FINAL INITIAL STUDY
FOR THE
PROJECT-10.10.1319
SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY
ANIMAL CARE CENTER PROJECT
APN: 0252-161-09-0000 & 0252-161-10-0000
SCH No. 2024051034

Lead Agency:

County of San Bernardino
Land Use Services Department
385 North Arrowhead Avenue, 1st Floor
San Bernardino, California 92415-0182

Prepared by:

San Bernardino County
Department of Public Health – Animal Care

Prepared by:

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July 2024

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ABSENCE OF COMMENT LETTERS

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MEMORANDUM

From: Kaitlyn Dodson-Hamilton

To: Mr. Ken Hylin

Date: June 27, 2024

Subj: **Completion of the Mitigated Negative Declaration for the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project (SCH No. 2024051034)**

The County of San Bernardino (County) prepared and distributed an Initial Study (IS) and Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project and made it available for public review in accordance with the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The Initial Study was distributed to local and regional organizations and was also available for public review at the County's website. The Initial Study and NOI were circulated for 30 days of public comment.

The County did not receive any comment letters on the proposed IS/MND for the proposed Project by the close of the comment period on June 24, 2024. CEQA requires a Mitigated Negative Declaration to consist of the Initial Study, copies of any comments and responses thereof, the mitigation monitoring and reporting program, and any other project-related material prepared to address issues evaluated in the Initial Study.

For this project, the original Initial Study will be utilized as one component of the Final IS/MND package. This letter, which confirms that no comments regarding the proposed San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project were received, combined with the IS and the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP), constitute the Final Mitigated Negative Declaration package that will be used by the County to consider the environmental effects of implementing the proposed project.

Because mitigation measures are required for this project to reduce potentially significant impacts to a less than significant level, the MMRP attached to this package is required to be adopted as part of this Final IS/MND package. The MMRP has been incorporated by reference to this package for approval and implementation. The County proposes to consider adopting the Final IS/MND through a Hearing, the date for which has not yet been set. The County will post the Agenda for this Hearing in accordance with the applicable requirements once the date has been selected.

Do not hesitate to give me a call if you have any questions regarding the contents of this package.

Kaitlyn Dodson-Hamilton, Vice President
Tom Dodson & Associates

MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM

TOM DODSON & ASSOCIATES

Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program
Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration
San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project

Prepared by:

County of San Bernardino
385 N. Arrowhead Avenue
San Bernardino, California 92415-0182

JULY 2024

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1 Introduction

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires that a public agency adopting a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) take affirmative steps to determine that approved mitigation measures are implemented after project approval. The lead or responsible agency must adopt a reporting and monitoring program for the mitigation measures incorporated into a project or included as conditions of approval. The program must be designed to ensure compliance with the MND during project implementation (California Public Resources Code, Section 21081.6(a)(1)).

This Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) will be used by the County of San Bernardino (County) to ensure compliance with adopted mitigation measures identified in the MND for the proposed Titan Industrial Metal Corporation Equipment Rental and Large Collection/Light Processing Facility Project when construction begins. The County, as the lead agency, will be responsible for ensuring that all mitigation measures are carried out. Implementation of the mitigation measures would reduce impacts to below a level of significance for Aesthetics, Air Quality, Cultural Resources, Energy, Geology & Soils, Hazards & Hazardous Materials, Hydrology & Water Quality, Noise, Tribal Cultural Resources, and Utilities & Service Systems.

The remainder of this MMRP consists of a table that identifies the mitigation measures by resource for each project component. Table 1 identifies the mitigation monitoring and reporting requirements, list of mitigation measures, party responsible for implementing mitigation measures, timing for implementation of mitigation measures, agency responsible for monitoring of implementation, and date of completion. With the MND and related documents, this MMRP will be kept on file at the following location:

County of San Bernardino
385 N. Arrowhead Avenue, First Floor
San Bernardino, California 92415

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2 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program Table

Table 1 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Timing	Party Responsible for Implementation	Party Responsible For Monitoring	Date of Completion/Notes
Air Quality				
VCSP AQ-1: Applicants for new development projects within the Valley Corridor Specific Plan area shall require the construction contractor to use equipment that meets the United Stated Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-Certified emissions standards. All off-road diesel- powered construction equipment greater than 50 horsepower shall meet the Tier 4 emission standards. Any emissions control device used by the contractor shall achieve emissions reductions that are no less than what could be achieved by a Level 4 diesel emissions control strategy for a similarly sized engine, as defined by the California Air Resources Board's (CARB) regulations. Prior to construction, the project engineer shall ensure that all demolition and grading plans clearly show the requirement for EPA Tier 4 or higher emissions standards for construction equipment over 50 horsepower. During construction, the construction contractor shall maintain a list of all operating equipment in use on the construction site for verification by the County of San Bernardino. The construction equipment list shall state the makes, models, and numbers of construction equipment onsite. Equipment shall be properly serviced and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations. Construction contractors shall also ensure that all nonessential idling of construction equipment is restricted to five minutes or less in compliance with California Air Resources Board's Rule 2449.	This measure shall be included in the construction contract as a contract specification and implemented by the contractor during construction	San Bernardino County Project & Facilities Management and their construction contractor	County of San Bernardino	

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Timing	Party Responsible for Implementation	Party Responsible For Monitoring	Date of Completion/Notes
VCSP AQ-2: Applicants for new development projects within the Valley Corridor Specific Plan area shall require the construction contractor to prepare a dust control plan and implement the following measures during ground-disturbing activities in addition to the existing requirements for fugitive dust control under South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) Rule 403 to further reduce PM10 and PM2.5 emissions. The County of San Bernardino shall verify compliance that these measures have been implemented during normal construction site inspections. • Following all grading activities, the construction contractor shall reestablish ground cover on the construction site through seeding and watering. • During all construction activities, the construction contractor shall sweep streets with SCAQMD Rule 1186–compliant, PM10-efficient vacuum units on a daily basis if silt is carried over to adjacent public thoroughfares or occurs as a result of hauling. • During all construction activities, the construction contractor shall maintain a minimum 24-inch freeboard on trucks hauling dirt, sand, soil, or other loose materials and tarp materials with a fabric cover or other cover that achieves the same amount of protection. • During all construction activities, the construction contractor shall water exposed ground surfaces and disturbed areas a minimum of every three hours on the construction site and a minimum of three times per day. • During all construction activities, the construction contractor shall limit onsite vehicle speeds on unpaved roads to no more than 15 miles per hour.	This measure shall be included in the construction contract as a contract specification and implemented by the contractor during construction.	San Bernardino County Project & Facilities Management and their construction contractor	County of San Bernardino	

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Timing	Party Responsible for Implementation	Party Responsible For Monitoring	Date of Completion/Notes
VCSP AQ-3: Applicants for new development projects within the Valley Corridor Specific Plan area shall require the construction contractor to use coatings and solvents with a volatile organic compound (VOC) content lower than required under South Coast Air Quality Management District Rule 1113 (i.e., super compliant paints). The construction contractor shall also use precoated/natural-colored building materials, where feasible. Use of low-VOC paints and spray method shall be included as a note on architectural building plans and verified by the County of San Bernardino during construction.	This measure shall be included in the construction contract as a contract specification and implemented by the contractor during construction.	San Bernardino County Project & Facilities Management and their construction contractor	County of San Bernardino	
AQ-4: Prior to issuance of a building permit for new development projects within the Valley Corridor Specific Plan area, the property owner/developer shall show on the building plans that all major appliances (dishwashers, refrigerators, clothes washers, and dryers) to be provided/installed are Energy Star appliances. Installation of Energy Star appliances shall be verified by the County prior to issuance of a certificate of occupancy.	This measure shall be included in the construction contract as a contract specification and implemented by the contractor during construction. This measure shall be demonstrated once the facility is in operation.	San Bernardino County Project & Facilities Management and their construction contractor	County of San Bernardino	
Biological Resources				
BIO-1: Pre-construction surveys for BUOW should be conducted no more than 3 days prior to commencement of project-related ground disturbance to verify that BUOW remain absent from the project area.	This measure shall be implemented no more than 3 days prior to ground disturbing activities associated with construction. The notification to CDFW shall occur within 3 days of detection. Protective	San Bernardino County Project & Facilities Management and their construction contractor	County of San Bernardino	

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Timing	Party Responsible for Implementation	Party Responsible For Monitoring	Date of Completion/Notes
	measures in the Burrowing Owl Plan shall be implemented prior to and/or during construction, as indicated in the Plan.			
BIO-2*:* If burrowing owl are discovered within the project footprint during construction activities, a site-specific BUOW protection and/or passive relocation plan shall be prepared to determine suitable buffers and/or artificial burrow construction locations to minimize impacts to this species. If a BUOW is found on-site at the time of construction, all activities likely to affect the animal(s) shall cease immediately and regulatory agencies shall be contacted to determine appropriate management actions.	This measure shall be included in the construction contract as a contract specifi-cation and implemented by the contractor during construction. Protective measures in the Burrowing Owl Plan shall be implemented prior to and/or during construction, as indicated in the Plan.	San Bernardino County Project & Facilities Management and their construction contractor	County of San Bernardino	
BIO-3: All Project activities on-site shall be conducted outside of the nesting bird season (generally, raptor nesting season is January 1 through September 15; and passerine bird nesting season is February 1 through September 1) to the maximum extent feasible. If Project activities begin outside of nesting season, a pre-construction survey shall be performed by a qualified biologist to verify the absence of nesting birds. A qualified biologist shall conduct the pre-activity survey within the Project footprint (including access routes) and a 300-foot	Construction shall occur outside of the nesting season or a copy of the field survey documenting no nesting birds shall be completed prior to initiating construction within the nesting season.	San Bernardino County Project & Facilities Management and their construction contractor	County of San Bernardino	

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Timing	Party Responsible for Implementation	Party Responsible For Monitoring	Date of Completion/Notes
buffer surrounding the Project area, no more than two hours prior to initiating Project activities. If Project activities begin during the nesting bird season (generally, raptor nesting season is January 1 through September 15; and passerine bird nesting season is February 1 through September 1), nesting bird surveys shall be conducted by a qualified avian biologist no more than three (3) days prior to Project initiation. Preconstruction surveys shall focus on both direct and indirect evidence of nesting, including nest locations and nesting behavior. The qualified avian biologist will make every effort to avoid potential nest predation as a result of survey and monitoring efforts. If active nests containing eggs or young are found during the preconstruction nesting bird surveys, a qualified biologist shall establish an appropriate nest buffer to be marked on the ground. Nest buffers are species-specific and shall be at least 100 feet for passerines and 300 feet for raptors. A smaller or larger buffer may be determined by the qualified biologist familiar with the nesting phenology of the nesting species and based on nest and buffer monitoring results. Established buffers shall remain on-site until a qualified biologist determines the young have fledged or the nest is no longer active. Active nests and adequacy of the established buffer distance shall be monitored daily by the qualified biologist until the qualified biologist has determined the young have fledged or the Project has been completed. The qualified biologist has the authority to stop work if nesting pairs exhibit signs of disturbance.				

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Timing	Party Responsible for Implementation	Party Responsible For Monitoring	Date of Completion/Notes
Cultural Resources				
CUL-1: Should any cultural resources be encountered during construction of these facilities, earthmoving or grading activities in the immediate area of the finds shall be halted and an onsite inspection shall be performed immediately by a qualified archaeologist. Responsibility for making this determination shall be with the County. The archaeological professional shall assess the find, determine its significance, and make recommendations for appropriate mitigation measures within the guidelines of the California Environmental Quality Act.	Any response to exposed resources shall occur during construction. Any reports documenting management and findings for accidentally exposed resources shall be completed within one year of the discovery.	San Bernardino County Project & Facilities Management and their construction contractor	County of San Bernardino and Contractor	
CUL-2: 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 Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation Cultural Resources Department (YSMN) shall be contacted, as detailed within TCR-1, regarding any pre-contact and/or historic-era 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.	Any response to exposed resources shall occur during construction. Any reports documenting management and findings for accidentally exposed resources shall be completed within one year of the discovery.	San Bernardino County Project & Facilities Management and their construction contractor	County of San Bernardino and Contractor	
CUL-3: If significant pre-contact and/or historic-era 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 YSMN for review and comment, as detailed within TCR-1. The archaeologist shall monitor	Any response to exposed resources shall occur during construction. Any reports documenting management and findings for	San Bernardino County Project & Facilities Management and their construction contractor	County of San Bernardino and Contractor	

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Timing	Party Responsible for Implementation	Party Responsible For Monitoring	Date of Completion/Notes
the remainder of the project and implement the Plan accordingly.	accidentally exposed resources shall be completed within one year of the discovery.			
CUL-4: 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.	This measure shall be implemented during construction if human remains are exposed during construction.	San Bernardino County Project & Facilities Management and their construction contractor	County of San Bernardino and Contractor	
Geology and Soils				
GEO-1: Based upon the geotechnical investigation (Appendix 8 of this document), all of the recommended seismic design measures identified in Appendix 8 (listed on page 12) shall be implemented by the County. Implementation of these specific measures will address all of the identified geotechnical constraints identified at project site, including seismic related hazards on the proposed structures.	The design measures shall be incorporated into final site and building design and implement during construction.	San Bernardino County Project & Facilities Management and their construction contractor	County of San Bernardino	
GEO-2: Stored backfill material shall be covered with water resistant material during periods of heavy precipitation to reduce the potential for rainfall erosion of stored backfill material. Where covering is not possible, measures such as the use of straw bales or sand bags shall be used to capture and hold eroded material on the project site for future cleanup such that erosion does not occur.	This measure shall be included in the construction contract as a contract specification and implemented by the contractor during construction.	San Bernardino County Project & Facilities Management and their construction contractor	County of San Bernardino	
GEO-3: All exposed, disturbed soil (trenches, stored backfill, etc.) shall be sprayed with water or soil binders twice a day, or more frequently if fugitive dust is observed migrating from the site within which the project is being constructed.	This measure shall be included in the construction contract as a contract specification and implemented by the contractor during construction.	San Bernardino County Project & Facilities Management and their construction contractor	County of San Bernardino	

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Timing	Party Responsible for Implementation	Party Responsible For Monitoring	Date of Completion/Notes
GEO-4: Based upon the geotechnical investigation (Appendix 8 of this document), all of the recommended earthwork, design, and construction measures identified in Appendix 8 (listed on Pages 15-30) shall be implemented by the County. Implementation of these specific measures will address all of the identified geotechnical constraints identified at project site, including soil stability on future project-related structures	The design measures shall be incorporated into final site and building design and implement during construction.	San Bernardino County Project & Facilities Management and their construction contractor	County of San Bernardino	
GEO-5: The County shall retain the services of a Qualified Paleontologist meeting the standards of SVP (2010). The Qualified Paleontologist shall determine the determine that the depth at which the transition to high sensitivity occurs and monitoring becomes necessary, by taking into account: a) the most recent local geologic mapping, b) depths at which fossils have been found in the vicinity of the project area, as revealed by the museum records search, and c) geotechnical studies of the project area, if available. Should the project require excavation that will exceed the depth of low sensitivity surficial sediments as determined by a Qualified Paleontologist, a project-specific paleontological resources monitoring and mitigation plan (PRMMP) shall be developed and adhered to for the duration of ground disturbance activities during construction or as otherwise determined by the Qualified Paleontologist. This plan will address specifics of monitoring and mitigation for the development project, and will take into account updated geologic mapping, geotechnical data, updated paleontological records searches, and any changes to the regulatory framework. This PRMMP shall meet the standards of the SVP (2010).	The monitor shall be retained for the duration of ground disturbing activities as a contract specification and implemented by the contractor during construction. Any response to exposed resources shall occur during construction. Any reports documenting management and findings for accidentally exposed resources shall be completed within one year of the discovery,	San Bernardino County Project & Facilities Management and their construction contractor	County of San Bernardino and Contractor	

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Timing	Party Responsible for Implementation	Party Responsible For Monitoring	Date of Completion/Notes
Hazards and Hazardous Materials				
HAZ-1: A Hazardous Materials Business Plan shall be prepared and submitted to the Certified Unified Program Agency and shall incorporate best management practices designed to minimize the potential for accidental release of such chemicals and shall meet the standards required by California law for Hazardous Materials Business Plans. The facility managers shall implement these measures to reduce the potential for accidental releases of hazardous materials or wastes. The Hazardous Materials Business Plan shall be approved prior to operation of the facility.	The Business Plan shall be completed prior to operation of the facility.	San Bernardino County Project & Facilities Management	County of San Bernardino	
HAZ-2: The Hazardous Materials Business Plan shall assess the potential accidental release scenarios and identify the equipment and response capabilities required to provide immediate containment, control, and collection of any released hazardous material. Prior to issuance of the certificate of occupancy, each facility shall ensure that necessary equipment has been installed and training of personnel has occurred to obtain sufficient resources to control and prevent the spread of any accidentally released hazardous or toxic materials	The Business Plan shall be completed prior to operation of the facility.	San Bernardino County Project & Facilities Management	County of San Bernardino	

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Timing	Party Responsible for Implementation	Party Responsible For Monitoring	Date of Completion/Notes
HAZ-3: All accidental spills or discharge of hazardous material during construction activities shall be reported to the Certified Unified Program Agency and shall be remediated in compliance with applicable federal, State, and local regulations regarding cleanup and disposal of the contaminant released. The contaminated waste shall be collected and disposed of at a licensed disposal or treatment facility. This measure shall be incorporated into the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) prepared for the project. Prior to accepting the site as remediated, the area contaminated shall be tested to verify that any residual concentrations meet the standard for future residential or public use of the site.	This measure shall be included in the construction contract as a contract specifi-cation and implemented by the contractor during construction, and shall be included as a measure in the SWPPP.	San Bernardino County Project & Facilities Management	County of San Bernardino	
Hydrology				
HYD-1: The project proponent will select best management practices from the range of practices identified by the County and reduce future non-point source pollution in surface water runoff discharges from the site to the maximum extent practicable, both during construction and following development. The Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) and Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP) shall be submitted to the County for review and approval prior to ground disturbance and the identified BMPs installed in accordance with schedules contained in these documents.	This measure shall be implemented during construction and included in the contract with the construction contractor.	San Bernardino County Project & Facilities Management and their construction contractor	County of San Bernardino	

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Timing	Party Responsible for Implementation	Party Responsible For Monitoring	Date of Completion/Notes
Noise				
VCSP N-2: Prior to issuance of demolition, grading and/or building permits, a note shall be provided on plans indicating that, ongoing during grading, demolition, and construction, the property owner/developer shall be responsible for requiring contractors to implement the following measures to limit construction-related noise: • Construction activity is limited to the daytime hours between 7 AM to 7 PM on Monday through Friday and 9 AM to 6PM on Saturday, as prescribed in SBCDC Section 83.01.080. Construction is prohibited on Sundays. • All internal combustion engines on construction equipment and trucks are fitted with properly maintained mufflers no less effective than those supplied by the original manufacturer. • Stationary equipment such as generators, air compressors shall be located as far as feasible from nearby noise-sensitive uses. • Stockpiling shall be located as far as feasible from nearby noise-sensitive receptors. • Construction traffic shall be limited—to the extent feasible—to approved haul routes established by the County Planning Department.	This measure shall be implemented during construction and included in the contract with the construction contractor.	San Bernardino County Project & Facilities Management and their construction contractor	County of San Bernardino	
Tribal Cultural Resources				
TCR-1: The Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation Cultural Resources Department (YSMN) shall be contacted, as detailed in CR-1, of any pre-contact and/or historic-era 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 shall be created by the archaeologist, in coordination with	Any response to exposed resources shall occur during construction. This measure shall be included in the construction contract. If a cultural resources monitoring and treatment plan is ultimately required	San Bernardino County Project & Facilities Management	County of San Bernardino	

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Timing	Party Responsible for Implementation	Party Responsible For Monitoring	Date of Completion/Notes
YSMN, and all subsequent finds shall be subject to this Plan. This Plan shall allow for a monitor to be present that represents YSMN for the remainder of the project, should YSMN elect to place a monitor on-site.	to be prepared, the plan shall be prepared during construction, prior to any further ground disturbance in the area that the resource is found. The monitor, as specified in this measure, shall be present during the remainder of construction following any resource discovery.			
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 County for dissemination to YSMN. The County shall, in good faith, consult with YSMN throughout the life of the project.	Reports documenting management and findings for accidentally exposed resources shall be completed within one year of the discovery.	San Bernardino County Project & Facilities Management	County of San Bernardino	
TCR-3: Retain a Native American Monitor Prior to Commencement of Ground-Disturbing Activities A. The County shall retain a Native American Monitor from or approved by the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation. The monitor shall be retained prior to the commencement of any "ground-disturbing activity" for the subject project at all project locations (i.e., both on-site and any off-site locations that are included in the project description/definition and/or required in connection with the project, such as public improvement work). "Ground- disturbing activity" shall include, but is not limited to, demolition,	This measure shall be implemented during construction and followed through until final disposition of such resources has been achieved.	San Bernardino County Project & Facilities Management and their construction contractor	County of San Bernardino	

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Timing	Party Responsible for Implementation	Party Responsible For Monitoring	Date of Completion/Notes
pavement removal, potholing, auguring, grubbing, tree removal, boring, grading, excavation, drilling, and trenching. B. A copy of the executed monitoring agreement shall be submitted to the County prior to the earlier of the commencement of any ground-disturbing activity, or the issuance of any permit necessary to commence a ground-disturbing activity. C. The monitor will complete daily monitoring logs that will provide descriptions of the relevant ground-disturbing activities, the type of construction activities performed, locations of ground- disturbing activities, soil types, cultural-related materials, and any other facts, conditions, materials, or discoveries of significance to the Tribe. Monitor logs will identify and describe any discovered TCRs, including but not limited to, Native American cultural and historical artifacts, remains, places of significance, etc., (collectively, tribal cultural resources, or "TCR"), as well as any discovered Native American (ancestral) human remains and burial goods. Copies of monitor logs will be provided to the County upon written request to the Tribe. D. On-site tribal monitoring shall conclude upon the latter of the following (1) written confirmation to the Kizh from a designated point of contact for the County that all ground-disturbing activities and phases that may involve ground-disturbing activities on the project site or in connection with the project are complete; or (2) a determination and written notification by the Kizh to the County that no future, planned construction activity and/or development/construction phase at the project site possesses the potential to impact Kizh TCRs.				

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Timing	Party Responsible for Implementation	Party Responsible For Monitoring	Date of Completion/Notes
E. Upon discovery of any TCRs, all construction activities in the immediate vicinity of the discovery shall cease (i.e., not less than the surrounding 50 feet) and shall not resume until the discovered TCR has been fully assessed by the Kizh monitor and/or Kizh archaeologist. The Kizh will recover and retain all discovered TCRs in the form and/or manner the Tribe deems appropriate, in the including for educational, cultural and/or historic purposes.				
TCR-4: Unanticipated Discovery of Tribal Cultural Resource Objects (Non-Funerary/Non-Ceremonial) A. Native American human remains are defined in PRC 5097.98 (d)(1) as an inhumation or cremation, and in any state of decomposition or skeletal completeness. Funerary objects, called associated grave goods in Public Resources Code Section 5097.98, are also to be treated according to this statute. B. If Native American human remains and/or grave goods discovered or recognized on the project site, then all construction activities shall immediately cease. Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 dictates that any discoveries of human skeletal material shall be immediately reported to the County Coroner and all ground-disturbing activities shall immediately halt and shall remain halted until the coroner has determined the nature of the remains. If the coroner recognizes the human remains to be those of a Native American or has reason to believe they are Native American, he or she shall contact, by telephone within 24 hours, the Native American Heritage Commission, and Public Resources Code Section 5097.98 shall be followed.	This measure shall be implemented during construction and followed through until final disposition of such resources has been achieved.	San Bernardino County Project & Facilities Management and their construction contractor	County of San Bernardino	

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Timing	Party Responsible for Implementation	Party Responsible For Monitoring	Date of Completion/Notes
C. Human remains and grave/burial goods shall be treated alike per California Public Resources Code section 5097.98(d)(1) and (2). D. Construction activities may resume in other parts of the project site at a minimum of 200 feet away from discovered human remains and/or burial goods, if the Kizh determines in its sole discretion that resuming construction activities at that distance is acceptable and provides the project manager express consent of that determination (along with any other mitigation measures the Kizh monitor and/or archaeologist deems necessary). (CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(f).) E. Preservation in place (i.e., avoidance) is the preferred manner of treatment for discovered human remains and/or burial goods. Any historic archaeological material that is not Native American in origin (non-TCR) shall be curated at a public, non-profit institution with a research interest in the materials, such as the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County or the Fowler Museum, if such an institution agrees to accept the material. If no institution accepts the archaeological material, it shall be offered to a local school or historical society in the area for educational purposes. F. Any discovery of human remains/burial goods shall be kept confidential to prevent further disturbance.				
TCR-5: Procedures for Burials and Funerary Remains A. As the Most Likely Descendant (MLD), the Koo-nas-gna Burial Policy shall be implemented. To the Tribe, the term "human remains" encompasses more than human bones. In ancient times, as well as historic times, Tribal Traditions included, but were not limited to, the preparation of the soil for burial, the burial of	This measure shall be implemented during construction and followed through until final disposition of such resources has been achieved.	San Bernardino County Project & Facilities Management and their construction contractor	County of San Bernardino	

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Timing	Party Responsible for Implementation	Party Responsible For Monitoring	Date of Completion/Notes
funerary objects with the deceased, and the ceremonial burning of human remains. B. If the discovery of human remains includes four or more burials, the discovery location shall be treated as a cemetery and a separate treatment plan shall be created. C. The prepared soil and cremation soils are to be treated in the same manner as bone fragments that remain intact. Associated funerary objects are objects that, as part of the death rite or ceremony of a culture, are reasonably believed to have been placed with individual human remains either at the time of death or later; other items made exclusively for burial purposes or to contain human remains can also be considered as associated funerary objects. Cremations will either be removed in bulk or by means as necessary to ensure complete recovery of all sacred materials. D. In the case where discovered human remains cannot be fully documented and recovered on the same day, the remains will be covered with muslin cloth and a steel plate that can be moved by heavy equipment placed over the excavation opening to protect the remains. If this type of steel plate is not available, a 24 hour guard should be posted outside of working hours. The Tribe will make every effort to recommend diverting the project and keeping the remains in situ and protected. If the project cannot be diverted, it may be determined that burials will be removed. E. In the event preservation in place is not possible despite good faith efforts by the County and/or landowner, before ground-disturbing activities may resume on the project site, the landowner shall arrange a designated site location within the				

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Timing	Party Responsible for Implementation	Party Responsible For Monitoring	Date of Completion/Notes
footprint of the project for the respectful reburial of the human remains and/or ceremonial objects.				
Utilities and Service Systems				
UTL-1 : If recycled water becomes available at the project site, the Applicant shall connect to this system and utilize recycled water for landscape irrigation and for field irrigation, and any other feasible uses of recycled water on the project site.	This measure shall be included in the project design and shall be implemented once operational.	San Bernardino County Project & Facilities Management and their construction contractor	County of San Bernardino	
UTIL-2: The contract with construction contractors shall include the requirement that all materials that can feasibly be recycled shall be salvaged and recycled, including concrete, building materials, trees and site vegetation that must be removed. The contractor professionals shall submit a recycling plan to the County for review and approval prior to the start of demolition/construction activities to accomplish this objective.	This measure shall be included in the construction contract as a contract specifi-cation and implemented by the contractor during construction.	San Bernardino County Project & Facilities Management and their construction contractor	County of San Bernardino	

DRAFT INITIAL STUDY

TOM DODSON & ASSOCIATES

INITIAL STUDY
FOR THE
PROJ-10.10.1319
SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY
ANIMAL CARE CENTER PROJECT
APN: 0252-161-09-0000 & 0252-161-10-0000

Lead Agency:

County of San Bernardino
Land Use Services Department
385 N. Arrowhead Avenue, 1st Floor
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Applicant:

San Bernardino County
Department of Public Health – Animal Care

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACROYNMS

AAQS	Ambient Air Quality Standards
AB	Assembly Bill
ADA	American Disabilities Act
amsl	above mean sea level
APE	Area of Potential Effect
APN	Assessor Parcel Number
AQMD	Air Quality Management District
AQMP	Air Quality Management Plan
BAAQMD	Bay Area Air Quality Management District
BACMs	Best Available Control Measures
BLM	Bureau of Land Management
BMPs	Best Management Practices
BRA	Biological Resources Assessment
BTU	British Thermal Unit
BUOW	burrowing owl
CAA	Clean Air Act
CAAQS	California Ambient Air Quality Standards
CalEEMod	California Emissions Estimator Model
CAL FIRE	California Department of Forestry & Fire
CALGreen	California Green Building Standards Code
Cal/OSHA	California Occupational Safety & Hazardous Administration
CalRecycle	California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery
Caltrans	California Department of Transportation
CARB	California Air Resources Board
CBC	California Building Code
CCAR	Climate Action Registry
CDFW	California Department of Fish & Wildlife
CESA	California Endangered Species Act
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CJUSD	Colton Joint Unified School District
CMU	concrete masonry
CNDDB	California Natural Diversity Database
CNEL	Community Noise Equivalent Level
CNPS	California Native Plant Society
CPUC	California Public Utilities Commission
CRA	Cultural Resource Assessment
CRHR	California Register of Historic Resources
CSBWM	County of San Bernardino Waste Management
CWA	Clean Water Act
dB	decibel
dBA	A-weighted decibel
DMV	Department of Motor Vehicles

DPM	diesel particulate matter
DTSC	Department of Toxic and Substance Control
EIA	Energy Information Administration
EIR	Environmental Impact Report
EMFAC	Emissions FACtor Model
EO	Executive Order
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
ESA	Environmentally Sensitive Area
EV	electric vehicle
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FGC	Fish & Game C ode
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration
FHSZ	Fire Hazard Severity Zone
FICON	Federal Interagency Committee on Noise
FIRM	Flood Insurance Rate Map
FTA	Federal Transit Administration
GCC	Global Climate Change
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
GSA	Groundwater Sustainability Agencies
GSPs	Groundwater Sustainability Plans
BWP	Global Warming Potential
HCP	Habitat Conservation Plan
HMBP	Hazardous Materials Business Plan
HVAC	heating, ventilation, and air conditioning
I	Interstate
IEPR	Integrated Energy Policy Report
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
ISO	Independent Service Operator
ITE	Institute of Transportation Engineers
LBVI	least Bell’s vireo
LID	low-impact development
LSTs	Localized Significance Thresholds
LUST	Leaking Underground Storage Tank
MBTA	Migratory Bird Treaty Act
MICR	maximum individual cancer risk
MLD	Most Likely Descendent
MM	Mitigation Measure
MRZ	Mineral Resource Zones
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NAHC	Native American Heritage Commission
NOI	Notice of Intent
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Services
OEHHA	Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment

OS	Open Space
PCE	passenger car equivalent
PEIR	Program Environmental Impact Report
PPV	peak particle velocity
PRMMP	Paleontological Resources Monitoring and Mitigation Plan
RCNM	Road Construction Noise Model
RMS	root mean square
ROW	Right-of-Way
RTP/SCS	Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategies
RWQCB	Regional Water Quality Control Board
SB	State Bill
SBCSD	San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department
SBCSWM	San Bernardino County Solid Waste Management
SBTAM	San Bernardino County Transportation Analysis Model
SBKR	San Bernardino kangaroo rat
SCAB	South Coast Air Basin
SCAG	Southern California Association of Governments
SCAQMD	South Coast Air Quality Management District
SCCIC	South Central Coastal Information Center
SCE	Southern California Edison
SDAB	San Diego Air Basin
SGMA	Sustainable Groundwater Management Act
SIPs	State Implementation Plans
SOI	Sphere of Influence
SR	State Route
SRA	Source Receptor Areas
SSC	Species of Special Concern
SWPPP	Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program
SWRCB	State Water Resources Control Board
TAC	toxic air contaminant
TAZ	Traffic Analysis Zone
TCP	Timberland Conservation Plan
TCR	Tribal Cultural Resource
TG	Trip Generation
THP	Timber Harvest Plan
USACE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
USAR	Upper Santa Ana River
USEPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
USFWS	U.S. Fish & Wildlife Services
USGS	U.S. Geological Survey
UWMP	Urban Water Management Plan
VC/BE	Valley Corridor / Bloomington Enterprise
VCSP	Valley Corridor Specific Plan
VdB	velocity in decibels

VMT	Vehicle Miles Traveled
VOC	volatile organic compounds
WOTUS	Waters of the United States
WTP	Wastewater Treatment Plant
WQMP	Water Quality Management Plan
YSMN	Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY
PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This form and the descriptive information in the application package constitute the contents of Initial Study pursuant to County Guidelines under Ordinance 3040 and Section 15063 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines.

PROJECT LABEL

APNs:	0252-161-09-0000 and 0252-161-10-0000	***USGS Quad:***	Fontana, CA
Applicant:	San Bernardino County's Department of Public Health – Animal Care	***T, R, Section:***	T1S, R5W, Section 21
Location:	The project site is located on two parcels situated along Valley Boulevard in the Community of Bloomington, within unincorporated San Bernardino County. The project is located at the following address: 18317 Valley Blvd, Bloomington, CA 92316. The project coordinates are 34.069336°, -117.405417°	***Thomas Bros:***	N/A
Project No:	10.10.1319	***Community Plan:***	N/A
Rep:	Kenneth Hylin	***LUZD:***	LU: Special Development; Valley Corridor/Bloomington Enterprise (VC/BE) Zoning: Valley Corridor/Bloomington Enterprise (VC/BE)
Proposal:	Project Approval	***Overlays:***	Biotic Resources (BR) for Burrowing Owl

PROJECT CONTACT INFORMATION

Lead Agency: County of San Bernardino
Land Use Services Department
385 N. Arrowhead Avenue, 1st Floor
San Bernardino, CA 92415-0182

Contact person: Kenneth Hylin
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PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Existing Site and Area Conditions

The proposed project site previously served as Bloomington Recreation and Park District operated Ayala Park located in the Valley Region of San Bernardino County, in the community of Bloomington.

Ayala Park was a neighborhood park that primarily served residents north of Interstate 10. This six-acre, approximately 330' by 800' former park site is part of the Valley Corridor Specific Plan in the unincorporated community of Bloomington, and is generally surrounded by the cities of Rialto and Fontana in San Bernardino County, and Jurupa Valley in Riverside County. The Valley Corridor area consists of 355 acres oriented along a 1.25-mile corridor of Valley Boulevard between Bloomington's western boundary with

Fontana (Alder Avenue) and eastern boundary with Rialto (Spruce Avenue). The area extends north to Marygold Avenue and south to Interstate 10 (I-10).

Ayala Park was relocated to a new site in August of 2022, and thus, the proposed project site is presently vacant with none of the remnants of the former park remaining within the site. As part of the Ayala Park relocation, the former site within which this project is proposed was cleared and former structures and park features were demolished or removed. The proposed project site is an approximately 6-acre rectangularly shaped parcel surrounded by intense urban development and is situated south of Valley Boulevard and north of the Interstate 10 (I-10) Freeway. The project site topography is almost flat, gently slopes (± 0.055%) south toward concrete storm drain channel running along I-10. **Figures 1 and 2** provide regional and local context to the project location.

The San Bernardino Countywide Policy Plan Land Use designation for the project site is Special Development. The proposed project is located within the Valley Corridor Specific Plan area, which designates the project site for Bloomington Enterprise use. The zoning classification is Valley Corridor/Bloomington Enterprise (VC/BE). The land uses bordering the project site are outlined in Table 1 below, and photos of the project site and the surrounding uses are provided in the Photos Section below:

Table 1
EXISTING LAND USE AND LAND USE ZONING DISTRICTS

Location	Existing Land Use	Countywide Plan Land Use & Zoning District
Project Site	Former Ayala Park, which is presently vacant	LU: Special Development; Valley Corridor/Bloomington Enterprise (VC/BE) Zoning: Valley Corridor/Bloomington Enterprise (VC/BE)
North	Commercial and Industrial uses	Special Development Valley Corridor/Bloomington Enterprise (VC/BE)
South	I-10 Freeway/Union Pacific Railroad; Industrial uses	Special Development Bloomington/Community Industrial
East	Residential and Commercial uses Immediately east is a used car sales lot with vacant land behind. Further to the east is a mobile home park.	Special Development Valley Corridor/Bloomington Enterprise (VC/BE)
West	Residential, Light Industrial, and Commercial uses West of the proposed site is a commercial window tinting operation. Behind the window tinting store are two or 3 poorly maintained single-family homes. Further to the west is light industrial fronting Valley Boulevard and a mobile home park behind and to the west.	Special Development Valley Corridor/Bloomington Enterprise (VC/BE)

Project Overview

Introduction

The San Bernardino County's Department of Public Health – Animal Care (County) presently operates the Devore Animal Shelter to serve the County's needs of animal sheltering, care, and adoption services. The facility is located in a semi-remote site in the Devore area of San Bernardino at the base of the Cajon Pass.

The County is proposing to relocate all small animal care services from Devore to the project site located in Bloomington. The proposed project site is approximately 6 acres in size and with sufficient area and ease of access to support the County's goals in continuing to provide excellent animal care services to County

residents. The Devore Animal Shelter has currently exceeded its useful life span and is unable to accommodate the growth required due to existing facility deterioration, limited wastewater and sewage capacity, remote location and other factors. Thus, the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center is proposed to enhance services and expand capacity and additional work areas to accommodate the growth of the Animal Care Division. As the proposed project is located within and proposed by the County, San Bernardino County will serve as the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) lead agency, and will oversee project approval.

Project Description

As stated above, the County is proposing to relocate all small animal care services from the Devore Animal Shelter to the proposed project site, which is located in Bloomington. The proposed project site is approximately 6 acres in size and with sufficient area and ease of access to support the County's goals in continuing to provide excellent animal care services to County residents.

The project will include enhanced services, expanded capacity, and additional work areas to accommodate the growth of the Animal Care Division. The new facility will increase animal housing units to allow the County to serve additional municipalities in the Central Valley region of the County. Program services will be enhanced to include a veterinary clinic; expanded pet adoption areas; animal exercise play yard; increased staffing work areas; volunteer work areas; expanded parking and other provisions to allow the Division to accommodate growth and increased demand for services.

Animal care and housing standards have evolved over the past four decades since the Devore Animal Shelter was designed/constructed. The community expects the new facility to meet current industry standards for animal housing, care and welfare. The County envisions the facility to be a welcoming community centric facility that will encourage residents to consider supporting the animal welfare programs offered at this location, volunteer and collaborate with the County to address pet over-population and assist in adopting or supporting pet adoption efforts.

Feasibility Study for the Proposed Site for Devore Animal Shelter Relocation
A Feasibility Study for the Devore Animal Shelter Relocation to the proposed San Bernardino County Animal Care Center site was prepared and is provided as Appendix 1 to this Initial Study. The new facility is planned to, on average at peak periods, house up to 240 dogs and 266 cats and 56 other animals of various species on any given day. This calculation is based on various factors, including peak period animal housing and average length of stay.

The County indicated a need for extended length of stay for animals to achieve the desire outcomes for pets housed within the facility. By adding holding areas to isolate pets at intake and provide a ventilation system to filter airborne diseases would accomplish the following: minimize cross-contamination, help keep animals longer; and, better assess health and behavioral issues. This is anticipated to, in turn, increase the likelihood of finding good homes for the animals.

Development of an animal shelter was determined to be appropriately suited to the proposed project site as long as the kennels and barns developed as part of the project are kept 100 feet away from residential development.

Proposed Site Design
The proposed San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project consists of development within an approximately 6-acre site designated for Valley Corridor/Bloomington Enterprise (VC/BE) use by the Valley Corridor Specific Plan and San Bernardino Countywide Plan located along Valley Boulevard east of Locust Avenue, west of Linden Avenue, and north of I-10 in the community of Bloomington in unincorporated San Bernardino County. The project consists of two parcels with the following Assessor's Parcel Numbers (APNs): 0252-161-09-0000 and 0252-161-10-0000. Refer to the site plan, provided as **Figure 3**. The site plans as a whole are provided as Appendix 3.

The project proposes a new animal shelter that would be developed with a modern design, that will incorporate sustainable, energy efficient building systems and features. The project would be developed as follows:

1. Administration Building along the Valley Boulevard frontage (2-story).
    a. First Floor 10,395 square feet (SF)
    b. Second Floor 4,296
        i. Building total: 14,826 SF
2. Five Dog Housing/Kennel Buildings
    a. 5,824 SF each
3. Two Dog Housing/ Kennel Buildings
    a. 3,363 SF each
4. A Medical Clinic Building
    a. 2,758 SF
5. Support Building
    a. 8,896 SF
6. A Cat Housing and Other Animals Building
    a. 5,830 SF
7. A Medical Dog Building
    a. 5,934 SF
8. A Covered Truck Wash
    a. 540 SF
9. Euthanasia
    a. 436 SF

In total, the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would utilize/install a total building area of 74,391 SF (excluding the covered truck wash).

The Administration Building, on the whole, will include the following features:

Staff Support Features

- Office space for Animal Control Officers, Office Assistants, Health Education Specialist(s), Animal Rescue Coordinator(s), and Volunteers
- Conference room
- Break room/Kitchen
- Work center
- Storage area

Public Area

- Lobbies
- Customer Service Counters
- Adoption Interview Spaces
- Multipurpose room/conference room
- Public male/female restroom facilities

The Medical Clinic Building, on the whole, will include the following features:

- Reception
- Veterinary office
- Veterinary file storage, medical storage, and medical gas storage
- Exam rooms
- Surgery room
- Prep area
- Recovery rooms
- Staff restrooms

The Dog Housing (7 separate buildings), on the whole, will include the following features:

- 240 dog kennels for adoption and stray dogs
- Dog "get acquainted" area
- Cleaning equipment

The Cat & other Animal Housing Building, on the whole, will include the following features:

- Adoption: cat area
- Cat colony rooms
- Cat "get acquainted" area
- Fractious cat area
- Isolation cats
- Space for animals of other species besides dogs & cats

The Support Building, on the whole, will include the following features:

- Animal admission area
- Animal Control officers office
- Temporary holding area for dogs
- Storage for Animal Control
- Intake exam room
- Grooming room
- Disaster storage
- Staff lockers, showers, dressing stalls, and restrooms
- Staff break room
- Maintenance rooms, laundry, and electrical room

The Medical Dog Building, on the whole, will include the following features:

- Truck wash area (this area will be covered with a drain that is connected to the sanitary sewer system)
- Euthanasia room & walk-in freezer
- General supply and cleaning supply storage
- Medical: dog kennels for 40 dogs

The proposed San Bernardino County Animal Care Center would include the following design measures to promote sustainability and health of both the animals, and the public visiting the project site, in addition to residents in the vicinity of the project site:

1. Drought-tolerant landscaping;
2. Shading devices and techniques;
3. Orient buildings so that the long axis is oriented east–west to maximize north- and south-at windows;
4. The use of grass swales, particularly with native or drought-tolerant grasses, is encouraged to collect and filter water runoff;
5. Architectural features that increase daylighting;
6. Encourage use of flooring and insulation products that are low emitting of volatile organic compounds (VOCs)
7. Use of recycled-content aggregate (reused and crushed concrete and asphalt) would be highly encouraged in areas such as, but not limited to, drainage backfill and under driveways, sidewalks, and building slabs;
8. Use of light-colored roofing materials;
9. Use of Energy Star-rated appliances to the greatest feasible extent. Solar or electric (efficiency rating of at least 0.92) water heaters are strongly encouraged.
10. Due to the proximity of the freeway and railroad, the heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems in newly constructed buildings shall be designed to accommodate air filters with a minimum efficiency reporting value (MERV) of 11 or higher; and,

11. Development shall adhere to the County's GHG reducing performance standards to improve the energy efficiency, water conservation, vehicle trip reduction potential, and other GHG reducing impacts.

Additional features of the project site include a car washing station, and landscaping that meet the County's landscaping standard requiring landscaping to equal at least 10% of the total parking area. The County also requires properties to maintain a landscaping screen along the property line abutting the Interstate 10 ROW, which this project would comply with, in addition to the requirement that at least one-third of the setback area adjacent to an abutting residential property line be landscaped at the adjoining edge of the property line. The Valley Boulevard Zone, within which the project is located, requires the provision of a consistent pattern of attractive and low-maintenance street trees that will provide shade without blocking exposure for commercial businesses, with which the proposed project site would be designed to comply.

The site boundary will be fenced at 8'0" to 14'0" in height, and is anticipated to be made utilizing concrete masonry (CMU) at the side & rear perimeters w/ tubular steel pickets above to prevent climbing. The fencing will also run along the north side of the site in line with the Administration Building.

Water, sanitation, and other public utilities are available with adequate capacities for the proposed site uses. Water is provided by Marygold Mutual Water Company. Electricity is provided by Southern California Edison. SoCalGas provides natural gas service to the project site. Southern California Telephone Company is available to provide telephone and internet connections to the project site. Rialto wastewater service is available to serve the project site.

Project Parking

The proposed project would install 47 public parking spaces along the project frontage. Because of the nature of the proposed project, the two driveways providing access to the project site will be gated just after the public parking lot to prevent unauthorized public access to the proposed San Bernardino County Animal Care Center facilities.

The project would provide 97 total staff parking spaces within the gated access area of the project site along the western, eastern, and southern boundaries of the site.

Overall, the proposed project would provide 144 parking spaces, as shown on **Figure 3**, the site plan. The total number of parking spaces required per the County Development Code is 125 spaces total. Of the parking spaces provided 7 would be handicapped spaces. The proposed project would also provide the County required number of bike parking spaces and the County required number electric parking spaces.

Operational Scenario

The new San Bernardino County Animal Care Center will employ about 55 persons, of which 17 would be new positions, with the remaining positions carried over from the Devore Animal Shelter operations. The San Bernardino County Animal Care Center will be open to the public between the hours of 10 AM and 6:30 PM daily, except in the event of an emergency. The San Bernardino County Animal Care Center will be staffed 24-hours per day. During daytime working hours (7 AM and 6:30 PM daily), the proposed project would staff an average of 25-30 persons. During nighttime working hours (no staff at night), the proposed project would staff an average of 0 persons.

On average, the animal shelter is planned to receive an annual intake of animals as follows:

Table 2
PROJECTED ANNUAL INTAKE OF ANIMALS AT BLOOMINGTON

	Cats	Dogs	Other[2]
Annual Intake	4,931	4,349	1,046
Average Length of Stay	12 days	16 days	14 days

Construction Scenario

Construction of the proposed San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project is anticipated to be completed as described under Proposed Site Design, above.

Construction would occur over a period of up to 20 months, beginning in 3rd Quarter of 2024. Development of the site would require site preparation (i.e., clearing, grading, and excavation), paving, and construction of buildings. The project is anticipated to require minimal cut and fill with any cut being reused to balance of the site through grading, which will minimize import/export of material.

Development of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project will require installation of pavement, curbs and sidewalk throughout the site. Additionally, the project will require installation of drainage inlets at several locations within the project site and installation of an infiltration basin towards the southern site boundary, in addition to catch basin filters, perforated infiltration chamber, pervious pavement, and other water quality control measures as required by the site-specific Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP).

Delivery of construction supplies and removal of any excavated materials, if necessary, will be accomplished using trucks during normal working hours, with a maximum of 50 round trips per day. It is anticipated that a maximum number of 50 employees will be required to support the construction of the project each day. Grading will be by traditional mechanized grading and compaction equipment including, but not limited to the following: front end loader, excavator, loader backhoe, dump truck, forklift, skid steer, mobile crane, bulldozer, grader, roller, water wagon, asphalt compactors, telehandlers, cement trucks, etc.

Construction of the site will include but will not be limited to the following:

1. Clear and grub;
2. Preparation of subgrade;
3. Mass site grading and road beds;
4. Installation of the on-site storm drain systems, including water quality infrastructure;
5. Installation of sewer service lateral;
6. Installation of water service lateral;
7. Fine grade to prepare for surface improvements;
8. Installation of building foundations;
9. Install aboveground fuel tanks and associated fuel dispensing system;
10. Install internal utility infrastructure;
11. Install curb, gutters, sidewalks and asphalt base course;
12. Minor street improvements on Valley Boulevard to include, but not limited to, the following: curb & gutter, driveways, sidewalk, and asphalt patch/repair;
13. Complete building construction;
14. Install landscaping; place final lift of asphalt; and
15. Install signage and striping.

Construction materials will include: concrete foundations, slabs and walks, asphalt concrete paving, a minor amount of concrete blocks for trash enclosures and similar site elements, structural steel construction for administration building, tilt up concrete for warehouse, cement plaster, synthetic wood, paint for exterior materials, plastic roofing, ceramic tile, carpet, sheet vinyl flooring, suspended acoustic ceilings and suspended metallic ceilings, wood doors, aluminum and glass windows, efficient forced air heating and cooling, typical wiring and conduit for data and power, access control systems, surveillance systems, and LED lights throughout.

Construction materials will include: concrete foundations, slabs and walks, asphalt concrete paving concrete blocks for perimeter wall, trash enclosures and similar site elements, structural steel or wood frame construction for administration building, concrete block or wood frame for warehouse/support building, Concrete block and cement plaster for kennels, synthetic wood, paint for exterior materials, thermos plastic and standing seam metal for roofing, ceramic tile, epoxy flooring, carpet, sheet vinyl flooring, suspended acoustic ceilings and suspended metallic ceilings, wood doors, aluminum and glass windows,

energy efficient forced air heating and cooling, typical wiring and conduit for data and power, access control systems, surveillance systems, and LED lights throughout.

Project Entitlements and Planning

Planning officials advised that animal shelter use of the property is allowed in under the Valley Corridor/Bloomington Enterprise (VC/BE) Zoning District is a permitted use because it falls under "Government Facility" use.

Project Site Location, Existing Site Land Uses and Conditions (include site photos)

Photo 1: View East at the Northeast corner of Project Site

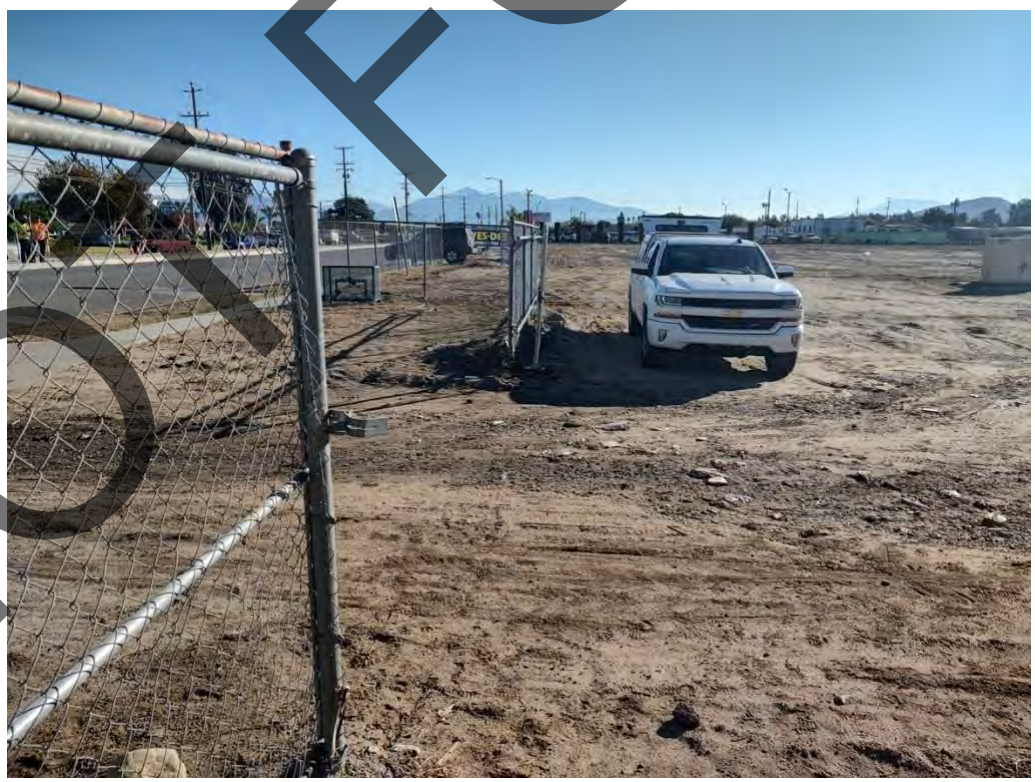


Photo 2: View East at the Northwest corner of Project Site

Photo 3: View East at the Southwest corner of Project Site

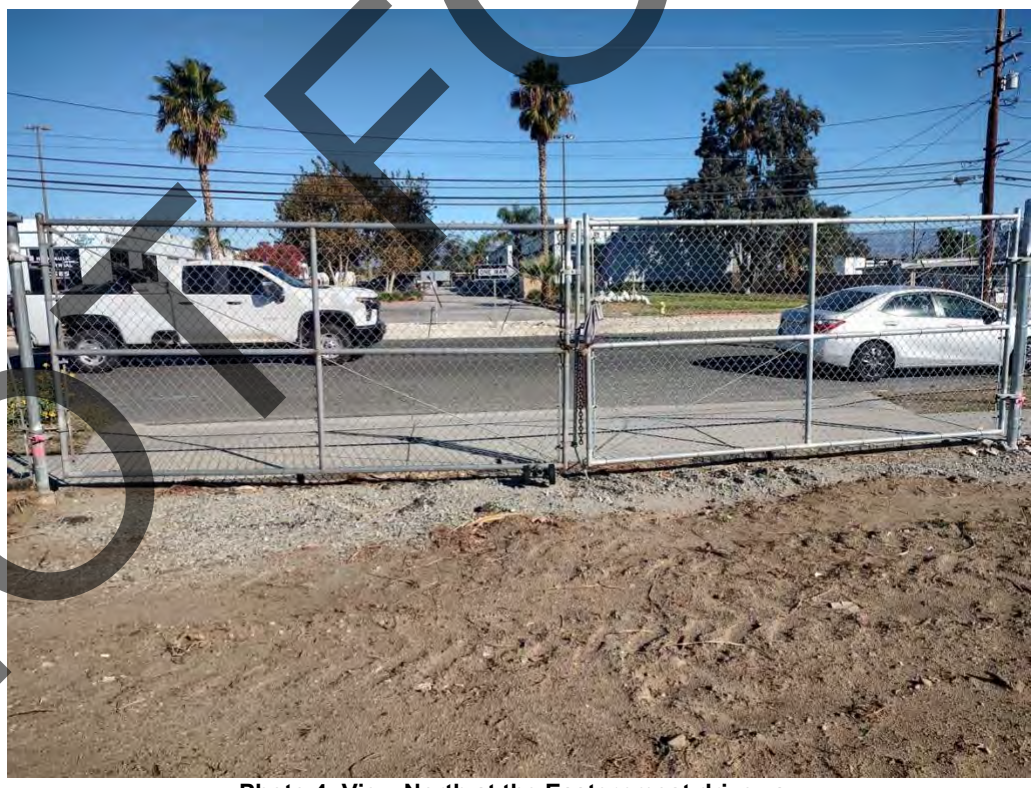


Photo 4: View North at the Easternmost driveway

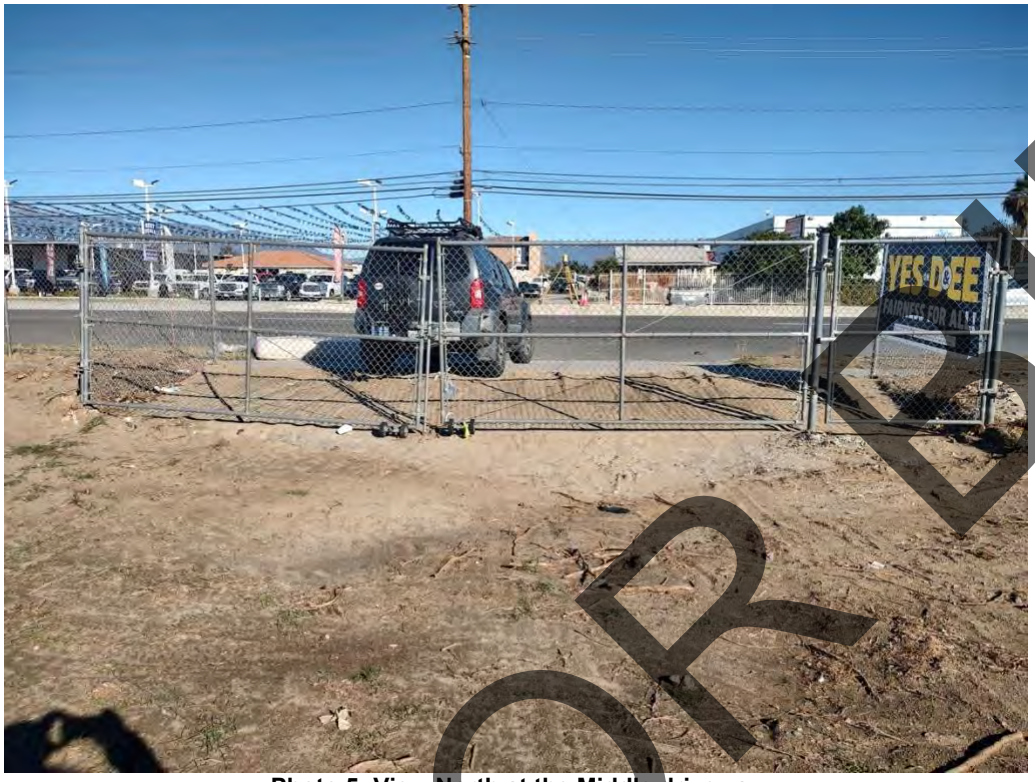


Photo 5: View North at the Middle driveway

Photo 6: View North at the Southeast corner of Project Site

Photo 7: View North at the Southwest corner of Project Site

Photo 8: View Northeast of Project Site

Photo 9: View Northwest Cross Project Site from Southeast Corner

Photo 10: View South at Northeast corner of Project Site

Photo 11: View South at Northwest corner of Project Site

Photo 12: View Southwest of Project Site from Northeast Corner

Photo 13: View East at Southeast Corner of Project Site

ADDITIONAL APPROVALS THAT MAY BE REQUIRED BY OTHER PUBLIC AGENCIES
(Example: permits, financing approvals or participation agreements.)

The amount of area to be disturbed by the whole project will be greater than one acre; therefore, the developer will be required to file a Notice of Intent (NOI) for a General Construction permit to comply with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) requirements. The NOI is filed with the State Water Resources Control Board and enforced by the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board. A Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) must be implemented in conjunction with construction activities.

SUMMARY OF CONSULTATION WITH CALIFORNIA NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBES

AB 52 was initiated on June 28, 2023. The following tribes have requested consultation with the County under AB 52: Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation, Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians, San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians, Morongo Band of Mission Indians, Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation, Fort Mojave Indian Tribe, and Colorado River Indian Tribe. During the initial 30-day consultation period, responses were received from the Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation and the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation.

EVALUATION FORMAT

This Initial Study is prepared in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act, Public Resources Code section 21000, et seq. (CEQA) and the State CEQA Guidelines, California Code of Regulations section 15000, et seq. Specifically, the preparation of an Initial Study is guided by Section 15063 of the CEQA Guidelines. This format of the study is presented as follows. The project is evaluated based on its effect on 18 major categories of environmental factors. Each factor is reviewed by responding to a series of questions regarding the impact of the project on each element of the overall factor. The Initial Study checklist provides

a formatted analysis that provides a determination of the effect of the project on the factor and its elements. The effect of the project is categorized into one of the following four categories of possible determinations:

Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant	No Impact

Substantiation is then provided to justify each determination. One of the four following conclusions is then provided as a summary of the analysis for each of the major environmental factors.

1. **No Impact**: No impacts are identified or anticipated and no mitigation measures are required.

2. **Less than Significant Impact**: No significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated and no mitigation measures are required.

3. **Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated**: Possible significant adverse impacts have been identified or anticipated and the following mitigation measures are required as a condition of project approval to reduce these impacts to a level below significant. The required mitigation measures are: (List of mitigation measures)

4. **Potentially Significant Impact**: Significant adverse impacts have been identified or anticipated. An Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is required to evaluate these impacts, which are (List of the impacts requiring analysis within the EIR).

At the end of the analysis the required mitigation measures are restated and categorized as being either self- monitoring or as requiring a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program.

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED

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

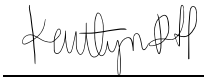
☒ Aesthetics	☐ Agriculture and Forestry Resources	☒ Air Quality
☒ Biological Resources	☒ Cultural Resources	☒ Energy
☒ Geology & Soils	☐ Greenhouse Gas Emissions	☒ Hazards & Hazardous Materials
☒ Hydrology & Water Quality	☐ Land Use & Planning	☐ Mineral Resources
☒ Noise	☐ Population & Housing	☐ Public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

DETERMINATION (To be completed by the Lead Agency)

On the basis of this initial evaluation, the following finding is made:

☐	The proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
☒	Although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there shall not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION shall be prepared.
☐	The proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
☐	The proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
☐	Although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

Signature (prepared by Tom Dodson & Associates) — Date: 05/17/24



Signature (County Representative)
San Bernardino County Project & Facilities Management — Date: 05/17/24

Issues	*Potentially Significant Impact*	*Less Than Significant 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?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c) In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from publicly accessible vantage point). If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning or other regulations governing scenic quality?	☐	☐	☒	☐
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	☐	☐	☒	☐

I. AESTHETICS

SUBSTANTIATION: (Check ☐ if project is located within the view-shed of any Scenic Route listed in the General Plan)

Impact Analysis

a. *Less Than Significant Impact* – Adverse impacts to scenic vistas can occur in one of two ways. First, an area itself may contain existing scenic vistas that would be altered by new development. As part of the Ayala Park relocation, the former site within which this project is proposed was cleared and former structures and park features were demolished or removed. A review of the project area determined that there are no scenic vistas located internally within the project site, particularly given the project is located within a site that has been previously disturbed and is presently vacant, and that the project is surrounded by existing development (refer to the site photos provided in the Project Description).

A scenic vista impact can also occur when a scenic vista can be viewed from the project area or immediate vicinity and a proposed development may interfere with the view to a scenic vista. Portions of San Bernardino Mountains to the east/northeast and the San Gabriel Mountains to the north/northwest can be seen from street level at Valley Boulevard along the project frontage and from the project site itself. However, trees, power lines, and existing structures are located within the foreground, thus the project site views are not pristine or of high quality. Thus, development at this location would not interfere with mountain views, particularly as the project area is highly developed, with views to the mountains being visible mostly from north-south roadways. Given that the proposed project is was formerly developed with structures in support of the former Ayala Park, the development of the site to contain the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would be consistent with that which has formerly been supported within the project site, and that which is presently within the surrounding area. Given that there are no pristine viewpoints in the vicinity the project from which to observe the mountain vistas, and that the project would repurpose the existing two-story structure on site, the development of the maximum 30-foot tall new structures in support of the project in this area of the County is not considered significant. The proposed use of this site would be consistent with the existing and surrounding uses which include residential, industrial, and

commercial uses. As such, implementation of the proposed San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project is not expected to cause any substantial effects on any important scenic vistas. This potential impact is considered a less than significant adverse aesthetic impact. No mitigation is required.

b. *Less Than Significant Impact* – The proposed project would not substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway. The project site is located on Valley Boulevard, which is not considered by the State to be a scenic highway. The County's recently adopted General Plan—the "Countywide Plan"[1]—identifies several county scenic routes as shown on **Figure I-1**, but none are in close proximity to the proposed project. No historic buildings are located within the project footprint that would be disturbed as part of the proposed project. The proposed project does not contain any existing structures as the site is presently vacant. No rock outcroppings would be impacted by the proposed project, as none have been observed within the project site, particularly given that the project site has been previously developed and has been cleared of the remnants of the former Ayala Park. The site does not contain trees that would require removal in order to facilitate the development of the proposed project because the site has been cleared and remains vacant; regardless, pursuant to San Bernardino Development Code §88.01.030(b), government owned properties are not subject to the County's Tree Ordinance. No other scenic resources have been identified on the site. Therefore, the project would have a less than significant potential to substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway.

c. *Less Than Significant Impact* – The proposed San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project is located within a highly urbanized area surrounded by commercial, and industrial uses, as well as a few non-conforming residential uses, in addition to the I-10 freeway along the project's southern boundary. The proposed project is located in a developed portion of the County. The project will include landscaping as required by the County for Valley Corridor/Bloomington Enterprise uses, which will ensure that the site does not degrade the visual character of the site or the area. While the proposed project once served as Ayala Park, no distinctly scenic features remain within the project site. Thus, the development of the currently vacant project site to contain the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would be designed to conform to the Valley Corridor Specific Plan design guidelines for Valley Corridor/Bloomington Enterprise uses. By developing this site with another County owned and operated use in accordance with the Valley Corridor Specific Plan, thereby meeting County design guidelines for Valley Corridor/Bloomington Enterprise uses, the visual character of this presently vacant site and its surroundings will be enhanced. Thus, with the design elements incorporated into the project, implementation of the County's design standards will minimize the potential aesthetic impacts to a less than significant level.

d. *Less Than Significant Impact* – Implementation of the proposed project will create new sources of light during the construction and operational phases of the project. Existing sources of light in the project area include streetlights, headlights and lighting from the adjacent roadways, lighting from within the project site from the proposed San Bernardino County Animal Care Center and lighting from nearby industrial, residential, and commercial uses. The San Bernardino County Development Code requires new projects to adhere to the provisions of the Chapter 83.07.030 Glare and Outdoor Lighting – Valley Region. The Development Code requires that outdoor lighting—which the project will require to provide security lighting throughout the site—of commercial or industrial land uses shall be fully shielded to preclude light pollution or light trespass on (1) An abutting residential land use zoning district; (2) A residential parcel; or (3) Public right-of-way (ROW). As the proposed project would create new sources of light in support of San Bernardino County Animal Care Center operation, new sources of light will be required to comply with the provisions outlined in San Bernardino County Development Code 83.07.030 Glare and Outdoor Lighting – Valley Region as it is a mandatory requirement for all new construction and as such will be required to develop the proposed project.

[1] County of San Bernardino. 2020. San Bernardino Countywide Plan. https://countywideplan.com/resources/document-download/ (accessed 05/07/24)

Furthermore, the Valley Corridor Specific Plan (VCSP) EIR concluded that Specific Plan design guidelines would reduce the impacts of light and glare on adjacent and surrounding land uses and the general environment. These design guidelines include the following, which would further reduce light and glare impacts resulting from project development:

- Overspill. Exterior lighting elements should be shielded or downward facing to minimize glare, spillover, and light pollution. Lighting elements shall be designed and located to provide sufficient illumination for access and security purposes, but shall not adversely impact the onsite or surrounding residential uses or project offsite onto other adjacent uses.
- Color and type. White lighting is preferred. Colored lights are not encouraged unless they contribute to the theming of commercial areas or establishments. Blinking, flashing, and oscillating lights are prohibited.
- Pedestrian Lighting (7b). Low-wattage, full-cutoff luminaires should be employed for pedestrian lighting fixtures.
- Pedestrian Lighting (7c). Full-cutoff luminaires are lighting fixtures that emit no up-light (no light above 90-degree horizontal plane), and a maximum of 10 percent of the total lumens between 80 and 90 degrees, resulting in minimal glare.
- Shared Parking and Common Open Space. Lighting of shared residential parking areas and common open space areas should be aimed downward and/or shielded to minimize glare and light spillage.

Through compliance with the County Development Code and design in accordance with the VCSP, potential light and glare impacts associated with the proposed project will be reduced to a less than significant level.

Issues	*Potentially Significant Impact*	*Less Than Significant 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 Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment project; and forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board. Will the project:				
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use or a Williamson Act contract?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	☐	☐	☐	☒
e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	☐	☐	☐	☒

II. AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY RESOURCES

SUBSTANTIATION: (Check ☐ if project is located in the Important Farmlands Overlay)

Impact Analysis

a. *No Impact* – The San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project is located in an area that is urbanized. Neither the project site nor the adjacent and surrounding properties are designated for agricultural use; no agricultural activities exist in the project area; and there is no potential for impact to any agricultural uses or values as a result of project implementation. According to the San Bernardino Countywide Plan Agricultural Resources Map (**Figure II-1**), the proposed project has not been designated for agricultural use; no prime farmland, unique farmland, or farmland of statewide

importance exists within the vicinity of the proposed project. No adverse impact to any agricultural resources would occur from implementing the proposed project. No mitigation is required.

b. *No Impact* – There are no agricultural uses currently on the project site or on adjacent properties. The project site is zoned for Valley Corridor/Bloomington Enterprise (VC/BE) and the General Plan land use designation is Special Development; Valley Corridor/Bloomington Enterprise (VC/BE). As such, no potential exists for a conflict between the proposed project and agricultural zoning or Williamson Act contracts within the project area. No mitigation is required.

c. *No Impact* – Please refer to issues II(a) and II(b) above. The project site is in an urbanized area and neither the land use designation (Special Development; Valley Corridor/Bloomington Enterprise) nor zoning classification (Valley Corridor/Bloomington Enterprise) supports forest land or timberland uses or designations. No potential exists for a conflict between the proposed project and forest/timberland zoning. No mitigation is required.

d. *No Impact* – There are no forest lands within the project area, which is because the project area is urbanized and removed from nearby mountains, where much of the County's forestry resources are located. No potential for loss of forest land would occur if the project is implemented. No mitigation is required.

e. *No Impact* – Because the project site and surrounding area do not support either agricultural or forestry uses and, furthermore, because the project site and environs are not designated for such uses, implementation of the proposed project would not cause or result in the conversion of farmland or forest land to alternative use. No adverse impact would occur. No mitigation is required.

Issues	*Potentially Significant Impact*	*Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated*	*Less Than Significant Impact*	*No Impact*
III. AIR QUALITY: Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Will the project:				
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?	☐	☒	☐	☐
c) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	☐	☒	☐	☐
d) Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people?	☐	☐	☒	☐

III. AIR QUALITY

SUBSTANTIATION: An Air Quality Impact Analysis (AQIA) was prepared for the proposed project, and is provided as Appendix 4 to this Initial Study, is titled *"Animal Care Facility Air Quality Impact Analysis"* prepared by Urban Crossroads dated May 1, 2024.

Background

Climate
The climate of the eastern San Bernardino Valley, as with all of Southern California, as with all of Southern California, is governed largely by the strength and location of the semi-permanent high-pressure center over the Pacific Ocean and the moderating effects of the nearby vast oceanic heat reservoir. Local climatic conditions are characterized by very warm summers, mild winters, infrequent rainfall, moderate daytime on-shore breezes, and comfortable humidity levels. Unfortunately, the same climatic conditions that create such a desirable living climate combine to severely restrict the ability of the local atmosphere to disperse the large volumes of air pollution generated by the population and industry attracted in part by the climate.

The project will be situated in an area where the pollutants generated in coastal portions of the Los Angeles basin undergo photochemical reactions and then move inland across the project site during the daily sea breeze cycle. The resulting smog at times gives San Bernardino County some of the worst air quality in all of California. Fortunately, significant air quality improvement in the last decade suggests that healthful air quality may someday be attained despite the limited regional meteorological dispersion potential.

Air Quality Standards
Existing air quality is measured at established SCAQMD air quality monitoring stations. Monitored air quality is evaluated in the context of ambient air quality standards. These standards are the levels of air quality that are considered safe, with an adequate margin of safety, to protect the public health and welfare. National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) and California Ambient Air Quality Standards (CAAQS) currently in effect are shown in Table III-1. The determination of whether a region's air quality is healthful or unhealthful is determined by comparing contaminant levels in ambient air samples to the state and federal standards. At the time of this AQIA, the most recent state and federal standards are presented in Table III-1. The air quality in a region is considered to be in attainment if the measured ambient air pollutant

levels for O_3, CO (except 8-hour Lake Tahoe), SO_2 (1 and 24 hour), NO_2, PM_{10}, and $PM_{2.5}$ are not to be exceeded. All others are not to be equaled or exceeded. It should be noted that the three-year period is presented for informational purposes and is not the basis for how attainment status is determined. Attainment status for a pollutant means that the South Coast Air Basin (SCAB) meets the standards set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) or the California EPA (CalEPA). Conversely, non-attainment means that an area has monitored air quality that does not meet the NAAQS or CAAQS. A State Implementation Plan (SIP) is required by the federal Clean Air Act (CAA) for areas that are designated non-attainment under the NAAQS. A SIP outlines the measures that a state will take to improve air quality in the area designated nonattainment. Once a nonattainment area meets the standards and additional redesignation requirements, the EPA designates the area as a maintenance area.

Table III-1
AMBIENT AIR QUALITY STANDARDS

Pollutant	Average Time	California Standards [1]		National Standards [2]		
		Concentration [3]	Method [4]	Primary [3,5]	Secondary [3,6]	Method [7]
Ozone (O3)[8]	1 Hour	0.09 ppm (180 µg/m^3)	Ultraviolet Photometry	–	Same as Primary Standard	Ultraviolet Photometry
	8 Hour	0.070 ppm (137 µg/m^3)		0.070 ppm (137 µg/m^3)		
Respirable Particulate Matter (PM10)[9]	24 Hour	50 µg/m^3	Gravimetric or Beta Attenuation	150 µg/m^3	Same as Primary Standard	Inertial Separation and Gravimetric Analysis
	Annual Arithmetic Mean	20 µg/m^3		–		
Fine Particulate Matter (PM2.5)[9]	24 Hour	–	–	35 µg/m^3	Same as Primary Standard	Inertial Separation and Gravimetric Analysis
	Annual Arithmetic Mean	12 µg/m^3	Gravimetric or Beta Attenuation	12.0 µg/m^3	15.0 µg/m^3	
Carbon Monoxide (CO)	1 Hour	20 ppm (23 mg/m^3)	Non-Dispersive Infrared Photometry (NDIR)	35 ppm (40 mg/m^3)	–	Non-Dispersive Infrared Photometry (NDIR)
	8 Hour	9 ppm (10 mg/m^3)		9 ppm (10 mg/m^3)	–	
	8 Hour (Lake Tahoe)	6 ppm (7 mg/m^3)		–	–	
Nitrogen Dioxide (NO2)[10]	1 Hour	0.18 ppm (339 µg/m^3)	Gas Phase Chemiluminescence	100 ppb (188 µg/m^3)	–	Gas Phase Chemiluminescence
	Annual Arithmetic Mean	0.030 ppm (57 µg/m^3)		0.053 ppm (100 µg/m^3)	Same as Primary Standard	
Sulfur Dioxide (SO2)[11]	1 Hour	0.25 ppm (655 µg/m^3)	Ultraviolet Fluorescence	75 ppb (196 µg/m^3)	–	Ultraviolet Flourescense; Spectrophotometry (Paraosaniline Method)
	3 Hour	–		–	0.5 ppm (1300 µg/m^3)	
	24 Hour	0.04 ppm (105 µg/m^3)		0.14 ppm (for certain areas)[11]	–	
	Annual Arithmetic Mean	–		0.030 ppm (for certain areas)[11]	–	
Lead 8[12,13]	30-Day Average	1.5 µg/m^3	Atomic Absorption	–	–	–
	Calendar Quarter	–		1.5 µg/m^3 (for certain areas)[12]	Same as Primary Standard	High Volume Sampler and Atomic Absorption
	Rolling 3-Month Avg	–		0.15 µg/m^3		

Pollutant	Average Time	California Standards [1]		National Standards [2]		
		Concentration [3]	Method [4]	Primary [3,5]	Secondary [3,6]	Method [7]
Visibility Reducing Particles[14]	8 Hour	See footnote 14	Beta Attenuation and Transmittance through Filter Tape	**No Federal Standards**		
Sulfates	24 Hour	25 µg/m^3	Ion Chromatography			
Hydrogen Sulfide	1 Hour	0.03 ppm (42 µg/m^3)	Ultraviolet Fluorescence			
Vinyl Chloride[12]	24 Hour	0.01 ppm (26 µg/m^3)	Gas Chromatography			

Source: California Air Resources Board 5/4/16

Footnotes:

1 California standards for ozone, carbon monoxide (except Lake Tahoe), sulfur dioxide (1 and 24 hour), nitrogen dioxide, suspended particulate matter – PM10, PM2.5, and visibility reducing particles, are values that are not to be exceeded. All others are not to be equaled or exceeded. California ambient air quality standards are listed in the Table of Standards in Section 70200 of Title 17 of the California Code of Regulations.

2 National standards (other than ozone, particulate matter, and those based on annual averages or annual arithmetic mean) are not to be exceeded more than once a year. The ozone standard is attained when the fourth highest eight-hour concentration in a year, averaged over three years, is equal to or less than the standard. For PM10, the 24-hour standard is attained when the expected number of days per calendar year, with a 24-hour average concentration above 150 µg/m^3, is equal to or less than one. For PM2.5, the 24-hour standard is attained when 98 percent of the daily concentrations, averaged over 3 years, are equal to or less than the standard. Contact U.S. EPA for further clarification and current federal policies.

3 Concentration expressed first in units in which it was promulgated. Equivalent units given in parentheses are based upon a reference temperature of 25°C and a reference pressure of 760 torr. Most measurements of air quality are to be corrected to a reference temperature of 25°C and a reference pressure of 760 torr; ppm in this table refers to ppm by volume, or micromoles of pollutant per mole of gas.

4 Any equivalent procedure which can be shown to the satisfaction of the ARB to give equivalent results at or near the level of the air quality standard may be used.

5 National Primary Standards: The levels of air quality necessary, with an adequate margin of safety to protect the public health.

6 National Secondary Standards: The levels of air quality necessary to protect the public welfare from any known or anticipated adverse effects of a pollutant.

7 Reference method as described by the EPA. An "equivalent method" of measurement may be used but must have a "consistent relationship to the reference method" and must be approved by the EPA.

8 On October 1, 2015, the national 8-hour ozone primary and secondary standards were lowered from 0.075 to 0.070 ppm.

9 On December 14, 2012, the national PM2.5 primary standard was lowered from 15 µg/m^3 to 12.0 µg/m^3. The existing national 24-hour PM2.5 standards (primarily and secondary) were retained at 35 µg/m^3, as was the annual secondary standard of 15 µg/m^3. The existing 24-hour PM10 standards (primarily and secondary) of 150 µg/m^3 also were retained. The form of the annual primary and secondary standards is the annual mean, averaged over 3 years.

10 To attain the 1-hour national standard, the 3-year average of the annual 98th percentile of the 1-hour daily maximum concentrations at each site must not exceed 100 ppb. Note that the national 1-hour standard is in units of parts per billion (ppb). California standards are in units of parts per million (ppm). To directly compare the national 1-hour standard to the California standards the units can be converted from ppb to ppm. In this case, the national standard of 100 ppb is identical to 0.100 ppm.

11 On June 2, 2010, a new 1-hour SO2 standard was established and the existing 24-hour and annual primary standards were revoked. To attain the 1-hour national standard, the 3-year average of the annual 99th percentile of the 1-hour daily maximum concentrations at each site must not exceed 75 ppb. The 1971 SO2 national standards (24-hour and annual) remain in effect until one year after an area is designated for the 2010 standard, except that in areas designated nonattainment for the 1971 standards, the 1971 standards remain in effect until implementation plans to attain or maintain the 2010 standards are approved.

Note that the 1-hour national standard is in units of parts per billion (ppb). California standards are in units of parts per million (ppm). To directly compare the 1-hour national standard to the California standard the units can be converted to ppm. In this case, the national standard of 75 ppb is identical to 0.075 ppm.

12 The ARB has identified lead and vinyl chloride as 'toxic air contaminants' with no threshold level of exposure for adverse health effects determined. These actions allow for the implementation of control measures at levels below the ambient concentrations specified for these pollutants.

13 The national standard for lead was revised on October 15, 2008 to a rolling 3-month average. The 1978 lead standard (1.5 j.tg/m^3 as a quarterly average) remains in effect until one year after an area is designated for the 2008 standard, except that in areas designated nonattainment for the 1978 standard, the 1978 standard remains in effect until implementation plans to attain or maintain the 2008 standard are approved.

14 In 1989, the ARB converted both the general statewide 10-mile visibility standard and the Lake Tahoe 30-mile visibility standard to instrumental equivalents, which are "extinction of 0.23 per kilometer" and "extinction of 0.07 per kilometer" for the statewide and Lake Tahoe Air Basin standards, respectively.

Criteria Pollutants

Criteria pollutants are pollutants that are regulated through the development of human health based and/or environmentally based criteria for setting permissible levels. Criteria pollutants, their typical sources, and health effects are identified below:

Table III-2
CRITERIA POLLUTANTS

Criteria Pollutant	Description	Sources	Health Effects
Carbon Monoxide (CO)	CO is a colorless, odorless gas produced by the incomplete combustion of carbon-containing fuels, such as gasoline or wood. CO concentrations tend to be the highest during the winter morning, when little to no wind and surface-based inversions trap the pollutant at ground levels. Because CO is emitted directly from internal combustion engines, unlike ozone (O_3), motor vehicles operating at slow speeds are the primary source of CO in the MDAB. The highest ambient CO concentrations are generally found near congested transportation corridors and intersections.	Any source that burns fuel such as automobiles, trucks, heavy construction equipment, farming equipment and residential heating.	Individuals with a deficient blood supply to the heart are the most susceptible to the adverse effects of CO exposure. The effects observed include earlier onset of chest pain with exercise, and electrocardiograph changes indicative of decreased oxygen supply to the heart. Inhaled CO has no direct toxic effect on the lungs but exerts its effect on tissues by interfering with oxygen transport and competing with oxygen to combine with hemoglobin present in the blood to form carboxyhemoglobin (COHb). Hence, conditions with an increased demand for oxygen supply can be adversely affected by exposure to CO. Individuals most at risk include fetuses, patients with diseases involving heart and blood vessels, and patients with chronic hypoxemia (oxygen deficiency) as seen at high altitudes.
Sulfur Dioxide (SO_2)	SO_2 is a colorless, extremely irritating gas or liquid. It enters the atmosphere as a pollutant mainly as a result of burning high sulfur-content fuel oils and coal and from chemical processes occurring at chemical plants and refineries. When SO_2 oxidizes in the	Coal or oil burning power plants and industries, refineries, diesel engines	A few minutes of exposure to low levels of SO_2 can result in airway constriction in some asthmatics, all of whom are sensitive to its effects. In asthmatics, increase in resistance to air flow, as well as reduction in breathing

Criteria Pollutant	Description	Sources	Health Effects
	atmosphere, it forms sulfates (SO_4). Collectively, these pollutants are referred to as sulfur oxides (SO_X)		capacity leading to severe breathing difficulties, are observed after acute exposure to SO_2. In contrast, healthy individuals do not exhibit similar acute responses even after exposure to higher concentrations of SO_2. Animal studies suggest that despite SO_2 being a respiratory irritant, it does not cause substantial lung injury at ambient concentrations. However, very high levels of exposure can cause lung edema (fluid accumulation), lung tissue damage, and sloughing off of cells lining the respiratory tract. Some population-based studies indicate that the mortality and morbidity effects associated with fine particles show a similar association with ambient SO_2 levels. In these studies, efforts to separate the effects of SO_2 from those of fine particles have not been successful. It is not clear whether the two pollutants act synergistically, or one pollutant alone is the predominant factor.
NO_X	NO_X consist of nitric oxide (NO), nitrogen dioxide (NO_2) and nitrous oxide (N_2O) and are formed when nitrogen (N_2) combines with oxygen (O_2). Their lifespan in the atmosphere ranges from one to seven days for nitric oxide and nitrogen dioxide, to 170 years for nitrous oxide. Nitrogen oxides are typically created during combustion processes and are major contributors to smog formation and acid deposition. NO_2 is a criteria air pollutant and may result in numerous adverse health effects; it absorbs blue light, resulting in a brownish-red cast to the atmosphere and reduced visibility. Of the seven types of nitrogen oxide compounds, NO_2 is the most abundant in the atmosphere. As ambient concentrations of NO_2 are related to traffic density, commuters in heavy traffic may be	Any source that burns fuel such as automobiles, trucks, heavy construction equipment, farming equipment and residential heating.	Population-based studies suggest that an increase in acute respiratory illness, including infections and respiratory symptoms in children (not infants), is associated with long-term exposure to NO_2 at levels found in homes with gas stoves, which are higher than ambient levels found in Southern California. Increase in resistance to air flow and airway contraction is observed after short-term exposure to NO_2 in healthy subjects. Larger decreases in lung functions are observed in individuals with asthma or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (e.g., chronic bronchitis, emphysema) than in healthy individuals, indicating a greater

Criteria Pollutant	Description	Sources	Health Effects
	exposed to higher concentrations of NO_2 than those indicated by regional monitoring station.		susceptibility of these sub-groups. In animals, exposure to levels of NO_2 considerably higher than ambient concentrations result in increased susceptibility to infections, possibly due to the observed changes in cells involved in maintaining immune functions. The severity of lung tissue damage associated with high levels of O_3 exposure increases when animals are exposed to a combination of O_3 and NO_2.
O_3	O_3 is a highly reactive and unstable gas that is formed when VOCs and NO_X, both byproducts of internal combustion engine exhaust, undergo slow photochemical reactions in the presence of sunlight. O_3 concentrations are generally highest during the summer months when direct sunlight, light wind, and warm temperature conditions are favorable to the formation of this pollutant.	Formed when reactive organic gases (ROG) and nitrogen oxides react in the presence of sunlight. ROG sources include any source that burns fuels, (e.g., gasoline, natural gas, wood, oil) solvents, petroleum processing and storage and pesticides.	Individuals exercising outdoors, children, and people with preexisting lung disease, such as asthma and chronic pulmonary lung disease, are considered to be the most susceptible sub-groups for O_3 effects. Short-term exposure (lasting for a few hours) to O_3 at levels typically observed in Southern California can result in breathing pattern changes, reduction of breathing capacity, increased susceptibility to infections, inflammation of the lung tissue, and some immunological changes. Elevated O_3 levels are associated with increased school absences. In recent years, a correlation between elevated ambient O_3 levels and increases in daily hospital admission rates, as well as mortality, has also been reported. An increased risk for asthma has been found in children who participate in multiple outdoor sports and live in communities with high O_3 levels. O_3 exposure under exercising conditions is known to increase the severity of the responses described above. Animal studies suggest that exposure to a combination of pollutants that includes O_3 may be more toxic than exposure to O_3 alone. Although lung volume and resistance changes observed

Criteria Pollutant	Description	Sources	Health Effects
			after a single exposure diminish with repeated exposures, biochemical and cellular changes appear to persist, which can lead to subsequent lung structural changes.
Particulate Matter	PM_{10} (Particulate Matter less than 10 microns): A major air pollutant consisting of tiny solid or liquid particles of soot, dust, smoke, fumes, and aerosols. Particulate matter pollution is a major cause of reduce visibility (haze) which is caused by the scattering of light and consequently the significant reduction air clarity. The size of the particles (10 microns or smaller, about 0.0004 inches or less) allows them to easily enter the lungs where they may be deposited, resulting in adverse health effects. Additionally, it should be noted that PM_{10} is considered a criteria air pollutant. $PM_{2.5}$ (Particulate Matter less than 2.5 microns): A similar air pollutant to PM_{10} consisting of tiny solid or liquid particles which are 2.5 microns or smaller (which is often referred to as fine particles). These particles are formed in the atmosphere from primary gaseous emissions that include sulfates formed from SO_2 release from power plants and industrial facilities and nitrates that are formed from NO_X release from power plants, automobiles and other types of combustion sources. The chemical composition of fine particles highly depends on location, time of year, and weather conditions. $PM_{2.5}$ is a criteria air pollutant.	Sources of PM_{10} include road dust, windblown dust and construction. Also formed from other pollutants (acid rain, NO_X, SO_X, organics). Incomplete combustion of any fuel. $PM_{2.5}$ comes from fuel combustion in motor vehicles, equipment and industrial sources, residential and agricultural burning. Also formed from reaction of other pollutants (acid rain, NO_X, SO_X, organics).	A consistent correlation between elevated ambient fine particulate matter (PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$) levels and an increase in mortality rates, respiratory infections, number and severity of asthma attacks and the number of hospital admissions has been observed in different parts of the United States and various areas around the world. In recent years, some studies have reported an association between long-term exposure to air pollution dominated by fine particles and increased mortality, reduction in lifespan, and an increased mortality from lung cancer. Daily fluctuations in $PM_{2.5}$ concentration levels have also been related to hospital admissions for acute respiratory conditions in children, to school and kindergarten absences, to a decrease in respiratory lung volumes in normal children, and to increased medication use in children and adults with asthma. Recent studies show lung function growth in children is reduced with long term exposure to particulate matter. The elderly, people with pre-existing respiratory or cardiovascular disease, and children appear to be more susceptible to the effects of high levels of PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$.
Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC)	VOCs are hydrocarbon compounds (any compound containing various combinations of hydrogen and carbon atoms) that exist in the ambient air. VOCs contribute to the formation of smog through atmospheric photochemical reactions and/or may be toxic. Compounds of carbon (also known as organic	Organic chemicals are widely used as ingredients in household products. Paints, varnishes and wax all contain organic solvents, as do many cleaning, disinfecting, cosmetic,	Breathing VOCs can irritate the eyes, nose and throat, can cause difficulty breathing and nausea, and can damage the central nervous system as well as other organs. Some VOCs can cause cancer. Not all VOCs have all these health effects, though many have several.

Criteria Pollutant	Description	Sources	Health Effects
	compounds) have different levels of reactivity; that is, they do not react at the same speed or do not form O_3 to the same extent when exposed to photochemical processes. VOCs often have an odor, and some examples include gasoline, alcohol, and the solvents used in paints. Exceptions to the VOC designation include carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, carbonic acid, metallic carbides or carbonates, and ammonium carbonate. VOCs are a criteria pollutant since they are a precursor to O_3, which is a criteria pollutant. The terms VOC and ROG (see below) interchangeably.	degreasing and hobby products. Fuels are made up of organic chemicals. All of these products can release organic compounds while you are using them, and, to some degree, when they are stored.	
Reactive Organic Gases (ROG)	Similar to VOC, ROGs are also precursors in forming O_3 and consist of compounds containing methane, ethane, propane, butane, and longer chain hydrocarbons, which are typically the result of some type of combustion/decomposition process. Smog is formed when ROG and nitrogen oxides react in the presence of sunlight. ROGs are a criteria pollutant since they are a precursor to O_3, which is a criteria pollutant. The terms ROG and VOC (see previous) interchangeably.	Sources similar to VOCs.	Health effects similar to VOCs.
Lead (Pb)	Lead is a heavy metal that is highly persistent in the environment and is considered a criteria pollutant. In the past, the primary source of lead in the air was emissions from vehicles burning leaded gasoline. The major sources of lead emissions are ore and metals processing, particularly lead smelters, and piston-engine aircraft operating on leaded aviation gasoline. Other stationary sources include waste incinerators, utilities, and lead-acid battery manufacturers. It should be noted that the project does not include operational activities such as metal processing or lead acid battery manufacturing. As such, the project is not anticipated to generate a quantifiable amount of lead emissions.	Metal smelters, resource recovery, leaded gasoline, deterioration of lead paint.	Fetuses, infants, and children are more sensitive than others to the adverse effects of Pb exposure. Exposure to low levels of Pb can adversely affect the development and function of the central nervous system, leading to learning disorders, distractibility, inability to follow simple commands, and lower intelligence quotient. In adults, increased Pb levels are associated with increased blood pressure. Pb poisoning can cause anemia, lethargy, seizures, and death; although it appears that there are no direct effects of Pb on the respiratory system. Pb can be stored in the bone from early age environmental exposure, and elevated blood Pb levels can

Criteria Pollutant	Description	Sources	Health Effects
			occur due to breakdown of bone tissue during pregnancy, hyperthyroidism (increased secretion of hormones from the thyroid gland) and osteoporosis (breakdown of bony tissue). Fetuses and breast-fed babies can be exposed to higher levels of Pb because of previous environ-mental Pb exposure of their mothers.
Odor	Odor means the perception experienced by a person when one or more chemical substances in the air come into contact with the human olfactory nerves.	Odors can come from many sources including animals, human activities, industry, natures, and vehicles.	Offensive odors can potentially affect human health in several ways. First, odorant compounds can irritate the eye, nose, and throat, which can reduce respiratory volume. Second, studies have shown that the VOCs that cause odors can stimulate sensory nerves to cause neurochemical changes that might influence health, for instance, by compromising the immune system. Finally, unpleasant odors can trigger memories or attitudes linked to unpleasant odors, causing cognitive and emotional effects such as stress.

Regional Air Quality

Air pollution contributes to a wide variety of adverse health effects. The EPA has established NAAQS for six of the most common air pollutants: CO, Pb, O_3, particulate matter (PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$), NO_2, and SO_2 which are known as criteria pollutants. The SCAQMD monitors levels of various criteria pollutants at 37 permanent monitoring stations and 5 single-pollutant source Pb air monitoring sites throughout the air district. On December 28, 2021, CARB posted the proposed 2021 amendments to the state and national area designations. On January 25, 2024, CARB adopted the proposed 2023 amendments to the state and national area designations. See Table III-3 for attainment designations for the SCAB. Appendix 2.1 of the AQIA provides geographic representation of the state and federal attainment status for applicable criteria pollutants within the SCAB.

Table III-3
ATTAINMENT STATUS OF CRITERIA POLLUTANTS IN THE SCAB

Criteria Pollutant	State Designation	Federal Designation
O_3 – 1-hour standard	Nonattainment	--
O_3 – 8-hour standard	Nonattainment	Nonattainment
PM_{10}	Nonattainment	Attainment
$PM_{2.5}$	Nonattainment	Nonattainment
CO	Attainment	Unclassifiable/Attainment
NO_2	Attainment	Unclassifiable/Attainment

Criteria Pollutant	State Designation	Federal Designation
SO_2	Attainment	Unclassifiable/Attainment
Pb[2]	Attainment	Unclassifiable/Attainment

Note: See Appendix 2.1 of the AQIA for a detailed map of State/National Area Designations within the SCAB
"-" = The national 1-hour O3 standard was revoked effective June 15, 2005.

Local Air Quality

The SCAQMD has designated general forecast areas and air monitoring areas (referred to as Source Receptor Areas [SRA]) throughout the district in order to provide Southern California residents information about the air quality conditions within the region. The project site is located within the Central San Bernardino Valley 1 area (SRA 34). The Central San Bernardino Valley 1 monitoring station is located approximately 5.4 miles northwest of the project site and reports air quality statistics for O_3, CO, NO_2, PM_{10}, and $PM_{2.5}$. The most recent three years of data available is shown on Table III-4 and identifies the number of days ambient air quality standards were exceeded for the study area, which is considered to be representative of the local air quality at the project site. Data for O_3, CO, NO_2, PM_{10}, and $PM_{2.5}$ for 2019 through 2021 was obtained from the SCAQMD Air Quality Data Tables. Additionally, data for SO_2 has been omitted as attainment is regularly met in the SCAB and few monitoring stations measure SO_2 concentrations.

Table III-4
PROJECT AREA AIR QUALITY MONITORING SUMMARY 2019-2022

Pollutant	Standard	Year			
		2019	2020	2021	2022
O_3					
Maximum Federal 1-Hour Concentration (ppm)		0.124	0.151	0.125	0.144
Maximum Federal 8-Hour Concentration (ppm)		0.109	0.111	0.103	0.107
Number of Days Exceeding State 1-Hour Standard	> 0.09 ppm	41	56	44	44
Number of Days Exceeding State/Federal 8-Hour Standard	> 0.070 ppm	67	89	83	70
CO					
Maximum Federal 1-Hour Concentration	> 35 ppm	2.7	1.7	1.9	1.6
Maximum Federal 8-Hour Concentration	> 20 ppm	1.0	1.2	1.4	1.0
NO_2					
Maximum Federal 1-Hour Concentration	> 0.100 ppm	0.076	0.066	0.067	0.067
Annual Federal Standard Design Value		0.017	0.019	0.019	0.018
PM_{10}					
Maximum Federal 24-Hour Concentration (µg/m^3)	> 150 µg/m^3	88	61	73	62
Annual Federal Arithmetic Mean (µg/m^3)		34.8	35.8	32.1	31.5
Number of Days Exceeding Federal 24-Hour Standard	> 150 µg/m^3	0	0	0	0
Number of Days Exceeding State 24-Hour Standard	> 50 µg/m^3	12	6	4	8
$PM_{2.5}$					
Maximum Federal 24-Hour Concentration (µg/m^3)	> 35 µg/m^3	46.50	46.10	55.10	38.10
Annual Federal Arithmetic Mean (µg/m^3)	> 12 µg/m^3	10.84	11.95	12.07	10.89
Number of Days Exceeding Federal 24-Hour Standard	> 35 µg/m^3	2	1	2	1

ppm= Parts Per Million
Source: SCAQMD Historical Air Quality Data By Year, Air Quality Data Tables.

[2] The Federal nonattainment designation for lead is only applicable towards the Los Angeles County portion of the SCAB.

Standards of Significance

The criteria used to determine the significance of potential project-related air quality impacts are taken from the *CEQA Guidelines* (14 CCR §§15000, et seq.). Based on these thresholds, a project would result in a significant impact related to air quality if it would:

- Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan.
- Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is in non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard.
- Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations.
- Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people. affecting a substantial number of people.

The SCAQMD has also developed regional significance thresholds for other regulated pollutants, as summarized at Table III-5. The SCAQMD's CEQA Air Quality Significance Thresholds (March 2023) indicate that any projects in the SCAB with daily emissions that exceed any of the indicated thresholds should be considered as having an individually and cumulatively significant air quality impact.

Table III-5
MAXIMUM REGIONAL DAILY EMISSIONS THRESHOLD

Pollutant	Regional Construction Threshold	Regional Operational Thresholds
NO_X	100 lbs/day	55 lbs/day
VOC	75 lbs/day	55 lbs/day
PM_{10}	150 lbs/day	150 lbs/day
$PM_{2.5}$	55 lbs/day	55 lbs/day
SO_X	150 lbs/day	150 lbs/day
CO	550 lbs/day	550 lbs/day
Pb	3 lbs/day	3 lbs/day

California Emissions Estimator Model™ Employed to Analyze Air Quality
Land uses such as the project affect air quality through construction-source and operational-source emissions.

In August 2023 California Air Pollution Control Officers Association (CAPCOA) in conjunction with other California air districts, including SCAQMD, released the latest version of the CalEEMod Version 2022.1.1.22. The purpose of this model is to calculate construction-source and operational-source criteria pollutant (VOCs, NO_X, SO_X, CO, PM_{10}, and $PM_{2.5}$) and GHG emissions from direct and indirect sources; and quantify applicable air quality and GHG reductions achieved from mitigation. Accordingly, the latest version of CalEEMod has been used for this project to determine construction and operational air quality emissions. CalEEMod output for construction and operational scenarios is provided in Appendices 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3 of the AQIA.

Emissions Factors Model: The EMissions FACtor model (EMFAC) web database is used for State Implementation Plan and transportation conformity analyses. EMFAC2021 is a mathematical model that was developed to calculate emission rates, fuel consumption, vehicle miles travelled (VMT) from motor vehicles that operate on highways, freeways, and local roads in California and is commonly used by the CARB to project changes in future emissions from on-road mobile sources. CalEEMod, version 2022.1, incorporates EMFAC2021. Additionally, the EMFAC emission factors used in this analysis include adjustment factors for the SAFE Rule.

Impact Analysis

a. *Less Than Significant Impact* – The SCAQMD has jurisdiction over an approximately 10,743 square-mile area consisting of the four-county Basin and the Los Angeles County and Riverside County portions of what use to be referred to as the Southeast Desert Air Basin. In these areas, the SCAQMD is principally responsible for air pollution control, and works directly with the SCAG, county transportation commissions, local governments, as well as state and federal agencies to reduce emissions from stationary, mobile, and indirect sources to meet state and federal ambient air quality standards.

Currently, these state and federal air quality standards are exceeded in most parts of the SCAB. In response, the SCAQMD has adopted a series of AQMPs to meet the state and federal ambient air quality standards. AQMPs are updated regularly in order to more effectively reduce emissions, accommodate growth, and to minimize any negative fiscal impacts of air pollution control on the economy.

In December 2022, the SCAQMD released the Final 2022 AQMP (2022 AQMP). The 2022 AQMP continues to evaluate current integrated strategies and control measures to meet the CAAQS, as well as explore new and innovative methods to reach its goals. Some of these approaches include utilizing incentive programs, recognizing existing co-benefit programs from other sectors, and developing a strategy with fair-share reductions at the federal, state, and local levels. Similar to the 2016 AQMP, the 2022 AQMP incorporates scientific and technological information and planning assumptions, including the 2020-2045 RTP/SCS, a planning document that supports the integration of land use and transportation to help the region meet the federal CAA requirements. The project's consistency with the AQMP will be determined using the 2022 AQMP as discussed below:

Consistency Criterion No. 1: The proposed project will not result in an increase in the frequency or severity of existing air quality violations or cause or contribute to new violations or delay the timely attainment of air quality standards or the interim emissions reductions specified in the AQMP.

The violations that Consistency Criterion No. 1 refers to are the CAAQS and NAAQS. CAAQS and NAAQS violations would occur if regional or localized significance thresholds were exceeded.

Construction Impacts – Consistency Criterion 1
Consistency Criterion No. 1 refers to violations of the CAAQS and NAAQS. CAAQS and NAAQS violations would occur if LSTs or regional significance thresholds were exceeded. Based on the analysis herein, the project's construction-source emissions would not exceed applicable regional significance thresholds or LSTs. As such, the project is consistent with the AQMP with regard to regional construction-source air quality.

Operational Impacts – Consistency Criterion 1
As evaluated, the project's operational-source emissions would not exceed applicable significance thresholds. As such, the project would not result in a significant impact with respect to this criterion.

On the basis of the preceding discussion, and the lack of thresholds exceedances the project is determined to be consistent with the first criterion.

Consistency Criterion No. 2: The project will not exceed the assumptions in the AQMP based on the years of project build-out phase.

The 2022 AQMP demonstrates that the applicable ambient air quality standards can be achieved within the timeframes required under federal law. Growth projections from local general plans adopted by cities in the district are provided to the SCAG, which develops regional growth forecasts, which are then used to develop future air quality forecasts for the AQMP. Development consistent

with the growth projections in San Bernardino Countywide Plan is considered to be consistent with the AQMP.

Construction Impacts – Consistency Criterion 2
Peak day emissions generated by construction activities are largely independent of land use assignments, but rather are a function of development scope and maximum area of disturbance. Irrespective of the site's land use designation, development of the site to its maximum potential would likely occur, with disturbance of the entire site occurring during construction activities.

Operational Impacts – Consistency Criterion 2
The San Bernardino Countywide Policy Plan Land Use designations for the project site is Special Development. The proposed project is located within the Valley Corridor Specific Plan area, which designates the project site for Bloomington Enterprise use. The zoning classification is Valley Corridor/Bloomington Enterprise (VC/BE). Per the Valley Corridor Specific Plan, the Bloomington Enterprise District promotes a wide range of office and light industrial businesses with development standards that accommodate entrepreneurs and business startups as well as medium-scale and more established operations and business complexes. Staggered development-intensity standards encourage the assemblage of parcels up to five acres in size that may attract greater investment while ensuring that startup businesses remain feasible on smaller parcels.

As previously stated, the project will include enhanced services, expanded capacity, and additional work areas to accommodate the growth of the Animal Care Division. The new facility will increase animal housing units to allow the County to serve additional municipalities in the Central Valley Region of the County. Program services will be enhanced to include a veterinary clinic; expanded pet adoption areas; animal exercise play yard; increased staffing work areas; volunteer work areas; expanded parking and other provisions to allow the Division to accommodate growth and increased demand for services. The new shelter will consist of a two-story, 14,691 square-foot (sf) administrative office building, seven dog housing/kennel buildings totaling 35,846-sf, a 2,758- sf medical clinic, 8,896-sf support building, 5830-sf cat and other animal housing building, 5,934- sf medical dog building with a 436-sf euthanasia facility, and 540-sf car wash structure (total of 74,391-sf). On the basis of the preceding discussion, the project is determined to be consistent with the second criterion.

AQMP Consistency Conclusion and Significance Determination
The project would not have the potential to result in or cause NAAQS or CAAQS violations. Additionally, project construction and operational-source emissions would not exceed the regional or localized significance thresholds. The San Bernardino County Animal Care Center project is therefore considered to be consistent with the AQMP.

b. *Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated* – Air pollution emissions associated with the proposed project would occur over both a short and long-term time periods. Short-term emissions include fugitive dust from construction activities (i.e., site prep, demolition, grading, and exhaust emission) at the proposed project site. Long-term emissions generated by future operation of the proposed project primarily include energy consumption and trips generated by the future animal care facility operations.

Construction Emissions
Construction activities associated with the project will result in emissions of CO, VOCs, NO_X, SO_X, PM_{10}, and $PM_{2.5}$. Construction related emissions are expected from the following construction activities for both Phase 1 and 2 of project construction:

- Site Preparation
- Grading
- Building Construction

- Paving
- Architectural Coating

Site Preparation and Grading Activities
Dust, in the form of PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$, is typically a major concern during site preparation and grading activities. Because such emissions are not amenable to collection and discharge through a controlled source, they are called "fugitive emissions". Fugitive dust emissions rates vary as a function of many parameters (soil silt, soil moisture, wind speed, area disturbed, number of vehicles, depth of disturbance or excavation, etc.). CalEEMod was utilized to calculate fugitive dust emissions resulting from these activities, which includes compliance with SCAQMD Rule 403. This analysis assumes that earthwork activities are expected to balance on site and no import or export of soils would be required. Site preparation and grading activities are modeled as sequential phases.

Rule 403: The contractor shall adhere to applicable measures contained in Table 1 of Rule 403 including, but not limited to:

- All clearing, grading, earth-moving, or excavation activities shall cease when winds exceed 25 miles per hour (mph) per SCAQMD guidelines in order to limit fugitive dust emissions.
- The contractor shall ensure that all disturbed unpaved roads and disturbed areas within the project are watered at least three (3) times daily during dry weather. Watering, with complete coverage of disturbed areas, shall occur at least three times a day, preferably in the mid-morning, afternoon, and after work is done for the day.
- All access points to the project site shall have track out devices installed.
- The contractor shall ensure that traffic speeds on unpaved roads and project site areas are limited to 15 mph or less

Building Construction, Paving, and Architectural Coating Activities
Building construction and paving emissions are primarily associated with exhaust emissions from on-site equipment and vehicular trips to the site by construction workers and vendor trips. Architectural coating emissions include worker trips as well, but the primary pollutant emission of concern during this phase is ROG/VOC. CalEEMod default emission rates include the effects of Rule 1113 to limit ROG/VOC emissions. To present a reasonable worst-case scenario, the building construction, paving, and architectural coating activities are modeled as overlapping phases.

Rule 1113: The following measures shall be incorporated into project plans and specifications as implementation of SCAQMD Rule 1113:

- Only "Low-Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC)" paints consistent with SCAQMD Rule 1113 shall be used.

Construction Worker Vehicle Trips
Emissions for construction worker vehicles traveling to and from the project site, as well as vendor trips (construction materials delivered to the project site) were estimated based on information from CalEEMod for all construction phases.

Construction Duration
Construction would occur over a period of 12 months, beginning in August 2024. The construction schedule utilized in the analysis, shown in Table 3-2, represents a "worst-case" analysis scenario should construction occur any time after the respective dates since emission factors for construction decrease as time passes and the analysis year increases due to emission regulations becoming more stringent.[3] The Activity and associated equipment represent a reasonable approximation of the expected construction fleet as required per *CEQA Guidelines.*

[3] As shown in the CalEEMod User's Guide Version 2022.1, Section 4.3 "Offroad Equipment" as the analysis year increases, emission factors for the same equipment pieces decrease due to the natural turnover of older equipment being replaced by newer less polluting equipment and new regulatory requirements.

Table III-6
CONSTRUCTION DURATION

Construction Activity	Start Date	End Date	Days
Phase 1			
Site Preparation	08/06/2024	09/02/2024	20
Grading	09/03/2024	10/28/2024	40
Building Construction	10/29/2024	08/04/2025	200
Paving	06/10/2025	08/04/2025	40
Architectural Coating	06/10/2025	08/04/2025	40

Construction Equipment Assumptions
Site specific construction fleet may vary due to specific project needs at the time of construction. The equipment list is generally based on CalEEMod default parameters and confirmed with the County. A detailed summary of construction equipment assumptions by phase is provided at Table III-7.

Table III-7
CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT ASSUMPTIONS

Construction Activity	Equipment[1]	Amount	Hours Per D
Phase 1			
Site Preparation	Rubber Tired Dozers	3	8
	Crawler Tractors	4	8
Grading	Excavators	1	8
	Graders	1	8
	Rubber Tired Dozers	1	8
	Crawler Tractors	3	8
Building Construction	Cranes	1	8
	Forklifts	3	8
	Generator Sets	1	8
	Tractors/Loaders/Backhoes	3	8
	Welders	1	8
Paving	Pavers	2	8
	Paving Equipment	2	8
	Rollers	2	8
Architectural Coating	Air Compressors	1	8

[1] In order to account for fugitive dust emissions, Crawler Tractors were used in lieu of Tractors/Loaders/Backhoes during the site preparation and grading phases.

Construction Emissions Summary
CalEEMod calculates maximum daily emissions for summer and winter periods. The estimated maximum daily construction emissions with fugitive dust control as required by SCAQMD Rule 403 are summarized on Table III-8. Detailed construction model outputs are presented in Appendix 3.1 of the AQIA. Under the assumed scenarios, emissions resulting from the project construction will not exceed criteria pollutant thresholds established by the SCAQMD.

Table III-8
OVERALL CONTRUCTION EMISSIONS SUMMARY

Year	Emissions (lbs/day)					
	VOC	NO_X	CO	SO_X	PM_{10}	$PM_{2.5}$
Summer						
2024	4.59	42.63	36.85	0.05	8.16	4.82
2025	8.35	20.45	29.22	0.04	1.50	0.94
Winter						
2024	2.61	23.31	21.61	0.03	3.80	2.21
2025	1.32	11.75	15.72	0.03	0.86	0.53
Maximum Daily Emissions	**8.35**	**42.63**	**36.85**	**0.05**	**8.16**	**4.82**
SCAQMD Regional Threshold	75	100	550	150	150	55
Threshold Exceeded?	**NO**	**NO**	**NO**	**NO**	**NO**	**NO**

Source: CalEEMod construction-source (unmitigated) emissions are presented in Appendix 3.1 of the AQIA

However, because the proposed project is located within the VCSP, it must adhere to applicable mitigation measures to further reduce air quality emissions. As such, the following mitigation measures shall be implemented to ensure adherence to the VCSP and VCSP EIR for construction of the proposed project.

VCSP
AQ-1 ***Applicants for new development projects within the Valley Corridor Specific Plan area shall require the construction contractor to use equipment that meets the United Stated Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-Certified emissions standards. All off-road diesel- powered construction equipment greater than 50 horsepower shall meet the Tier 4 emission standards. Any emissions control device used by the contractor shall achieve emissions reductions that are no less than what could be achieved by a Level 4 diesel emissions control strategy for a similarly sized engine, as defined by the California Air Resources Board's (CARB) regulations.***

Prior to construction, the project engineer shall ensure that all demolition and grading plans clearly show the requirement for EPA Tier 4 or higher emissions standards for construction equipment over 50 horsepower. During construction, the construction contractor shall maintain a list of all operating equipment in use on the construction site for verification by the County of San Bernardino. The construction equipment list shall state the makes, models, and numbers of construction equipment onsite. Equipment shall be properly serviced and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations. Construction contractors shall also ensure that all nonessential idling of construction equipment is restricted to five minutes or less in compliance with California Air Resources Board's Rule 2449.

VCSP
AQ-2 ***Applicants for new development projects within the Valley Corridor Specific Plan area shall require the construction contractor to prepare a dust control plan and implement the following measures during ground-disturbing activities in addition to the existing requirements for fugitive dust control under South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) Rule 403 to further reduce PM10 and PM2.5 emissions. The County of San Bernardino shall***

verify compliance that these measures have been implemented during normal construction site inspections.

- ***Following all grading activities, the construction contractor shall reestablish ground cover on the construction site through seeding and watering.***
- ***During all construction activities, the construction contractor shall sweep streets with SCAQMD Rule 1186–compliant, PM10-efficient vacuum units on a daily basis if silt is carried over to adjacent public thoroughfares or occurs as a result of hauling.***
- ***During all construction activities, the construction contractor shall maintain a minimum 24-inch freeboard on trucks hauling dirt, sand, soil, or other loose materials and tarp materials with a fabric cover or other cover that achieves the same amount of protection.***
- ***During all construction activities, the construction contractor shall water exposed ground surfaces and disturbed areas a minimum of every three hours on the construction site and a minimum of three times per day.***
- ***During all construction activities, the construction contractor shall limit onsite vehicle speeds on unpaved roads to no more than 15 miles per hour.***

VCSP
AQ-3 ***Applicants for new development projects within the Valley Corridor Specific Plan area shall require the construction contractor to use coatings and solvents with a volatile organic compound (VOC) content lower than required under South Coast Air Quality Management District Rule 1113 (i.e., super compliant paints). The construction contractor shall also use precoated/natural-colored building materials, where feasible. Use of low-VOC paints and spray method shall be included as a note on architectural building plans and verified by the County of San Bernardino during construction.***

Operational Emissions

Operational activities associated with the proposed project will result in emissions of VOC, NO_X, CO, SO_X, PM_{10}, and $PM_{2.5}$. Operational emissions would be expected from the following primary sources:

- Area Source Emissions
- Energy Source Emissions
- Mobile Source Emissions
- Stationary Sources

Area Source Emissions

Architectural Coatings: Over a period of time the buildings that are part of this project will be subject to emissions resulting from the evaporation of solvents contained in paints, varnishes, primers, and other surface coatings as part of project maintenance. The emissions associated with architectural coatings were calculated using CalEEMod standard assumptions for the project and the allowed land use.

Consumer Products: Consumer products include, but are not limited to detergents, cleaning compounds, polishes, personal care products, and lawn and garden products. Many of these products contain organic compounds which when released in the atmosphere can react to form ozone and other photochemically reactive pollutants. The emissions associated with use of consumer products were calculated based on CalEEMod standard assumptions for the project and the allowed land use.

Landscape Maintenance Equipment: Landscape maintenance equipment would generate emissions from fuel combustion and evaporation of unburned fuel. Equipment in this category would include lawnmowers, shedders/grinders, blowers, trimmers, chain saws, and hedge trimmers used to

maintain the landscaping of the project. It should be noted that on October 9, 2021, Governor Gavin Newsom signed AB 1346. The bill aims to ban the sale of new gasoline-powered equipment under 25 gross horsepower (known as small off-road engines [SOREs]) by 2024, which is now effective. The emissions associated with landscape maintenance equipment were calculated based on assumptions provided in CalEEMod for the project and the allowed land use.

Energy Source Emissions

Combustion Emissions Associated with Natural Gas and Electricity: Electricity and natural gas are used by almost every project. Criteria pollutant emissions are emitted through the generation of electricity and consumption of natural gas. However, because electrical generating facilities for the project area are located either outside the region (state) or offset through the use of pollution credits (RECLAIM) for generation within the SCAB, criteria pollutant emissions from offsite generation of electricity are excluded from the evaluation of significance. Based on information provided by the County, the project is anticipated to use 385,648 kWh/year of electricity. Additionally, the site is not expected to utilize natural gas for the building envelope, and therefore would not generate any emissions from direct energy consumption from natural gas.

Mobile Source Emissions

Project mobile source air quality impacts are dependent on both overall daily vehicle trip generation and the effect of the project on peak hour traffic volumes and traffic operations in the vicinity of the project. The project-related operational air quality impacts are derived primarily from the 318 vehicle trips generated by the project. Trip characteristics available from the TA report were utilized in this analysis.

Fugitive Dust Related to Vehicular Travel: Vehicles traveling on paved roads would be a source of fugitive emissions due to the generation of road dust inclusive of brake and tire wear particulates. The emissions estimates for travel on paved roads were calculated using CalEEMod standard assumptions.

Stationary Source Emissions

The proposed project was conservatively assumed to include installation of a 909-horsepower diesel-powered emergency generator at the industrial building. The emergency generator was estimated to operate for up to 1 hour per day, 1 day per week for up to 50 hours per year for maintenance and testing purposes. Emissions associated with the stationary diesel-powered emergency fire pump were calculated using CalEEMod.

Operational Emissions Summary

Operational activities for summer and winter scenarios are presented in Table III-9. Detailed operational model outputs are presented in Appendix 3.2 of the AQIA. Project operational-source emissions will not exceed the SCAQMD thresholds and impacts will be less than significant.

Table III-9
SUMMARY OPERATIONAL EMISSIONS

Source	Emissions (lbs/day)					
	VOC	NO_X	CO	SO_X	PM_{10}	$PM_{2.5}$
Summer						
Mobile Source	1.28	1.04	12.22	0.03	2.71	0.70
Area Source	2.32	0.03	3.24	0.00	0.01	0.00
Energy Source	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Stationary Source	1.49	6.67	3.80	0.01	0.22	0.22
Total Maximum Daily Emissions	**5.09**	**7.74**	**19.26**	**0.04**	**2.93**	**0.92**

Source	Emissions (lbs/day)					
	VOC	NO_X	CO	SO_X	PM_{10}	$PM_{2.5}$
SCAQMD Regional Threshold	55	55	550	150	150	55
Threshold Exceeded?	**NO**	**NO**	**NO**	**NO**	**NO**	**NO**
Winter						
Mobile Source	1.19	1.13	10.13	0.03	2.71	0.70
Area Source	1.78	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Energy Source	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Stationary Source	1.49	6.67	3.80	0.01	0.22	0.22
Total Maximum Daily Emissions	**4.47**	**7.80**	**13.94**	**0.03**	**2.93**	**0.92**
SCAQMD Regional Threshold	55	55	550	150	150	55
Threshold Exceeded?	**NO**	**NO**	**NO**	**NO**	**NO**	**NO**

Source: CalEEMod operation-source emissions are presented in Appendix 3.2 of the AQIA.

However, because the proposed project is located within the VCSP, it must adhere to applicable mitigation measures to further reduce air quality emissions. As such, the following mitigation measures shall be implemented to ensure adherence to the VCSP and VCSP EIR for operational project activities.

VCSP

AQ-4 ***Prior to issuance of a building permit for new development projects within the Valley Corridor Specific Plan area, the property owner/developer shall show on the building plans that all major appliances (dishwashers, refrigerators, clothes washers, and dryers) to be provided/installed are Energy Star appliances. Installation of Energy Star appliances shall be verified by the County prior to issuance of a certificate of occupancy.***

Cumulative Impacts

As previously shown in Table III-3, the CAAQS designate the project site as nonattainment for O_3 PM_{10}, and $PM_{2.5}$ while the NAAQS designates the project site as nonattainment for O_3 and $PM_{2.5}$.

The AQMD has published a report on how to address cumulative impacts from air pollution: *White Paper on Potential Control Strategies to Address Cumulative Impacts from Air Pollution.* In this report the AQMD clearly states (Page D-3):

…the AQMD uses the same significance thresholds for project specific and cumulative impacts for all environmental topics analyzed in an Environmental Assessment or Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The only case where the significance thresholds for project specific and cumulative impacts differ is the Hazard Index (HI) significance threshold for toxic air contaminant (TAC) emissions. The project specific (project increment) significance threshold is HI > 1.0 while the cumulative (facility-wide) is HI > 3.0. It should be noted that the HI is only one of three TAC emission significance thresholds considered (when applicable) in a CEQA analysis. The other two are the maximum individual cancer risk (MICR) and the cancer burden, both of which use the same significance thresholds (MICR of 10 in 1 million and cancer burden of 0.5) for project specific and cumulative impacts.

Projects that exceed the project-specific significance thresholds are considered by the SCAQMD to be cumulatively considerable. This is the reason project-specific and cumulative significance thresholds are the same. Conversely, projects that do not exceed the project-specific thresholds are generally not considered to be cumulatively significant.

Therefore, this analysis assumes that individual projects that do not generate operational or construction emissions that exceed the SCAQMD's recommended daily thresholds for project-specific impacts would also not cause a cumulatively considerable increase in emissions for those pollutants for which the Basin is in nonattainment, and, therefore, would not be considered to have a significant, adverse air quality impact. Alternatively, individual project-related construction and operational emissions that exceed SCAQMD thresholds for project-specific impacts would be considered cumulatively considerable.

Construction Impacts
The project-specific evaluation of emissions presented in the preceding analysis demonstrates that project construction-source air pollutant emissions would not result in exceedances of regional or local thresholds. Therefore, project construction-source emissions would be considered less than significant on a project-specific and cumulative basis.

Operational Impacts
Project operational-source emissions would not exceed applicable SCAQMD regional thresholds of significance. Therefore, project operational-source emissions would be considered less than significant on a project-specific and cumulative basis

Conclusion
The development of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would have a less than significant potential to 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. No further mitigation is required.

c. *Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated –*

Potential Impacts to Sensitive Receptors
The analysis makes use of methodology included in the SCAQMD Final Localized Significance Threshold Methodology (LST Methodology). The SCAQMD has established that impacts to air quality are significant if there is a potential to contribute or cause localized exceedances of the NAAQS and CAAQS. Collectively, these are referred to as Localized Significance Thresholds (LSTs).

The SCAQMD established LSTs in response to the SCAQMD Governing Board's Environmental Justice Initiative I-4. LSTs represent the maximum emissions from a project that will not cause or contribute to an exceedance of the most stringent applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard at the nearest residence or sensitive receptor. The SCAQMD states that lead agencies can use the LSTs as another indicator of significance in its air quality impact analyses.

LSTs were developed in response to environmental justice and health concerns raised by the public regarding exposure of individuals to criteria pollutants in local communities. To address the issue of localized significance, the SCAQMD adopted LSTs that show whether a project would cause or contribute to localized air quality impacts and thereby cause or contribute to potential localized adverse health effects. The analysis makes use of methodology included in the LST Methodology.

Applicability of LSTs for the Project
For this project, the appropriate SRA for the LST analysis is the SCAQMD Central San Bernardino Valley 1 (SRA 34). LSTs apply to CO, NO_2, PM_{10}, and $PM_{2.5}$. The SCAQMD published look-up tables for projects less than or equal to 5 acres in size.

In order to determine the appropriate methodology for determining localized impacts that could occur as a result of project-related construction, the following process is undertaken:

- Identify the maximum daily on-site emissions that will occur during construction activity:

  - The maximum daily on-site emissions could be based on information provided by the project Applicant; or
  - The SCAQMD's *Fact Sheet for Applying CalEEMod to Localized Significance Thresholds* and CalEEMod User's Guide *Appendix A: Calculation Details for CalEEMod* can be used to determine the maximum site acreage that is actively disturbed based on the construction equipment fleet and equipment hours as estimated in CalEEMod.
- If the total acreage disturbed is less than or equal to 5 acres per day, then the SCAQMD's screening look-up tables are utilized to determine if a project has the potential to result in a significant impact. The look-up tables establish a maximum daily emissions threshold in lbs/day that can be compared to CalEEMod outputs.
- If the total acreage disturbed is greater than 5 acres per day, then LST impacts may still be conservatively evaluated using the LST look-up tables for a 5-acre disturbance area. Use of the 5-acre disturbance area thresholds can be used to show that even if the daily emissions from all construction activity were emitted within a 5-acre area, and therefore concentrated over a smaller area which would result in greater site adjacent concentrations, the impacts would still be less than significant if the applicable 5-acre thresholds are utilized.
- The *LST Methodology* presents mass emission rates for each SRA, project sizes of 1, 2, and 5 acres, and nearest receptor distances of 25, 50, 100, 200, and 500 meters. For project sizes between the values given, or with receptors at distances between the given receptors, the methodology uses linear interpolation to determine the thresholds.

Emissions Considered
SCAQMD's LST Methodology clearly states that "off-site mobile emissions from the project should not be included in the emissions compared to LSTs." Therefore, for purposes of the construction LST analysis, only emissions included in the CalEEMod "on-site" emissions outputs were considered.

Maximum Daily Disturbed-Acreage
The "acres disturbed" for analytical purposes are based on specific equipment type for each subcategory of construction activity and the estimated maximum area a given piece of equipment can pass over in an 8-hour workday (as shown on Table III-9). The equipment-specific grading rates are summarized in the SCAQMD's *Fact Sheet for Applying CalEEMod to Localized Significance Thresholds* and CalEEMod User's Guide *Appendix A: Calculation Details for CalEEMod*. It should be noted that the disturbed area per day is representative of a piece of equipment making multiple passes over the same land area. In other words, one Rubber Tired Dozer can make multiple passes over the same land area totaling 0.5 acres in a given 8-hour day.

As shown on Table III-10, the proposed project's construction activities could actively disturb approximately 3.5 acres per day during Site Preparation and 2.5 acres per day during Grading activities.

Table III-10
MAXIMUM DAILY DISTURBED-ACREAGE

Construction Activity	Equipment Type	Equipment Quantity	Acres graded per 8-hour day	Operating Hours per Day	Acres graded per day
Site Preparation	Crawler Tractors	4	0.5	8	2.0
	Rubber Tired Dozers	3	0.5	8	1.5
Total acres disturbed per day during Site Preparation (Phase 1)					3.5
Grading	Crawler Tractors	3	0.5	8	1.5
	Graders	1	0.5	8	0.5
	Rubber Tired Dozers	1	0.5	8	0.5
Total acres disturbed per day during Grading (Phase 1)					2.5

Source: Maximum daily disturbed acreage based on equipment list presented in Appendix 3.1 of the AQIA

Sensitive Receptors
Some people are especially sensitive to air pollution and are given special consideration when evaluating air quality impacts from projects. These groups of people include children, the elderly, individuals with pre-existing respiratory or cardiovascular illness, and athletes and others who engage in frequent exercise. Structures that house these persons or places where they gather to exercise are defined as "sensitive receptors". These structures typically include residences, hotels, hospitals, etc. as they are also known to be locations where an individual can remain for 24 hours. Consistent with the LST Methodology, the nearest land use where an individual could remain for 24 hours to the project site (in this case the nearest residential land use) has been used to determine construction and operational air quality impacts for emissions of PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$, since PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$ thresholds are based on a 24-hour averaging time. The nearest receptor used for evaluation of localized impacts of PM10 and PM2.5 is represented by location R1, which represents the property line of the existing residence at 18259 Valley Boulevard, approximately 15 feet (5 meters) west of the project's property line.

It should be noted that the *LST Methodology* explicitly states that "*It is possible that a project may have receptors closer than 25 meters. Projects with boundaries located closer than 25 meters to the nearest receptor should use the LSTs for receptors located at 25 meters*." As such, for evaluation of localized PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$, a 25-meter distance will be used.

Commercial and industrial facilities are not included in the definition of sensitive receptor because employees and patrons do not typically remain onsite for a full 24 hours but are typically onsite for eight hours or less. The LST Methodology explicitly states that "*LSTs based on shorter averaging periods, such as the NO_x and CO LSTs, could also be applied to receptors such as industrial or commercial facilities since it is reasonable to assume that a worker at these sites could be present for periods of one to eight hours*." For purposes of analysis, if an industrial/commercial use is located at a closer distance to the project site than the nearest residential use, the nearest industrial/commercial use will be utilized to determine construction and operational LST air impacts for emissions of NO_x and CO an individual could be present at these sites for periods of one to eight hours. It should be noted that the existing residence (R1) is located at a closer distance than the nearest industrial/commercial use. As such, the same receptor will be used for evaluation of localized NO_x and CO.

Project-Related Sensitive Receptors
Receptors in the project study area are described below and are shown on **Figure III-1**.

R1: Location R1 represents the existing residence at 18259 Valley Boulevard, approximately 15 feet west of the project site. Receptor R1 is placed in the private outdoor living areas facing the project site.
R2: Location R2 represents the existing residence at 18301 Marygold Avenue, approximately 748 feet north of the project site. Receiver R2 is placed in the private outdoor living areas facing the project site.
R3: Location R3 represents the existing residence at 18349 Valley Boulevard, approximately 159 feet south of the project site. Receptor R3 is placed in the private outdoor living areas facing the project site.
R4: Location R4 represents the existing mobile home, approximately 149 feet east of the project site. Receptor R4 is placed in the private outdoor living area facing the project site.

<u>Construction-Source Emissions LST Analysis</u>

Local Thresholds for Construction Activity
Since the total acreage disturbed is 3.5 acres per day during Site Preparation and 2.5 acres per day during Grading activities, SCAQMD's screening look-up tables are utilized in determining impacts. It should be noted that since the look-up tables identifies thresholds at only 1 acre, 2 acres, and 5 acres, linear regression has been utilized to determine localized significance thresholds. Consistent with

SCAQMD guidance, the thresholds presented in Table III-11 were calculated by interpolating the threshold values for the project's disturbed acreage.

Table III-11
MAXIMUM DAILY LOCALIZED EMISSIONS THRESHOLDS

Construction Activity	Construction Localized Thresholds			
	NO_X	CO	PM_{10}	PM_{10}
Site Preparation	118 lbs/day	602 lbs/day	4 lbs/day	3 lbs/day
Grading	237 lbs/day	1,346 lbs/day	11 lbs/day	7 lbs/day

Source: Localized Thresholds presented in this table are based on the SCAQMD Final LST Methodology, July 2008.

Construction-Source Localized Emissions
Table III-12 identifies the localized impacts at the nearest receptor location in the vicinity of the project. As shown in Table III-12, after compliance with Rule 403, localized construction emissions would not exceed the applicable SCAQMD LSTs. Outputs from the model runs for unmitigated construction LSTs are provided in Appendices 3.1 of the AQIA.

As stated in Section ES.3, Rule 403 requires that feasible dust control measure be implemented, including at a minimum applying water to active construction areas 3 times per day, installing track-out devices at access points or implementing street sweeping, and halting operations during high wind events. Additionally, because the proposed project is located within the VCSP, it must adhere to applicable mitigation measures to further reduce air quality emissions. As such, VCSP mitigation measures (**MMs**) **AQ-1** through **AQ-3** shall be implemented to ensure adherence to the VCSP and VCSP EIR for construction of the proposed project, and thereby minimize construction related impacts to sensitive receptors. Therefore, with consideration of the requirements of Rule 403, LST impacts would be less than significant.

Table III-12
LOCALIZED SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY OF CONSTRUCTION

Year	Construction Activity	Scenario	Emissions (lbs/day)			
			NO_X	CO	PM_{10}	$PM_{2.5}$
2024	Site Preparation	Summer	42.51	35.31	7.91	4.76
		Winter	2.33	1.93	0.43	0.26
Maximum Daily Emissions			**42.51**	**35.31**	**7.91**	**4.76**
SCAQMD Regional Threshold			220	1,359	11	6
Threshold Exceeded?			**NO**	**NO**	**NO**	**NO**
2024	Grading	Summer	23.15	20.61	3.58	2.16
		Winter	23.15	20.61	3.58	2.16
Maximum Daily Emissions			**23.15**	**20.61**	**3.58**	**2.16**
SCAQMD Regional Threshold			187	1,101	8	5
Threshold Exceeded?			**NO**	**NO**	**NO**	**NO**

Source: CalEEMod unmitigated localized construction-source emissions are presented in Appendix 3.1 of the AQIA.

Operation Source Emissions LST Analysis
As previously stated, the project is located on an approximately 6.00-acre parcel. As noted previously, the *LST Methodology* provides look-up tables for sites with an area with daily disturbance of 5 acres or less. For projects that exceed 5 acres, the 5-acre LST look-up tables can be used as a screening

tool to determine whether pollutants require additional detailed analysis. This approach is conservative as it assumes that all on-site emissions associated with the project would occur within a concentrated 5-acre area. This screening method would therefore over-predict potential localized impacts, because by assuming that on-site operational activities are occurring over a smaller area, the resulting concentrations of air pollutants are more highly concentrated once they reach the smaller site boundary than they would be for activities if they were spread out over a larger surface area. On a larger site, the same amount of air pollutants generated would disperse over a larger surface area and would result in a lower concentration once emissions reach the project-site boundary. As such, LSTs for a 5-acre site during operations are used as a screening tool to determine if further detailed analysis is required.

The LST analysis generally includes on-site sources. However, it should be noted that the CalEEMod outputs do not separate on-site and off-site emissions from mobile sources. As such, in an effort to establish a maximum potential impact scenario for analytic purposes, the emissions shown on Table III-13 represent all on-site project-related stationary (area) sources and project-related mobile sources. It should be noted that the longest on-site distance is roughly 0.50 mile for both trucks and passenger cars. Modeling based on these assumptions demonstrates that even within broad encompassing parameters, project operational-source emissions would not exceed applicable LSTs.

Localized Thresholds for Operational Activity
As previously stated, LSTs for a 5-acre site during operations are used as a screening tool to determine if further detailed analysis is required.

Table III-13
MAXIMUM DAILY LOCALIZED OPERATIONAL EMISSIONS THRESHOLDS

Construction Localized Thresholds			
NOX	**CO**	**PM10**	**PM10**
270 lbs/day	1,746 lbs/day	4 lbs/day	2 lbs/day

Source: Localized Thresholds presented in this table are based on the SCAQMD Final LST Methodology, July 2008

Operational Source Localized Emissions
As shown on Table III-14 operational emissions would not exceed the LST thresholds for the nearest sensitive receptor. Additionally, because the proposed project is located within the VCSP, it must adhere to applicable mitigation measures to further reduce air quality emissions. As such, **VCSP MM AQ-4** shall be implemented to ensure adherence to the VCSP and VCSP EIR for operation of the proposed project, and thereby minimize operations related impacts to sensitive receptors. Therefore, the project would have a less than significant localized impact during operational activities.

Table III-14
LOCALIZED SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS

Scenario	**Emissions (lbs/day)**			
	NO_X	**CO**	**PM_{10}**	**$PM_{2.5}$**
Summer	6.91	9.22	0.34	0.25
Winter	6.90	6.19	0.33	0.25
Maximum Daily Emissions	**6.91**	**9.22**	**0.34**	**0.25**
SCAQMD Localized Threshold	270	1,746	4	2
Threshold Exceeded?	**NO**	**NO**	**NO**	**NO**

Source: CalEEMod localized operational-source emissions are presented in Appendix 3.2 of the AQIA.

CO "Hot Spot" Analysis

The project would not result in potentially adverse CO concentrations or "hot spots." Further, detailed modeling of project-specific CO "hot spots" is not needed to reach this conclusion. An adverse CO concentration, known as a "hot spot", would occur if an exceedance of the state one-hour standard of 20 ppm or the eight-hour standard of 9 ppm were to occur. At the time of the 1993 Handbook, the SCAB was designated nonattainment under the CAAQS and NAAQS for CO.

The proposed project considered herein would generate 278 passenger car equivalent net daily trips and would not produce the volume of traffic required to generate a CO "hot spot" either in the context of the 2003 Los Angeles hot spot study or based on representative Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) CO threshold considerations. Therefore, CO "hot spots" are not an environmental impact of concern for the proposed project. Localized air quality impacts related to mobile-source emissions would therefore be less than significant.

Toxic Air Contaminants

Construction Activity

During short-term construction activity, the project will also result in some diesel particulate matter (DPM) which is a listed carcinogen and toxic air contaminant (TAC) in the State of California. The 2015 Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) revised risk assessment guidelines suggest that construction projects as short as 2-6 months may warrant evaluation. Notwithstanding, based on Urban Crossroad's professional opinion and experience in preparing health risk assessments for development projects, given the distance of the project from surrounding sensitive receptors, the dominant wind patterns blowing to the northwest away for receptors, and the annual $PM_{2.5}$ emissions from equipment during each year of construction, any DPM generated from construction activity would result in less than significant ground level concentrations of DPM and not result in a significant health risks and no further evaluation is required.

Furthermore, many air districts throughout the state, including the SCAQMD, are currently evaluating the applicability of age sensitivity factors and have not established CEQA guidance. More specifically in their response to comments received on SCAQMD New Source Review rule, the SCAQMD explicitly states that:

"The Proposed Amended Rules are separate from the CEQA significance thresholds. The SCAQMD staff is currently evaluating how to implement the Revised OEHHA Guidelines under CEQA. The SCAQMD staff will evaluate a variety of options on how to evaluate health risks under the Revised OEHHA Guidelines under CEQA. The SCAQMD staff will conduct public workshops to gather input before bringing recommendations to the Governing Board. In the interim, staff will continue to use the previous guidelines for CEQA determinations."

Operational

TACs analysis apply to the operational phase of a proposed project, if the project includes stationary sources, or attracts mobile sources that may spend long periods queuing and idling at the site (e.g., transfer facilities and warehouse buildings). The proposed project does not include such uses, and thus, due to the lack of significant stationary source emissions, no TAC analysis is needed for operations.

Conclusion

The potential impact of project-generated air pollutant emissions at sensitive receptors has also been considered. Sensitive receptors can include uses such as long-term health care facilities, rehabilitation centers, and retirement homes. Residences, schools, playgrounds, childcare centers, and athletic facilities can also be considered as sensitive receptors.

Results of the LST analysis indicate that without the implementation of mitigation, the project will not exceed the SCAQMD localized significance thresholds during construction. However, because the

proposed project is located within the VCSP, it must adhere to applicable mitigation measures to further reduce air quality emissions. As such, **VCSP MMs AQ-1** through **AQ-4** shall be implemented to ensure adherence to the VCSP and VCSP EIR for construction and operation of the proposed project, and thereby minimize construction related impacts to sensitive receptors. Therefore, sensitive receptors would not be exposed to substantial criteria pollutant concentrations during project construction, and impacts would be less than significant with mitigation.

Results of the LST analysis indicate that the project will not exceed the SCAQMD localized significance thresholds during operational activity. Further, project traffic would not create or result in a CO "hotspot." Therefore, sensitive receptors would have a less than significant potential to be exposed to substantial pollutant concentrations as the result of project operations.

d. *Less Than Significant Impact* – The project does not contain land uses typically associated with emitting objectionable odors. Potential odor sources associated with the proposed project may result from construction equipment exhaust and the application of asphalt and architectural coatings during construction activities and the temporary storage of typical solid waste (refuse) associated with the proposed project's (long-term operational) uses. Standard construction requirements would minimize odor impacts from construction. The construction odor emissions would be temporary, short-term, and intermittent in nature and would cease upon completion of construction and is thus considered less than significant. It is expected that project-generated refuse would be stored in covered containers and removed at regular intervals in compliance with current solid waste regulations. The proposed project would also be required to comply with SCAQMD Rule 402 to prevent occurrences of public nuisances. Furthermore, animal waste is collected on a regular basis (multiple times per day) to minimize the potential for animal waste odors to become noticeable to nearby receptors. Animal waste is also disposed of in enclosed waste bins to further minimize the potential for any animal waste odors to become noticeable to nearby receptors. Therefore, odors and other emissions (such as those leading to odors) associated with construction and operations activities of the proposed project would be less than significant and no mitigation is required.

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

IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

SUBSTANTIATION: (Check if project is located in the Biological Overlay or contains habitat for any species listed in the California Natural Diversity Database ☒ [Bio Overlay for Burrowing Owl]): A Biological Resources Assessment (BRA) and Jurisdictional Delineation Report was prepared for this project by Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc. biologist Lisa Patterson. The report is titled “San Bernardino County Bloomington Animal Shelter Project Biological Resources Assessment & Jurisdictional Delineation Report” is dated July 2023, and is provided as Appendix 5. The following summary information has been abstracted from this report.

VCSP EIR Mitigation Measures

The only mitigation measure applicable to the proposed project identified in the VCSP EIR is **VCSP MM BIO-1**, which requires the preparation of a biological resources assessment. This mitigation measure has been met through the preparation of the BRA provided as Appendix 5.

Summary of Findings

Introduction
The purpose of the BRA is to address potential effects of the project to designated Critical Habitats and/or any species currently listed or formally proposed for listing as endangered or threatened under the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the California Endangered Species Act (CESA) or species designated as sensitive by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW [formerly California Department of Fish and Game]) and/or the California Native Plant Society (CNPS). As part of the BRA, the project site was also assessed to determine the extent (if any) of State and federal jurisdictional waters (i.e. Waters of the U.S. and Waters of the State) within the project area potentially subject to regulation by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA), Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) under Section 401 of the CWA and Porter Cologne Water Quality Control Act, and CDFW under Section 1602 of the California Fish and Game Code (FGC), respectively.

Environmental Setting
The project area lies in the geographically based ecological classification known as the Inland Valleys – Level IV ecoregion, of the Southern California/Northern Baja Coast – Level III ecoregion (Griffith et al. 2016). The goal of regional ecological classifications is to reduce variability based on spatial covariance in climate, geology, topography, climax vegetation, hydrology, and soils. The Inland Valleys ecoregion is a heavily urbanized ecoregion that historically consisted of the alluvial fans and basin floors immediately south of the San Gabriel and San Bernardino Mountains. The topography of the project site consists of a flat landscape. The elevation of the project site is approximately 1,055 feet above mean sea level (amsl).

The project area is within a hot-summer Mediterranean climate, characterized by both seasonal and annual variations in temperature and precipitation. Average annual maximum temperatures peak at 96.2 degrees Fahrenheit (°F) in July and August and drop to an average annual minimum temperature of 38.5° F in January. Average annual precipitation is greatest from November through April and reaches a peak in February (3.25 inches). Precipitation is lowest in the month of July (0.04 inches). Annual total precipitation averages 16.12 inches.

Hydrologically, the project area is situated within the 12-digit HU (Subwatershed): East Etiwanda Creek-Santa Ana River drainage area, within the larger Santa Ana Watershed (HUC 18070203). The Santa Ana River is the major hydrogeomorphic feature within the Santa Ana Watershed. The Santa Ana River flows generally northeast to southwest, approximately 0.21 miles south of the project site at its closest point.

Soils within the project area consist entirely of Tujunga loamy sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes. This soil type consists of loamy sand and gravelly sand layers comprised of alluvium derived from granite. This soil type is somewhat excessively drained, with a very low runoff class and does not have a hydric soil rating.

The project area is entirely within an urban landscape that no longer supports any native habitat. Vegetation in the project area is dominated by non-native ruderal species including Ailanthus (*Ailanthus altissima*), annual bursage (*Ambrosia acanthicarpa*), jimsonweed (*Datura wrightii*), red stemmed filaree (*Erodium cicutarium*), shortpod mustard (*Hirschfeldia incana*), and Russian thistle (*Salsola tragus*).

Field Survey
Jacobs biologist Lisa Patterson conducted a biological resources assessment of the project area on March 27, 2023. The reconnaissance-level field survey consisted of a pedestrian survey that encompassed the entire project area and included 100 percent visual coverage of the site and immediate surrounding area. Wildlife species were detected during field surveys by sight, calls, tracks, scat, and/or other sign. In addition to species observed, expected wildlife usage of the site was determined based on known habitat preferences of regional wildlife species and knowledge of their relative distributions in the area. The focus of the faunal species survey was to identify potential habitat for special status wildlife that may occur within the project vicinity.

Special Status Species and Habitats
According to the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB), 34 sensitive species (15 plant species, 19 animal species) and five sensitive habitats have been documented in the Fontana USGS 7.5-Minute Series Quadrangle. This list of sensitive species and habitats includes any state and/or federally listed threatened or endangered species, California Fully Protected species, CDFW designated Species of Special Concern (SSC), and otherwise Special Animals. "Special Animals" is a general term that refers to all the taxa the CNDDB is interested in tracking, regardless of their legal or protection status. This list is also referred to as the list of "species at risk" or "special status species." The CDFW considers the taxa on this list to be those of greatest conservation need.

Of the 9 state and/or federally listed species documented within the Fontana quad, the following three state and/or federally listed species have been documented in the project vicinity (within approximately 1 mile):

- San Bernardino kangaroo rat *(Dipodomys merriami parvus)*
- Santa Ana River woollystar *(Eriastrum densifolium ssp. sanctorum)*
- Least Bell's vireo *(Vireo bellii pusillus)*

Although not a state or federally listed as threatened or endangered species, burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*) are considered a state and federal SSC and this species is protected by international treaty under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) of 1918 and by State law under the California Fish and Game Code (FGC #3513 & #3503.5). Additionally, this species is commonly found in open habitats consisting of short or sparse vegetation and disturbed areas. Therefore, burrowing owl will be included in the discussion below.

No state and/or federally listed threatened or endangered species, or other sensitive species were observed within the project area during the reconnaissance-level field survey and due to the environmental conditions on site, none are expected to occur. An analysis of the likelihood for occurrence of all CNDDB sensitive species documented in the *San Bernardino South* and *Redlands* quads is provided in Appendix A of the BRA.

Santa Ana River woollystar – Endangered (Federal/State): The state and federally listed as endangered Santa Ana River woollystar (woollystar) is a short-lived, perennial subshrub of the phlox family (Polemoniaceae). It has a basally branched, generally erect or spreading form, occasionally reaching 1 meter (3.3 feet) in height. The entire plant, including the blue to violet-blue inflorescence, is covered with woolly pubescence, giving it a silvery-white appearance. This woollystar is found in alluvial scrub plant communities along the Santa Ana River and Lytle and Cajon Creek flood plains from the base of the San Bernardino Mountains in San Bernardino County southwest along the Santa Ana River through Riverside County into the Santa Ana Canyon of northeastern Orange County. It requires periodic flooding. Associated perennial plants include California croton (*Croton californicus*), California buckwheat (*Eriogonum fasciculatum*), fastigiated golden aster (*Heterotheca sessiliflora* ssp. *fastigiata*), and scale-broom (*Lepidospartum squamatum*). This woollystar typically blooms between May and August but most heavily in June. However, woollystar is readily identifiable throughout the year.

<u>*Findings*</u>: According to the CNDDB, the nearest documented woolystar occurrence (2023) is approximately 7 mile east of the project site, in suitable alluvial scrub habitat within the Santa Ana River wash. However, the project area is not suitable to support woollystar. The habitat this species is associated with (i.e. pioneer and intermediate stage alluvial scrub) is absent from the project area and the project site, which consists of cleared land previously planted with olive groves. Furthermore, this species is readily identifiable throughout the year and no woollystar were observed on site during the pedestrian field survey. Therefore, woollystar are considered absent from the project area and the project will not adversely affect this species.

San Bernardino kangaroo rat – Endangered (Federal): The federally listed as endangered San Bernardino kangaroo rat (SBKR) is one of three recognized subspecies of Merriam's kangaroo rat (*D. merriami*) in California. The Merriam's kangaroo rat is a small, burrowing rodent species that can be

found within inland valleys and deserts of southwest United States of America and northern Mexico. The Dulzura kangaroo rat (*Dipdomys simulans*), the Pacific kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys agilis*) and the Stephens kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys stephensi*) occur in areas occupied by SBKR, but these other species have a wider habitat range. SBKR, however, has a restricted southern California distribution, confined to certain inland valley scrub communities and, more particularly, to scrub communities occurring along rivers, streams, and drainages within the San Bernardino, Menifee, and San Jacinto valleys. Most of these drainages have been historically altered due to a variety of reasons including, mining, off-road vehicle use, road and housing development, and flood control efforts. This increased use of river floodplain resources resulted in a reduction in both the amount and quality of habitat available for SBKR.

The areas which SBKR occupy are subjected to periodic flooding and hence, the dominant vegetation type (alluvial fan sage scrub) is described in general terms as having three successional phases: pioneer, intermediate, and mature as determined by elevation and distance from the main channel and time since previous flooding. Vegetation cover generally increases with distance from the active stream channel. The pioneer phase is subject to frequent flood disturbance. The intermediate phase, defined as the area between the active channel and mature terraces, is subject to periodic flooding at longer intervals. The vegetation on intermediate terraces is relatively open. As alluvial fan scrub vegetation ages in the absence of flooding, the suitability of this habitat for the SBKR declines.

The USFWS listed SBKR as endangered on September 24, 1998 and set aside 33,295 acres of critical habitat for the SBKR in 2002. The USFWS then revised that decision in 2008 after a lawsuit and cut the designation down to 7,779 acres in Riverside and San Bernardino counties. On January 10, 2011, a federal court struck down the 2008 designation. The ruling concluded that the USFWS improperly relied on "core habitat" to define critical habitat for the SBKR rather than specifying the physical and biological features essential for the kangaroo rat's conservation, as the law requires. The ruling reinstated the 2002 designation. The 2002 critical habitat rule for SBKR defined four Primary Constituent Elements (PCEs) that are essential to the conservation of SBKR. These PCEs are as follows: 1) Soil series consisting predominantly of sand, loamy sand, sandy loam, or loam; 2) Alluvial sage scrub and associated vegetation, such as coastal sage scrub and chamise chaparral, with a moderately open canopy; 3) River, creek, stream, and wash channels; alluvial fans; floodplains; floodplain benches and terraces; and historic braided channels that are subject to dynamic geomorphological and hydrological processes typical of fluvial systems within the historical range of the SBKR; and 4) Upland areas proximal to floodplains with suitable habitat.

Findings: According to the CNDDB, the nearest extant documented SBKR occurrence (2016) is approximately 6 miles northeast of the project site, in suitable alluvial scrub habitat within the Santa Ana River wash. However, the project area is not suitable to support SBKR. The project site consists of cleared/disked land previously planted with olive groves and is isolated from any documented SBKR occurrences by existing development. Therefore, SBKR is presumed absent from the project area and the project is not likely to adversely affect this species.

Least Bell's Vireo – Endangered (Federal/State): The least Bell's vireo (LBVI) is a state and federally listed endangered migratory bird species. This species is a small, olive-gray migratory songbird that nests and forages almost exclusively in riparian woodland habitats. LBVI nesting habitat typically consists of well-developed overstory, understory, and low densities of aquatic and herbaceous cover. The understory frequently contains dense sub-shrub or shrub thickets. These thickets are often dominated by plants such as narrow-leaf willow, mulefat, young individuals of other willow species such as arroyo willow or black willow, and one or more herbaceous species. LBVI generally begin to arrive from their wintering range in southern Baja California and establish breeding territories by mid-March to late-March.

LBVI was first proposed for listing as endangered by the USFWS on May 3, 1985, (50 FR 18968 18975) and was subsequently listed as federally endangered on May 2, 1986 (51 FR 16474 16482). Critical habitat units were designated by the USFWS on February 2, 1994 (59 FR 4845) and included reaches of ten streams in six counties in southern California and the surrounding approximately 38,000 acres.

Findings: According to the CNDDB, the nearest documented LBVI occurrence (2014) is approximately 5 mile southeast of the project site, in suitable cottonwood-willow riparian habitat within the Santa Ana River wash. However, there is no riparian habitat within or adjacent the project area. Therefore, LBVI is presumed absent from the project area and the project is not likely to adversely affect this species.

Burrowing Owl – SSC: The burrowing owl (BUOW) is a ground dwelling owl typically found in arid prairies, fields, and open areas where vegetation is sparse and low to the ground. The BUOW is heavily dependent upon the presence of mammal burrows, with ground squirrel burrows being a common choice, in its habitat to provide shelter from predators, inclement weather and to provide a nesting place (Coulombe 1971). They are also known to make use of human-created structures, such as cement culverts and pipes, for burrows. According to the definition provided in the *2012 CDFG Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation*, "Burrowing owl habitat generally includes, but is not limited to, short or sparse vegetation (at least at some time of year), presence of burrows, burrow surrogates or presence of fossorial mammal dens, well-drained soils, and abundant and available prey." BUOW spend a great deal of time standing on dirt mounds at the entrance to a burrow or perched on a fence post or other low to the ground perch from which they hunt for prey. They feed primarily on insects such as grasshoppers, June beetles and moths, but will also take small rodents, birds, and reptiles. They are active during the day and night but are considered a crepuscular owl; generally observed in the early morning hours or at twilight. The breeding season for BUOW is February 1 through August 31.

BUOW have disappeared from significant portions of their range in the last 15 years and, overall, nearly 60 percent of the breeding groups of owls known to have existed in California during the 1980s had disappeared by the early 1990s (Burrowing Owl Consortium 1993). The BUOW is not listed under the state or federal ESAs but is considered both a state and federal SSC. Additionally, the BUOW is a migratory bird protected by the international treaty under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 and by State law under the California FGC (FGC #3513 & #3503.5).

Findings: BUOW have not been documented within or adjacent the project area. The reconnaissance level pedestrian survey included a BUOW habitat suitability assessment survey that was structured, in part, to detect BUOW. The survey included 100 percent visual coverage of any potentially suitable BUOW habitat within and immediately adjacent the project site.

The result of the survey was that no evidence of BUOW was found in the survey area. Although the vegetation on site is sparse and the soils are well drained, the project site is surrounded by existing development. No BUOW individuals or sign including castings, feathers or whitewash were observed during survey. Furthermore, no suitably sized burrows, burrow surrogates, or fossorial mammal dens were observed within the project area. Therefore, BUOW are considered absent from the project area at the time of survey and the project is not likely to adversely affect this species.

Special Status Habitats
The project area does not contain any sensitive habitats, including any USFWS designated Critical Habitat for any federally listed species. The nearest Critical Habitat unit is adjacent the east side of Tippecanoe Avenue, just east of the project area. This Critical Habitat unit is part of the Santa Ana River unit (Unit 1) of USFWS designated Critical Habitat for the federally listed as endangered SBKR. However, no portion of the project area is within this Critical Habitat unit, or any other sensitive habitats. Therefore, the project will not result in any loss or adverse modification of USFWS designated Critical Habitat, or any other special status habitats.

Jurisdictional Delineation
The project area is within the Santa Ana River Watershed (HUC 18070203). This watershed is primarily within San Bernardino County and Riverside Counties, with smaller areas in Orange and Los Angeles Counties. The Santa Ana River Watershed is bound on the north by the Mojave and Southern Mojave Watersheds, on the southeast by the Whitewater and San Jacinto Watersheds, and on the west by the San Gabriel, Seal Beach, Newport Bay, and Aliso-San Onofre Watersheds. The Santa Ana River Watershed encompasses a portion of the San Gabriel and San Bernardino Mountains in the north, the Santa Ana

Mountains in the south, and is approximately 1,694 square miles in area. The Santa Ana River is the major hydrogeomorphic feature within the Santa Ana River Watershed. The Santa Ana River flows generally northeast to southwest, approximately 0.21 miles south of the project site at its closest point.

Waters of the U.S.: The USACE has authority to permit the discharge of dredged or fill material in WOTUS under Section 404 of the CWA. WOTUS are defined as:

> "*All waters used in interstate or foreign commerce; all interstate waters including interstate wetlands; all other waters such as intrastate lakes, rivers, streams (including intermittent and ephemeral streams), mudflats, sand flats, wetlands, sloughs, prairie potholes, wet meadows, playa lakes or natural ponds, where the use, degradation, or destruction of which could affect interstate commerce; impoundments of these waters; tributaries of these waters; or wetlands adjacent to these waters" (Section 404 of the CWA; 33 CFR 328.3 (a)."*

There are no wetland or non-wetland WOTUS within the project area. Therefore, the project will not result in any permanent or temporary impacts to WOTUS.

State Lake/Streambed: There are no lake, river, stream or aquatic resources, stream-dependent wildlife resources or riparian habitats within the project area. Therefore, the project will not result in any permanent or temporary impacts to jurisdictional waters of the State.

Impact Analysis

a. *Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated* – As discussed above, no special status wildlife species, including any state and/or federally listed threatened or endangered species, were observed or otherwise detected within the project area during the reconnaissance-level assessment survey. According to the CNDDB, 34 sensitive species (15 plant species, 19 animal species) and five sensitive habitats have been documented in the *Fontana* USGS 7.5-Minute Series Quadrangles.. However, the project site consists entirely of disturbed, vacant lot surrounded by urban landscape, and the habitat requirements for these listed species are absent from the project area. This includes the Delhi Sands flower-loving fly (*Rhaphiomidas terminatus abdominalis;* Endangered/None), which is found only in areas of the Delhi Sands formation in southwestern San Bernardino and northwestern Riverside counties and requires fine, sandy soils, often with wholly or partly consolidated dunes and sparse vegetation. The habitats this species is associated with are absent from the project area and therefore, occurrence potential is zero. According to the Countywide Plan Special Status Vegetation Communities in the Valley and Mountain Regions (**Figure IV-1**), the proposed project is not located within any delineated vegetation community. A BUOW habitat suitability assessment was conducted by Jacobs biologists in March 2023 that included 100 percent visual coverage of the project area, wherever potentially suitable BUOW habitat was present. The result of the survey was that no evidence of BUOW was found in the survey area. No BUOW individuals or sign including castings, feathers or whitewash were observed and BUOW are considered absent from the project area at the time of survey. Although the project is not likely to adversely affect this species, there is still a potential for the project area to become occupied by BUOW between the time the survey was conducted and the commencement of project-related construction activities. Therefore, the following precautionary avoidance measures are recommended to ensure the project does not result in any impacts to BUOW.

BIO-1 Pre-construction surveys for BUOW should be conducted no more than 3 days prior to commencement of project-related ground disturbance to verify that BUOW remain absent from the project area.

The BUOW is a state and federal SSC and is also protected under the MBTA and by state law under the California FGC (FGC #3513 & #3503.5). In general, impacts to BUOW can be avoided by avoiding occupied burrows and conducting work outside of their nesting season (peak BUOW breeding season

is identified as April 15th to August 15th). However, if all work cannot be conducted outside of nesting season and occupied burrows cannot be avoided, the following measure shall be required:

BIO-2 ***If burrowing owl are discovered within the project footprint during construction activities, a site-specific BUOW protection and/or passive relocation plan shall be prepared to determine suitable buffers and/or artificial burrow construction locations to minimize impacts to this species. If a BUOW is found on-site at the time of construction, all activities likely to affect the animal(s) shall cease immediately and regulatory agencies shall be contacted to determine appropriate management actions.***

This measure will ensure that any burrowing owl that may come to inhabit the site between the date of the BRA survey and the start of construction. The project area no longer supports any native habitats that would be suitable to support any of the state or federally listed species, or other special status species documented in the project vicinity. Therefore, the proposed project is not likely to adversely affect any state or federally listed species, or other special status species, and the potential for any of the sensitive species identified in Appendix A of the BRA to occur within the project area is low or low to moderate. Given that no other State- and/or federally-listed threatened or endangered species, or other sensitive species are anticipated to occur within the project site based on the results of the BRA, the proposed project would have a less than significant potential to have a substantial adverse effect on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the CDFW or USFWS with implementation of **MMs BIO-1** and **BIO-2**.

b. *Less Than Significant Impact* – As stated under issue IV(a), above, the Countywide Plan EIR identifies the Critical Habitat in the Valley Region (**Figure IV-2**) areas within the County, though none of these areas are located within the proposed project area. However, the project area is adjacent to USFWS designated Critical Habitat for the federally listed SBKR. According to the CNDDB, the nearest extant documented SBKR occurrence (2016) is approximately 6 miles northeast of the project site, in suitable alluvial scrub habitat within the Santa Ana River wash. The project area is not suitable to support SBKR. The project site consists of cleared/disked land that formerly served as a park and is isolated from any documented SBKR occurrences by existing development. Therefore, SBKR is presumed absent from the project area and the project is not likely to adversely affect this species. Furthermore, the project will not result in any loss or adverse modification of Critical Habitat. The proposed project would develop a new animal shelter that would be developed with a modern design, that will incorporate sustainable, energy efficient building systems and features within a vacant site. As the entirety of the site and surrounding area have been previously disturbed, and neither the project site nor surrounding area contain any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community resources. Therefore, no adverse impact to riparian habitat or any native biological resources would occur from implementing the proposed project. Impacts are considered less than significant

c. *No Impact* – Jacobs assessed the project site for the presence of any state and/or federal jurisdictional waters. The result of the jurisdictional waters assessment is that there are no wetlands within the project site. Within the project site, there are no wetland or non-wetland WOTUS or waters of the State potentially subject to regulation by the USACE under Section 404 of the CWA, the RWQCB under Section 401 of the CWA and/or Porter Cologne Water Quality Control Act, or the CDFW under Section 1602 of the California FGC, respectively. Therefore, the project will not impact any jurisdictional waters and no state or federal jurisdictional waters permitting will be required, and ultimately, the project would have no potential to have substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means. No mitigation is required.

d. *Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated* – As indicated previously, the site and environs are located adjacent to some vacant land that is surrounded by urban development. Given the results of the BRA, the proposed project does not appear to support wildlife movement. The proposed project

is bound by the I-10 freeway to the south, Valley Boulevard to the north, and urban development to the east and west with no open space within the vicinity of the project area, which would minimize wildlife movement in the project area. When development proceeds, the project site could contain nesting birds, which could be adversely impacted. Most native bird species are protected from unlawful take by the MBTA. However, the USFWS issued a guidance memorandum that further clarified that the take of migratory birds or their active nests (i.e., with eggs or young) that is incidental to, and not the purpose of, an otherwise lawful activity does not constitute a violation of the MBTA. The State of California provides additional protection for native bird species and their nests in the FGC. Given that suitable habitat for nesting birds has been identified within the project site, the following mitigation measure is required to minimize impacts thereof to a less than significant level:

BIO-3 ***All Project activities on-site shall be conducted outside of the nesting bird season (generally, raptor nesting season is January 1 through September 15; and passerine bird nesting season is February 1 through September 1) to the maximum extent feasible. If Project activities begin outside of nesting season, a pre-construction survey shall be performed by a qualified biologist to verify the absence of nesting birds. A qualified biologist shall conduct the pre-activity survey within the Project footprint (including access routes) and a 300-foot buffer surrounding the Project area, no more than two hours prior to initiating Project activities.***

If Project activities begin during the nesting bird season (generally, raptor nesting season is January 1 through September 15; and passerine bird nesting season is February 1 through September 1), nesting bird surveys shall be conducted by a qualified avian biologist no more than three (3) days prior to Project initiation. Preconstruction surveys shall focus on both direct and indirect evidence of nesting, including nest locations and nesting behavior. The qualified avian biologist will make every effort to avoid potential nest predation as a result of survey and monitoring efforts. If active nests containing eggs or young are found during the preconstruction nesting bird surveys, a qualified biologist shall establish an appropriate nest buffer to be marked on the ground. Nest buffers are species-specific and shall be at least 100 feet for passerines and 300 feet for raptors. A smaller or larger buffer may be determined by the qualified biologist familiar with the nesting phenology of the nesting species and based on nest and buffer monitoring results. Established buffers shall remain on-site until a qualified biologist determines the young have fledged or the nest is no longer active. Active nests and adequacy of the established buffer distance shall be monitored daily by the qualified biologist until the qualified biologist has determined the young have fledged or the Project has been completed. The qualified biologist has the authority to stop work if nesting pairs exhibit signs of disturbance.

Thus, with implementation of the above measure, any effects on wildlife movement or the use of wildlife nursery sites can be reduced to a less than significant impact.

e. *Less Than Significant Impact* – The project site is currently vacant containing no vegetation or natural features. The site does not contain any trees that would be removed in order to facilitate the development of the proposed project; regardless, pursuant to San Bernardino Development Code §88.01.030(b), government owned properties are not subject to the County's Tree Ordinance. Thus, the proposed project would have no potential to no conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance. Additionally, the project has been designed to comply with the County's Development Code and VCSP design guidelines, which would ensure compliance with local policies and ordinances protecting biological resources, as the Countywide Plan EIR indicates that the Development Code, as well as compliance with the Countywide Plan goals and policies, and adherence to Countywide Plan EIR mitigation

measures would further ensure compliance with wildlife and habitat protection laws. No other local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources would apply to the proposed project, as no native biological resources exist on site. Therefore, impacts under this issue are considered less than significant and no mitigation is required.

f. *No Impact* – The Countywide Plan EIR specifies that there are no Habitat Conservation Plans, Natural Community Conservation Plans, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plans that would affect the project site, as the only Valley Region Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) is the Upper Santa Ana River (USAR) HCP, the EIR for which has not yet been approved by the San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District. The USAR HCP protects the Upper Santa Ana River habitat, and as the proposed project would not directly or indirectly contribute to impacts thereof due to the type of project, and the location of the project outside of the USAR HCP purview. As such, the proposed project would not result in any conflicts with an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan. No mitigation is required.

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

V. CULTURAL RESOURCES

SUBSTANTIATION: (Check if project is located in the Paleontological Resources ☐ overlays or cite results of cultural resource review) The following information is provided based on a Historical / Archaeological resources Survey Report of the project site. The report was conducted by CRM TECH dated July 4, 2023 and is titled "*Historical/Archaeological Resources Survey Report: Bloomington Animal Shelter Project, 18285-18313 Valley Boulevard, Assessor's Parcel Numbers 0252-161-09 and -10, Bloomington Area, San Bernardino County, California*" (Appendix 6). The following information is abstracted from this report. It provides an overview and findings regarding the cultural resources found within the project area.

Summary of the Finding

The purpose of the cultural report is to provide the County and other responsible agencies with the necessary information and analysis to determine whether the project would have an effect on any "historic properties," as defined by 36 CFR 800.16(l), or "historical resources," as defined by PRC §5020.1(j), that may exist in or near the APE. In order to identify such resources, CRM TECH initiated a historical/archaeological resources records search and a Native American Sacred Lands File search, pursued historical background research, and carried out an intensive-level field survey.

In order to identify such resources, CRM TECH conducted a historical/archaeological resources records search, initiated a Native American Sacred Lands File search, pursued historical background research, and carried out an intensive-level field survey. Through the various avenues of research, no "historical resources" were encountered within the project boundaries. Furthermore, the ground surface in the project area has been extensively disturbed, most recently by the construction and demolition of the former Ayala Park in the late 1970s and over the past year, respectively. As such, the property is considered to be relatively low in archaeological sensitivity.

Based on these findings, CRM TECH recommends to the County of San Bernardino a conclusion of No Impact regarding "historical resources." No further cultural resources investigation is recommended for this project unless construction plans undergo such changes as to include areas not covered by this study. However, if buried cultural materials are encountered during any earth-moving operations associated with the project, all work within 50 feet of the discovery should be halted or diverted until a qualified archaeologist can evaluate the nature and significance of the finds.

Impact Analysis

a&b. *Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated* – CEQA establishes that "a project that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource is a project that may have a significant effect on the environment" (PRC §21084.1). "Substantial adverse change," according to

PRC §5020.1(q), "means demolition, destruction, relocation, or alteration such that the significance of a historical resource would be impaired."

Per the above discussion and definition, no archaeological sites or isolates were recorded within the project boundaries. No “historical resources” were encountered within the project area throughout the course of the cultural resource investigation. In light of this information and pursuant to PRC §21084.1, the following conclusions have been reached for the project:

- No historical resources within or adjacent to the project area have any potential to be disturbed as they are not within the proposed area in which the facilities will be constructed and developed, and thus, the project as it is currently proposed will not cause a substantial adverse change to any known historical resources.
- No further cultural resources investigation is necessary for the proposed project unless construction plans undergo such changes as to include areas not covered by this study.

However, if buried cultural materials are discovered during any earth-moving operations associated with the project, the following mitigation measure shall be implemented:

CUL-1 ***Should any cultural resources be encountered during construction of these facilities, earthmoving or grading activities in the immediate area of the finds shall be halted and an onsite inspection shall be performed immediately by a qualified archaeologist. Responsibility for making this determination shall be with the County. The archaeological professional shall assess the find, determine its significance, and make recommendations for appropriate mitigation measures within the guidelines of the California Environmental Quality Act.***

Additionally, as part of the AB 52 consultation process, the City received a response from the Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation (formerly known as the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians) requesting the following mitigation measures in addition to **MMs TCR-1** and **TCR-2** identified under Section XVIII, Tribal Cultural Resources below:

CUL-2 ***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 Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation Cultural Resources Department (YSMN) shall be contacted, as detailed within TCR-1, regarding any pre-contact and/or historic-era 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-3 ***If significant pre-contact and/or historic-era 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 YSMN for review and comment, as detailed within TCR-1. The archaeologist shall monitor the remainder of the project and implement the Plan accordingly.***

With the above mitigation measure, the potential for impacts to cultural resources will be reduced to a less than significant level. No additional mitigation is required.

c. *Less Than Significant Impact* – As noted in the discussion above, no available information suggests that human remains may occur within the Area of Potential Effect (APE) and the potential for such an

occurrence is considered low Human remains discovered during the project will need to be treated in accordance with the provisions of HSC §7050.5 and PRC §5097.98, which is mandatory. State law (Section 7050.5 of the Health and Safety Code) as well as local laws requires that the Police Department, County Sheriff and Coroner's Office receive notification if human remains are encountered. However, the Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation have requested that the following mitigation measure to address unanticipated discovery of human remains or funerary objects be implemented to protect tribal cultural resources as part of the project. Thus, the following mitigation measure shall be implemented:

CUL-4 ***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.***

With the implementation of the above mitigation measure in addition to compliance with the law, the proposed project would have a less than significant potential to disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries.

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

VI. ENERGY

SUBSTANTIATION: An Energy Analysis (EA) was prepared for the proposed project, it is provided as Appendix 7 to this Initial Study, is titled "Animal Care Facility Energy Analysis" prepared by Urban Crossroads dated May 1, 2024.

Existing Conditions

The most recent data for California's estimated total energy consumption and natural gas consumption is from 2021 and 2022, released by the United States (U.S.) Energy Information Administration's (EIA) California State Profile and Energy Estimates in 2021 and 2022 and included:

- As of 2021, approximately 7,359 trillion British Thermal Unit (BTU) of energy was consumed
- As of 2021, approximately 605 million barrels of petroleum
- As of 2022, approximately 2,059 billion cubic feet of natural gas
- As of 2022, approximately 1,322 thousand short tons of coal

According to the EIA, in 2022 the U.S. petroleum consumption comprised about 90% of all transportation energy use, excluding fuel consumed for aviation and most marine vessels. In 2022, about 253,289 million gallons (or about 6.03 million barrels) of finished petroleum products were consumed in the U.S., an average of about 694 million gallons per day (or about 16.5 million barrels per day). In 2021, California consumed approximately 12,157 million gallons in motor gasoline (33.31 million per day) and approximately 3,541 million gallons of diesel fuel (9.7 million per day).

The most recent data provided by the EIA for energy use in California is reported from 2021 and provided by demand sectors as follows:

- Approximately 41.3% transportation sector
- Approximately 23.5% industrial sector
- Approximately 18.1% residential sector
- Approximately 17.0% commercial sector

According to the EIA, California used approximately 251,869 gigawatt hours of electricity in 2022. By sector in 2022, residential uses utilized 35.6% of the state's electricity, followed by 45.3% for commercial uses, 18.9% for industrial uses, and 0.3% for transportation. Electricity usage in California for differing land uses varies substantially by the type of uses in a building, type of construction materials used in a building, and the efficiency of all electricity-consuming devices within a building.

According to the EIA, California used approximately 200,871 million therms of natural gas in 2022. In 2023 (the most recent year for which data is available), by sector, industrial uses utilized 31% of the state's natural gas, followed by 32% used as fuel in the electric power sector, 23% from residential, 13% from commercial, 1% from transportation uses and the remaining 3% was utilized for the operations, processing and production of natural gas itself. While the supply of natural gas in the United States and production in

the lower 48 states has increased greatly since 2008, California produces little, and imports 90% of its supply of natural gas.

In 2022, total system electric generation for California was 287,220 gigawatt hours (GWh). California's massive electricity in-state generation system generated approximately 203,257 GWh which accounted for approximately 71% of the electricity it uses; the rest was imported from the Pacific Northwest (12%) and the U.S. Southwest (17%). Natural gas is the main source for electricity generation at 47.46% of the total in-state electric generation system power as shown in Table VI-1.

Table VI-1
TOTAL ELECTRICITY SYSTEM POWER (CALIFORNIA 2021)

Fuel Type	California In-State Generation (GWh)	% of California In-State Generation	Northwest Imports (GWh)	Southwest Imports (GWh)	Total Imports (GWh)	Total California Energy Mix (GWh)	Total California Power Mix
Coal	273	0.13%	181	5,716	5,897	6,170	2.15%
Natural Gas	96,457	47.46%	44	7,994	8,038	104,495	36.38%
Oil	65	0.03%	-	-	-	65	0.2%
Other (Waste Heat/Petroleum Coke)	315	0.15%	-	-	-	315	0.11%
Unspecified	-	0.0%	12,485	7,943	20,428	20,428	7.11%
Total Thermal and Unspecified	**97,110**	**47.78%**	**12,710**	**21,653**	**34,363**	**121,473**	**45.77%**
Nuclear	17,627	8.67%	397	8,342	8,739	26,366	9.18%
Large Hydro	14,607	7.19%	10,803	1,118	11,921	26,528	9.24%
Biomass	5,366	2.64%	771	25	797	6,162	2.15%
Geothermal	11,110	5.47%	253	2,048	2,301	13,412	4.67%
Small Hydro	3,005	1.48%	211	13	225	3,230	1.12%
Solar	40,494	19.92%	231	8,225	8,456	48,950	17.04%
Wind	13,938	6.86%	8,804	8,357	17,161	31,099	10.83%
Total Non-GHG and Renewables	**106,147**	**52.22%**	**21,471**	**28,129**	**49,599**	**155,747**	**54.23%**
SYSTEM TOTALS	***203,257***	***100.0%***	***34,180***	***49,782***	***83,962***	***287,220***	***100.0%***

An updated summary of, and context for energy consumption and energy demands within the State is presented in "U.S. Energy Information Administration, California State Profile and Energy Estimates, Quick Facts" excerpted below:

- In 2022, California was the seventh-largest producer of crude oil among the 50 states, and, as of January 2022, the state ranked third in crude oil refining capacity.
- California is the largest consumer of jet fuel and second-largest consumer of motor gasoline among the 50 states.
- In 2020, California was the second-largest total energy consumer among the states, but its per capita energy consumption was less than in all but three other states.
- In 2022, renewable resources, including hydroelectric power and small-scale, customer-sited solar power, accounted for 49% of California's in-state electricity generation. Natural gas fueled another 42%. Nuclear power supplied almost all the rest.
- In 2022, California was the fourth-largest electricity producer in the nation. The state was also the nation's third-largest electricity consumer, and additional needed electricity supplies came from out-of-state generators.

California is one of the nation's leading energy-producing states, and California's per capita energy use is among the nation's most efficient. Given the nature of the project, the remainder of this discussion will focus on the three sources of energy that are most relevant to the project—namely, electricity, natural gas, and transportation fuel for vehicle trips associated with the uses planned for the project.

Electricity
The usage associated with electricity use were calculated using the California Emissions Estimator Model (CalEEMod) Version 2022.1.1.22. The Southern California region's electricity reliability has been of concern for the past several years due to the planned retirement of aging facilities that depend upon once-through cooling technologies, as well as the June 2013 retirement of the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (San Onofre). While the once-through cooling phase-out has been ongoing since the May 2010 adoption of the State Water Resources Control Board's once-through cooling policy, the retirement of San Onofre complicated the situation. California ISO studies revealed the extent to which the South California Air Basin (SCAB) and the San Diego Air Basin (SDAB) region were vulnerable to low-voltage and post-transient voltage instability concerns. A preliminary plan to address these issues was detailed in the 2013 Integrative Energy Policy Report (IEPR) after a collaborative process with other energy agencies, utilities, and air districts. Similarly, the subsequent 2023 IEPR provides information and policy recommendations on advancing a clean, reliable, and affordable energy system.

Electricity is currently provided to the project by Southern California Edison (SCE). SCE provides electric power to more than 15 million persons in 15 counties and in 180 incorporated cities, within a service area encompassing approximately 50,000 square miles. Based on SCE's 2020 Power Content Label Mix, SCE derives electricity from varied energy resources including: fossil fuels, hydroelectric generators, nuclear power plants, geothermal power plants, solar power generation, and wind farms. SCE also purchases from independent power producers and utilities, including out-of-state suppliers.

California's electricity industry is an organization of traditional utilities, private generating companies, and state agencies, each with a variety of roles and responsibilities to ensure that electrical power is provided to consumers. The California Independent Service Operator (ISO) is a nonprofit public benefit corporation and is the impartial operator of the State's wholesale power grid and is charged with maintaining grid reliability, and to direct uninterrupted electrical energy supplies to California's homes and communities. While utilities still own transmission assets, the ISO routes electrical power along these assets, maximizing the use of the transmission system and its power generation resources. The ISO matches buyers and sellers of electricity to ensure that enough power is available to meet demand. To these ends, every five minutes the ISO forecasts electrical demands, accounts for operating reserves, and assigns the lowest cost power plant unit to meet demands while ensuring adequate system transmission capacities and capabilities.

Part of the ISO's charge is to plan and coordinate grid enhancements to ensure that electrical power is provided to California consumers. To this end, utilities file annual transmission expansion/modification plans to accommodate the State's growing electrical needs. The ISO reviews and either approves or denies the proposed additions. In addition, and perhaps most importantly, the ISO works with other areas in the western United States electrical grid to ensure that adequate power supplies are available to the State. In this manner, continuing reliable and affordable electrical power is assured to existing and new consumers throughout the State.

Table VI-2 identifies SCE's specific proportional shares of electricity sources in 2021. As indicated in Table VI-2, the 2021 SCE Power Mix has renewable energy at 31.4% of the overall energy resources. Geothermal resources are at 5.7%, wind power is at 10.2%, large hydroelectric sources are at 2.3%, solar energy is at 14.9%, and coal is at 0%.

Table VI-2
SCE 2021 POWER CONTENT MIX

Energy Resources	2022 SCE Power Mix
Eligible Renewable	**33.2%**
Biomass & Waste	0.1%
Geothermal	5.7%
Eligible Hydroelectric	0.5%
Solar	17.0%
Wind	9.8%
Coal	**0.0%**
Large Hydroelectric	**3.4%**
Natural Gas	**24.7%**
Nuclear	**8.3%**
Other	**0.1%**
Unspecified Sources of power*	30.3%
Total	**100%**
* "Unspecified sources of power" means electricity from transactions that are not traceable to specific generation sources.	

Natural Gas
Natural gas is available from a variety of in-state and out-of-state sources and is provided throughout the state in response to market supply and demand. Complementing available natural gas resources, biogas may soon be available via existing delivery systems, thereby increasing the availability and reliability of resources in total. The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) oversees utility purchases and transmission of natural gas to ensure reliable and affordable natural gas deliveries to existing and new consumers throughout the State.

California accounts for less than 1% of total U.S. natural gas reserves and production. As with crude oil, California's natural gas production has experienced a gradual decline since 1985. In 2021, about 33% of the natural gas delivered to consumers went to the State's industrial sector, and about 31% was delivered to the electric power sector. Natural gas fueled more than two-fifths of the State's utility-scale electricity generation in 2021. The residential sector, where three-fifths of California households use natural gas for home heating, accounted for 22% of natural gas deliveries. The commercial sector received 12% of the deliveries to end users and the transportation sector consumed the remaining 1%.

Transportation Energy Sources
The project would generate additional vehicle trips with resulting consumption of energy resources, predominantly gasoline and diesel fuel. The Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) identified 36.2 million registered vehicles in California, and those vehicles consume an estimated 17.2 billion gallons of fuel each year4. Gasoline (and other vehicle fuels) are commercially provided commodities and would be available to the project patrons and employees via commercial outlets.

California's on-road transportation system includes 396,616 lane miles, more than 26.6 million passenger vehicles and light trucks, and almost 9.0 million medium- and heavy-duty vehicles. While gasoline consumption has been declining since 2008 it is still by far the dominant fuel. California is the second-largest consumer of petroleum products, after Texas, and accounts for 8% of the nation's total consumption. The State is the largest U.S. consumer of jet fuel and the second-largest of motor gasoline, and 83% of the petroleum consumed in California is used in the transportation sector.

[4] Fuel consumptions estimated utilizing information from EMFAC2021.

Evaluation Criteria
In compliance with Appendix G of the *State CEQA Guidelines,* this report analyzes the project's anticipated energy use during construction and operations to determine if the project would:

- Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation; or
- Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency.

In addition, Appendix F of the *State CEQA Guidelines,* states that the means of achieving the goal of energy conservation includes the following:

- Decreasing overall per capita energy consumption;
- Decreasing reliance on fossil fuels such as coal, natural gas and oil; and
- Increasing reliance on renewable energy sources.

Summary of Energy Demands

Construction Energy Demands
The estimated power cost of on-site electricity usage during the construction of the project is assumed to be approximately $3,160.56. Additionally, based on the assumed power cost, it is estimated that the total electricity usage during construction, after full project build-out, is calculated to be approximately 22,575 kWh.

Construction equipment used by the project would result in single event consumption of approximately 38,146 gallons of diesel fuel. Construction equipment use of fuel would not be atypical for the type of construction proposed because there are no aspects of the project's proposed construction process that are unusual or energy-intensive, and project construction equipment would conform to the applicable CARB emissions standards, acting to promote equipment fuel efficiencies.

CCR Title 13, Title 13, Motor Vehicles, section 2449(d)(3) Idling, limits idling times of construction vehicles to no more than 5 minutes, thereby precluding unnecessary and wasteful consumption of fuel due to unproductive idling of construction equipment. BACMs inform construction equipment operators of this requirement. Enforcement of idling limitations is realized through periodic site inspections conducted by County building officials, and/or in response to citizen complaints.

Construction worker trips for full construction of the project would result in the estimated fuel consumption of 4,435 gallons of fuel. Additionally, fuel consumption from construction hauling and vendor trips (MHDTs and HHDTs) will total approximately 3,059 gallons. Diesel fuel would be supplied by County and regional commercial vendors. Indirectly, construction energy efficiencies and energy conservation would be achieved using bulk purchases, transport and use of construction materials. The 2022 IEPR released by the CEC has shown that fuel efficiencies are getting better within on and off-road vehicle engines due to more stringent government requirements. As supported by the preceding discussions, project construction energy consumption would not be considered inefficient, wasteful, or otherwise unnecessary..

Operational Energy Demands
Transportation Energy Demands: Annual vehicular trips and related VMT generated by the operation of the project will result in 1,383,369 annual VMT and an estimated annual fuel consumption of 52,200 gallons of fuel.

Fuel would be provided by current and future commercial vendors. Trip generation and VMT generated by the project are consistent with other uses of similar scale and configuration, as reflected respectively in the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) Trip Generation Manual (11th Ed., 2021); and CalEEMod. As such, project operations would not result in excessive and wasteful vehicle trips and VMT, nor excess and wasteful vehicle energy consumption compared to similar uses.

It should be noted that the state strategy for the transportation sector for medium and heavy-duty trucks is focused on making trucks more efficient and expediting truck turnover rather than reducing VMT from trucks. This is in contrast to the passenger vehicle component of the transportation sector where both per-

capita VMT reductions and an increase in vehicle efficiency are forecasted to be needed to achieve the overall state emissions reductions goals.

Enhanced fuel economies realized pursuant to federal and state regulatory actions, and related transition of vehicles to alternative energy sources (e.g., electricity, natural gas, biofuels, hydrogen cells) would likely decrease future gasoline fuel demands per VMT. Location of the project proximate to regional and local roadway systems tends to reduce VMT within the region, acting to reduce regional vehicle energy demands. The project would implement sidewalks, facilitating and encouraging pedestrian access. Facilitating pedestrian and bicycle access would reduce VMT and associated energy consumption. As supported by the preceding discussions, project transportation energy consumption would not be considered inefficient, wasteful, or otherwise unnecessary.

Facility Energy Demands: Project facility operational energy demands are estimated at 385,648 kWh/year of electricity. Electricity would be supplied by SCE. Based on information provided by the County, the site is not expected to utilize natural gas for the building envelope, and therefore would not generate any emissions from direct energy consumption. The project proposes conventional commercial uses reflecting contemporary energy efficient/energy conserving designs and operational programs. The project does not propose uses that are inherently energy intensive and the energy demands in total would be comparable to other uses of similar scale and configuration.

Implementation of the project would increase the demand for electricity at the project site and petroleum consumption in the region during operation. However, the electrical consumption demands of the project during operation would conform to the state's Title 24 and to CALGreen standards, which implement conservation measures. Further, the proposed project would not directly require the construction of new energy generation or supply facilities and providers of electricity are in compliance with regulatory requirements that assist in conservation, including requirements that electrical providers achieve state-mandated renewal energy production requirements. With compliance with Title 24 conservation standards and other regulatory requirements, the project would not be wasteful or inefficient or unnecessarily consume energy resources during construction or operation and would result in a less-than-significant impact with respect to consumption of energy resources.

Lastly, the project will comply with the applicable Title 24 standards. Compliance itself with applicable Title 24 standards will ensure that the project energy demands would not be inefficient, wasteful, or otherwise unnecessary.

Impact Analysis

a. *Less Than Significant Impact* – A significant impact would occur if the proposed project would result in the inefficient, wasteful, or unnecessary use of energy.

Construction

Based on CalEEMod estimations within the modeling output files used to estimate GHG emissions associated with the project, construction-related vehicle trips would result in approximately 244,594 VMT and consume an estimated 12,833 gallons of gasoline and diesel combined during the construction phases. Additionally, on-site construction equipment would consume an estimated 59,935 gallons of diesel fuel. Limitations on idling of vehicles and equipment and requirements that equipment be properly maintained would result in fuel savings. California Code of Regulations, Title 13, Sections 2449 and 2485, limit idling from both on-road and off-road diesel- powered equipment and are enforced by the ARB. Additionally, given the cost of fuel, contractors and owners have a strong financial incentive to avoid wasteful, inefficient, and unnecessary consumption of energy during construction.

Due to the temporary nature of construction and the financial incentives for developers and contractors to use energy-consuming resources in an efficient manner, the construction phase of the proposed project would not result in wasteful, inefficient, and unnecessary consumption of energy.

Therefore, the construction-related impacts related to electricity and fuel consumption would be less than significant.

Operation

Electricity and Natural Gas

Operation of the proposed project would consume energy as part of building operations and transportation activities. Building operations would involve energy consumption for multiple purposes including, but not limited to, building heating and cooling, refrigeration, lighting, and electronics. Based on the County, operations for the project would result in approximately 385,648 kWh/year of electricity annually. Based on information provided by the County, the site is not expected to utilize natural gas for the building envelope, and therefore would not generate any emissions from direct energy consumption.

Development of the project would be designed and constructed in accordance with the County's latest adopted energy efficiency standards, which are based on the California Title 24 energy efficiency standards. Title 24 standards include a broad set of energy conservation requirements that apply to the structural, mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems in a building. For example, the Title 24 Lighting Power Density requirements define the maximum wattage of lighting that can be used in a building based on its square footage. Title 24 standards are widely regarded as the most advanced energy efficiency standards, would help reduce the amount of energy required for lighting, water heating, and heating and air conditioning in buildings and promote energy conservation.

Fuel

Operational energy would also be consumed during vehicle trips associated with future development projects envisioned under the proposed project. Fuel consumption would be primarily related to vehicle use by visitors and employees associated with the project. Based on CalEEMod energy use estimations, project-related vehicle trips would result in approximately 1,383,369 annual VMT and an estimated annual fuel consumption of 52,200 gallons of fuel.

The project is surrounded by existing urban uses, the existing transportation facilities and infrastructure would provide visitors and employees associated with the project access to a mix of land uses in close proximity to the project, thus further reducing fuel consumption demand. For these reasons, operational-related transportation fuel consumption would not result in a significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources. Therefore, the operational impact related to vehicle fuel consumption would be less than significant.

b. *Less Than Significant Impact* – A significant impact would occur if the proposed project would conflict with or obstruct a State or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency.

Construction

The proposed project would result in energy consumption through the combustion of fossil fuels in construction vehicles, worker commute vehicles, and construction equipment, and the use of electricity for temporary buildings, lighting, and other sources. California Code of Regulations Title 13, Sections 2449 and 2485, limit idling from both on- road and off-road diesel-powered equipment and are enforced by the ARB. The proposed project would comply with these regulations. There are no policies at the local level applicable to energy conservation specific to the construction phase. Thus, it is anticipated that construction of the proposed project would not conflict with any applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing energy use or increasing the use of renewable energy. Therefore, construction-related energy efficiency and renewable energy standards consistency impacts would be less than significant.

Operation

California's Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) establishes a goal of renewable energy for local providers to be 44 percent by 2040. Similarly, the State is promoting renewable energy targets to meet the 2022 Scoping Plan greenhouse gas emissions reductions. As discussed in Section 5.1, above, the project would result in approximately 385,648 kWh/year of electricity annually. Based on

information provided by the County, the site is not expected to utilize natural gas for the building envelope, and therefore would not generate any emissions from direct energy consumption.

Development of the project would be designed and constructed in accordance with the County's latest adopted energy efficiency standards, which are based on the California Title 24 energy efficiency standards. Title 24 standards include a broad set of energy conservation requirements that apply to the structural, mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems in a building. For example, the Title 24 Lighting Power Density requirements define the maximum wattage of lighting that can be used in a building based on its square footage. Title 24 standards are widely regarded as the most advanced energy efficiency standards, would help reduce the amount of energy required for lighting, water heating, and heating and air conditioning in buildings and promote energy conservation.

Compliance with the aforementioned mandatory measures would ensure that future development projects would not conflict with any applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing energy use or increasing the use of renewable energy. Therefore, operational energy efficiency and renewable energy standards consistency impacts would be less than significant.

Issues	*Potentially Significant Impact*	*Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated*	*Less Than Significant Impact*	*No Impact*
VII. GEOLOGY AND SOILS: Would the project:				
a) Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				
(i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.	☐	☐	☒	☐
(ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?	☐	☒	☐	☐
(iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	☐	☐	☒	☐
(iv) Landslides?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	☐	☒	☐	☐
c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on-site or offsite land-slide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?	☐	☒	☐	☐
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property?	☐	☒	☐	☐
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?	☐	☐	☐	☒
f) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	☐	☒	☐	☐

VII. GEOLOGY AND SOILS

SUBSTANTIATION: (Check ☐ if project is located in the Geologic Hazards Overlay District) The following information is provided based on a Geotechnical Investigation of the project site. The report was prepared by Converse Consultants, dated January 18, 2023 and is titled "Geotechnical Investigation and Water Filtration Test Report San Bernardino County Animal Care Center" (Appendix 8).

Impact Analysis

a. Ground Rupture

Less Than Significant Impact – The project site is located in the unincorporated community of Bloomington within the County of San Bernardino which is located in a highly seismically active area. The project is located west and south of the major fault systems in the project area, by about 5 miles. The nearest fault system is the San Jacinto Fault, which is classified as an Alquist-Priolo Special

Study Zones under the Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act**. Figure VII-1** shows where these faults are located as indicated by the San Bernardino Countywide Plan Earthquake Fault Zones Map. **Figure VII-1** indicates that the site is not located within an Alquist-Priolo Special Study Zone. Furthermore, the Geotechnical Investigation prepared for the project (Appendix 8) confirms that the proposed project is not located within a currently mapped State of California Earthquake Fault Zone for surface fault rupture. Based on this information, the risk for ground rupture at the site location is low; therefore, it is not likely that future visitors and employees of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project will be subject to rupture from a known earthquake fault. Therefore, any impacts under this issue are considered less than significant; no mitigation is required.

Strong Seismic Ground Shaking

Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated – As stated in the discussion above, several faults run through this portion of the County, and as with much of southern California, the Geotechnical Investigation prepared for the project (Appendix 8) indicates that, during the life of the project, seismic activity associated with active faults can be expected to generate moderate to strong ground shaking at the site. Review of recent seismological and geophysical publications indicates that the seismic hazard for the project is high. As such, the proposed structures will be subject to strong seismic ground shaking impacts should any major earthquakes occur in the future, as indicated by the fault systems shown on **Figure VII-1**. As a result, and like all other development projects in the County and throughout the Southern California Region, the proposed project will be required to comply with all applicable seismic design standards contained in the 2022 California Building Code (CBC), including Section 1613-Earthquake Loads. Compliance with the CBC will ensure that structural integrity will be maintained in the event of an earthquake. Furthermore, the proposed project will be subject to **MM GEO-1**, below, which requires the implementation of the recommended design and construction measures identified in Appendix 8, including seismic design measures provided therein. Therefore, impacts associated with strong ground shaking will be less than significant with mitigation.

GEO-1 Based upon the geotechnical investigation (Appendix 8 of this document), all of the recommended seismic design measures identified in Appendix 8 (listed on page 12) shall be implemented by the County. Implementation of these specific measures will address all of the identified geotechnical constraints identified at project site, including seismic related hazards on the proposed structures.

Seismic-Related Ground Failure Including Liquefaction

Less Than Significant Impact – According to the map prepared for the County of San Bernardino Countywide Plan Liquefaction & Landslides Map (**Figure VII-2**), the project site is located in an area that is not considered susceptible to seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction. According to the Geotechnical Investigation (Appendix 8), liquefaction is defined as the phenomenon in a soil mass, because of the development of excess pore pressures, soil mass suffers a substantial reduction in its shear strength. During earthquakes, excess pore pressures in saturated soil deposits may develop as a result of induced cyclic shear stresses, resulting in liquefaction. Soil liquefaction occurs in submerged granular soils during or after strong ground shaking. There are several requirements for liquefaction to occur:

- Soils must be submerged.
- Soils must be primarily granular.
- Soils must be contractive, that is, loose to medium-dense.
- Ground motion must be intense.
- Duration of shaking must be sufficient for the soils to lose shear resistance.

The potential for liquefaction at the site is expected to be very low. Based on a site-specific settlement analysis presented in the Geotechnical Investigation, liquefaction settlement is negligible for the site. Therefore, impacts under this issue would be less than significant, and compliance with the 2022

CBC will ensure human safety will be protected from any liquefaction hazards that may exist at the project site.

Landslides

No Impact – The project site and surrounding area essentially flat, and is therefore not located in an area in which landslides are anticipated to occur. According to the map prepared for the San Bernardino Countywide Plan Liquefaction & Landslides Map (**Figure VII-2**), the project site is not located in an area that is considered susceptible to landslides. Therefore, the project will not expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse landslide effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving landslides. No impacts under this issue are anticipated and no mitigation is required.

b. *Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated* – The potential for soil erosion, loss of topsoil, and/or developing the site on unstable soils is anticipated to be marginally possible at the site during ground disturbance associated with construction. The project site is currently is vacant, with the remnants of the former Ayala Park demolished, leaving the site bare, with no vegetation. The San Bernardino County Development Code Chapter 85.11.030 requires standard erosion control practices to be implemented for all construction. County grading standards, best management practices and the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) and Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP) are required to control the potential significant erosion hazards. The topography of the site is generally flat. During project construction when soils are exposed, temporary soil erosion may occur, which could be exacerbated by rainfall. Project grading would be managed through the preparation and implementation of a SWPPP, and will be required to implement best management practices to achieve concurrent water quality controls after construction is completed and the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project is in operation. The following mitigation measures or equivalent best management practices (BMPs) shall be implemented to address these issues:

GEO-2 ***Stored backfill material shall be covered with water resistant material during periods of heavy precipitation to reduce the potential for rainfall erosion of stored backfill material. Where covering is not possible, measures such as the use of straw bales or sand bags shall be used to capture and hold eroded material on the project site for future cleanup such that erosion does not occur.***

GEO-3 ***All exposed, disturbed soil (trenches, stored backfill, etc.) shall be sprayed with water or soil binders twice a day, or more frequently if fugitive dust is observed migrating from the site within which the project is being constructed.***

With implementation of the above mitigation measures, implementation of the SWPPP and associated BMPs, any impacts under this issue are considered less than significant.

c. *Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated* – As previously stated, according to the Liquefaction & Landslides Map prepared for the San Bernardino Countywide Plan (**Figure VII-2**), the potential for liquefaction within the project site is low, as is the potential for landslide to occur at the site. The San Bernardino Countywide Plan EIR indicates that subsidence and collapse are not known to occur within the project area. According to the Geotechnical Investigation, lateral spreading involves primarily lateral movement of earth materials over underlying materials which are liquefied due to ground shaking. It differs from slope failure in that complete ground failure involving large movement does not occur due to the relatively smaller gradient of the initial ground surface. Lateral spreading is demonstrated by near-vertical cracks with predominantly horizontal movement of the soil mass involved. The topography at the project site and in the immediate vicinity is very flat. Under these circumstances, the potential for lateral spreading at the subject site is considered low to moderate.

Additionally, dynamic dry settlement may occur in loose, granular, unsaturated soils during a large seismic event. Based on a site-specific settlement analysis it is estimated that the site will have the potential for up to approximately 1.4 inches of total dry seismic settlement, which will be mitigated through the implementation of design measures identified in the geotechnical report and enforced through **MM GEO-3,** below.

Based on the laboratory test results from the Geotechnical Investigation, the collapse potential is 0.6 and 1.5 percent, which indicates that slight collapse potential is anticipated at the site. Collapse potential distress is typically considered a concern when collapse potential is over 2%. Implementation of the design measures identified in the geotechnical report and enforced through **MM GEO-4**, below would further ensure that any collapse potential is fully mitigated. Additionally, the earthwork operations recommended in the Geotechnical Investigation provided as Appendix 8 would mitigate any near surface loose soil conditions. As such, the following mitigation measures shall be implemented as it would require the implementation of design measure identified in the geotechnical report.

GEO-4 Based upon the geotechnical investigation (Appendix 8 of this document), all of the recommended earthwork, design, and construction measures identified in Appendix 8 (listed on Pages 15-30) shall be implemented by the County. Implementation of these specific measures will address all of the identified geotechnical constraints identified at project site, including soil stability on future project-related structures.

With the implementation of **MM GEO-4**, above it is not anticipated that the project will 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 onsite or offsite landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse. No further mitigation is required.

d. *Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated* – According to the Geotechnical Investigation provided as Appendix 8 to this Initial Study, the subsurface materials at the site primarily consist of a mixture of sand, silt, gravel and cobbles. The San Bernardino Countywide Plan does not designate the project area as being located within an area known to contain expansive soils. Furthermore, the Geotechnical Investigation also does not designate the site as containing expansive soils. Expansive soils are characterized by their ability to undergo significant volume changes (shrink or swell) due to variations in moisture content. Changes in soil moisture content can result from precipitation, landscape irrigation, utility leakage, roof drainage, perched groundwater, drought, or other factors and may result in unacceptable settlement or heave of structures or concrete slabs supported on grade. Depending on the extent and location below finish subgrade, expansive soils can have a detrimental effect on structures. Based on the laboratory test results, the expansion indices of the upper 5 feet soils were 0, corresponding to very low expansion potential. Given this, the development of the project will not create a substantial risk to life or property by being placed on expansive soils because none exist on the site. With implementation of **MMs GEO-1 and GEO-4** above, intended to ensure site specific design measures are implemented during construction, impacts under this issue are considered less than significant. No further mitigation is required.

e. *No Impact* – The project does not propose any septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems. Therefore, determining if the project site soils are capable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater does not apply. No impacts are anticipated. No mitigation is required.

f. *Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated* – The San Bernardino Countywide Plan for indicates that the proposed project area is located in a low-to-high sensitivity area for paleontological resources. Previously unknown and unrecorded paleontological resources may be unearthed during excavation and grading activities of the proposed project. If previously unknown potentially unique paleontological resources are uncovered during excavation or construction, significant impacts could occur. According to the San Bernardino Countywide Plan EIR, the County requires that projects

located within areas that have been delineated as low-to-high sensitivity for paleontological resources by the County General Plan (**Figure VII-3**) meet the requirements of its **MM CUL-5**, which states:

All projects involving ground disturbance in previously undisturbed areas mapped with low-to-high paleontological sensitivity will only require monitoring if construction activity will exceed the depth of the low sensitivity surficial sediments. The underlying sediments may have high paleontological sensitivity, and therefore work in those units might require paleontological monitoring, as designated by the Qualified Paleontologist in the PRMMP. When determining the depth at which the transition to high sensitivity occurs and monitoring becomes necessary, the Qualified Paleontologist should take into account: a) the most recent local geologic mapping, b) depths at which fossils have been found in the vicinity of the project area, as revealed by the museum records search, and c) geotechnical studies of the project area, if available.

The proposed project shall implement the following measure to meet the County's requirements pertaining to paleontological resources:

GEO-5 ***The County shall retain the services of a Qualified Paleontologist meeting the standards of SVP (2010). The Qualified Paleontologist shall determine the determine that the depth at which the transition to high sensitivity occurs and monitoring becomes necessary, by taking into account: a) the most recent local geologic mapping, b) depths at which fossils have been found in the vicinity of the project area, as revealed by the museum records search, and c) geotechnical studies of the project area, if available. Should the project require excavation that will exceed the depth of low sensitivity surficial sediments as determined by a Qualified Paleontologist, a project-specific paleontological resources monitoring and mitigation plan (PRMMP) shall be developed and adhered to for the duration of ground disturbance activities during construction or as otherwise determined by the Qualified Paleontologist. This plan will address specifics of monitoring and mitigation for the development project, and will take into account updated geologic mapping, geotechnical data, updated paleontological records searches, and any changes to the regulatory framework. This PRMMP shall meet the standards of the SVP (2010).***

The **MM CUL-6** (sourced from the 2019 San Bernardino Countywide Plan EIR), which addresses the potential for discovery of fossils, shall also be required as part of this project as follows:

In the event of any fossil discovery, regardless of depth or geologic formation, construction work will halt within a 50-ft. radius of the find until its significance can be determined by a Qualified Paleontologist. Significant fossils will be recovered, prepared to the point of curation, identified by qualified experts, listed in a database to facilitate analysis, and deposited in a designated paleontological curation facility in accordance with the standards of the SVP (2010) and BLM (2009). A repository will be identified and a curatorial arrangement will be signed prior to collection of the fossils. Although the San Bernardino County Museum is specified as the repository for fossils found in the county in the current General Plan (San Bernardino County, 2007), the museum may not always be available as a repository. Therefore, any accredited institution may serve as a repository.

With incorporation of the above project specific and County developed mitigation measures, the potential for impact to paleontological resources will be reduces to a less than significant level. No additional mitigation is required.

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

VIII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

SUBSTANTIATION: A Greenhouse Gas Analysis (GHGA) was prepared for the proposed project, and is provided as Appendix 9 to this Initial Study, is titled "Animal Care Facility Greenhouse Gas Analysis" prepared by Urban Crossroads dated May 1, 2024.

Climate Change Setting

Global Climate Change (GCC) is defined as the change in average meteorological conditions on the earth with respect to temperature, precipitation, and storms. The majority of scientists believe that the climate shift taking place since the Industrial Revolution is occurring at a quicker rate and magnitude than in the past. Scientific evidence suggests that GCC is the result of increased concentrations of GHGs in the earth's atmosphere, including carbon dioxide (CO_2), methane (CH_4), nitrous oxide (N_2O), and fluorinated gases. These particular gases are important due to their residence time (duration they stay) in the atmosphere, which ranges from 10 years to more than 100 years. These gases allow solar radiation into the earth's atmosphere, but prevent radiative heat from escaping, thus warming the earth's atmosphere. GCC can occur naturally as it has in the past with the previous ice ages.

Gases that trap heat in the atmosphere are often referred to as GHGs. GHGs are released into the atmosphere by both natural and anthropogenic activity. Without the natural GHG effect, the earth's average temperature would be approximately 61 degrees Fahrenheit (°F) cooler than it is currently. The cumulative accumulation of these gases in the earth's atmosphere is considered to be the cause for the observed increase in the earth's temperature.

Greenhouse Gases and Health Effects
GHGs trap heat in the atmosphere, creating a GHG effect that results in global warming and climate change. Many gases demonstrate these properties and as discussed in Table VIII-1. For the purposes of this analysis, emissions of CO_2, CH_4, and N_2O were evaluated (see Table VIII-1 later in this report) because these gases are the primary contributors to GCC from development projects. Although there are other substances such as fluorinated gases that also contribute to GCC, these fluorinated gases were not evaluated as their sources are not well-defined and do not contain accepted emissions factors or methodology to accurately calculate these gases.

Table VIII-1
GREENHOUSE GASES

GHGs	Description	Sources	Health Effects
Water	Water is the most abundant, important, and variable GHG in the atmosphere. Water vapor is not considered a pollutant; in the atmosphere it maintains a climate necessary	The main source of water vapor is evaporation from the oceans (approximately 85%). Other sources include evaporation from other water bodies,	There are no known direct health effects related to water vapor at this time. It should be noted however that when some pollutants react with water vapor, the

GHGs	Description	Sources	Health Effects
	for life. Changes in its concentration are primarily considered to be a result of climate feedbacks related to the warming of the atmosphere rather than a direct result of industrialization. A climate feedback is an indirect, or secondary, change, either positive or negative, that occurs within the climate system in response to a forcing mechanism. The feedback loop in which water is involved is critically important to projecting future climate change. As the temperature of the atmosphere rises, more water is evaporated from ground storage (rivers, oceans, reservoirs, soil). Because the air is warmer, the relative humidity can be higher (in essence, the air is able to 'hold' more water when it is warmer), leading to more water vapor in the atmosphere. As a GHG, the higher concentration of water vapor is then able to absorb more thermal indirect energy radiated from the Earth, thus further warming the atmosphere. The warmer atmosphere can then hold more water vapor and so on and so on. This is referred to as a "positive feedback loop." The extent to which this positive feedback loop will continue is unknown as there are also dynamics that hold the positive feedback loop in check. As an example, when water vapor increases in the atmosphere, more of it will eventually condense into clouds, which are more able to reflect incoming solar radiation (thus allowing less energy to reach the earth's surface and heat it up).	sublimation (change from solid to gas) from sea ice and snow, and transpiration from plant leaves.	reaction forms a transport mechanism for some of these pollutants to enter the human body through water vapor.
CO_2	CO_2 is an odorless and colorless GHG. Since the industrial revolution began in the mid-1700s, the sort of human activity that increases GHG emissions has increased dramatically in scale and	CO_2 is emitted from natural and manmade sources. Natural sources include: the decomposition of dead organic matter; respiration of bacteria, plants, animals and fungus; evaporation	Outdoor levels of CO_2 are not high enough to result in negative health effects. According to the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health

GHGs	Description	Sources	Health Effects
	distribution. Data from the past 50 years suggests a corollary increase in levels and concentrations. As an example, prior to the industrial revolution, CO_2 concentrations were fairly stable at 280 parts per million (ppm). Today, they are around 370 ppm, an increase of more than 30%. Left unchecked, the concentration of CO_2 in the atmosphere is projected to increase to a minimum of 540 ppm by 2100 as a direct result of anthropogenic sources.	from oceans; and volcanic outgassing. Anthropogenic sources include: the burning of coal, oil, natural gas, and wood. CO_2 is naturally removed from the air by photosynthesis, dissolution into ocean water, transfer to soils and ice caps, and chemical weathering of carbonate rocks.	(NIOSH) high concentrations of CO_2 can result in health effects such as: headaches, dizziness, restlessness, difficulty breathing, sweating, increased heart rate, increased cardiac output, increased blood pressure, coma, asphyxia, and/or convulsions. It should be noted that current concentrations of CO_2 in the earth's atmosphere are estimated to be approximately 370 ppm, the actual reference exposure level (level at which adverse health effects typically occur) is at exposure levels of 5,000 ppm averaged over 10 hours in a 40-hour workweek and short-term reference exposure levels of 30,000 ppm averaged over a 15 minute period.
CH_4	CH_4 is an extremely effective absorber of radiation, although its atmospheric concentration is less than CO_2 and its lifetime in the atmosphere is brief (10-12 years), compared to other GHGs.	CH_4 has both natural and anthropogenic sources. It is released as part of the biological processes in low oxygen environments, such as in swamplands or in rice production (at the roots of the plants). Over the last 50 years, human activities such as growing rice, raising cattle, using natural gas, and mining coal have added to the atmospheric concentration of CH_4. Other anthropocentric sources include fossil-fuel combustion and biomass burning.	CH_4 is extremely reactive with oxidizers, halogens, and other halogen-containing compounds. Exposure to high levels of CH_4 can cause asphyxiation, loss of consciousness, headache and dizziness, nausea and vomiting, weakness, loss of coordination, and an increased breathing rate.
N_2O	N_2O, also known as laughing gas, is a colorless GHG. Concentrations of N_2O also began to rise at the beginning of the industrial revolution. In 1998, the global concentration was 314 parts per billion (ppb).	N_2O is produced by microbial processes in soil and water, including those reactions which occur in fertilizer containing nitrogen. In addition to agricultural sources, some industrial processes (fossil fuel-fired power plants, nylon production, nitric acid production, and vehicle emissions) also contribute to its atmospheric load. It is used as an aerosol spray propellant, i.e., in whipped	N_2O can cause dizziness, euphoria, and sometimes slight hallucinations. In small doses, it is considered harmless. However, in some cases, heavy and extended use can cause Olney's Lesions (brain damage).

GHGs	Description	Sources	Health Effects
		cream bottles. It is also used in potato chip bags to keep chips fresh. It is used in rocket engines and in race cars. N_2O can be transported into the stratosphere, be deposited on the earth's surface, and be converted to other compounds by chemical reaction.	
Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs)	CFCs are gases formed synthetically by replacing all hydrogen atoms in CH_4 or ethane (C_2H_6) with chlorine and/or fluorine atoms. CFCs are nontoxic, nonflammable, insoluble and chemically unreactive in the troposphere (the level of air at the earth's surface).	CFCs have no natural source but were first synthesized in 1928. They were used for refrigerants, aerosol propellants and cleaning solvents. Due to the discovery that they are able to destroy stratospheric ozone, a global effort to halt their production was undertaken and was extremely successful, so much so that levels of the major CFCs are now remaining steady or declining. However, their long atmospheric lifetimes mean that some of the CFCs will remain in the atmosphere for over 100 years.	In confined indoor locations, working with CFC-113 or other CFCs is thought to result in death by cardiac arrhythmia (heart frequency too high or too low) or asphyxiation.
HFCs	HFCs are synthetic, man-made chemicals that are used as a substitute for CFCs. Out of all the GHGs, they are one of three groups with the highest global warming potential (GWP). The HFCs with the largest measured atmospheric abundances are (in order), Fluoroform (HFC-23), 1,1,1,2-tetrafluoroethane (HFC-134a), and 1,1-difluoroethane (HFC-152a). Prior to 1990, the only significant emissions were of HFC-23. HCF-134a emissions are increasing due to its use as a refrigerant.	HFCs are manmade for applications such as automobile air conditioners and refrigerants.	No health effects are known to result from exposure to HFCs.
PFCs	PFCs have stable molecular structures and do not break down through chemical processes in the lower atmosphere. High-energy ultraviolet rays, which occur about 60 kilometers above earth's surface, are able to destroy the compounds. Because of this, PFCs have	The two main sources of PFCs are primary aluminum production and semiconductor manufacture.	No health effects are known to result from exposure to PFCs.

GHGs	Description	Sources	Health Effects
	very long lifetimes, between 10,000 and 50,000 years. Two common PFCs are tetrafluoromethane (CF_4) and hexafluoroethane (C_2F_6). The EPA estimates that concentrations of CF_4 in the atmosphere are over 70 parts per trillion (ppt).		
SF_6	SF_6 is an inorganic, odorless, colorless, nontoxic, nonflammable gas. It also has the highest GWP of any gas evaluated (23,900). The EPA indicates that concentrations in the 1990s were about 4 ppt.	SF_6 is used for insulation in electric power transmission and distribution equipment, in the magnesium industry, in semiconductor manufacturing, and as a tracer gas for leak detection.	In high concentrations in confined areas, the gas presents the hazard of suffocation because it displaces the oxygen needed for breathing.
Nitrogen Trifluoride (NF_3)	NF_3 is a colorless gas with a distinctly moldy odor. The World Resources Institute (WRI) indicates that NF_3 has a 100-year GWP of 17,200.	NF_3 is used in industrial processes and is produced in the manufacturing of semiconductors, Liquid Crystal Display (LCD) panels, types of solar panels, and chemical lasers.	Long-term or repeated exposure may affect the liver and kidneys and may cause fluorosis.

The potential health effects related directly to the emissions of CO_2, CH_4, and N_2O as they relate to development projects such as the proposed project are still being debated in the scientific community. Their cumulative effects to GCC have the potential to cause adverse effects to human health. Increases in Earth's ambient temperatures would result in more intense heat waves, causing more heat-related deaths. Scientists also purport that higher ambient temperatures would increase disease survival rates and result in more widespread disease. Climate change will likely cause shifts in weather patterns, potentially resulting in devastating droughts and food shortages in some areas.

Global Warming Potential
GHGs have varying global warming potential (GWP) values. GWP of a GHG indicates the amount of warming a gas causes over a given period of time and represents the potential of a gas to trap heat in the atmosphere. CO_2 is utilized as the reference gas for GWP, and thus has a GWP of 1. CO_2 equivalent (CO_2e) is a term used for describing the difference GHGs in a common unit. CO_2e signifies the amount of CO_2 which would have the equivalent GWP.

The atmospheric lifetime and GWP of selected GHGs are summarized at Table VIII-2. As shown in the table below, GWP for the 2nd Assessment Report, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)'s scientific and socio-economic assessment on climate change, range from 1 for CO_2 to 23,900 for SF_6 and GWP for the IPCC's 5th Assessment Report range from 1 for CO_2 to 23,500 for SF_6.

Table VIII-2
GWP AND ATMOSPHERIC LIFETIME OF SELECT GHGs

Gas	Atmospheric Lifetime (years)	GWP (100-year time horizon)	
		2nd Assessment Report	5th Assessment Report
CO_2	Multiple	1	1
CH_4	11.8	21	28
N_2O	109	310	273
HFC-23	228	11,700	14,600
HFC-134a	14	1,300	1,526
HFC-152a	1.6	140	164
SF_6	3,200	23,900	25,200

*As per Appendix 8.A. of IPCC's 5th Assessment Report, no single lifetime can be given.
Source: IPCC Fourth Assessment Report: https://www.ipcc.ch/publications_and_data/ar4/wg1/en/ch2s2-10-2.html IPCC Fifth Assessment Report: https://www.ipcc.ch/pdf/assessmentreport/ar5/wg1/WG1AR5_Chapter08_FINAL.pdf

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventories
Global: Worldwide anthropogenic GHG emissions are tracked by the IPCC for industrialized nations (referred to as Annex I) and developing nations (referred to as Non-Annex I). Human GHG emissions data for Annex I nations are available through 2021. Based on the latest available data, the sum of these emissions totaled approximately 28,272,940 gigagram (Gg) CO_2e[5] as summarized on Table VIII-3.

United States: According to the United States (U.S.) Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), in 2019, GHG emissions in the U.S. totaled 6,558 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalents (MT CO2e), or 5,769 million MT CO2e after accounting for sequestration from the land sector. Emissions decreased from 2018 to 2019 by 1.7% (after accounting for sequestration from the land sector). This decrease was driven largely by a decrease in emissions from fossil fuel combustion resulting from a decrease in total energy use in 2019 compared to 2018 and a continued shift from coal to natural gas and renewables in the electric power sector. In 2019 U.S. GHG emissions were 13% below 2005 levels. As noted in Table VIII-3, the United States, as a single country, was the number two producer of GHG emissions in 2020.

Table VIII-3
TOP GHG PRODUCING COUNTRIES AND THE EUROPEAN UNION

Emitting Countries	GHG Emissions (Gg CO_2e)
China	12,300,200
United States	6,340,228
European Union (27-member countries)	3,468,394
India	2,839,425
Russian Federation	2,156,599
Japan	1,168,094
Total	**28,272,940**

Source: Used http://unfccc.int data for Annex I countries. Consulted the CAIT Climate Data Explorer in https://www.climatewatchdata.org site to reference Non-Annex I countries of China and India.

[5] The global emissions are the sum of Annex I and non-Annex I countries, without counting Land-Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF). For countries without 2021 data, the United Nations' Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) data for the most recent year were used U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change, "Annex I Parties – GHG total without LULUCF," The most recent GHG emissions for China and India are from 2014 and 2016, respectively.

State of California: California has significantly slowed the rate of growth of GHG emissions due to the implementation of energy efficiency programs as well as adoption of strict emission controls but is still a substantial contributor to the United States (U.S.) emissions inventory total. The California Air Resource Board (CARB) compiles GHG inventories for the State of California. Based upon the 2022 GHG inventory data (i.e., the latest year for which data are available) for the 2000-2021 GHG emissions period, California emitted an average 381.3 million metric tons of CO_2e per year ($MMTCO_2e$/yr) or 381,300 Gg CO_2e (6.01% of the total United States GHG emissions).

Regional and Local Regulatory Settings

SCAQMD
SCAQMD is the agency responsible for air quality planning and regulation in the SCAB. The SCAQMD addresses the impacts to climate change of projects subject to SCAQMD permit as a lead agency if they are the only agency having discretionary approval for the project and acts as a responsible agency when a land use agency must also approve discretionary permits for the project. The SCAQMD acts as an expert commenting agency for impacts to air quality. This expertise carries over to GHG emissions, so the agency helps local land use agencies through the development of models and emission thresholds that can be used to address GHG emissions.

In 2008, SCAQMD formed a Working Group to identify GHG emissions thresholds for land use projects that could be used by local lead agencies in the SCAB. The Working Group developed several different options that are contained in the SCAQMD Draft Guidance Document – Interim CEQA GHG Significance Threshold, that could be applied by lead agencies. The working group has not provided additional guidance since release of the interim guidance in 2008. The SCAQMD Board has not approved the thresholds; however, the Guidance Document provides substantial evidence supporting the approaches to significance of GHG emissions that can be considered by the lead agency in adopting its own threshold. The current interim thresholds consist of the following tiered approach:

- Tier 1 consists of evaluating whether or not the project qualifies for any applicable exemption under CEQA.
- Tier 2 consists of determining whether the project is consistent with a GHG reduction plan. If a project is consistent with a qualifying local GHG reduction plan, it does not have significant GHG emissions.
- Tier 3 consists of screening values, which the lead agency can choose, but must be consistent with all projects within its jurisdiction. A project's construction emissions are averaged over 30 years and are added to the project's operational emissions. If a project's emissions are below one of the following screening thresholds, then the project is less than significant:
  - Residential and Commercial land use: 3,000 MT CO_2e per year
  - Industrial land use: 10,000 MT CO_2e per year
  - Based on land use type: residential: 3,500 MT CO_2e per year; commercial: 1,400 MT CO_2e per year; or mixed use: 3,000 MT CO_2e per year
- Tier 4 has the following options:
  - Option 1: Reduce BAU emissions by a certain percentage; this percentage is currently undefined.
  - Option 2: Early implementation of applicable AB 32 Scoping Plan measures
  - Option 3: 2020 target for service populations (SP), which includes residents and employees: 4.8 MT CO_2e/SP/year for projects and 6.6 MT CO2e/SP/year for plans;
  - Option 3, 2035 target: 3.0 MT CO_2e/SP/year for projects and 4.1 MT CO_2e/SP/year for plans
- Tier 5 involves mitigation offsets to achieve target significance threshold.

The SCAQMD's interim thresholds used the Executive Order S-3-05-year 2050 goal as the basis for the Tier 3 screening level. Achieving the Executive Order's objective would contribute to worldwide efforts to cap CO_2 concentrations at 450 ppm, thus stabilizing global climate.

SCAQMD only has authority over GHG emissions from development projects that include air quality permits. At this time, it is unknown if the project would include stationary sources of emissions subject to SCAQMD permits. Notwithstanding, if the project requires a stationary permit, it would be subject to the applicable SCAQMD regulations.

SCAQMD Regulation XXVII, adopted in 2009 includes the following rules:

- Rule 2700 defines terms and post global warming potentials.
- Rule 2701, SoCal Climate Solutions Exchange, establishes a voluntary program to encourage, quantify, and certify voluntary, high quality certified GHG emission reductions in the SCAQMD.
- Rule 2702, GHG Reduction Program created a program to produce GHG emission reductions within the SCAQMD. The SCAQMD will fund projects through contracts in response to requests for proposals or purchase reductions from other parties.

Connect SoCal 2020-2045 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy
On September 3,2020 SCAG's Regional Council adopted the Connect SoCal 2020-2045 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS). The plan charts a path toward a more mobile, sustainable and prosperous region by making key connections: between transportation networks, between planning strategies and between the people whose collaboration can make plans a reality.

County of San Bernardino GHG Emissions Reduction Plan
The County of San Bernardino adopted a GHG Emissions Reduction Plan (Reduction Plan) in September 2011. The Reduction Plan contains further guidance on the County of San Bernardino's GHG Inventory reduction goals, policies, guidelines, and implementation programs. The purpose of the Reduction Plan is to provide guidance on how to analyze GHG emissions and determine significance during the CEQA review of proposed development projects within the County of San Bernardino. The Reduction Plan provided the GHG emissions inventory for the year 2007, and target for reducing GHG emissions 15% below 2007 levels by 2020. The County has implemented strategies to reduce its GHG emissions identified in the 2011 Reduction Plan, which has helped the County meet its 2020 GHG reduction targets. Since the adoption of County's Reduction Plan, the State has enacted new climate change regulations, most notably SB 32, which provides statewide targets to reduce GHG emissions to 40% below 1990 levels by 2030.

As part of the Reduction Plan, the County of San Bernardino published a GHG Development Review Process that specifies a two-step approach in quantifying GHG emissions. First, a screening threshold of 3,000 $MTCO_2e$/yr is used to determine if additional analysis is required. Projects that exceed the 3,000 $MTCO_2e$/yr are required to either achieve a minimum 100 points per the Screening Tables or a 31% reduction over 2007 emissions levels. Consistent with CEQA guidelines, such projects would be determined to have a less than significant individual and cumulative impact for GHG emissions.

Significance Thresholds
The criteria used to determine the significance of potential project-related GHG impacts are taken from the Initial Study Checklist in Appendix G of the State CEQA Guidelines (14 California Code of Regulations §§15000, et seq.). Based on these thresholds, a project would result in a significant impact related to GHG if it would:

- Generate GHG emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?
- Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of GHGs?

The evaluation of an impact under CEQA requires measuring data from a project against both existing conditions and a "threshold of significance." For establishing significance thresholds, the Office of Planning and Research's amendments to the CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.7(c) state "[w]hen adopting thresholds of significance, a lead agency may consider thresholds of significance previously adopted or recommended by other public agencies, or recommended by experts, provided the decision of the lead agency to adopt such thresholds is supported by substantial evidence."

CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.4(a) further states, ". . . A lead agency shall have discretion to determine, in the context of a particular project, whether to: (1) Use a model or methodology to quantify greenhouse gas emissions resulting from a project, and which model or methodology to use . . .; or (2) Rely on a qualitative analysis or performance-based standards."

CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.4 provides that a lead agency should consider the following factors, among others, in assessing the significance of impacts from greenhouse gas emissions:

- **Consideration #1:** The extent to which the project may increase or reduce greenhouse gas emissions as compared to the existing environmental setting.
- **Consideration #2:** Whether the project emissions exceed a threshold of significance that the lead agency determines applies to the project.
- **Consideration #3:** The extent to which the project complies with regulations or requirements adopted to implement a statewide, regional, or local plan for the reduction or mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions. Such regulations or requirements must be adopted by the relevant public agency through a public review process and must reduce or mitigate the project's incremental contribution of greenhouse gas emissions. In determining the significance of impacts, the lead agency may consider a project's consistency with the State's long-term climate goals or strategies, provided that substantial evidence supports the agency's analysis of how those goals or strategies address the project's incremental contribution to climate change and its conclusion that the project's incremental contribution is not cumulatively considerable.

Thresholds of Significance
As noted above in Section 2.7.4, as part of the Reduction Plan, the County of San Bernardino published a GHG Development Review Process that specifies a two-step approach in quantifying GHG emissions. First, a screening threshold of 3,000 $MTCO_2e$/yr is used to determine if additional analysis is required. Projects that exceed the 3,000 $MTCO_2e$/yr are required to either achieve a minimum 100 points per the Screening Tables or a 31% reduction over 2007 emissions levels. Consistent with CEQA guidelines, such projects would be determined to have a less than significant individual and cumulative impact for GHG emissions.

Impact Analysis

a. *Less Than Significant Impact* – GHG emissions associated with the proposed project would occur during both construction (short-term) and operations (long-term).

Construction Emissions
Project construction activities would generate CO_2 and CH_4 emissions. The AQIA (Appendix 4) contains detailed information regarding project construction activities. As discussed in the Air Quality Impact Analysis, Construction related emissions are expected from the following construction activities during both Phase 1 and 2 of construction:

- Site Preparation
- Grading
- Building Construction
- Paving
- Architectural Coating

Construction Duration
Construction of Phase 1 would occur over a period of 12 months, beginning in August 2024. Construction of Phase 2 would occur over a period of 8 months, beginning in April 2028. The construction schedule utilized in the analysis, shown in Table VIII-4, represents a "worst-case" analysis scenario should construction occur any time after the respective dates since emission factors for construction decrease as time passes and the analysis year increases due to emission regulations becoming more stringent.[6] It should be noted that in order to remain within the 8-month construction period for Phase 2, the duration of Building Construction was compressed by decreasing the number of days from the default parameters. The Activity and associated equipment represent a reasonable approximation of the expected construction fleet as required per *CEQA Guidelines.*

[6] As shown in the CalEEMod User's Guide Version 2022.1, Section 4.3 "Offroad Equipment" as the analysis year increases, emission factors for the same equipment pieces decrease due to the natural turnover of older equipment being replaced by newer less polluting equipment and new regulatory requirements.

Table VIII-4
CONSTRUCTION DURATION

Construction Activity	Start Date	End Date	Days
Phase 1			
Site Preparation	08/06/2024	09/02/2024	20
Grading	09/03/2024	10/28/2024	40
Building Construction	10/29/2024	08/04/2025	200
Paving	06/10/2025	08/04/2025	40
Architectural Coating	06/10/2025	08/04/2025	40

Construction Equipment
Site specific construction fleet may vary due to specific project needs at the time of construction. The equipment list is generally based on CalEEMod default parameters and confirmed with the County. A detailed summary of construction equipment assumptions by phase is provided at Table VIII-5. Please refer to specific detailed modeling inputs/outputs contained in Appendix 3.1 of the GHGA.

Table VIII-5
CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT ASSUMPTIONS

Construction Activity	Equipment[1]	Amount	Hours Per D
Phase 1			
Site Preparation	Rubber Tired Dozers	3	8
	Crawler Tractors	4	8
Grading	Excavators	1	8
	Graders	1	8
	Rubber Tired Dozers	1	8
	Crawler Tractors	3	8
Building Construction	Cranes	1	8
	Forklifts	3	8
	Generator Sets	1	8
	Tractors/Loaders/Backhoes	3	8
	Welders	1	8
Paving	Pavers	2	8
	Paving Equipment	2	8
	Rollers	2	8
Architectural Coating	Air Compressors	1	8

[1] In order to account for fugitive dust emissions, Crawler Tractors were used in lieu of Tractors/Loaders/Backhoes during the site preparation and grading phases.

Construction Emissions Summary
To evaluate project construction emissions, GHG emissions are quantified and amortized over the life of the project and added to the operations emissions. To amortize the emissions over the life of the project, the SCAQMD recommends calculating the total GHG emissions for the construction activities, dividing it by a 30-year project life then adding that number to the annual operational GHG emissions. Therefore, project construction emissions have been amortized over a 30-year period and added to the annual operational GHG emissions. The amortized construction emissions are presented in Table VIII-6.

Table VIII-6
CONSTRUCTION GHG EMISSIONS IN METRIC TONS PER YEAR (MT/YR)

Year	CO_2	CH_4	N_2O	R	Total CO_2e
2024	181.32	0.01	0.00	0.03	182.39
2025	260.87	0.01	0.01	0.07	262.93
Total GHG Emissions	442.19	0.02	0.01	0.10	445.32
Amortized Construction Emissions ($MTCO_2e$)	**14.72**	**6.23E-04**	**2.85E-04**	**0.00**	**14.84**

Source CalEEMod annual construction-source emissions are presented in Appendix 3.1 of the GHGA

Operational Emissions

Operational activities associated with the proposed project will result in emissions of CO_2, CH_4, and N_2O and R from the following primary sources:

- Area Sources
- Energy Sources
- Mobile Sources
- Water Supply, Treatment, and Distribution
- Solid Waste
- Refrigerants
- Stationary

Area Source Emissions

Landscape maintenance equipment are typically the only area sources that would generate emissions GHG emissions, which are primarily due to fuel combustion and evaporation of unburned fuel. Equipment in this category would include lawnmowers, shedders/grinders, blowers, trimmers, chain saws, and hedge trimmers used to maintain the landscaping of the project. It should be noted that as October 9, 2021, Governor Gavin Newsom signed AB 1346. The bill aims to ban the sale of new gasoline-powered equipment under 25 gross horsepower (known as small off-road engines [SOREs]) by 2024. The emissions associated with landscape maintenance equipment were calculated based on standard assumptions included in CalEEMod.

Energy Source Emissions

Combustion Emissions Associated with Natural Gas and Electricity: GHGs are emitted from buildings as a result of activities for which electricity and natural gas are typically used as energy sources. Combustion of any type of fuel emits CO_2 and other GHGs directly into the atmosphere; these emissions are considered direct emissions associated with a building; the building energy use emissions do not include street lighting[7]. GHGs are also emitted during the generation of electricity from fossil fuels; these emissions are considered to be indirect emissions. Based on information provided by the County, the project is anticipated to use 385,648 kWh/year of electricity. Additionally, the site is not expected to utilize natural gas for the building envelope, and therefore would not generate any emissions from direct energy consumption from natural gas.

Mobile Source Emissions

Project mobile source air quality impacts are dependent on both overall daily vehicle trip generation and the effect of the project on peak hour traffic volumes and traffic operations in the vicinity of the project. The project-related operational air quality impacts are derived primarily from the 318 vehicle trips generated by the project. Trip characteristics available from the TA report were utilized in this analysis.

[7] The CalEEMod emissions inventory model does not include indirect emission related to street lighting. Indirect emissions related to street lighting are expected to be negligible and cannot be accurately quantified at this time as there is insufficient information as to the number and type of street lighting that would occur.

Water Supply, Treatment and Distribution
Indirect GHG emissions result from the production of electricity used to convey, treat and distribute water and wastewater. The amount of electricity required to convey, treat and distribute water depends on the volume of water as well as the sources of the water. Based on information provided by the County, the project will use approximately 2,000,000 gallons/year.

Solid Waste
Residential land uses will result in the generation and disposal of solid waste. A large percentage of this waste will be diverted from landfills by a variety of means, such as reducing the amount of waste generated, recycling, and/or composting. The remainder of the waste not diverted will be disposed of at a landfill. GHG emissions from landfills are associated with the anaerobic breakdown of material. GHG emissions associated with the disposal of solid waste associated with the proposed project were calculated by CalEEMod using default parameters.

Refrigerants
Air conditioning (A/C) and refrigeration equipment associated with the residential dwelling units are anticipated to generate GHG emissions. CalEEMod automatically generates a default A/C and refrigeration equipment inventory for each project land use subtype based on industry data from the USEPA. CalEEMod quantifies refrigerant emissions from leaks during regular operation and routine servicing over the equipment lifetime and then derives average annual emissions from the lifetime estimate. Note that CalEEMod does not quantify emissions from the disposal of refrigeration and A/C equipment at the end of its lifetime. Per 17 CCR 95371, new facilities with refrigeration equipment containing more than 50 pounds of refrigerant are prohibited from utilizing refrigerants with a GWP of 150 or greater as of January 1, 2022. Additionally, Beginning 1 January 2025, all new air conditioning equipment may not use refrigerants with a GWP of 750 or greater. GHG emissions associated with refrigerants were calculated by CalEEMod using default parameters.

Stationary Source Emissions
The proposed project was conservatively assumed to include installation of a 909-horsepower diesel-powered fire pump at the industrial building. The fire pump was estimated to operate for up to 1 hour per day, 1 day per week for up to 50 hours per year for maintenance and testing purposes. Emissions associated with the stationary diesel-powered emergency fire pump were calculated using CalEEMod.

Operational Emissions Summary
As summarized in Table VIII-7, the annual GHG emissions associated with the operation of the proposed project are estimated to be approximately 813.13 $MTCO_2e/yr$ at Phase 1 and 772.63 $MTCO_2e/yr$ at project buildout. Detailed calculations are provided in Appendix 3.1 of the GHGA.

Table VIII-7
PROJECT GHG EMISSIONS SUMMARY

Emission Source	Emissions (MT/yr)				
	CO_2	CH_4	N_2O	R	Total CO_2e
Amortized Construction Emissions	14.74	6.38E-04	2.85E-04	0.00	14.84
Mobile Source	456.40	0.02	0.02	0.81	462.50
Area Source	1.51	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.51
Energy Source	60.56	0.01	0.00	0.00	60.91
Water Usage	2.77	0.07	0.00	0.00	4.87
Waste	71.69	7.16	0.00	0.00	250.81
Refrigerants	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.31	0.31
Stationary	17.31	0.00	0.00	0.00	17.37
Total CO_2e (All Sources)	**813.13**				

Source: CalEEMod output, See Appendix 3.1 through 3.3 of the GHGA for detailed model outputs.

Regulatory Requirements

The project would be required to comply with regulations imposed by the State of California and the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) aimed at the reduction of air pollutant emissions. Those that are directly and indirectly applicable to the project and that would assist in the reduction of GHG emissions include:

- California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006: Emissions Limit (SB 32).
- Regional GHG Emissions Reduction Targets/Sustainable Communities Strategies (Senate Bill (SB) 375).
- Pavley Fuel Efficiency Standards (AB 1493). Establishes fuel efficiency ratings for new vehicles.
- California Building Code (Title 24 California Code of Regulations (CCR)). Establishes energy efficiency requirements for new construction.
- Appliance Energy Efficiency Standards (Title 20 CCR). Establishes energy efficiency requirements for appliances.
- Low Carbon Fuel Standard (LCFS). Requires carbon content of fuel sold in California to be 20% less by 2030.
- California Water Conservation in Landscaping Act of 2006 (AB 1881). Requires local agencies to adopt the Department of Water Resources Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance, or equivalent, to ensure efficient landscapes in new development and reduced water waste in existing landscapes.
- Statewide Retail Provider Emissions Performance Standards. Requires energy generators to achieve performance standards for GHG emissions.
- Renewable Portfolio Standards (RPS). Requires electric corporations to increase the amount of energy obtained from eligible renewable energy resources to 60 percent by 2030, with interim targets of 44 percent by 2024 and 52 percent by 2027 as well.

Promulgated regulations that will affect the project's emissions are accounted for in the project's GHG calculations provided in this report. In particular, AB 1493, LCFS, and RPS, and therefore are accounted for in the project's emission calculations.

Conclusion

A numerical threshold for determining the significance of GHG emissions in the SCAB has not been established by the SCAQMD for projects where it is not the lead agency. As an interim threshold based on guidance provided in the CAPCOA *CEQA and Climate Change* handbook, the County has opted to use a non-zero threshold approach based on Approach 2 of the handbook. Threshold 2.5 (Unit-Based Thresholds Based on Market Capture) establishes a numerical threshold based on capture of approximately 90% of emissions from future development. The latest threshold developed by SCAQMD using this method is 3,000 $MTCO_2e$/yr for all projects.

The project will result in approximately 813.13 $MTCO_2e$/yr. As such, the project would not exceed the SCAQMD's recommended numeric threshold of 3,000 $MTCO_2e$/yr. As such, project-related emissions would not have a potential significant direct or indirect impact on GHG and climate change.

b. *Less Than Significant Impact* – As previously stated, pursuant to 15604.4 of the CEQA Guidelines, a lead agency may rely on qualitative analysis or performance-based standards to determine the significance of impacts from GHG emissions.

2022 Scoping Plan Consistency

The project would not impede the State's progress towards carbon neutrality by 2045 under the 2022 Scoping Plan. The project would be required to comply with applicable current and future regulatory requirements promulgated through the 2022 Scoping Plan. The project includes design features related to water and solid conservation that will further reduce project GHG emissions. As such, the project would not be inconsistent with the 2022 Scoping Plan. Lastly, the project would be required to comply with applicable elements outlined in the County's CAP. As such, the project would not be inconsistent with the 2022 Scoping Plan.

Consistency with County's GHG Development Review Process

The project will generate approximately 813.13 $MTCO_2e$/yr; the proposed project would not exceed the screening threshold of 3,000 $MTCO_2e$/yr. The project is thus considered to have a less than significant individual and cumulatively considerable impact on GHG emissions.

Conclusion

The project would not have the potential to conflict with any applicable plan, policy or regulation of an agency adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of GHGs.

Issues	*Potentially Significant Impact*	*Less Than Significant 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, or disposal of hazardous materials?	☐	☒	☐	☐
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	☐	☒	☐	☐
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	☐	☐	☒	☐
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area?	☐	☐	☐	☒
f) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	☐	☐	☒	☐
g) Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires?	☐	☐	☐	☒

IX. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

SUBSTANTIATION:

VCSP Mitigation Measures

The only mitigation measure identified in the VCSP EIR is **MM HAZ-1**, which requires the preparation of a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA). The County has exempted the project from this requirement due to the fact that the former site use was completely demolished and the site totally disturbed. As a result, the site conditions are completely known, which negates the need for a Phase I ESA, the purpose for which is to reveal historic and present site conditions.

Impact Analysis

a. *Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated* – During construction of proposed project, hazardous or potentially hazardous materials will be routinely handled in small quantities on the project site. These hazardous materials would include use of adhesives, solvents, paints, thinners, gasoline, diesel fuel, lubricants, and other petroleum-based products used to operate and maintain construction equipment and County Animal Control vehicles. Cal/OSHA regulations provide for the

proper labeling, storage, and handling of hazardous materials to reduce the potential harmful health effects that could result from worker exposure to hazardous materials. If not properly handled, accidental release of these substances could expose construction workers, degrade soils, or become entrained in stormwater runoff, resulting in adverse effects on the public or the environment. A permitted and licensed service provider will conduct the removal of such hazardous materials; any handling, transporting, use or disposal of hazardous materials would comply with all applicable federal, State, and local agencies and regulations. The project would be required to comply with all relevant and applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations that pertain to the accidental release of hazardous materials during construction of proposed facilities such as Health and Safety Code, Section 2550 et seq.

During operation, it is anticipated that small amounts of chemicals, pharmaceuticals, and other types of potentially hazardous materials would be stored and used in support of the proposed animal shelter. Any storage containers would be designed in accordance with the applicable hazardous materials storage regulations for long-term use. The delivery and disposal of chemicals to and from the proposed San Bernardino County Animal Care Center would occur in full accordance with all applicable federal, State, and local regulations. A Hazardous Materials Business Plan (HMBP) must be prepared and implemented as required by the County of San Bernardino Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA). The HMBP would minimize hazards to human health and the environment from use of hazardous materials. As such, the following mitigation measures shall be implemented:

HAZ-1 ***A Hazardous Materials Business Plan shall be prepared and submitted to the Certified Unified Program Agency and shall incorporate best management practices designed to minimize the potential for accidental release of such chemicals and shall meet the standards required by California law for Hazardous Materials Business Plans. The facility managers shall implement these measures to reduce the potential for accidental releases of hazardous materials or wastes. The Hazardous Materials Business Plan shall be approved prior to operation of the facility.***

HAZ-2 ***The Hazardous Materials Business Plan shall assess the potential accidental release scenarios and identify the equipment and response capabilities required to provide immediate containment, control, and collection of any released hazardous material. Prior to issuance of the certificate of occupancy, each facility shall ensure that necessary equipment has been installed and training of personnel has occurred to obtain sufficient resources to control and prevent the spread of any accidentally released hazardous or toxic materials.***

With implementation of the above mitigation measures, in addition to compliance with all applicable federal, State, and local regulations regarding the handling, storage, transportation, and disposal of hazardous materials, and preparation and implementation of the HMBP would reduce potential impacts to the public, employees, or the environment related to the transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials to a less than significant impact.

b. *Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated* – As stated above under issue IX(a), above, construction activities associated with implementation of the proposed project could create hazards to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials used in construction activities and equipment. Construction activities would involve the use of adhesives, solvents, paints, thinners, petroleum products, and other chemicals. Cal/OSHA regulations provide for the proper labeling, storage, and handling of hazardous materials to reduce the potential harmful health effects that could result from worker exposure to hazardous materials. If not properly handled, however, accidental release of these substances could expose construction workers, degrade soils, or become entrained in stormwater runoff, resulting in adverse effects on the public or the environment. The County would be required to comply with all relevant and applicable federal, State, and local laws and regulations

that pertain to the accidental release of hazardous materials during construction of proposed facilities such as Health and Safety Code Sections 25500 et seq. Compliance with all applicable federal, State, and local regulations can reduce potential impacts to the public or the environment regarding accidental release of hazardous materials to less than significant impact, but a contingency mitigation measure is provided to ensure accidental releases and any related contamination would not significantly affect the environment at facility locations.

The use of hazardous materials and substances during construction would be subject to the federal, State, and local health and safety requirements for the handling, storage, transportation, and disposal of hazardous materials. Through compliance with these regulations, and preparation and implementation of **MM HAZ-3**, below, hazardous material impacts related to construction activities would be less than significant.

HAZ-3 ***All accidental spills or discharge of hazardous material during construction activities shall be reported to the Certified Unified Program Agency and shall be remediated in compliance with applicable federal, State, and local regulations regarding cleanup and disposal of the contaminant released. The contaminated waste shall be collected and disposed of at a licensed disposal or treatment facility. This measure shall be incorporated into the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) prepared for the project. Prior to accepting the site as remediated, the area contaminated shall be tested to verify that any residual concentrations meet the standard for future residential or public use of the site.***

During operation, it is anticipated that small amounts of chemicals, pharmaceuticals, and other types of potentially hazardous materials would be stored and used in support of the proposed animal shelter. Any stored materials would be designed in accordance with the applicable hazardous materials storage regulations for long-term use. The delivery and disposal of chemicals, pharmaceuticals, and other types of potentially hazardous materials to and from the project site would occur in full accordance with all applicable federal, State, and local regulations. The established handling protocols per federal, State, and local laws and regulations would ensure project related operational impacts would be less than significant.

An HMBP must be prepared per **MMs HAZ-1** and **HAZ-2** and implemented for the proposed facility upgrades as required by the County of San Bernardino CUPA. The HMBP would minimize hazards to human health and the environment from fires, explosions, or an accidental release of hazardous materials into air, soil, surface water, or groundwater. Compliance with all applicable federal, State, and local regulations regarding the handling, storage, transportation, and disposal of hazardous materials, and preparation and implementation of the HMBP would reduce potential impacts to the public, employees, or the environment related to the transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials to a less than significant impact.

c. *No Impact* – The proposed project site is not located within one quarter mile of a school. The nearest school is located about a one-half mile north of the project site. Mary B. Lewis Elementary School is located at 18040 San Bernardino Ave, Bloomington, CA 92316. This school is part of the Colton Joint Unified School District, and as the project is located greater than one quarter mile of this or any other area schools, and that the proposed project would not emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste in large quantities, no adverse impacts are anticipated. No additional mitigation is required.

d. *Less Than Significant Impact* – The proposed project would develop a San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project to serve the Valley Corridor Specific Plan area located in the unincorporated community of Bloomington within the County of San Bernardino. The proposed project is located on a site that has been completely scrubbed and is therefore vacant and bare. The project will not be located on a site that is included on a list of hazardous materials sites that are currently under remediation. According to the California State Water Board's GeoTracker website (consistent with

Government Code Section 65962.5), which provides information regarding Leaking Underground Storage Tanks (LUST) and Department of Toxic Substance Control (DTSC) cleanup sites, there are no open LUST or other clean-up sites within 2,500 feet of the project site (**Figures IX-1 to Figure IX-3**), nor are there any open DTSC sites, which are simply sites that are periodically inspected by the DTSC as the operations fall under their purview. No contamination has been associated with the former operation of this site as Ayala Park. Therefore, there is no potential for the project to be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 thereby creating a significant hazard to the public or the environment. Project construction and operation of the site as the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project will have a less than significant potential to create a significant hazard to the adjacent population or to the environment from their implementation. No mitigation is required.

e. *No Impact* – The project site is located at a substantial distance from any nearby airport. As shown on the Airport Safety & Planning Areas map prepared for the San Bernardino Countywide Plan (**Figure IX-4**), the proposed project is not located within an Airport Safety Review Area at any of the area airports (Ontario International Airport, San Bernardino International Airport, and Redlands Airport). Therefore, there is no potential safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area as a result of proximity to a public airport or private airstrip. No mitigation is required.

f. *Less Than Significant Impact* – The proposed project is not anticipated to interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. As shown on the Evacuation Route Map prepared for the San Bernardino Countywide Plan (**Figure IX-5**), the adopted evacuation routes are the Interstate 10 (I-10), the I-15, the I-215, and Foothill Boulevard located to the south, west, east, and north of the project site. Development at this location would not interfere with access to these emergency evacuation routes, as the proposed project will be constructed entirely within the boundaries of the project site, with minimal improvements to the site frontage and entrances to the site along Valley Boulevard. The project would involve ingress and egress of traffic Valley Boulevard from the enhanced driveways that will continue to provide entry to the site. As such, the proposed project will not experience substantial conflicts with surrounding traffic. Given the above, there is a less than significant potential for the development of the project to physically interfere with any adopted emergency response plans, or evacuation plans.

g. *No Impact* – The proposed project would not expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands. The proposed project area is not an area susceptible to wildland fires as it has not been delineated as being located within a Fire Hazard Severity Zone (FHSZ) as shown on **Figure IX-6**, the Countywide Plan Policy Map of Fire Hazard Severity Zones. The project is not located within the County Fire Safety Overlay. The proposed project is required to, and will incorporate the most current fire protection designs, including an adequate water supply for fire flow and fighting purposes. Additionally, the project would be subject to the most current building code requirements and County Fire requirements. Ultimately, the proposed project is located in an urban area removed from the high fire hazard areas that are located adjacent to the Jurupa Hills and San Gabriel and San Bernardino Mountains. Therefore, project implementation would not result in a potential to expose people or structures to fire hazards. No mitigation measures are required.

Issues	*Potentially Significant Impact*	*Less Than Significant 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 groundwater quality?	☐	☒	☐	☐
b) Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would:	☐	☐	☒	☐
(i) result in substantial erosion or siltation on-site or offsite?	☐	☐	☒	☐
(ii) substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on-site or offsite?	☐	☐	☒	☐
(iii) create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?; or,	☐	☒	☐	☐
(iv) impede or redirect flood flows?	☐	☐	☒	☐
d) In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?	☐	☐	☒	☐
e) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?	☐	☐	☒	☐

X. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

SUBSTANTIATION: A Preliminary Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP) has been prepared for this project by Bonadiman, titled "*Preliminary Water Quality Management Plan For: 18313 Valley Blvd. APN(S): 0252-161-09 & 10,"* dated August 7, 2023 provided as Appendix 10a. A Hydrology Study and Drainage Analysis has also been prepared for this project by Bonadiman, titled "*Preliminary Hydrology Study and Drainage Analysis For: 18313 Valley Blvd. APN(S): 0252-161-09 & 10,"* dated August 2023 provided as Appendix 10b. Grading Plans are provided as Appendix 10c.

VCSP Mitigation Measures

The only mitigation measure identified in the VCSP EIR is **MM HYD-1**, which requires the preparation of a site-specific hydrology and hydraulic studies to be submitted to County Public Works. This requirement has been met through the preparation of the Preliminary WQMP and Hydrology studies, which will undergo County Public Works review prior to approval.

Impact Analysis

a. *Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated* – The proposed project is located within the planning area of the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB). The project would be supplied with water by Marygold Mutual Water Company (MMWC). The MMWC relies primarily on groundwater for service to its customers. In the past it has used connections from neighboring agencies for supply, but has since constructed two new 2 MG storage tanks, and as such, these connections—to the distribution systems of the City of Rialto Water Services and the West Valley Water District—represent only emergency supplies.

For a developed area, the only three sources of potential violation of water quality standards or waste discharge requirements are from generation of municipal wastewater, stormwater runoff, and potential discharges of pollutants, such as accidental spills. Municipal wastewater flows from the Valley Corridor Specific Plan area, which encompasses the project site, discharge to the Rialto Wastewater Treatment Plant. The Rialto Wastewater Treatment Plant (WTP) has a design capacity of 11.1 million gallons per day (mgd) and a permitted capacity of 11.7 mgd, which meets the waste discharge requirements imposed by the RWQCB. The WTP is presently undergoing expansion to increase this capacity. To address stormwater and accidental spills within this environment, any new project must ensure that site development implements a SWPPP and a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) to control potential sources of water pollution that could violate any standards or discharge requirements during construction and a Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP)—which has been prepared and is provided as Appendix 10 to this Initial Study—to ensure that project-related after development surface runoff meets discharge requirements over the short- and long-term. This requirement is further enforced through compliance with RR HYD-1 identified in the Countywide Plan:

National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES): Projects will be constructed in accordance with the NPDES General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction and Land Disturbance Activities, NPDES No. CAS000002. Compliance requires a risk assessment, a SWPPP, and associated BMPs.

The WQMP would specify stormwater runoff permit Best Management Practices (BMPs) requirements for capturing, retaining, and treating on site stormwater once the project has been developed. Per RR HYD-3 identified in the Countywide Plan, the WQMP must: Control contaminants into storm drain systems; Educate the public about stormwater impacts; Detect and eliminate illicit discharges; Control runoff from construction sites; and, Implement BMPs and site-specific runoff controls and treatments.

Because the project site consists entirely of pervious surfaces, and once developed, the majority of the site will consist of impervious surfaces, the project has identified onsite drainage that will generally be directed to the bio infiltration basin, and other water quality control measures that will be developed as part of the project. The SWPPP would specify the BMPs that the project would be required to implement during construction activities to ensure that all potential water pollutants of concern are prevented from discharge, minimized, and/or otherwise appropriately treated prior to being discharged from the subject property. Furthermore, the proposed project must comply with the San Bernardino Countywide Plan requirement that developments creating 10,000 square feet or more of impervious area, and redevelopments adding or replacing 5,000 square feet or more of such area—must implement low-impact development (LID) BMPs to the maximum extent practicable in order to reduce the discharge of pollutants to receiving waters, and also must comply with San Bernardino County Development Code Chapter 83.15, which provides requirements to ensure compliance with projects subject to water quality management plans. With implementation of these mandatory Plans and their BMPs, regulatory requirements identified by the Countywide Plan and Development Code, as well as **MM HAZ-3** above, the development of project will not cause a violation of any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements.

b. *Less Than Significant Impact* – The project does not propose the installation of any water wells that would directly extract groundwater, though the project would result in a change in pervious surface area to impervious surfaces, given that the site previously contained Ayala Park, and has since been cleared and is vacant. However, the proposed project would direct stormwater to an onsite bio infiltration basin that would enable percolation that would continue to contribute to groundwater recharge. The County requires BMPs that minimize impervious area, so even the areas that would be developed with pavement would be required to contain pervious pavers or other mechanisms to allow for infiltration within the site. The project site is located in the Chino Groundwater Basin (**Figure X-1**). The MMWC services the northwestern corner of Bloomington area is in the eastern portion of the Chino Groundwater Basin. MMWC prepared a domestic water availability study and report to assess the water demand and supply conditions with implementation of the Specific Plan. Within the context of MMWC's projected groundwater consumption through 2035, the proposed project demand would represent less than 0.1% of anticipated demands in its service area. This is based on the fact that the Valley Corridor Specific Plan (VCSP) Environmental Impact Report (EIR) indicated that the water demand for the proposed development of the Specific Plan area would increase demand by 257-acre feet per year (AFY). In this context, MMWC determined that it will be able to meet the increased water demanded by development associated with the VCSP. The San Bernardino County Animal Care Center is anticipated to demand about 6.14 AFY, which, in the context of available supply could be accommodated. Furthermore, as the proposed project would contribute a new use to a site that was formerly served with water service in support of Ayala Park, which utilized an estimated 17 AFY of water in support of park operations when it was operational, the addition of the proposed San Bernardino County Animal Care Center at this site is would not exceed this former site use water demand, such that the groundwater supply would be significantly impacted. This is because the proposed project is anticipated to demand only about 6.14 AFY in support of the project. The main water utilizing sources on site would be the car wash, employee break rooms, staff showers, animal intake grooming, landscaping and restroom facilities. The project will install onsite landscaping that is required to abide by the County Code, Chapter 83.10, which pertains to water efficiency standards.

Thus, given the minimal demand for water supply to the project site, the projected demand for potable water by the project would be well below the amount of water MMWC produces per capita per day. Thus, given that minimal interference with groundwater recharge would occur due to infiltration requirements by the County, the construction of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project is not forecast to cause a significant impact to groundwater recharge or groundwater supply. The potential impact under this proposed project is considered less than significant; no mitigation measures other than the installation of standard water conservation fixtures and use of drought resistant landscaping are required; these measures have been incorporated into the design for the project.

c. i. Result in substantial erosion or siltation onsite or offsite?

Less Than Significant Impact – The proposed project is not anticipated to significantly change the volume of flows downstream of the project site, and would not be anticipated to change the amount of surface water in any water body in an amount that could initiate a new cycle of erosion or sedimentation downstream of the project site. During construction, the project must comply with San Bernardino County Development Code Section 85.11.030, which requires standard erosion control practices to be implemented for all construction. Additionally, as discussed in the San Bernardino Countywide Plan, construction sites are required to prepare and implement a SWPPP in accordance with the requirements of the statewide Construction General Permit and are subject to the oversight of the Santa Ana RWQCB. The SWPPP must include BMPs to reduce or eliminate erosion and sedimentation from soil-disturbing activities, as well as proper materials and waste management.

The onsite drainage system will capture the incremental increase in runoff from the project site associated with project development. The WQMP specifies that the site would be approximately 70% impervious, and onsite surface flows will be collected and conveyed in a controlled manner through the project site. The project will require installation of drainage inlets at several locations within the

project site and installation of an infiltration basin towards the southern site boundary, in addition the project may include other LID features including catch basin filters, perforated infiltration chambers, pervious pavement, and other water quality control measures as required by the site specific WQMP. This system will be designed to capture the peak 100-year flow runoff from the project site or otherwise be detained on site and discharged in conformance with County requirements. The downstream drainage system will not be altered and given the control of future surface runoff from the project site, thus, the potential for downstream erosion or sedimentation will be controlled to a less than significant impact level.

c. ii. Substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding onsite or offsite?

Less Than Significant Impact – The proposed project will alter the existing drainage courses or patterns onsite but will maintain the existing offsite downstream drainage system through control of future discharges from the site, which would prevent flooding onsite or offsite from occurring. The WQMP specifies that the site would be approximately 70% impervious, and onsite surface flows will be collected and conveyed in a controlled manner through the project site. The project will require installation of drainage inlets at several locations within the project site and installation of an infiltration basin towards the southern site boundary, in addition the project may include other LID features including catch basin filters, perforated infiltration chambers, pervious pavement, and other water quality control measures as required by the site specific WQMP. Per the Hydrology Study and Drainage Analysis (Appendix 10b), and per the San Bernardino County Hydrology Manual, developed sites shall not increase existing condition flow rate. In order to meet mitigation requirements per "San Bernardino County Detention Basin Design Criteria" post-development peak flow rates generated by the site shall be less than or equal to 90% of the pre-development peak flow rate based on shifting the rainfall values for the 10-year, 25-year and 100-years storms, providing a least a 50% confidence level that the detention basin outflow will not adversely impact downstream properties. Mitigation of the 10, 25 & 100-year storm can be achieved with the use of an underground storm water chamber with a minimum capacity of 0.6920 AF, having the properties as shown on Table 10 of the Hydrology Study and Drainage Analysis (Appendix 10b). The chamber will be equipped with an 8" overflow pipe sloped at 1% located at the bottom of the system. For mitigation of the 2-year storm, implementation of the project specific Preliminary WQMP (Appendix 10a) is required. Implementation of the WQMP is a mandatory requirement. Thus, through implementation of the BMPs specified in the WQMP, the development of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center will not have a negative impact on downstream properties or facilities. Thus, the implementation of onsite drainage improvements and applicable requirements will ensure that stormwater runoff will not substantially increase the rate or volume of runoff in a manner that would result in flooding on- or off-site. Impacts under this issue are considered less than significant with no mitigation required.

c. 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?

Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated – The proposed project will alter the site such that stormwater runoff within the site will be increased, but will maintain the existing off-site downstream drainage system through control of future discharges from the site to be equivalent to the current conditions. This would prevent the project from exceeding the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems and from providing substantial additional sources of polluted runoff. The development of the project site would collect and convey on site flows in a controlled manner such that runoff will be collected and allowed to infiltrate on site. As such, onsite surface flows will be collected and conveyed in a controlled manner through the project site. The WQMP specifies that the site would be approximately 70% impervious. The LID BMP selected to meet WQMP requirements is an underground infiltration system. Thus, the project will be designed to meet LID requirements, and will implement other water quality control measures. Varying amounts of urban pollutants, such as motor oil, antifreeze, gasoline, pesticides, detergents, trash, animal wastes, and fertilizers, could be introduced into downstream stormwater within the watershed. However, the proposed project is not anticipated to generate discharges that would require pollution controls

beyond those already incorporated into the project design and/or required by the County as a standard operating procedure to meet water quality management requirements from the RWQCB. As such, the project is not anticipated to result in a significant adverse impact to water quality or flows downstream of the project with implementation of mitigation outlined below.

The County has adopted stringent best management practices designed to control discharge of non-point source pollution that could result in a significant adverse impact to surface water quality. Although BMPs are mandatory for the project to comply with established pollutant discharge requirements, the following mitigation measure is designed to establish a performance standard to ensure that the degree of water quality control is adequate to ensure the project does not contribute significantly to downstream water quality degradation.

HYD-1 ***The project proponent will select best management practices from the range of practices identified by the County and reduce future non-point source pollution in surface water runoff discharges from the site to the maximum extent practicable, both during construction and following development. The Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) and Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP) shall be submitted to the County for review and approval prior to ground disturbance and the identified BMPs installed in accordance with schedules contained in these documents.***

Compliance will also be ensured through fulfilling the requirements of a SWPPP and WQMP monitored by the County and the RWQCB, and through the implementation of **MM HAZ-3**, which will ensure that discharge of polluted material does not occur or is remediated in the event of an accidental spill. The SWPPP must incorporate the BMPs that meet the performance standard established in **MM HYD-1** for construction, while the WQMP would incorporate BMPs that would apply to the operation stages of the project. Thus, the implementation of onsite drainage improvements and applicable requirements will ensure that that drainage and stormwater will not create or contribute runoff that would exceed the capacity of existing or planned offsite stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff. Impacts under this issue are considered less than significant with mitigation required.

c. iv. Impede or redirect flood flows?

Less Than Significant Impact – According to the County of San Bernardino General Plan 100-Year Floodplain Map (**Figure X-2**), the proposed project is not located in a 100-year or 500-year flood hazard area. Furthermore, redevelopment of this site is not anticipated to redirect or impede flood flow at the project site, particularly given that surface flows on site will be directed to the onsite drainage features which will be capable of intercepting the peak 100-year flow rate from the project site or otherwise be detained on site and discharged in conformance with San Bernardino County requirements. Therefore, impacts under this issue are considered less than significant and no mitigation is required.

d. *Less Than Significant Impact* – Implementation of the project will not expose people or structures to a significant risk of inundation by seiche, tsunami, or other flood hazards. According to the Countywide Plan Dam & Basin Hazards Map (**Figure X-3**), the project is not located within the limit of flooded area of a nearby dam. The project is located more than 45 miles from the Pacific Ocean, which eliminates the potential for a tsunami to impact the project area. Seiches are large waves generated in enclosed bodies of water in response to ground shaking. Additionally, a seiche would not occur within the vicinity of the project because no lakes or enclosed bodies of water exist near the site that could be impacted by such an event. This is further confirmed by the Geotechnical investigation, which states that a review of the area adjacent to the site indicates that there are no significant up-gradient lakes or reservoirs with the potential of flooding the site. It is anticipated that through compliance with the County's Municipal Code and implementation of the onsite drainage system stipulated by the WQMP, inundation hazards within the County would be reduced to a level

of less than significant. Therefore, the potential to expose people or structures to a significant risk of pollutants due to inundation would be minimal. No mitigation is required.

e. *Less Than Significant Impact* – The project site is located in the Chino Groundwater Basin, which has been designated very low priority by the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). The SGMA empowers local agencies to form Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) to manage basins and requires GSAs to adopt Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs) for crucial groundwater basins in California. The SGMA "requires governments and water agencies of high and medium priority basins to halt overdraft and bring groundwater basins into balanced levels of pumping and recharge. Under SGMA, these basins should reach sustainability within 20 years of implementing their sustainability plans. For critically over-drafted basins, that will be 2040. For the remaining high and medium priority basins, 2042 is the deadline."[8] Given that the project is located within a basin that is considered very low priority, no conflict or obstruction of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan is anticipated. Furthermore, the Chino Basin is adjudicated, and the Chino Basin Watermaster (Watermaster)—a court created entity—was established to administer the Judgement. The Judgment adjudicated the groundwater rights of the Chino Basin, established the Watermaster to administer the Judgment, and contains a Physical Solution to meet the requirements of water users having rights in or dependent upon the Chino Basin. The proposed project would be supplied with water from MMWC, which is a stakeholder of the Chino Basin, and complies with the regulations set forth by the Watermaster and the Judgement. As such, the project would not conflict with a sustainable groundwater management plan. Water consumption and effects in the Basin indicate that the proposed project's water demand is considered to be minimal. By controlling water quality during construction and operations through implementation of both short- (SWPPP) and long- (WQMP) term best management practices at the site, no potential for conflict or obstruction of the Regional Board's water quality control plan has been identified.

[8] California Department of Water Resources, 2023. Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SMGA). https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management/SGMA-Groundwater-Management (accessed 05/07/24)

Issues	*Potentially Significant Impact*	*Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated*	*Less Than Significant Impact*	*No Impact*
XI. LAND USE AND PLANNING: Would the project:				
a) Physically divide an established community?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	☐	☒	☐	☐

XI. LAND USE AND PLANNING

SUBSTANTIATION:

Impact Analysis

a. *No Impact* – Refer to the aerial photos provided as **Figures 1 and 2,** which depict the project's regional and site-specific location. The project site is zoned for zoning classification is Valley Corridor/Bloomington Enterprise (VC/BE) and the General Plan land use designation is Special Development, as the proposed project is located within the VCSP area. The proposed project would occur within a site located in the unincorporated community of Bloomington in San Bernardino County. The proposed San Bernardino County Animal Care Center would be developed within an industrial and commercial corridor that extends along Valley Boulevard. The proposed use of this site would be consistent with the surrounding uses, and would result in reuse of the former Ayala Park, which was managed by the Bloomington Recreation and Park District. Uses surrounding the project site include a variety of commercial, industrial, and residential uses. Thus, the reuse of the presently vacant site to serve as a new County use would be consistent with the project site and uses in the surrounding area. Given that the development of the proposed project at this site would be consistent with and similar to the surrounding uses, development of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center at this location would be consistent with both the uses surrounding the project and the surrounding land use designations and zoning classifications and with the VCSP. Consequently, the development of the project site with the proposed use will not divide any established community in any manner. Therefore, no significant impacts under this issue are anticipated and no mitigation is necessary

b. *Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated* – The proposed project will develop the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center within a vacant site that formerly served as Ayala Park. The project site zoning classification is Valley Corridor/Bloomington Enterprise (VC/BE) and the General Plan land use designation is Special Development, as the proposed project is located within the VCSP area. The proposed project is located within the Valley Corridor Specific Plan area, which designates the project site for Bloomington Enterprise use. Per the Valley Corridor Specific Plan, the Bloomington Enterprise District promotes a wide range of office and light industrial businesses with development standards that accommodate entrepreneurs and business startups as well as medium-scale and more established operations and business complexes. Staggered development-intensity standards encourage the assemblage of parcels up to five acres in size that may attract greater investment while ensuring that startup businesses remain feasible on smaller parcels. The proposed project would be consistent with both land use designation and zoning classification, and furthermore would be consistent with the VCSP, with no specific plan amendments required in order to implement the proposed San Bernardino County Animal Care Center as designed. The County's approved Countywide Plan lists the following Goals and Policies under the Land Use Element:

Table XI-1
LAND USE CONSISTENCY

County Goals and Policies	Consistency Analysis
Goal LU-1 Growth and development that builds thriving communities, contributes to our Complete County, and is fiscally sustainable.	
Policy LU-1.1 Growth We support growth and development that is fiscally sustainable for the County. We accommodate growth in the unincorporated county when it benefits existing communities, provides a regional housing option for rural lifestyles, or supports the regional economy.	**Consistent.** The proposed project would relocate all small animal care services from the Devore Animal Shelter to the proposed project site. The proposed project site would support the County's goals in continuing to provide excellent animal care services to County residents. The community expects the new facility to meet current industry standards for animal housing, care and welfare. The County envisions the facility to be a welcoming community centric facility that will encourage residents to consider supporting the animal welfare programs offered at this location, volunteer and collaborate with the County to address pet over-population and assist in adopting or supporting pet adoption efforts. As the proposed project is intended to expand animal care services within the County, and would benefit the existing communities. Based on these findings, the implementation of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would be consistent with Policy LU-1.1
Policy LU-1.2 Infill development We prefer new development to take place on existing vacant and underutilized lots where public services and infrastructure are available.	**Consistent.** The area surrounding the project site has been developed with commercial, industrial, and residential uses. The project site is zoned for VC/BE under the VCSP, and the proposed project would be consistent with this zoning classification. As the site formerly served as Ayala Park, and therefore all utilities are available to serve the project site. Based on these findings, the implementation of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would be consistent with Policy LU-1.2.
Goal LU-2 An arrangement of land uses that balances the lifestyle of existing residents, the needs of future generations, opportunities for commercial and industrial development, and the value of the natural environment.	
Policy LU-2.1 Compatibility with existing uses We require that new development is located, scaled, buffered, and designed to minimize negative impacts on existing conforming uses and adjacent neighborhoods. We also require that new residential developments are located, scaled, buffered, and designed so as to not hinder the viability and continuity of existing conforming nonresidential development.	**Consistent.** The proposed project is designated for VC/BE under the VCSP. The surrounding uses are also designated for VC/BE use under the VCSP, with industrial, commercial, and residential uses therein. Based on the project's compatibility with the Countywide Plan and VCSP, in addition to the compatibility with the surrounding uses upon approval of the Special Use Permit for commercial kennel in compliance with Chapter 85.14 of the San Bernardino Development Code, the implementation of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would be consistent with Policy LU-2.1.
Policy LU-2.4 Land Use Map consistency We consider proposed development that is consistent with the Land Use Map (i.e., it does not require a change in Land Use Category), to be generally compatible and consistent with surrounding land uses and a community's identity. Additional site, building, and landscape design treatment, per other policies in the Policy Plan and development standards in the Development Code, may be required to maximize compatibility with surrounding land uses and community identity.	**Consistent.** The proposed project is designated for VC/BE under the VCSP. The surrounding uses include residential, industrial, and commercial uses, with the I-10 freeway to the south of the project site. The proposed project would be scaled appropriate with the VC/BE land use designation. The proposed project would be consistent with the underlying land use designation and with the surrounding land uses. Based on these findings, the implementation of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would be consistent with Policy LU-2.4.

County Goals and Policies	Consistency Analysis
Policy LU-2.10 Unincorporated commercial development We intend that new commercial development in the unincorporated areas serve unincorporated residential areas, tourists, and/or freeway travelers. We encourage new commercial development to be concentrated to enhance pedestrian circulation and reduce vehicular congestion and vehicle miles traveled, with new development directed into existing centralized areas when possible.	**Consistent.** As discussed above, the proposed project would relocate small animal care services from the Devore Animal Shelter, which is in a more remote location from major population centers that the Shelter is intended to serve. The proposed project is located adjacent to the I-10 freeway, and as such, is located in an area with access to major means of circulation. The Bloomington site is more centrally located and better suited to serve the cities and county areas in the Valley Region of San Bernardino County. As the majority of the operations that are more commonly used are moving to the Bloomington site, it has the potential to shorten the distance that visitors would otherwise have to travel to the County animal care service facility. In addition, the veterinary clinic and pet adoption will provide community services for residents in the area which also has the potential to shorten vehicle trips. Both the Animal Clinic's more centrally located site and the services it will provide have the potential to result in a reduction in VMT. Furthermore, the VMT per service population of the project area is below the County's adopted impact threshold of 4% below the existing VMT per service population or 26.78 VMT per service population. Thus, the Low VMT Area Screening is met. Based on these findings, the implementation of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would be consistent with Policy LU-2.10.
Policy LU-2.12 Office and industrial development in the Valley region We encourage office and industrial uses in the unincorporated Valley region in order to promote a countywide jobs-housing balance.	**Consistent.** The proposed project is a mixed use development with office and commercial uses proposed to make up the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project consistent with the VC/BE designation and zoning classification under the VCSP. As the proposed project would expand animal care services and would create about 17 new worker positions, the implementation of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would be consistent with Policy LU-2.12.
Goal LU-4 Preservation and enhancement of unique community identities and their relationship with the natural environment	
Policy LU-4.3 Native or drought-tolerant landscaping We require new development, when outside of high and very high fire hazard severity zones, to install and maintain drought-tolerant landscaping and encourage the use of native species.	**Consistent.** The project area is not located in a very high fire hazard severity zone, and will install native or drought tolerant landscaping that would cover about 10% of the project site consistent with this policy. Based on these findings, the implementation of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would be consistent with Policy LU-4.3.
Policy LU-4.5 Community identity We require that new development be consistent with and reinforce the physical and historical character and identity of our unincorporated communities, as described in Table LU-3 and in the values section of Community Action Guides. In addition, we consider the aspirations section of Community Action Guides in our review of new development. A. Reduce the rate of crime in Bloomington relative to defined comparison communities B. Eliminate zoning and code violations, reduce non-conformities, and ensure compliance with use permit conditions to protect the investments made by residents, property owners, and business owners.	**Consistent**. Based on the Community Action Guidelines for the Community of Bloomington, the proposed project would not hinder achieving these goals, though many are not applicable to the proposed project. The proposed project will not include the kind of uses or activities that would likely attract criminal activity, except for random trespass and/or theft; however, any random trespass is unlikely given that the only the public facing portions of the proposed facility would not be fenced to control access and the type of activities proposed would not typically attract criminal activities. As discussed above, the proposed project would be consistent with the zoning

County Goals and Policies	Consistency Analysis
C. Facilitate the provision of sewer infrastructure and sewage treatment capacity to accommodate additional residential and business development in areas of Bloomington planned for more intense development. D. Evaluate the feasibility and potential effectiveness of establishing truck routes to lessen traffic congestion and to reduce damage to roadways, and, if feasible, adopt designated truck routes, establish a program to upgrade truck route roadways, and prohibit truck traffic on non-truck route roads. E. Generate revenue to offset impacts of new development in Bloomington by establishing new development impact fees and financing districts, and also restricting the use of that revenue to improvements in Bloomington. F. Reduce incidence of health issues related to air quality by providing or expanding targeted programs—such as expansion of the breath-mobile, in-home health consultations, and air filters for sensitive receptors.	classification and with the San Bernardino County Development Code. The proposed project would not introduce a significant number of trucks to the project area (only 14 trash trucks trips would be generated by the proposed project). The proposed project would contribute sales tax to the generate revenue for the County. The proposed project also would not generate significant air quality. Based on these findings, the implementation of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would be consistent with Policy LU-4.5.
Goal NR-1 Air quality that promotes health and wellness of residents in San Bernardino County through improvements in locally-generated emissions	
Policy NR-1.1 Land use We promote compact and transit-oriented development countywide and regulate the types and locations of development in unincorporated areas to minimize vehicle miles traveled and greenhouse gas emissions.	**Consistent.** As discussed under Policy LU-2.10, the proposed project would relocate small animal care services from the Devore Animal Shelter, which is in a more remote location from major population centers that the Shelter is intended to serve. The Bloomington site is more centrally located, and it has the potential to shorten the distance that visitors would otherwise have to travel to the County animal care service facility. In addition, the veterinary clinic and pet adoption will provide community services for residents in the area which also has the potential to shorten vehicle trips. Both the Animal Clinic's more centrally located site and the services it will provide have the potential to result in a reduction in VMT. Furthermore, the VMT per service population of the project area is below the County's adopted impact threshold of 4% below the existing VMT per service population or 26.78 VMT per service population. Thus, the Low VMT Area Screening is met. Based on these findings, the implementation of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would be consistent with Policy NR-1.1.
Policy NR-1.2 Indoor air quality We promote the improvement of indoor air quality through the California Building and Energy Codes and through the provision of public health programs and services.	**Consistent**. Refer to the discussion under Subchapter VI, Energy. The proposed project would be consistent with the California Building and Energy Codes. The proposed project would not hinder the implementation of public health programs and services, nor would it implement them. Based on these findings, the implementation of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would be consistent with Policy NR-1.2.
Policy NR-1.6 Fugitive dust emissions We coordinate with air quality management districts on requirements for dust control plans, revegetation, and soil compaction to prevent fugitive dust emissions.	**Consistent**. The proposed project would be developed consistent with the SCAQMD Rule 402, which regulates the emission of fugitive dust. Additionally, the proposed project would implement **MM AQ-1**, which would stipulate dust control reduction measures that would be implemented during construction. Based on these findings, the implementation of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would be consistent with Policy NR-1.6.

County Goals and Policies	Consistency Analysis
Policy NR-1.7 Greenhouse gas reduction targets We strive to meet the 2040 and 2050 greenhouse gas emission reduction targets in accordance with state law.	**Consistent.** The proposed project would generate GHG emissions from construction and operation at approximately 897.53 MTCO2e/yr. This would be below the SCAQMD significance threshold of 3,000 MTCO2e per year for commercial projects. Thus, as a singular project, the proposed project would not hinder the County from meeting the 2040 and 2050 greenhouse gas emission reduction targets in accordance with state law. Based on these findings, the implementation of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would be consistent with Policy NR-1.7.
Policy NR-1.8 Construction and operations We invest in County facilities and fleet vehicles to improve energy efficiency and reduce emissions. We encourage County contractors and other builders and developers to use low-emission construction vehicles and equipment to improve air quality and reduce emissions.	**Consistent.** The proposed project would be constructed consistent with the California Building and Energy Codes, which would improve energy efficiency and reduce emissions when compared to the existing Devore Animal Shelter facility. Furthermore, the proposed San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would be solar ready, though solar will not be immediately installed. The proposed project would also be subject to VCSP **MMs AQ-1 and AQ-4**, which would require construction vehicles in support of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project to be low emission vehicles, and new operational fleet vehicles in support of the project shall be EV or hybrid, where available for the specific vehicle type needed to support operations. Based on these findings, the implementation of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would be consistent with Policy NR-1.8.
Policy NR-1.9 Building design and upgrades We use the CALGreen Code to meet energy efficiency standards for new buildings and encourage the upgrading of existing buildings to incorporate design elements, building materials, and fixtures that improve environmental sustainability and reduce emissions.	**Consistent.** The proposed project would be constructed consistent with the CALGreen Code to meet energy efficiency standards. Furthermore, as discussed previously, the proposed project would not exceed emissions thresholds for any criteria pollutant or for GHG. Based on these findings, the implementation of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would be consistent with Policy NR-1.9.
Goal NR-2 Clean and safe water for human consumption and the natural environment	
Policy NR-2.2 Water management plans We support the development, update, and implementation of ground and surface water quality management plans emphasizing the protection of water quality from point and non-point source pollution.	**Consistent.** The proposed project has prepared a WQMP, and would implement the standards therein, in addition to those found in the SWPPP, applicable to construction. The project will require installation of drainage inlets at several locations within the project site and installation of an infiltration basin towards the southern site boundary, in addition the project may include other LID features including catch basin filters, perforated infiltration chambers, pervious pavement, and other water quality control measures as required by the site specific WQMP. Based on these findings, the implementation of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would be consistent with Policy NR-2.2.
Policy NR-2.5 Stormwater discharge We ensure compliance with the County's Municipal Stormwater NPDES (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) Permit by requiring new development and significant redevelopment to protect the quality of water and drainage systems through site	**Consistent.** As discussed under Policy NR-2.2, to address stormwater and accidental spills within this environment, any new project must ensure that site development implements a SWPPP and an NPDES to control potential sources of water pollution that could violate any standards or discharge requirements

County Goals and Policies	Consistency Analysis
design, source controls, stormwater treatment, runoff reduction measures, best management practices, low impact development strategies, and technological advances. For existing development, we monitor businesses and coordinate with municipalities.	during construction and a WQMP—which has been prepared and is provided as Appendix 10a to this Initial Study—to ensure that project-related after development surface runoff meets discharge requirements over the short- and long-term. Additionally, the proposed project would comply with Countywide Plan Per RR HYD-3. Compliance will also be ensured through the implementation of **MM HAZ-3**, which will ensure that discharge of polluted material does not occur or is remediated in the event of an accidental spill. The SWPPP must incorporate the BMPs that meet the performance standard established in **MM HYD-1** for construction, while the WQMP would incorporate BMPs that would apply to the operation stages of the project. Based on these findings, the implementation of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would be consistent with Policy NR-2.5.
Goal NR-5 An interconnected landscape of open spaces and habitat areas that promotes biodiversity and healthy ecosystems, both for their intrinsic value and for the value placed on them by residents and visitors.	
Policy NR-5.7 Development review, entitlement, and mitigation We comply with state and federal regulations regarding protected species of animals and vegetation through the development review, entitlement, and environmental clearance processes.	**Consistent**. The proposed project would not result in any impacts to protected species of animals and vegetation. Based on these findings, the implementation of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would be consistent with Policy NR-5.7.
Policy NR-5.8 Invasive species We require the use of non-invasive plant species with new development and encourage the management of existing invasive plant species that degrade ecological function.	**Consistent**. The proposed project would utilize drought tolerant and native landscaping. No invasive species would be utilized in support of the proposed project. Based on these findings, the implementation of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would be consistent with Policy NR-5.8.
Goal NR-6 Mineral resource zones that allow extraction industries to continue supporting the regional and national economy while minimizing negative impacts on the public and natural environment	
Policy NR-6.1 Mineral resource areas We prioritize the conservation of land area with mineral resources by prohibiting or discouraging development of land that would substantially preclude the future development of mining facilities in areas classified as Mineral Resource Zone (MRZ) 2a, 2b, or 3a.	**Consistent**. The proposed project is located within the MRZ-2 zone—known or highly likely location—for aggregate resources. However, the proposed project formerly served as Ayala Park, and as such, given that that has not served as a mining operation in the past, and that the site is not designated for such use under the Countywide Plan or VCSP, it is not anticipated that the development of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would have a potential to impact the conservation of mineral resources. Development of the project site as the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would not preclude future use of the site for extraction of mineral resources should land use circumstances change in the future. Based on these findings, the implementation of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would be consistent with Policy NR-6.1.
Goal RE-1 The County will pursue energy efficiency tools and conservation practices that optimize the benefits of renewable energy	
Policy RE-1.1 Continue implementing the energy conservation and efficiency measures identified in the County of San Bernardino Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Plan.	**Consistent**. The proposed project would be developed with many construction and design attributes that would facilitate increases in energy efficiencies and a corresponding decrease in GHG emissions. The following design attributes and elements of the project have been formulated based on the following fundamental objectives:

County Goals and Policies	Consistency Analysis
	• Conservation of natural resources; • Wise use of energy; • Improvement of indoor air quality; and, • Achievement of livable communities The proposed project would not result in significant GHG emissions. Based on these findings, the implementation of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would be consistent with Policy RE-1.1.
Policy RE-1.2 Optimize energy efficiency in the built environment RE 1.2.1: Support low- to no-cost retrofits to improve energy efficiency of existing homes through grant and loan programs. RE 1.2.2: Encourage property owners to participate in a PACE program for access to energy efficiency retrofit financing. RE 1.2.3: Encourage utilities to expand free to low-cost audit and retrofit programs in the built environments. RE 1.2.4: Work with utilities (Southern California Edison (SCE), Southern California Gas Company (SCG), etc.) to identify retrofit opportunities with short payback periods, such as variable-speed pool pumps, building air sealing, and attic insulation, for County use in conducting focused energy efficiency outreach. RE 1.2.5: Collaborate with community partners to promote the benefits of energy efficiency to County residents, businesses, and industries. RE 1.2.6: Encourage new development to comply with the optional energy efficiency measures of the CALGreen Code. RE 1.2.7: Encourage passive solar design in subdivision and design review processes.	**Consistent**. As previously stated, the proposed project would comply with the CALGreen Code, and would be solar ready. Based on these findings, the implementation of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would be consistent with Policy RE-1.2.
Goal RE-3 Community-oriented renewable energy facilities will be prioritized to complement local values and support a high quality of life in unincorporated communities	
Policy RE-3.1 Prioritize, facilitate, and encourage onsite accessory RE generation to serve the unincorporated county, with a primary focus on rooftop and parking lot solar energy generation. RE 3.1.1: Permit rooftop, parking lot, and similar accessory RE generation facilities that primarily serve on-site energy needs in all zoning districts, including micro-grid systems, with minimal regulation and permitting requirements.	**Consistent.** As previously stated, the proposed project would be solar ready. Based on these findings, the implementation of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would be consistent with Policy RE-1.2.
Goal IU-1 Water supply and infrastructure are sufficient for the needs of residents and businesses and are resilient to drought	
Policy IU-1.1 Water supply We require that new development be connected to a public water system or a County-approved well to ensure a clean and resilient supply of potable water, even during cases of prolonged drought.	**Consistent.** The proposed project would connect to MMWC's water system through an existing connection that served the former site use, Ayala Park. MMWC has indicated that it has available supply to serve development consistent with the VCSP. The proposed project would be consistent with the VCSP, and would fall within the context of the contemplated demand and supply for water within the VCSP. Based on these findings, the implementation of the San Bernardino

County Goals and Policies	Consistency Analysis
	County Animal Care Center Project would be consistent with Policy IU-1.1.
Policy IU-1.9 Water conservation We encourage water conserving site design and the use of water conserving fixtures, and advocate for the adoption and implementation of water conservation strategies by water service agencies. For existing County-owned facilities, we incorporate design elements, building materials, fixtures, and landscaping that reduce water consumption, as funding is available.	**Consistent.** The proposed project would be outfitted with water conserving fixtures and would utilize native and drought tolerant landscaping to minimize water use by landscaping. Interior water conservation fixtures consistent with this policy would be incorporated into the proposed project. Based on these findings, the implementation of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would be consistent with Policy IU-1.1.
Goal IU-3 A regional stormwater drainage backbone and local stormwater facilities in unincorporated areas that reduce the risk of flooding	
Policy IU-3.1 Regional flood control We maintain a regional flood control system and regularly evaluate the need for and implement upgrades based on changing land coverage and hydrologic conditions in order to manage and reduce flood risk. We require any public and private projects proposed anywhere in the county to address and mitigate any adverse impacts on the carrying capacity and stormwater velocity of regional stormwater drainage systems.	**Consistent.** There is a flood control system that borders the project site to the south, adjacent to the I-10. The proposed project would not impact the existing flows to this flood control facility. The project would manage stormwater flows onsite, and therefore is not anticipated to discharge to this flood control channel. Based on these findings, the implementation of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would not conflict with Policy IU-1.1.
Policy IU-3.2 Local flood control We require new development to install and maintain stormwater management facilities that maintain predevelopment hydrology and hydraulic conditions.	**Consistent.** To address flood flows, the proposed project would implement a SWPPP and an NPDES to control potential sources of water pollution that could violate any standards or discharge requirements during construction and a WQMP—which has been prepared and is provided as Appendix 10a to this Initial Study—to ensure that project-related after development surface runoff meets discharge requirements over the short- and long-term. Additionally, the proposed project would comply with Countywide Plan Per RR HYD-3. Compliance will also be ensured through the implementation of **MM HAZ-3**, which will ensure that discharge of polluted material does not occur or is remediated in the event of an accidental spill. The SWPPP must incorporate the BMPs that meet the performance standard established in **MM HYD-1** for construction, while the WQMP would incorporate BMPs that would apply to the operation stages of the project. Based on these findings, the implementation of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would be consistent with Policy NR-2.5.
Goal IU-4 Adequate regional landfill capacity that provides for the safe disposal of solid waste, and efficient waste diversion and collection for unincorporated areas.	
Policy IU-4.3 Waste diversion We shall meet or exceed state waste diversion requirements, augment future landfill capacity, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions and use of natural resources through the reduction, reuse, or recycling of solid waste.	**Consistent.** As this project would be developed after 2022, the County would be required to comply with SB 1383, which establishes methane reduction targets for California. California SB 1383 sets goals to reduce disposal of organic waste in landfills, including edible food. The project also must comply with the County's mandatory source reduction and recycling program, which mandates 75% of solid waste be diverted and recycled per the state's solid waste diversion requirements under AB 939 and AB 341. Based on these findings, the implementation of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would be consistent with Policy IU-4.3.

County Goals and Policies	Consistency Analysis
Goal IU-5 Unincorporated area residents and businesses have access to reliable power and communication systems	
Policy IU-5.6 Dig once approach We encourage infrastructure, telecommunication, and utility planning and projects to coordinate so that improvements are made concurrently or in such a manner that minimizes disruption to rights-of-way and reduces costs.	**Consistent.** The proposed project would install utility improvements consistent with and to the satisfaction of the utility provider. The installation of utilities would occur commensurate with the dig once approach to minimize disruption of rights-of-way, as applicable. Based on these findings, the implementation of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would be consistent with Policy IU-5.6.
Goal CR-1 Tribal cultural resources that are preserved and celebrated out of respect for Native American beliefs and traditions	
Policy CR-1.1 Tribal notification and coordination We notify and coordinate with tribal representatives in accordance with state and federal laws to strengthen our working relationship with area tribes, avoid inadvertent discoveries of Native American archaeological sites and burials, assist with the treatment and disposition of inadvertent discoveries, and explore options of avoidance of cultural resources early in the planning process.	**Consistent.** The County submitted AB 52 notification letters to the following tribes on June 28, 2023: Colorado River Indian Tribes, Fort Mojave Indian Tribe, Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation, Morongo Band of Mission Indians, San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians, Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians, and Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation. The consultation outcome is described under Subchapter XVIII, Tribal Cultural Resources. Based on these findings, the implementation of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would be consistent with Policy CR-1.1.
Policy CR-1.3 Mitigation and avoidance We consult with local tribes to establish appropriate project-specific mitigation measures and resource-specific treatment of potential cultural resources. We require project applicants to design projects to avoid known tribal cultural resources, whenever possible. If avoidance is not possible, we require appropriate mitigation to minimize project impacts on tribal cultural resources.	**Consistent.** During the initial 30-day consultation period, responses were received from the Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation and the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation. **MMs TCR-1** through **TCR-5** are required to minimize impacts to important tribal resources, and these mitigation measures were drafted by the Tribes. Based on these findings, the implementation of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would not conflict with Policy CR-1.3.
Policy CR-1.4 Resource monitoring We encourage active participation by local tribes as monitors in surveys, testing, excavation, and grading phases of development projects with potential impacts on tribal resources.	**Consistent.** As stated above, During the initial 30-day consultation period, responses were received from the Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation and the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation. Monitoring to protect tribal resources important to the Kizh Nation has been proposed as part of **MMs TCR-3** and **TCR-5,** and monitoring by the Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation would only occur if resources are discovered during construction. Based on these findings, the implementation of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would not conflict with Policy CR-1.4.
Goal CR-2 Historic resources (buildings, structures, or archaeological resources) and paleontological resources that are protected and preserved for their cultural importance to local communities as well as their research and educational potential.	
Policy CR-2.3 Paleontological and archaeological resources We strive to protect paleontological and archaeological resources from loss or destruction by requiring that new development include appropriate mitigation to preserve the quality and integrity of these resources. We require new development to avoid paleontological and archeological resources whenever possible. If avoidance is not possible, we require the salvage and preservation of paleontological and archeological resources.	**Consistent.** The proposed project is completely vacant. The San Bernardino Countywide Plan for indicates that the proposed project area is located in a low-to-high sensitivity area for paleontological resources. The County requires that projects located within areas that have been delineated as low-to-high sensitivity for paleontological resources by the County General Plan (**Figure VII-3**) meet the requirements of its **MM** CUL-5, which is reinforced through project **MM GEO-4**. Based on these findings, the implementation of the San

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	Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would be consistent with Policy CR-2.3.
Goal TM-1 Unincorporated areas served by roads with capacity that is adequate for residents, businesses, tourists, and emergency services	
Policy TM-1.1 Roadway level of service (LOS) We require our roadways to be built to achieve the following minimum level of service standards during peak commute periods (typically 7:00-9:00 AM and 4:00-6:00 PM on a weekday): • LOS D in the Valley Region • LOS D in the Mountain Region • LOS C in the North and East Desert Regions	**Consistent.** The proposed project would contribute less than 100 trips per day during both construction and operation of the proposed project, and therefore falls below the County's threshold for requiring an LOS analysis. Based on the proposed project's minimal trip generated, it would not have a potential to reduce LOS at any intersection. Based on these findings, the implementation of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would be consistent with Policy TM-1.1.
Goal TM-3 A pattern of development and transportation system that minimizes vehicle miles traveled	
Policy TM-3.1 VMT reduction We promote new development that will reduce household and employment VMT relative to existing conditions.	**Consistent.** Refer to the discussion under Policy LU-2.10 and Policy NR-1.1. As discussed under Policy LU-2.10 and Policy NR-1.1, the proposed project has the potential to shorten the distance that visitors would otherwise have to travel to the County animal care service facility. In addition, the veterinary clinic and pet adoption will provide community services for residents in the area which also has the potential to shorten vehicle trips. Both the Animal Clinic's more centrally located site and the services it will provide have the potential to result in a reduction in VMT. Furthermore, the VMT per service population of the project area is below the County's adopted impact threshold of 4% below the existing VMT per service population or 26.78 VMT per service population. Thus, the Low VMT Area Screening is met. Based on these findings, the implementation of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would be consistent with Policy TM-3.1.
Policy TM-3.2 Trip reduction strategies We support the implementation of transportation demand management techniques, mixed use strategies, and the placement of development in proximity to job and activity centers to reduce the number and length of vehicular trips.	**Consistent.** The proposed project would have a potential to reduce trip length to obtain animal care services, as the distance that visitors would otherwise have to travel to the County animal care service facility would be shortened in relationship to the County population centers, as discussed above. Based on these findings, the implementation of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would be consistent with Policy TM-3.2.
Goal TM-4 On- and off-street improvements that provide functional alternatives to private car usage and promote active transportation in mobility focus areas	
Policy TM-4.5 Transit access to job centers and tourist destinations We support and work with local transit agencies to generate public transportation systems that provide access to job centers and reduce congestion in tourist destinations in unincorporated areas.	**Consistent.** The project site is located within the service area of Omnitrans, though no routes serve the project site at present. However, the area surrounding the project is served by the 19, which traverses San Bernardino Avenue at Locust to the north of Valley Boulevard in the project area, which is within about one mile of the project site. The proposed project may demand transit service to the project site, as the proposed project site would provide a public service, and the transit routes do allow pets to ride the bus if in a secure carrier. However, it is anticipated that the former park use of the site would have had a comparable demand for transit services, given that the park also was a public service that could demand visits from County and area residents who utilize

County Goals and Policies	Consistency Analysis
	alternative modes of transportation. As such, the demand for transit at the proposed project site is anticipated to be sufficiently served by existing transit routes. However, transit service is reviewed and updated by Omnitrans periodically to address ridership, budget, and community demand needs, consistent with Policy TM-4.5. Based on these findings, the implementation of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would be consistent with Policy TM-4.5.
Policy TM-4.8 Local bicycle and pedestrian networks We support local bike and pedestrian facilities that serve unincorporated areas, connect to facilities in adjacent incorporated areas, and connect to regional trails. We prioritize bicycle and pedestrian network improvements that provide safe and continuous pedestrian and bicycle access to mobility focus areas, schools, parks, and major transit stops.	**Consistent.** The project site is located along valley Boulevard, which allows for this segment of Valley Boulevard does not currently provide for a bike lane, though ultimately, the County plans to install a Class II Bike Lane as shown on **Figure XVII-2**, the Countywide Future Bicycle Facilities Map.
Policy TM-4.11 Parking areas We require publicly accessible parking areas to ensure that pedestrians and bicyclists can safely access the site and onsite businesses from the public right-of-way.	**Consistent.** The project would provide the County required number of public facing and worker accessible parking spaces. The site would be designed in compliance with the American disabilities Act (ADA). Based on these findings, the implementation of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would be consistent with Policy TM-4.11.
Goal HZ-1 Minimized risk of injury, loss of life, property damage, and economic and social disruption caused by natural environmental hazards and adaptation to potential changes in climate.	
Policy HZ-1.2 New development in environmental hazard areas We require all new development to be located outside of the environmental hazard areas listed below. For any lot or parcel that does not have sufficient buildable area outside of such hazard areas, we require adequate mitigation, including designs that allow occupants to shelter in place and to have sufficient time to evacuate during times of extreme weather and natural disasters. Flood: 100-year flood zone, dam/basin inundation area Geologic: Alquist Priolo earthquake fault zone; County-identified fault zone; rockfall/debris-flow hazard area, medium or high liquefaction area (low to high and localized), existing and County-identified landslide area, moderate to high landslide susceptibility area) Fire: high or very high fire hazard severity zone	**Consistent.** According to the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) map of the project area, there is no existing flood hazard within the project site. No dam inundation hazards exist at the project site. The site is classified as flood zone D. Additionally, the project area is not currently known to be located within an Alquist-Priolo Fault Rupture Hazard Zone, nor is it located within a rockfall/debris-flow hazard area or County identified landslide area. Based on these findings, the implementation of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would be consistent with Policy HZ-1.1.
Policy HZ-1.7 Underground utilities We require that underground utilities be designed to withstand seismic forces, accommodate ground settlement, and hardened to fire risk.	**Consistent.** The proposed project would enforce California Uniform Building Code (CBC) Requirements, in addition to County requirements and recommendations found in the Geotechnical Investigation (Appendix 8) that was prepared for the project, enforced via **MMs GEO-1** and **GEO-4**. This would ensure that underground utilities would be designed to withstand seismic forces, accommodate ground settlement, and hardened to fire risk. Based on these findings, the implementation of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would be consistent with Policy HZ-1.7.
Policy HZ-1.15 Evacuation route adequacy We coordinate with CAL FIRE, California's Office of Emergency Services, and other local fire districts to identify strategies that ensure the maintenance and	**Consistent.** As discussed under Subchapter IX, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, the proposed project would not impair the efficacy of any adopted emergency response plan. As shown on the

County Goals and Policies	Consistency Analysis
reliability of evacuation routes potentially compromised by wildfire, including emergency evacuation and supply transportation routes.	Evacuation Route Map prepared for the San Bernardino Countywide Plan (**Figure IX-5**), the adopted evacuation routes are the Interstate 10 (I-10), the I-15, and Foothill Boulevard located to the south, west, and north of the project site. Development at this located would not interfere with access to these emergency evacuation routes, as the proposed project will be constructed entirely within the boundaries of the project site, with minimal improvements to the site frontage and entrances to the site along Valley Boulevard. Based on these findings, the implementation of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would be consistent with Policy HZ-1.15.
Goal HZ-2 People and the natural environment protected from exposure to hazardous materials, excessive noise, and other human-generated hazards	
Policy HZ-2.7 Truck delivery areas We encourage truck delivery areas to be located away from residential properties and require associated noise impacts to be mitigated.	**Consistent.** The proposed project would not receive truck deliveries on a regular basis from heavy duty trucks. Veterinary materials and supplies, other animal care supplies, and office supplies will be delivered utilizing small vans and trucks, not heavy duty trucks, which generate less noise. Furthermore, the majority of the deliveries to the project site will be animal drop-offs, the majority of which would take place at the southeastern corner of the site, as shown on **Figure XIII-3**: Operational Noise Sources. This location is situated away from residential properties. Emergency animal drop-off will occur in the middle-western portion of the site, which is adjacent to nearby residences. However, the types of vehicles utilized for these drop offs are not heavy, medium, or light duty trucks. Furthermore, the Noise Impact Analysis (NIA) provided as Appendix 11 concluded that operational noise would be less than significant without the need for added mitigation due to the at a minimum 8-foot-high block walls that will surround the site. Based on these findings, the implementation of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would be consistent with Policy HZ-2.7.
Policy HZ-2.9 Control sound at the source We prioritize noise mitigation measures that control sound at the source before buffers, soundwalls, and other perimeter measures.	**Consistent.** The construction noise generated by the proposed project shows that the nearest receiver locations will satisfy the reasonable daytime significance thresholds shown in Table XIII-2 during project construction activities as shown on Table XIII-12. Therefore, the noise impacts due to project construction noise is considered less than significant at all receiver locations without the need for noise control at the source. Though the proposed project has demonstrated that short-term construction noise would be less than significant, the proposed project must comply with the VCSP EIR, which requires enforcing **MM N-1**. **VCSP EIR MM N-1** would further control construction noise generation, and further control sound at the source. Furthermore, operational noise was determined to be less than significant due to the project designs, which incorporate noise control through the at a minimum 8-foo- high block, as that will surround the site, and the enclosures other stationary noise sources. Based on these findings, the implementation of the San Bernardino County Animal

County Goals and Policies	Consistency Analysis
	Care Center Project would be consistent with Policy HZ-2.9.
Goal PP-3 Reduced risk of death, injury, property damage, and economic loss due to fires and other natural disasters, accidents, and medical incidents through prompt and capable emergency response.	
Policy PP-3.6 Concurrent protection services We require that fire department facilities, equipment, and staffing required to serve new development are operating prior to, or in conjunction with new development.	**Consistent.** The proposed San Bernardino County Animal Care Center would result in minimal potential for random emergency events during operations, because the majority of the activities at the site would be related to animal emergencies, and County staff of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center facility must follow all safety protocols for handling animals to protect human safety, only modest emergency response demand is forecast. Furthermore, the proposed project is not one that would routinely handle materials that would constitute a fire hazard that would necessitate frequent emergency fire services. The project will be served by fire equipment at nearby fire stations, which would be capable of reaching the proposed project in the event of an emergency of fire in less than 5 minutes. Based on the above information, the proposed project is the proposed project forecast to cause a significant demand for fire protection services. The County will enforce its standard conditions to ensure adequate fire flow at the proposed facilities, and the project will be required to adhere to the California Fire Code, which ensures that new structures are designed to minimize fire risks related to human safety (including that of emergency responders), loss of property, and other impacts to the environment. This is anticipated to ensure that fire service is adequate to serve the project concurrent with development. Based on these findings, the implementation of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would be consistent with Policy PP-3.6.
Goal PP-4 A reduced risk of and impact from injury, loss of life, property damage, and economic and social disruption resulting from emergencies, natural disasters, and potential changes in climate.	
Policy PP-4.2 Critical and essential facility operation We ensure that critical and essential County facilities remain operational during emergencies.	**Consistent.** The proposed San Bernardino County Animal Care Center would be a critical and essential County facility, and would continue to be operation during emergencies through the provision of the onsite backup generator. Based on these findings, the implementation of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would be consistent with Policy PP-4.2.
Goal HW-1 Supportive public facilities and services that assist and guide individuals to achieve and sustain self-sufficiency, social stability, and excellent physical and behavioral health and wellness.	
Policy HW-1.1 Coordinated holistic approach We invest in a holistic approach to individual health and wellness to improve the continuum of care, providing coordinated services through departments and agencies associated with human services, economic development, law and justice, and housing, as well as other agencies and nongovernmental organizations.	**Consistent.** Per the "*Programming Report San Bernardino County Animal Care Center,"* dated November 29, 2022 and provided as Appendix 2, the proposed San Bernardino County Animal Care Center would extend the length of stay for animals to achieve the desire outcomes for pets housed within the facility. By adding holding areas to isolate pets at intake and provide a ventilation system to filter airborne diseases would accomplish the following: minimize cross-contamination, help keep animals longer; and, better assess health and behavioral issues. This is anticipated to, in turn, increase the likelihood of finding good homes for the animals. This would be consistent

County Goals and Policies	Consistency Analysis
	with a holistic approach as referenced in this Policy. Based on these findings, the implementation of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would be consistent with Policy HW-1.1.

As the detailed analysis of all applicable General Plan Goals and Policies, above, demonstrates, the proposed project is consistent with all applicable Goals, often with mitigation, as demonstrated by the findings in the pertinent sections of this Initial Study. Therefore, the implementation of this project at this site will be consistent with surrounding land uses, and recent use of the site. With the implementation of mitigation measures to ensure consistency with the above General Plan Goals and Policies, the project would therefore have a less than significant potential to conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect.

Issues	*Potentially Significant Impact*	*Less Than Significant 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?	☐	☐	☒	☐
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?	☐	☐	☒	☐

XII. MINERAL RESOURCES

SUBSTANTIATION: (Check ☐ if project is located within the Mineral Resource Zone Overlay)

Impact Analysis

a. *Less Than Significant Impact* – The proposed project is located within a site that has been previously disturbed and is presently vacant, and as such, does not contain any known important minerals resources. The San Bernardino Countywide Plan Mineral Resource Zones map indicates that the proposed project is located within the MRZ-2 zone—known or highly likely location—for aggregate resources (**Figure XII-1**). However, the proposed project formerly served as Ayala Park, and as such, given that that has not served as a mining operation in the past, and that the site is not designated for such use under the Countywide Plan or VCSP, it is not anticipated that the development of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would have a potential to impact mineral resources from developing the project site. Furthermore, mining is not an allowed use within the VCSP, and as such, the utilization of the site for mining, should mineral resources exist, would not be allowed. Finally, development of the project site as the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would not preclude future use of the site for extraction of mineral resources should land use circumstances change in the future, as resources exist below the surface, and the proposed project would not result in substantial excavation of the site. Thus, it is anticipated that the development of the site would have a less than significant to result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state.

b. *Less Than Significant Impact* – The proposed San Bernardino County Animal Care Center would not result in a significant impact under any of the Initial Study Checklist Topics, provided mitigation measures are implemented. As stated above, the San Bernardino Countywide Plan Mineral Resource Zones map indicates that the proposed project is located within the MRZ-2 zone—known or highly likely location—for aggregate resources (**Figure XII-1**). Given that the site does not currently support mineral resources and has not supported any mineral resources extraction in the past, it is not anticipated that the proposed project would interfere with a locally important mineral resource recovery site. Furthermore, given the small size of the site, the lack of any mining operations in the immediate vicinity of the project, and that mining is not an approved use in the VCSP for the project site, such a use at this site would be infeasible; additionally, development of the site would not preclude future extraction of resources in the general project area. As such, the development of the proposed San Bernardino County Animal Care Center at the proposed site would have a less than significant potential to result in the loss of any available locally important resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan.

Issues	*Potentially Significant Impact*	*Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated*	*Less Than Significant Impact*	*No Impact*
XIII. NOISE: Would the project result in:				
a) Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of a project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	☐	☒	☐	☐
b) Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	☐	☐	☒	☐
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?	☐	☐	☐	☒

XIII. NOISE

SUBSTANTIATION: (Check if project is located in the Noise Hazard Overlay District ☐ or is subject to severe noise levels according to the General Plan Noise Element ☐) The following information utilized in this section was obtained from the technical study "San Bernardino Animal Care Center Noise Impact Analysis County of San Bernardino" (NIA) prepared by Urban Crossroads dated January 25, 2024, and provided as Appendix 11 to this document.

VCSP EIR Mitigation Measures

Only two mitigation measures are applicable to the proposed project that were identified in the VCSP EIR. However, VCSP **MM N-2** requires the preparation of noise and vibration impact analysis, which has already been met through the preparation of the NIA provided as Appendix 11. Additionally, **VCSP MM N-3**, which applies to vibration impacts, is not required as vibration impacts have been assessed and were determined to be less than significant. Furthermore**, VCSP MM N-4** only applies to future residential units built under the VCSP, and as the proposed project does not include any residential uses, this mitigation measure does not apply. Thus, only **VCSP MM N-1** is required to be implemented by the project to further minimize construction related noise.

Introduction to Noise

Noise is generally described as unwanted sound. The project will include enhanced services, expanded capacity, and additional work areas to accommodate the growth of the Animal Care Division. The new facility will increase animal housing units to allow the County to serve additional municipalities in the Central Valley Region of the County. Program services will be enhanced to include a veterinary clinic; expanded pet adoption areas; animal exercise play yard; increased staffing work areas; volunteer work areas; expanded parking and other provisions to allow the Division to accommodate growth and increased demand for services. The new shelter will consist of a two-story, 14,691 square-foot (sf) administrative office building, seven dog housing/kennel buildings totaling 35,846-sf, a 2,758-sf medical clinic, 8,896-sf support building, 5830-sf cat and other animal housing building, 5,934-sf medical dog building with a 436-sf euthanasia facility, and 540-sf car wash structure (total of 74,391-sf). The onsite project-related noise sources are expected to include: kennels, dog yards/parks, air conditioning units, parking lot vehicle movements, and trash enclosure activity. The NIA prepared to assess project related noise impacts is intended to describe noise level impacts associated with the expected typical operational activities at the project site.

The unit of sound pressure ratio to the faintest sound detectable to a person with normal hearing is called a decibel (dB). Sound or noise can vary in intensity by over one million times within the range of human hearing. A logarithmic loudness scale, similar to the Richter scale for earthquake magnitude, is therefore used to keep sound intensity numbers at a convenient and manageable level. The human ear is not equally sensitive to all sound frequencies within the entire spectrum. Noise levels at maximum human sensitivity from around 500 to 2,000 cycles per second are factored more heavily into sound descriptions in a process called “A-weighting,” written as “dBA.”

Leq is a time-averaged sound level; a single-number value that expresses the time-varying sound level for the specified period as though it were a constant sound level with the same total sound energy as the time-varying level. Its unit of measure is also the decibel (dB). The most common averaging period for Leq is hourly.

Because community receptors are more sensitive to unwanted noise intrusion during more sensitive evening and nighttime hours, state law requires that an artificial dBA (A-weighted decibel) increment be added to quiet time noise levels. The State of California has established guidelines for acceptable community noise levels that are based on the Community Noise Equivalent Level (CNEL) rating scale (a 24-hour integrated noise measurement scale). The guidelines rank noise land use compatibility in terms of "normally acceptable," "conditionally acceptable," and "clearly unacceptable" noise levels for various land use types. The State Guidelines, Land Use Compatibility for Community Noise Exposure, single-family homes are "normally acceptable" in exterior noise environments up to 60 dB CNEL and "conditionally acceptable" up to 70 dB CNEL based on this scale. Multiple family residential uses are "normally acceptable" up to 65 dB CNEL and "conditionally acceptable" up to 70 CNEL. Schools, libraries, and churches are "normally acceptable" up to 70 dB CNEL, as are office buildings and business, commercial and professional uses with some structural noise attenuation.

Sound becomes unwanted when it interferes with normal activities, when it causes actual physical harm or when it has adverse effects on health. Noise is measured on a logarithmic scale of sound pressure level known as a decibel (dB). A-weighted decibels (dBA) approximate the subjective response of the human ear to broad frequency noise source by discriminating against very low and very high frequencies of the audible spectrum. They are adjusted to reflect only those frequencies which are audible to the human ear. Exhibit XIII-1 presents a summary of the typical noise levels and their subjective loudness and effects that are described in more detail below.

<table>
<tr><th>COMMON OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES</th><th>COMMON INDOOR ACTIVITIES</th><th>A - WEIGHTED SOUND LEVEL dBA</th><th>SUBJECTIVE LOUDNESS</th><th>EFFECTS OF NOISE</th></tr>
<tr><td>THRESHOLD OF PAIN</td><td></td><td>140</td><td rowspan="4">INTOLERABLE OR DEAFENING</td><td rowspan="5">HEARING LOSS</td></tr>
<tr><td>NEAR JET ENGINE</td><td></td><td>130</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td></td><td>120</td></tr>
<tr><td>JET FLY-OVER AT 300m (1000 ft)</td><td>ROCK BAND</td><td>110</td></tr>
<tr><td>LOUD AUTO HORN</td><td></td><td>100</td><td rowspan="3">VERY NOISY</td></tr>
<tr><td>GAS LAWN MOWER AT 1m (3 ft)</td><td></td><td>90</td></tr>
<tr><td>DIESEL TRUCK AT 15m (50 ft), at 80 km/hr (50 mph)</td><td>FOOD BLENDER AT 1m (3 ft)</td><td>80</td><td rowspan="3">SPEECH INTERFERENCE</td></tr>
<tr><td>NOISY URBAN AREA, DAYTIME</td><td>VACUUM CLEANER AT 3m (10 ft)</td><td>70</td><td rowspan="2">LOUD</td></tr>
<tr><td>HEAVY TRAFFIC AT 90m (300 ft)</td><td>NORMAL SPEECH AT 1m (3 ft)</td><td>60</td></tr>
<tr><td>QUIET URBAN DAYTIME</td><td>LARGE BUSINESS OFFICE</td><td>50</td><td rowspan="2">MODERATE</td><td rowspan="2">SLEEP DISTURBANCE</td></tr>
<tr><td>QUIET URBAN NIGHTTIME</td><td>THEATER, LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM (BACKGROUND)</td><td>40</td></tr>
<tr><td>QUIET SUBURBAN NIGHTTIME</td><td>LIBRARY</td><td>30</td><td rowspan="2">FAINT</td><td rowspan="3">NO EFFECT</td></tr>
<tr><td>QUIET RURAL NIGHTTIME</td><td>BEDROOM AT NIGHT, CONCERT HALL (BACKGROUND)</td><td>20</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>BROADCAST/RECORDING STUDIO</td><td>10</td><td rowspan="2">VERY FAINT</td></tr>
<tr><td>LOWEST THRESHOLD OF HUMAN HEARING</td><td>LOWEST THRESHOLD OF HUMAN HEARING</td><td>0</td></tr>
</table>

Exhibit XIII-1: TYPICAL NOISE LEVELS

Introduction to Vibration

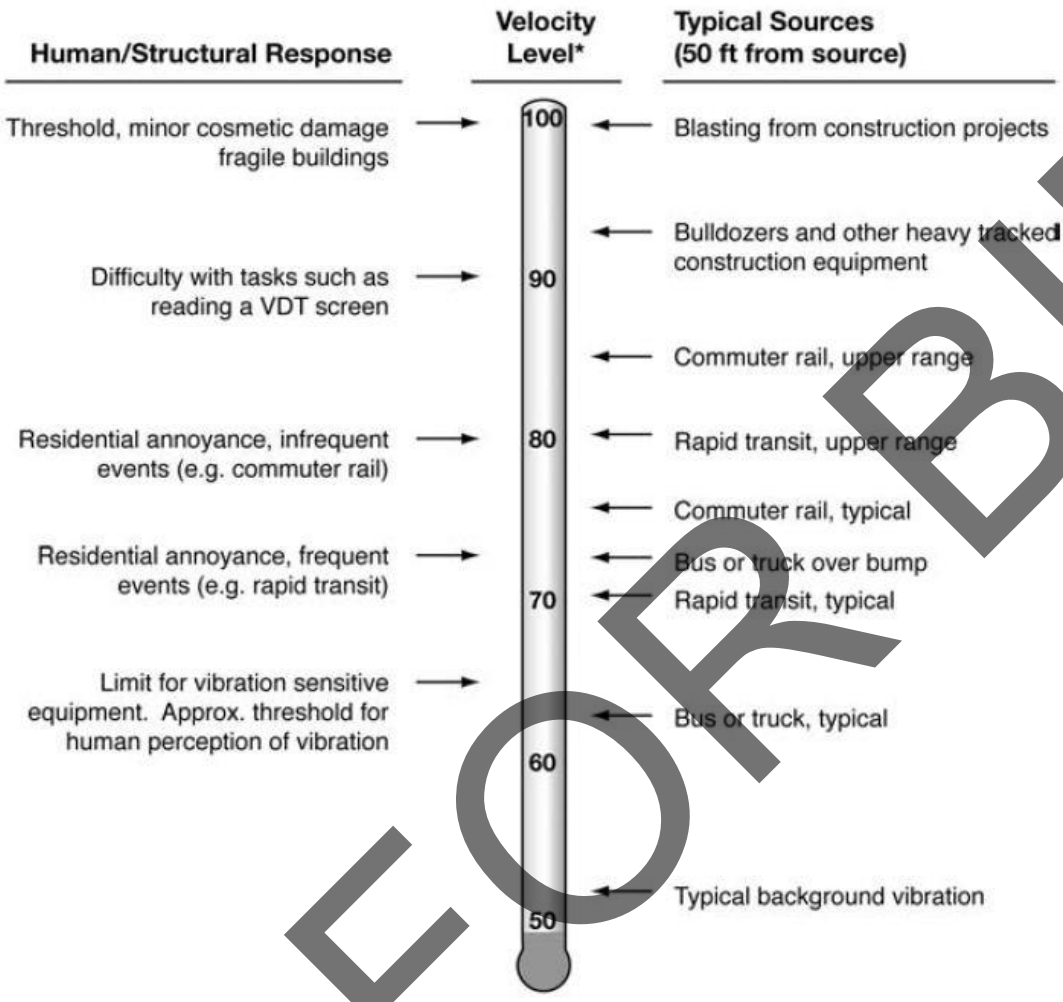
Per the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Transit Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment Manual, vibration is the periodic oscillation of a medium or object. The rumbling sound caused by the vibration of room surfaces is called structure-borne noise. Sources of ground-borne vibrations include natural phenomena (e.g., earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, sea waves, landslides) or human-made causes (e.g., explosions, machinery, traffic, trains, construction equipment). Vibration sources may be continuous, such as factory machinery, or transient, such as explosions. As is the case with airborne sound, ground-borne vibrations may be described by amplitude and frequency.

Additionally, in contrast to airborne noise, ground-borne vibration outdoors is not a common environmental problem and annoyance from ground-borne vibration is almost exclusively an indoor phenomenon. Therefore, the effects of vibrations should only be evaluated at a structure and the effects of the building structure on the vibration should be considered. Wood-frame buildings, such as typical residential structures, are more easily excited by ground vibration than heavier buildings. In contrast, large masonry buildings with spread footings have a low response to ground vibration. In general, the heavier a building is, the lower the response will be to the incident vibration energy. However, all structurers reduce vibration levels due to the coupling of the building to the soil.

There are several different methods that are used to quantify vibration. The peak particle velocity (PPV) is defined as the maximum instantaneous peak of the vibration signal. The PPV is most frequently used to describe vibration impacts to buildings but is not always suitable for evaluating human response (annoyance) because it takes some time for the human body to respond to vibration signals. Instead, the human body responds to average vibration amplitude often described as the root mean square (RMS). The RMS amplitude is defined as the average of the squared amplitude of the signal and is most frequently used to describe the effect of vibration on the human body. However, the RMS amplitude and PPV are related mathematically, and the RMS amplitude of equipment is typically calculated from the PPV reference level. The RMS amplitude is approximately 70% of the PPV. Thus, either can be used on the description of vibration impacts.

While not universally accepted, vibration decibel notation (VdB) is another vibration notation developed and used by the FTA in their guidance manual to describe vibration levels and provide a background of common vibration levels and set vibration limits . Decibel notation (VdB) serves to reduce the range of numbers used to describe vibration levels and is used in this report to describe vibration levels.

As stated in the FTA guidance manual, the background vibration-velocity level in residential areas is generally 50 VdB. Ground-borne vibration is normally perceptible to humans at approximately 65 VdB. For most people, a vibration-velocity level of 75 VdB is the approximate dividing line between barely perceptible and distinctly perceptible levels. Typical outdoor sources of perceptible ground-borne vibration are construction equipment, steel-wheeled trains, and traffic on rough roads. If a roadway is smooth, the ground-borne vibration is rarely perceptible. The range of interest is from approximately 50 VdB, which is the typical background vibration-velocity level, to 100 VdB, which is the general threshold where minor damage can occur in fragile buildings. Exhibit XIII-2 illustrates common vibration sources and the human and structural response to ground-borne vibration.



** RMS Vibration Velocity Level in VdB relative to 10^{-6} inches/second*

Exhibit XIII-2: TYPICAL LEVELS OF GROUND-BORNE VIBRATION
Source: Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Transit Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment Manual.

Noise and Vibration Regulations

San Bernardino Countywide Plan Noise Element
The Countywide Plan Hazards (HZ) Element includes goals, policies, and programs intended to avoid or reduce noise-related impacts. The most common sources of environmental noise in San Bernardino County are associated with roads, airports, railroad operations, and industrial activities. The facilities are used to transport residents, consumer products and provide basic infrastructure for the community. To address these noise sources found in the County of San Bernardino, the following goals have been identified in the Countywide Plan as applicable to the project:

Policy HZ-2.8 Proximity to Noise Generating Uses: *We limit or restrict new noise sensitive land uses in proximity to existing conforming noise generating uses and planned industrial areas.*

Policy HZ-2.9 Control Sound at the Source: *We prioritize noise mitigation measures that control sound at the source before buffers, sound walls, and other perimeter measures.*

County of San Bernardino Development Code

While the San Bernardino Countywide Plan provides guidelines and criteria to assess transportation noise on sensitive land uses, the County Code, Title 8 Development Code contains the noise level limits for mobile, stationary, and construction-related noise sources

Transportation Noise Standards: Section 83.01.080(d), Table 83-3, contains the County of San Bernardino's mobile noise source-related standards, shown on Exhibit XIII-3. Based on the County's mobile noise source standards, there are no exterior noise level standards for the project commercial land use. Exterior transportation (mobile) noise level standards for residential land uses in the project study area are shown to be 60 dBA CNEL, while non-noise-sensitive land uses, such as office uses, require exterior noise levels of 65 dBA CNEL per the County's Table 83-3 mobile noise source standards

Noise Standards for Adjacent Mobile Noise Sources			
Land Use		***Ldn (or CNEL) dB(A)***	
Categories	***Uses***	***Interior (1)***	***Exterior (2)***
Residential	Single and multi-family, duplex, mobile homes	45	60(3)
Commercial	Hotel, motel, transient housing	45	60(3)
	Commercial retail, bank, restaurant	50	N/A
	Office building, research and development, professional offices	45	65
	Amphitheater, concert hall, auditorium, movie theater	45	N/A
Institutional/Public	Hospital, nursing home, school classroom, religious institution, library	45	65
Open Space	Park	N/A	65

Notes:

(1) The indoor environment shall exclude bathrooms, kitchens, toilets, closets and corridors.

(2) The outdoor environment shall be limited to:

- Hospital/office building patios
- Hotel and motel recreation areas
- Mobile home parks
- Multi-family private patios or balconies
- Park picnic areas
- Private yard of single-family dwellings
- School playgrounds

(3) An exterior noise level of up to 65 dB(A) (or CNEL) shall be allowed provided exterior noise levels have been substantially mitigated through a reasonable application of the best available noise reduction technology, and interior noise exposure does not exceed 45 dB(A) (or CNEL) with windows and doors closed. Requiring that windows and doors remain closed to achieve an acceptable interior noise level shall necessitate the use of air conditioning or mechanical ventilation.

CNEL = (Community Noise Equivalent Level). The average equivalent A-weighted sound level during a 24-hour day, obtained after addition of approximately five decibels to sound levels in the evening from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. and ten decibels to sound levels in the night from 10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.

Exhibit XIII-3: COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO MOBILE NOISE LEVEL STANDARDS
Source: County of San Bernardino County Code, Title 8 Development Code, Table 83-3

Operational Noise Standards: To analyze noise impacts originating from a designated fixed location or private property such as the San Bernardino Animal Care Center Project, stationary-source (operational) noise such as the expected kennels, dog yards/parks, air conditioning units, parking lot vehicle movements, and trash enclosure activity are typically evaluated against standards established under a jurisdiction's Municipal Code. The County of San Bernardino County Code, Title 8 Development Code, Section 83.01.080(c) establishes the noise level standards for stationary noise sources. Since the project's land use will potentially impact adjacent noise-sensitive uses in the project study area, this noise study relies on the more conservative residential noise level standards to describe potential operational noise impacts.

For residential properties, the exterior noise level shall not exceed 55 dBA Leq during the daytime hours (7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.) and 45 dBA Leq during the nighttime hours (10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.) for both the whole hour, and for not more than 30 minutes in any hour. The exterior noise level standards shall apply for a cumulative period of 30 minutes in any hour, as well as the standard plus 5 dBA cannot be exceeded for a cumulative period of more than 15 minutes in any hour, or the standard plus 10 dBA for a cumulative period of more than 5 minutes in any hour, or the standard plus 15 dBA for a cumulative period of more than 1 minute in any hour, or the standard plus 20 dBA for any period of time. Further, Section 83.01.080(e) indicates that if the existing ambient noise level already exceeds any of the exterior noise level limit categories, then the standard shall be adjusted to reflect the ambient conditions. The County of San Bernardino operational noise level standards are shown on Table XIII-1 and included in Appendix 3.1 to the NIA.

Table XIII-1
NOISE STANDARDS FOR ADJACENT MOBILE NOISE SOURCES

Land Uses	7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Leq[1] dB(A)[2]	10 p.m. to 7 a.m. Leq[1] dB(A)[2]
Residential	55	45
Professional Services	55	55
Other Commercial	60	60
Industrial	70	70

[1]Leq=(Equivalent Energy Level): The sound level corresponding to a steady-state sound level containing the same total energy as a time-varying signal over a given sample period, typically 1.8 or 24 hours.
[2]dB(A)=(A-weighted Sound Pressure Level): The sound pressure level, in decibels, as measured on a sound level meter using the A-weighting filter network. The A-weighting filter de-emphasizes the very low and very high frequency components of the sound, placing greater emphasis on those frequencies within the sensitivity range of the human ear.
Source: County of San Bernardino General Design Standards, Section 87.0905.

The percentile noise descriptors are provided to ensure that the duration of the noise source is fully considered. However, due to the relatively constant intensity of the project operational activities, the L_{50} or average L_{eq} noise level metrics best describe the kennels, dog yards/parks, air conditioning units, parking lot vehicle movements, and trash enclosure activity. In addition, the L_{eq} noise level metric accounts for noise fluctuations over time by averaging the louder and quieter events and giving more weight to the louder events. In addition, due to the mathematical relationship between the median (L_{50}) and the mean (L_{eq}), the Leq will always be larger than or equal to the L50. The more variable the noise becomes, the larger the Leq becomes in comparison to the L50. Therefore, this noise study conservatively relies on the average L_{eq} sound level limits to describe the project operational noise levels

Construction Noise Standards: Section 83.01.080(g)(3) of the San Bernardino County Development Code, indicates that construction activity is considered exempt from the noise level standards between the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. except on Sundays and Federal holidays. However, neither the San Bernardino Countywide Plan nor Municipal Code establish numeric maximum acceptable construction source noise levels at potentially affected receivers, which would allow for a quantified determination of what CEQA constitutes a *substantial temporary or periodic noise increase*. Therefore, a numerical construction threshold based on Federal Transit Administration (FTA) *Transit Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment Manual* is used for analysis of daytime construction impacts, as discussed below.

According to the FTA, local noise ordinances are typically not very useful in evaluating construction noise. They usually relate to nuisance and hours of allowed activity, and sometimes specify limits in terms of maximum levels, but are generally not practical for assessing the impact of a construction project. Project construction noise criteria should account for the existing noise environment, the absolute noise levels during construction activities, the duration of the construction, and the adjacent land use. Due to the lack of standardized construction noise thresholds, the FTA provides guidelines that can be considered

reasonable criteria for construction noise assessment. The FTA considers a daytime exterior construction noise level of 80 dBA L_{eq} as a threshold for noise sensitive residential land use, a noise level of 85 dBA L_{eq} for commercial locations, and 90 dBA L_{eq} for industrial locations.

Construction Vibration Standards: Construction activity can result in varying degrees of ground-borne vibration, depending on the equipment and methods used, distance to the affected structures and soil type. Construction vibration is generally associated with pile driving and rock blasting. Other construction equipment such as air compressors, light trucks, hydraulic loaders, etc., generates little or no ground vibration.

The County of San Bernardino Development Code, Section 83.01.090(a) states that vibration shall be no greater than or equal to two-tenths inches per second measured at or beyond the lot line. Therefore, to determine if the vibration levels due to the operation and construction of the project, the peak particle velocity (PPV) vibration level standard of 0.2 inches per second is used.

Significance Criteria

Noise Sensitive Receivers
Noise level increases resulting from the project are evaluated based on the Appendix G CEQA Guidelines described above at the closest sensitive receiver locations. Under CEQA, consideration must be given to the magnitude of the increase, the existing ambient noise levels, and the location of noise-sensitive receivers to determine if a noise increase represents a significant adverse environmental impact. This approach recognizes that there is no single noise increase that renders the noise impact significant.

Unfortunately, there is no completely satisfactory way to measure the subjective effects of noise or of the corresponding human reactions of annoyance and dissatisfaction. This is primarily because of the wide variation in individual thresholds of annoyance and differing individual experiences with noise. Thus, an important way of determining a person's subjective reaction to a new noise is the comparison of it to the existing environment to which one has adapted—the so-called *ambient* environment. In general, the more a new noise exceeds the previously existing ambient noise level, the less acceptable the new noise will typically be judged. The Federal Interagency Committee on Noise (FICON) developed guidance to be used for the assessment of project-generated increases in noise levels that consider the ambient noise level. The FICON recommendations are based on studies that relate aircraft noise levels to the percentage of persons highly annoyed by aircraft noise. Although the FICON recommendations were specifically developed to assess aircraft noise impacts, these recommendations are often used in environmental noise impact assessments involving the use of cumulative noise exposure metrics, such as the average-daily noise level (CNEL) and equivalent continuous noise level (L_{eq}).

As previously stated, the approach used in this noise study recognizes *that there is no single noise increase that renders the noise impact significant*, based on a 2008 California Court of Appeal ruling on Gray v. County of Madera. For example, if the ambient noise environment is quiet (<60 dBA) and the new noise source greatly increases the noise levels, an impact may occur if the noise criteria may be exceeded. Therefore, for this analysis, FICON identifies a *readily perceptible* 5 dBA or greater project-related noise level increase is considered a significant impact when the noise criteria for a given land use is exceeded. Per the FICON, in areas where the without project noise levels range from 60 to 65 dBA, a 3 dBA *barely perceptible* noise level increase appears to be appropriate for most people. When the without project noise levels already exceed 65 dBA, any increase in community noise louder than 1.5 dBA or greater is considered a significant impact if the noise criteria for a given land use is exceeded, since it likely contributes to an existing noise exposure exceedance.

The FICON guidance provides an established source of criteria to assess the impacts of substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels. Based on the FICON criteria, the amount to which a given noise level increase is considered acceptable is reduced when the without project noise levels are already shown to exceed certain land-use specific exterior noise level criteria. The specific levels are based on typical responses to noise level increases of 5 dBA or *readily perceptible*, 3 dBA or *barely perceptible*, and 1.5 dBA depending on the underlying without project noise levels for noise-sensitive uses.

These levels of increases and their perceived acceptance are consistent with guidance provided by both the Federal Highway Administration and Caltrans.

Significance Criteria Summary
Noise impacts shall be considered significant if any of the following occur as a direct result of the proposed project. Table XIII-2 shows the significance criteria summary matrix.

Table XIII-2
SIGNIFICANCE CRITERIA SUMMARY

Analysis	Land Use	Condition(s)	Significance Criteria	
			Daytime	Nighttime
Off-Site	Noise-Sensitive[1]	if ambient is < 60 dBA CNEL	≥ 5 dBA CNEL Project increase	
		if ambient is 60 - 65 dBA CNEL	≥ 3 dBA CNEL Project increase	
		if ambient is > 65 dBA CNEL	≥ 1.5 dBA CNEL Project increase	
Operational	Residential	Exterior Noise Level Limit[2]	55 dBA L_{eq}	45 dBA L_{eq}
	Noise-Sensitive[1]	if ambient is < 60 dBA L_{eq}	≥ 5 dBA L_{eq} Project increase	
		if ambient is 60 - 65 dBA L_{eq}	≥ 3 dBA L_{eq} Project increase	
		if ambient is > 65 dBA L_{eq}	≥ 1.5 dBA L_{eq} Project increase	
Construction	All	Permitted between 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.; except Sundays and Federal holidays.[3]		
	Residential	Noise Level Threshold[4]	80 dBA L_{eq}	n/a
	Commercial		85 dBA L_{eq}	n/a
	Industrial		90 dBA L_{eq}	n/a
	All	Vibration Level Threshold[5]	0.2 PPV in/sec	n/a

[1] FICON, 1992.
[2] County of San Bernardino Development Code, Title 8, Section 83.01.080 (Appendix 3.1)
[3] Section 83.01.080(g)(3) of the County of San Bernardino County Code.
[4] Federal Transit Administration, Transit Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment Manual.
[5] Section 83.01.090(a) of the County of San Bernardino County Code.
"Daytime" = 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.; "Nighttime" = 10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. "n/a" = construction activities are not planned during the nighttime hours; "PPV" = peak particle velocity.

Existing Noise Level Measurements

To assess the existing noise level environment, 24-hour noise level measurements were taken at four locations in the project study area. The receiver locations were selected to describe and document the existing noise environment within the project study area. **Figure XIII-1** provides the boundaries of the project study area and the noise level measurement locations. To fully describe the existing noise conditions, noise level measurements were collected by Urban Crossroads, Inc. on Wednesday, December 14th, 2022.

Table XIII-1 identifies the hourly daytime (7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.) and nighttime (10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.) noise levels at each noise level measurement location. Table XIII-3 provides the (energy average) noise levels used to describe the daytime and nighttime ambient conditions. These daytime and nighttime energy average noise levels represent the average of all hourly noise levels observed during these time periods expressed as a single number.

Table XIII-3
24-HOUR AMBIENT NOISE LEVEL MEASUREMENTS

Location[1]	Description	Energy Average Noise Level (dBA L_{eq})[2]	
		Daytime	Nighttime
L1	Located west of the project site near single-family residence at 18259 Valley Boulevard A.	70.5	66.8
L2	Located south of the project site near single-family residences at 18363 Valley Boulevard.	65.5	65.0
L3	Located east of the project site near single-family residences at 18363 Valley Boulevard.	66.2	64.7
L4	Located north of the project site near single-family residence at 18301 Marygold Avenue.	64.0	59.4

[1] See **Figure XIII-1** for the noise level measurement locations.
[2] Energy (logarithmic) average levels. The long-term 24-hour measurement worksheets are included in Appendix 5.2.
"Daytime" = 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.; "Nighttime" = 10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.

Sensitive Receiver Locations

To assess the potential for long-term operational and short-term construction noise impacts, the following sensitive receiver locations, as shown on **Figure XIII-2**, were identified as representative locations for analysis. Sensitive receivers are generally defined as locations where people reside or where the presence of unwanted sound could otherwise adversely affect the use of the land. Noise-sensitive land uses are generally considered to include schools, hospitals, single-family dwellings, mobile home parks, churches, libraries, and recreation areas. Moderately noise-sensitive land uses typically include multi-family dwellings, hotels, motels, dormitories, out-patient clinics, cemeteries, golf courses, country clubs, athletic/tennis clubs, and equestrian clubs. Land uses that are considered relatively insensitive to noise include business, commercial, and professional developments. Land uses that are typically not affected by noise include: industrial, manufacturing, utilities, agriculture, undeveloped land, parking lots, warehousing, liquid and solid waste facilities, salvage yards, and transit terminals.

To describe the potential off-site project noise levels, three receiver locations in the vicinity of the project site were identified. All distances are measured from the project site boundary to the outdoor living areas (e.g., private backyards) or at the building façade, whichever is closer to the project site. The selection of receiver locations is based on FHWA guidelines and is consistent with additional guidance provided by Caltrans and the FTA. Other sensitive land uses in the project study area that are located at greater distances than those identified in this noise study will experience lower noise levels than those presented in this report due to the additional attenuation from distance and the shielding of intervening structures. Distance is measured in a straight line from the project boundary to each receiver location.

R1: Location R1 represents the existing noise sensitive residence at 1825 Valley Boulevard, approximately 15 feet west of the project site. Receiver R1 is placed in the private outdoor living areas facing the project site. A 24-hour noise measurement was taken near this location, L1, to describe the existing ambient noise environment.

R2: Location R2 represents the existing noise sensitive residence at 18301 Marygold Avenue, approximately 748 feet north of the project site. Receiver R2 is placed in the private outdoor living areas facing the project site. A 24-hour noise measurement was taken near this location, L4, to describe the existing ambient noise environment.

R3: Location R3 represents the existing noise sensitive residence at 18349 Valley Boulevard, approximately 159 feet south of the project site. Receiver R3 is placed in the private outdoor living areas facing the project site. A 24-hour noise measurement was taken near this location, L3, to describe the existing ambient noise environment.

R4: Location R4 represents the existing noise sensitive residence at 18363 Valley Boulevard, approximately 149 feet east of the project site. Receiver R4 is placed in the private outdoor living area facing the project site. A 24-hour noise measurement was taken near this location, L2, to describe the ambient noise environment.

Impact Analysis

a. *Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated* – The proposed project is located in a rural living region, and has very little cross traffic around the project. Background noise in the vicinity of the project area is generally at or lower than the San Bernardino Development Code noise standard for Rural Living uses.

Off-Site Transportation Noise
The project would result in a small increase in regional and local traffic volumes. The expected project is anticipated to generate a maximum of 318 daily (**Figure XIII-2)** trips which would represent an incremental increase to the existing roadway volumes and would not double traffic volumes on local roads. Therefore, the project is not expected to generate perceptible noise level increase (i.e., 3 dBA) at nearby sensitive land uses adjacent to study area roadways. Due to the low traffic volumes generated by the project, the off-site traffic noise levels generated by the project are considered less than significant and no further analysis is required.

Long-Term Operational Noise
This operational noise analysis is intended to describe noise level impacts associated with the typical daytime and nighttime activities at the project site. The onsite project-related noise sources are expected to include: kennels, dog yards/parks, air conditioning units, parking lot vehicle movements, and trash enclosure activity. **Figure XIII-3** identifies the representative noise source activities used to assess the operational noise levels. To estimate the project operational noise impacts, reference noise level measurements were collected from similar types of activities to represent the noise levels expected with the development of the proposed project. This section provides a detailed description of the reference noise level measurements shown on Table XIII-4 used to estimate the project operational noise impacts. It is important to note that the following projected noise levels assume the worst-case noise environment with the kennels, dog yards/parks, air conditioning units, parking lot vehicle movements, and trash enclosure activity all operating continuously. These sources of noise activity will likely vary throughout the day.

Animal Drop-Off and Dog Park/Meet and Greet Activity: To describe the potential noise level impacts associated with the project's animal drop-off and dog park/meet and greet activities, Urban Crossroads, Inc. collected a reference noise level measurement at High Valley Veterinarian Clinic in the County of San Diego. The reference noise level measurement describes large and small dogs growling, whining, baying, and barking at other dogs within the facility. At 50 feet from the noise source, a reference noise level of 64.1 dBA L_{eq}.

Table XIII-4
REFERENCE NOISE LEVEL MEASUREMENTS

Noise Source[1]	Noise Source Height (Feet)	Min./Hour[2]		Reference Noise Level (dBA L_{eq}) @ 50 Feet	Sound Power Level (dBA)[3]
		Day	Night		
Animal Drop-Off	3'	60	60	64.1	95.7
Dog Park/Meet and Greet Activity	3'	60	0	64.1	95.7
Roof-Top Air Conditioning Units	5'	39	28	47.4	79.0
Parking Lot Vehicle Movements	5'	60	0	42.8	74.4
Trash Enclosure Activity	5'	10	10	57.4	89.0
Truck Wash	5'	30	30	62.4	94.0
Generator	8'	30	0	83.3	114.9

[1] As measured by Urban Crossroads, Inc.
[2] Anticipated duration (minutes within the hour) of noise activity during typical hourly conditions expected at the project site. "Daytime" = 7:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.; "Nighttime" = 10:00 p.m. - 7:00 a.m.

[3] Sound power level represents the total amount of acoustical energy (noise level) produced by a sound source independent of distance or surroundings. Sound power levels calculated using the CadnaA noise model at the reference distance to the noise source. Numbers may vary due to size differences between point and area noise sources.

Roof-top Air Conditioning Units: The noise level measurements describe a single mechanical air conditioning unit. The reference noise level represents a Lennox SCA120 series 10-ton model packaged air conditioning unit. At the uniform reference distance of 50 feet, the reference noise level is 57.2 dBA L_{eq}. Based on the typical operating conditions observed over a four-day measurement period, the roof-top air conditioning units are estimated to operate for and average 39 minutes per hour during the daytime hours, and 28 minutes per hour during the nighttime hours. These operating conditions reflect peak summer cooling requirements with measured temperatures approaching 96 degrees Fahrenheit (°F) with average daytime temperatures of 82°F. For this noise analysis, the air conditioning units are expected to be ground mounted adjacent to the project's administration building.

Parking Lot Vehicle Movements: To describe the on-site parking lot activity a reference noise level of 56.1 dBA Leq at 50 feet is used. Parking lot activity are expected to take place during the full hour (60 minutes) throughout the daytime and evening hours. The parking lot is anticipated to have little to no traffic at night. The parking lot noise levels are mainly due cars pulling in and out of parking spaces in combination with facility staff talking to customers.

Trash Enclosure Activity: To describe the noise levels associated with a trash enclosure activity, Urban Crossroads collected a reference noise level measurement at an existing trash enclosure containing two dumpster bins. The trash enclosure noise levels describe metal gates opening and closing, metal scraping against concrete floor sounds, dumpster movement on metal wheels, and trash dropping into the metal dumpster. The reference noise levels describe trash enclosure noise activities when trash is dropped into an empty metal dumpster, as would occur at the project site. The measured reference noise level at the uniform 50-foot reference distance is 57.3 dBA L_{eq} for the trash enclosure activity. The reference noise level describes the expected noise source activities associated with the trash enclosures for the project's proposed building. Typical trash enclosure activities are estimated to occur for 10 minutes per hour and may occur during the daytime and nighttime.

Truck Wash: To describe the noise levels associated with truck washout activity, Urban Crossroads collected a reference noise level measurement at an existing vehicle washing facility. The vehicle washing noise levels describe a gas-powered pressure washer operating for 30 minutes washing out metal bins. The measured reference noise level at the uniform 50-foot reference distance is 62.4 dBA L_{eq} for the trash enclosure activity. Typical truck washing activities are estimated to occur for 30 minutes per hour and may occur during the daytime or nighttime.

Generator: The project would also include a generator located within a weather enclosure. The location of the generator is shown in **Figure XIII-3**. According to the County, the generator is anticipated to be a 600 kilo Watt (kW) unit. The 600 kW generators can produce an uncontrolled noise level of 90 dBA L_{max} at 23 feet. The generator would have a standard muffler, which would provide approximately 15 dBA reduction from the uncontrolled noise levels. The generators are for emergency purposes and would only be operated under normal operations for half an hour each week for maintenance and testing. The only scenario in which they would operate for a full hour would be in the case of a power outage. Even in this scenario, the generators would likely only operate at 70 percent of maximum capacity. Therefore, for assessment purposes, the generators were modeled operating at full power for 30 minutes during daytime hours

Project Operational Noise
Using the reference noise levels to represent the proposed project operations that include kennels, dog yards/parks, air conditioning units, parking lot vehicle movements, and trash enclosure activity, Urban Crossroads, Inc. calculated the operational source noise levels that are expected to be

generated at the project site and the project-related noise level increases that would be experienced at each of the sensitive receiver locations. Table XIII-5 shows the project operational noise levels during the daytime hours of 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. The daytime hourly noise levels at the off-site receiver locations are expected to range from 39.9 to 50 dBA L_{eq}.

Table XIII-5
DAYTIME PROJECT OPERATIONAL NOISE LEVELS

Noise Source[1]	Daytime Noise Level (dBA L_{eq})			
	R1	R2	R3	R4
Animal Drop-Off	48.5	36.4	40.5	46.5
Dog Park/Meet and Greet	42.3	36.7	47.0	43.9
Roof-Top Air Conditioning Units	39.8	25.0	32.3	33.4
Parking Lot Vehicle Movements	32.1	26.1	34.0	27.0
Trash Enclosure Activity	14.6	15.7	20.2	28.9
Truck Wash	23.0	19.1	28.5	37.5
Generator	58.3	38.4	44.5	45.7
Total (All Noise Sources)	**50.0**	**39.9**	**48.2**	**48.9**

[1] See **Figure XIII-3** for the noise source locations. CadnaA noise model calculations are included in Appendix 8.1 of the NIA.

Table XIII-6 shows the project operational noise levels during the nighttime hours of 10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. The nighttime hourly noise levels at the off-site receiver locations are expected to range from 33.0 to 38.2 dBA L_{eq}. The differences between the daytime and nighttime noise levels are largely related to the duration of noise activity with minimal nighttime operations (Table XIII-7).

Table XIII-6
NIGHTTIME PROJECT OPERATIONAL NOISE LEVELS

Noise Source[1]	Nighttime Noise Level (dBA L_{eq})			
	R1	R2	R3	R4
Animal Drop-Off	27.6	32.3	36.5	42.5
Dog Park/Meet and Greet	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Roof-Top Air Conditioning Units	37.4	22.5	29.9	31.0
Parking Lot Vehicle Movements	25.0	15.7	19.9	25.0
Trash Enclosure Activity	13.7	14.7	19.3	27.9
Truck Wash	21.7	17.9	27.3	36.2
Generator	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total (All Noise Sources)	**38.2**	**33.0**	**37.9**	**43.8**

[1] See **Figure XIII-3** for the noise source locations. CadnaA noise model calculations are included in Appendix 8.1 of the NIA.

Project Operational Noise Level Compliance
To demonstrate compliance with local noise regulations, the project-only operational noise levels are evaluated against exterior noise level thresholds based on the County of San Bernardino exterior noise level standards at nearest noise-sensitive receiver locations. Table XIII-7 shows the operational noise levels associated with the project will satisfy the County of San Bernardino exterior noise level

standards at all nearby receiver locations. Therefore, the operational noise impacts are considered less than significant at the nearest noise-sensitive receiver locations.

Table XIII-7
OPERATIONAL NOISE LEVEL COMPLIANCE

Receiver Location[1]	Project Operational Noise Levels (dBA L_{eq})[2]		Exterior Noise Level Standards (dBA L_{eq})[3]		Noise Level Standards Exceeded?[4]	
	Daytime	Nighttime	Daytime	Nighttime	Daytime	Nighttime
R1	50.0	38.2	55	45	No	No
R2	39.9	33.0	55	45	No	No
R3	48.2	37.9	55	45	No	No
R4	48.9	43.8	55	45	No	No

[1] See **Figure XIII-3** the receiver locations.
[2] Proposed project operational noise levels as shown in Tables XIII-7 and XIII-8.
[3] Exterior noise level standards are shown in Table XIII-2.
[4] Do the estimated project operational noise source activities exceed the noise level standards? "Daytime" = 7:01 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.; "Nighttime" = 10:01 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.

Project Operational Noise Level Increases
As indicated on Tables XIII-8 and XIII-9, the project will generate daytime and nighttime operational noise level increases ranging from less than 0.1 to 0.1 dBA L_{eq} at the nearest receiver locations. Project-related operational noise level increases will satisfy the operational noise level increase significance criteria presented on Table XIII-2. Therefore, the incremental project operational noise level increase is considered *less than significant* at all receiver locations.

Table XIII-8
DAYTIME PROJECT OPERATIONAL NOISE LEVEL INCREASES

Receiver Location[1]	Total Project Operational Noise Level[2]	Measurement Location[3]	Reference Ambient Noise Levels[4]	Combined Project and Ambient[5]	Project Increase[6]	Increase Criteria[7]	Increase Criteria Exceeded?
R1	50.0	L1	70.5	70.5	0.0	3	No
R2	39.9	L2	65.5	65.5	0.0	3	No
R3	48.2	L3	66.2	66.3	0.1	3	No
R4	48.9	L4	64.0	64.1	0.1	3	No

[1] See **Figure XIII-3** for the receiver locations.
[2] Total project daytime operational noise levels as shown on Table XIII-5
[3] Reference noise level measurement locations as shown on **Figure XIII-1**
[4] Observed daytime ambient noise levels as shown on Table XIII-4.
[5] Represents the combined ambient conditions plus the project activities.
[6] The noise level increase expected with the addition of the proposed project activities.
[7] Significance increase criteria as shown on Table XIII-2.

Table XIII-9
NIGHTTIME OPERATIONAL NOISE LEVEL INCREASES

Receiver Location[1]	Total Project Operational Noise Level[2]	Measurement Location[3]	Reference Ambient Noise Levels[4]	Combined Project and Ambient[5]	Project Increase[6]	Increase Criteria[7]	Increase Criteria Exceeded?
R1	38.2	L1	70.5	70.5	0.0	3	No
R2	33.0	L2	65.5	65.5	0.0	3	No
R3	37.9	L3	66.2	66.2	0.0	3	No
R4	43.8	L4	64.0	64.0	0.0	3	No

[1] See **Figure XIII-3** for the receiver locations.
[2] Total project nighttime operational noise levels as shown on Table XIII-6.
[3] Reference noise level measurement locations as shown on **Figure XIII-1**.
[4] Observed nighttime ambient noise levels as shown on Table XIII-4.
[5] Represents the combined ambient conditions plus the project activities.
[6] The noise level increase expected with the addition of the proposed project activities.
[7] Significance increase criteria as shown on Table XIII-2.

Short Term Construction Noise

This section analyzes potential impacts resulting from the short-term construction activities associated with the development of the project. **Figure XIII-4** shows the construction noise source activity location in relation to the nearest sensitive receiver locations. To prevent high levels of construction noise from impacting noise-sensitive land uses, County of San Bernardino Development Code Section 83.01.080(g)(3), states that construction activities are limited to the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on any day and limited at any time on Sundays and federal holidays.

Noise generated by the project construction equipment will include a combination of trucks, power tools, concrete mixers, and portable generators that when combined can reach high levels. The number and mix of construction equipment are expected to occur in the following stages: Site Preparation, Grading, Building Construction, Paving, and Architectural Coating,

To describe peak construction noise activities, this construction noise analysis was prepared using reference noise level measurements published in the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Road Construction Noise Model (RCNM). Table XIII-10 provides a summary of the FHWA construction reference noise level measurements expressed in maximum hourly noise level (dBA L_{eq}) using the FHWA RCNM usage factors to describe the typical construction activities for each stage of project construction.

Table XIII-10
CONSTRUCTION REFERENCE NOISE LEVELS

Construction Stage	Construction Equipment	Reference Noise Level @ 50 Feet (dBA L_{eq})[1]	Combined Reference Noise Level (dBA L_{eq})
Site Preparation	Tractor	80.0	84.4
	Grader	81.0	
	Excavator	76.7	
Grading	Dozer	77.7	80.6
	Front End Loader	75.1	
	Backhoe	73.6	
Building Construction	Front End Loader	75.1	81.4
	Crane	72.6	
	Gradall	79.4	
Paving	Paver	74.2	77.8
	Roller	73.0	
	Vacuum Street Sweeper	71.6	
Arch. Coating	Man Lift	67.8	74.8
	Compressor (air)	73.8	

[1] FHWA's Roadway Construction Noise Model, January 2006.

Construction Noise Analysis

Using the reference construction equipment noise levels and the CadnaA noise prediction model, calculations of the project construction noise level impacts at the nearest sensitive receiver locations were completed. To assess the worst-case construction noise levels, the project construction noise analysis relies on the highest noise level impacts when equipment with the highest reference noise level is operating at the closest point from the edge of primary construction activity (project site boundary) to each receiver location. This is simulated by modeling multiple pieces of construction as moving point sources. As shown on Table XIII-11, the construction noise levels are expected to range from 46.0 to 69.7 dBA L_{eq}, and the highest construction levels are expected to range from 53.2 to 69.7 dBA L_{eq} at the nearest receiver locations. Appendix 9.1 to the NIA includes the detailed CadnaA construction noise model inputs.

Table XIII-11
CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT NOISE LEVEL SUMMARY

Receiver Location[1]	Construction Noise Levels (dBA L_{max})					
	Site Preparation	Grading	Building Construction	Paving	Arch. Coating	Highest Levels[2]
R1	69.7	66.4	68.1	62.9	62.5	69.7
R2	53.2	49.9	51.6	46.4	46.0	53.2
R3	62.0	58.7	60.4	55.2	54.8	62.0
R4	63.0	59.7	61.4	56.2	55.8	63.0

[1] Noise receiver locations are shown on **Figure XIII-2**.
[2] Construction noise level calculations based on distance from the project site boundaries (construction activity area) to nearby receiver locations. CadnaA construction noise model inputs are included in Appendix 9.1 of the NIA.

To evaluate whether the project will generate potentially significant short-term noise levels at nearest receiver locations, a construction-related daytime noise level threshold of 80 dBA Leq is used as a reasonable threshold to assess the daytime construction noise level impacts at residential locations. The construction noise analysis shows that the nearest receiver locations will satisfy the reasonable daytime significance thresholds shown in Table XIII-2 during project construction activities as shown on Table XIII-12. Therefore, the noise impacts due to project construction noise is considered less than significant at all receiver locations.

Table XIII-12
CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT NOISE LEVEL COMPLIANCE

Receiver Location[1]	Construction Noise Levels (dBA L_{max})		
	Highest Construction Noise Levels[2]	Threshold[3]	Threshold Exceeded?[4]
R1	69.7	80	No
R2	53.2	80	No
R3	62.0	80	No
R4	63.0	80	No

[1] All noise receiver locations are shown on **Figure XIII-2**. The nearest noise receiver locations are shown in **Figure XIII-4**.
[2] Highest construction noise level calculations based on distance from the construction noise source activity to nearby receiver locations as shown on XIII-11.
[3] Construction noise level thresholds are limited to the noise sensitive receiver locations
[4] Do the estimated project construction noise levels exceed the construction noise level threshold?

Though the proposed project has demonstrated that short-term construction noise would be less than significant, the proposed project must comply with the VCSP EIR, which requires enforcing **MM N-1**, below.

VCSP
N-1 ***Prior to issuance of demolition, grading and/or building permits, a note shall be provided on plans indicating that, ongoing during grading, demolition, and construction, the property owner/developer shall be responsible for requiring contractors to implement the following measures to limit construction-related noise:***

- ***Construction activity is limited to the daytime hours between 7 AM to 7 PM on Monday through Friday and 9 AM to 6PM on Saturday, as prescribed in SBCDC Section 83.01.080. Construction is prohibited on Sundays.***
- ***All internal combustion engines on construction equipment and trucks are fitted with properly maintained mufflers no less effective than those supplied by the original manufacturer.***
- ***Stationary equipment such as generators, air compressors shall be located as far as feasible from nearby noise-sensitive uses.***
- ***Stockpiling shall be located as far as feasible from nearby noise-sensitive receptors.***
- ***Construction traffic shall be limited—to the extent feasible—to approved haul routes established by the County Planning Department.***

Conclusion
Through compliance with the San Bernardino County Development Code, and through implementation of **VCSP MM N-1** intended to further minimize construction noise levels and impacts thereof, neither operation or construction of the proposed project would violate the County's noise standards. Impacts under this issue are considered less than significant with mitigation incorporated.

b. *Less Than Significant Impact* – Vibration is the periodic oscillation of a medium or object. The rumbling sound caused by vibration of room surfaces is called structure borne noises. Sources of groundborne vibrations include natural phenomena (e.g., earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, sea waves, landslides) or human-made causes (e.g., explosions, machinery, traffic, trains, construction equipment). Vibration sources may be continuous or transient. Vibration is often described in units of velocity (inches per second) and discussed in decibel (VdB) units in order to compress the range of numbers required to describe vibration. Vibration impacts related to human development are generally associated with activities such as train operations, construction, and heavy truck movements.

Vibration is most commonly expressed in terms of the root mean square (RMS) velocity of a vibrating object. RMS velocities are expressed in units of vibration decibels. The range of vibration decibels (VdB) is as follows:

65 VdB	-	threshold of human perception
72 VdB	-	annoyance due to frequent events
80 VdB	-	annoyance due to infrequent events
94-98 VdB	-	minor cosmetic damage

Construction activity can result in varying degrees of groundborne vibration but is generally associated with pile driving and rock blasting. Other construction equipment—such as air compressors, light trucks, hydraulic loaders, etc.—generates little or no ground vibration. The San Bernardino County Development Code offers guidance on Vibration. San Bernardino County Development Code 83.01.090 provides guidance regarding how vibration should be measured and offers the following Standard:

(a) Vibration standard. No ground vibration shall be allowed that can be felt without the aid of instruments at or beyond the lot line, nor shall any vibration be allowed which produces a particle velocity greater than or equal to two-tenths (0.2) inches per second measured at or beyond the lot line.

Additionally, according to the San Bernardino County Development Code, construction is exempt from vibration regulations during the hours of 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. and the proposed project would be developed within the hours in which vibration during construction is exempt.

Ground vibration levels associated with various types of construction equipment are summarized on Table XIII-13.

Table XIII-13
VIBRATION SOURCE LEVELS FOR CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT

Equipment	PPV (in/sec) at 25 feet
Small bulldozer	0.003
Jackhammer	0.035
Loaded Trucks	0.076
Large bulldozer	0.089

Federal Transit Administration, Transit Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment Manual

Table XIII-14 presents the expected project related vibration levels at the nearby receiver locations. At distances ranging from 15 feet to 748 feet from project construction activities (at the project site boundary), construction vibration levels are estimated to range from less than 0.01 to 0.15 PPV (in/sec) and will remain below the County of San Bernardino 0.2 PPV (in/sec) threshold for vibration at all receiver locations. Therefore, the project-related vibration impacts are considered less than significant during the construction activities at the project site.

Further, vibration levels at the site of the closest sensitive receiver are unlikely to be sustained during the entire construction period but will occur rather only during the times that heavy construction equipment is operating simultaneously adjacent to the project site perimeter..

Table XIII-14
PROJECT CONSTRUCTION VIBRATION LEVELS

Receiver[1]	Distance to Const. Activity (Feet)[2]	Typical Construction Vibration Levels PPV (in/sec)[3]					Thresholds PPV (in/sec)[4]	Thresholds Exceeded?[5]
		Small bulldozer	Jackhammer	Loaded Trucks	Large bulldozer	Highest Vibration Level		
R1	15’	0.00	0.86	0.16	0.19	0.19	0.20	No
R2	748'	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20	No
R3	159'	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.20	No
R4	149'	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.20	No

[1] Receiver locations are shown on **Figure XIII-2**.
[2] Distance from project construction boundary to the receiver building structure.
[3] Based on the Vibration Source Levels of Construction Equipment (Table XIII-13).
[4] Caltrans 2020.
[5] Does the peak vibration exceed the acceptable vibration thresholds?
"PPV" = Peak Particle Velocity

Moreover, the impacts at the site of the closest sensitive receivers are unlikely to be sustained during the entire construction period but will occur rather only during the times that heavy construction equipment is operating adjacent to the project site perimeter.

c. *No Impact* – The project site is located more than 9 miles from both the Ontario International Airport, and San Bernardino International Airport. The closest airport is the Flabob Airport located over 5 miles south of the project site. As shown on the Airport Safety & Planning Areas map prepared for the San Bernardino Countywide Plan (**Figure IX-4**), the proposed project is not located within a designated Airport Safety Review Area at any of the area airports in the area, and therefore is not located within the noise contours for the Airport. Therefore, there is no potential for the project to expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels as a result of proximity to a public airport or private airstrip. No mitigation is required.

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

XIV. POPULATION AND HOUSING

SUBSTANTIATION:

Impact Analysis

a. *Less Than Significant Impact* – Implementation of the project will not induce substantial population growth in the area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure). This project proposes to develop the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center within a 6-acre site. The provision of an animal shelter and veterinary service facility, particularly given that the facility would accommodate 80% of the services offered at the Devore Animal Shelter (San Bernardino County Animal Care Logistics Center), is not typically considered to be growth inducing. In fact, the project has been proposed to accommodate existing and future forecast growth within the County (refer to Section 3 of Appendix 2, the Programming Report). The new San Bernardino County Animal Care Center will employ about 55 persons, of which 17 would be new positions, with the remaining positions carried over from the Devore Animal Shelter operations. It is unknown whether the new employees will be drawn from the general area or will bring new residents to the project area, but it is anticipated that many of the employees will reside in the Valley Region of San Bernardino County. According to the Countywide Plan, the total population within unincorporated San Bernardino County was 304,300 persons in 2020, or 13.8% of the overall County population of 2,197,400 persons. According to the San Bernardino Countywide Plan PEIR, the population of unincorporated San Bernardino County is anticipated to grow to 344,100 by 2040. The proposed project would create a potential for 17 more permanent opportunities for employment during operation, and 50 temporary opportunities for employment in support of project construction. This would constitute a permanent increase in population of less than one percent if each of the 17 new workers are new residents to unincorporated San Bernardino County. Given that the Countywide Plan indicates that the planned population within unincorporated San Bernardino is anticipated to grow by 39,800 from the 2020 population identified in the Countywide Plan (304,300), the potential increase in residents is well within the planned population growth within unincorporated San Bernardino County. As such, the County has planned for growth in population beyond that which exists at present, and should the project result in a temporary increase in population by 50 persons, or by 17 persons in the long term to manage and maintain the new sports complex, this growth would be well within the planned growth within the County as indicated by the Countywide Plan PEIR. Thus, based on the type of project, and the small increment of potential indirect population growth the project may generate, the population generation associated with project implementation will not induce substantial population growth that exceeds either local or regional projections.

b. *Less Than Significant Impact* – There are no residences within the project site, as the project site is vacant and bare as a result of the demolition of the former Ayala Park use. containing non-native and native vegetation and weeds. No persons currently reside on the site and therefore, implementation

of the proposed project will not displace substantial numbers of existing housing, or persons necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere. Thus, no impacts will occur and no mitigation is required.

Issues	*Potentially Significant Impact*	*Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated*	*Less Than Significant Impact*	*No Impact*
XV. PUBLIC SERVICES: Will the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:				
a) Fire protection?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Police protection?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c) Schools?	☐	☐	☒	☐
d) Parks?	☐	☐	☒	☐
e) Other public facilities?	☐	☐	☒	☐

XV. PUBLIC SERVICES

SUBSTANTIATION:

Impact Analysis

a. *Less Than Significant Impact* – The proposed project site is served by the San Bernardino County Fire Department, and the nearest Fire Station to the proposed project site is Station #76. This station is located just to the east of the project site along Valley Boulevard, within less than one half mile from the project site. The San Bernardino County Fire Department provides fire protection, fire prevention, and emergency medical services to the project area. The proposed San Bernardino County Animal Care Center would result in minimal potential for random emergency events during operations, because the majority of the activities at the site would be related to animal emergencies, and County staff of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center facility must follow all safety protocols for handling animals to protect human safety, only modest emergency response demand is forecast. Furthermore, the proposed project is not one that would routinely handle materials that would constitute a fire hazard that would necessitate frequent emergency fire services. The project will be served by fire equipment at nearby fire stations, which would be capable of reaching the proposed project in the event of an emergency of fire in less than 5 minutes. Based on the above information, the proposed project does not pose a significant fire or emergency response hazard, nor is the proposed project forecast to cause a significant demand for fire protection services. The County will enforce its standard conditions to ensure adequate fire flow at the proposed facilities, and the project will be required to adhere to the California Fire Code, which ensures that new structures are designed to minimize fire risks related to human safety (including that of emergency responders), loss of property, and other impacts to the environment. Furthermore, the proposed project would not induce substantial population within the County such that a significantly greater demand on fire protection services would be required. These requirements are considered adequate measures to prevent any significant impacts under this issue, thus no mitigation is required.

b. *Less Than Significant Impact* – The proposed project receives police services through the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department. The Department enforces local, state, and federal laws; performs investigations and makes arrests; administers emergency medical treatment; and responds to County emergencies. The project site is served by the Fontana Sheriff Service Agency. The Fontana Sheriff's Station is located at 17780 Arrow Blvd, Fontana, CA 92335, which is approximately one mile to the north/northeast of the project site, and the project is located within the existing patrol routes. The proposed project will not include the kind of uses or activities that would likely attract criminal activity, except for random trespass and/or theft; however, any random trespass is unlikely given that the only the public facing portions of the proposed facility would not be fenced to control access and the type of activities proposed would not typically attract criminal activities. Additionally, the facility will be staffed 24/7 making trespass less desirable to criminals. Furthermore, the proposed project would not induce substantial population within the County such that a significantly greater demand on police services would be required. Therefore, due to the proposed use of the project site, implementation of the proposed project would not substantially increase the demand for law enforcement services beyond that already existing at the project site.

c. *Less Than Significant Impact* – The proposed project is anticipated to temporarily employ a maximum of 50 persons during construction and 55 persons during operation of the proposed project, of which 17 would be new positions, with the remaining positions carried over from the Devore Animal Shelter operations. The project is not anticipated to generate any new direct demand for the area schools. The San Bernardino County Animal Care Center would be developed within a site that is within the Colton Joint Unified School District (CJUSD) boundaries. As addressed above under issue Population and Housing, XV(a) above, the proposed project does not include any land uses that would substantially induce population growth, and will not require a substantial temporary or permanent labor force. The development of a facility of this type at this site, particularly given that the project would transfer an existing use to a new location, is not anticipated adversely impact schools in any manner. Furthermore, the State of California requires a portion of the cost of construction of public schools to be paid through a fee collected on residential, commercial, and industrial development. The development impact fee mitigation program of the CJUSD provides for mitigating the impacts of projects within the County and within the District boundaries in accordance with current state law (SB 50). Thus, the proposed project will not generate a substantial increase in elementary, middle, or high school population, and since payment of school impact fees is a mandatory requirement for those uses that are deemed to be school generating uses, from which this project is exempt as it is a County funded, and County owned facility that is proposed, no mitigation measures are required to reduce school impacts caused by the proposed project to a less than significant level.

d. *Less Than Significant Impact* – The proposed project will not directly add to the existing demand on local recreational facilities. The project will develop a San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project which will result in the creation of about 17 new positions, with the remaining 38 positions carried over from the Devore Animal Shelter operations. The project is not anticipated to generate any new direct demand for parks within the County, as this project would have a minimal potential to induce population growth within the County. There are no nearby parks to the proposed project, though the proposed project site formerly served as Bloomington Recreation and Park District operated Ayala Park. The former Ayala Park was relocated prior to the consideration of this project under CEQA, and therefore the existing setting of the project site is such that the project site is considered vacant. The nearest park is the new Ayala Park, which has been relocated to the northwest of the project site, at 9984 Grace St, Bloomington, CA 92316. The County requires applicable projects that propose uses that are deemed park demand generating uses to contribute to the County's General Fund through payment of property and sales tax, which is considered sufficient to offset any impacts to parks that result from implementing park demand generating projects within the County. This project is exempt as it is a County funded, and County owned facility that is proposed, and therefore is not assessed property tax. Sales tax would be generated by the proposed use, and those funds would be distributed to the applicable program per County Code. As this project is a County owned facility, no mitigation measures are required to reduce park impacts that may result from project implementation, particularly given that minimal impacts to parks are anticipated to occur. Impacts would be less than significant.

e. *Less Than Significant Impact* – Other public facilities include library and general municipal services. According to the Countywide Plan, County library services are funded mostly through taxes—mainly property taxes and sales taxes. State, federal, and other government assistance, in addition to library fees, also fund the library. Since the project will not directly induce substantial population growth, it is not forecast that the use of library facilities will increase substantially as a result of the proposed project. The proposed project will however, create a public use facility through the provision of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project, which would serve the public with animal adoption and animal recovery to owners, in addition to public facing veterinary services, and other programs. Thus, the proposed project would expand public services, as the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project is anticipated to expand the animal care receiving capacity beyond the Devore Animal Shelter capacity to better serve the projected population of the County in the future. Thus, as the proposed project would not impact other public services, and would expand animal care services within the County, any impacts under this issue are considered less than significant, and no mitigation is required.

Issues	*Potentially Significant Impact*	*Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated*	*Less Than Significant Impact*	*No Impact*
XVI. RECREATION:				
a) Will the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	☐	☐	☐	☒

XVI. RECREATION

SUBSTANTIATION:

Impact Analysis

a. *Less Than Significant Impact* – As addressed in the discussion under XIV above, the proposed project does not include a use that would substantially induce population growth. As stated in the discussion under Population and Housing, the project would create about 17 new jobs, with the remaining 38 positions carried over from the Devore Animal Shelter operations at the new San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project; however, it is unknown what portion of the new employees will be new residents. The County requires applicable projects that propose uses that are deemed recreation demand generating uses to contribute to the County's General Fund through payment of property and sales tax, which is considered sufficient to offset any impacts to parks that result from implementing recreation demand generating projects within the County. The proposed project will contribute to the County's General Fund through payment of sales tax, but the proposed project is exempt from property tax contributions as the County, a public agency, would own and operate the facility to provide animal care services to residents of the County. Given that the proposed project would not induce substantial population growth, and the availability of land for recreational use in the surrounding area, the project is not anticipated to result in a substantial increase in the use of existing recreation facilities. Therefore, any impacts under this issue are considered less than significant. No mitigation is required.

b. *No Impact* – The proposed project site formerly served as Bloomington Recreation and Park District operated Ayala Park. The former Ayala Park was relocated prior to the consideration of this project under CEQA, and therefore the existing setting of the project site is such that the project site is considered vacant. The San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project will not require the development or expansion of recreational facilities. Therefore, the proposed project is not anticipated to cause an adverse physical effect on the environment as a result of construction or expansion of recreational facilities.

Issues	*Potentially Significant Impact*	*Less Than Significant 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?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b)?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c) Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous inter-sections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	☐	☐	☒	☐
d) Result in inadequate emergency access?	☐	☐	☒	☐

XVII. TRANSPORTATION

SUBSTANTIATION: A Trip Generation Assessment (TGA) was prepared for the project by Urban Crossroads, titled "Animal Care Facility Trip Generation Assessment," dated November 22, 2023, and provided as Appendix 12a. Additionally, a Vehicle Miles Travelled Analysis (VMT Analysis) is provided as Appendix 12b to this Initial Study, titled "Animal Care Facility Vehicle Miles Travelled Analysis (VMT) Screening Evaluation," dated November 21, 2023 prepared by the by Urban Crossroads.

VCSP EIR Mitigation Measures

The VCSP identified transportation impacts as significant and unavoidable. One mitigation measure was considered to ensure that future projects within the VCSP contribute fair share towards traffic improvements. This mitigation measure applies to projects that exceed the scoping level analysis threshold set by the County, and this project does not exceed that threshold. Therefore, the proposed project is exempt from implementation of this measure.

Impact Analysis

a. *Less Than Significant Impact* – Implementation of the project will not conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance, or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system. The project is located at 18317 Valley Boulevard in the Bloomington area of unincorporated San Bernardino County. Valley Boulevard has been designated as a Major Arterial Highway according to the San Bernardino Countywide Plan EIR (**Figure XVII-1**).

During construction it is anticipated that a maximum number of 50 employees will be required to support the construction of the project each day. Delivery of construction supplies and removal of any excavated materials, if necessary, will be accomplished using trucks during normal working hours, with a maximum of 100 round trips per day, including worker and truck hauling trips, factoring in the potential for additional trips off-site by construction workers throughout construction. As such, construction is anticipated to result in less than 100 round-trips per day. The construction traffic is considered minimal and not anticipated to lower the LOS levels within this roadway segment or surrounding segments to an unacceptable level.

The existing Devore Animal Shelter facility is made up of 80 dog kennels, 81 cat enclosures, and 50 other animal housing units for a total of 211 animal housing units. The existing Devore Animal Shelter will remain in operation, but operations will be revised as described in the project description. For the purposes of the TGA analysis (Appendix 12a) and based on the available data from the existing Devore Animal Shelter operations, small animal care consists of about 80% of the existing operations

of the Devore Animal Shelter, which will be transferred to the proposed San Bernardino County Animal Care Center.

Due to the unique nature of the proposed project as a relocation of an existing use, trip generation rates have been developed based on empirical data collected at the existing facility located in Devore. The data was collected at the existing Devore Animal Shelter located at 1977 Shelter Way in the Devore area of the County of San Bernardino. Based on these data, the resulting average trip generation for the 3 days of data collected is summarized in Table XVII-1. As shown in Table XVII-1, the existing facility currently generates an average of 148 two-way daily trips with 11 AM peak hour trips and 17 PM peak hour trips. However, note that of the total average trip generation shown in Table XVII-1, only 80 percent is associated with the animal care services that will be transferred to the new facility in Bloomington. Truck trips reflected in Table XVII-1 are associated with 2-axle vehicles (e.g., trash or delivery trucks).

Table XVII-1
EXISTING TRIP GENERATION

Function Type	AM Peak Hour			PM Peak Hour			Daily
	In	Out	Total	In	Out	Total	
ANIMAL CARE FACILITY							
Passenger Cars	9	1	10	5	12	17	141
Trash Trucks	1	0	1	0	0	0	7
Total[1]	**10**	**1**	**11**	**5**	**12**	**17**	**148**

Note: Average of data collected on May 2 through May 4, 2023.
[1] Total average traffic associated with existing facility, of which 80 percent is associated with the animal care that will be transferred to Bloomington.

The average trip generation rate was calculated by taking 80 percent of the total average trip generation and dividing it by the existing 211 animal housing units to develop a per animal housing unit rate. As shown in Table XVII-2, the proposed project is anticipated to generate 318 two-way daily trips with 23 AM peak hour trips and 36 PM peak hour trips at project buildout (in actual vehicles).

Table XVII-2
TRIP GENERATION SUMMARY (ACTUAL VEHICLES)

Function Type	Quantity	Units[1]	AM Peak Hour			PM Peak Hour			Daily
			In	Out	Total	In	Out	Total	
ANIMAL CARE FACILITY	562	HU							
Passenger Cars			16	2	21	11	25	36	302
Trash Trucks			2	0	2	0	0	0	16
Total Project Trips			**21**	**2**	**23**	**11**	**25**	**36**	**318**

[1] Source: Calculated by dividing 80% of the total driveway count data shown on Table XVII-1 by the existing 211 animal housing units or HU

Passenger car equivalent (PCE) factors were applied to the trip generation rates (shown in Table 2, found in the TGA) to convert trips made by trucks to PCE values. PCE values allow the typical "real-world" mix of vehicle types to be represented as a single, standardized unit, such as the passenger car, to be used for the purposes of capacity and level of service analyses. The PCE factors are consistent with the recommended PCE factors in the County's Guidelines (1.5 for 2-axle). The resulting trip generation for the proposed project indicates that the proposed project is anticipated to

generate 326 two-way PCE trips per day, with 24 PCE AM peak hour trips and 36 PCE PM peak hour trips.

The traffic impact study area is to be defined in conformance with the requirements of the County's Guidelines, which state that the requirement to prepare a traffic study will be based upon, but not limited to, one or more of the following criteria:

- If a project generates 100 or more trips without consideration of pass-by trips during any peak hour.
- If a project is located within 300 feet of the intersection of two streets designated as Collector or higher in the County's General Plan or the Department's Master Plan or impacted intersection as determined by the Traffic Division.
- If this project creates safety or operational concerns.
- If a project generates less than 100 trips without consideration of pass-by trip reductions during any peak hour, a study may be required if there are special concerns.

Based on this criterion, the project is anticipated to generate fewer than 100 peak hour trips during any peak hour and would contribute fewer than 50 peak hour trips to any off-site study area intersection (both actual vehicle and in PCE). As such, additional traffic analysis beyond the scoping agreement does not appear to be necessary, and no significant contributions from the project to area circulation would occur.

The project site is currently accessible by car and sidewalk. Additionally, this segment of Valley Boulevard does not currently provide for a bike lane, though ultimately, the County plans to install a Class II Bike Lane as shown on **Figure XVII-2**, the Countywide Future Bicycle Facilities Map. Based on the site plan and input from the County, it is not anticipated that any setbacks would be required to enable a Class II Bike Lane to be implemented in the future. The site will continue to be accessible by existing means of transport, with enhanced access to the site through the proposed driveways.

The project site is located within the service area of Omnitrans, though no routes serve the project site at present. However, the area surrounding the project is served by Route 19, which traverses San Bernardino Avenue at Locust to the north of Valley Boulevard in the project area, which is within about one mile of the project site. The proposed project may demand transit service to the project site, as the proposed project site would provide a public service, and the transit routes do allow pets to ride the bus if in a secure carrier. However, it is anticipated that the former park use of the site would have had a comparable demand for transit services, given that the park also was a public service that could demand visits from County and area residents who utilize alternative modes of transportation. As such, the demand for transit at the proposed project site is anticipated to be sufficiently served by existing transit routes. However, transit service is reviewed and updated by Omnitrans periodically to address ridership, budget, and community demand needs. Changes in land use can affect these periodic adjustments which may lead to either enhanced or reduced service where appropriate. Furthermore, the proposed project would not impact existing transit routes. As such, it is not anticipated the project will result in a significant increase in demand for alternative transportation systems, and will be adequately served by existing systems in the vicinity of the project site. Based on this information, the proposed project is not anticipated to conflict with the circulation of any alternative modes of transportation.

Based on a review of the circulation in the vicinity of San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project, the minimal peak hour traffic that would be generated over the short- and long-term by the proposed project, and that will contribute to off- and on-site improvements to area roadways and sidewalks, this project would have a less than significant potential to conflict with a program, plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities. No mitigation is required.

b. *Less Than Significant Impact* – Senate Bill 743 mandates that CEQA guidelines be amended to provide an alternative to Level of Service for evaluating transportation impacts. The amended CEQA guidelines, specifically Section 15064.3, recommend the use of VMT for transportation impact

evaluation. Urban Crossroads prepared a VMT analysis to determine whether the proposed project would result in a significant VMT impact (refer to Appendix 12b).

The County of San Bernardino Board of Supervisors adopted analytical procedures, screening tools and impact thresholds for VMT, which are documented in the San Bernardino County Transportation Impact Study Guidelines (July 2019) (County Guidelines). The County Guidelines provides details on appropriate criteria that can be used to identify when a proposed land use project is anticipated to result in a less than significant impact without conducting a more detailed analysis. Screening thresholds are broken into the following four types:

- Local Serving Project Screening
- Projects Generating Less than 110 Daily Vehicle Trips
- Transit Priority Area (TPA) Screening
- Low VMT Area Screening

A land use project need only to meet one of the above screening thresholds to result in a less than significant impact.

Local Serving Project Screening

County Guidelines identifies projects serving the local community as having the potential to reduce VMT and therefore should not be required to complete a VMT assessment. The proposed project consists of the relocation of all small animal care services, which accounts for approximately 80% of the existing operations of the Devore Animal Shelter to the project site located in Bloomington. In addition, the project also includes an expanded veterinary clinic and pet adoption to serve the local community.

The Bloomington site is more centrally located and better suited to serve the cities and county areas in the Valley Region of San Bernardino County. As the majority of the operations that are more commonly used are moving to the Bloomington site, it has the potential to shorten the distance that visitors would otherwise have to travel. In addition, the veterinary clinic and pet adoption will provide community services for residents in the area which also has the potential to shorten vehicle trips. Both the Animal Clinic's more centrally located site and the services it will provide have the potential to result in a reduction in VMT.

Thus, the Local Serving Project Screening criteria is met.

Projects Generating Less than 110 Daily Vehicle Trips

County Guidelines state projects generating less than 110 daily vehicles trips are presumed to have a less than significant impact on VMT. The proposed project is anticipated to generate more than 110 daily trips.

Thus, the projects Generating Less Than 110 Daily Vehicle Trips Screening criteria is not met.

TPA Screening

County Guidelines state that projects located within a Transit Priority Area (TPA) (i.e., within ½ mile of an existing "major transit stop"1 or an existing stop along a "high-quality transit corridor"2) may be presumed to have a less than significant impact absent substantial evidence to the contrary. However, the presumption may not be appropriate if a project:

- Has a Floor Area Ratio (FAR) of less than 0.75;
- Includes more parking for use by residents, customers, or employees of the project than
- required by the jurisdiction (if the jurisdiction requires the project to supply parking);
- Is inconsistent with the applicable Sustainable Communities Strategy (as determined by the lead agency, with input from the Metropolitan Planning Organization); or
- Replaces affordable residential units with a smaller number of moderate- or high-income residential units.

Based on the Screening Tool results presented in Attachment B, the project site is not located within 1/2 mile of an existing major transit stop, or along a high-quality transit corridor.

Thus, the TPA Screening criteria not met.

Low VMT Area Screening
As noted in the County Guidelines, "development in efficient areas of the County will reduce VMT per person/employee and is beneficial to the region" County Guidelines state that projects with VMT per person/employee lower than 4% below the existing VMT per person for the unincorporated County are considered to have a less than significant VMT impact.

The San Bernardino Transportation Analysis Model (SBTAM) has been utilized to determine the existing VMT per service population (employees + visitors) generated by the Traffic Analysis Zone (TAZ) in which the project is located (TAZ 53744601). TAZ 53744601 was found to generate 22.2 VMT per service population which is below the County's adopted impact threshold of 4% below the existing VMT per service population or 26.78 VMT per service population.

Thus, the Low VMT Area Screening is met.

Conclusion
The San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project was found to meet the Local Serving Project Screening criteria and the Low VMT Area Screening criteria it is presumed to have a less than significant VMT impact.

c. *Less Than Significant Impact* – The proposed project will occur entirely within the project site boundaries, with minimal off-site improvements due to the use of existing driveways to facilitate site access. Large trucks delivering equipment or removing small quantities of excavated dirt or debris can enter the site without major conflicts with the flow of traffic on the roadways used to access the site. Primary access to the site will be provided by the modified driveways along Valley Boulevard, as driveways do presently exist to provide access to the site. Valley Boulevard has been designated as a Major Arterial Highway serving as a parallel route to I-10 in the unincorporated community of Bloomington within San Bernardino County, and adjacent community areas. In the vicinity of the project site, this roadway is generally relatively heavily traveled. The proposed access driveways will be rehabilitated and designed such that the project would not increase hazards due to a geometric design feature or incompatible uses. Furthermore, access to the site must comply with County design standards and would be reviewed by the County to ensure that inadequate design features or incompatible uses do not occur. Additionally, the proposed project would be required to comply with all applicable fire code and ordinance requirements for construction and access to the site. Emergency response and evacuation procedures would be coordinated with the County, as well as the police and fire departments. As such, any potential increase in hazards due to design features or incompatible use will be considered less than significant in the short term. In the long term, no impacts to any hazards or incompatible uses in existing or planned roadways are anticipated. Operation of the proposed San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would be consistent with the surrounding uses, and the design of the project would not create any hazards to surrounding roadways. Thus, any impacts are considered less than significant with implementation of mitigation. No additional mitigation is required.

d. *Less Than Significant Impact* – The proposed project consists of activities that will take place along Valley Boulevard within the unincorporated community of Bloomington within the County of San Bernardino. Vehicles travelling to and from the project site would utilize Valley Boulevard to access the site. Primary access to the site will be provided by the rehabilitated and modified driveways along Valley Boulevard, as driveways do presently exist to provide access to the project site, as a result of the former use of the site as Ayala Park. Access to the site is adequate and the nearest emergency response station is located within less than one half mile of the project site to the east. As shown on the Evacuation Route Map prepared for the San Bernardino Countywide Plan (**Figure IX-5**), the adopted evacuation routes are the Interstate 10 (I-10), the I-15, and Foothill Boulevard located to the

south, west, and north of the project site, respectively. Development at this located would not interfere with access to these emergency evacuation routes, as the proposed project will be constructed entirely within the boundaries of the project site, with minimal improvements to the site frontage and entrances to the site along Valley Boulevard. Thus, because of the lack of adverse impact on local circulation, no potential for significant impacts on emergency access are forecast to occur during construction or operation. No mitigation is required.

Issues	*Potentially Significant Impact*	*Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated*	*Less Than Significant Impact*	*No Impact*
XVIII. TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES: Will the project:				
a) Would the project cause a substantial change in the significance of tribal cultural resources, defined in Public Resources Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to the California Native American Tribe, and that is?				
i. Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or?	☐	☒	☐	☐
ii. A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resource Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe?	☐	☒	☐	☐

XVIII. TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES

SUBSTANTIATION: Note: Conducting consultation early in the CEQA process allows tribal governments, lead agencies, and project proponents to discuss the level of environmental review, identify and address potential adverse impacts to tribal cultural resources, and reduce the potential for delay and conflict in the environmental review process. (See Public Resources Code section 21083.3.2.) Information may also be available from the California Native American Heritage Commission's Sacred Lands File per Public Resources Code section 5097.96 and the California Historical Resources Information System administered by the California Office of Historic Preservation. Public Resources Code section 21082.3(c) contains provisions specific to confidentiality.

a.i-ii *Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated* – The County of San Bernardino has been contacted by the following tribes under AB 52: Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation, Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians, San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians, Morongo Band of Mission Indians, Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation, Fort Mojave Indian Tribe, and Colorado River Indian Tribe. During the initial 30-day consultation period, the Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation (YSMN) and Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation each requested consultation of the project, and requested mitigation measures that should be implemented to protect tribal cultural resources of cultural significance to each Tribe. The YSMN have requested that **MMs CUL-2 through CUL-4** be implemented, which can be found under the Cultural Resources Subchapter (V) of this document. Additionally, the YSMN have requested the following mitigation measures be implemented to protect tribal cultural resources with importance to YSMN:

TCR-1 The Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation Cultural Resources Department (YSMN) shall be contacted, as detailed in CR-1, of any pre-contact and/or historic-era 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 shall be created by the archaeologist, in

coordination with YSMN, and all subsequent finds shall be subject to this Plan. This Plan shall allow for a monitor to be present that represents YSMN for the remainder of the project, should YSMN 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 County for dissemination to YSMN. The County shall, in good faith, consult with YSMN throughout the life of the project.***

The Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation has also requested mitigation measures that shall be implemented to ensure protection of tribal cultural resources important to the Kizh Nation.

TCR-3 ***Retain a Native American Monitor Prior to Commencement of Ground-Disturbing Activities***

- ***A. The County shall retain a Native American Monitor from or approved by the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation. The monitor shall be retained prior to the commencement of any "ground-disturbing activity" for the subject project at all project locations (i.e., both on-site and any off-site locations that are included in the project description/definition and/or required in connection with the project, such as public improvement work). "Ground-disturbing activity" shall include, but is not limited to, demolition, pavement removal, potholing, auguring, grubbing, tree removal, boring, grading, excavation, drilling, and trenching.***
- ***B. A copy of the executed monitoring agreement shall be submitted to the County prior to the earlier of the commencement of any ground-disturbing activity, or the issuance of any permit necessary to commence a ground-disturbing activity.***
- ***C. The monitor will complete daily monitoring logs that will provide descriptions of the relevant ground-disturbing activities, the type of construction activities performed, locations of ground- disturbing activities, soil types, cultural-related materials, and any other facts, conditions, materials, or discoveries of significance to the Tribe. Monitor logs will identify and describe any discovered TCRs, including but not limited to, Native American cultural and historical artifacts, remains, places of significance, etc., (collectively, tribal cultural resources, or "TCR"), as well as any discovered Native American (ancestral) human remains and burial goods. Copies of monitor logs will be provided to the County upon written request to the Tribe.***
- ***D. On-site tribal monitoring shall conclude upon the latter of the following (1) written confirmation to the Kizh from a designated point of contact for the County that all ground-disturbing activities and phases that may involve ground-disturbing activities on the project site or in connection with the project are complete; or (2) a determination and written notification by the Kizh to the County that no future, planned construction activity and/or development/construction phase at the project site possesses the potential to impact Kizh TCRs.***
- ***E. Upon discovery of any TCRs, all construction activities in the immediate vicinity of the discovery shall cease (i.e., not less than the surrounding 50 feet) and shall not resume until the discovered TCR has been fully assessed by the Kizh monitor and/or Kizh archaeologist. The Kizh will recover and retain all discovered TCRs in the form and/or manner the Tribe deems appropriate, in the including for educational, cultural and/or historic purposes.***

TCR-4 Unanticipated Discovery of Human Remains and Associated Funerary Objects

A. Native American human remains are defined in PRC 5097.98 (d)(1) as an inhumation or cremation, and in any state of decomposition or skeletal completeness. Funerary objects, called associated grave goods in Public Resources Code Section 5097.98, are also to be treated according to this statute.

B. If Native American human remains and/or grave goods discovered or recognized on the project site, then all construction activities shall immediately cease. Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 dictates that any discoveries of human skeletal material shall be immediately reported to the County Coroner and all ground-disturbing activities shall immediately halt and shall remain halted until the coroner has determined the nature of the remains. If the coroner recognizes the human remains to be those of a Native American or has reason to believe they are Native American, he or she shall contact, by telephone within 24 hours, the Native American Heritage Commission, and Public Resources Code Section 5097.98 shall be followed.

C. Human remains and grave/burial goods shall be treated alike per California Public Resources Code section 5097.98(d)(1) and (2).

D. Construction activities may resume in other parts of the project site at a minimum of 200 feet away from discovered human remains and/or burial goods, if the Kizh determines in its sole discretion that resuming construction activities at that distance is acceptable and provides the project manager express consent of that determination (along with any other mitigation measures the Kizh monitor and/or archaeologist deems necessary). (CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(f).)

E. Preservation in place (i.e., avoidance) is the preferred manner of treatment for discovered human remains and/or burial goods. Any historic archaeological material that is not Native American in origin (non-TCR) shall be curated at a public, non-profit institution with a research interest in the materials, such as the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County or the Fowler Museum, if such an institution agrees to accept the material. If no institution accepts the archaeological material, it shall be offered to a local school or historical society in the area for educational purposes.

F. Any discovery of human remains/burial goods shall be kept confidential to prevent further disturbance.

TCR-5 Procedures for Burials and Funerary Remains:

A. As the Most Likely Descendant (MLD), the Koo-nas-gna Burial Policy shall be implemented. To the Tribe, the term "human remains" encompasses more than human bones. In ancient times, as well as historic times, Tribal Traditions included, but were not limited to, the preparation of the soil for burial, the burial of funerary objects with the deceased, and the ceremonial burning of human remains.

B. If the discovery of human remains includes four or more burials, the discovery location shall be treated as a cemetery and a separate treatment plan shall be created.

C. The prepared soil and cremation soils are to be treated in the same manner as bone fragments that remain intact. Associated funerary objects are objects that, as part of the death rite or ceremony of a culture, are reasonably believed to have been placed with individual human remains either at the time of death or later; other items made exclusively for burial purposes or to contain human remains can also be considered as

associated funerary objects. Cremations will either be removed in bulk or by means as necessary to ensure complete recovery of all sacred materials.

D. In the case where discovered human remains cannot be fully documented and recovered on the same day, the remains will be covered with muslin cloth and a steel plate that can be moved by heavy equipment placed over the excavation opening to protect the remains. If this type of steel plate is not available, a 24-hour guard should be posted outside of working hours. The Tribe will make every effort to recommend diverting the project and keeping the remains in situ and protected. If the project cannot be diverted, it may be determined that burials will be removed.

E. In the event preservation in place is not possible despite good faith efforts by the County and/or landowner, before ground-disturbing activities may resume on the project site, the landowner shall arrange a designated site location within the footprint of the project for the respectful reburial of the human remains and/or ceremonial objects.

F. Each occurrence of human remains and associated funerary objects will be stored using opaque cloth bags. All human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects and objects of cultural patrimony will be removed to a secure container on site if possible. These items should be retained and reburied within six months of recovery. The site of reburial/repatriation shall be on the project site but at a location agreed upon between the Tribe and the County at a site to be protected in perpetuity. There shall be no publicity regarding any cultural materials recovered.

G. The Tribe will work closely with the project's qualified archaeologist to ensure that the excavation is treated carefully, ethically and respectfully. If data recovery is approved by the Tribe, documentation shall be prepared and shall include (at a minimum) detailed descriptive notes and sketches. All data recovery data recovery-related forms of documentation shall be approved in advance by the Tribe. If any data recovery is performed, once complete, a final report shall be submitted to the Tribe and the NAHC. The Tribe does NOT authorize any scientific study or the utilization of any invasive and/or destructive diagnostics on human remains.

The above mitigation measures will ensure that a Native American monitor is available to monitor the site and to recover unearthed tribal cultural resources, and ultimately to ensure appropriate treatment of such resources, which is sufficient to ensure protection of such resources by the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation, YSMN, and County standards. Furthermore, the above mitigation measures would ensure appropriate procedures are followed in the event of the unanticipated discovery of human remains and associated funerary objects, including procedures for burials and funerary remains treatment. Ultimately, the implementation of the above measures would prevent significant adverse impacts to tribal cultural resources, and impacts under this issue are considered less than significant with mitigation. No further mitigation is required beyond that which was identified under Section V, Cultural Resources, above.

Issues	*Potentially Significant Impact*	*Less Than Significant 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 stormwater drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	☐	☐	☒	☐
d) Generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?	☐	☐	☒	☐
e) Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	☐	☐	☒	☐

XIX. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS

SUBSTANTIATION:

VCSP EIR Mitigation Measures

One mitigation measure was considered to ensure that future projects within the VCSP would be served with sufficient wastewater capacity by the Rialto Wastewater Treatment Plant to serve development under the VCSP. The mitigation measure requires that the Applicant demonstrate that adequate capacity is available at the Rialto Wastewater Treatment Plant to serve the project. The County has met the provisions of this measure as the City of Rialto has indicated that sufficient capacity is available to serve the project.

Impact Analysis

a. Water

Less Than Significant Impact – Water will be provided by the MMWC. The project is located in an area that is currently served by water transmission lines, and the site is currently connected to that system as a supply for the recycling facility that is not currently in use. It is not anticipated that the relocation or construction of new or expanded water transmission would be required to serve the proposed project. The MMWC services the northwestern corner of Bloomington area, which is in the eastern portion of the Chino Groundwater Basin. As previously stated under issue X, Hydrology and Water Quality, MMWC prepared a domestic water availability study and report to assess the water demand and supply conditions with implementation of the VCSP. This is based on the fact that the VCSP EIR indicated that the water demand for the proposed development of the specific plan area would increase demand by 257 AFY. In this context, MMWC determined that it will be able to meet

the increased water demanded by development associated with the VCSP. Therefore, development of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project would not result in a significant environmental effect related to the relocation or construction of new or expanded water facilities. Impacts are less than significant.

Wastewater

Less Than Significant Impact – Municipal wastewater flows from the Valley Corridor Specific Plan area, which encompasses the project site, discharge to the Rialto Wastewater Treatment Plant. The Rialto Wastewater Treatment Plant (WTP) has a design capacity of 11.1 mgd and a permitted capacity of 11.7 mgd. The WTP is presently undergoing expansion to increase this capacity. The VCSP determined that the additional flows created by the new development would require sewer system improvements, including increased sewage collection capacity, and additional wastewater treatment capacity. The project is located in an area that is currently served by sewer transmission lines that are currently connected to the project site, which served the former Ayala Park, and as such, the proposed project will be served by an existing sewage transmission line within Valley Boulevard. It is not anticipated that the relocation or construction of new or expanded wastewater transmission pipelines would be required to serve the proposed project beyond that which was identified in the VCSP EIR. It is not anticipated that Rialto would need to expand their existing facilities beyond that which is already planned to occur to accommodate growth within its service area to accommodate the wastewater generated by the proposed project. This is discussed further under issue XIX(c) below. Therefore, development of the project would not result in a significant environmental effect related to the relocation or construction of new or expanded wastewater facilities. Impacts are less than significant.

Stormwater

Less Than Significant Impact – The stormwater runoff, will be managed in accordance with the WQMP as discussed in the Hydrology and Water Quality Section (Section X) of this Initial Study. The WQMP specifies that the site would be approximately 70% impervious, and onsite surface flows will be collected and conveyed in a controlled manner through the project site. The project will require installation of drainage inlets at several locations within the project site and installation of an infiltration basin towards the southern site boundary, in addition the project may include other LID features including catch basin filters, perforated infiltration chambers, pervious pavement, and other water quality control measures as required by the site specific WQMP. This system will be designed to capture the peak 100-year flow runoff from the project site or otherwise be detained on site and discharged in conformance with County requirements. Therefore, surface water will be adequately managed on site and as no significant impacts have been identified under any issue, development of the project and associated stormwater improvements would not result in a significant environmental effect related to the relocation or construction of new or expanded stormwater facilities. Impacts are less than significant.

Electric Power

Less Than Significant Impact – Southern California Edison (SCE) will provide electricity to the site and the power distribution system located adjacent to the site will be able to supply sufficient electricity. The project site is currently served by existing power connections to SCE as a result of previous park operations. No construction or relocation of electric facilities will be required to serve the project. Therefore, development of the project would not result in a significant environmental effect related to the relocation or construction of new or expanded electric power facilities. Impacts are less than significant.

Natural Gas

No Impact – Development of the proposed project would create a demand for natural gas. Project facility operational energy demands are estimated at 1,915,132 kBTU/year of natural gas. Natural gas would be supplied to the project by SoCalGas and the connection to receive natural gas service would be located adjacent to the project site. The project proposes an updated animal care center reflecting contemporary energy efficient/energy conserving designs and operational programs. Therefore, the project would not result in a significant environmental effect related to the relocation or construction of new or expanded natural gas facilities. No impacts are anticipated.

Telecommunications

No Impact – Development of the proposed project would connect to the local wireless internet service or phone service provider. The proposed project site already has access to these services at present, and will require reestablishing a connection to telecommunication facilities to operate the project. Given that this service is available at the project site at present, the project would not result in a significant environmental effect related to the relocation or construction of new or expanded telecommunication facilities. No impacts are anticipated.

b. *Less Than Significant Impact* – Please refer to the discussion under Hydrology, Section X(b). The project site is located in the Chino Basin. Water will be provided by the MMWC. The main water utilizing sources on site would be the car wash, employee break rooms, staff showers, animal intake grooming, landscaping and restroom facilities. The VCSP EIR indicated that the water demand for the proposed development of the specific plan area would increase demand by 257 AFY. In this context, MMWC determined that it will be able to meet the increased water demanded by development associated with the VCSP. The San Bernardino County Animal Care Center is anticipated to demand about 6.14 AFY, which, in the context of available supply could be accommodated. Furthermore, as the proposed project would contribute a new use to a site that was formerly served with water service in support of Ayala Park, which utilized an estimated 17 AFY of water in support of park operations when it was operational, the addition of the proposed San Bernardino County Animal Care Center at this site is would not exceed this former site use water demand, such that the groundwater supply would be significantly impacted. This is because the proposed project is anticipated to demand only about 6.14 AFY in support of the project. The project will install onsite landscaping that is required to abide by the County Code, Chapter 83.10, which pertains to water efficiency standards. Thus, based on the availability of water within the area the development of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project is not forecast to cause a significant demand for water supply and is therefore anticipated to be served by a water provider with sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years. Based on these substantiating data, provision of domestic water supply can be accomplished without causing significant impacts on the existing water system or existing entitlements.

c. *Less Than Significant Impact* – The proposed project would modify the wastewater infrastructure within the site to serve the proposed new San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project uses concurrent with the redevelopment of the site. All wastewater generated by the interior plumbing system of the proposed project would be discharged into the local sewer main and conveyed for treatment through the Rialto Wastewater Treatment Plant. The City of Rialto provides wastewater treatment for portions of Bloomington and all of the City of Rialto. Wastewater flows from the project area discharge to the Rialto Wastewater Treatment Plant at 501 E. Santa Ana Avenue in the city of Rialto. Four out of the five plants at this treatment facility are currently operational. The four operational plants (Plants 2, 3, 4, and 5) have a design capacity of 11.1 mgd and a permitted capacity of 11.7 mgd. According to the 2013 Rialto Sewer Master Plan, average flows into the Rialto treatment facility are approximately 7 mgd. Therefore, there is approximately 4.1 mgd of available capacity dedicated to the projected buildout of the City of Rialto. The City of Rialto is currently in the process of modernizing its plant. Although the plant modernization is not intended to increase capacity it will enhance efficiency, and the City of Rialto Public Works Department has indicated that an alternative

design to Plant 5 could consider plant expansion to provide future additional capacity. All wastewater generated by the interior plumbing system of the new structures proposed by the project would be discharged into the local sewer main and conveyed for treatment through the Rialto Wastewater Treatment Plant. The project will generate a modest-to-moderate amount of wastewater, through the use of the onsite restroom facilities, in addition to the wastewater generated by the animal care use. It was determined that buildout of the Specific Plan would generate additional average daily sewer demand of 1,663 equivalent dwelling units (EDUs) (449,000 gpd). The majority of the project area is served by septic systems, and the existing sewer infrastructure is not adequate to service this additional demand.

Based on the Sewer Service Feasibility Study provided as Appendix 13 to this Initial Study, it is anticipated that the proposed project would generate about 67 EDU of wastewater per day, which is within the context of the available capacity identified in the VCSP, given that development under the VCSP is in its early stages, leaving plenty of capacity available for near-term development. Therefore, the wastewater generated by the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project will represent a miniscule percentage of the available capacity of the permitted wastewater treatment capacity available through the Rialto Wastewater Treatment Plant. As such, it is anticipated that there will be available capacity to accommodate the demand generated by the proposed project. Impacts under this issue are less than significant.

d. *Less Than Significant Impact* – Solid waste generation rates outlined in the VCSP EIR in Table 5.14-7, indicate the following solid waste generation rates for Bloomington Enterprise uses; also below are the solid waste generation rates calculated for the proposed project.

- Bloomington Enterprise: 0.013 pounds per square foot = **967 lbs / day**
- TOTAL: = **967 lbs / day**
  or 352,985 lbs /year

The total solid waste generated per year would equal about 176.5 tons, or after an assumed 50% diversion to be recycled per the state's solid waste diversion requirements under AB 939, the project solid waste generation will be about 88.25 tons per year. However, AB 341 (Chapter 476, Statutes of 2011) increased the statewide solid waste diversion goal to 75 percent by 2020. The law also mandates recycling for commercial and multifamily residential land uses. Therefore, with the mandated 75% diversion rate, the proposed project would contribute 44.1 tons per year to the area solid waste collection. With the County's mandatory source reduction and recycling program, the proposed project is not forecast to cause a significant adverse impact to the waste disposal system. Furthermore, the proposed project is not a new use, it would essentially transfer 80% of the animal care operations from the Devore Animal Shelter to this new San Bernardino County Animal Care Center. While the animal care facilities would inherently be expanded through a greater number of kennels for the small animals that will be cared for at new San Bernardino County Animal Care Center, the waste generation would not constitute a totally new use that would result in substantially greater reaching area landfill capacities.

Additionally, as this project would be developed after 2022, operation of the project would be required to comply with SB1383, otherwise known as "California's Short-Lived Climate Pollutant Reduction" law, often called SB 1383, which establishes methane reduction targets for California. California SB 1383 sets goals to reduce disposal of organic waste in landfills, including edible food.[9] The bill's purpose is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, such as methane, and address food insecurity in California. This requires jurisdictions to implement mandatory organic waste collection and recycling in a statewide effort to divert organic waste from landfills with goals to:

- Reduce organic waste disposal 50% by 2020 and 75% by 2025
- Recover at least 20% of currently disposed surplus edible food by 2025

[9] County of Santa Clara, 2023. Understand Senate Bill (SB) 1383. https://reducewaste.sccgov.org/food-recovery/understand-senate-bill-sb-1383#3925188384-318395615 (accessed 07/21/23)

As such, while the proposed project is not likely to generate a significant amount of organic waste, much of the organic waste produced at the project site in future will be required to be diverted from landfills, and as such, the amount of waste generated by the proposed project that would end up in landfills is even less than the reduced tonnage quoted above.

Furthermore, the VCSP identifies landfill that serves the planning area. The Mid-Valley Sanitary Landfill serves the project area. The Mid-Valley Sanitary Landfill has a maximum permitted daily capacity of 7,500 tons per day, with a permitted capacity of 101,300,000 CY, with 67,520,000 CY of capacity remaining. The County anticipates an increase in solid waste generation of 5,979,355 pounds per day at Build-Out of the Countywide Plan. Therefore, the proposed project would consist of about 0.016% of solid waste generation within the County of San Bernardino, excluding the mandatory waste reductions referenced above. Furthermore, the VCSP EIR determined that development under the Plan would be served with adequate capacity at the Mid-Valley Landfill for project generated solid waste.

Based on the above data, it is expected that implementation of the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project will be served by landfills with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs. Any impacts under this issue are considered less than significant. No mitigation is required.

e. *Less Than Significant Impact* – All collection, transportation, and disposal of any solid waste generated by the proposed project is required to comply with all applicable federal, state, and local regulations. Furthermore, all materials collected on site as part of the recyclable materials collection operation on site will be handled in accordance with all applicable federal, state, and local regulations. As previously stated, solid waste produced in the County is collected and transported by Burrtec. The area is served by several nearby landfills, though the closest is the Mid-Valley Sanitary Landfill, which, as stated under issue XIX(d) above, has adequate capacity to serve the project. Additionally, any hazardous materials collected on the project site during either construction or operation of the project will be transported and disposed of by a permitted and licensed hazardous materials service provider, as stated under issue VIII, Hazards and Hazardous Materials above. Thus, given the amount and types of wastes that will be generated both during construction and operation of the project, the potential impacts to the waste disposal systems are considered less than significant. Therefore, the project is expected to comply with all regulations related to solid waste under federal, state, and local statutes. No further mitigation is necessary.

Issues	*Potentially Significant Impact*	*Less Than Significant 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?	☐	☐	☐	☒
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 wildfire?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d) Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?	☐	☐	☐	☒

XX. WILDFIRE

SUBSTANTIATION:

Impact Analysis

a-d. *No Impact* – According to the San Bernardino Countywide Plan Fire Hazard Severity Zones Map of the project area, the proposed project is not located within a high or very high fire hazard severity zone (**Figure IX-6**). The proposed project area is located in an urban area removed from the high fire hazard areas that are located adjacent to the San Gabriel Mountains to the north and Jurupa Hills to the south. The fire threat throughout most of the Valley Region that is situated at a substantial distance from nearby mountains experiences moderate wildland fire risk. The proposed would not expose people or structures to a wildland fires as they are not located in the vicinity of the high wildland fire hazard area, and furthermore, the activities that would occur under project operations are not of a type that would utilize hazardous materials in quantities that would exacerbate the potential for fire hazards to occur. Therefore, given that the propose project site is located outside of a very high fire hazard severity zone, and the nature of the proposed project as the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project, no impacts under these issues are anticipated. No mitigation is required under these issues.

Issues	*Potentially Significant Impact*	*Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated*	*Less Than Significant Impact*	*No Impact or Does Not Apply*
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?	☐	☒	☐	☐
b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?	☐	☒	☐	☐
c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	☐	☒	☐	☐

XXI. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

SUBSTANTIATION: The analysis in this Initial Study and the findings reached indicate that the proposed project can be implemented without causing any new project specific or cumulatively considerable unavoidable significant adverse environmental impacts. Mitigation is required to control potential environmental impacts of the proposed project to a less than significant impact level. The following findings are based on the detailed analysis of the Initial Study of all environmental topics and the implementation of the mitigation measures identified in the previous text and summarized in this section.

a. *Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated* – The project has no potential to cause a significant impact to any biological or cultural resources. The project has been identified as having no potential to degrade the quality of the natural environment, substantially reduce habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, or reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal. The project requires contingency mitigation to prevent significant impacts from occurring to burrowing owl and nesting birds as a result of implementation of the project. Based on the data contained in the Cultural Resources Report (Appendix 6), the potential for impacting cultural resources is low. The Cultural Resources Report determined that no cultural resources of importance were found at the project site upon field review and a review of the records search performed for the project and project area, so it is not anticipated that any resources could be affected by the project because no cultural resources exist. However, because it is not known what could be unearthed upon any excavation activities, contingency mitigation measures are provided to ensure that, in the unlikely event that any resources are found, they are protected from any potential impacts, and to ensure that any potential resources are treated in accordance with guidance from a qualified archaeologist. Please see biological and cultural sections of this Initial Study, as well as the technical studies that have been prepared to substantiate these findings (Appendices 5 and 6).

b. *Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated* – The project has eight (8) potential impacts that are individually limited, but may be cumulatively considerable The issues of Air Quality, Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Geology and Soils, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Hydrology and Water Quality, Noise, and Tribal Cultural Resources, require the implementation of mitigation

measures to reduce impacts to a less than significant level and ensure that cumulative effects are not cumulatively considerable. The project is not considered growth-inducing, as defined by *State CEQA Guidelines*, as it would transfer existing County small animal care services to a new location to accommodate planned growth within the Valley Region to enable animal care services to be expanded to adequately serve the community. Given that the proposed project would transfer an existing use (80% of animal care services would be transferred to the new San Bernardino County Animal Care Center) to a new location, and that the project is intended to be growth accommodating, the project's potential to contribute to cumulative growth within the region is negligible. These issues require the implementation of mitigation measures to reduce impacts to a less than significant level and ensure that cumulative effects are not cumulatively considerable. All other environmental issues were found to have no significant impacts without implementation of mitigation. The potential cumulative environmental effects of implementing the proposed project have been determined to be less than considerable and thus, would have a less than significant cumulative impact.

c. *Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated* – The project will achieve long-term community goals by providing a new animal care center that would better serve the community at large. The community has long desired for a more updated animal care center with better statistical outcomes for the animals received therein. The proposed San Bernardino County Animal Care Center will be a state-of-the-art facility that is anticipated to enable longer hold periods, and greater capacity than that which exists at the Devore Animal Shelter at present. Refer to the Programming Study provided as Appendix 2, which fully describes the steps that County is taking to ensure a high level of animal care as part of the development of this facility. The short-term impacts associated with the project, which are mainly construction-related impacts, are less than significant with mitigation, and the proposed project is compatible with long-term environmental protection. The issues of Air Quality, Geology and Soils, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, and Noise require the implementation of mitigation measures to reduce potential human impacts to a less than significant level. All other environmental issues were found to have no significant impacts on humans without implementation of mitigation. The potential for direct human effects from implementing the proposed project have been determined to be less than significant.

Conclusion

This document evaluated all CEQA issues contained in the latest Initial Study Checklist form. The evaluation determined that either no impact or less than significant impacts would be associated with the issues of Aesthetics, Agriculture and Forestry Resources, Energy, Greenhouse Gas, Land Use, Mineral Resources, Population/Housing, Public Services, Recreation, Transportation, Utilities and Service Systems and Wildfire. The issues of Air Quality, Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Geology and Soils, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Hydrology and Water Quality, Noise, and Tribal Cultural Resources, require the implementation of mitigation measures to reduce impacts to a less than significant level. The required mitigation has been proposed in this Initial Study to reduce impacts for these issues to a less than significant impact.

Based on the findings in this Initial Study, the County of San Bernardino proposes to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the San Bernardino County Animal Care Center Project. A Notice of Availability/Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration (NOA/NOI) will be issued for this project by the County. The Initial Study and NOA/NOI will be circulated for 30 days of public comment because this project involves the state as either a responsible or trustee agency. At the end of the 30-day review period, a final MND package will be prepared and it will be reviewed by the County for a possible adoption at a future County Planning Commission hearing, the date for which has not yet been determined. If you or your agency comments on the MND/NOA/NOI for this project, you will be notified about the meeting date in accordance with the requirements in Section 21092.5 of CEQA.

MITIGATION MEASURES

Any mitigation measures that are not "self-monitoring" shall have a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program prepared and adopted at time of project approval. Condition compliance will be verified by existing procedure.

Air Quality

VCSP
AQ-1 Applicants for new development projects within the Valley Corridor Specific Plan area shall require the construction contractor to use equipment that meets the United Stated Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-Certified emissions standards. All off-road diesel- powered construction equipment greater than 50 horsepower shall meet the Tier 4 emission standards. Any emissions control device used by the contractor shall achieve emissions reductions that are no less than what could be achieved by a Level 4 diesel emissions control strategy for a similarly sized engine, as defined by the California Air Resources Board's (CARB) regulations.

Prior to construction, the project engineer shall ensure that all demolition and grading plans clearly show the requirement for EPA Tier 4 or higher emissions standards for construction equipment over 50 horsepower. During construction, the construction contractor shall maintain a list of all operating equipment in use on the construction site for verification by the County of San Bernardino. The construction equipment list shall state the makes, models, and numbers of construction equipment onsite. Equipment shall be properly serviced and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations. Construction contractors shall also ensure that all nonessential idling of construction equipment is restricted to five minutes or less in compliance with California Air Resources Board's Rule 2449.

VCSP
AQ-2 Applicants for new development projects within the Valley Corridor Specific Plan area shall require the construction contractor to prepare a dust control plan and implement the following measures during ground-disturbing activities in addition to the existing requirements for fugitive dust control under South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) Rule 403 to further reduce PM10 and PM2.5 emissions. The County of San Bernardino shall verify compliance that these measures have been implemented during normal construction site inspections.

- Following all grading activities, the construction contractor shall reestablish ground cover on the construction site through seeding and watering.
- During all construction activities, the construction contractor shall sweep streets with SCAQMD Rule 1186–compliant, PM10-efficient vacuum units on a daily basis if silt is carried over to adjacent public thoroughfares or occurs as a result of hauling.
- During all construction activities, the construction contractor shall maintain a minimum 24-inch freeboard on trucks hauling dirt, sand, soil, or other loose materials and tarp materials with a fabric cover or other cover that achieves the same amount of protection.
- During all construction activities, the construction contractor shall water exposed ground surfaces and disturbed areas a minimum of every three hours on the construction site and a minimum of three times per day.
- During all construction activities, the construction contractor shall limit onsite vehicle speeds on unpaved roads to no more than 15 miles per hour.

VCSP
AQ-3 Applicants for new development projects within the Valley Corridor Specific Plan area shall require the construction contractor to use coatings and solvents with a volatile organic compound (VOC) content lower than required under South Coast Air Quality Management District Rule 1113 (i.e., super compliant paints). The construction contractor shall also use precoated/natural-colored building materials, where feasible. Use of low-VOC paints and spray method shall be included as a note on architectural building plans and verified by the County of San Bernardino during construction.

VCSP

AQ-4 Prior to issuance of a building permit for new development projects within the Valley Corridor Specific Plan area, the property owner/developer shall show on the building plans that all major appliances (dishwashers, refrigerators, clothes washers, and dryers) to be provided/installed are Energy Star appliances. Installation of Energy Star appliances shall be verified by the County prior to issuance of a certificate of occupancy.

Biological Resources

BIO-1 Pre-construction surveys for BUOW should be conducted no more than 3 days prior to commencement of project-related ground disturbance to verify that BUOW remain absent from the project area.

BIO-2 If burrowing owl are discovered within the project footprint during construction activities, a site-specific BUOW protection and/or passive relocation plan shall be prepared to determine suitable buffers and/or artificial burrow construction locations to minimize impacts to this species. If a BUOW is found on-site at the time of construction, all activities likely to affect the animal(s) shall cease immediately and regulatory agencies shall be contacted to determine appropriate management actions.

BIO-3 All Project activities on-site shall be conducted outside of the nesting bird season (generally, raptor nesting season is January 1 through September 15; and passerine bird nesting season is February 1 through September 1) to the maximum extent feasible. If Project activities begin outside of nesting season, a pre-construction survey shall be performed by a qualified biologist to verify the absence of nesting birds. A qualified biologist shall conduct the pre-activity survey within the Project footprint (including access routes) and a 300-foot buffer surrounding the Project area, no more than two hours prior to initiating Project activities.

If Project activities begin during the nesting bird season (generally, raptor nesting season is January 1 through September 15; and passerine bird nesting season is February 1 through September 1), nesting bird surveys shall be conducted by a qualified avian biologist no more than three (3) days prior to Project initiation. Preconstruction surveys shall focus on both direct and indirect evidence of nesting, including nest locations and nesting behavior. The qualified avian biologist will make every effort to avoid potential nest predation as a result of survey and monitoring efforts. If active nests containing eggs or young are found during the preconstruction nesting bird surveys, a qualified biologist shall establish an appropriate nest buffer to be marked on the ground. Nest buffers are species-specific and shall be at least 100 feet for passerines and 300 feet for raptors. A smaller or larger buffer may be determined by the qualified biologist familiar with the nesting phenology of the nesting species and based on nest and buffer monitoring results. Established buffers shall remain on-site until a qualified biologist determines the young have fledged or the nest is no longer active. Active nests and adequacy of the established buffer distance shall be monitored daily by the qualified biologist until the qualified biologist has determined the young have fledged or the Project has been completed. The qualified biologist has the authority to stop work if nesting pairs exhibit signs of disturbance.

Cultural Resources

CUL-1 Should any cultural resources be encountered during construction of these facilities, earthmoving or grading activities in the immediate area of the finds shall be halted and an onsite inspection shall be performed immediately by a qualified archaeologist. Responsibility for making this determination shall be with the County. The archaeological professional shall assess the find, determine its significance, and make recommendations for appropriate mitigation measures within the guidelines of the California Environmental Quality Act.

CUL-2 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 Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation Cultural Resources Department (YSMN) shall be contacted, as detailed within TCR-1, regarding any pre-contact and/or historic-era 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-3 If significant pre-contact and/or historic-era 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 YSMN for review and comment, as detailed within TCR-1. The archaeologist shall monitor the remainder of the project and implement the Plan accordingly.

CUL-4 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.

Geology and Soils

GEO-1 Based upon the geotechnical investigation (Appendix 8 of this document), all of the recommended seismic design measures identified in Appendix 8 (listed on page 12) shall be implemented by the County. Implementation of these specific measures will address all of the identified geotechnical constraints identified at project site, including seismic related hazards on the proposed structures.

GEO-2 Stored backfill material shall be covered with water resistant material during periods of heavy precipitation to reduce the potential for rainfall erosion of stored backfill material. Where covering is not possible, measures such as the use of straw bales or sand bags shall be used to capture and hold eroded material on the project site for future cleanup such that erosion does not occur.

GEO-3 All exposed, disturbed soil (trenches, stored backfill, etc.) shall be sprayed with water or soil binders twice a day, or more frequently if fugitive dust is observed migrating from the site within which the project is being constructed.

GEO-4 Based upon the geotechnical investigation (Appendix 8 of this document), all of the recommended earthwork, design, and construction measures identified in Appendix 8 (listed on Pages 15-30) shall be implemented by the County. Implementation of these specific measures will address all of the identified geotechnical constraints identified at project site, including soil stability on future project-related structures.

GEO-5 The County shall retain the services of a Qualified Paleontologist meeting the standards of SVP (2010). The Qualified Paleontologist shall determine the determine that the depth at which the transition to high sensitivity occurs and monitoring becomes necessary, by taking into account: a) the most recent local geologic mapping, b) depths at which fossils have been found in the vicinity of the project area, as revealed by the museum records search, and c) geotechnical studies of the project area, if available. Should the project require excavation that will exceed the depth of low sensitivity surficial sediments as determined by a Qualified Paleontologist, a project-specific paleontological resources monitoring and mitigation plan (PRMMP) shall be developed and adhered to for the duration of ground disturbance activities during construction or as otherwise determined by the Qualified Paleontologist. This plan will address specifics of monitoring and mitigation for the development project, and will take into account updated geologic mapping, geotechnical data, updated paleontological records searches, and any changes to the regulatory framework. This PRMMP shall meet the standards of the SVP (2010).

Hazards and Hazardous Materials

HAZ-1 A Hazardous Materials Business Plan shall be prepared and submitted to the Certified Unified Program Agency and shall incorporate best management practices designed to minimize the potential for accidental release of such chemicals and shall meet the standards required by California law for Hazardous Materials Business Plans. The facility managers shall implement these measures to reduce the potential for accidental releases of hazardous materials or wastes. The Hazardous Materials Business Plan shall be approved prior to operation of the facility.

HAZ-2 The Hazardous Materials Business Plan shall assess the potential accidental release scenarios and identify the equipment and response capabilities required to provide immediate containment, control, and collection of any released hazardous material. Prior to issuance of the certificate of occupancy, each facility shall ensure that necessary equipment has been installed and training of personnel has occurred to obtain sufficient resources to control and prevent the spread of any accidentally released hazardous or toxic materials.

HAZ-3 All accidental spills or discharge of hazardous material during construction activities shall be reported to the Certified Unified Program Agency and shall be remediated in compliance with applicable federal, State, and local regulations regarding cleanup and disposal of the contaminant released. The contaminated waste shall be collected and disposed of at a licensed disposal or treatment facility. This measure shall be incorporated into the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) prepared for the project. Prior to accepting the site as remediated, the area contaminated shall be tested to verify that any residual concentrations meet the standard for future residential or public use of the site.

Hydrology and Water Quality

HYD-1 The project proponent will select best management practices from the range of practices identified by the County and reduce future non-point source pollution in surface water runoff discharges from the site to the maximum extent practicable, both during construction and following development. The Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) and Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP) shall be submitted to the County for review and approval prior to ground disturbance and the identified BMPs installed in accordance with schedules contained in these documents.

Noise

VCSP
N-2 Prior to issuance of demolition, grading and/or building permits, a note shall be provided on plans indicating that, ongoing during grading, demolition, and construction, the property owner/developer shall be responsible for requiring contractors to implement the following measures to limit construction-related noise:

- Construction activity is limited to the daytime hours between 7 AM to 7 PM on Monday through Friday and 9 AM to 6PM on Saturday, as prescribed in SBCDC Section 83.01.080. Construction is prohibited on Sundays.
- All internal combustion engines on construction equipment and trucks are fitted with properly maintained mufflers no less effective than those supplied by the original manufacturer.
- Stationary equipment such as generators, air compressors shall be located as far as feasible from nearby noise-sensitive uses.
- Stockpiling shall be located as far as feasible from nearby noise-sensitive receptors.
- Construction traffic shall be limited—to the extent feasible—to approved haul routes established by the County Planning Department.

Tribal Cultural Resources

TCR-1 The Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation Cultural Resources Department (YSMN) shall be contacted, as detailed in CR-1, of any pre-contact and/or historic-era 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 shall be created by the archaeologist, in coordination with YSMN, and all subsequent finds shall be subject to this Plan. This Plan shall allow for a monitor to be present that represents YSMN for the remainder of the project, should YSMN 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 County for dissemination to YSMN. The County shall, in good faith, consult with YSMN throughout the life of the project.

TCR-3 Retain a Native American Monitor Prior to Commencement of Ground-Disturbing Activities

A. The County shall retain a Native American Monitor from or approved by the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation. The monitor shall be retained prior to the commencement of any "ground-disturbing activity" for the subject project at all project locations (i.e., both on-site and any off-site locations that are included in the project description/definition and/or required in connection with the project, such as public improvement work). "Ground-disturbing activity" shall include, but is not limited to, demolition, pavement removal, potholing, auguring, grubbing, tree removal, boring, grading, excavation, drilling, and trenching.
B. A copy of the executed monitoring agreement shall be submitted to the County prior to the earlier of the commencement of any ground-disturbing activity, or the issuance of any permit necessary to commence a ground-disturbing activity.
C. The monitor will complete daily monitoring logs that will provide descriptions of the relevant ground-disturbing activities, the type of construction activities performed, locations of ground-disturbing activities, soil types, cultural-related materials, and any other facts, conditions, materials, or discoveries of significance to the Tribe. Monitor logs will identify and describe any discovered TCRs, including but not limited to, Native American cultural and historical artifacts, remains, places of significance, etc., (collectively, tribal cultural resources, or "TCR"), as well as any discovered Native American (ancestral) human remains and burial goods. Copies of monitor logs will be provided to the County upon written request to the Tribe.
D. On-site tribal monitoring shall conclude upon the latter of the following (1) written confirmation to the Kizh from a designated point of contact for the County that all ground-disturbing activities and phases that may involve ground-disturbing activities on the project site or in connection with the project are complete; or (2) a determination and written notification by the Kizh to the County that no future, planned construction activity and/or development/construction phase at the project site possesses the potential to impact Kizh TCRs.
E. Upon discovery of any TCRs, all construction activities in the immediate vicinity of the discovery shall cease (i.e., not less than the surrounding 50 feet) and shall not resume until the discovered TCR has been fully assessed by the Kizh monitor and/or Kizh archaeologist. The Kizh will recover and retain all discovered TCRs in the form and/or manner the Tribe deems appropriate, in the including for educational, cultural and/or historic purposes.

TCR-4 Unanticipated Discovery of Human Remains and Associated Funerary Objects

A. Native American human remains are defined in PRC 5097.98 (d)(1) as an inhumation or cremation, and in any state of decomposition or skeletal completeness. Funerary objects,

called associated grave goods in Public Resources Code Section 5097.98, are also to be treated according to this statute.

B. If Native American human remains and/or grave goods discovered or recognized on the project site, then all construction activities shall immediately cease. Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 dictates that any discoveries of human skeletal material shall be immediately reported to the County Coroner and all ground-disturbing activities shall immediately halt and shall remain halted until the coroner has determined the nature of the remains. If the coroner recognizes the human remains to be those of a Native American or has reason to believe they are Native American, he or she shall contact, by telephone within 24 hours, the Native American Heritage Commission, and Public Resources Code Section 5097.98 shall be followed.
C. Human remains and grave/burial goods shall be treated alike per California Public Resources Code section 5097.98(d)(1) and (2).
D. Construction activities may resume in other parts of the project site at a minimum of 200 feet away from discovered human remains and/or burial goods, if the Kizh determines in its sole discretion that resuming construction activities at that distance is acceptable and provides the project manager express consent of that determination (along with any other mitigation measures the Kizh monitor and/or archaeologist deems necessary). (CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(f).)
E. Preservation in place (i.e., avoidance) is the preferred manner of treatment for discovered human remains and/or burial goods. Any historic archaeological material that is not Native American in origin (non-TCR) shall be curated at a public, non-profit institution with a research interest in the materials, such as the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County or the Fowler Museum, if such an institution agrees to accept the material. If no institution accepts the archaeological material, it shall be offered to a local school or historical society in the area for educational purposes.
F. Any discovery of human remains/burial goods shall be kept confidential to prevent further disturbance.

TCR-5 Procedures for Burials and Funerary Remains:

A. As the Most Likely Descendant (MLD), the Koo-nas-gna Burial Policy shall be implemented. To the Tribe, the term “human remains” encompasses more than human bones. In ancient times, as well as historic times, Tribal Traditions included, but were not limited to, the preparation of the soil for burial, the burial of funerary objects with the deceased, and the ceremonial burning of human remains.
B. If the discovery of human remains includes four or more burials, the discovery location shall be treated as a cemetery and a separate treatment plan shall be created.
C. The prepared soil and cremation soils are to be treated in the same manner as bone fragments that remain intact. Associated funerary objects are objects that, as part of the death rite or ceremony of a culture, are reasonably believed to have been placed with individual human remains either at the time of death or later; other items made exclusively for burial purposes or to contain human remains can also be considered as associated funerary objects. Cremations will either be removed in bulk or by means as necessary to ensure complete recovery of all sacred materials.
D. In the case where discovered human remains cannot be fully documented and recovered on the same day, the remains will be covered with muslin cloth and a steel plate that can be moved by heavy equipment placed over the excavation opening to protect the remains. If this type of steel plate is not available, a 24-hour guard should be posted outside of working hours. The Tribe will make every effort to recommend diverting the project and keeping the remains in situ and protected. If the project cannot be diverted, it may be determined that burials will be removed.
E. In the event preservation in place is not possible despite good faith efforts by the County and/or landowner, before ground-disturbing activities may resume on the project site, the landowner shall arrange a designated site location within the footprint of the project for the respectful reburial of the human remains and/or ceremonial objects.

F. Each occurrence of human remains and associated funerary objects will be stored using opaque cloth bags. All human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects and objects of cultural patrimony will be removed to a secure container on site if possible. These items should be retained and reburied within six months of recovery. The site of reburial/repatriation shall be on the project site but at a location agreed upon between the Tribe and the County at a site to be protected in perpetuity. There shall be no publicity regarding any cultural materials recovered.

G. The Tribe will work closely with the project's qualified archaeologist to ensure that the excavation is treated carefully, ethically and respectfully. If data recovery is approved by the Tribe, documentation shall be prepared and shall include (at a minimum) detailed descriptive notes and sketches. All data recovery data recovery-related forms of documentation shall be approved in advance by the Tribe. If any data recovery is performed, once complete, a final report shall be submitted to the Tribe and the NAHC. The Tribe does NOT authorize any scientific study or the utilization of any invasive and/or destructive diagnostics on human remains.

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FIGURES

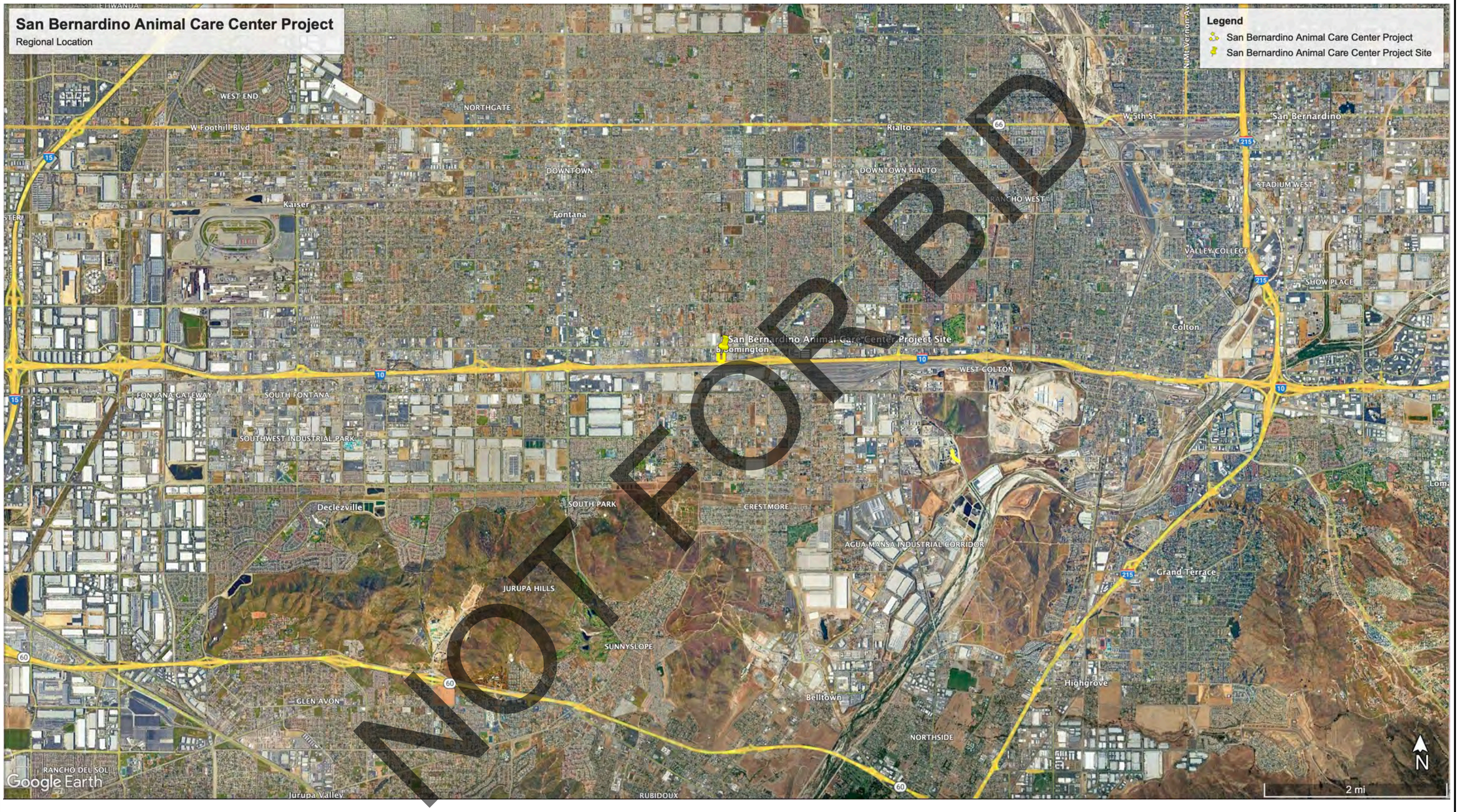

FIGURE 1

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Environmental Consultants

Regional Location

FIGURE 2

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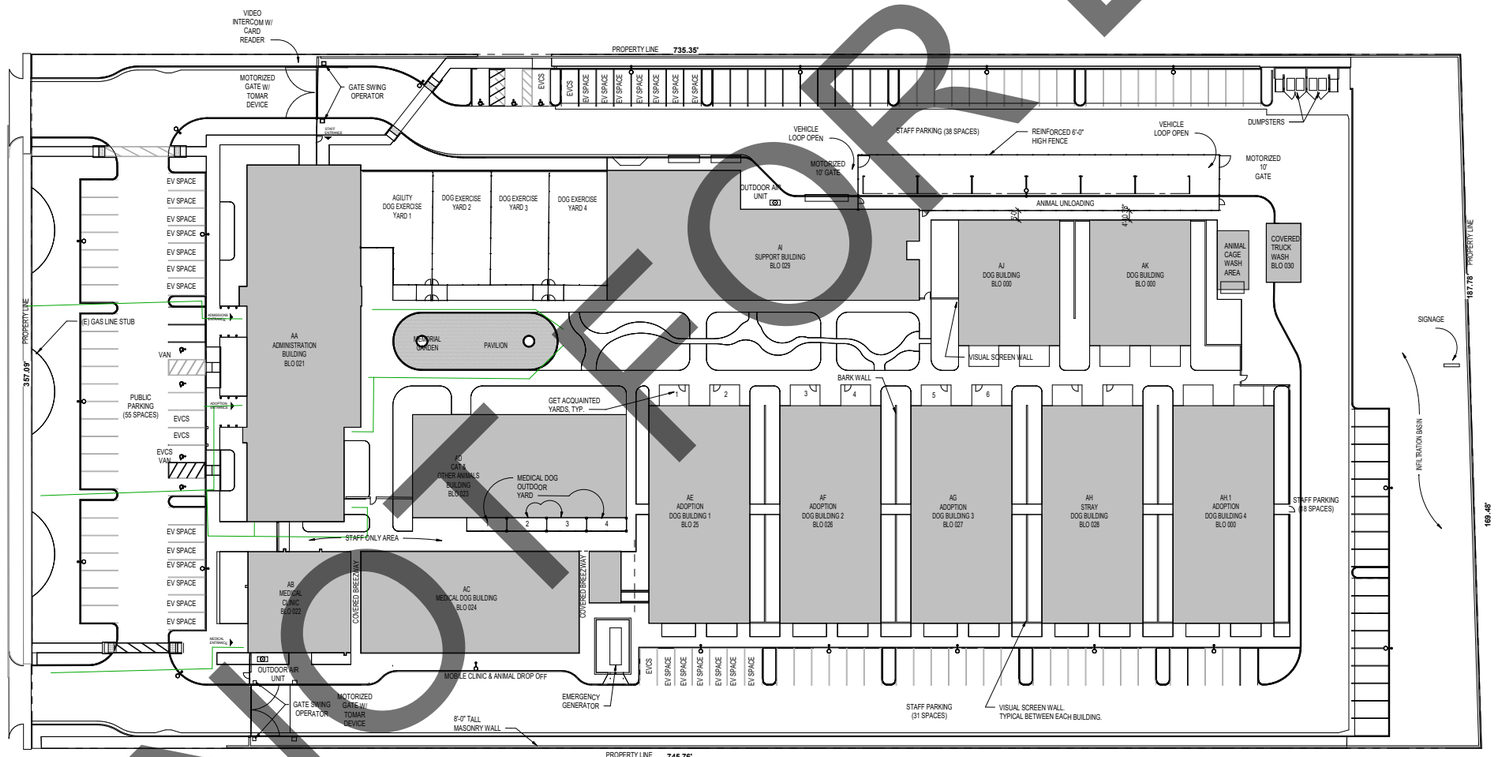
Site Location



1 SITE PLAN
1" = 30'-0"

MILLER
architecture
interiors
planning

"Shelter Planners of America"

1177 Idaho Street, Suite 200
Redlands, CA 92374
Phone: 909-335-7400
Fax: 909-335-7299
info@miller-aip.com

LICENSED ARCHITECT
GARY W. MILLER
No. C14635
REN. 9-30-21
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

owner approval

initials	date	phase

revisions/addenda

#	Date	Comment
1	9/13/17	Revision 1

ANIMAL CARE CENTER
18313 VALLEY BLVD. BLOOMINGTON, CA 92313
SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

project information

Project Number:	2200065
Drawn By:	AE
Checked By:	MB
Issue Date:	05/08/23

sheet name

SITE PLAN

sheet number

AS 102

Sheet Of Sheets

FIGURE 3

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Site Map

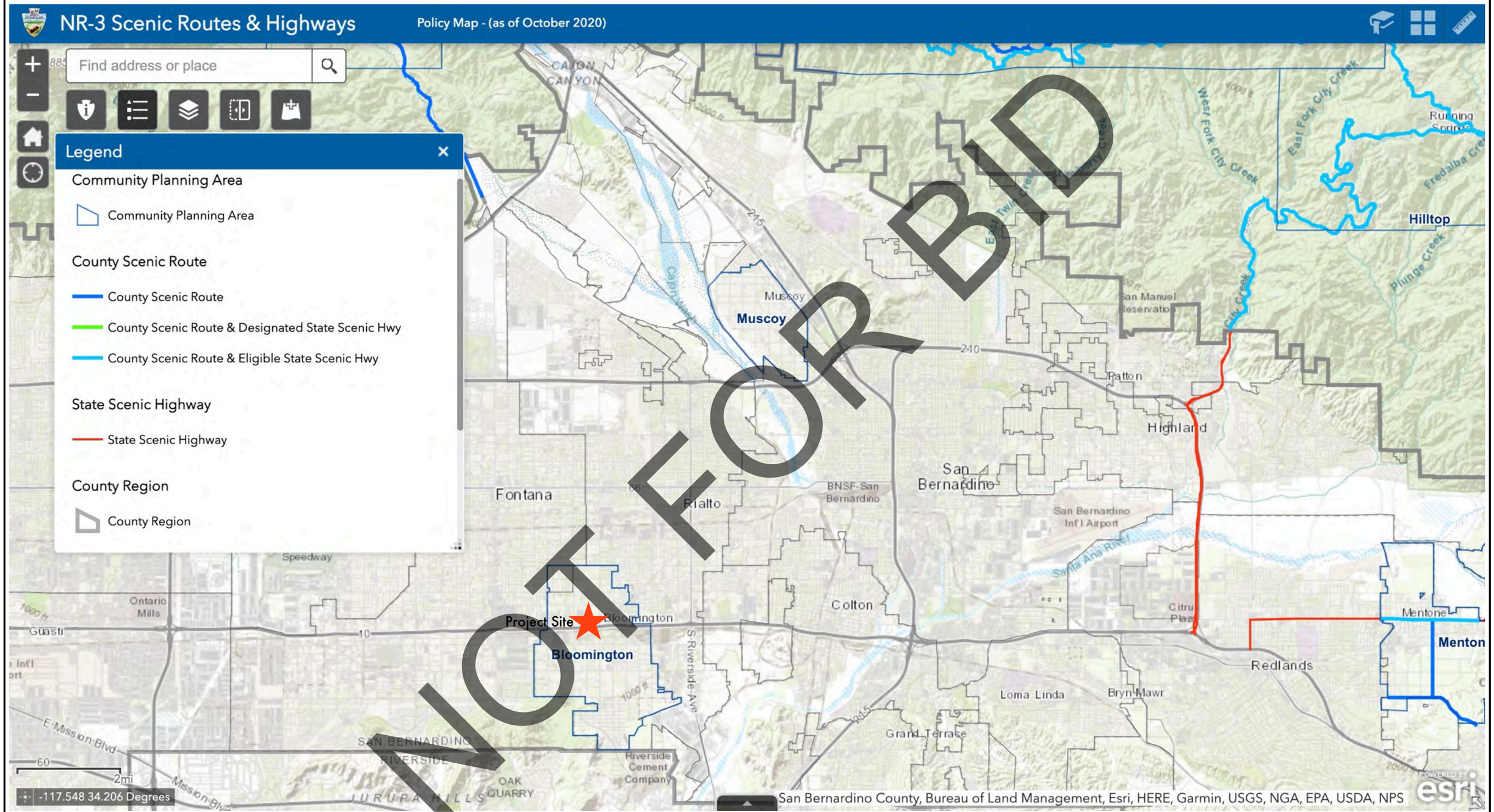

FIGURE I-1

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Scenic Routes and Highways Map

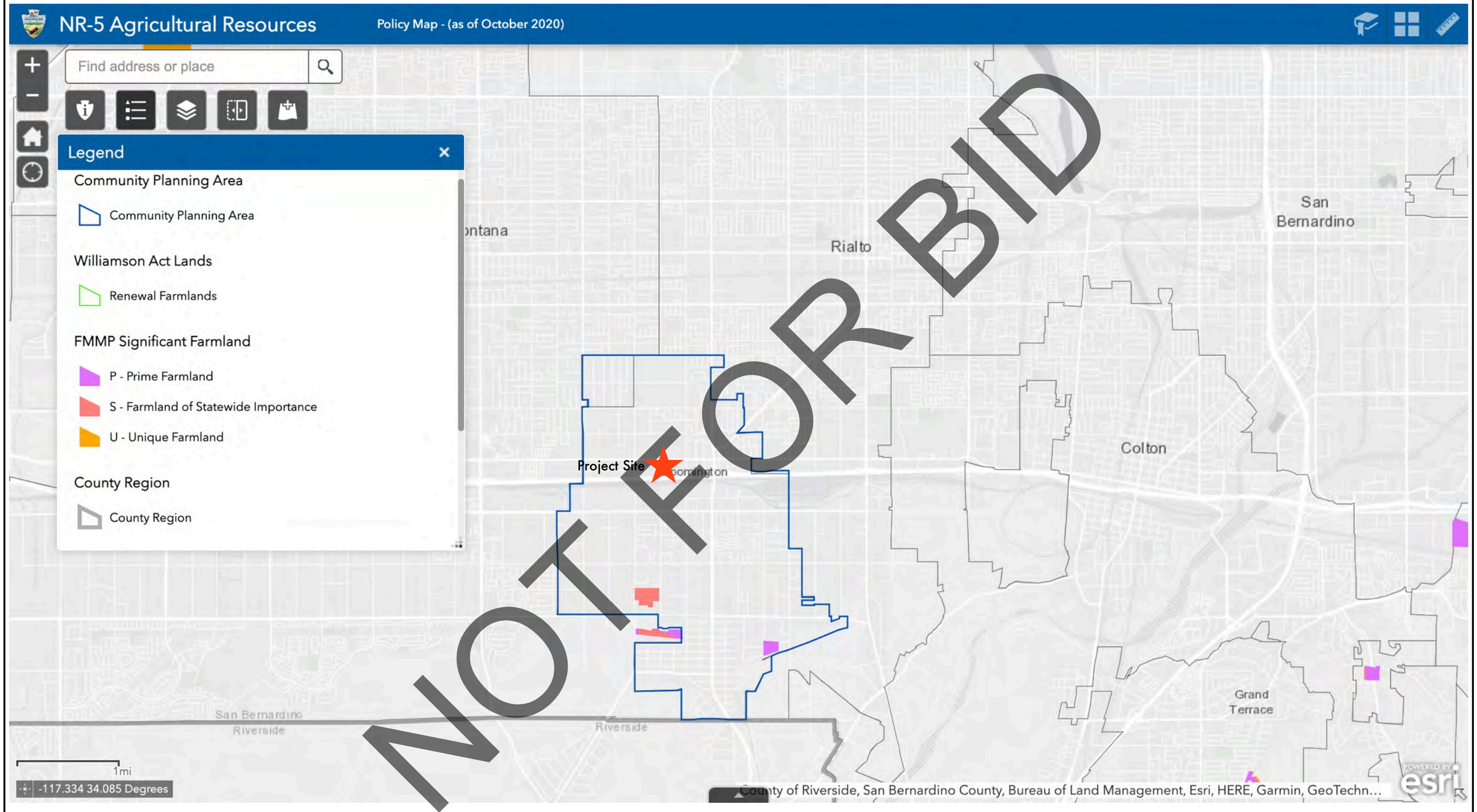

FIGURE II-1

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Agricultural Resources

FIGURE III-1

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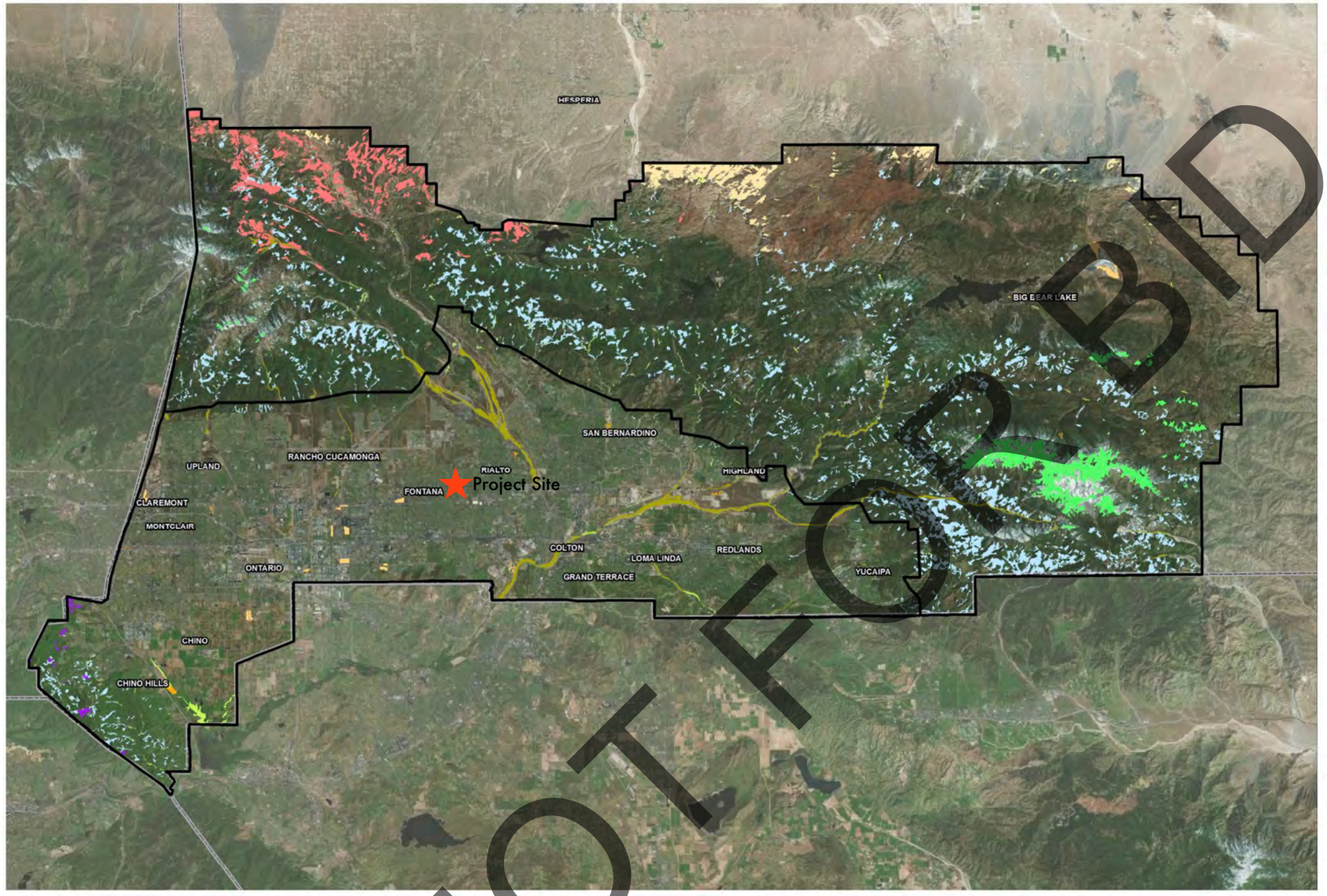
Sensitive Receptors



5 Environmental Analysis

Fig. 5.4-2 Special Status Vegetation Communities in the Valley and Mountain Regions

DRAFT SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY | COUNTYWIDE PLAN Environmental Impact Report

FIGURE IV-1

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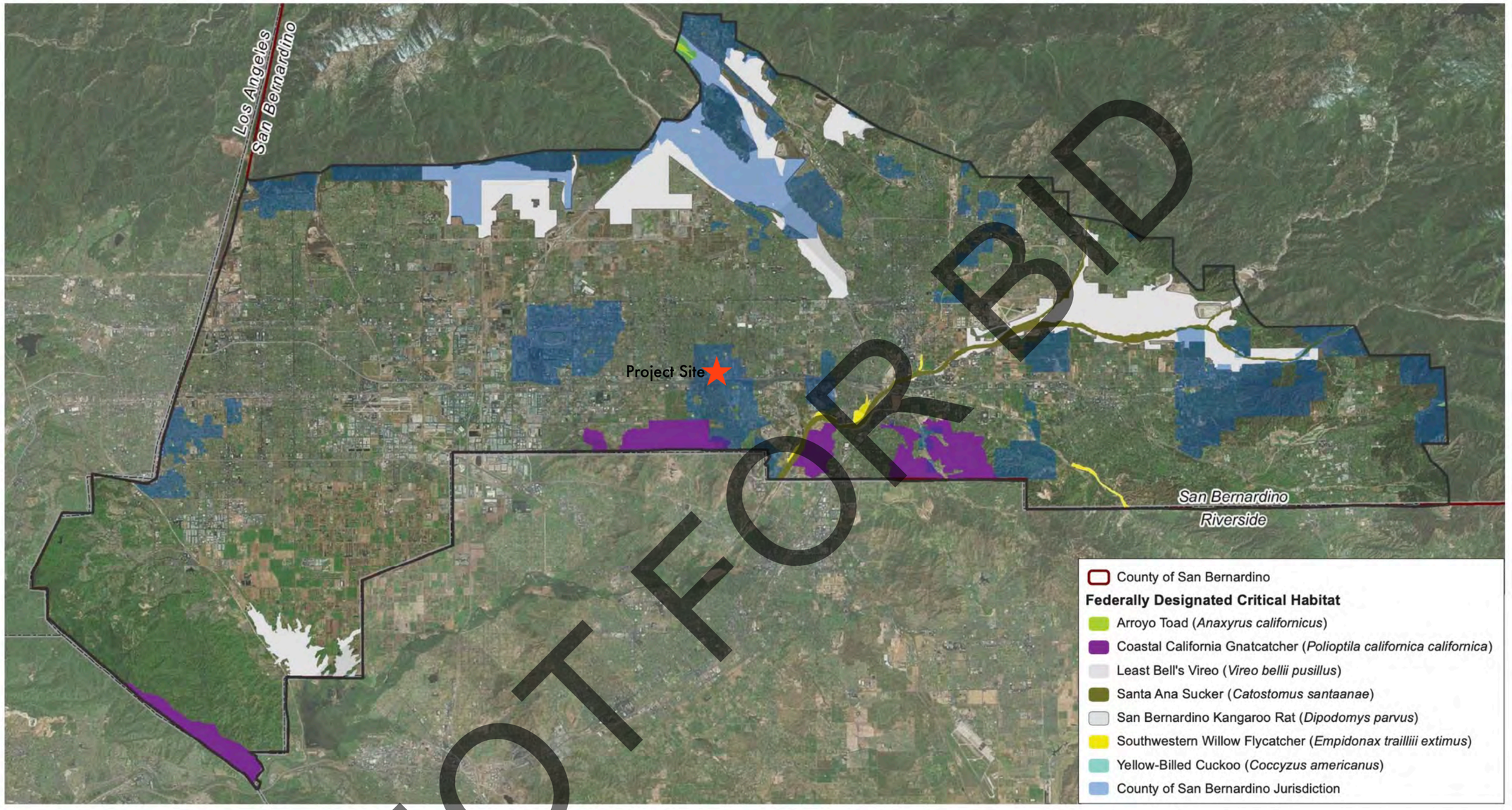
Environmental Consultants

Special Status Vegetation Communities in the Valley and Mountain Regions



5 Environmental Analysis
Fig. 5.4-3 Critical Habitat in the Valley Region

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FIGURE IV-2

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Critical Habitat in the Valley Region

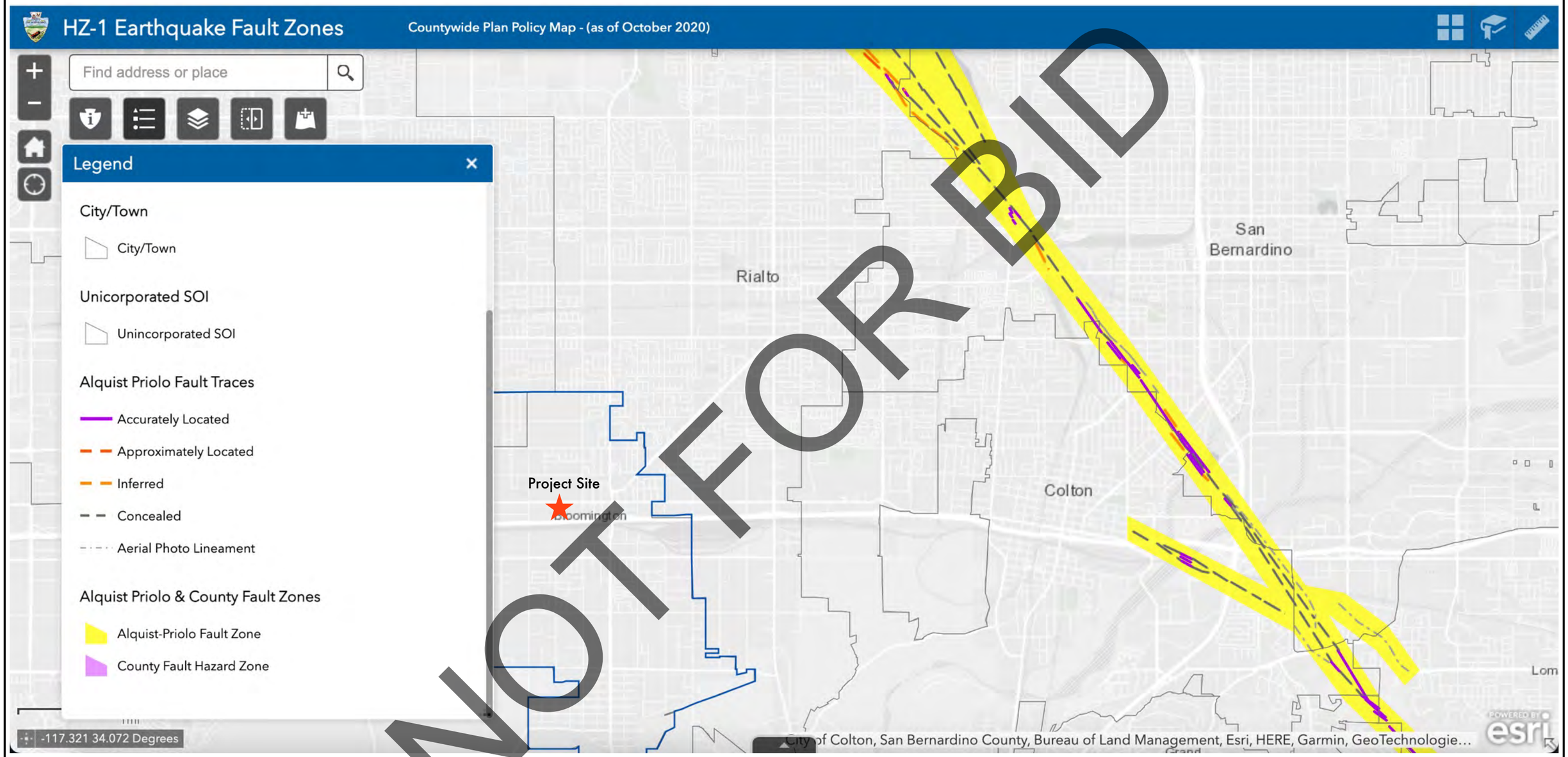

FIGURE VII-1

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Earthquake Fault Zones

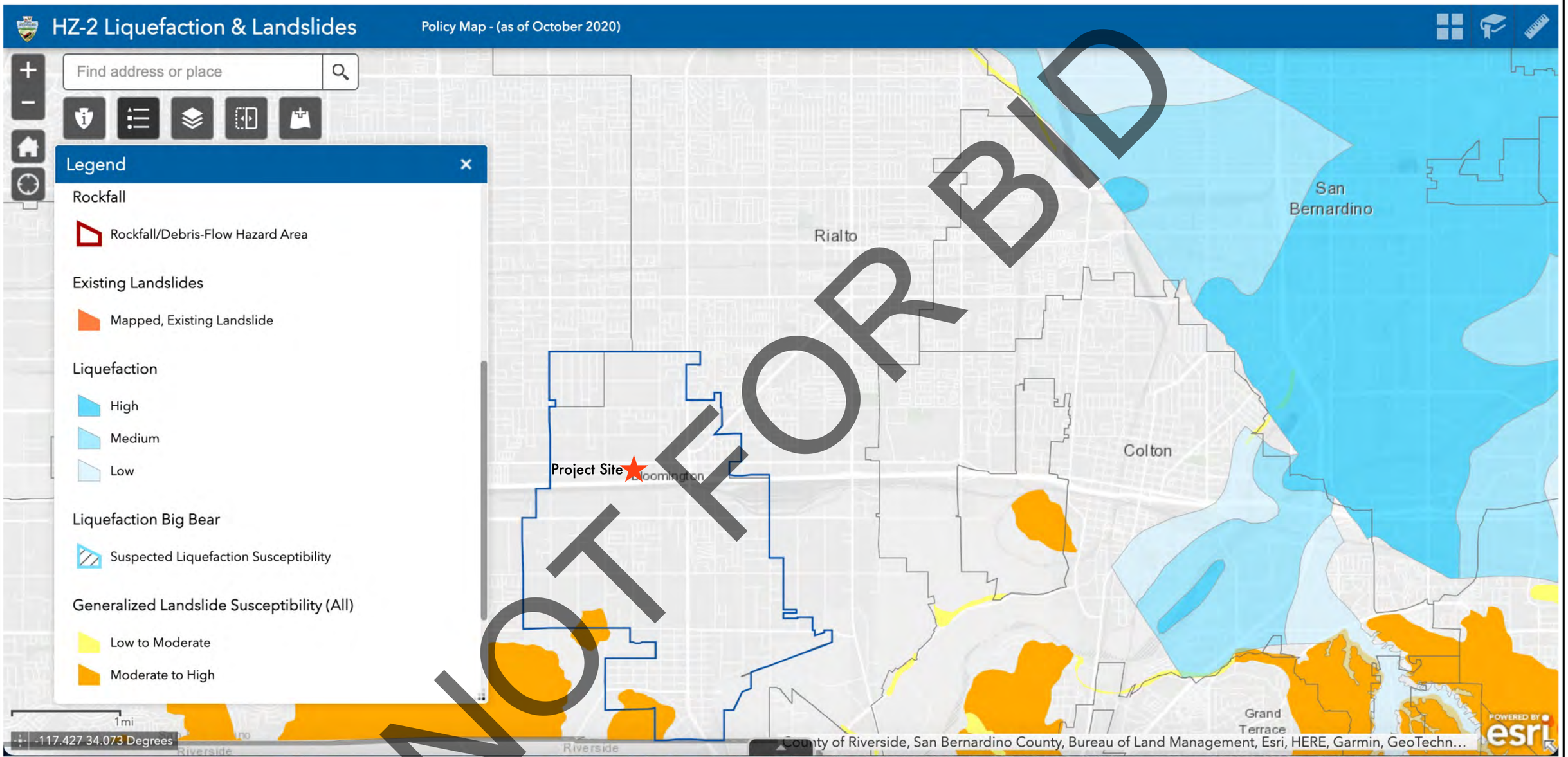

FIGURE VII-2

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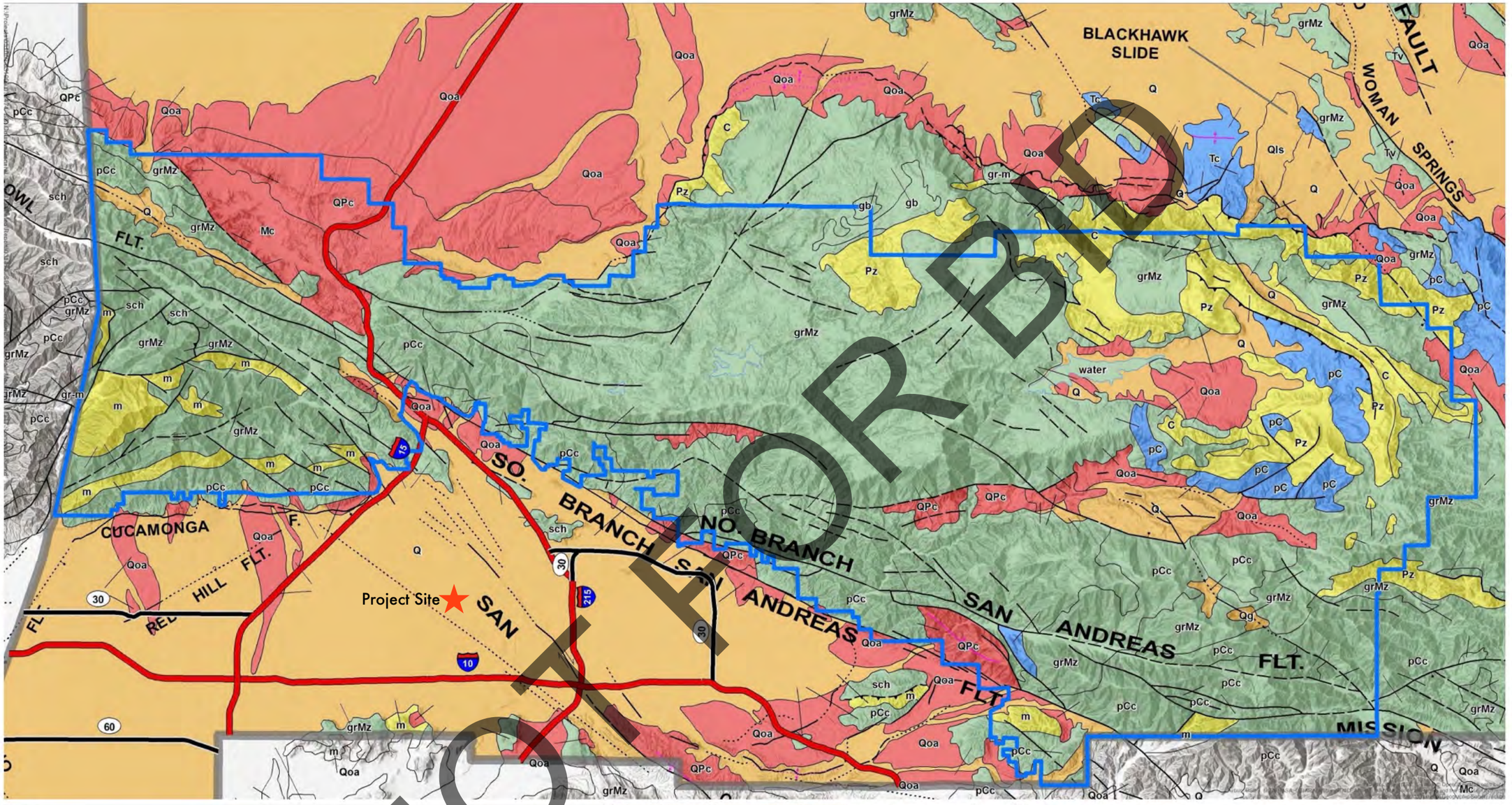
Liquefaction and Landslides



5 Environmental Analysis

Fig. 5.5-2 Paleontological Sensitivity - Mountain Region

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FIGURE VII-3

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Paleontological Sensitivity Map – Mountain Region

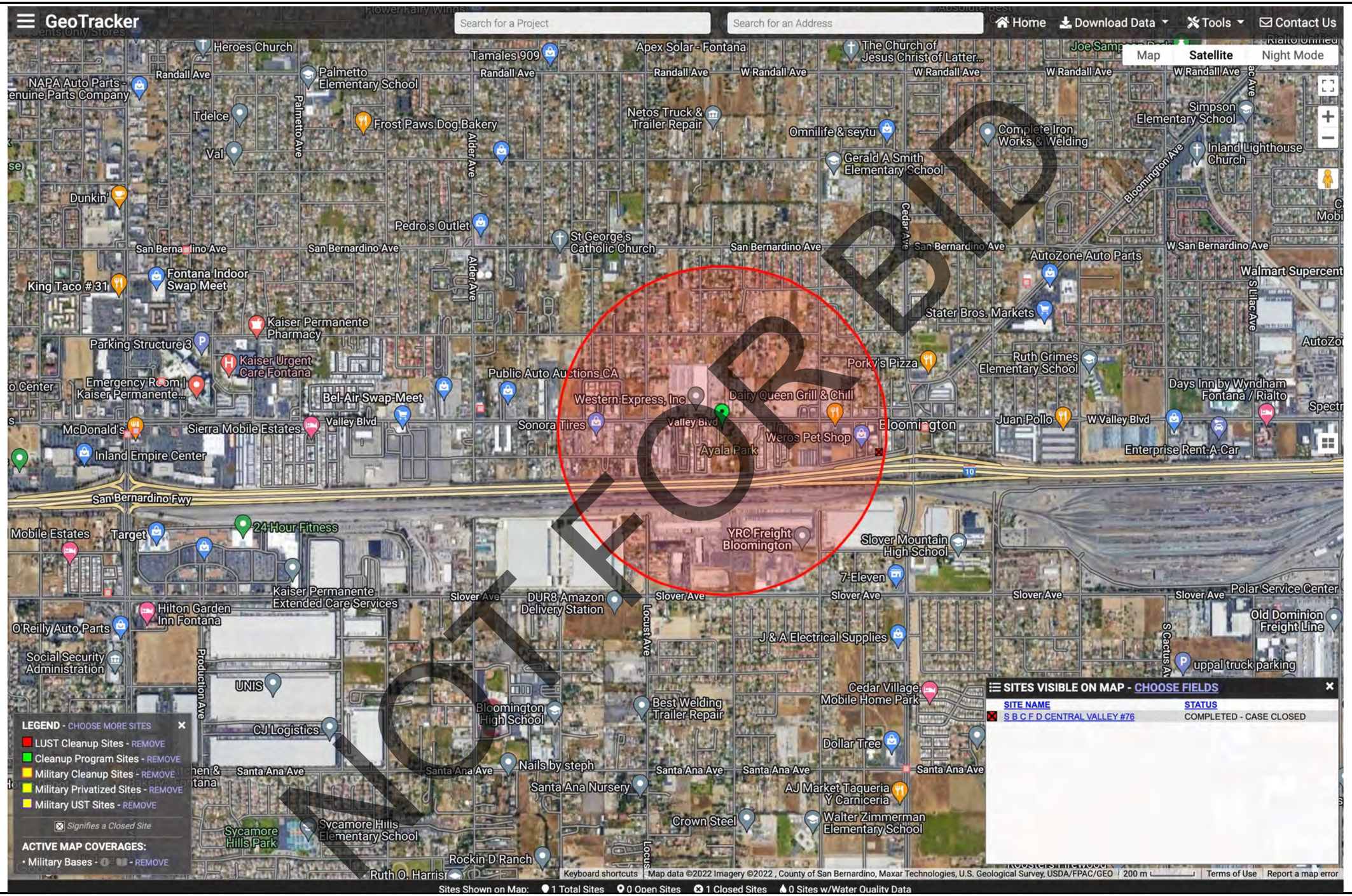

FIGURE IX-1

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GeoTracker 1

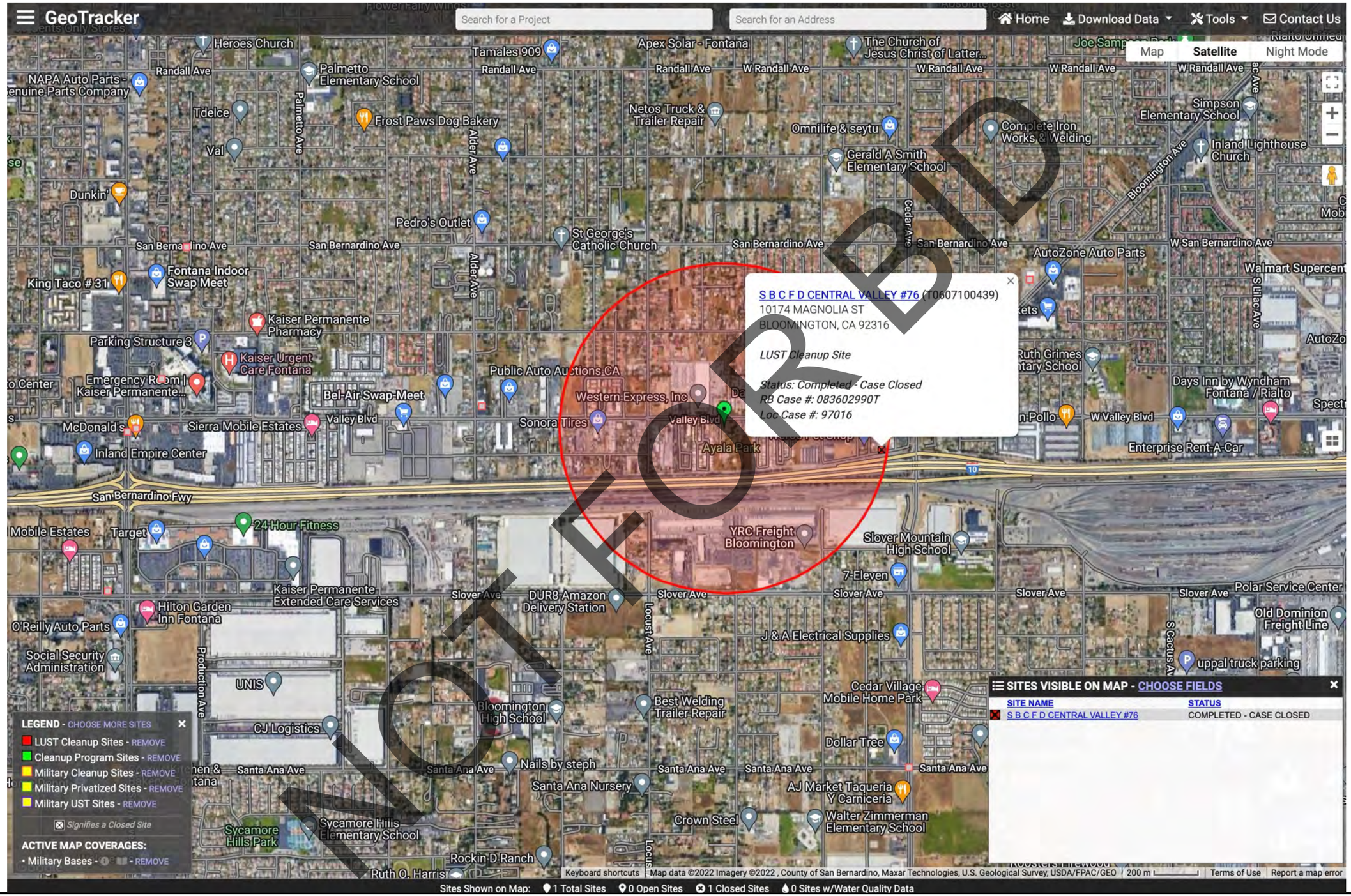

FIGURE IX-2

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

GeoTracker

Tools | Reports | UST Case Closures | How to Use GeoTracker | ESI | Information

S B C F D CENTRAL VALLEY #76 (T0607100439) - (MAP)

SIGN UP FOR EMAIL ALERTS

10174 MAGNOLIA ST
BLOOMINGTON, CA 92316
SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY
LUST CLEANUP SITE (INFO)
COMPLETED - CASE CLOSED AS OF 11/13/1997 - DEFINITION
PRINTABLE CASE SUMMARY / CSM REPORT

CLEANUP OVERSIGHT AGENCIES
SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY *(LEAD)* - *CASE #: 97016*
CASEWORKER: *CATHERINE RICHARDS*
SANTA ANA RWQCB (REGION 8) - *CASE #: 083602990T*

Summary | Cleanup Action Report | Regulatory Activities | Environmental Data (ESI) | Site Maps / Documents | Community Involvement | Related Cases

Regulatory Profile

PRINTABLE CASE SUMMARY

CLEANUP STATUS - DEFINITIONS
COMPLETED - CASE CLOSED AS OF 11/13/1997 - CLEANUP STATUS HISTORY

POTENTIAL CONTAMINANTS OF CONCERN
DIESEL

POTENTIAL MEDIA OF CONCERN
SOIL

FILE LOCATION
LOCAL AGENCY

DESIGNATED GROUNDWATER BENEFICIAL USE(S) - DEFINITIONS
MUN, AGR, IND, PROC - Note: Also incl parts of 481.21 and 481.23 (R4).

DWR GROUNDWATER SUB-BASIN NAME
Upper Santa Ana Valley - Chino (8-002.01)

CALWATER WATERSHED NAME
Santa Ana River - Middle Santa Ana River - Chino (Split) (801.21)

Site History

No site history available

FIGURE IX-3

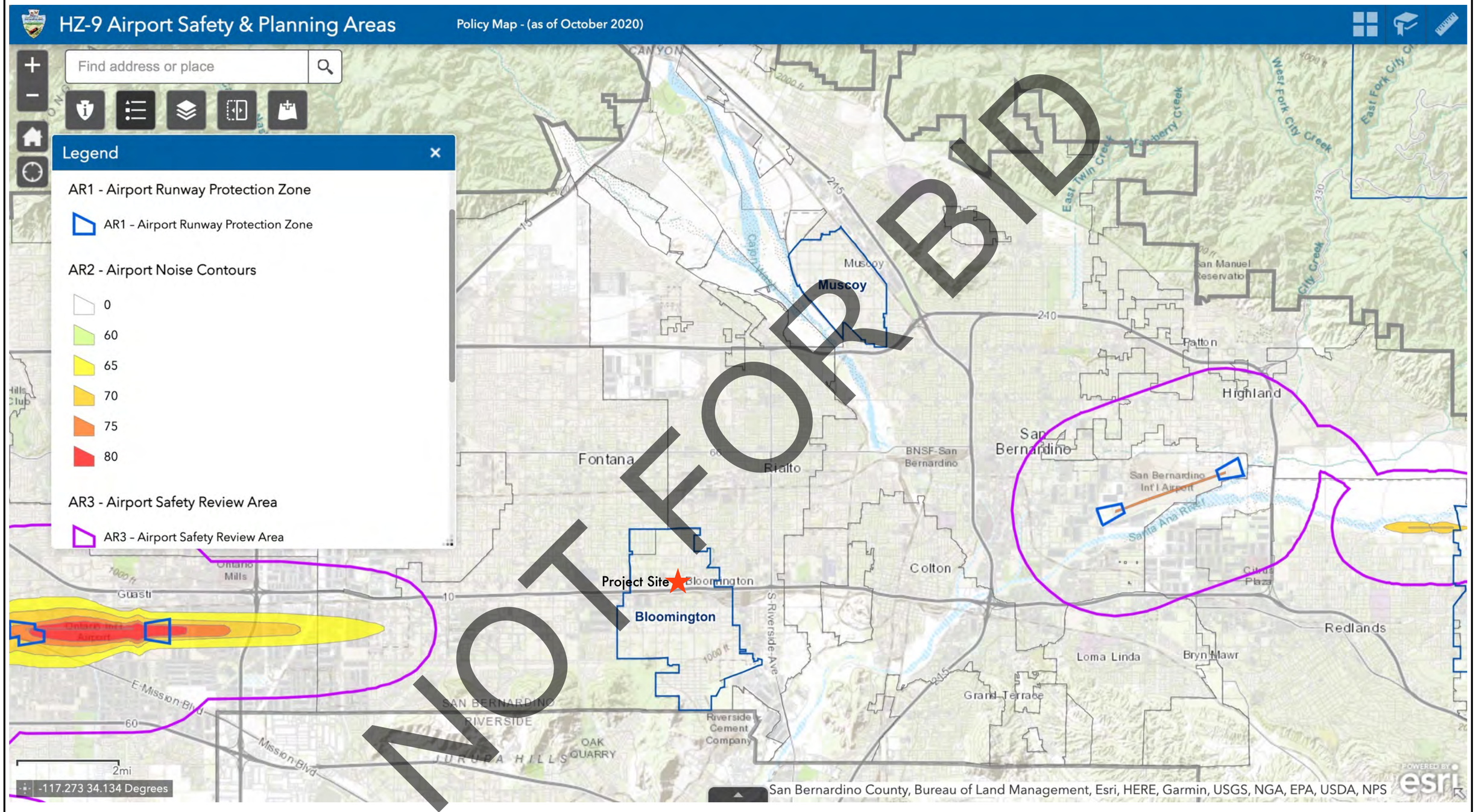

FIGURE IX-4

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Airport Safety and Planning Areas Map

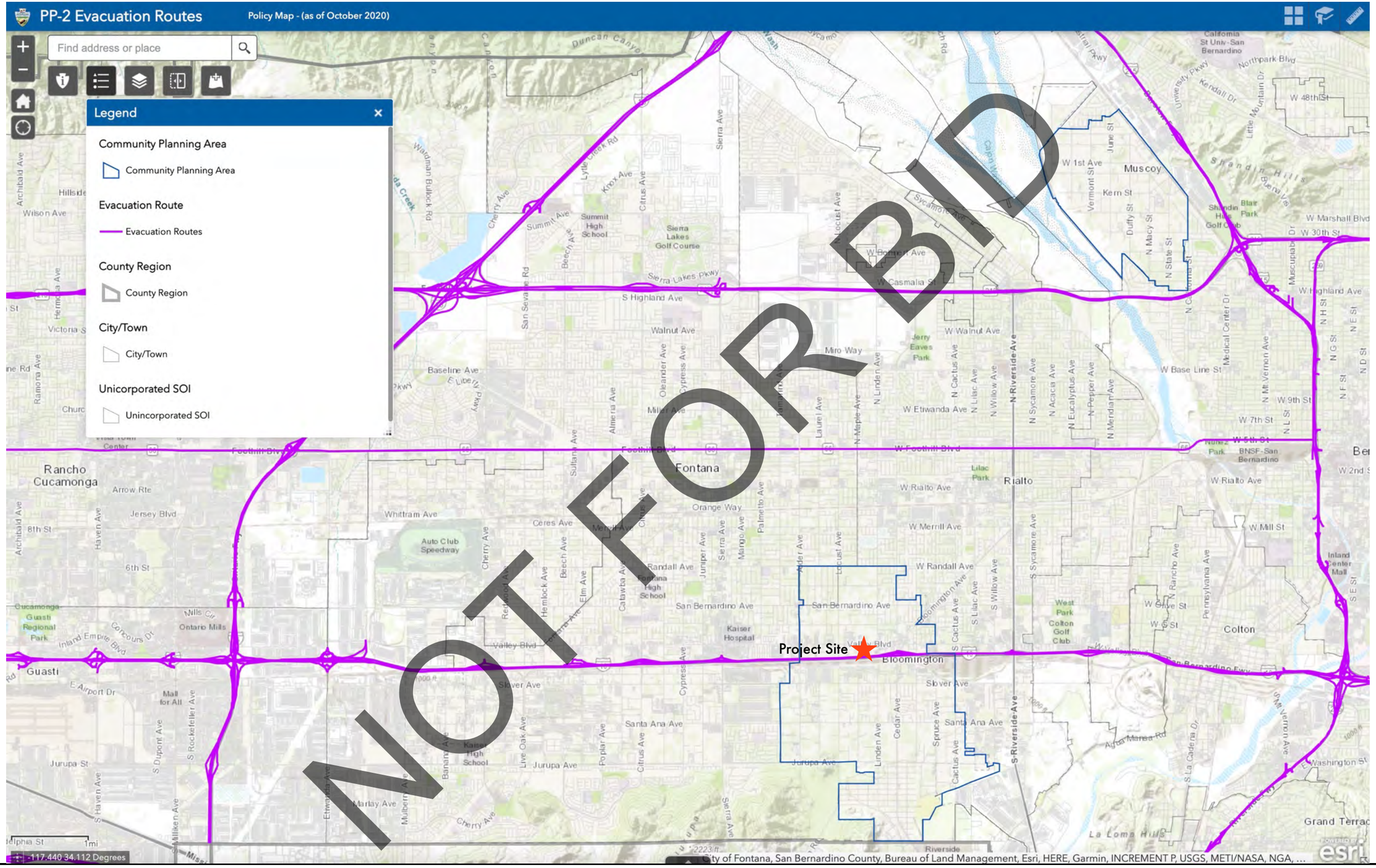

FIGURE IX-5

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Evacuation Routes Map

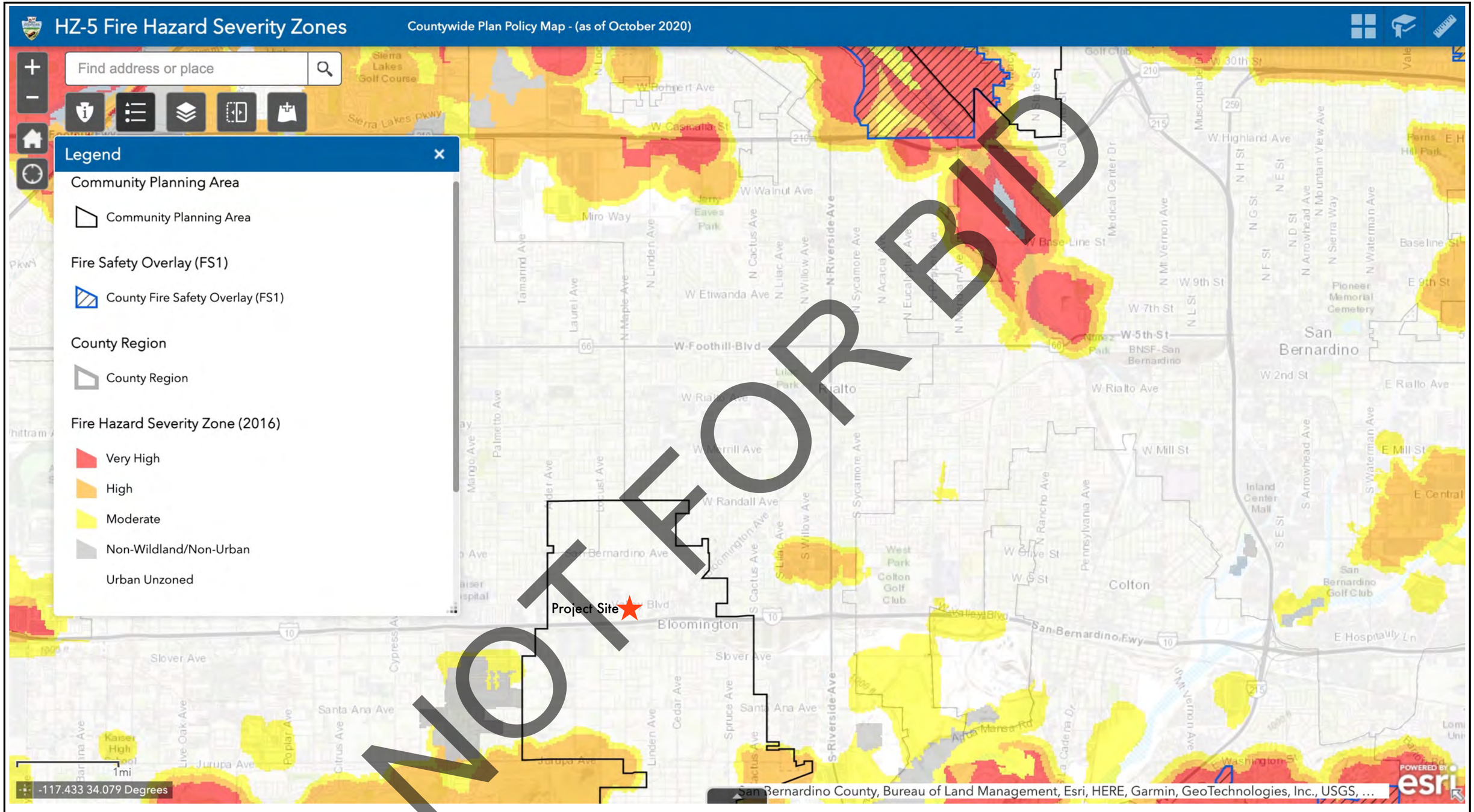

FIGURE IX-6

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Fire Hazard Severity Zones

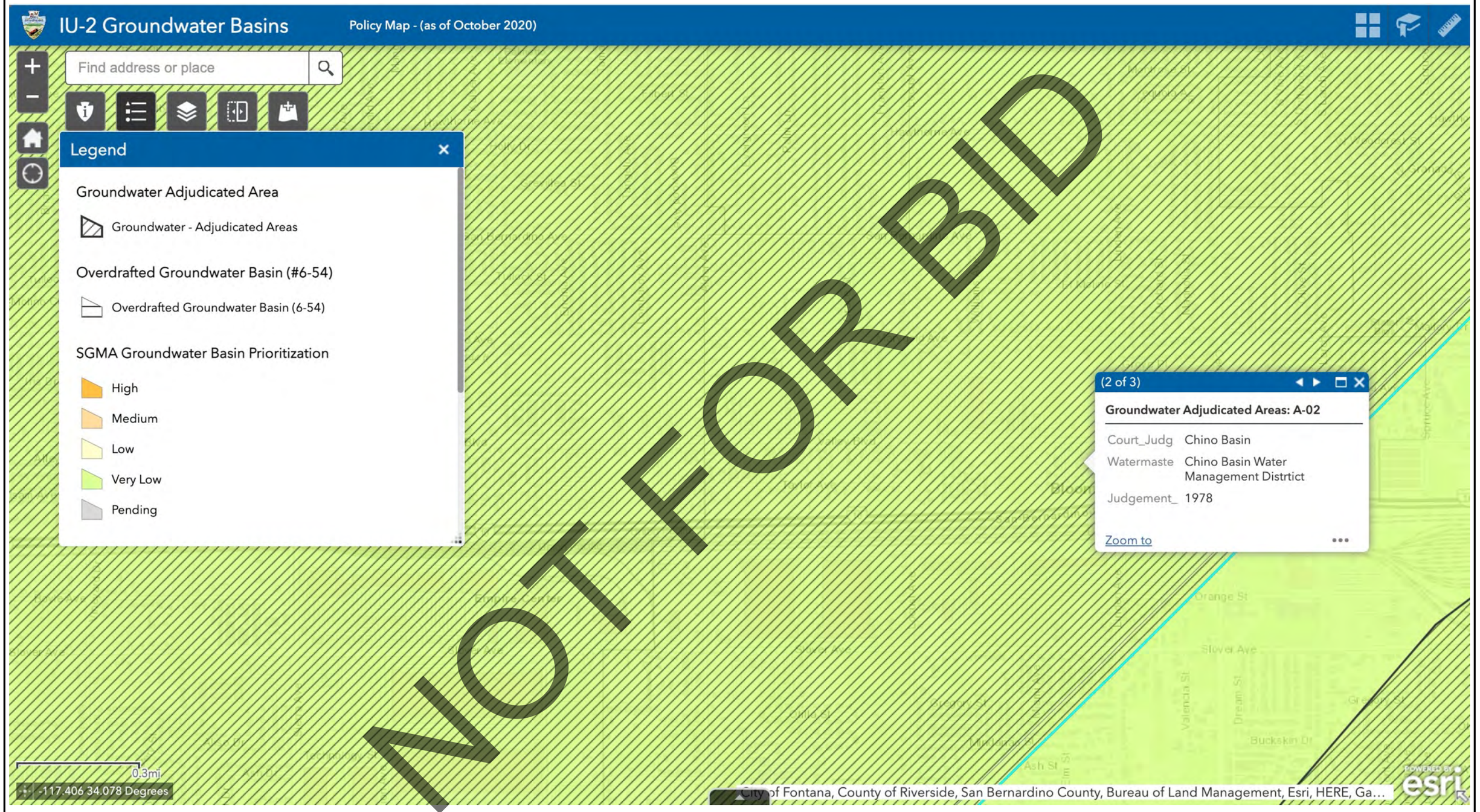

FIGURE X-1

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Groundwater Basin Map

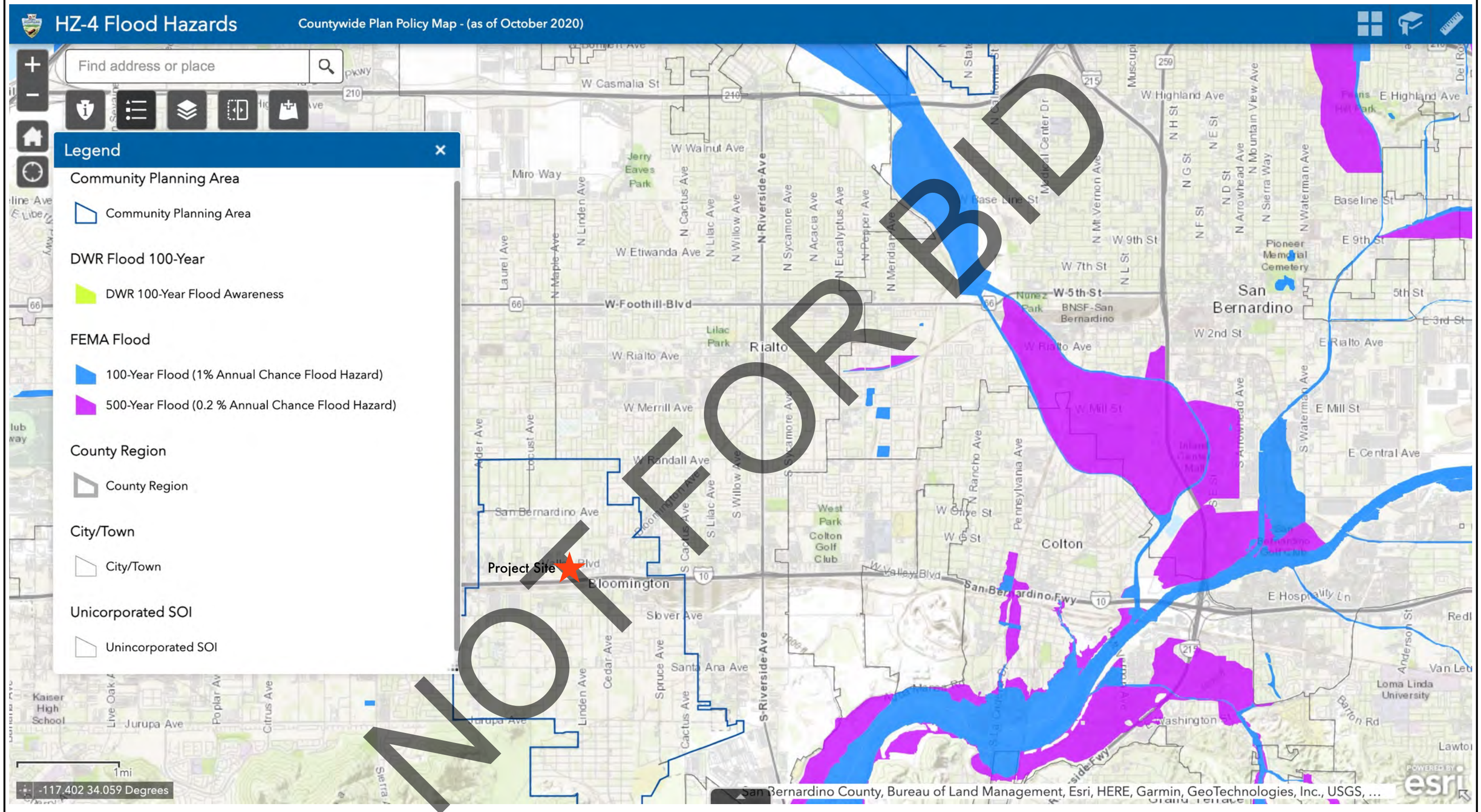

FIGURE X-2

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Flood Hazards

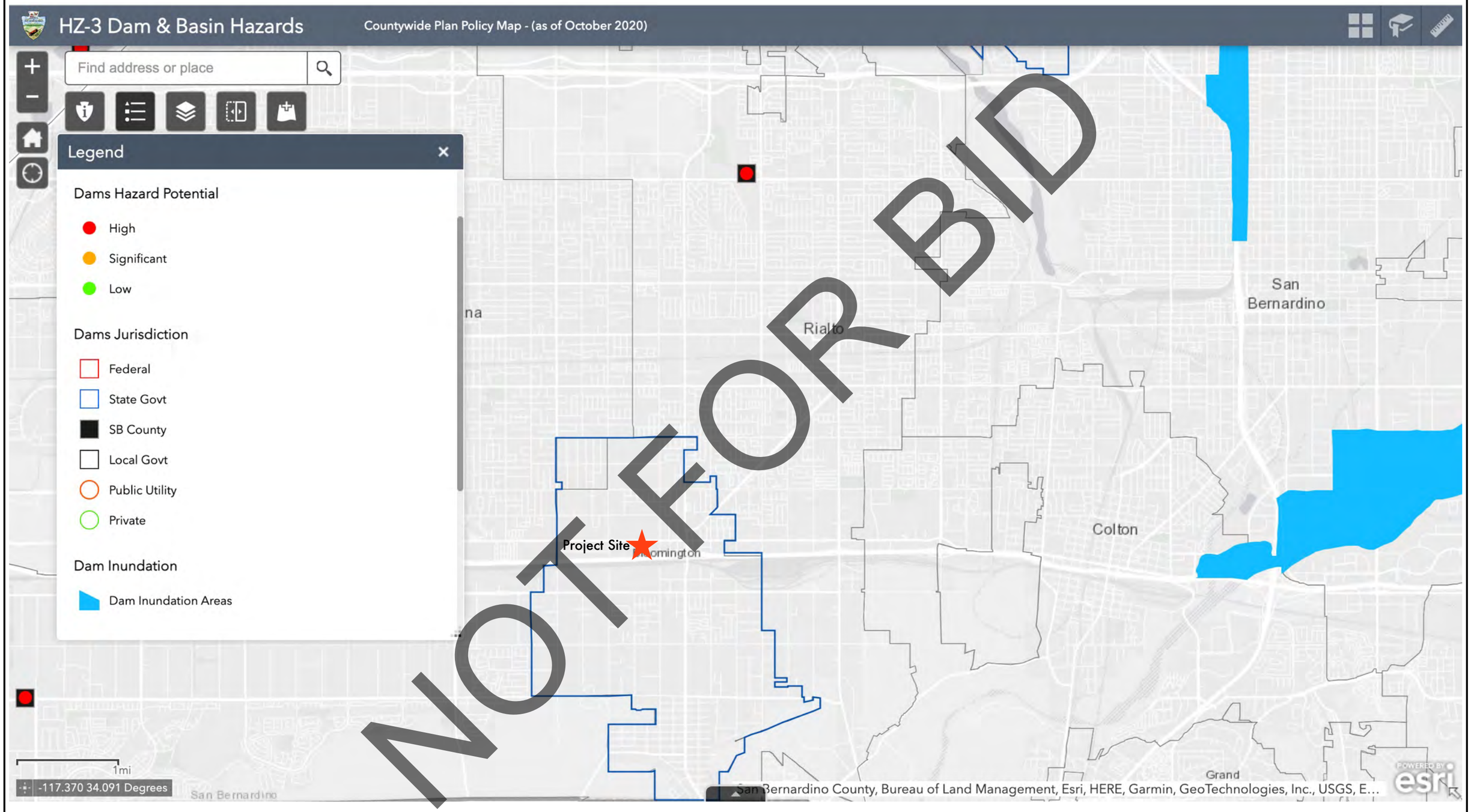

FIGURE X-3

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Dam and Basin Hazards

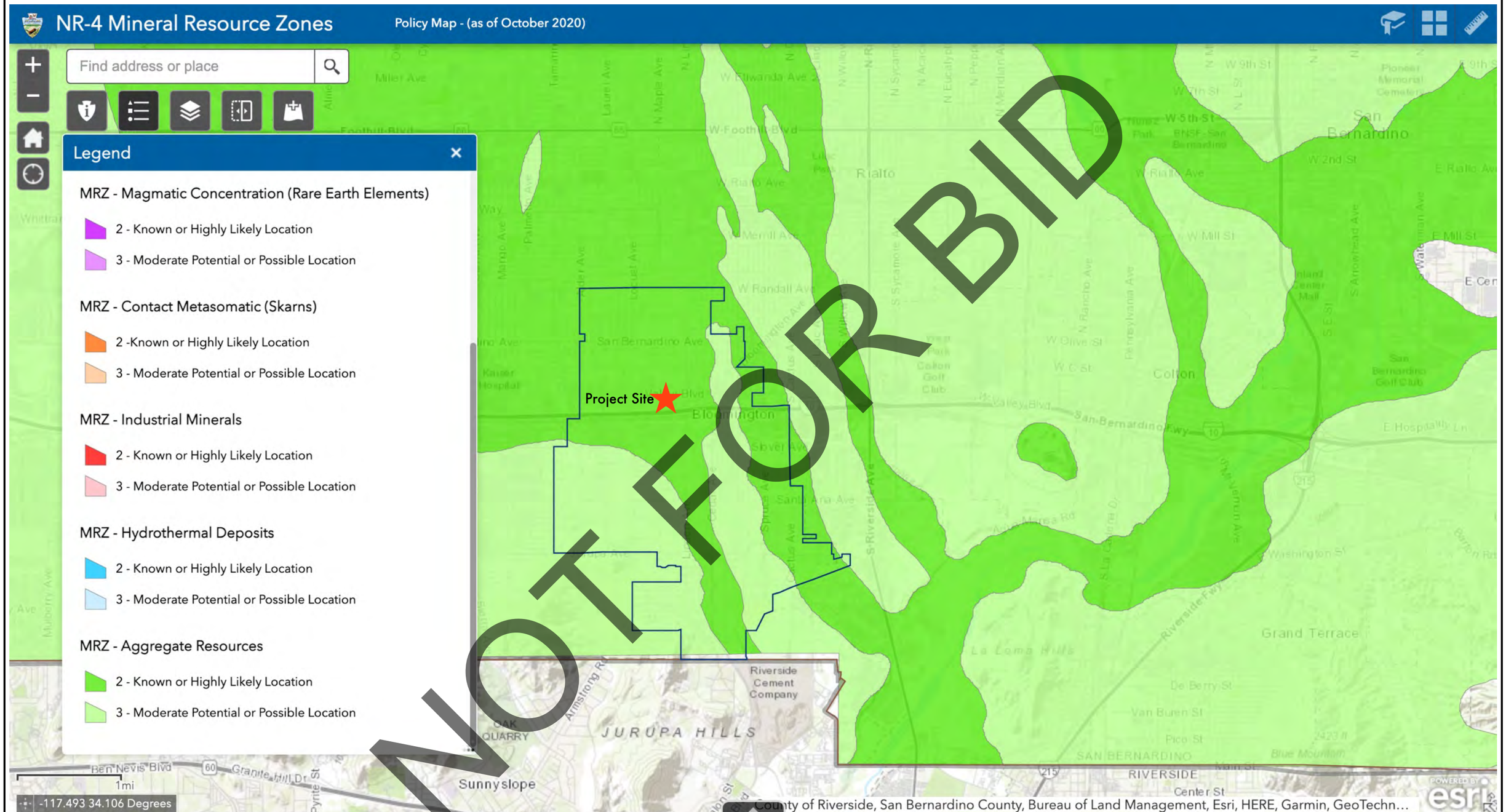

FIGURE XII-1

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Mineral Resources Map

FIGURE XIII-1

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Noise Measurement Locations

FIGURE XIII-1

Tom Dodson & Associates
Environmental Consultants

Noise Measurement Locations

FIGURE XIII-2

Tom Dodson & Associates
Environmental Consultants

Sensitive Receivers

FIGURE XIII-3

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Operational Noise Sources

FIGURE XIII-4

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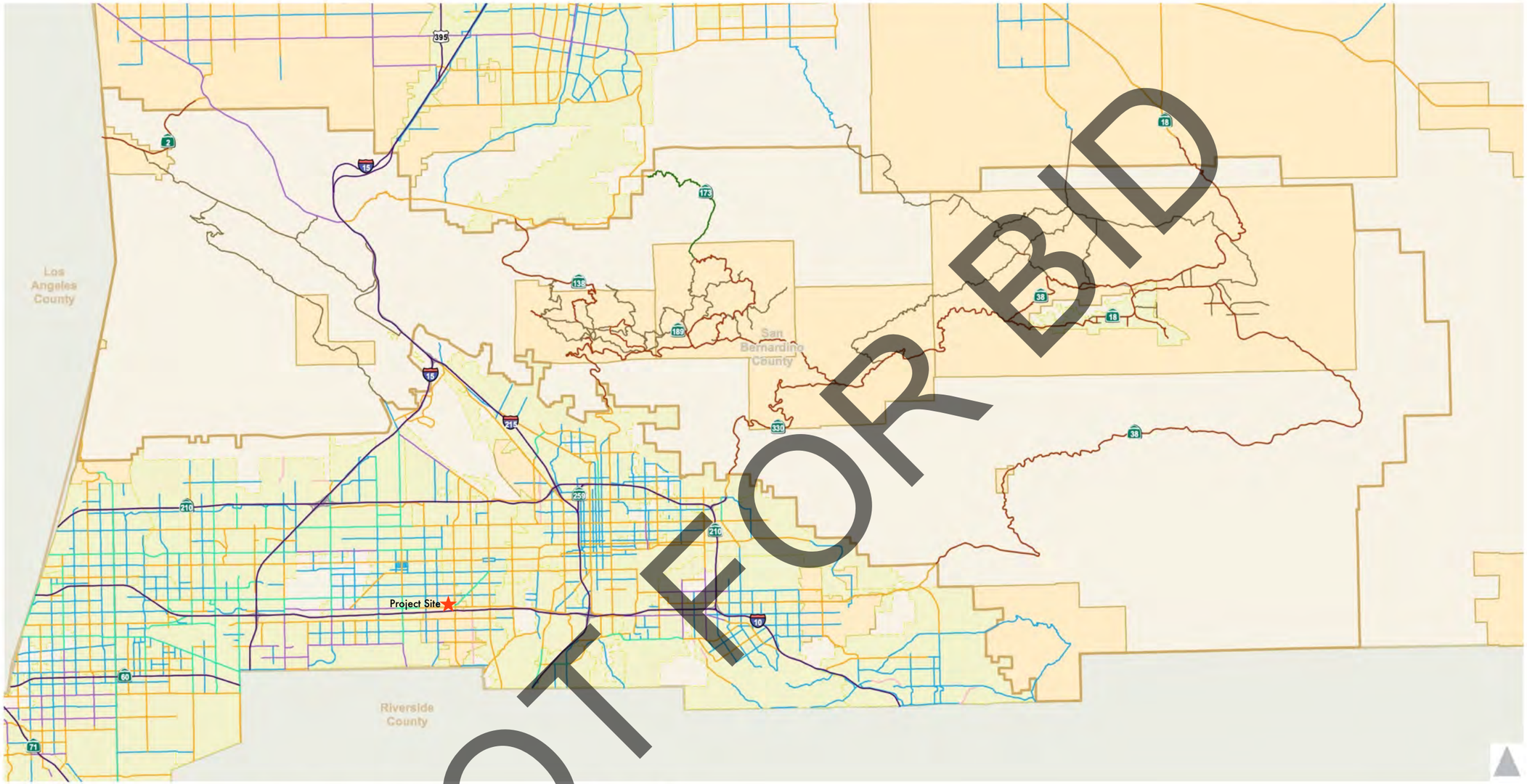
Construction Noise Activity



5 Environmental Analysis

Fig. 5.16-2 Existing Roadway Designations - Mountain Region

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FIGURE XVII-1

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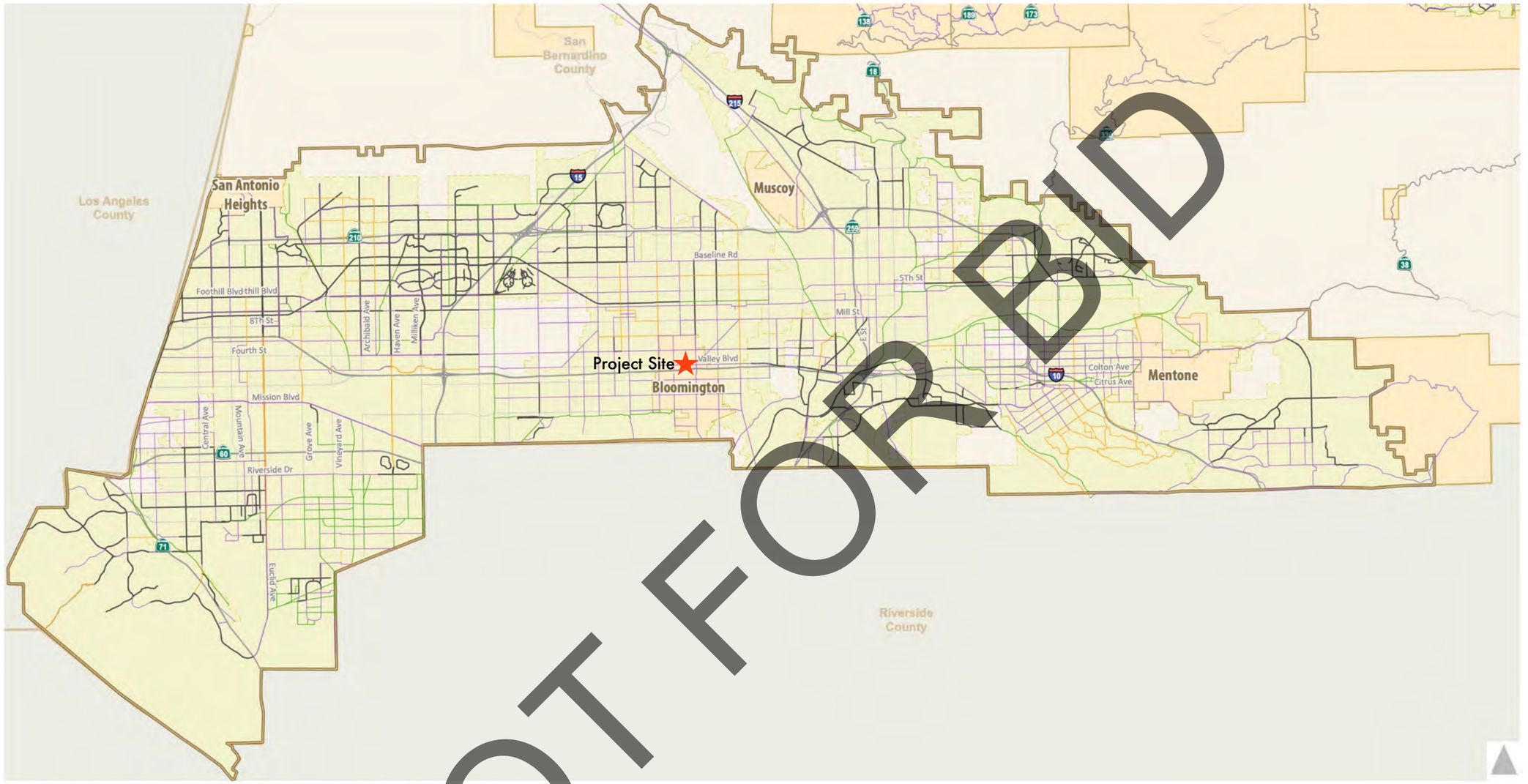
Existing Roadway Designations



5 Environmental Analysis

Fig. 5.16-14 Future Bicycle Facilities - Valley Region

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FIGURE XVII-2

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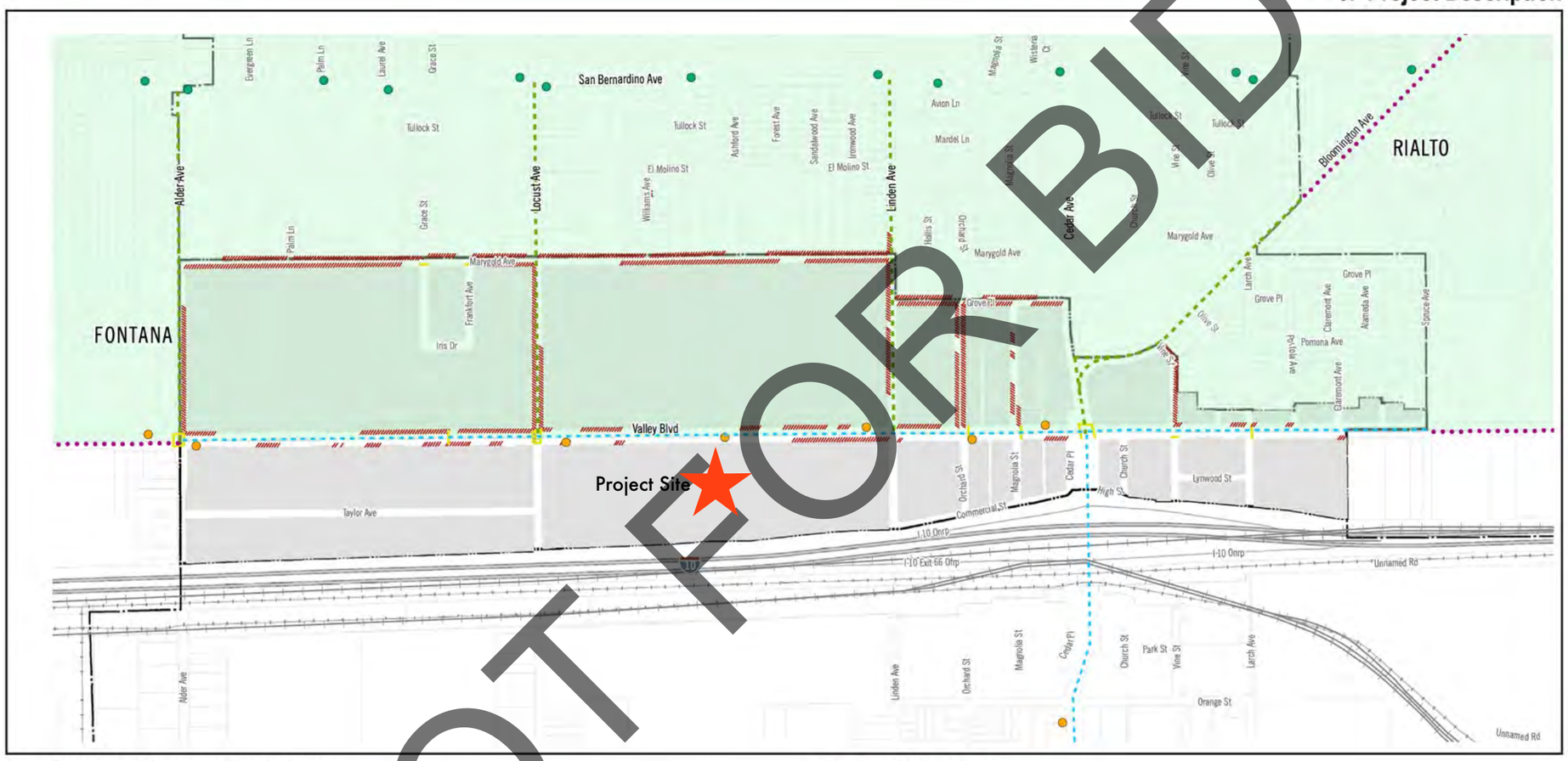
Future Bicycle Facilities

Figure 3-5 - Pedestrian, Bicycle, and Transit System



Pedestrian, Bicycle, and Transit System

- Proposed Specific Plan Class II Bike Lane
- Proposed Specific Plan Class III Bike Route
- Proposed SANBAG Bikeway*
- Omnitrans | Route 19
- Omnitrans | Route 29
- Proposed Sidewalks
- Existing Crosswalks**
- Proposed Crosswalks
- Railroad
- High Quality Transit Area (HQTA)***
- Valley Corridor Specific Plan Boundary
- Bloomington Community Boundary

NOTE:
* This figure does not represent the full San Bernardino Association of Governments (SANBAG) proposed bike system. Only bikeways that make a significant connection to the bicycle transit proposed as part of the Specific Plan are shown on this figure.
** The Interstate 10 & Cedar Avenue interchange will be improved in 2017 and the crosswalk configuration shown is subject to change.
*** Per 2016-2040 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy prepared by the Southern California Association of Governments.

Omnitrans Transit Routes

0 700
Scale (Feet)

Base Map Source: ESRI, 2016; SCAG; SANBAG

PlaceWorks

FIGURE XVII-3

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Pedestrian, Bicycle, and Transit System