

---

## 12. CEQA-REQUIRED ASSESSMENT CONCLUSIONS

---

This chapter summarizes the EIR findings in terms of the various assessment categories suggested by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines for EIR content--i.e., "growth-inducing effects," "significant unavoidable adverse impacts," "irreversible environmental changes," "cumulative impacts," and "effects found not to be significant."

### 12.1 GROWTH-INDUCING EFFECTS

CEQA Guidelines section 15126.2(d) requires that the EIR discuss "...the ways in which the proposed project could foster economic or population growth, or the construction of additional housing, either directly or indirectly, in the surrounding environment." The Public Safety Building would relocate the City's existing Police Department and emergency dispatch operations from their current downtown City Center location at 275 Forest Avenue to the proposed new Public Safety Building at 2785 Park Boulevard. The new Public Safety Building would be expected to accommodate between approximately 153 (2010) to 162 (2025) employees. Most of these employees would not be newly hired, but would be moved from the existing location to the new location; therefore, no substantial increase in local employees would be anticipated. The City's *Comprehensive Plan* projects employment within the city's sphere of influence to provide 94,700 jobs in the year 2010. Any net additional staff that may eventually work in the new Public Safety Building would be expected to represent less than one percent of the projected citywide employment total for the year 2010. Similarly, the future Public Safety Building employment increment of approximately 9 more employees would not result in a significant local population or housing growth impact.

### 12.2 SIGNIFICANT UNAVOIDABLE ADVERSE IMPACTS

CEQA Guidelines section 15126.2(b) requires that the EIR discuss "significant environmental effects which cannot be avoided if the proposed project is implemented." Significant unavoidable impacts are those that would not be reduced to less-than-significant levels by the mitigation measures recommended in this EIR, requiring City adoption of a Statement of Overriding Considerations (CEQA section 15093). Mitigation measures have been identified in this EIR for all identified significant and potentially significant effects associated with the proposed project which would eliminate or reduce all identified effects to less-than-significant-levels (see Table 2.1 in chapter 2 herein), with the exception of the following:

**Impact 6-1: Project Option A Tree Removal Impact:** Implementation of project Option A would require removal of the on-site Valley Oak, a "protected tree" under the City's Municipal Code. The mitigation described for this impact, Mitigation 6-1, includes application for a Tree Removal Permit for approval of the "protected tree" removal, with an accompanying *tree removal and replacement plan*, pursuant to the City's Tree Preservation and Management Regulations. As indicated in chapter 6 (Biological Resources), implementation of Mitigation 6-1 and associated tree replacement measures would partially offset this impact, but would not

reduce the impact to a less-than-significant level. Loss of the "protected tree" would still occur under Option A, representing a **significant unavoidable impact** if Option A is advanced.

### 12.3 IRREVERSIBLE ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGES

CEQA Guidelines section 15126.2(c) requires that the EIR discuss "significant irreversible environmental changes which would be caused by the proposed project should it be implemented." Irreversible environmental changes caused by the proposed Public Safety Building project would include the following:

- the project would permanently alter off-site views of and through the project site, as discussed in chapter 4 (Aesthetics) of this EIR; and
- the project would transform a largely vacant 1.21-to-1.51-acre site into a relatively high-intensity 2-to-3 story PSB facility, as discussed in chapter 9 (Land Use and Planning) of this EIR. For practical purposes, this change in land use would be permanent and would represent an irreversible environmental change.

The proposed project would not result in an unusually large additional commitment of, or a substantial increase in the use of, nonrenewable resources during construction or operation.

### 12.4 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

Section 15130(a) of the CEQA Guidelines requires that the EIR "discuss cumulative impacts of a project when the project's incremental effect is cumulatively considerable...." The CEQA Guidelines (section 15355) define "cumulative impacts" as "...two or more individual effects which, when considered together, are considerable or which compound or increase other environmental impacts." Pursuant to these requirements, the impact evaluations discussed in Chapters 4 through 11 of this EIR included full consideration of project-related cumulative aesthetic, air quality, biological, cultural, hazards and hazardous materials, land use/planning, noise, and transportation impacts. Where a cumulative impact has been identified, this EIR recommends a mitigation measure that would reduce the project's contribution to the cumulative impact to a less-than-significant level. Reasonably foreseeable development projects in the project area are identified in section 9.1.6, Anticipated Cumulative Development, in chapter 9 (Land Use and Planning) of this EIR. The impact analyses in this EIR have concluded that the effects of the proposed project in conjunction with these reasonably foreseeable developments in the area would cause no significant cumulative impacts.

### 12.5 EFFECTS FOUND NOT TO BE SIGNIFICANT

Section 15128 of the CEQA Guidelines requires that the EIR "contain a statement briefly indicating the reasons that various possible significant effects of a project were determined not to be significant and were therefore not discussed in detail in the EIR."

During the City's Initial Study/Environmental Checklist process for the proposed Public Safety Building project, it was determined that a number of possible environmental effects of the project would be insignificant or could be adequately addressed through the City's normal development review process with no need for further environmental assessment in this EIR.

These determinations are explained in the Initial Study/Environmental Checklist narrative, which is included in Appendix 15.1 of this EIR.

In particular, the Initial Study/Environmental Checklist includes the determinations, with explanation, that project impacts on agricultural resources (item I), energy (item VI), geology and soils (item VII), hydrology and water quality (item IX), mineral resources (item XI), population and housing (item XIII), public services (item XIV), and recreation (item XV), would be less than significant or non-existent.

