

5.9 HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

The two components of the proposed Project analyzed herein are:

- 1) Adoption and implementation of the General Plan Update (Beaumont 2040 Plan); and
- 2) Adoption and implementation of the revised Zoning Ordinance and Zoning Map

Of the two Project components, the revised Zoning Ordinance is not considered to have impacts related to hydrology and water quality because it addresses site planning, building design, and community aesthetics, rather than physical changes to the land, and it was prepared for compatibility with the proposed Beaumont 2040 Plan. The revised Zoning Map will have similar types of land uses as the Beaumont 2040 Plan for consistency purposes; therefore, all discussions which apply to the Beaumont 2040 Plan shall also apply to the revised Zoning Map. Impacts related to the adoption and implementation of the Beaumont 2040 Plan, the revised Zoning Map, will be addressed herein.

Since an initial study was not prepared with the issuance of the Notice of Preparation (Appendix A), the focus of the following discussion pertains is related to: the violation of any water quality standards, waste discharge permits, or the substantial degradation of surface or ground water quality; substantial decrease in groundwater supplies or substantial interference with groundwater recharge, such that sustainable groundwater management of the basin may be impaired; substantial alteration of the existing drainage patterns in the area; release of pollutants due to project inundation (in flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones; and conflicting with or obstructing a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan.

5.9.1 Setting

The following discussion describes the water quality requirements, groundwater supply and management, drainage patterns, flooding potential and regulatory setting of the City and City's Sphere of Influence (SOI) (collectively referred to as the "Planning Area") to provide a context for understanding the nature and significance of hydrology and water quality resources in the Planning Area. Potable water supply is discussed in Section 5.18 – Utilities and Service Systems.

The Planning Area is located in the San Geronio Pass, a low-relief highland that is bordered on the north by the San Bernardino Mountains, on the southeast by the San Jacinto Mountains, and on the west by the San Timoteo Badlands. Surface sediments consist of unconsolidated to semiconsolidated Quaternary alluvium. The unconsolidated Quaternary alluvium and the upper portion of the underlying San Timoteo Formation constitute the water-bearing aquifer underlying the Planning Area. (BBW, p. 3-2.)

Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District (BCVWD) is the water supplier to the City of Beaumont and the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (RCFCWCD) provides regional flood control facilities within the City.

Stormwater Quality

As communities develop, much of the natural land surface becomes covered with buildings and pavement, which do not allow rain to slowly soak into the ground (i.e., a transition from pervious to impervious surfaces). Urban areas depend on storm drains (or storm sewer systems) to quickly and efficiently carry large amounts of runoff to nearby waterways. Runoff in a storm drain gathers speed and erosional power, so when it leaves the storm drain in a non-concrete lined waterway, the flow rate is of an unnatural rate that can damage streamside and aquatic habitats (referred to as hydromodification). Development designed with features to slow the speed and volume of urban runoff (i.e. Low Impact

Development or LID) can improve the quality of the runoff and protect downstream biological resources by maintaining the natural flow regimen.

Urban stormwater runoff can carry a wide variety of pollutants such as oil, dirt, chemicals, metals, trash, bacteria and fertilizers directly to streams and rivers, where it reduces the quality of the waterbody for beneficial uses (e.g. swimming, irrigation, wildlife) (EPA). Certain pollutants are known to come from certain land uses; therefore, treatment methods (or Best Management Practices [BMPs]) are aimed at "pollutants of concern." Rural areas can also contribute pollutants to local waterways, such as sediment and manure. Realizing that complete removal of all potential pollutants from stormwater is not feasible, BMPs should meet the maximum extent practicable (MEP) standard.¹ The MEP standard is met cumulatively over the long-term in an iterative process by the permittees implementing, continuously evaluating, and making corresponding changes to a variety of technically and economically feasible BMPs.

Unlike sewage, which goes to treatment plants, urban runoff flows untreated through the storm drain system and directly into local streams and rivers. Anything thrown, swept, washed, or poured into the street, gutter or a catch basin can flow into waterways. Consistent with the federal Clean Water Act (CWA) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) regulations promulgated pursuant thereto, the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) and the Regional Water Quality Control Boards (RWQCBs) have adopted a number of permits to address pollution from industrial facilities, construction sites, and runoff from urbanized areas. Studies conducted by the USEPA, the states, counties, cities, flood control districts and other entities dealing with urban runoff indicate that industrial facilities, construction sites and urban areas are the three major sources of urban runoff pollution nationwide. (MS4, p.11.)

The SWRCB has issued permits for industrial and construction sites, and the RWQCB issues a local permit for runoff from urbanized areas pursuant to Section 402(p) of the Clean Water Act. These permits are issued under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES). The Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit is for municipalities who own and/or operate portions of an MS4 that discharge urban runoff into waters of the U.S. within the Santa Ana River Watershed, which includes the City. When facilities are authorized to connect to the City's MS4, the City must require compliance with the MS4 permit from said discharger. (MS4, p. 6.) The City is within the Santa Ana River Watershed, and within the regulatory boundary of the Santa Ana RWQCB. The City is a co-permittee to the Riverside County MS4 Permit.

Surface Water Resources

Surface water features within the Planning Area typically originate in the San Bernardino Mountains. The streams and creeks that flow into the Planning Area are dry for most of the year with occasional runoff during and shortly after rainfall events. There are no stream gages in the Planning Area that can be used

¹ In discussing the MEP standard, the SWRCB has said the following: "There must be a serious attempt to comply, and practical solutions may not be lightly rejected. If, from the list of BMPs, a permittee chooses only a few of the least expensive methods, it is likely that MEP has not been met. On the other hand, if a permittee employs all applicable BMPs except those where it can show that they are not technically feasible in the locality, or whose cost would exceed any benefit to be derived, it would have met the standard. MEP requires permittees to choose effective BMPs, and to reject applicable BMPs only where other effective BMPs will serve the same purpose, the BMPs would not be technically feasible, or the cost would be prohibitive." (Order No. WQ 2000-11, at p.20.)

to estimate surface water recharge to, or discharge from the groundwater basin. (BBW, p. 3-2; GP EIR 2006).

Beaumont's location at the top of the San Gorgonio Pass causes streams in and around the City to drain into the following three main drainage areas as reflected in **Figure 5.9-1 – Drainage Courses**.

- San Timoteo Creek – This drainage system is tributary to the Santa Ana River and drains from the San Gorgonio Pass.
- Potrero Creek – Areas located west of the Pass generally drain south into Potrero Creek which traverses the “Badlands” area to flow into the San Jacinto River, which ultimately connects to the Santa Ana River.
- Smith Creek – This drainage system is tributary to the Whitewater River, which is within the Salton Sea Watershed.

Flood Control and Drainage Facilities

Flooding within the Planning Area has historically resulted from seasonal storms that can last for several days, with higher rainfall amounts recorded in the nearby mountains than on the valley floor. Local winter storms may occur concurrent with strong cold fronts or deep upper level low pressure centers, and like localized summer storms, may be of high intensity with concentrated precipitation over small areas. (BGP DEIR 2006, p. 4.9-3; ECR, p. 107–108.)

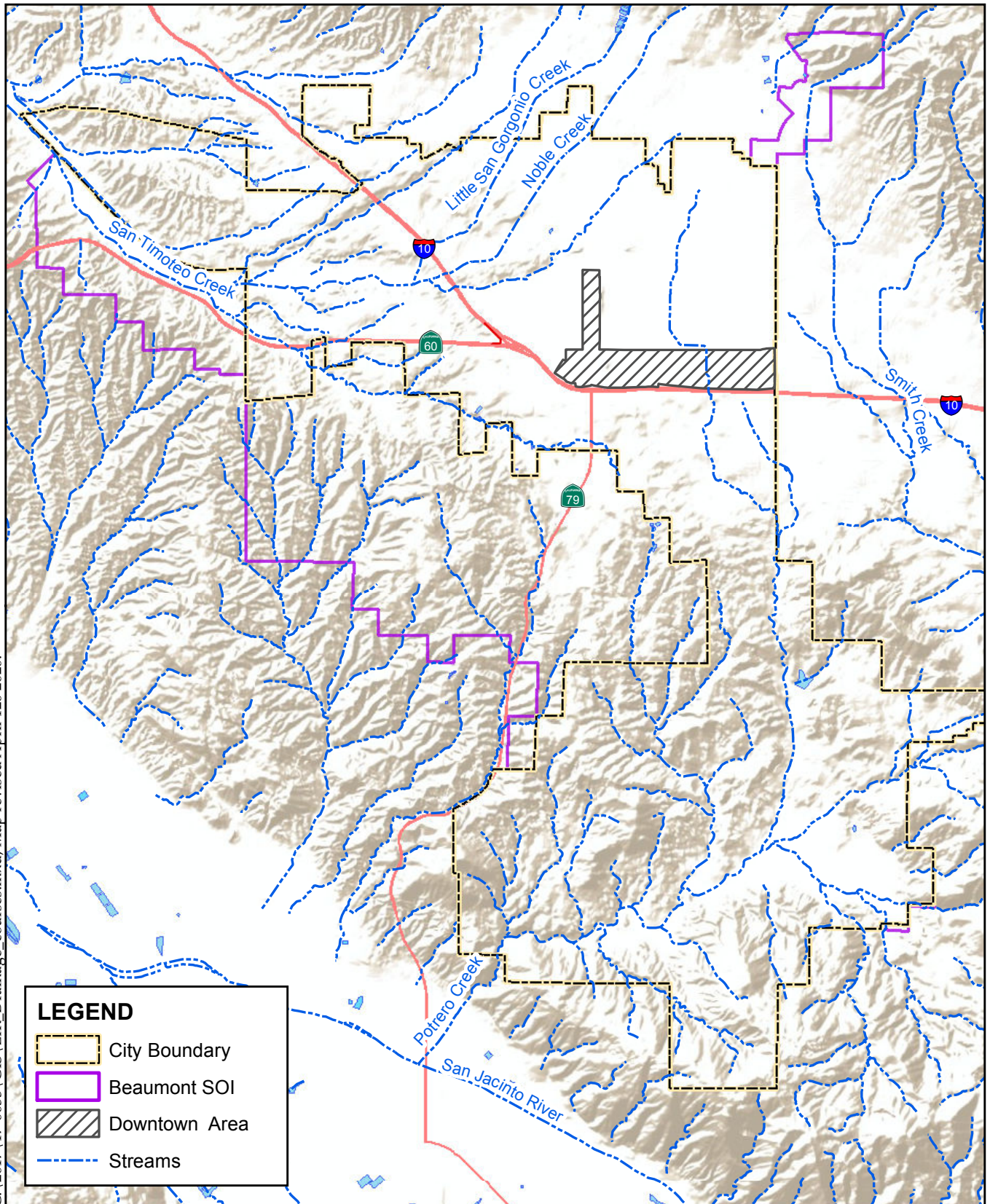
Occasional high-intensity summer thunderstorms can occur at the end of summer and beginning of fall and are more frequent over mountainous portions of the watershed. Intense rainfall does not allow for percolation at-depth, quickly resulting in runoff that be potentially erosive in a burn area. Mean annual precipitation in the region ranges from three inches in desert areas to over 35 inches in the San Bernardino and San Jacinto Mountains. Regionally, the dry summer months of June, July, and August in both desert and mountain regions regularly yield less than one-half inch of precipitation. (BGP DEIR 2006, p. 4.9-3.)

RCFCWCD (or District) provides flood control facility planning, design, operation, and maintenance within the City limits. The City of Beaumont and surrounding area has experienced occasional flooding. Consistent with the District's Master Drainage Plan for the Beaumont Area (MDP, July 1983), drainage and flood control facilities constructed by the City of Beaumont and the District aim to reduce nuisance flooding problems in much of the City. It was noted at the time the MDP was undertaken that discharge rates were determined on the basis of ultimate development assumptions from the then-current City of Beaumont and County of Riverside General Plans. As such, the alignment, location and sizing of MDP facilities are general and are subject to more detailed analysis at the design stage.

RCFCWCD has several flood control facilities currently within the City, including, channels, basins, spreading grounds, and culverts. (ECR, p. 107.) The existing drainage facilities in the City include the following, which are depicted on **Figure 5.9-2 – Flood Control Facilities** (BGP DEIR, pp. 4.9-6 to 4.9-7):

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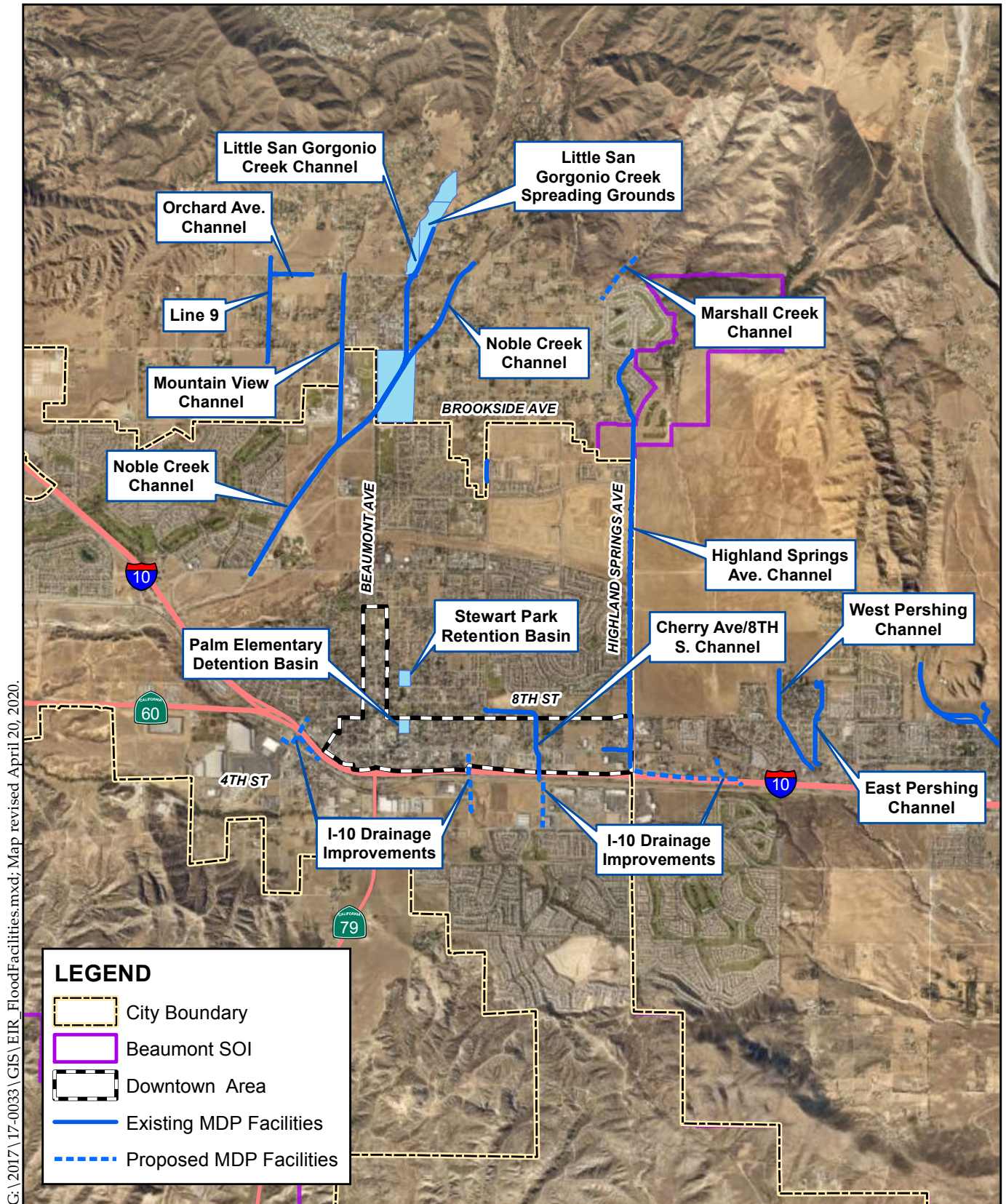
Sources: NHD, 2016; Raimi + Associates, 2019; Riverside Co. GIS, 2020.



0 0.5 1 1.5 2 Miles

Figure 5.9-1 Drainage Courses
City of Beaumont General Plan Update

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Sources: RCFC&WCD, 2019; City of Beaumont, 2018; Raimi+ Assoc. 2019; RCIT, 2016 (imagery).

Figure 5.9-2 Flood Control Facilities

City of Beaumont General Plan Update



0 0.5 1 1.5 2 Miles

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Cherry Avenue/8th Street Channel

This concrete-lined trapezoidal channel, constructed in 1957, is improved from 8th Street to its current outlet at 6th Street. Approximately 1.4 square miles of drainage area is tributary to the channel.

Highland Springs Avenue Channel

This concrete-lined trapezoidal channel extends northerly from Interstate 10 to the eastern prolongation of 16th Street.

Little San Gorgonio Creek Channel

This facility is a rectangular section “wire and rail” channel, which means that the vertical earthen walls are supported by wire mesh secured to lengths of steel rails placed vertically and anchored by steel cables. It is a soft bottom channel extending from Orchard Street south to its confluence with Noble Creek Channel below Cherry Valley Boulevard.

Little San Gorgonio Creek Spreading Grounds

This system of nine earthen basins serves to recharge the groundwater table for the Cherry Valley area. It also acts as a catch basin for a portion of the large amount of silt and debris generated by erosion.

Marshall Creek Channel

This also is a “wire and rail” channel, constructed in 1938. The channel extends approximately 2,000 feet upstream from its outlet at Bellflower Avenue into Marshall Canyon. A 100-year flow rate of approximately 1,200 cfs is provided for at this reach.

Mountain View Channel

Constructed in 1965, this concrete-lined trapezoidal channel extends from its confluence with Noble Creek, upstream to a point midway between Vineland Street and Cherry Valley Boulevard.

Noble Creek Channel

This is an ultimate design concrete-lined trapezoidal channel which conveys flows from Noble Creek and Little San Gorgonio Creek through the Cherry Valley Area.

Orchard Street Channel

Constructed in 1958 to intercept flows from Cherry Valley Creek, this concrete-lined trapezoidal channel outlets at Nancy Avenue and provides a 100-year flow rate of 530 cfs.

Interstate 10 Drainage Improvements

Caltrans has constructed over 30 drainage facilities to convey flows across Interstate 10 within the boundaries of the MDP study area. Upon implementation of the Master Plan, these facilities will, in aggregate, protect upstream properties from a storm of 10-year frequency or greater.

Stewart Park Retention Basin

Constructed in 1989 to reduce the 10-year outflow from the park from 230 cfs to 13 cfs. This is located within the City of Beaumont's Stewart Park.

Line 16 Project

The Beaumont MDP Line 16 Project (aka Recharge Basin Feeder) is located along Grand Avenue, westerly from Winesap Avenue to the existing recharge ponds east of Beaumont High School. This project is a partnership between RCFCWCD and BCVWD to construct an underground storm drain that

will collect stormwater flows and deliver that water to BCVWD's existing recharge ponds. (UWMP, p. 6-59).

Designated Flood Hazard Area

Flood hazard mapping is an important part of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), which is a program of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). FEMA maintains and updates flood hazard and risk data through the Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) and risk assessments. FEMA has mapped the expected flood hazard area of the City and City's SOI for both the 1 percent annual chance (100-year) and 0.2 percent annual chance (500-year) storm events, as shown in **Figure 5.9-3 – Flood Hazard Zones**.

Approximately 198 acres of the City are located within the mapped 100-year flood hazard zone, and approximately 154 acres of the City are mapped within the 500-year flood zone (**Figure 5.9-3**). Within the SOI, there is less than one acre identified to be within the 500-year flood zone.

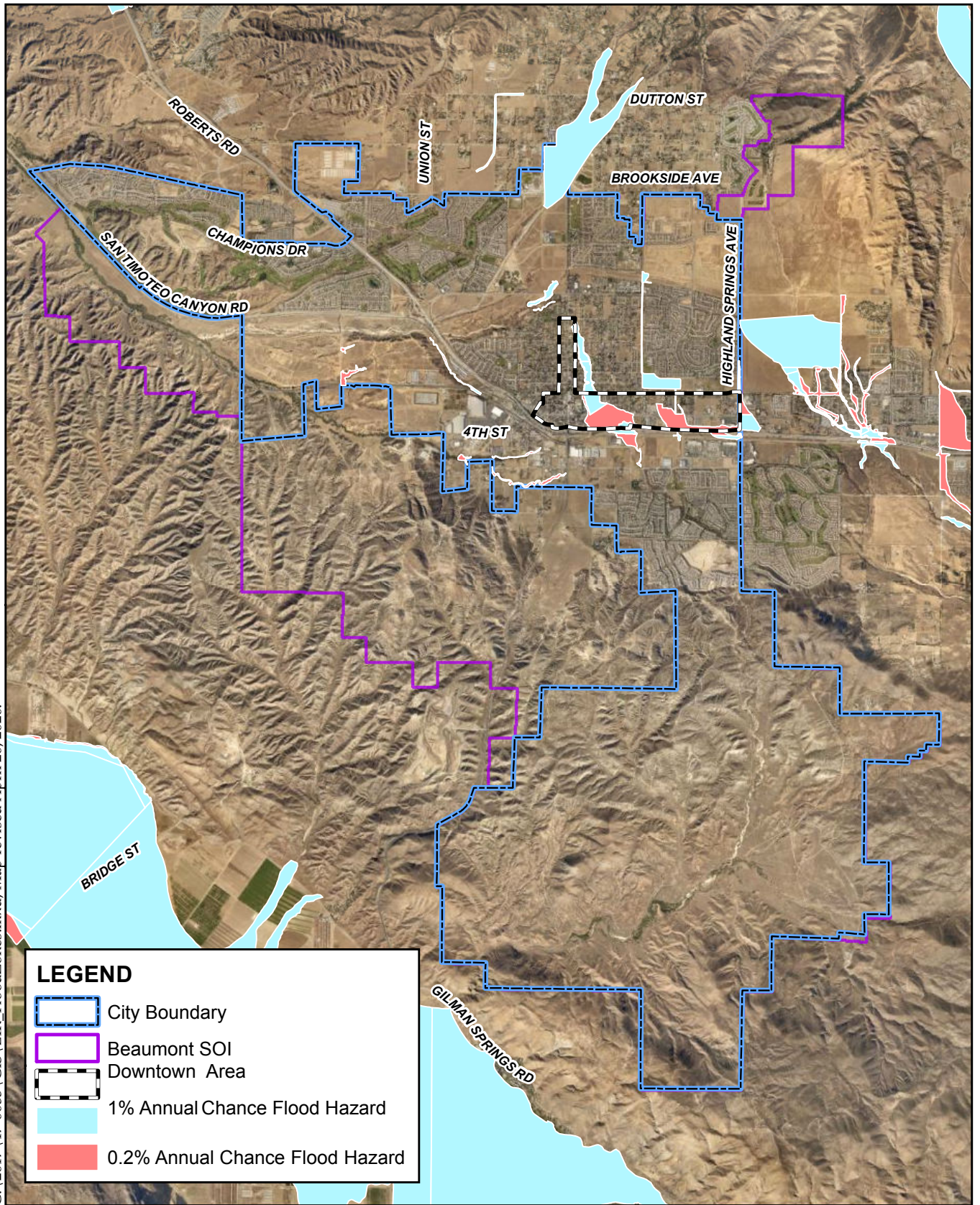
Development proposed within a flood hazard zone may be required to purchase mandatory flood insurance, submit to FEMA Conditional Letter of Map Revision (CLOMR) for approval, and following construction of any flood control facility(ies), submit for approval from FEMA a Letter of Map Revision (LOMR). A CLOMR is FEMA's comment on a project that would, upon construction, affect the hydrologic or hydraulic characteristics of a flooding source and thus result in the modification of the existing regulatory floodway, the effective base flood elevations, or the Special Flood Hazard Area. For example, when a structure is placed in a flood hazard area the structure takes up space that would have otherwise been flooded. Since it no longer can flood there, that floodwater is pushed elsewhere thus resulting in a change in the flood zone and downstream impacts. An approved CLOMR does not revise an effective NFIP map. Once the flood control portion of a project is built, an approved LOMR application will officially modify an effective FIRM.

Groundwater Resources

A majority of the Planning Area overlies the San Timoteo Subbasin of the Upper Santa Ana River Valley. (Department of Water Resources [DWR] Basin No. 8-002.08.) The San Timoteo Subbasin is further divided into several groundwater basins, including the following that are pertinent to the Planning Area: Beaumont Basin, South Beaumont Basin, Singleton Basin, and Edgar Canyon as shown on **Figure 5.9-4 – Groundwater Basins**.

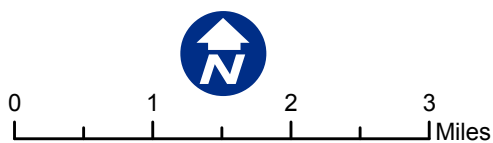
BCVWD is the water supplier to the City of Beaumont, and currently obtains all of its water supply from groundwater in Edgar Canyon and the Beaumont Basin, and percolated imported water (UWMP, p. 6-1). Much of the Planning Area overlies the Beaumont Basin, which is an adjudicated basin pursuant to a court Judgment issued in February 2004 and therefore managed by a Court-appointed Watermaster Committee, of which the City is a member. The Watermaster operates under the Judgment and the Rules and Regulations, which were originally adopted June 8, 2004, and subsequently amended in 2006 and 2008. The Judgment and the Rules and Regulations establish the procedures by which Watermaster accounts for the water resources of the Basin. Watermaster has the power to collect administrative assessments from all Appropriators and replenishment assessments from those parties (Appropriative and Overlying) pumping in excess of their pumping right to fund its operations. Each year, Watermaster publishes an Annual Report, which documents production and recharge activities in the Beaumont Basin.

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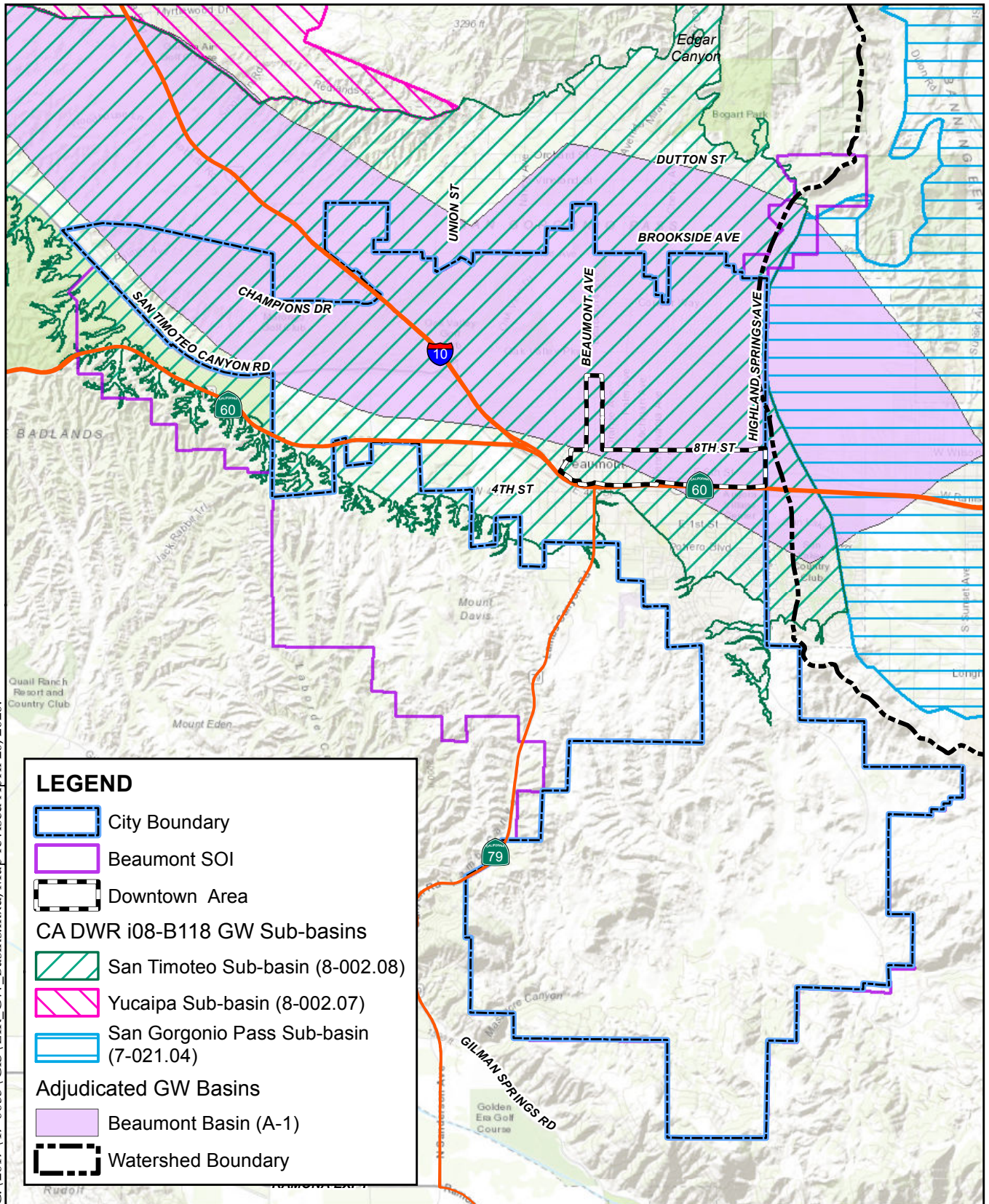
Sources: FEMA, 2018; Raimi+ Assoc. 2019; RCIT 2016 (imagery).

Figure 5.9-3 Flood Hazard Zones
City of Beaumont General Plan Update



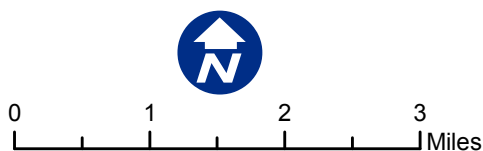
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G:\2017\17-0033\GIS\EIR_GW_Basins.mxd; Map revised April 20, 2020.



Sources: Calif. Dept. of Water Resources, 2018;
City of Beaumont, 2018; Raimi+ Assoc. 2019.

Figure 5.9-4 Groundwater Basins
City of Beaumont General Plan Update



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Under the Judgment, the Watermaster is granted discretionary powers to develop and implement a groundwater management plan for the Beaumont Basin. The Watermaster is responsible for providing the legal and practical means of ensuring that the waters of the Basin are put to maximum beneficial use. (BBW, p. 1-3). The Beaumont Basin is replenished from multiple sources; including infiltration of precipitation within the unlined portions of natural streams; subsurface seepage across fault boundaries; return flow from irrigation and individual septic systems; and artificial recharge with imported water in man-made basins (e.g. Noble Creek Recharge Facility). Groundwater discharges from the Beaumont Basin primarily occur from groundwater production; underflow out of the basin at the downgradient margins; rising water in San Timoteo Creek; and evapotranspiration. (BBW, p. 3-3.)

Pursuant to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014 (SGMA), the Yucaipa Valley Water District (YVWD) has formed the San Timoteo Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) which will prepare a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for management of the San Timoteo Subbasin that is outside of the adjudicated boundary of the Beaumont Basin. The requirements of SGMA are discussed further in Section 5.9.2 – Regulations.

Groundwater Quality

The Santa Ana RWQCB regulates the groundwater quality within the Planning Area. They identify them as Management Zones (MZ's) in the Basin Plan, and have assigned different boundaries than DWR. The Beaumont MZ encompasses portions of the Beaumont Basin, the Singleton and South Beaumont basins, and limited portions of Edgar Canyon above the Banning Fault. The Planning Area also includes portions of the San Timoteo and Yucaipa MZ's.

The Santa Ana RWQCB adopted “maximum benefit” groundwater quality objectives for total dissolved solids (TDS) and nitrate-nitrogen (nitrate-N) in the Beaumont, Yucaipa, and San Timoteo MZ's at the request of the City and neighboring agencies to accommodate the recharge of imported water and the reuse of recycled water over the basin. TDS and nitrate are salts that are of particular concern in regulating groundwater quality since they do not naturally degrade with depth, and can be persistent in groundwater. Maximum benefit objectives permit a controlled lowering of water quality; however, if the RWQCB determines that this lowering is not of maximum benefit to the people of the State, more stringent antidegradation objectives would apply. The maximum benefit objectives have resulted in a recent upgrade in the treatment systems of the Beaumont wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) in order to produce higher quality effluent and thus protect groundwater quality.

5.9.2 Related Regulations

Federal Regulations

National Flood Insurance Program

In 1968, Congress passed the National Flood Insurance Act that created the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973, which amended the 1968 Act, required the purchase of flood insurance by property owners who were located in special flood hazard areas and were being assisted by federal programs, or by federally supervised, regulated, or insured agencies or institutions.

National Flood Insurance Program Reform Act of 1994

In 1994, the National Flood Insurance Program Reform Act went through the first major revision since inception. Included in this revision were provisions that a lender must escrow for flood insurance if a structure is within the floodplain. The revised legislation also included increased flood insurance limits and

the elimination of the 1962 buy-out program. However, the legislation did initiate the Hazard Mitigation Fund as part of the flood insurance policy. Also included in this legislation was the increase from a 5-day to a 30-day waiting period for a new policy to become effective. It also prohibits the waiver of flood insurance purchase requirements as a condition of receiving federal disaster assistance. If the flood insurance policy was not maintained and in the event of another disaster, there would be no disaster assistance available for that structure.

Executive Order 11988, Floodplain Management

Executive Order 11988 requires the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to provide leadership and to take action to:

- Reduce the hazards and risks associated with floods;
- Minimize the impacts of floods on human health, safety, and welfare; and
- Restore and preserve the natural and beneficial values of the current floodplain.

To comply with Executive Order 11988, the policy of the Corps is to develop projects that, to the extent possible, avoid or minimize adverse effects associated with use of the floodplain and that avoid development (or the inducement of development) in an existing floodplain; unless, there is no practicable alternative.

State Regulations Clean Water Act

The Clean Water Act (CWA) requires all states to conduct assessments of water quality to identify water bodies that do not meet water quality standards. In California, the CWA is implemented by the SWRCB, and the nine RWQCB's. The California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (Division 7 of the California Water Code) authorizes the oversight of regulatory activities within each RWQCB basin.

The Project is located in "Region 8", or the Santa Ana RWQCB. Each RWQCB develops its own Water Quality Control Plan, or "Basin Plan," which establishes both the "beneficial uses" of specific waterbodies and the levels of quality (or "water quality objectives") that must be met and maintained to protect those uses. Beneficial uses are all the various ways that water can be used for the benefit of people and/or wildlife. (RWQCB(a), pp. 2-5 to 2-6.)

Water Code Section 13241 identifies the factors that the RWQCB must consider, at a minimum, when establishing water quality objectives to ensure the reasonable protection of beneficial uses and the prevention of nuisance. Among these factors are the "Past, present, and probable future beneficial uses of water." (CWC 13241(a).) Beneficial uses are identified by the RWQCB as "existing," "potential," or "intermittent" uses. Determination of an "existing" use is done with documentation of the existence of those uses. "Potential" beneficial uses are assumed to be the same as "probable future" beneficial uses. "Intermittent" uses are those that occur only seasonably because of limiting environmental conditions, and those uses which are dependent on and occur only when sufficient flow exists (RWQCB(a), p. 2-2). The Basin Plan recognizes the difference between perennial, intermittent and ephemeral streams. Perennial streams have continuous flow all year round during years of normal rainfall, while intermittent streams will normally cease flowing for weeks or months each year. Ephemeral streams will only flow for a short period time following a rainfall. The beneficial use designations given to the receiving waters of the Project site are provided in **Table 5.9-A – Beneficial Uses and Impairments of Receiving Waters**.

Table 5.9-A – Beneficial Uses and Impairments of Receiving Waters

Receiving Water	Beneficial Uses ^(a)	303(d) List Constituents ^(b)	TMDL
Reach 3 San Timoteo Creek	GWR, REC1, REC2, WARM, WILD (excepted from MUN)	<i>Indicator bacteria</i> (proposed)	Listed 2014 TMDL due 2029
Little San Gorgonio Creek	MUN, GWR, REC1, REC2, COLD, WILD	--	--
Other tributaries to these Creeks- Valley Reaches	(all intermittent) MUN, GWR, REC1, REC2, WARM, WILD	--	--
Beaumont Groundwater Management Zone	MUN, AGR, IND, PROC	--	--
Yucaipa Groundwater Management Zone	MUN, AGR, IND, PROC	--	--
San Timoteo Groundwater Management Zone	MUN, AGR, IND, PROC	--	--
Definitions of Beneficial Uses ^(a)			
MUN	Municipal and domestic supply waters are used for community, military, municipal or individual water supply systems. These uses may include, but are not limited to, drinking water supply.		
AGR	Waters are used for farming, horticulture or ranching. Uses may include, but are not limited to, irrigation, stock watering, and support of vegetation for range grazing.		
IND	Industrial service supply waters are used for industrial activities that do not depend primarily on water quality, including mining, cooling water supply, gravel washing, and fire protection.		
PROC	Like IND, industrial process supply waters are used for industrial activities that do not depend primarily on water quality, and include process water supply, product manufacturing and food preparation.		
GWR	Groundwater recharge waters, used for natural or artificial recharge of groundwater for purposes that may include future extraction, maintaining water quality, or halting saltwater intrusion in freshwater aquifers.		
REC1	Water contact recreation waters, used for recreational activities involving body contact with water where ingestion of water is reasonably possible. Uses may include swimming, wading, water-skiing, skin and scuba diving, surfing, whitewater activities, fishing, and use of natural hot springs.		
REC2	Non-contact water recreation waters, used for recreational activities involving proximity to water, but not normally involving body contact with water where ingestion of water would be reasonably possible. These uses may include picnicking, sunbathing, hiking, beachcombing, camping, boating, sightseeing, and aesthetic enjoyment in conjunction of the above activities.		

Table 5.9-A – Beneficial Uses and Impairments of Receiving Waters

Receiving Water	Beneficial Uses ^(a)	303(d) List Constituents ^(b)	TMDL
Reach 3 San Timoteo Creek	GWR, REC1, REC2, WARM, WILD (excepted from MUN)	<i>Indicator bacteria (proposed)</i>	Listed 2014 TMDL due 2029
Little San Gorgonio Creek	MUN, GWR, REC1, REC2, COLD, WILD	--	--
Other tributaries to these Creeks- Valley Reaches	(all intermittent) MUN, GWR, REC1, REC2, WARM, WILD	--	--
Beaumont Groundwater Management Zone	MUN, AGR, IND, PROC	--	--
Yucaipa Groundwater Management Zone	MUN, AGR, IND, PROC	--	--
San Timoteo Groundwater Management Zone	MUN, AGR, IND, PROC	--	--
Definitions of Beneficial Uses ^(a)			
WARM	Warm freshwater habitat waters support warm water ecosystems that may include preservation and enhancement of aquatic habitats, vegetation, fish and wildlife, including invertebrates.		
WILD	Wildlife habitat waters support wildlife habitats that may include the preservation and enhancement of vegetation and prey species used by waterfowl and other wildlife.		

Notes:

- (a) RWQCB(a), Table 3-1, p. 3-26; definitions adapted from pp. 3-2 – 3-3. “Excepted from MUN” means the waterbody has been specifically excepted from the MUN designation in accordance with the criteria specific in the “Sources of Drinking Water Policy” (Resolution No. 88-63). “Intermittent” beneficial uses are so designated because water conditions do not allow the beneficial use to occur year-round. Waste discharges that could impair intermittent beneficial uses, whether they are made while those uses occur or not, are not permitted (RWQCB(a), p. 3-21).
- (b) From *Resolution R8-2017-0013*, adopted by Santa Ana RWQCB on April 28, 2017. Approved by SWRCB on October 3, 2017 and pending approval by USEPA.

Pursuant to section 303(d) of the CWA, water bodies that fail to meet certain water quality standards are placed on a list of impaired waters (303(d) List). Once listed, the RWQCB must develop a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) that addresses each pollutant causing the impairment. The TMDL defines how much of a pollutant a waterbody can tolerate and still meet water quality standards.

The Basin Plan outlines both narrative and numeric water quality objectives to protect beneficial uses of identified surface waters and groundwater. Narrative objectives apply to all surface waters within the region (RWQCB(a), p.4-6). In addition, certain numeric objectives listed in **Table 5.9-B – Numeric Objectives for Receiving Waters** have been developed. When more than one objective is applicable, the stricter shall apply.

Table 5.9-B – Numeric Objectives for Receiving Waters

Water Body	Water Quality Objectives (mg/L) ^(a)						
	Total Dissolved Solids	Hardness	Sodium	Chloride	Nitrogen	Sulfate	Chemical Oxygen Demand
Reach 3 San Timoteo Creek	Surface water objectives not established; underlying Management Zone objectives apply. Biological quality protected by narrative objectives.						
Little San Gorgonio Creek	230	125	50	40	3 (total inorganic)	45	5
Other tributaries to these Creeks-Valley Reaches	Numeric objectives have not been established; narrative objectives apply. The division between Mountain and Valley reaches occurs at the base of the foothills of the San Bernardino Mountains.						
Beaumont Management Zone - Maximum Benefit	330	--	--	--	5.0 (nitrate as nitrogen)	--	--
Beaumont Management Zone - Antidegradation	230	--	--	--	1.5 (nitrate as nitrogen)	--	--
San Timoteo Management Zone – Maximum Benefit	400	--	--	--	5.0 (nitrate as nitrogen)	--	--
San Timoteo Management Zone – Antidegradation	300	--	--	--	2.7 (nitrate as nitrogen)	--	--
Yucaipa Management Zone – Maximum Benefit	370	--	--	--	5.0	--	--
Yucaipa Management Zone – Antidegradation	320	--	--	--	4.2	--	--

Notes:

(a) RWQCB(a), Table 4-1.

(b) “Maximum benefit” objectives apply unless Regional Board determines that lowering of water quality is not of maximum benefit to the people of the state; in that case, “antidegradation” objectives apply.

For discussions of CWA Section 401 (Water Quality Certification) and Section 404 Nationwide and Individual permits (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers), as well as California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreements, please refer to Section 5.4 – Biological Resources of this PEIR.

As noted above, the CWA prohibits the discharge of pollutants to waters of the U.S. unless the discharge is in compliance with a NPDES permit. Some of the NPDES permits are managed on a statewide basis by the State Water Resources Control Board (i.e., General Permits), including the General Industrial Activities Storm Water Permit and the General Construction Activity Storm Water Permit. In addition, the State Board issues two statewide municipal permits for CalTrans-managed storm sewer systems and Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4).

The general construction stormwater permit (currently Order 2009-0009-DWQ) applies to construction sites that disturb one or more acres of soil, or projects less than one acre but are part of a larger common plan of development. The primary requirement of the general construction permit is development of a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) by a certified Qualified SWPPP Developer (QSD) and implemented/monitored onsite by a certified Qualified SWPPP Practitioner (QSP). The purpose of the SWPPP is to apply appropriate sediment and erosion control Best Management Practices (BMPs) to reduce or eliminate pollutants in stormwater runoff. BMPs can include source control methods such as site housekeeping and secondary containment structures, as well as detention basins for capture and containment of sediments; use of silt fencing, sandbags, and/or straw bales.

The statewide general industrial permit (currently Order 2014-0057-DWQ) regulates post-construction discharges associated with ten federally-defined categories of industrial activities. This permit also requires certain BMPs, a site-specific SWPPP and monitoring plan. The Santa Ana RWQCB also adopted a sector-specific general permit specifically for metal scrap recyclers within the Santa Ana River Watershed (Order R8-2012-0012).

The MS4 permit program regulates all stormwater discharges from municipal storm drains. The Santa Ana RWQCB oversees three MS4 permits: one for Orange, Riverside, and San Bernardino Counties. The Riverside County MS4 permit (Order RB8-2010-0033) requires the principal permittee (District) and co-permittees (County of Riverside and cities, including the City of Beaumont) to develop several items that generally reduce pollutants in urban runoff to the Maximum Extent Practicable (MEP, as previously discussed). This includes “Local Implementation Plans” describing the enforceable elements of an agency’s urban runoff compliance program, as well as a “Watershed Action Plan” and “Hydromodification Management Plan” to address impacts from urbanization. Likewise, a “Drainage Area Management Plan” is periodically updated by the principal permittee to document MS4 permit compliance programs and to provide guidance to co-permittees for Local Implementation Plans. In addition, the “Consolidated Monitoring Program” defines the monitoring locations and methods to evaluate BMP effectiveness. Lastly, the MS4 permit requires a “Water Quality Management Plan” (WQMP) for most new development and certain redevelopment projects. Like the construction SWPPP, the WQMP identifies how site design elements, source control methods and treatment control BMPs in the post-construction phase will minimize pollutant loads to the municipal storm drain in the long-term.

Under direction from the Santa Ana RWQCB, the WQMP prioritizes the use of Low Impact Development (LID) principles and BMPs² to reduce the discharge of pollutants into urban runoff by mimicking the pre-development hydrologic regime. Therefore, the WQMP template (developed by principal permittee, RCFC&WCD and approved by the Santa Ana RWQCB) forces the applicant to work through a hierarchy of LID BMPs to justify feasibility (or infeasibility) of infiltration methods as the primary treatment mechanism for the urban runoff. The WQMP also requires each onsite drainage area (i.e. roofs, parking lots, landscaping, etc.) be identified as a Drainage Management Area (DMA) as to where it is draining; to either “self-treating” areas,³ “self-retaining” areas,⁴ or areas draining to BMPs. (WQMP Guidance 2012)

² Low Impact Development: An approach to stormwater management and land development that combines hydrologically functional design with pollution prevention measures to compensate for land development impacts on hydrology and water quality. LID BMPs and Principles mimic the site’s predevelopment hydrology by using techniques that store, infiltrate, evapotranspire, bio-treat, bio-filter, bio-retain, or detain runoff close to its source (LID, 2012).

³ Self-treating area: Natural or landscaped area that drains overland off-site or directly to the storm drain system.

Eligible projects submitted to the City are required to provide a project-specific WQMP prior to the first discretionary project approval or permit. Project applicants may submit a preliminary project-specific WQMP for discretionary project approval (land use permit); however, a final version would be submitted for review and approval prior to the issuance of any grading or building permits.

Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014

On September 16, 2014, Governor Jerry Brown signed into law a three-bill legislative package, composed of AB 1739 (Dickinson), SB 1168 (Pavley), and SB 1319 (Pavley), collectively known as the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). For the first time in its history, California has a framework for sustainable, groundwater management - "management and use of groundwater in a manner that can be maintained during the planning and implementation horizon without causing undesirable results." 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. SGMA empowers local agencies to form Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) to manage basins sustainably and requires those GSAs to adopt Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs) for crucial groundwater basins in California. GSPs are required for "critically overdrafted" basins by 2020, and for all remaining high- and medium-priority groundwater basins by 2022.

Pursuant to SGMA, the San Timoteo Subbasin is a medium priority basin. The Beaumont Basin is not prioritized by SGMA because it is managed through an adjudication.

Cobey-Alquist Flood Plain Management Act (California Water Code Section 8400 et.seq.)

The act states that a large portion of land resources of the State of California is subject to recurrent flooding. The public interest necessitates sound development of land use, as land is a limited, valuable, and irreplaceable resource. The floodplains of the State are a land resource that requires development in a manner that is in conjunction with economically justified structural measures for flood control, and that would result in the prevention of loss of life and economic loss caused by excessive flooding. The primary responsibility for planning, adoption, and enforcement of land use regulations to accomplish floodplain management rests with local levels of government. It is a policy of the State of California to encourage local government to plan land use regulations to accomplish floodplain management, and to provide state assistance and guidance.

Urban Water Management Planning Act

The Urban Water Management Planning Act of 1984 requires urban water suppliers to develop written "Urban Water Management Plans." This Act was promulgated as a means of encouraging and implementing water conservation measures, while establishing long term planning obligations for water suppliers. Under the Act, Urban Water Management Plans must describe the following:

- Existing and planned water supply and demand;
- Water conservation measures and a schedule for implementing and evaluating such measures; and

⁴ Self-retaining area: Area designed to retain runoff, such as graded depressions with landscaping or porous pavements.

- Water shortage contingency measures.

The Urban Water Management Planning Act requires a 20-year planning horizon, and water management plan updates every 5 years. Urban Water Management Plans are statutorily exempt from CEQA.

In preparing their 20-year management plans, water suppliers must directly address the subject of future population growth and related increases in water demands. The Plan must “identify and quantify, to the extent practicable, the existing and planned sources of water available to the supplier” intended to satisfy future demands. The BCVWD has recently adopted a Year 2015 Urban Water Management Plan Update which conforms with State law requirements.

Regional Regulations

Flood Control District

The RCFCWCD adopted and maintains the Beaumont MDP, which addresses the locations where flooding is known or likely in the Beaumont area and provides an economical plan that considers flood protection for both existing and future development within the study area. An Area Drainage Plan (ADP) developed in connection with a ADP provides the financing mechanism used to offset taxpayer costs for proposed drainage facilities. An ADP has not been developed between the City and the District.

The MDP encompasses approximately 34 square miles of incorporated and unincorporated land in and around the City. Generally, the MDP study boundary limits are the community of Oak Glen to the north, Highland Springs Avenue to the east, Beaumont City limits to the south, and Interstate 10 and Wildwood Canyon to the southwest and northwest, respectively. The scope of the MDP includes the following (BGP DEIR 2006, p. 4.9-4):

- The quantity and points of concentration of stormwater runoff in the area;
- Drainage boundary map;
- Determine the location, size and capacity of the proposed drainage structures;
- Preliminary plan and profile drawings, and supporting cost estimates.

It was noted at the time the MDP study was undertaken that discharge rates were determined on the basis of ultimate development assumptions from the then-current City of Beaumont and County of Riverside General Plans. As such, the alignment, location and sizing of facilities are general and are subject to more detailed analysis at the design stage. The criteria utilized for the study was based on all underground storm drains proposed in the drainage master plan being able to collect local urban runoff and, with few exceptions, being located in either existing or assumed street rights-of-way. Runoff from a 10-year storm would be allowed to accumulate in the streets until it reaches the top of curb, whereby the MDP initiates an underground drain which will intercept and convey the entire 10-year storm runoff to an outlet downstream. Flows exceeding the 10-year frequency storm would generally be carried within street rights-of-way. As designed and implemented to date, the combination of street and underground storm drain conveyance of water proposed in the MDP provides appropriate flood protection for potentially affected areas of the City. The MDP further proposes open channels to convey large drainage discharge volumes in circumstances where the right-of-way costs for channel improvements are estimated to be less than the cost of underground storm drains. Where open channels are provided, they are designed to carry the runoff from a 100-year frequency storm. (BGP DEIR, pp. 4.9-5 to 4.9-6.)

Local Regulations

Beaumont Municipal Code

The following chapters of the Beaumont Municipal Code address hydrology and water quality topics:

Title 8 – Health and Safety, Chapter 8.32 – Nuisances

This chapter sets the standards of defined public nuisances, including but not limited to, improper grading or excavation that causes erosion, subsidence or surface water runoff problems of such magnitude as to be injurious or potentially injurious to public health, safety, and welfare or to adjacent premises. (BMC, Section 8.32.185.)

Title 13 – Public Services; Chapter 13.24 – Stormwater/Urban Runoff Management and Discharge Controls

The purpose of this chapter is to protect the health, safety and welfare of the public by:

1. Reducing pollutants in stormwater discharges to the maximum extent practicable;
2. Regulating illicit connections and discharges to the storm drain system; and
3. Regulating non-stormwater discharges to the storm drain system.

The intent of Chapter 13.24 is to protect and enhance the water quality of watercourses, water bodies, groundwater and wetlands in a manner pursuant to and consistent with the Federal Clean Water Act, the State Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act and the conditions of any NPDES permit applicable to the City. (BMC, Section 13.24.010.)

Title 15– Buildings and Construction; Chapter 15.24 – Floodplain Management

The purpose of Chapter 15.24 to promote the public health, safety, and general welfare, and to minimize public and private losses due to flood conditions in specific areas of the City by legally enforceable regulations applied uniformly throughout the community to all publicly and privately owned land.

According to BMC Section 15.24.030, regulations in this chapter of the municipal code are designed to:

- A. *Protect human life and health;*
- B. *Minimize expenditure of public money for costly flood control projects;*
- C. *Minimize the need for rescue and relief efforts associated with flooding and generally undertaken at the expense of the general public;*
- D. *Minimize prolonged business interruptions*
- E. *Minimize damage to public facilities and utilities such as water and gas mains; electric, telephone and sewer lines; and streets and bridges located in special flood hazard areas;*
- F. *Help maintain a stable tax base by providing for the sound use and development of special flood hazard areas so as to minimize future blighted areas caused by flood damage;*
- G. *Ensure that potential buyers are notified that property is in an area of special flood hazard area; and*
- H. *Ensure that those who occupy special flood hazard areas assume responsibility for their actions.*

BMC Section 15.24.040 indicates the following types of regulations are included in Chapter 15.24 to accomplish the purposes set forth in BMC 15.24.030, These regulations:

- A. *Restrict or prohibit land uses which are dangerous to health, safety, and property due to water or erosion hazards, or which result in damaging increases in erosion or flood heights or velocities;*
- B. *Require that land uses vulnerable to floods, including facilities which serve such uses, be protected against flood damage at the time of initial construction;*
- C. *Control the alteration of natural floodplains, stream channels, and natural protective barriers, which help accommodate or channel floodwaters;*
- D. *Control filling, grading, dredging, and other development which may increase flood damage; and*
- E. *Prevent or regulate the construction of flood barriers which will unnaturally divert floodwaters or which may increase flood hazards in other areas.*

Title 16 – Subdivisions; Chapter 16.44 – Flood Control and Tract Drainage

This chapter sets flood event design standards, and the flood control facility design calculations (hydrologic and hydraulic) that are required from applicants of Schedules A, B, C, D, and E land divisions as defined in BMC Section 16.40.050 through 16.40.090. According to BMC Section 16.44.010, the required facilities are established as follows:

- A. *The minimum design for facilities which control drainage water generated within a land division or floodwater flowing into or crossing a land division shall be based on a storm having a frequency of once in 100 years. Hydrologic and hydraulic calculations for the design of drainage facilities which control drainage water generated within a land division shall be submitted for approval to the City Engineer. Hydrologic and hydraulic calculations for the design of flood-control facilities to control floodwater flowing into or crossing a land division shall be submitted for approval to the flood-control agency having jurisdiction and to the City Engineer.*
- B. *The use of streets for flood-control and drainage purposes may be prohibited by the City Engineer if the use thereof is not in the interest of the public health, safety and welfare.*
- C. *When the City Engineer permits the use of streets for flood-control and drainage purposes, the ten-year frequency design discharge shall be contained between the tops of curbs, and the 100-year frequency design discharge shall be contained within the street right-of-way. If either of these conditions is exceeded, additional flood control facilities shall be provided.*

Application for Environmental Review and Processing

As part of the entitlement process, applicants are required to complete and submit an Application for Environmental Review and Processing, which is used by the City Planning Department to determine what, if any, technical studies may be required as part of the entitlement process. According to the Application for Environmental Review and Processing, a hydrology/water quality report is required for an implementing development project if: the project may require drilling for new utilities, construction activities that require deep excavation, or project is above water table, or may require excavation that will reach water table.

5.9.3 Beaumont 2040 Plan

This section presents those policies of the proposed Project that reduce potential impacts to water quality and hydrology.

The Beaumont 2040 Plan goals, policies, and implementation actions that reduce potential impacts to hydrology and water quality include:

Beaumont 2040 Plan, Chapter 3 – Land Use and Design

Goal 3.10: A City designed to improve the quality of the built and natural environments to reduce disparate health and environmental impacts.

Policy 3.10.7 Support practices that promote low impact development, including water resilient communities, prevention of urban runoff, and mitigation of industrial pollution.

Goal 3.11: A City that maintains and enhances open space used for resource preservation and/or recreation.

Policy 3.11.5 Preserve watercourses and washes necessary for regional flood control, ground water recharge areas and drainage for open space and recreational purposes. These include San Timoteo Creek, Little San Gorgonio Creek and Noble Creek, among others.

Goal 3.12: A City that minimizes the extent of urban development in the hillsides, and mitigates any significant adverse consequences associated with urbanization.

Policy 3.12.2 Limit the extent and intensity of uses and development in areas of unstable terrain, steep terrain, scenic vistas, and other critical environmental areas.

Policy 3.12.3 Control the grading of land, pursuant to the City's Municipal Code, to minimize the potential for erosion, landslides, and other forms of land failure, as well as to limit the potential negative aesthetic impact of excessive modification of natural landforms.

Implementation LUCD7 Development Fact Sheets. Create and promote a series of one-page fact sheets about permitting, zoning, building, and development requirements and questions.

Implementation LUCD13 Coordination of Development Plans and Infrastructure Funding. Phase development based on availability of infrastructure and only allow annexation to occur only when the full range of urban services is available or funded.

Implementation LUCD23 Joint Use. Create a joint use agreement with the Flood Control District and other utility companies to allow residents greater park and recreational access.

Beaumont 2040 Plan, Chapter 6 – Health, Equity, and Environmental Justice

Goal 6.7: A City that safely and systemically addresses toxics, legacy pollutants, and hazardous materials

Policy 6.7.1 Prohibit new non-residential uses that are known to release or emit toxic waste at levels that are harmful to human health while continuing to allow R&D uses, medical uses, and other necessary services such as dry cleaners.

Policy 6.7.7 Work with the Beaumont Cherry Valley Water District to develop and distribute an informational brochure regarding best practices to reduce or eliminate surface and groundwater contamination.

Beaumont 2040 Plan, Chapter 7 – Community Facilities and Infrastructure

Goal 7.2: A clean and sustainable water supply that supports existing community needs and long-term growth.

- Policy 7.2.5 Provide the Beaumont 2040 land use plan to the Beaumont Cherry Valley Water District (BCVWD) incorporation into their next UWMP and PWMP .
- Policy 7.2.6 Require developers to present a plan to provide adequate water infrastructure and supply levels before approving new development.
- Policy 7.2.7 Continue to optimize groundwater recharge from new and redevelopment projects by infiltrating stormwater in accordance with State, regional, and local requirements.

Goal 7.4: Incorporate sustainable and improved stormwater management practices.

- Policy 7.4.1 Incorporate low-impact development (LID) techniques to improve stormwater quality and reduce run-off quantity.
- Policy 7.4.2 Explore opportunities for “green streets” that use natural processes to manage stormwater runoff, when feasible.
- Policy 7.4.3 Require new development and redevelopment projects to reuse stormwater on-site to the maximum extent practical and provide adequate stormwater infrastructure for flood control.
- Policy 7.4.4 Use agency websites, public service announcements, and other means to inform the public about water quality issues, methods to prevent contaminants from entering the storm drain system, public stormwater pollution, and a system for reporting non-stormwater discharges to waterways. Some of these materials can be sourced from the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District.

Goal 7.5: Manage and effectively treat storm water to minimize risk to downstream resources.

- Policy 7.5.1 Ensure compliance with the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) MS4 permit requirements.
- Policy 7.5.2 Continue to work with co-permittees of the NPDES permit to promote public awareness of water quality issues.
- Policy 7.5.3 Minimize pollutant discharges into storm drainage systems, natural drainages, and groundwater. Design the necessary stormwater detention basins, recharge basins, water quality basins, or similar water capture facilities to protect water quality by capturing and/or treating water before it enters a watercourse.
- Policy 7.5.4 Require new development to fund fair-share costs associated with the provision of stormwater drainage systems, including master drainage facilities.
- Policy 7.5.5 Require hydrologic/hydraulic studies and WQMPs to ensure that new developments and redevelopment projects will not cause adverse hydrologic or biologic impacts to downstream receiving waters, including groundwater.

- Policy 7.5.6 Participate, when appropriate, in regional task force efforts in partnership with the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board, including but not limited to, the development and ongoing implementation of Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) and water quality sampling programs.
- Policy 7.5.7 Pursue grant funding and partnership opportunities for stormwater capture and/or restoration projects.
- Policy 7.5.8 Continue to routinely monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the storm drain collection and conveyance system and adjust as needed. This may include retrofitting for enhanced infiltration.
- Policy 7.5.9 Continue to monitor influent rates at the wastewater treatment plant as new development projects are proposed, and coordinate treatment capacity expansion as needed.
- Policy 7.5.10 Seek opportunities to integrate stormwater facilities into public spaces as architectural design elements. Include informational and educational signs to raise public awareness of water use and water pollution issues.
- Implementation CF11 Underground Infrastructure Mapping. Work collaboratively with regional utility agencies to adopt smart city technology to map underground infrastructure.
- Implementation CF12 Zoning and Implementation Ordinances. Update zoning and building codes to enable innovative sustainability measures such as:
- Greywater capture and reuse systems
 - On-site bioretention-based stormwater facilities
 - Coordinated below grade installation/repair between various providers and agencies
 - Wind generation on residential and commercial buildings
 - Electric vehicle infrastructure requirements
 - Green building performance standards
- Implementation CF13 Adequate Water Supply for New Development: Require a Water Supply Assessment for new developments to ensure adequate water supply.
- Implementation CF14 Water System Plans and Rate Study. Participate in the revision the Urban Water Management Plan and Potable Water System Master Plan based on current requirements and policy.
- Implementation CF15 Funding. Work with the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (RCFC) to identify and pursue funding to support efforts that protect the Santa Ana watershed.
- Implementation CF16 Water Education. Develop a water conservation and stewardship strategy with local partners and water providers to reduce water consumption, raise awareness of stormwater pollution, and encourage conservation behaviors.

- Implementation CF17 Educational materials. Produce a City resource guide for commercial and residential water recycling techniques, including conservation strategies, landscaping, rainwater capture, greywater systems, and use of cisterns.
- Implementation CF18 Low Impact Development. Develop standards to:
- determine where Low Impact Development (LID) techniques are appropriate and can incorporate best management practices.
 - identify and eliminate barriers to incorporate watershed protection principles.
- Implementation CF19 Area Drainage Plan. Develop an Area Drainage Plan (ADP) with the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District to accompany the Beaumont Master Drainage Plan.
- Implementation CF120 Green Streets. Implement best practices for Green Streets on transportation corridors associated with new and existing redevelopment projects.
- Implementation CF121 Local implementation Plan. Prepare a Local Implementation Plan (LIP) that documents the internal procedures for implementation of the various program elements described in the Drainage Area Management Plan and Regional Water Quality Control Board - Santa Ana Region Order No. R8-2010-0033 ("MS4 Permit").
- Implementation CF122 Site Inspections. Conduct periodic inspections of commercial and industrial facilities for non-stormwater and/or pollutants discharges to the storm drain system.
- Implementation CF123 Construction Site Inspections. Conduct construction site inspections in order to check for inadequate erosion and sediment control measures and/or non-stormwater discharges.
- Implementation CF124 Sewer and Stormwater User Fees. Work with local and regional agencies to update existing user fees for sewer and stormwater, fund needed system upgrades, and to the extent feasible, allow for wastewater recycling and stormwater capture

Beaumont 2040 Plan, Chapter 9 – Safety

Goal 9.8: A City with reduced potential flood hazards.

- Policy 9.8.1 In coordination with the Public Works Department, annually review the City's Land Use and Flood Hazard Maps to ensure that they accurately reflect areas recognized by FEMA as being subject to flooding.
- Policy 9.8.2 Restrict development in Flood Hazard Areas.
- Policy 9.8.3 Work closely with Federal and regional partners to perform timely reviews of potential flood hazards and identify mitigation strategies.
- Policy 9.8.4 Require all new developments to mitigate potential flooding that may result from development, such as grading that prevents adverse drainage impacts to adjacent properties, on-site retention of runoff, and the adequate siting of structures located within flood plains.

- Policy 9.8.5 Limit future development of critical facilities including, but not limited to, hospitals and health care facilities, emergency shelters, fire stations, emergency command centers, and emergency communications facilities within the boundaries of the 100-year flood plain.
- Policy 9.8.6 Encourage critical facilities to implement feasible design mitigation measures that ensure the building will not flood during a 100-year flood event to greatest extent practical.
- Policy 9.8.7 Support regional efforts to control and mitigate existing potential flood related problems.
- Policy 9.8.8 Evaluate the feasibility of expanded joint-use of open space lands and utility easements for flood control.
- Policy 9.8.9 Encourage property owners and residents to purchase flood insurance for areas outside of the FEMA-mapped 100-year flood zones, especially in areas that have experienced flooding in the past.
- Implementation S22 Flood Control Maps. Regularly update City's maps to reflect latest FEMA designations.
- Implementation S23 Update Municipal Code. Update municipal code to require:
- on site stormwater runoff retention.
 - limit stormwater runoff impacts on adjacent properties.
- Implementation S28 Water Conservation. Review Chapter 17.06 of the Municipal Code to consider adding additional water conservation measures.

5.9.4 Thresholds of Significance

The City has not established local CEQA significance thresholds as described in Section 15064.7 of the *CEQA Guidelines*. Therefore, significance determinations utilized in this section are from Appendix G of the *CEQA Guidelines*. A significant impact will occur if implementation of the proposed Project will:

- (Threshold A) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality;
- (Threshold B) Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin;
- (Threshold C) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces in a manner which would:
 - i. result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site.
 - ii. substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or 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.

- iv. impede or redirect flood flows.
- (Threshold D) In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation;
- (Threshold E) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan.

5.9.5 Environmental Impacts before Mitigation

At the programmatic level addressed in this EIR, a variety of regulatory measures, including compliance with and implementation of Federal, State, Regional, and Local regulations as well as proposed Beaumont 2040 Plan goals, policies, and implementation actions will serve to ensure potential impacts to cultural resources are reduced to the point where impacts are less than significant. See full discussion on environmental impacts below. In addition, all future implementing projects would be subject to further CEQA review focusing on the specifics of the proposed project which cannot be foreseen at this time since no specific development proposals are included as part of the Beaumont 2040 Plan.

For purposes of the analyses herein, the discussion includes the City limits as well as the City's SOI (collectively referred to as "Planning Area"). Future development of properties within the City's SOI that are annexed to the City would be subject to the City's entitlement process while future development within the City's SOI that is under the County's land use control would be subject to the County's entitlement requirements.

Threshold A: Would the Project violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality?

Water quality standards for ground waters and surface waters of the region are established in the RWQCB Basin Plan. The term "water quality standards" includes both the beneficial uses of specific waterbodies and the levels of quality which must be met in the waterbody and maintained to protect those uses. The actions by the RWQCB and others that are necessary to achieve and maintain the water quality standards are in the Basin Plan implementation plan. (Basin Plan, p. 1-1.)

The RWQCB regulates waste discharges to minimize and control their effects on the quality of the region's ground and surface water. Permits are issued under a number of programs and authorities including, wastewater treatment plants and recycled water. WDRs typically contain effluent limitations on major wastewater constituents and receiving water limitations for toxic materials. The terms and conditions of these discharge permits are enforced through a variety of technical, administrative, and legal means. (Basin Plan, p. 1-1.)

Development of natural areas brings with it the increased risk of pollutant discharges to the environment. Impacts to surrounding water quality are discussed in terms of two phases of development: construction-phase and operational (post-construction). Stormwater and point source discharges are highly regulated with systems put in place to allow for growth while requiring mitigation for the adverse impacts of development. And most importantly, the regulatory mechanisms are continually evolving.

Construction

Construction of the Beaumont 2040 Plan will have the potential to result in discharges from soil disturbance that could violate water quality standards if not adequately addressed. Construction projects greater than or equal to one acre in size (unless part of a larger plan of development) would be required to comply with the current NPDES Statewide Construction General Permit (CGP), which also includes

Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) for discharges of storm water runoff associated with construction and land disturbance activities. The CGP requires preparation of an effective Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), which describes targeted erosion and sediment control BMPs to prevent stormwater pollution during construction. The SWPPP must be prepared by a Qualified SWPPP Developer (QSD) and implemented onsite by a Qualified SWPPP Practitioner (QSP). (CGP, pp. 32-33.) This is consistent with the aforementioned policies and implementation measures of Goal 7.5 in the Beaumont 2040 Plan, which will minimize pollutant discharges (Policy 7.5.3), require construction site inspections of erosion control measures (Implementation CFI23), and provide education to the public about stormwater pollution (Policy 7.4.4 and Implementation CFI6). Further, Policy 3.12.3 controls grading practices to minimize the potential for erosion consistent with Title 13 of the City's Municipal Code ("Stormwater/Urban Runoff Management and Discharge Controls"). Consequently, through compliance with the goals, policies, and implementation measures of the Beaumont 2040 Plan, compliance with the City's Municipal Code requirements for erosion control, and the existing regulatory requirements of the NPDES Statewide CGP, construction of future projects in the Planning Area, Area will not violate water quality standards or WDRs and impacts from construction of each implementing project are considered **less than significant** and no mitigation is necessary.

Operation

Pursuant to the Riverside County MS4 NPDES Permit, qualifying new development and large redevelopment projects are required by the City to prepare a Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP) or similar demonstration of post-construction methods to mitigate downstream impacts to flooding and water quality. The City also requires a Drainage Study for qualifying development proposals to address the hydrologic and hydraulic considerations. The WQMP requires site design features to attempt maintaining the preconstruction hydrologic regime, which can include porous pavement, avoiding natural drainages, disconnecting roof drains, covering land uses with high concentrations of pollution sources (i.e., outdoor industrial activities) and curb cuts to allow runoff to unpaved areas instead of the storm drain. To address pollutants, treatment systems are required to capture and remove the expected pollutants based on the land use type. Stormwater treatment methods can be highly complex (e.g., hydrodynamic separators with chemical precipitation) to relatively simple basins, sand filters, and grass swales. Water quality sampling data is often required and can depend on the level of erosive risk, the type of industry, or frequency of enforcement actions. In the end, regular reporting from the discharger, which includes the City and private entities, to the regulators is required to document activities and gauge over the long-term the progress made in complying with the basic provisions of the CWA.

Qualifying industrial facilities (based on SIC codes),⁵ are required to comply with the Industrial General Permit (IGP) that is issued by the SWRCB for long-term monitoring/reporting and metal scrap recyclers are also subject to a NPDES permit from the Santa Ana RWQCB (Order No. R8-2018-0069). Industrial facilities such as manufacturers, landfills, mining, steam generating electricity, hazardous waste facilities, transportation with vehicle maintenance, larger sewage and wastewater plants, recycling facilities, and oil and gas facilities are typically required to obtain IGP coverage. The IGP requires an industrial SWPPP for each facility and a Qualified Industrial Storm Water Practitioner (QISP) for certain facilities where site sampling of stormwater runoff is needed, depending on the type and location of the facility. The regulators

⁵ Refer to Attachment A of Industrial General Permit but generally includes: manufacturing, oil and gas/mining, hazardous waste treatment, storage or disposal, landfills, land application sites, open dumps, recycling facilities, steam electric power generation, transportation facilities, sewage or wastewater treatment works.

at the state level and the City are charged with ensuring the different stages of development, and sectors of the community, comply with water quality standards and WDRs. Through their systems of reviewing applications, requiring BMPs that are based on the best science available, continually evaluating program effectiveness, as well as having the legal authority to enforce permit violations, the goal of protecting water resources to the MEP is met.

The proposed Beaumont 2040 Plan goals, policies, and implementation actions in Section 5.9.3 require future development to incorporate sustainable and improved stormwater management practices, including LID techniques to improve stormwater quality and reduce runoff quantity. The policies will also require new development and redevelopment projects to reuse stormwater onsite to the MEP and provide adequate stormwater infrastructure for flood control. Further, the policies will result in effectively treating storm water to minimize risk to downstream resources. In turn, this will ensure compliance with the NPDES MS4 permit requirements. The City will require hydrologic/hydraulic studies and WQMPs to ensure that new developments and redevelopment projects will not cause adverse hydrologic or biologic impacts to downstream receiving waters, including groundwater.

Through compliance with existing regulations in Section 5.9.2 and the proposed Beaumont 2040 Plan goals, policies, and implementation for the protection of water resources in Section 5.9.3, adoption and implementation of the Project will result in **less than significant** impacts to surface water and ground water quality and no mitigation is necessary.

Threshold B: *Would the Project substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?*

BCVWD is the water supplies for the City and City SOI. BCVWD has anticipated significant growth within the City that will be met through maximizing local groundwater production, purchasing more imported water, and increasing recycled water distribution (UWMP, p. 6-62). Most of the groundwater produced by BCVWD is within the Beaumont Basin, which is an adjudicated basin and managed through a court-appointed Watermaster (**Figure 5.9-4 – Groundwater Basins**). Groundwater supplies that are utilized by BCVWD but outside of the Beaumont Basin will be managed by a GSA through a GSP by 2022 pursuant to SGMA.

The bulk of future supplies is forecasted to come from the BCVWD storage account in the Beaumont Basin. BCVWD water supplies are projected to increase from 9,792 AFY supplied in 2015 to 28,960 AFY by 2040. (UWMP, p. 6-62.) This projection will meet BCVWD's projected customer water demand of 25,381 AFY by 2040. BCVWD plans to purchase additional imported water from the State Water Project (SWP) through the San Geronio Pass Water Agency when possible to add to the storage account balance to prepare for future shortfalls that may occur during dry years. BCVWD expects the imported water that is requested for purchase in the future (either for storage or distribution) to be supplied, and if in any year the request is not met, the shortfall will be delivered once imported water is available. BCVWD anticipates banking 35,000 AF of water over the next 20 years, thus bringing the storage account to 60,560 AF. When the groundwater storage account reaches this amount, BCVWD will be able to meet year 2040 water demands with no SWP for over three years. (UWMP, p. 7-4.) As of 2015, BCVWD had 25,568 AF stored in their account which has a maximum capacity right of 80,000 AF. (UWMP, p. 8-2.) Because the availability of imported water supplies varies each year, it is critical for recharge to occur in the Beaumont Basin.

In order for BCVWD to construct the facilities to serve build-out of its service area, the estimated cost will be more than \$570 million over the next 20 years. BCVWD expects about \$490 million to be paid for by development through impact fees to accommodate the growth in demand and facilities. About \$82 million may be funded through a combination of depreciation funds and other sources such as front footage fees for pipelines less than 16-inch diameter put in by developers as part of a main extension agreement or installed as part of the tract development. (BCVWD, p. 7-16.)

Continued development of the Planning Area will result in an increased demand for water supplies and less space available for natural groundwater recharge. Because groundwater supplies meet the bulk of the City's water demand, expanding water supplies and reducing water demand through conservation, while also setting aside land for active and passive recharge will be necessary by both the City and BCVWD. The Beaumont 2040 Plan goals, policies, and implementation in Section 5.9.3 will provide space for such purposes and require coordination and communication between the City and BCVWD to ensure a clean and sustainable water supply. Through these policies, the City will find more recharge opportunities, ensure adequate funding for water facilities is available, and ensure planning for water infrastructure and testing of water quality.

The Beaumont 2040 Plan Policies will not conflict with the management efforts of the Beaumont Basin Watermaster in its oversight of the Beaumont Basin. The other groundwater basin in the Planning Area will be managed by a GSA and a GSP beginning 2022. The Beaumont 2040 Plan goals, policies, and implementation action support efforts that are aligned with sustainable groundwater management, including protecting and monitoring water quality, increasing opportunities for recharge, and funding existing and future water facilities. Therefore, through the implementation of the Beaumont 2040 Plan goals, policies, and implementation in Section 5.9.3 and compliance with existing regulations for protection of water quality and groundwater management in Section 5.9.2, impacts to sustainable groundwater management from the adoption and implementation of the Beaumont 2040 Plan will be **less than significant**.

Threshold C: *Would the Project substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would:*

i. Result in substantial erosion or siltation on or off site.

Implementation of the Beaumont 2040 Plan will result in the development of properties that are currently undeveloped. This is anticipated to increase the area of impervious surfaces and result in alteration of existing drainage patterns. Substantial erosion or siltation is known to result during construction and/or during the post-construction phase if erosion control measures are not used. Erosion or siltation can also occur in the post-construction phase if runoff is not captured and conveyed appropriately.

As discussed previously, future implementing projects of the Beaumont 2040 Plan will be subject to NPDES permit requirements that address the control of erosion and siltation. This includes the CGP which requires for projects greater than one acre in size (or part of a larger plan of development) a SWPPP and the effective implementation of erosion control measures. The Santa Ana RWQCB conducts inspections and enforces the CGP at construction sites.

Implementing projects of the Beaumont 2040 Plan will also be subject to the post-construction requirements of the MS4 NPDES permit. This includes preparation of a project-specific WQMP and drainage study for review and approval by the City prior to issuance of a grading permit(s). The WQMP

ensures that implementing project designs have incorporated current LID methods (or adequately demonstrated why LID will not be feasible) for the effective treatment of pollutants of concern in stormwater runoff from a design storm event. Project-specific drainage studies will demonstrate the pre- and post-construction hydrology and hydraulics of implementing projects, and how the project and any incorporated elements, such as detention basins, will ensure that adverse downstream impacts to receiving waters and/or receiving drainage facilities have been mitigated for and will not occur. In addition, future projects that encroach on RCFCWCD property will be required to demonstrate how the project will not result in adverse impacts to the RCFCWCD facility (i.e. exceed facility capacity, or contribute pollution).

Implementing industrial projects of the Beaumont 2040 Plan, depending on their SIC Code, may also be subject to the current NPDES IGP, in addition to the CGP and WQMP. The IGP requires an industrial SWPPP and various degrees of long-term site sampling of stormwater runoff, and annual reporting to the state, depending on the type and location of the facility. Likewise, all discharges from Caltrans MS4s, maintenance facilities, and construction activities are subject to the Caltrans MS4 Permit requirements, which are similar to the CGP and WQMP requirements.

Discharges that are not authorized by a NPDES permit must be permitted by other means by the Santa Ana RWQCB or SWRCB (e.g. filing a Report of Waste Discharge, Water Quality Certification).

The control of erosion that may result from implementing projects of the Beaumont 2040 Plan is already a highly regulated, monitored, and enforced system as outlined in Section 5.9.2. The Beaumont 2040 Plan Policies in Section 5.9.3 will provide residents, project applicants, and the City the tools to comply with existing regulations that address erosion and siltation from the addition of impervious surfaces and alteration of existing drainage patterns.

Through implementation of Beaumont 2040 Plan goals, policies, and implementation actions in Section 5.9.3 and existing regulations discussed in Section 5.9.2, erosional/siltation impacts from changes to the existing drainage patterns and increasing imperviousness from adoption and implementation of the Beaumont 2040 Plan are **less than significant** and no mitigation is required.

ii. Substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or offsite.

Future implementing projects of the Beaumont 2040 Plan will result in changes to the existing drainage patterns in such a way that flooding could occur on- or off-site of a project. Flooding can occur from an increase in imperviousness which increases the volume and speed of runoff. When the volume and speed of runoff is increased, drainage facilities become inadequate to handle the flows and capacity is exceeded.

RCFCWCD operates and maintains a network of flood control facilities in the City (**Figure 5.9-2 – Flood Control Facilities**). The City is responsible for smaller drainage facilities, typically those that are less than 36 inches in diameter. As such, future implementing projects of the Beaumont 2040 Plan must demonstrate how flooding will be avoided on- and off-site (upstream and downstream) through preparation of drainage studies. Project contributions to RCFCWCD facilities must also be analyzed and mitigated for by each project, taking into account buildout of the entire area tributary to that same drainage facility. WQMPs will be required for qualifying projects to demonstrate to the satisfaction of the City, the benefit of decreasing the area of imperviousness by incorporating LID methods into the drainage system by slowing on- and off-site flow rates and decrease flooding. WQMPs will also evaluate methods

of on-site retention of runoff, such as cisterns, rain barrels, and basins which allow for a metered release of flows, typically after the rain event has passed, when capacity becomes available in the downstream pipes and channels.

Beaumont 2040 Plan Goal 7.4 includes policies to provide adequate stormwater infrastructure for flood control, and reduce run-off quantity (Policy 7.4.1 and 7.4.3). The policies of Goal 7.5 will manage and effectively treat stormwater to minimize risk to downstream resources including drainage studies and WQMPs for new developments (Policy 7.5.5). Implementation measures CFI9 will develop an ADP with the flood control district to accompany the existing master drainage plan. The policies of Goal 9.8 will reduce potential flood hazards in the City by updating flood maps, restricting development in flood hazard areas, and requiring new development to mitigate potential flooding and adverse impacts to adjacent properties (Policy 9.8.4). Beaumont Municipal Code Chapters 8.32, 13.24, 15.24 and 16.44 include measures to address the avoidance and minimization of flooding, as well as proper design and planning for flood control facilities. Through implementation of Beaumont 2040 Plan goals, policies, and implementation actions in Section 5.9.3 and existing regulations discussed in Section 5.9.2, flooding impacts from changes to the existing drainage patterns and increasing imperviousness from implementing projects of the Beaumont 2040 Plan are **less than significant** and no mitigation is required.

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.

Refer to previous Threshold C.ii. for discussion of existing regional stormwater drainage facilities and pollutants in runoff water. Beaumont 2040 Plan policies will support practices that promote LID, prevention of urban runoff and mitigation of industrial pollution (3.10.7, 7.4.1, 7.4.3), and distribute information on how to reduce or eliminate surface and groundwater contamination (6.7.7, 7.4.4). Implementation action CFI2 includes updating ordinances to enable innovative stormwater capture and reuse systems and CFI8 will develop standards for use of LID. Through implementation of existing regulations in Section 5.9.2, and future project-specific analyses and planning required by Beaumont 2040 Plan goals, policies, and implementation actions in Section 5.9.3, adoption and implementation of the Beaumont 2040 Plan will not exceed the capacity of drainage systems, or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff. Therefore, impacts to existing or planned stormwater drainage systems from the alteration of drainage patterns and the addition of impervious area in the Planning Area will be **less than significant**.

iv. Impede or redirect flood flows.

The FEMA-designated 100-year and 500-year flood hazard zones that are within the City and City's SOI are shown on **Figure 5.9-3**. Approximately 154 acres within the City limits are in the 500-year flood zone, and approximately 198 acres are within the 100-year flood zone. The City's SOI contains less than one acre of 500-year flood zone. With continued development of regional drainage facilities pursuant to the Beaumont MDP (**Figure 5.9-2**), these flood hazard areas are expected to decrease. The proposed Beaumont 2040 Plan plans for some residential land uses in the area of the flood hazard zones. Therefore, future developments that are within a flood hazard zone will have to reduce the threat of flooding pursuant to current floodplain development regulations and the pertinent Beaumont 2040 Plan Policies. Through implementation of existing regulations as described in Section 5.9.2 above, and the Beaumont 2040 Plan goals, policies, and implementation described in Section 5.9.3, adoption and implementation of the Beaumont 2040 Plan and revised Zoning Map, future projects within the Planning

Area will not substantially alter existing drainage patterns so as to impede or redirect flood flows, and impacts from flood flows are **less than significant**.

Threshold D: *Would the Project in flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?*

The FEMA-designated 100-year and 500-year flood hazard zones that are within the City and City's SOI are shown on **Figure 5.9-3 – Flood Hazard Zones**. Within the City limits, approximately 154 acres are within the 500-year flood zone, and approximately 198 acres are within the 100-year flood zone. The City's SOI contains less than one acre within the 500-year flood zone. Should structures proposed by the Beaumont 2040 Plan become inundated during a future flood event, there is a risk of pollutants being released inadvertently into the environment. The regulations of Beaumont Municipal Code chapter 15.24 (Floodplain Management) restrict land uses that are dangerous to health, safety, and property due to water or erosion hazards and require land uses vulnerable to flood be protected against flood damage at the time of initial construction. Further, Beaumont 2040 Plan Policy 6.7.1 prohibit new non-residential uses that are known to release or emit toxic waste at levels that are harmful to human health while continuing to allow necessary services. Future implementing projects will be required to incorporate flood control methods to minimize the risk to life and property pursuant to current regulations, City Municipal Code, and Beaumont 2040 Plan goals, policies, and implementation actions discussed in Sections 5.9.2 and 5.9.3, respectively.

The City is located approximately 52 miles from the nearest (Pacific) ocean. Therefore, the Planning Area is too far away from the nearest ocean to have any meaningful tsunami risk.

Seiches can occur in bodies of water both near and far from an earthquake epicenter. Future projects developed consistent with the Beaumont 2040 Plan may propose the creation of community lakes, ponds, or pools in the Planning Area. Seiches as a result of ground shaking could occur in the region that may adversely impact property owners down-gradient from these bodies of water. Pursuant to Beaumont 2040 Plan goals, policies, and implementation, future projects will be required to mitigate potential flooding, such as preventing adverse drainage impacts to adjacent properties and the adequate siting of structures located within flood plains. Therefore, with implementation of Beaumont 2040 Plan goals, policies, and implementation in Section 5.9.3 and compliance with existing regulations discussed in Section 5.9.2, impacts associated with the risk of pollutants from seiches and flooding that may result from adoption and implementation of the Beaumont 2040 Plan and revised Zoning Map will be **less than significant** and no mitigation is required.

Threshold E: *Would the Project conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?*

The local water quality control plan (Basin Plan) is maintained by the Santa Ana RWQCB (updated June 2019). The Basin Plan specifies the state's water quality standards (i.e. beneficial uses, water quality objectives, and antidegradation policy) and serves as the basis for the RWQCB's regulatory programs. When permittees and projects comply with the provisions of applicable NPDES permits and water quality permitting, as discussed herein in Section 5.9.2 – Existing Regulations, they are consistent with the Basin Plan. The Beaumont 2040 Plan Policies include measures to implement NPDES requirements and enforcement of said regulations, such as inspecting construction sites. Through implementation of existing regulations in Section 5.9.2 and Beaumont 2040 Plan goals, policies, and implementation actions in Section 5.9.3, adoption and implementation of the proposed Beaumont 2040 Plan and revised Zoning Map will not conflict or obstruct a water quality control plan. Therefore, impacts in this regard will be **less than significant** and no mitigation is needed.

Much of the Planning Area overlies the Beaumont Basin, which is managed by the Beaumont Basin Watermaster Committee, of which the City is a member. The Watermaster operates under the Judgment and the Rules and Regulations, which were originally adopted June 8, 2004, and subsequently amended in 2006 and 2008. The Judgment and the Rules and Regulations establish the procedures by which Watermaster accounts for the water resources of the Basin. Watermaster has the power to collect administrative assessments from all Appropriators and replenishment assessments from those parties (Appropriative and Overlying) pumping in excess of their pumping right to fund its operations. Each year, Watermaster publishes an Annual Report, which documents production and recharge activities in the Beaumont Basin. Under the Judgment, the Watermaster is granted discretionary powers to develop and implement a groundwater management plan for the Beaumont Basin. The Watermaster is responsible for providing the legal and practical means of ensuring that the waters of the Basin are put to maximum beneficial use. (BBW, p. 1-3.)

The Beaumont 2040 Plan goals, policies, and implementation in Section 5.9.3 include policies to support the monitoring, protection, and development of groundwater resources which is consistent with the tasks of the Watermaster. Thus, adoption and implementation of the Beaumont 2040 Plan and revised Zoning Map will not conflict with or obstruct implementation of the Beaumont Basin Judgment and efforts of the Watermaster. Therefore, impacts will be **less than significant** and no mitigation is required.

The surrounding groundwater basins in the Planning Area are not subject to a management plan currently. Pursuant to SGMA, the surrounding groundwater basins will be managed beginning 2022 by state-approved GSAs following a state-approved GSP. A GSP details the plan for how groundwater basins will reach long-term sustainability. Because the Beaumont 2040 Plan preceeds the forthcoming GSPs, the proposed land use plan and Beaumont 2040 Plan goals, policies, and implementation actions are expected to become a baseline assumption in the GSP. Therefore, through compliance with the regulations listed in Section 5.9.2 and the Beaumont 2040 Plan goals, policies, and implementation actions in Section 5.9.3, adoption and implementation of the proposed Beaumont 2040 Plan will not conflict or obstruct a sustainable groundwater management plan. Therefore, impacts in this regard will be **less than significant** and no mitigation is required.

5.9.6 Proposed Mitigation Measures

An EIR is required to describe feasible mitigation measures which could minimize significant adverse impacts (CEQA Guidelines, Section 15126.4). Because the proposed Project will not result in significant adverse impacts with regards to hydrology and water quality resources, no mitigation measures are necessary.

5.9.7 Level of Significance after Mitigation

With adherence to and compliance with the proposed Beaumont 2040 Plan goals, policies, and implementation actions, in addition to adherence to standard Federal, State, regional, and local regulations, the impact to hydrology and water quality resources from the Project is considered less than significant and no mitigation is necessary.

The significance of impacts to hydrology and water quality resources resulting from specific future development projects will be evaluated on a project-by-project basis and Beaumont 2040 Plan policies as well as City standards and practices will be applied, individually or jointly, as necessary and appropriate. If project-level impacts are identified at that time, specific mitigation measures may be required by CEQA.

5.9.8 References

The following references were used in the preparation of this section of the Draft PEIR:

- 303(d) List Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board, *Approval of Recommendations for the Federal Clean Water Act Section 3030(d) List, Resolution No. R8-2017-0013*. Adopted by Santa Ana RWQCB on April 28, 2017. Approved by SWRCB on October 3, 2017 and pending approval by USEPA. (Available at https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/santaana/board_decisions/adopted_orders/orders/2017/R8-2017-0013.pdf, accessed July 12, 2019).
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- BCVWD Beaumont Cherry Valley Water District, *Potable Water System Master Plan*, adopted January 13, 2016. (Available at <https://bcvwd.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/2016-Potable-Water-System-Master-Plan.pdf>, accessed April 20, 2020.)
- Beaumont 2040 Plan *Beaumont General Plan*, Public Draft August 2020. (Available at <https://www.beaumontca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/36596/Beaumont-GPU-Public-Draft>).
- BMC City of Beaumont, *Beaumont Municipal Code*. (Available at https://library.municode.com/ca/beaumont/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=COORBECA01. Accessed April 22, 2020.)
- Caltrans MS4 State Water Resources Control Board, *Caltrans MS4 Permit, Order WQ 2017-0026-EXEC, NPDES No. CAS000003 (unofficial draft)*. (Available at https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/stormwater/docs/caltrans/co_nformed_order_2012-0011-dwq_unofficial_draft.pdf, accessed July 12, 2019).
- CGP State Water Resources Control Board. *Order No. 2009-0009-DWQ, NPDES No. CAS000002, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System General Permit (and Waste Discharge Requirements) for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction and Land Disturbance Activities*. Adopted September 2, 2009. (Available at http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/stormwater/constpermits.shtml, accessed March 5, 2019).
- ECR City of Beaumont, *City of Beaumont General Plan Update Existing Conditions Report*. 2016 (Included as Appendix B.)
- EPA U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, *Protecting Water Quality from Urban Runoff*, EPA 841-F-03-003. (Available at https://www3.epa.gov/npdes/pubs/nps_urban-facts_final.pdf, accessed July 12, 2019).

- FEMA Federal Emergency Management Agency, (Federal Emergency Management Agency, (Available at <https://www.fema.gov/floodplain-management>, accessed July 12, 2019.)
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- LID 2012 Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District. *Design Handbook for Low Impact Development Best Management Practices*. September 2011. (Available at <http://www.floodcontrol.co.riverside.ca.us/NPDES/LIDBMP.aspx>, accessed March 5, 2019).
- MDP Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, *Report on Master Drainage Plan for the Beaumont Area, Zone Five*, July 1983. (Available at http://rcflood.org/Downloads/Master%20Drainage%20Plans/Updated/Zone%205/Reports/BeaumontMDP_report.pdf, accessed July 11, 2019).
- MS4 State of California, Regional Water Quality Control Board, Santa Ana Region. *Order No. R8-2010-0033, NPDES No. CAS 618033, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit and Waste Discharge Requirements for the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, the County of Riverside, and the Incorporated Cities of Riverside County within the Santa Ana Region, Area-Wide Urban Runoff Management Program*. Adopted January 29, 2010. (Available at http://waterboards.ca.gov/santaana/water_issues/programs/stormwater/index.shtml, accessed March 5, 2019).
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- RWQCB(a) California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Santa Ana Region. *Water Quality Control Plan Santa Ana River Basin*. January 24, 1995, updated February 2016 to include approved amendments. (Available at www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb8/water_issues/programs/basin_plan/index.shtml, accessed March 5, 2019)
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Guidance
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Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District. *Water Quality Management Plan: A Guidance Document for the Santa Ana Region of Riverside County*. Approved October 22, 2012. (Available at <http://rcflood.org/NPDES/SantaAnaWS.aspx>, accessed March 5, 2019).