proposed. Therefore, no traffic hazards would be created by the proposed project.
- d) **No Impact.** The project design would comply with the City’s engineering design standards for driveway connections and the fire department requirements for emergency access. Therefore, no emergency access impacts would be created by the proposed project.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XVIII TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES. Would the Project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code Section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:				
a) Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code Section 5020.1(k), or	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) to Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resource Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Project Impacts and Mitigation Measures

- a) **No Impact.** The project site is vacant and no cultural resources have been previously recorded on the project site as noted under Item a). Therefore, project implementation would not cause a substantial adverse change to the significance of a tribal cultural resource that is listed or eligible for listing in accordance with the PCR.

- b) **Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated.** During the preparation of this IS/MND, the City consulted with local Native American tribes in accordance with the requirements of PRC Section 21080.3.1. The San Manuel Band of Mission Indians indicated that there could be a potential for unknown pre-contact cultural resources on the project site. Site disturbance during project implementation has the potential to impact the significance of a cultural resource deemed important to the local Native American tribe. Implementation of the protection measures described in Mitigation Measures CUL-1 through CUL-3 during construction would result in a less than significant impact to unknown buried tribal cultural resources. In addition, compliance with Mitigation Measures TCR-1 and TCR-2 would ensure that potential project impacts to tribal cultural resources would be less than significant with mitigation incorporated.

Mitigation Measures

- TCR-1:** The San Manuel Band of Mission Indians Cultural Resources Department (SMBMI) shall be contacted, as detailed in Mitigation Measure CUL-1, of any pre-contact cultural resources discovered during project implementation, and be provided information regarding the nature of the find, so as to provide Tribal input with regards to significance and treatment. Should the find be deemed significant, as defined by CEQA (as amended, 2015), a Cultural Resources Monitoring and Treatment Plan (Plan) shall be created by a qualified archaeologist, in coordination with SMBMI, and all subsequent finds shall be subject to this Plan. This Plan shall allow for a monitor to be present that represents SMBMI for the remainder of the project, should SMBMI elect to place a monitor on-site.
- TCR-2:** Any and all archaeological/cultural documents created as a part of the project (isolate records, site records, survey reports, testing reports, etc.) shall be supplied to the applicant and Lead Agency for dissemination to SMBMI. The Lead Agency and/or applicant shall, in good faith, consult with SMBMI throughout the life of the project.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XIX UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS. Would the Project:				
a) Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Comply with federal, state and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Project Impacts and Mitigation Measures

- a) **Less than Significant Impact.** Operations of the park would increase demand for basic public utilities, including water, sewer, storm drain and electricity. Although the project site is in an urbanized area of the City, it is not currently served by utilities. As such, connections would be made to existing utility lines located in the immediate project area. Specifically, there is infrastructure conveying wastewater, potable water, electricity, and stormwater nearby. Existing utilities are located within E Avenue S, Hillcrest Drive, and 51st Street and within Phase I of Yellen Community Park. To construct connections to these utilities, the project would install new pipeline connections or conduits within local roads or the site itself and extend the pipelines and other infrastructure a short distance on to the project site. Given the developed nature of the project area, no impacts to sensitive resources would occur as a result of these new connections. On-site water would be received from potable water treated at the Palmdale Water Treatment Plant.

Wastewater produced by the project would be conveyed via the new sewer laterals to the City's collection and conveyance system and treated at the Palmdale Water Reclamation Plant. Stormwater produced on site would enter the on-site detention basin for treatment and conveyance to the local system. Electrical connections would be installed from local lines in the project area. The project's demands for utilities would be minimal given its park and recreation use and the fact that it would serve and not increase population in the City. Therefore, the proposed project would not require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects.

- b) **Less than Significant Impact.** The proposed project would increase demand for water due to the restrooms and irrigation needs of the park and recreation facilities. The demand would be minimal and below the levels required to conduct a water supply assessment or verification study. In accordance with the City's Energy Action Plan and the California Green Building Code, low flow fixtures would be used in the restrooms. Landscaping would be climate appropriate and drought tolerant. Point source (i.e., drip) irrigation systems would be utilized, consistent with the City's Water Conservation Ordinance. Recycled water connections would be constructed to allow the City to irrigate with recycled water when it becomes available in the future. All facilities would be designed in accordance with the City's engineering and landscape design standards. Therefore, the City would have sufficient water supplies available to serve the proposed project.
- c) **Less than Significant Impact.** The project is an expansion of the existing Yellen Community Park. The proposed expansion would provide additional restrooms and a community activity building with restrooms, both of which would produce a minimal amount of wastewater requiring conveyance and treatment. The second phase of Yellen Community Park is part of the long-term recreation plans for the City. Wastewater produced by the expanded park would, therefore, have been anticipated in the long-term wastewater needs for the City. Therefore, the Palmdale Wastewater Treatment would have adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand.
- d, e) **Less than Significant Impact.** Construction of the park would generate construction debris with up to 50 percent diverted or recycled in accordance with the City regulations and policies on waste reduction. A construction waste management plan would be prepared and implemented by the contractor to ensure compliance with City policy. Operation of the park and recreation facilities would

also generate municipal solid waste due to the presence of picnic areas, restrooms, and community activity building. Waste and recycling receptacles would be integrated throughout site to collect and reduce solid waste disposed of in landfills. Waste hauled from the site would be disposed of at the Antelope Valley Recycling and Disposal Facility in Palmdale. According to the County of Los Angeles, the facility has an estimated disposal capacity of 22 years. All solid waste diversion and disposal would be conducted in accordance with the goals and objectives of the County of Los Angeles Integrated Waste Management Plan and the City's Public Services Element of the General Plan. Therefore, the proposed project would not impair the City's ability to achieve its solid waste management goals and would comply with state and local regulations pertaining to solid waste.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XX WILDFIRE - 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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Project Impacts and Mitigation Measures

- a) **No Impact.** The General Plan Safety Element identifies an emergency evacuation route along Avenue S. The proposed project would construct driveway connections to E Avenue S and Hillcrest Drive. Those new driveways would be designed to comply with City street design requirements and would not affect any emergency evacuation activities along those roads. All other park improvements

would be internal to the site and not affect any emergency response activities or plans for the City. Therefore, the proposed project would not have the potential to interfere with any emergency response or evacuation plan.

- b) **No Impact.** The project site is level and not located near any native habitat or hillside or sloped area that would expose project users to pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire.
- c) **No Impact.** None of the improvements proposed on site would occur in developed areas and not require the construction of support facilities in undeveloped areas. Maintenance of the infrastructure would not exacerbate fire risk or result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment.
- e) **No Impact.** The project site is level and not located near any native habitat or hillside or sloped area. Therefore, the proposed project would not 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.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XXI MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE				
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Discussion

The following are Mandatory Findings of Significance in accordance with Section 15065 of the CEQA Guidelines.

- a) **Less than Significant Impact.** The project site is highly disturbed as a result of prior grading activities and current construction staging activities. As such, there is no suitable habitat present that supports substantial wildlife populations or high interest plant species. A number of common wildlife species were observed on site. Primarily weedy plant species were also observed. Isolated individuals of riparian plants occur on the southern border of the site in association with off-site drainage from the adjacent school site but would be avoided by the project. Because of its location surrounded by urban development, development of the project site would not cause a substantial reduction in sensitive species or cause a population to drop below sustaining levels. Mitigation would be required to avoid indirect impacts to breeding birds impacts during construction, as described under Item IV a).
- b) **No Impact.** The proposed project is the expansion of the existing Yellen Community Park which is a park and recreation facility planned by the City as part of its overall buildout. The project would result in less than significant or no impacts to all disciplines outlined in this IS/MND. The second phase of Yellen Community Park would not result in cumulatively considerable impacts.
- c) **Less than Significant Impact.** The proposed project would not have environmental effects, such as air quality, hazards/hazardous materials, or land use, which would cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly.

5. REFERENCES

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- 2020b. Cultural Resources Records Search and Literature Review for the Yellen Park Project, April 23.

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