



Negative Declaration

Pursuant to Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Article 6, Sections 15070 and 15071 of the California Code of Regulations and pursuant to the Procedures for Preparation and Processing of Environmental Documents adopted by the County of Sacramento pursuant to Sacramento County Ordinance No. SCC-116, the Environmental Coordinator of Sacramento County, State of California, does prepare, make, declare, publish, and cause to be filed with the County Clerk of Sacramento County, State of California, this Negative Declaration re: The Project described as follows:

1. **Control Number:** PLER2019-00080
2. **Title and Short Description of Project:** Morse Avenue Sidewalk Infill and Street Light Project
The project proposes to install five foot wide sidewalk, curb and gutter in areas where that is missing, along both sides of Morse Avenue within the project limits. Where necessary, drainage improvements, new or relocated inlets, will be constructed. In addition to the sidewalk infill, new street lights will be installed along the length of the project limits.
3. **Assessor's Parcel Number:** N/A
4. **Location of Project:** The project site is located along Morse Avenue between Hurley Way and Arden Way in the Arden Arcade community
5. **Project Applicant:** Sacramento County Department of Transportation
6. Said project will not have a significant effect on the environment for the following reasons:
 - a. It will not have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory.
 - b. It will not have the potential to achieve short-term, to the disadvantage of long-term, environmental goals.
 - c. It will not have impacts, which are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable.
 - d. It will not have environmental effects, which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly.
7. As a result thereof, the preparation of an environmental impact report pursuant to the Environmental Quality Act (Division 13 of the Public Resources Code of the State of California) is not required.
8. The attached Initial Study has been prepared by the Sacramento Office of County Planning and Environmental Review in support of this Negative Declaration. Further information may be obtained by contacting the Office Planning and Environmental Review at 827 Seventh Street, Room 225, Sacramento, California, 95814, or phone (916) 874-6141.

[Original Signature on File]

Tim Hawkins

Environmental Coordinator

County of Sacramento, State of California

COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
OFFICE OF PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW
INITIAL STUDY

PROJECT INFORMATION

CONTROL NUMBER: PLER2019-00080

NAME: Morse Avenue Sidewalk Infill and Street Light Project

LOCATION: The project site is located along Morse Avenue between Hurley Way and Arden Way in the Arden Arcade community (Plate IS-1).

ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NUMBER: N/A

APPLICANT: Sacramento County Department of Transportation

Attn: Spencer Ord

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project proposes to install five foot wide sidewalk, curb and gutter in areas where that is missing, along both sides of Morse Avenue within the project limits. Where necessary, drainage improvements, new or relocated inlets, will be constructed. In addition to the sidewalk infill, new street lights will be installed along the length of the project limits. Reference Plate IS-2 for project exhibits.

ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The project is located in the Arden Arcade community, a suburban community largely developed between 1950's through 1970. The surrounding land use largely consists of single-family residential (RD-5), with pockets of multi-family residential and shopping center uses at the corners of Morse Avenue at Hurley Way and at Arden Way. Morse Avenue is a two-lane collector roadway with four to seven foot bike lanes and on-street parking on the southbound side. Sidewalks are missing along significant portions of this roadway segment, but there is curb and gutter in many areas. There are no street lights aside from those at the intersections of Morse Avenue at Hurley Way and at Arden Way. Above ground utility lines run along both sides of Morse Avenue. Reference Plate IS-3 for representative site photos.

Plate IS-1: Project Location

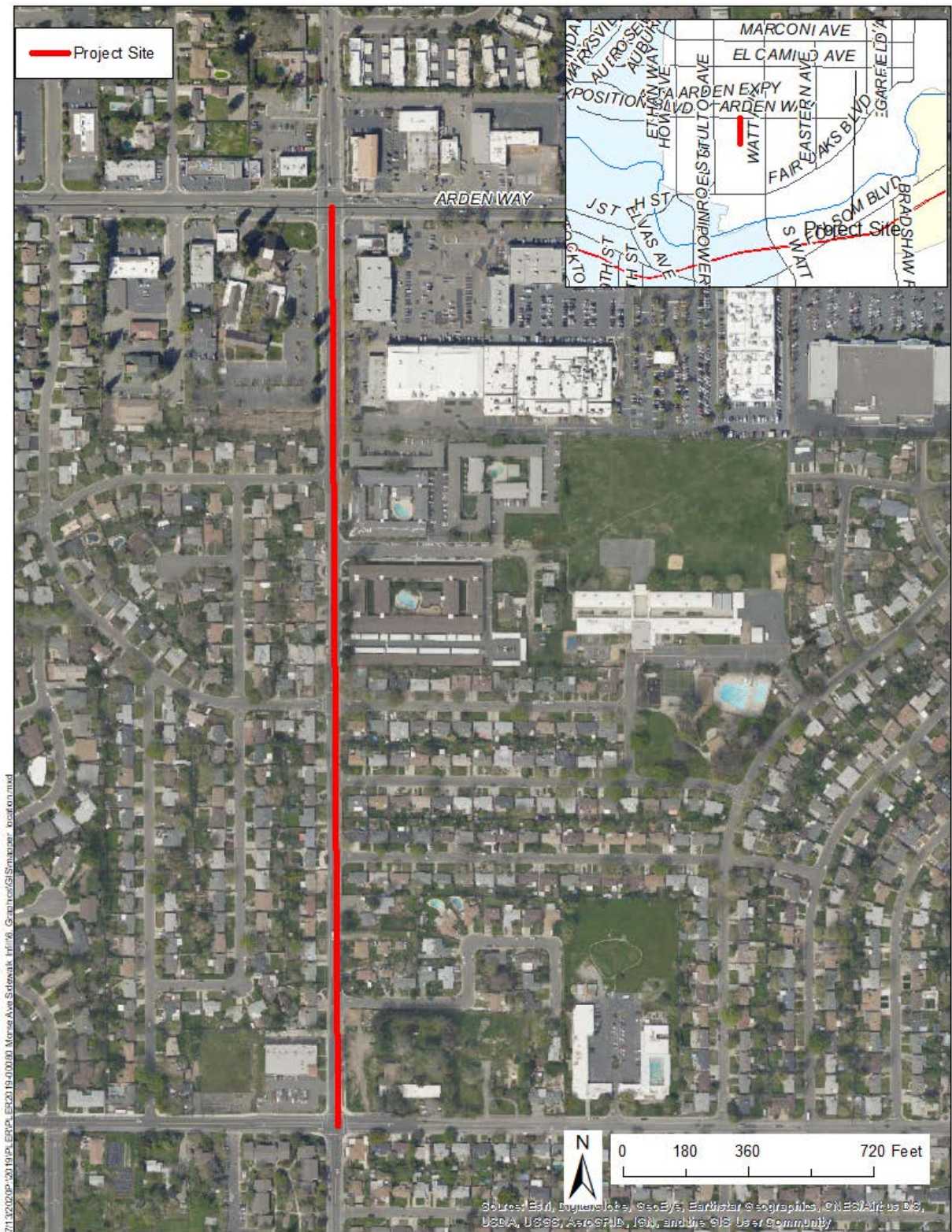
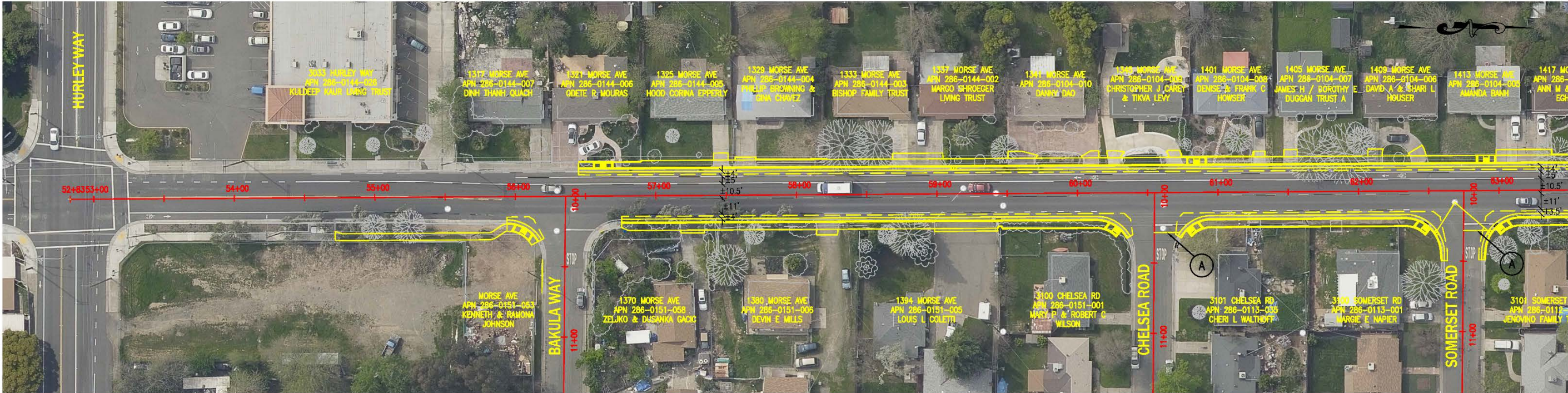


Plate IS-2: Engineering Drawings



MORSE AVENUE
HORIZONTAL: 1"=40'

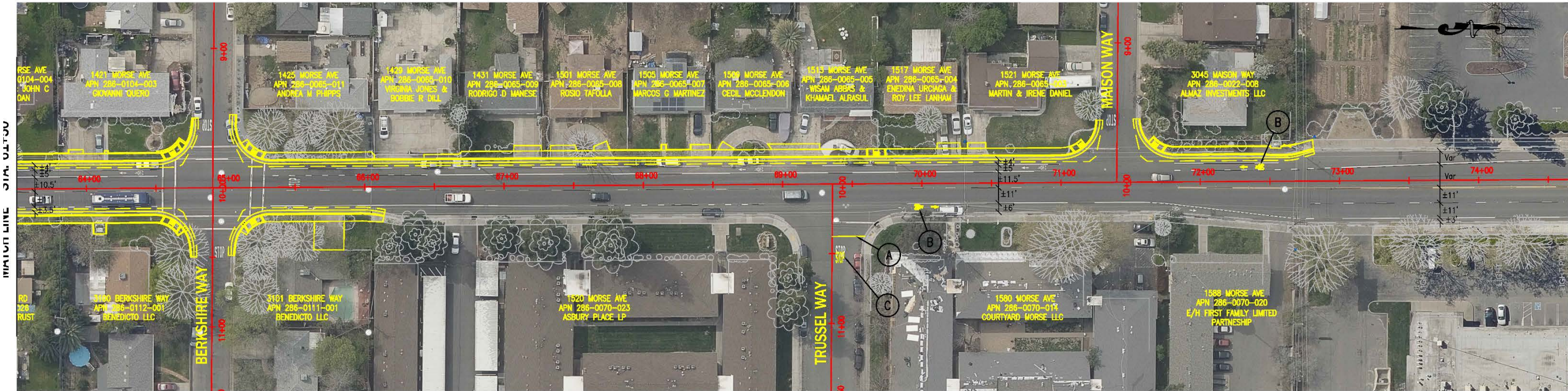


Plate IS-3: Representative Site Photos



ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

Appendix G of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) provides guidance for assessing the significance of potential environmental impacts. Based on this guidance, Sacramento County has developed an Initial Study Checklist (located at the end of this report). The Checklist identifies a range of potential significant effects by topical area. The topical discussions that follow are provided only when additional analysis beyond the Checklist is warranted.

LAND USE

The project is located within the Arden-Arcade Community and is surrounded by urban land uses – single-family residential (RD-5), multi-family residential (RD-20 and RD-30), and Shopping center (SC) (Plate IS-4). The project is mostly confined to the existing road right-of-way; however, temporary construction easements are needed to install the proposed improvements. Sidewalk and lighting improvements will not change existing zoning and/or land use designations.

PEDESTRIAN MASTER PLAN

The Sacramento County Pedestrian Master Plan (Master Plan, Control No.: 06-PWE-0347) was adopted by the Board of Supervisors on November 27, 2007. The current project is among several pedestrian infrastructure improvement projects in the Arden-Arcade community as contained in the Master Plan. The Master Plan identifies the southern half of project segment as needing sidewalk, and the northern half is identified as a priority pedestrian district. Street lighting in the Master Plan only shows new lighting at the major roadway intersections (Morse Ave. at Hurley and Arden Ways) and is listed as a recommended improvement in pedestrian districts (reference Plate IS-5). The project is generally consistent with the improvements identified in the Master Plan.

Plate IS-4: Zoning Map

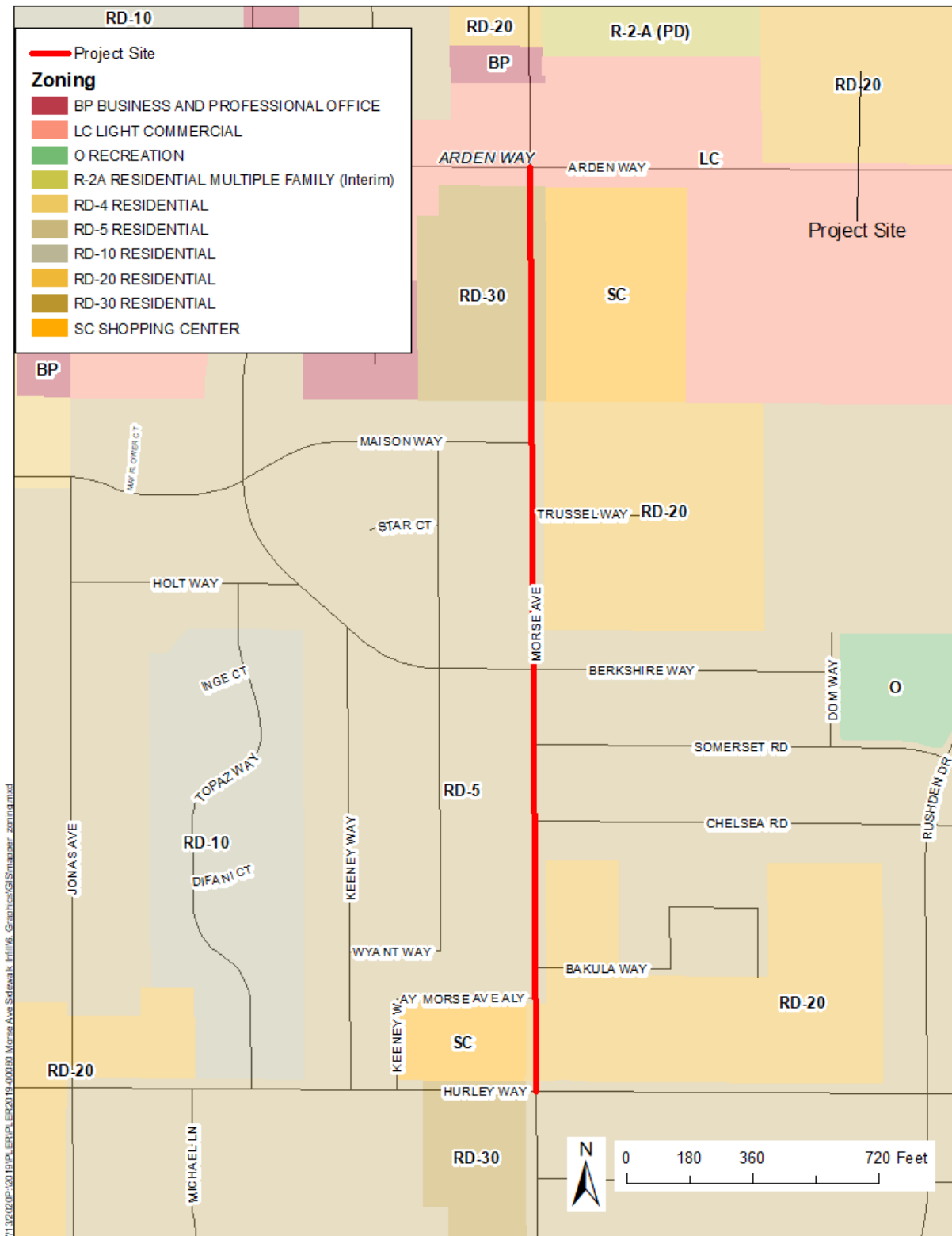
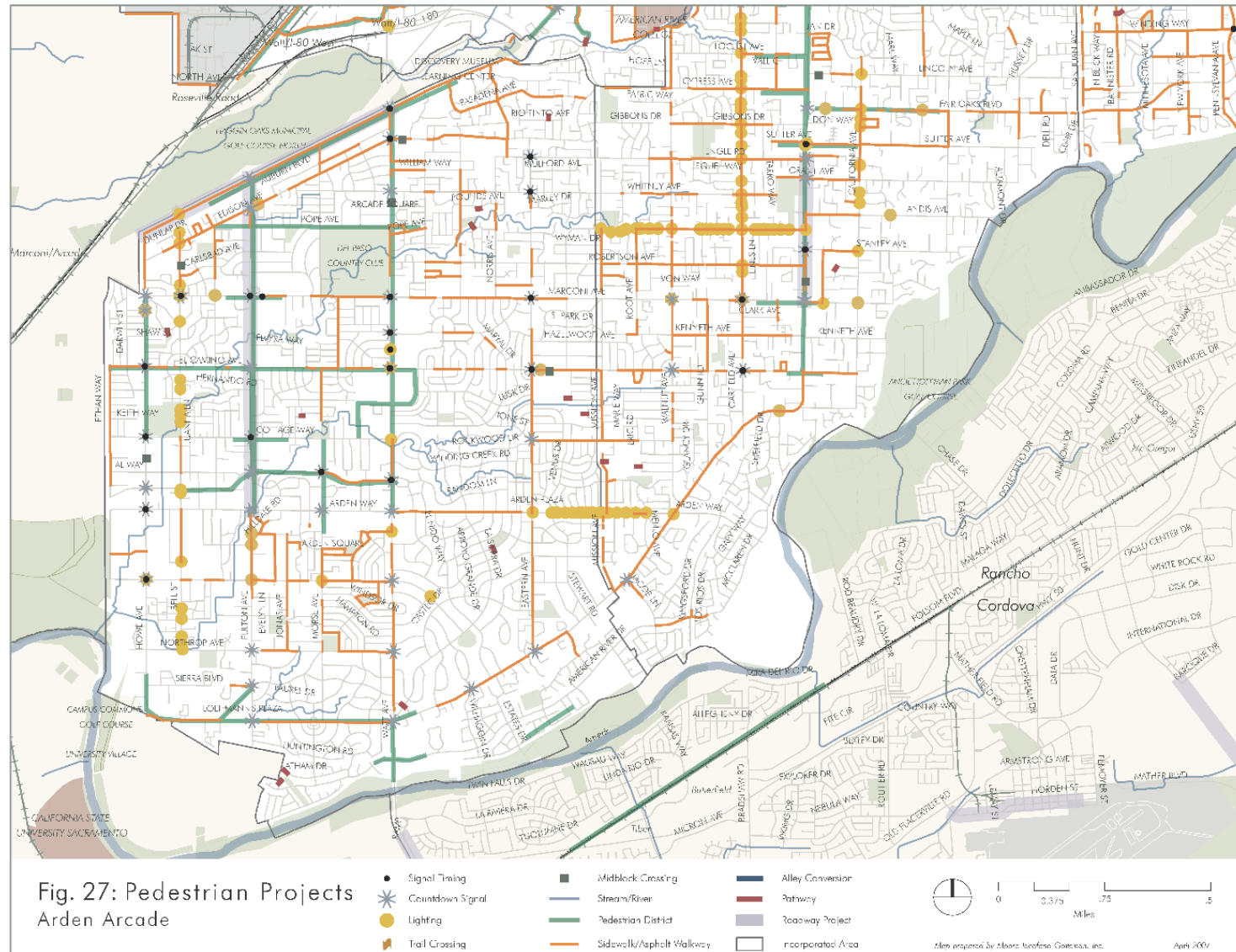


Plate IS-5: Pedestrian Master Plan



RIGHT-OF-WAY ACQUISITIONS

The project will result in the acquisition of a total of 1,100 square feet of temporary construction easements. Easements will be acquired on several properties along the length of Morse Avenue. Refer to the acquisition table below.

The right-of-way amounts being placed in easement are relatively small compared to the total sizes of parcels involved and will not require the removal of buildings or other structures with significant financial investment. Landscaping, driveways, fences, and some structures may be affected by right-of-way acquisition. Impacts are compensated through the right-of-way acquisition process explained below.

Compensation for right-of-way acquisition is typically carried out during the appraisal and compensation negotiations between County and individual property owners. Sacramento County purchases rights-of-way by notifying the owners that the County requires them; informing the owners of the right to fair compensation; negotiating with the owner or the owner's representatives; and paying the agreed market value for the required right-of-way, if agreement is reached.

If agreement cannot be reached, the County may file a condemnation action in court, exercising the government's right of eminent domain as provided by the Constitution. In such case, the court hears testimony relative to the value of the lands and easement the County wishes to acquire, and determines, based on evidence presented by the County and the landowner, what is fair compensation. Either party may appeal the judge's decision if they are dissatisfied with the compensation awarded.

Acquisition from either a willing seller or by eminent domain would affect only those areas of land actually needed for project construction or facilities, and would not affect the remainder of each parcel. In some cases the property owners may need to obtain waivers from mortgage holders and/or revise title insurance policies to cover a change in property description as a result of selling a small portion of their land.

Table IS-1: Property Acquisition List

Assessor Parcel Number	Address	TCE (square feet)
286-0144-005	1325 Morse Ave	95
286-0144-004	1329 Morse Ave	104
286-0144-003	1333 Morse Ave	108
286-0144-002	1337 Morse Ave	122
286-0104-010	1341 Morse Ave	325
286-0104-009	1345 Morse Ave	300
286-0104-008	1401 Morse Ave	98
286-0104-007	1405 Morse Ave	300
286-0104-006	1409 Morse Ave	300
286-0104-005	1413 Morse Ave	300
286-0104-004	1417 Morse Ave	112
286-0104-003	1421 Morse Ave	89

286-0065-009	1431 Morse Ave	131
286-0065-008	1501 Morse Ave	300
286-0065-007	1505 Morse Ave	95
286-0065-006	1509 Morse Ave	300
286-0065-005	1513 Morse Ave	119
286-0065-004	1517 Morse Ave	86
286-0065-003	1521 Morse Ave	90
286-0151-058	1370 Morse Ave	53
286-0151-006	1380 Morse Ave	75
286-0151-005	1394 Morse Ave	103
286-0112-001	3100 Berkshire Way	139
286-0111-001	3101 Berkshire Way	475

In acquiring property, the County (and the courts, if involved) would consider not only the values of the land, but also the values of anything on the land. They would also consider whether there would be any effect on the remaining parcel by taking a portion of the property. Such effects are termed severance damages. If a public agency wishes to purchase half of a parcel, for example, that purchase may decrease the value of the remainder. In such cases, public agencies often buy the entire parcel since it can be less costly. The temporary construction easements acquired as a result of this project are consistent with County construction practices. Although, some of the properties may be affected along the margins where the parcel meets the proposed project construction, land use will not be materially altered by the proposed project.

For the reasons discussed above, impacts related to land use are ***less than significant***.

HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

This section supplements the Initial Study Checklist by analyzing if the proposed project would:

- Create substantial sources of polluted runoff or otherwise substantially degrade ground or surface water quality.

WATER QUALITY

CONSTRUCTION WATER QUALITY: EROSION AND GRADING

Construction on undeveloped land exposes bare soil, which can be mobilized by rain or wind and displaced into waterways or become an air pollutant. Construction equipment can also track mud and dirt onto roadways, where rains will wash the sediment into storm drains and thence into surface waters. After construction is complete, various other pollutants generated by site use can also be washed into local waterways. These pollutants include; but are not limited to: vehicle fluids, heavy metals deposited by vehicles, and pesticides or fertilizers used in landscaping.

Sacramento County has a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Municipal Stormwater Permit issued by Regional Water Board. The Municipal Stormwater Permit requires the County to reduce pollutants in stormwater discharges to the maximum extent practicable and to effectively prohibit non-stormwater discharges. The County complies with this permit in part by developing and enforcing ordinances and requirements to reduce the discharge of sediments and other pollutants in runoff from newly developing and redeveloping areas of the County.

The County has established a Stormwater Ordinance (Sacramento County Code 15.12). The Stormwater Ordinance prohibits the discharge of unauthorized non-stormwater to the County's stormwater conveyance system and local creeks. It applies to all private and public projects in the County, regardless of size or land use type. In addition, Sacramento County Code 16.44 (Land Grading and Erosion Control) requires private construction sites disturbing one or more acres or moving 350 cubic yards or more of earthen material to obtain a grading permit. To obtain a grading permit, project proponents must prepare and submit for approval an Erosion and Sediment Control (ESC) Plan describing erosion and sediment control best management practices (BMPs) that will be implemented during construction to prevent sediment from leaving the site and entering the County's storm drain system or local receiving waters. Construction projects not subject to SCC 16.44 are subject to the Stormwater Ordinance (SCC 15.12) described above.

In addition to complying with the County's ordinances and requirements, construction sites disturbing one or more acres are required to comply with the State's General Stormwater Permit for Construction Activities (CGP). CGP coverage is issued by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/stormwater/construction.shtml and enforced by the Regional Water Board. Coverage is obtained by submitting a Notice of Intent (NOI) to the State Board prior to construction and verified by receiving a WDID#. The CGP requires preparation and implementation of a site-specific Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) that must be kept on site at all times for review by the State inspector.

Applicable projects applying for a County grading permit must show proof that a WDID # has been obtained and must submit a copy of the SWPPP. Although the County has no enforcement authority related to the CGP, the County does have the authority to ensure sediment/pollutants are not discharged and is required by its Municipal Stormwater Permit to verify that SWPPPs include the minimum components.

The project must include an effective combination of erosion, sediment and other pollution control BMPs in compliance with the County ordinances and the State's CGP.

Erosion controls should always be the *first line of defense*, to keep soil from being mobilized in wind and water. Examples include stabilized construction entrances, tackified mulch, 3-step hydroseeding, spray-on soil stabilizers and anchored blankets. Sediment controls are the *second line of defense*; they help to filter sediment out of runoff before it reaches the storm drains and local waterways. Examples include rock

bags to protect storm drain inlets, staked or weighted straw wattles/fiber rolls, and silt fences.

In addition to erosion and sediment controls, the project must have BMPs in place to keep other construction-related wastes and pollutants out of the storm drains. Such practices include, but are not limited to: filtering water from dewatering operations, providing proper washout areas for concrete trucks and stucco/paint contractors, containing wastes, managing portable toilets properly, and dry sweeping instead of washing down dirty pavement.

It is the responsibility of the project proponent to verify that the proposed BMPs for the project are appropriate for the unique site conditions, including topography, soil type and anticipated volumes of water entering and leaving the site during the construction phase. In particular, the project proponent should check for the presence of colloidal clay soils on the site. Experience has shown that these soils do not settle out with conventional sedimentation and filtration BMPs. The project proponent may wish to conduct settling column tests in addition to other soils testing on the site, to ascertain whether conventional BMPs will work for the project.

If sediment-laden or otherwise polluted runoff discharges from the construction site are found to impact the County's storm drain system and/or Waters of the State, the property owner will be subject to enforcement action and possible fines by the County and the Regional Water Board.

Project compliance with requirements outlined above, as administered by the County and the Regional Water Board will ensure that project-related erosion and pollution impacts are ***less than significant***.

OPERATION: STORMWATER RUNOFF

Development and urbanization can increase pollutant loads, temperature, volume and discharge velocity of runoff over the predevelopment condition. The increased volume, increased velocity, and discharge duration of stormwater runoff from developed areas has the potential to greatly accelerate downstream erosion and impair stream habitat in natural drainage systems. Studies have demonstrated a direct correlation between the degree of imperviousness of an area and the degradation of its receiving waters. These impacts must be mitigated by requiring appropriate runoff reduction and pollution prevention controls to minimize runoff and keep runoff clean for the life of the project.

The County requires that projects include source and/or treatment control measures on selected new development and redevelopment projects. Source control BMPs are intended to keep pollutants from contacting site runoff. Examples include "No Dumping-Drains to Creek/River" stencils/stamps on storm drain inlets to educate the public, and providing roofs over areas likely to contain pollutants, so that rainfall does not contact the pollutants. Treatment control measures are intended to remove pollutants that have already been mobilized in runoff. Examples include vegetated swales and water quality detention basins. These facilities slow water down and allow sediments and pollutants to settle out prior to discharge to receiving waters. Additionally, vegetated facilities

provide filtration and pollutant uptake/adsorption. The project proponent should consider the use of “low impact development” techniques to reduce the amount of imperviousness on the site, since this will reduce the volume of runoff and therefore will reduce the size/cost of stormwater quality treatment required. Examples of low impact development techniques include pervious pavement and bioretention facilities.

The County requires developers to utilize the *Stormwater Quality Design Manual for the Sacramento Region, 2018* (Design Manual) in selecting and designing post-construction facilities to treat runoff from the project. Regardless of project type or size, developers are required to implement the minimum source control measures (Chapter 4 of the Design Manual). Low impact development measures and Treatment Control Measures are required of all projects exceeding the impervious surface threshold defined in Table 3-2 and 3-3 of the Design Manual. Further, depending on project size and location, hydromodification control measures may be required (Chapter 5 of the Design Manual).

Updates and background on the County’s requirements for post-construction stormwater quality treatment controls, along with several downloadable publications, can be found at the following websites:

<http://www.waterresources.saccounty.net/stormwater/Pages/default.aspx>

<http://www.beriverfriendly.net/Newdevelopment/>

The final selection and design of post-construction stormwater quality control measures is subject to the approval of the County Department of Water Resources; therefore, they should be contacted as early as possible in the design process for guidance. Project compliance with requirements outlined above will ensure that project-related stormwater pollution impacts are ***less than significant***.

BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

This section supplements the Initial Study Checklist by analyzing if the proposed project would:

- Adversely affect or result in the removal of native or landmark trees.
- Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources.

NATIVE AND NON-NATIVE TREES

The Sacramento County General Plan Conservation Element contains several policies aimed at preserving native trees and urban tree canopy within the County. These are:

- CO-137. Mitigate for the loss of native trees for road expansion and development consistent with General Plan policies and/or County Tree Preservation Ordinance.

- CO-138. Protect and preserve non-oak native trees along riparian areas if used by Swainson's hawk, as well as landmark and native oak trees measuring a minimum of 6 inches in diameter or 10 inches aggregate for multi-trunk trees at 4.5 feet above ground.
- CO-145. Removal of non-native tree canopy for development shall be mitigated by creation of new tree canopy equivalent to the acreage of non-native tree canopy removed. New tree canopy shall be calculated using the 15-year shade cover values for tree species.
- CO-146. If new tree canopy cannot be created on-site to mitigate for the non-native tree canopy removed for new development, project proponents (including public agencies) shall contribute to the Greenprint funding in an amount proportional to the tree canopy of the specific project.
- CO-147. Increase the number of trees planted within residential lots and within new and existing parking lots.

Conservation and preservation of native oaks is the primary intent of these policies. When development requires removal of native oaks, compensation for tree loss may be achieved by on or off-site replacement or payment into a Tree Preservation Fund pursuant to County policy. The 15-year shade cover values for tree species referenced in policy CO-145 are also referenced by the Sacramento County Zoning Code, Chapter 5, Landscaping Standards, section 5.2.4, and the list is maintained by the Sacramento County Department of Transportation, Landscape Planning and Design Division. The list includes more than seventy trees, so is not included here, but is available at: <https://planning.saccounty.net/EnvironmentalDocuments/Pages/CEQANEPAOverview.aspx> under the "Popular Links" heading. Policy CO-146 references the Greenprint program, which is run by the Sacramento Tree Foundation and has a goal of planting five million trees in the Sacramento region.

The project site is located along an arterial street which is lined by residential housing. Landscaping along the roadway is typical of front, side and back yard plantings including turf, shrubs, and ornamental and native trees. County Arborist J. Schubert (WE-7354A), completed a tree inventory of all trees within the project limits in September 2019 and updated it in February 2020. The inventory identified thirteen (13) trees within the limits of the project (Table IS-2 and Plate IS-6). There is a great variety of tree species including: valley oak, mulberry, ash, hackberry, crepe myrtle and pines. The existing curb and gutter gives a false sense of the actual property line/right-of-way for Morse Avenue and property owners have extended their landscaping to the back of curb.

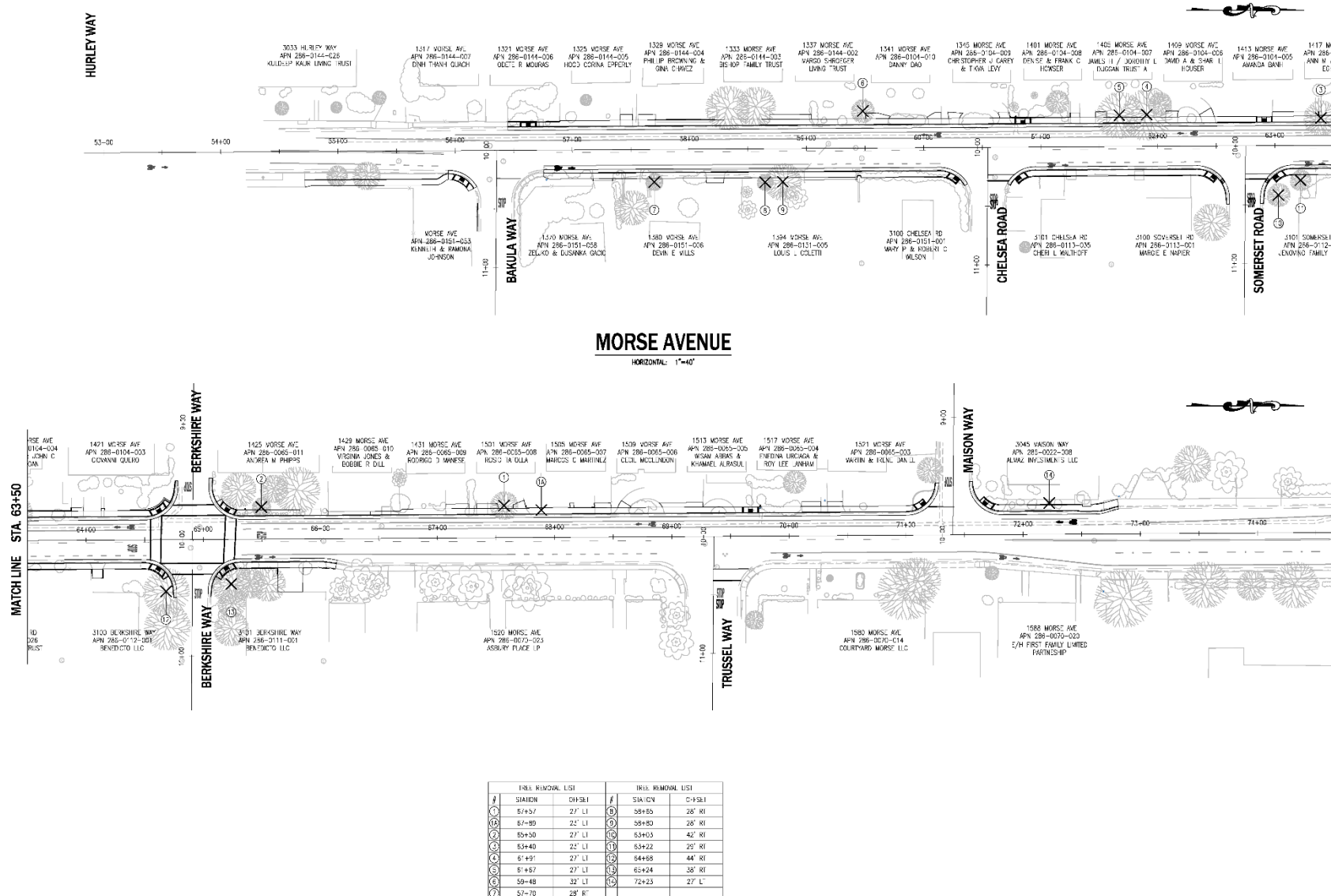
All trees inventoried are proposed to be removed. This includes two native Valley oak trees and eleven (11) non-native trees. Some trees proposed for removal are not within the physical footprint for sidewalk improvements; however, the improvements will encroach within two feet of the trunks, thereby increasing potential tree failure or future root/sidewalk conflicts (reference plate for tree removal exhibit). Trees that are dead or

are in very poor health are not included in the mitigation tallies. Tree #7, a 16 inch Valley oak is dead and will not require mitigation. Similarly, Tree #10, an 18 inch ash, has severe die back and does not contribute significantly to the urban tree canopy and will not be included in the canopy calculations.

Table IS-2: Tree Inventory

Tree Number	Species	Diameter at Breast Height (dbh) (inches)	Canopy Area (square feet)	Vigor
1	Elm	30	1,257	Fair
1A	Crepe Myrtle	3.5,5,3	452	Fair
2	Crepe Myrtle	3,5,4	314	Fair
3	Modesto Ash	8,8,8,6	707	Fair
4	Mulberry	20	1,810	Fair
5	Mulberry	18	1,810	Fair
6	Grevillia	8,4,4,7	452	Good
7	Valley Oak	16	-	Dead
8	Privet	8,8,8	314	Fair
9	Valley Oak	10	-	Fair
10	Ash	18	707	Poor
11	Pine	12	707	Fair
12	Hackberry	18	1,810	Fair
13	Mulberry	12	1,257	Fair
14	Italian Cypress	8	113	Good

Plate IS-6: Tree Exhibit



CONCLUSION

Pursuant to General Plan policy CO-137, inch for inch in-kind replacement planting is required for the removal of native oak trees. The project site is located along the roadway of residential development which does not provide optimal planting sites. Native oak tree mitigation can be accomplished through off-site planting or through payment of a fee, currently \$325 per inch. A total of 10 inches will be removed to accommodate the project. Impacts to native trees are ***less than significant***.

Pursuant to General Plan policy CO-145, SacDOT must mitigate for the loss of non-native tree canopy. To calculate the loss of canopy, the canopy value was extracted from the arborist inventory. Trees with severe decline or canopy loss are not included in the calculations since they do not provide substantial urban benefits. In total, 11,003 square feet of non-native tree canopy will be removed. Top priority should be given to replacement plantings along Morse Avenue consistent with policy CO-147. If agreements cannot be made with affected property owners, the pursuant to policy CO-146, SacDOT can mitigate through in-lieu fee payment. Mitigation to that effect is recommended to reduce impacts to non-native tree canopy. Impacts are ***less than significant***.

MIGRATORY NESTING BIRDS

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918, which states “unless and except as permitted by regulations, it shall be unlawful at any time, by any means or in any manner, to pursue, hunt, take, capture, kill, attempt to take, capture, or kill” a migratory bird. Section 3(18) of the Federal Endangered Species Act defines the term “take” means to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or to attempt to engage in any such conduct. Causing a bird to abandon an active nest may cause harm to egg(s) or chick(s) and is therefore considered “take.”

The project will require the removal of several mature trees which may support migratory nesting birds. To avoid take of nesting migratory birds, mitigation has been included to require that activities either occur outside of the nesting season, or to require that nests be buffered from construction activities until the nesting season is concluded. Impacts to migratory nesting birds are ***less than significant***.

TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES

This section supplements the Initial Study Checklist by analyzing if the proposed project would:

- Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with a cultural value to a California Native American tribe, that is:

Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or

A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.

Under PRC Section 21084.3, public agencies shall, when feasible, avoid damaging effects to any tribal cultural resource. California Native American tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with a geographic area may have expertise concerning their tribal cultural resources (21080.3.1(a)).

TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCE SETTING

In accordance with Assembly Bill (AB) 52, codified as Section 21080.3.1 of CEQA, formal notification letters were sent to those tribes who had previously requested to be notified of Sacramento County projects on April 10, 2020. One tribe responded to the AB-52 notification – United Auburn Indian Community.

The United Auburn Indian Community communicated via email with the County on May 18, 2020, that after review of their database, they do not have any specific concerns; however, they request that standard mitigation for unanticipated discoveries be included

DISCUSSION OF PROJECT IMPACTS – TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES

Through consultation under CEQA, the tribe confirmed that the project area does not contain known tribal cultural resources of significance. The tribe and lead agency mutually agreed that tribal cultural resources mitigation measures were appropriate and feasible for the project. Project impacts to tribal cultural resources are considered ***less than significant***.

ENVIRONMENTAL MITIGATION MEASURES

MITIGATION MEASURE A: NATIVE OAK TREE REPLACEMENT

The removal of 10 inches dbh of native oak trees (#9) shall be compensated for by planting in-kind native trees equivalent to the dbh inches lost, based on the ratios listed below, at locations that are authorized by the Environmental Coordinator. Native trees include: valley oak (*Quercus lobata*), interior live oak (*Quercus wislizenii*), blue oak (*Quercus douglasii*), or oracle oak (*Quercus morehus*).

Equivalent compensation based on the following ratio is required:

- one D-pot seedling (40 cubic inches or larger) = 1 inch dbh

- one 15-gallon tree = 1 inch dbh
- one 24-inch box tree = 2 inches dbh
- one 36-inch box tree = 3 inches dbh

Prior to the approval of Improvement Plans, a Replacement Tree Planting Plan shall be prepared by a certified arborist or licensed landscape architect and shall be submitted to the Environmental Coordinator for approval. The Replacement Tree Planting Plan(s) shall include the following minimum elements:

1. Species, size and locations of all replacement plantings
2. Method of irrigation
3. If planting in soils with a hardpan/duripan or claypan layer, include the Sacramento County Standard Tree Planting Detail L-1, including the 10-foot deep boring hole to provide for adequate drainage
4. Planting, irrigation, and maintenance schedules;
5. Identification of the maintenance entity and a written agreement with that entity to provide care and irrigation of the trees for a 3-year establishment period, and to replace any of the replacement trees which do not survive during that period.

No replacement tree shall be planted within 15 feet of the driplines of existing native trees or landmark size trees that are retained on-site, or within 15 feet of a building foundation or swimming pool excavation. The minimum spacing for replacement native trees shall be 20 feet on-center. Examples of acceptable planting locations are publicly owned lands, common areas, and landscaped frontages (with adequate spacing).

If tree replacement plantings are demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Environmental Coordinator to be infeasible for any or all trees removed, then compensation shall be through payment into the County Tree Preservation Fund. Payment shall be made at a rate of \$325.00 per dbh inch removed but not otherwise compensated, or at the prevailing rate at the time payment into the fund is made.

MITIGATION MEASURE B: NON-NATIVE TREE CANOPY REPLACEMENT

Removal of 11,003 square feet of non-native tree canopy for roadway improvements shall be mitigated by creation of new tree canopy equivalent to the acreage of non-native tree canopy removed. New tree canopy acreage shall be calculated using the Sacramento County Department of Transportation 15-year shade cover values for tree species. Preference is given to on-site mitigation, but if this is infeasible, then funding shall be contributed to the Sacramento Tree Foundation's Greenprint program in an amount proportional to the tree canopy lost (as determined by the 15-year shade cover calculations for the tree species to be planted through the funding, with the cost to be determined by the Sacramento County Tree Foundation).

MITIGATION MEASURE C: NESTING BIRD SURVEYS

To avoid impacts to nesting migratory birds the following shall apply:

1. If construction activity (which includes clearing, grubbing, or grading) is to commence within 50 feet of nesting habitat between February 1 and August 31, a survey for active migratory bird nests shall be conducted no more than 14 day prior to construction by a qualified biologist.
2. Trees slated for removal shall be removed during the period of September through January, in order to avoid the nesting season. Any trees that are to be removed during the nesting season, which is February through August, shall be surveyed by a qualified biologist and will only be removed if no nesting migratory birds are found.
3. If active nest(s) are found in the survey area, a non-disturbance buffer, the size of which has been determined by a qualified biologist, shall be established and maintained around the nest to prevent nest failure. All construction activities shall be avoided within this buffer area until a qualified biologist determines that nestlings have fledged.

MITIGATION MEASURE D: UNANTICIPATED DISCOVERIES - TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES

If any suspected Tribal Cultural Resources (TCRs) are discovered during ground disturbing construction activities, all work shall cease within 100 feet of the find. A Tribal Representative from culturally affiliated tribes shall be immediately notified and shall determine if the find is a TCR (PRC §21074). The Tribal Representative will make recommendations regarding the treatment of the discovery. Preservation in place is the preferred alternative under CEQA and UAIC protocols, and every effort must be made to preserve the resources in place, including through project redesign.

Work at the discovery location cannot resume until all necessary investigation and evaluation of the discovery under the requirements of the CEQA, including AB 52, has been satisfied.

The contractor shall implement any measures deemed by the CEQA lead agency to be necessary and feasible to preserve in place, avoid, or minimize impacts to the resource, including, but not limited to, facilitating the appropriate tribal treatment of the find, as necessary.

MITIGATION MEASURE COMPLIANCE

Comply with the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for this project, including the payment of 100% of the Office of Planning and Environmental Review staff costs, and the costs of any technical consultant services incurred during implementation of that Program.

INITIAL STUDY CHECKLIST

Appendix G of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) provides guidance for assessing the significance of potential environmental impacts. Based on this guidance, Sacramento County has developed the following Initial Study Checklist. The Checklist identifies a range of potential significant effects by topical area. The words "significant" and "significance" used throughout the following checklist are related to impacts as defined by the California Environmental Quality Act as follows:

- 1 Potentially Significant indicates there is substantial evidence that an effect MAY be significant. If there are one or more "Potentially Significant" entries an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is required. Further research of a potentially significant impact may reveal that the impact is actually less than significant or less than significant with mitigation.
- 2 Less than Significant with Mitigation applies where an impact could be significant but specific mitigation has been identified that reduces the impact to a less than significant level.
- 3 Less than Significant or No Impact indicates that either a project will have an impact but the impact is considered minor or that a project does not impact the particular resource.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
1. LAND USE - Would the project:					
a. Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including but not limited to a general plan, specific plan or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?			X		The project is consistent with the environmental policies of the Sacramento County General Plan, Arden-Arcade Community Plan, Arden-Arcade Community Action Plan, and Sacramento County Zoning Code.
b. Physically disrupt or divide an established community?				X	The project will not create physical barriers that substantially limit movement within or through the community. The project will enhance pedestrian movement through the neighborhood.
2. POPULATION/HOUSING - Would the project:					
a. Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area either directly (e.g., by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (e.g., through extension of infrastructure)?				X	The proposed infrastructure project is intended to service the existing development and will not induce substantial unplanned population growth.
b. Displace substantial amounts of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				X	The project will not result in the removal of existing housing, and thus will not displace substantial amounts of existing housing.
3. AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES - Would the project:					
a. Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance or areas containing prime soils to uses not conducive to agricultural production?				X	The project site is not designated as Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance on the current Sacramento County Important Farmland Map published by the California Department of Conservation. The site does not contain prime soils.
b. Conflict with any existing Williamson Act contract?				X	No Williamson Act contracts apply to the project site.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
c. Introduce incompatible uses in the vicinity of existing agricultural uses?				X	The project does not occur in an area of agricultural production.
4. AESTHETICS - Would the project:					
a. Substantially alter existing viewsheds such as scenic highways, corridors or vistas?				X	The project does not occur in the vicinity of any scenic highways, corridors, or vistas.
b. In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?				X	The project is not located in a non-urbanized area.
c. If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?			X		It is acknowledged that aesthetic impacts are subjective and may be perceived differently by various affected individuals. Nonetheless, given the urbanized environment in which the project is proposed, it is concluded that the project would not substantially degrade the visual character or quality of the project site or vicinity.
d. Create a new source of substantial light, glare, or shadow that would result in safety hazards or adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?			X		The project will install new street lighting that will result in a new source of light. Since this is an urbanized area of the unincorporated County, the new lighting will enhance driver and pedestrian safety and is not considered to adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area.
5. AIRPORTS - Would the project:					
a. Result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the vicinity of an airport/airstrip?				X	The project occurs outside of any identified public or private airport/airstrip safety zones.
b. Expose people residing or working in the project area to aircraft noise levels in excess of applicable standards?				X	The project occurs outside of any identified public or private airport/airstrip noise zones or contours.
c. Result in a substantial adverse effect upon the safe and efficient use of navigable airspace by aircraft?				X	The project does not affect navigable airspace.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
d. Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?				X	The project does not involve or affect air traffic movement.
6. PUBLIC SERVICES - Would the project:					
a. Have an adequate water supply for full buildout of the project?				X	The project will not result in increased demand for water supply.
b. Have adequate wastewater treatment and disposal facilities for full buildout of the project?				X	The project will not require wastewater services.
c. Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?			X		The Kiefer Landfill has capacity to accommodate solid waste until the year 2050.
d. Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the construction of new water supply or wastewater treatment and disposal facilities or expansion of existing facilities?				X	The project will not require construction or expansion of new water supply, wastewater treatment, or wastewater disposal facilities.
e. Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of storm water drainage facilities?			X		Minor alterations to the existing infrastructure may be necessary to accommodate the proposed project. Existing stormwater drainage facilities are located within existing roadways and other developed areas, and the alteration of facilities would take place within areas already developed. No significant new impacts would result from stormwater facility extension.
f. Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of electric or natural gas service?			X		Minor extension of utility lines would be necessary to serve the proposed project. Existing utility lines are located along existing roadways and other developed areas, and the extension of lines would take place within areas already proposed for development as part of the project. No significant new impacts would result from utility extension.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
g. Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of emergency services?				X	The completed project will not increase demand for emergency services.
h. Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of public school services?				X	The project will not require the use of public school services.
i. Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of park and recreation services?				X	The project will not require park and recreation services.
7. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC - Would the project:					
a. Conflict with or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b) – measuring transportation impacts individually or cumulatively, using a vehicles miles traveled standard established by the County?				X	The proposed transportation project will reduce impacts on vehicle miles traveled and is presumed to cause a less than significant transportation impact.
b. Result in a substantial adverse impact to access and/or circulation?				X	No changes to existing access and/or circulation patterns would occur as a result of the project.
c. Result in a substantial adverse impact to public safety on area roadways?				X	No changes to existing access and/or circulation patterns would occur as a result of the project; therefore no impacts to public safety on area roadways will result. Additionally, street lighting will be installed along this stretch of Morse Avenue increase pedestrian and driver safety.
d. Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?				X	The project does not conflict with alternative transportation policies of the Sacramento County General Plan, with the Sacramento Regional Transit Master Plan, or other adopted policies, plans or programs supporting alternative transportation. The project has been identified in the Sacramento County Pedestrian Master Plan as a priority project.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
8. AIR QUALITY - Would the project:					
a. Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is in non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?			X		The project does not exceed the thresholds established by the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District and will not result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is in non-attainment.
b. Expose sensitive receptors to pollutant concentrations in excess of standards?				X	See Response 8.a.
c. Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?				X	The project will not generate objectionable odors.
9. NOISE - Would the project:					
a. Result in generation of a temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established by the local general plan, noise ordinance or applicable standards of other agencies?				X	The project is not in the vicinity of any uses that generate substantial noise, nor will the completed project generate substantial noise. The project will not result in exposure of persons to, or generation of, noise levels in excess of applicable standards.
b. Result in a substantial temporary increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity?			X		Project construction will result in a temporary increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity. This impact is less than significant due to the temporary nature of these activities, limits on the duration of noise, and evening and nighttime restrictions imposed by the County Noise Ordinance (Chapter 6.68 of the County Code).
c. Generate excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?				X	The project will not involve the use of pile driving or other methods that would produce excessive groundborne vibration or noise levels at the property boundary.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
10. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY - Would the project:					
a. Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or substantially interfere with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?				X	The project will not substantially increase water demand over the existing use.
b. Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the project area and/or increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner that would result in flooding on- or off-site?			X		The project does not involve any modifications that would substantially alter the existing drainage pattern and or/increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner that would lead to flooding. The project will be adjusting or adding drain inlets along the new curb and gutter locations. Compliance with applicable requirements of the Sacramento County Floodplain Management Ordinance, Sacramento County Water Agency Code, and Sacramento County Improvement Standards will ensure that impacts are less than significant.
c. Develop within a 100-year floodplain as mapped on a federal Flood Insurance Rate Map or within a local flood hazard area?				X	The project is not within a 100-year floodplain as mapped on a federal Flood Insurance Rate Map, nor is the project within a local flood hazard area.
d. Place structures that would impede or redirect flood flows within a 100-year floodplain?				X	The project site is not within a 100-year floodplain.
e. Develop in an area that is subject to 200 year urban levels of flood protection (ULOP)?				X	The project is not located in an area subject to 200-year urban levels of flood protection (ULOP).
f. Expose people or structures to a substantial risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?				X	The project will not expose people or structures to a substantial risk of loss, injury, or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
g. Create or contribute runoff that would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems?			X		Adequate on- and/or off-site drainage improvements will be required pursuant to the Sacramento County Floodplain Management Ordinance and Improvement Standards.
h. Create substantial sources of polluted runoff or otherwise substantially degrade ground or surface water quality?			X		Compliance with the Stormwater Ordinance and Land Grading and Erosion Control Ordinance (Chapters 15.12 and 14.44 of the County Code respectively) will ensure that the project will not create substantial sources of polluted runoff or otherwise substantially degrade ground or surface water quality.
11. GEOLOGY AND SOILS - Would the project:					
a. Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including risk of loss, injury or death involving rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault?			X		Sacramento County is not within an Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone. Although there are no known active earthquake faults in the project area, the site could be subject to some ground shaking from regional faults. The Uniform Building Code contains applicable construction regulations for earthquake safety that will ensure less than significant impacts.
b. Result in substantial soil erosion, siltation or loss of topsoil?			X		Compliance with the County's Land Grading and Erosion Control Ordinance will reduce the amount of construction site erosion and minimize water quality degradation by providing stabilization and protection of disturbed areas, and by controlling the runoff of sediment and other pollutants during the course of construction.
c. Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, soil expansion, liquefaction or collapse?			X		The project is not located on an unstable geologic or soil unit.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
d. Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available?				X	A public sewer system is available to serve the project.
e. Result in a substantial loss of an important mineral resource?				X	The project is not located within an Aggregate Resource Area as identified by the Sacramento County General Plan Land Use Diagram, nor are any important mineral resources known to be located on the project site.
f. Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site?				X	No known paleontological resources (e.g. fossil remains) or sites occur at the project location.
12. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES - Would the project:					
a. Have a substantial adverse effect on any special status species, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, or threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community?				X	No special status species are known to exist on or utilize the project site, nor would the project substantially reduce wildlife habitat or species populations.
b. Have a substantial adverse effect on riparian habitat or other sensitive natural communities?				X	No sensitive natural communities occur on the project site, nor is the project expected to affect natural communities off-site.
c. Have a substantial adverse effect on streams, wetlands, or other surface waters that are protected by federal, state, or local regulations and policies?				X	No protected surface waters are located on or adjacent to the project site.
d. Have a substantial adverse effect on the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species?			X		Resident and/or migratory wildlife may be displaced by project construction; however, impacts are not anticipated to result in significant, long-term effects upon the movement of resident or migratory fish or wildlife species, and no major wildlife corridors would be affected.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
e. Adversely affect or result in the removal of native or landmark trees?			X		Native oak trees occur on the project site and will be affected by on-site construction. Mitigation is included to ensure impacts are less than significant. Refer to the Biological Resources discussion in the Environmental Effects section above.
f. Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources?			X		The project will remove non-native tree canopy due to on-site construction. Mitigation is included to ensure impacts are less than significant. Refer to the Biological Resources discussion in the Environmental Effects section above.
g. Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan or other approved local, regional, state or federal plan for the conservation of habitat?				X	There are no known conflicts with any approved plan for the conservation of habitat.
13. CULTURAL RESOURCES - Would the project:					
a. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource?				X	No historical resources would be affected by the proposed project.
b. Have a substantial adverse effect on an archaeological resource?				X	No known archaeological resources occur on-site.
c. Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?				X	The project site is located outside any area considered sensitive for the existence of undiscovered human remains.
14. TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES - Would the project:					
a. Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource as defined in Public Resources Code 21074?			X		Notification pursuant to Public Resources Code 21080.3.1(b) was provided to the tribes and request for consultation was received. Tribal cultural resources have not identified in the project area. Refer to the Cultural Resources discussion in the Environmental Effects section above.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
15. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS - Would the project:					
a. Create a substantial hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?				X	The project does not involve the transport, use, and/or disposal of hazardous material.
b. Expose the public or the environment to a substantial hazard through reasonably foreseeable upset conditions involving the release of hazardous materials?			X		The project does not involve the transport, use, and/or disposal of hazardous material.
c. Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?			X		The project does not involve the use or handling of hazardous material.
d. Be located on a site that is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5, resulting in a substantial hazard to the public or the environment?				X	The project is not located on a known hazardous materials site.
e. Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response or emergency evacuation plan?			X		The project would not interfere with any known emergency response or evacuation plan.
f. Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to or intermixed with urbanized areas?			X		The project is within the urbanized area of the unincorporated County. There is no significant risk of loss, injury, or death to people or structures associated with wildland fires.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
16. ENERGY – Would the project:					
a. Result in potentially significant environmental impacts due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?			X		The project will involve the installation of sidewalks and other pedestrian improvements along the right-of-way, including street lighting. Energy consumption during construction and operation will comply with local Air District Rules and Title 24, Green Building Code. All project energy efficiency requirements will be met resulting in less than significant impacts.
b. Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?			X		The project will comply with Title 24, Green Building Code, for all project energy efficiency requirements.
17. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS – Would the project:					
c. Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?			X		The project will not have the potential to interfere with the County meeting the goals of AB 32 (reducing greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by 2020); therefore, the climate change impact of the project is considered less than significant.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

LAND USE CONSISTENCY	Current Land Use Designation	Consistent	Not Consistent	Comments
General Plan	Low-Density Residential (LDR); Medium Density Residential (MDR); Commercial/Office	X		
Community Plan	Residential Density 5 (RD-5); Residential Density 20 and 30 (RD-20 and RD-30); Shopping Center (SC)	X		
Land Use Zone	Residential Density 5 (RD-5); Residential Density 20 and 30 (RD-20 and RD-30); Shopping Center (SC)	X		

INITIAL STUDY PREPARERS

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