# SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST FORM

This form and the descriptive information in the application package constitute the contents of Initial Study pursuant to County Guidelines under Ordinance 3040 and Section 15063 of the State CEQA Guidelines.

#### **PROJECT LABEL:**

APNs:	0252-161-43 and 45	USGS Quad:	Fontana 7.5
Applicant:	Arrow Plaza LLC	T, R, Section:	T1S R5W Sec. 21
Location	18497 Valley Boulevard, Bloomington CA	Thomas Bros	Page 605
Project	PROJ-2022-00014	Community	Community of Bloomington
No:		Plan:	
Rep	Saber Awad	LUC:	Special Development (SD)
		Zone:	Valley Corridor - Commercial
		20.101	(VC/COM)
Proposal:	Approval of a Conditional Use Permit to allow for the development a hotel, gas station, convenience store and drive-through restaurant on 2.78 acres.	Overlays:	None

#### PROJECT CONTACT INFORMATION:

Lead agency: County of San Bernardino

Land Use Services Department 385 N. Arrowhead Avenue, 1st Floor San Bernardino, CA 92415-0182

Contact person: Aron Liang, Planning Manager

**Phone No:** (909) 387-0235 **Fax No:** (909) 387-3223

**E-mail:** Aron.Liang@sbcounty.lus.gov

#### PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

#### Summary

Arrow Plaza LLC has submitted an Application to the County of San Bernardino for a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for a proposed Convenience Store, Gas Station, Restaurant, and Hotel. The hotel is proposed to be 11,877 square-feet (SF) with a total of 87 rooms on five floors and a total 5-story height of 60 feet. The convenience story is proposed to be 2,400 SF and the drive-through restaurant is proposed to be 2,500 SF. A total of 137 parking stalls will be provided including 5 handicap accessible and 6 clean air/vanpool/electric vehicle spaces. Landscaping will be provided primarily along the site perimeters and in parking areas and total 17,526 square-feet, or 17.5% of the site (see Figure 1, Site Plan).

The gas station canopy is proposed to be 21 feet in height and will cover 6 fueling islands with a total of 12 pumping stations. The Convenience Store and Restaurant will be a maximum height of 26 feet. Parking lot and security lighting will be provided throughout the site.

Estimated Employment and Hours of Operation for each use are:

- Gas Station- Two Employees per shift; total of three shifts. Gas Station will be open 24 hours/day, 7 days/week.
- Restaurant- Four Employees per shift; total of two shifts. Restaurant will be open 9 am to 10:00 pm, 7 days/week.
- Hotel 15 Employees and three shifts. Hotel will be open 24 hours/day, 7 days/week.

#### **Project Site**

The Project Site is located at the southwest corner of Valley Boulevard and Linden Avenue on a 2.78-acre vacant parcel in the unincorporated community of Bloomington (see Figures 2 and 3). The Assessor's Parcel Numbers are 0252-161-43, and -45 and the address is 18497 Valley Boulevard. Approximately 0.7 miles to the south is Interstate 10 (I-10) and BNSF Rail Line is south of I-10. The property is currently vacant and surrounded by developed uses as shown in Table 1.

	Table 1: Existir	ng Land Use and Land Use Ca	tegory
Location	Existing Land Use	Land Use Category	Zoning
Project Site	Undeveloped and Vacant	Special Development (SD)	Valley Corridor / Commercial (VC/COM)
North	Markets, Restaurants	Special Development (SD)	Valley Corridor / Commercial (VC/COM)
South	Self-Storage	Special Development (SD)	Valley Corridor / Commercial (VC/COM)
East	USPS Facility, Abandoned Gas Station, Restaurant, Parking Lot	Special Development (SD)	Valley Corridor / Commercial (VC/COM)
West	Mobile Home Park	Special Development (SD)	Valley Corridor / Bloomington Enterprise (VC/BE)

The nearest sensitive receptors to the proposed project are the residents of the mobile home park to the west of the site.

#### Project Site Location, Existing Site Land Uses and Conditions

The Project Site is located approximately 0.05 miles north of Interstate 10 in the unincorporated Community of Bloomington in the County of San Bernardino. It lies at the southwest corner of Valley Boulevard and Linden Avenue. The 2.77-acre site is currently vacant, consisting of ruderal grassland. Power poles exist along the eastern boundary in the Linden Avenue right-of-way. The Project Site is relatively flat and elevation ranges from approximately 1102 feet to 1109 feet. The

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Project Site occurs in the Land Use Category of Commercial and zoning district of Valley Corridor/Commercial (VC/COM). Surrounding land uses are single-family residences to the north; institutional and vacant commercial land uses to the south; undeveloped flood control easement to west, and a mobile home park to the east.

#### ADDITIONAL APPROVAL REQUIRED BY OTHER PUBLIC AGENCIES

Federal: None.

State of California: None.

<u>County of San Bernardino</u>: Land Use Services Department-Building and Safety, Public Health-Environmental Health Services, Special Districts, and Public Works.

Regional: South Coast Air Quality Management District.

Local: None

Figure 1 Regional Map

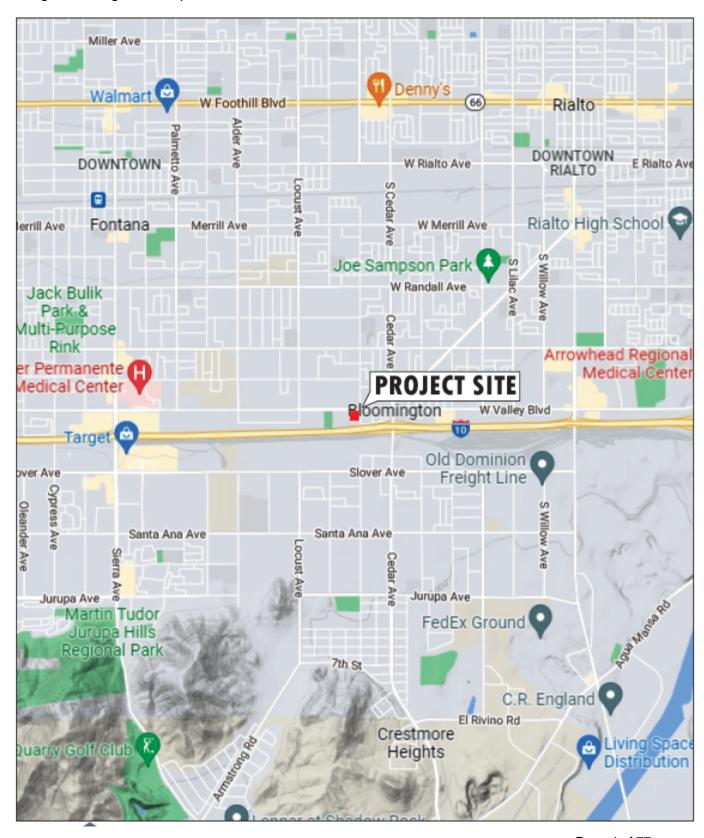
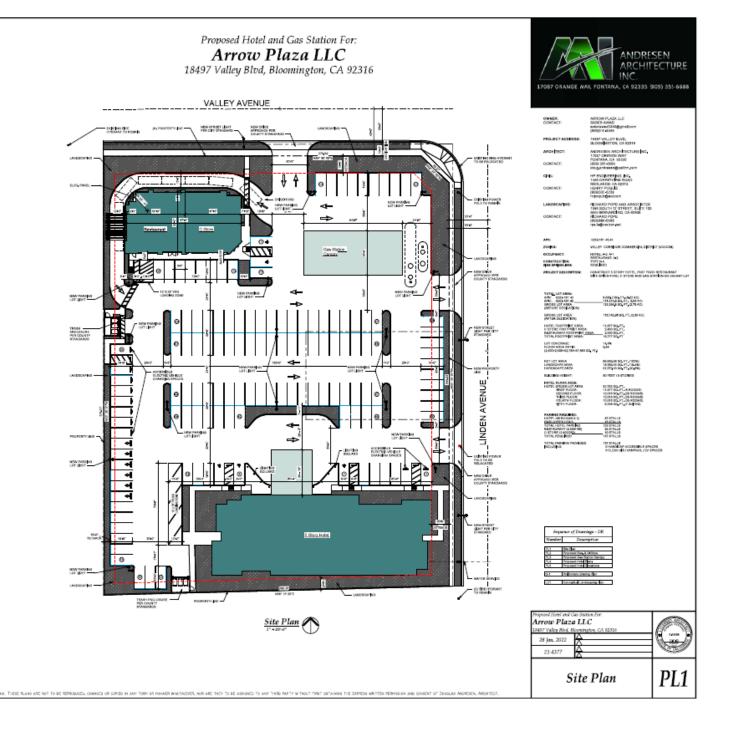


Figure 2 Vicinity Map





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## **CONSULTATION WITH CALIFORNIA NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBES**

On June 21, 2022, the County of San Bernardino mailed notification pursuant to AB52 to the following tribes: Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation Cultural Resources Department, San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians, Morongo Band of Mission Indians, Gabrieleno – Kish Nation, Fort Mojave Indian Tribe, Colorado River Indian Tribe, Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians. Requests for consultations were due to the County by July 21, 2022. The table below shows a summary of comments and responses.

#### **AB 52 Consultation**

Tribe	Comment Letter Received	Summary of Response	Conclusion
Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation Cultural Resources Department	June 23, 2022	Recommended Mitigation Measures	Impacts less than significant with mitigation incorporated.

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

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#### **EVALUATION FORMAT**

This Initial Study is prepared in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21000, et seq. and the State CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations Section 15000, et seq.). Specifically, the preparation of an Initial Study is guided by Section 15063 of the State CEQA Guidelines. This format of the study is presented as follows. The project is evaluated based on its effect on 20 major categories of environmental factors. Each factor is reviewed by responding to a series of questions regarding the impact of the project on each element of the overall factor. The Initial Study checklist provides a formatted analysis that provides a determination of the effect of the project on the factor and its elements. The effect of the project is categorized into one of the following four categories of possible determinations:

Potentially Less than Significant Less than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated Significant Impact
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Substantiation is then provided to justify each determination. One of the four following conclusions is then provided as a summary of the analysis for each of the major environmental factors.

- 1. **No Impact**: No impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.
- 2. **Less than Significant Impact**: No significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.
- 3. Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated: Possible significant adverse impacts have been identified or anticipated and the following mitigation measures are required as a condition of project approval to reduce these impacts to a level below significant. The required mitigation measures are: (List of mitigation measures)
- 4. **Potentially Significant Impact**: Significant adverse impacts have been identified or anticipated. An Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is required to evaluate these impacts, which are (List of the impacts requiring analysis within the EIR).

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

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# **ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:**

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

	Aesthetics		Agriculture and Forestry Resources		Air Quality		
$\boxtimes$	Biological Resources	$\boxtimes$	<u>Cultural Resources</u>		Energy		
	Geology/Soils  Hydrology/Water Quality		Greenhouse Gas Emissions Land Use/Planning		Hazards & Hazardous  Materials  Mineral Resources		
	<u>Noise</u>		Population/Housing		Public Services		
	Recreation		<u>Transportation</u>	$\boxtimes$	Tribal Cultural Resources		
	Utilities/Service Systems		Wildfire		Mandatory Findings of Significance		
DETE	RMINATION: Based on th	is init	ial evaluation, the followir	ng find	ling is made:		
	The proposed project CC NEGATIVE DECLARATION			effect	on the environment, and a		
$\boxtimes$	Although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there shall not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION shall be prepared.						
	The proposed project NENVIRONMENTAL IMPAC		have a significant effect PORT is required.	on	the environment, and an		
	The proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.						
	Although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.						
	leas Liana						
Signa	<i>Tron Liang</i> Iture: (Aron Liang, Planning N	 Manag	er)	 Dat	10.31.2022 e		
	<i>vid Prusch</i> iture: (David Prusch, Supervi	sina P	lanner)		10.31.2022 e		
		JIIIG	1941 11 1917	-u	<b>∵</b>		

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	Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant	No Impact
l.	<b>AESTHETICS</b> – Except as provided in Public If the project:	Resources (	Code Section	on 21099,	would
a)	Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?				
b)	Substantially damage scenic resources, including but not limited to trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?				
c)	In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from a publicly accessible vantage point). If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?				
d)	Create a new source of substantial light or glare, which will adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?				
SL	JBSTANTIATION: (Check  if project is locat Route listed in the General F		ne view-she	ed of any	Scenic
	Bernardino Countywide Plan, approved Octob San Bernardino Countywide Plan Draft EIR; S	•	-		-
a)	Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic via the Project Site is located within the City of unincorporated Community of Bloomington, San commercial properties to the north and east, a mobile home park to the west. The Countywid does not identify a scenic vista within the vicinit has a land use category of Special Developm Commercial (VC/COM). With approval of the Commercial (VC/COM)	of Rialto S Bernarding self-storage de Plan (ad ty of the Pro ment and is	County. It is facility to so opted Nove oject Site.1	is surround the south, ember 27, The Proje llage Cori	ded by and a 2020) ct Site ridor –

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> San Bernardino Countywide Plan. Adopted November 27, 2020. <a href="http://countywideplan.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/CWP\_PolicyPlan\_PubHrngDraft\_HardCopy\_2020\_July.pdf">http://countywideplan.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/CWP\_PolicyPlan\_PubHrngDraft\_HardCopy\_2020\_July.pdf</a>. Accessed June 17, 2022.

allowable use. The Proposed Project would be required to maintain the maximum height limit of 60 feet, as is allowed within the VC/COM Zone.<sup>2</sup> Therefore, no significant impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

#### **Less Than Significant Impact**

b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including but not limited to trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?

The Project Site is adjacent to Valley Boulevard, and located between Linden Avenue and North Locust Avenue. None of these three roads are designated State scenic routes or County Scenic Routes.<sup>3</sup> The closest Scenic Highway is Route 38, located approximately 13 miles east of the Project Site. The Proposed Project would be required to maintain the maximum height limit of 60 feet, as is allowed within the VC/COM Zone. Therefore, no significant impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

#### **Less Than Significant Impact**

c) In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from a publicly accessible vantage point). If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?

Under the VC/COM Zone, structures of the Proposed Project cannot exceed 60 feet. Compliance with this height limit will minimize potential obstruction of views of the surrounding mountains and other public views. Moreover, the Project Site is currently vacant and dominated by ruderal grassland. The Project Applicant will be required to provide a minimum landscape area of 15% of the lot area<sup>4</sup>, which will make the Project Site more aesthetically pleasing. A majority of the landscaped surface would cover the frontage of the Project Site. Development of the Proposed Project would remain consistent with the VC/COM zoning development standards. Therefore, no significant impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

#### **Less Than Significant Impact**

d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare, which will adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?

The nearest sensitive receptors to the Project Site are the residences in the mobile home park to the west. According to the San Bernardino County Development Code, Section 83.07.030(a) Glare and Outdoor Lighting, outdoor lighting must be fully shielded to preclude light pollution or light trespass on an abutting residential land use zoning

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>San Bernardino County. Development Code.

http://www.sbcounty.gov/Uploads/lus/DevelopmentCode/DCWebsite.pdf. Accessed May 16, 2022

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> San Bernardino County. San Bernardino Countywide Plan Draft EIR. Figure 5.1-1. Accessed May 16, 2022.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> San Bernardino County Development Code. Page 3-102.

http://www.sbcounty.gov/Uploads/lus/DevelopmentCode/DCWebsite.pdf#PAGE=97

district, a residential parcel or public right-of-way. Currently, there are streetlights along Valley Boulevard and Linden Avenue adjacent to the Project Site. The Proposed Project will be designed to adhere to these lighting standards, and demonstration of compliance will be required prior to issuance of a building permit. Therefore, no significant impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

## **Less Than Significant Impact**

No significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required

	Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant	No Impact
II.	agricultural resources are significant environment the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and by the California Dept. of Conservation as an open on agriculture and farmland. In determining including timberland, are significant environment information compiled by the California Deparegarding the state's inventory of forest land Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy measurement methodology provided in Forest Resources Board. Would the project:	ental effects Site Assess otional mode whether in ental effects rtment of F and, includi Assessmen	s, lead agen sment Mode el to use in a mpacts to f s, lead agen Forestry and ng the Fo t project; a	cies may in the cies may in th	refer to epared mpacts ources, refer to stection Range carbon
a)	Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland) as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?				
b)	Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?				
c)	Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?				
d)	Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?				$\boxtimes$

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Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance a) (Farmland) as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?

The California Department of Conservation's Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program identifies the Project Site as "Urban and Built-Up Land" in its California Important Farmland Finder. 5 "Urban and Built-Up Land" is occupied by structures with a building density of at least 1 unit to 1.5 acres, or approximately 6 structures to a 10-acre parcel. Common examples include residential, industrial, commercial, institutional facilities, cemeteries, airports, golf courses, sanitary landfills, sewage treatment, and water control structures. No prime farmland, unique farmland, or farmland of statewide importance occurs at the Project Site or within the immediate vicinity.<sup>6</sup> The Proposed Project would not convert farmland to a non-agricultural use. No impacts are identified or are anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

#### No Impact

b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?

The Project Site is not under or adjacent to any lands under a Williamson Contract.<sup>78</sup> The parcel has a current zoning of Valley Corridor - Commercial (VC/COM). With the approval of the CUP, the Proposed Project would be consistent with the Countywide Plan and would not conflict with existing zoning for agricultural uses or a Williamson Contract. Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

## No Impact

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> https://maps.conservation.ca.gov/DLRP/CIFF/. Accessed May 16, 2022

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> San Bernardino County. San Bernardino Countywide Plan Draft EIR. Figure 5.2-1 "Agricultural Resources." Accessed May 16, 2022.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> San Bernardino County. San Bernardino Countywide Plan Draft EIR. Figure 5.2-1 "Agricultural Resources." Accessed

https://www.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=fcb9bc427d2a4c5a981f97547a0e3688. Accessed May 16, 2022.

c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?

The Project Site is currently zoned Valley Corridor – Commercial (VC/COM). Implementation of the Proposed Project would not conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land, timberland, or timberland zoned for Timberland Production. Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

#### No Impact

d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?

The Project Site is currently vacant and does not support forest land. Implementation of the Proposed Project would not result in loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use. Therefore, no impacts are identified or are anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

## No Impact

No Impact

applicable air quality plan?

e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?

The Project Site is currently zoned Valley Corridor – Commercial (VC/COM). Implementation of the Proposed Project would not result in the conversion of farmland to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use. No impacts are identified or are anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

No im	pacts are identified or anticipated, and no mi	tigation mea	asures are	required.	
	Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant	No Impact
III.	AIR QUALITY - Where available, the significant air quality management district or air pollution of make the following determinations. Would the process of the significant content of content of the significan	control distric			
a)	Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the	<u> </u>		$\boxtimes$	П

	,	criteria pollutant fo is non-attainmen					
	,	al or state ambier					
c)	Expose sensitiv pollutant concent	e receptors to rations?	substantial				
d)		nissions (such as the sely affecting a e?	Ū				
SU	BSTANTIATION:	(Discuss conforn Plan, if applicable	<u> </u>	Nojave Des	ert Air Qua	lity Manag	gement
Cour	ntywide Plan: Sub	mitted Project Ma	aterials: Call	FMod Out	nut		

a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?

The Project Site is located in the South Coast Air Basin (SCAB). The South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) has jurisdiction over air quality issues and regulations within the SCAB. The Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP) for the basin establishes a program of rules and regulations administered by SCAQMD to obtain attainment of the state and federal air quality standards. The most recent AQMP (2016 AQMP) was adopted by the SCAQMD on March 3, 2017. The 2016 AQMP incorporates the latest scientific and technological information and planning assumptions, including transportation control measures developed by the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) from the 2016 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy, and updated emission inventory methodologies for various source categories.

A project is inconsistent with the AQMP if: (1) it does not comply with the approved general plan; or (2) it uses a disproportionately large portion of the forecast growth increment (change population or employment levels). The County of San Bernardino currently designates the Project Site as Special Development (SD) under which the Proposed project is an allowable use. The proposed use does not include a General Plan (Policy Plan) Amendment nor a Zone Change. Therefore, impacts have been included and mitigated for in the adopted Countywide Plan. No significant adverse impacts are identified or are anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

## **Less Than Significant Impact**

b) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the Project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?

Construction and operational emissions were screened using <u>CalEEMod version 2022.1</u>. The emissions incorporate Rule 402 and 403 by default as required during construction. The criteria pollutants screened for include reactive organic gases (ROG), nitrous oxides

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(NOx), carbon monoxide (CO), sulfur dioxide (SO2), and particulates ( $PM_{10}$  and  $PM_{2.5}$ ). Two of the analyzed pollutants, ROG and NOx, are ozone precursors. Both summer and winter season emission levels were estimated.

The Project Site occurs in the South Coast Air Basin (SCAB). The South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) has jurisdiction over air quality issues and regulations within the SCAB. The Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP) for the basin establishes a program of rules and regulations administered by SCAQMD to obtain attainment of the state and federal air quality standards. The most recent AQMP (2016 AQMP) was adopted by the SCAQMD on March 3, 2017. The 2016 AQMP incorporates the latest scientific and technological information and planning assumptions, including transportation control measures developed by the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) from the 2016 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy, and updated emission inventory methodologies for various source categories.

#### Construction Emissions

Construction emissions are considered short-term, temporary emissions and were modeled with the following construction parameters: site preparation, grading (fine and mass grading), building construction, paving, and architectural coating. Construction is anticipated to begin in early 2023 and be completed in early 2024 operational year. The resulting emissions generated by construction of the Proposed Project is shown in Table 2, which represent summer and winter construction emissions.

Table 2
Construction Emissions Summary
(Pounds per Day)

Source/Phase	ROG	NO <sub>X</sub>	CO	SO <sub>2</sub>	PM <sub>10</sub>	PM <sub>2.5</sub>
Daily Summer (max)	1.8	17.6	17.2	0.0	3.7	2.1
Daily Winter (max)	58.4	17.1	17.8	0.0	1.3	0.7
Average Daily (max)	1.7	7.6	8.5	0.0	0.6	0.4
Highest Value (lbs./day)	58.4	17.6	17.8	0.0	3.7	2.1
SCAQMD Threshold	75	100	550	150	150	55
Significant	No	No	No	No	No	No

Source: CalEEMod.2022.1 Summer Emissions

Phases do not overlap and represent the highest concentration.

#### Compliance with SCAQMD Rules 402 and 403

Although the Proposed Project does not exceed SCAQMD thresholds for construction emissions, the Project Proponent would be required to comply with all applicable SCAQMD rules and regulations as the SCAB is in non-attainment status for ozone and suspended particulates ( $PM_{10}$  and  $PM_{2.5}$ ).

The Project Proponent would be required to comply with Rules 402 nuisance, and 403 fugitive dust, which require the implementation of Best Available Control Measures (BACMs) for each fugitive dust source, and the AQMP, which identifies Best Available

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Control Technologies (BACTs) for area sources and point sources. The BACMs and BACTs would include, but not be limited to the following:

- 1. The Project Proponent shall ensure that any portion of the site to be graded shall be pre-watered prior to the onset of grading activities
  - (a) The Project Proponent shall ensure that watering of the site or other soil stabilization method shall be employed on an on-going basis after the initiation of any grading activity on the site. Portions of the site that are actively being graded shall be watered regularly (3x daily) to ensure that a crust is formed on the ground surface and shall be watered at the end of each workday.
  - (b) The Project Proponent shall ensure that all disturbed areas are treated to prevent erosion until the site is constructed upon.
  - (c) The Project Proponent shall ensure that landscaped areas are installed as soon as possible to reduce the potential for wind erosion.
  - (d) The Project Proponent shall ensure that all grading activities are suspended during first and second stage ozone episodes or when winds exceed 25 miles per hour.

During construction, exhaust emissions from construction vehicles and equipment and fugitive dust generated by equipment traveling over exposed surfaces, would increase NOX and PM10 levels in the area. Although the Proposed Project does not exceed SCAQMD thresholds during construction, the Applicant/Contractor would be required to implement the following conditions as required by SCAQMD:

- To reduce emissions, all equipment used in grading and construction must be tuned and maintained to the manufacturer's specification to maximize efficient burning of vehicle fuel.
- The Project Proponent shall ensure that existing power sources are utilized where feasible via temporary power poles to avoid on-site power generation during construction.
- 4. The Project Proponent shall ensure that construction personnel are informed of ride sharing and transit opportunities.
- 5. All buildings on the Project Site shall conform to energy use guidelines in Title 24 of the California Administrative Code.
- 6. The operator shall maintain and effectively utilize and schedule on-site equipment in order to minimize exhaust emissions from truck idling.
- 7. The operator shall comply with all existing and future California Air Resources Board (CARB) and SCAQMD regulations related to diesel-fueled trucks, which may include among others: (1) meeting more stringent emission standards; (2) retrofitting existing engines with particulate traps; (3) use of low sulfur fuel; and (4) use of alternative fuels or equipment.

#### Operational Emissions

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The operational mobile source emissions were calculated using the Traffic Analysis prepared by Mizuta Traffic Consultants, in June 2022. The Traffic Analysis (TA) determined that the Proposed Project would generate approximately 1,356 total daily trips. Operational emissions are listed in Table 3 and Table 4, which represent summer and winter operational emissions, respectively.

Table 3
Summer Operational Emissions Summary
(Pounds per Day)

	(i cando por bay)									
Source	ROG	NO <sub>X</sub>	CO	SO <sub>2</sub>	PM <sub>10</sub>	PM <sub>2.5</sub>				
Area	1.8	0.0	2.5	0.0	0.0	0.0				
Energy	0.0	0.8	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0				
Mobile	14.8	6.2	58.8	0.1	4.6	0.9				
Totals (lbs./day)	16.6	7.0	62.0	0.1	4.6	0.9				
SCAQMD Threshold	55	55	550	150	150	55				
Significance	No	No	No	No	No	No				

Source: CalEEMod.2022.1 Summer Emissions.

Table 4
Winter Operational Emissions Summary
(Pounds per Day)

Source	ROG	NOx	СО	SO <sub>2</sub>	PM <sub>10</sub>	PM <sub>2.5</sub>
Area	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Energy	0.0	8.0	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
Mobile	14.3	6.7	48.6	0.1	4.6	0.9
Totals (lbs./day)	15.7	7.5	49.3	0.1	4.6	0.9
SCAQMD Threshold	55	55	550	150	150	55
Significance	No	No	No	No	No	No

Source: CalEEMod.2022.1 Summer Emissions.

As shown, both summer and winter season operational emissions are below SCAQMD thresholds. The Proposed Project does not exceed applicable SCAQMD regional thresholds either during construction or operational activities. Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

#### **Less Than Significant Impact**

#### c) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?

Sensitive receptors include residential land uses, schools, day care centers, and other places where people reside, including prisons. The nearest sensitive receptors to the proposed project are single-family residential dwelling units located adjacent to the north (across Valley Boulevard), Therefore, a linear health risk screening was assessed based on the gasoline service station use.

Emissions resulting from gasoline service station operations may include toxic air contaminants (TACs) (e.g., benzene, hexane, MTBE, toluene, xylene) and have the potential to contribute to health risk in the Project vicinity. Standard regulatory controls such as the SCAQMD's Rule 461 (Gasoline Transfer and Dispensing) would apply to the Project

in addition to any permits required that demonstrate appropriate operational controls. Gasoline dispensing facilities are required to use Phase I/II EVR (enhanced vapor recovery) systems. Phase I EVR have an average efficiency of 98 percent and Phase II EVR have an average efficiency of 95.1 percent. Therefore, the potential for fugitive VOC or TAC emissions from the gasoline pumps is negligible. Prior to issuance of a Permit to Operate, each individual gasoline dispensing station is required to obtain permits from SCAQMD which identify the maximum annual throughput allowed based on specific fuel storage and dispensing equipment that is proposed by the operator.

The analysis reflects a maximum annual throughput of an estimated 1,000,000 gallons. However, ultimate fuel throughput allowances/requirements would be established by SCAQMD through the fueling station permitting processes. For purposes of this evaluation, cancer risk estimates have been made consistent with the methodology presented in SCAQMD's Risk Assessment Procedures for Rules 1401 & 212 which provide screening-level risk estimates for gasoline dispensing operations. The Project site is located within Source Receptor Area (SRA) 29.

The nearest residential receptor and worker receptor are both less than 25 meters (e.g. 82.02 feet) from the proposed fueling station.

Based on the established SCAQMD procedure outlined in the SCAQMD Permit Application Package "N" it is estimated that the maximum risk attributable to the gasoline dispensing would be 3.306 in one million for the nearest sensitive receptor and the maximum risk to workers would be 0.273 in one million both of which are below the threshold of 10 in one million. SCAQMD Permit Application Package "N" identifies the potential risk per one million gallons of gasoline dispensed at the defined downwind distances. The further the distance from the source the lower the risk. Refer to Table 5 for a linear regression risk estimate with distances of 25 and 50 feet from the source.

Table 5
Linear Regression Risk Estimate

Residential					
Distance	Risk				
25	3.306				
50	1.254				
Worker					
25	0.273				
50	0.103				

Source: Risk Tool V1.103

As shown in Table 5, no sensitive receptors in the Project vicinity would be exposed to a cancer risk of greater than 10 in one million. The maximum risk estimate at any sensitive land use in the vicinity of the Project would be 3.306 in one million. The Project gas station operations would therefore not generate emissions that would cause or result in an exceedance of the applicable SCAQMD cancer threshold of 10 in one million. As such, the Project would not have a significant impact with respect to health risks from the gasoline dispensing stations.

Therefore, no significant impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

#### **Less Than Significant Impact**

d) Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors adversely affecting a substantial number of people?

Portions of the Proposed Project include the development of a gas station facility, as well as a drive-through restaurant. Potential odor sources associated with the Proposed Project may result from construction equipment exhaust and the application of asphalt and architectural coatings during construction activities as well as the temporary storage of domestic solid waste associated with the Proposed Project's long-term operational uses. Standard construction requirements would minimize odor impacts resulting from construction activity. It should be noted that any construction odor emissions generated would be temporary, short-term, and intermittent in nature and would cease upon completion of the respective phase of construction activity. It is expected that Project-generated refuse would be stored in covered containers and removed at regular intervals in compliance with County of San Bernardino solid waste regulations. The Proposed Project would also be required to comply with SCAQMD Rule 402 to prevent occurrences of public nuisances related to odors. Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or are anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

## **Less Than Significant Impact**

Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

	Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant	No Impact
IV.	<b>BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES - Would the project</b>	:			
a)	Have substantial adverse effects, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?				
b)	Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, and regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or US Fish and Wildlife Service?				

PROJ-2022-00014 Arrow Plaza Project APNs: 0252-161-43, -45 July 2022  $\boxtimes$ Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?  $\boxtimes$ d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites? Conflict with any local policies or ordinances  $\boxtimes$ e) protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance? Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Xf)

**SUBSTANTIATION:** (Check if project is located in the Biological Resources Overlay or contains habitat for any species listed in the California Natural Diversity Database ⊠):

Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional or state habitat conservation plan?

Countywide Plan; Submitted Project Materials; General Biological Assessment, Natural Resources Assessment, Inc, June 8, 2022

a) Have substantial adverse effects, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?

A General Biological Resources Assessment (BRA), dated June 8, 2022, was prepared for the Proposed Project by Natural Resources Assessment, Inc. (NRAI). NRAI completed a data search for information on common and protected plants and wildlife species known occurrences within the vicinity of the Project Site. The review included biological texts on general and specific biological resources, and those resources considered to be sensitive by various wildlife agencies, local government agencies and interest groups. NRAI used the data to focus their survey efforts in the field.

The plant community on site is ruderal grassland, along with landscaping trees on the western boundary. Dominant species observed during the survey included short-pod mustard (*Hirschfeldia incana*), slender oats (*Avena barbata*), mouse barley (Hordeum murinum) and ripgut brome (*Bromus diandrus*). Other weedy species scattered throughout include telegraph weed (*Heterotheca grandiflora*), fiddleneck (*Amsinchia intermedia*) and mallow (*Malva parviflora*) were also observed. Tree species on the western portion of the property included European olive (*Oleo europea*) catalpa (*Catalpa*)

bignonioides) and camphor tree (*Cinnamomum camphora*). There is also one California walnut tree (*Juglans californica*).

No amphibians or reptiles were observed because of a lack of suitable habitat. Bird species observed included California towhee (*Melozone crissalis*), common crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*), and western tanager (*Prianga ludoviciana*). No signs of native mammals were observed.

All sensitive species were considered as potentially present on the Project Site if its known geographical distribution encompassed all or part of the Project Site or if its distribution was near the site and its general habitat requirements were present. There is no habitat for sensitive plants, fish, amphibians, reptiles, mammals or insects that were listed as potentially present in the vicinity of the Project Site. There is suitable foraging and/or nesting habitat on site for the bird species listed in Table 6, which includes suitable habitat (such as landscape trees) on the adjacent properties.

Impacts to foraging habitat for sensitive but not formally listed species is generally not addressed except when foraging areas include or are adjacent to nesting sites. Therefore, loss of foraging habitat on this property would not be deemed significant.

The Project Site is located within a Countywide Plan mapped area of the "Biological Resource Overlay" and identified as containing suitable burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia hypogea*) habitat. This species prefers large flat open areas for nesting and hunting. They live in burrows constructed by other ground-dwelling species in grassy or sparse shrubby habitat. However, the Project Site does not have any potentially suitable soils and plant cover for burrowing owl, due to the heavily impacted soils and the fact that this location is within an urbanized area. The Project Site is subject to disturbance from nearby development and people and is located in a somewhat developed area. As a result, there is no burrowing owl habitat on site.

Table 6
Sensitive Bird Species Possible Use of Property Habitats

Species	Foraging Habitat	Nesting Habitat
Sharp-shinned Hawk	Sparse	None
Cooper's Hawk	Sparse	None
Ferruginous Hawk	Sparse	None
Merlin	Limited/Seasonal	None
American Peregrine	Limited/Seasonal	None
Prairie Falcon	Limited/Seasonal	None
Loggerhead Shrike	Low	None

As a group, raptors are of concern to state and federal agencies. Raptors and all migratory bird species, whether listed or not, receive protection under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) of 1918.9 The MBTA prohibits individuals to kill, take, possess or sell

https://www.fws.gov/birds/policies-and-regulations/laws-legislations/migratory-bird-treaty-act.php

any migratory bird and bird parts (including nests and eggs) except per regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Department (16 U. S. Code 703).<sup>10</sup>

Additional protection is provided to all bald and golden eagles under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1940, as amended. State protection is extended to all birds of prey by the California Fish and Game Code, Section 2503.5. No take is allowed under these provisions except through the approval of the agencies or their designated representatives.

At the time of the survey, there was suitable nesting habitat on and around the property for nesting birds. Mitigation Measure BIO-1 is recommended to reduce potential impacts to nesting birds to less than significant.

#### **Mitigation Measure BIO-1:**

If start of construction occurs between February 1 and August 31, then a qualified biologist shall conduct a breeding bird survey no more than three days prior to the start of construction to determine if nesting is occurring. If occupied nests are found, they shall not be disturbed unless the qualified biologist verifies through non-invasive methods that either (a) the adult birds have not begun egg-laying and incubation; or (b) the juveniles from the occupied nests are capable of independent survival. If the biologist is not able to verify one of the above conditions, then no disturbance shall occur within a distance specified by the qualified biologist for each nest or nesting site. The qualified biologist will determine the appropriate distance in consultation with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

With implementation of Mitigation Measures BIO-1, the Proposed Project would not have a substantial adverse effect on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive or special status species.

#### **Less than Significant with Mitigation**

b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, and regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or US Fish and Wildlife Service?

Three key agencies regulate activities within inland streams, wetlands, and riparian areas in California. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) Regulatory Branch regulates discharge of dredge or fill materials into waters of the United States. These watersheds include wetlands and non-wetland bodies of water that meet specific criteria. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), through provisions of State of California Administrative Code, is empowered to issue agreements for any alteration of a river, stream or lake where fish or wildlife resources may adversely be affected. Streams (and rivers) are defined by the presence of a channel bed and banks, and at least an intermittent flow of water. The use of a 404 permit in California is regulated by

<sup>10</sup> https://www.fws.gov/le/USStatutes/MBTA.pdf

<sup>11</sup> https://www.fws.gov/le/USStatutes/MBTA.pdf

<sup>12</sup> https://www.fws.gov/le/USStatutes/BEPA.pdf

the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act regulations. The Board has authority to issue a 401 permit that allows the use of a 404 permit in the state.

NRAI concluded that the Project Site does not have any drainages or areas that support riparian habitat. Implementation of the Proposed Project would not result in impacts to riparian habitat. Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or are anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

#### **Less Than Significant Impact**

c) Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means

The ACOE regulates discharge of dredge or fill materials into waters of the United States. These watersheds include wetlands and non-wetland bodies of water that meet specific criteria. CDFW regulates wetland areas only if those wetlands are part of a river, stream or lake as defined by CDFW. The Project Site does not have any drainages or areas that support wetland, as stated in the BRA. Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or are anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

## **Less Than Significant Impact**

d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?

Wildlife movement and the fragmentation of wildlife habitat are recognized as critical issues that must be considered in assessing impacts to wildlife. Habitat fragmentation is the division or breaking up of larger habitat areas into smaller areas that may or may not be capable of independently sustaining wildlife and plant populations. Habitat linkages provide connections between larger habitat areas that are separated by development. Wildlife corridors are similar to linkages but provide specific opportunities for animals to disperse or migrate between areas. The Project Site is surrounded by commercial and institutional uses to the south, single family residences to the north, a mobile home park to the east, and an undeveloped flood control easement to the west.

The foothill areas of the San Gabriel and San Bernardino Mountains and associated washes are considered habitat linkage and wildlife corridors in the Valley Region of the County. The Project Site is located within a relatively developed area approximately eight miles away from the foothills. Therefore, the Project Site would not be suitable as a native resident or migratory wildlife corridor or for facilitating the movement of any native resident or migratory wildlife species. No significant impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> San Bernardino Countywide Plan Draft EIR. Biological Resources.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> <a href="http://cms.sbcounty.gov/Portals/5/Planning/ZoningOverlaymaps/OpenSpaceCountywide.pdf">http://cms.sbcounty.gov/Portals/5/Planning/ZoningOverlaymaps/OpenSpaceCountywide.pdf</a>. Accessed June 17, 2022.

#### **Less Than Significant Impact**

e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?

The Project Site is currently vacant and undeveloped. There are no prominent geologic features occurring on or near the Project Site. The plant community on site is ruderal grassland. Tree species on the western portion of the property included European olive (*Oleo europea*) catalpa (*Catalpa bignonioides*) and camphor tree (*Cinnamomum camphora*). There is also one California walnut tree (*Juglans californica*). Tree species around the perimeter of the Project Site include Mexican fan palm and chinaberry tree. Although the Project Site is located within a mapped area of the "Biological Resource Overlay", no suitable burrowing owl habitat exists on site of concern. Implementation of Project would have a less than significant impact on local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources.

#### **Less Than Significant Impact**

f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional or state habitat conservation plan?

The Project Site is not located within the planning area of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan as identified in the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's California Natural Community Conservation Plans Map (April 2019). No impacts are identified or are anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

#### No Impact

Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated with the implementation of mitigation measures.

	Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant	No Impact
٧.	<b>CULTURAL RESOURCES</b> - Would the pro	ject:		·	
a)	Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to §15064.5?				
b)	Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?				

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> https://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=68626&inline. Accessed June 17, 2022.

,	ny human remains, including de of formal cemeteries?				
SUBSTANTIAT	(Check if the project is lo Resources overlays or ci			="	-
County, Californi	es Study for the Arrow Plaza a, Brian F. Smith and Associ on Center, California State I 426	ates, Inc.,	April 29, 2	022; Sout	h Central

a,b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to §15064.5?

Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?

Cultural Resources Study for the Arrow Plaza Project, dated April 29, 2022, was prepared for the Proposed Project by Brian F. Smith & Associates (BFSA). The purpose of the assessment was to identify and document any cultural resources that may potentially occur within the Project Site. The investigation was completed for compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), as amended, the San Bernardino County policies and guidelines, and the City of Rialto policies and guidelines. Historic land use data was compiled by BFSA through research conducted at the Bureau of Land Management General Land Office records (on-line); the San Bernardino County Archives, the San Bernardino County Assessor's Office and Recorder's offices, the San Bernardino County Surveyor's Office, and local historic data from the BFSA in-house library.

An archaeological records search was completed for this investigation at the California State University, Fullerton, South Central Coastal Information Center (April 1, 2022). The research confirmed 35 previously recorded resources within a half-mile radius of the Project Site, none of which are located with the project's boundaries. Additionally, the records search results also indicated that a total of 13 cultural resource studies have been conducted within one-half mile of the Project, none of which include the subject property.

Research also confirms no federally listed historical resources are identified in the immediate vicinity.

BFSA reviewed historic maps and aerial photographs. These sources confirmed the property was in agricultural use from the 1930's to 1980's. A residence was visible as late as 1943, but was removed between 1969 and 1980.

On April 7, 2022, a field survey was conducted, utilizing an intensive reconnaissance consisting of a series of transects across the Project. All areas of the property were accessible and subjected to visual examination. The field survey was documented by a photographic record and field notes. While weeds and grasses were observed

throughout the property, approximately 100% of the ground surface was visible as a result of the clearing and grubbing. Modern trash was also observed throughout the property along with a dirt and gravel road along the northern perimeter that comprised less than five percent of the subject property.

The Project Site yielded no physical evidence of prehistoric archaeological resources, historic archaeological resources, built environments (standing structures), or ethnic resources. No significant historical events or persons have been associated with this property and there are no standing structures to evaluate. BFSA concluded that the Project Site is clear of any physical evidence of historic or prehistoric archaeological resources. However, there remains a possibility of historical or prehistoric archaeological resources to be uncovered during the course of grading. With implementation of Mitigation Measure CR-1, the Proposed Project would not have a significant impact on cultural resources.

#### **Mitigation Measure CR-1:**

For adequate coverage and the protection of possibly significant buried resources and tribal cultural resources, a qualified archaeologist and Native American Monitor provided by the consulting tribe shall be retained by the applicant to monitor all ground-disturbing construction activities, included but not limited to site preparation, grading and excavation. The applicant, archaeologist and consulting tribe will agree on a monitoring schedule based on the necessary days of grounddisturbance. In the event that Native American cultural resources are discovered during project development/construction, all work in the immediate vicinity of the find shall cease and a qualified archaeologist meeting Secretary of Interior standards shall be hired to assess the find. Work on the overall project may continue during this assessment period. If significant Native American cultural resources are discovered, for which a Treatment Plan must be prepared, the developer or his archaeologist shall contact any tribes claiming cultural affiliation to the area. If requested by the tribe(s), the developer or the project archaeologist shall, in good faith, consult on the discovery and its disposition (e.g., avoidance, preservation, return of artifacts to tribe, etc.). If avoidance is not possible, an avoidance plan will be prepared and implemented based on consultation between the archaeologist and tribes.

#### Mitigation Measure CR-2:

In the event that cultural resources are discovered during project activities, all work in the immediate vicinity of the find (within a 60-foot buffer) shall cease and a qualified archaeologist meeting Secretary of Interior standards shall be hired to assess the find. Work on the other portions of the project outside of the buffered area may continue during this assessment period. Additionally, the Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation Cultural Resources Department (YSMN) shall be contacted, as detailed within TCR-1, regarding any pre-contact and/or historic-era finds and be provided information after the archaeologist makes his/her initial assessment of the nature of the find, so as to provide Tribal input with regards to significance and treatment.

July 2022

## Mitigation Measure CR-3:

If significant pre-contact and/or historic-era cultural resources, as defined by CEQA (as amended, 2015), are discovered and avoidance cannot be ensured, the archaeologist shall develop a Monitoring and Treatment Plan, the drafts of which shall be provided to YSMN for review and comment, as detailed within TCR-1. The archaeologist shall monitor the remainder of the project and implement the Plan accordingly.

## **Less than Significant with Mitigation**

c) Disturb any human remains, including those outside of formal cemeteries?

Field surveys conducted as part of the Cultural Resource Investigation did not encounter any evidence of human remains. The Project Site is not located on or near a known cemetery. However, construction activities, particularly grading, could potentially disturb human remains interred outside of a formal cemetery. To insure adequate and compliant management of any buried remains that may be identified during project development, the following mitigation measure is required as a condition of project approval to reduce any potential impacts to a less than significant level.

With implementation of Mitigation Measure CR-2, the Proposed Project would not have a significant impact on human remains.

#### **Mitigation Measure CR-4:**

If evidence of human remains is identified, the County Coroner will be contacted immediately and permitted to inspect the remains. The County of San Bernardino and the Project Applicant shall also be informed of the discovery. The Coroner will determine if the bones are historic/archaeological or a modern legal case. The Coroner will immediately contact the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) in the event that remains are determined to be human and of Native American origin, in accordance with California Public Resources Code Section § 5097.98.

All discovered human remains shall be treated with respect and dignity. California state law (California Health & Safety Code § 7050.5) and federal law and regulations ([Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) 16 USC 470 & 43 CFR 7], [Native American Graves Protection & Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) 25 USC 3001 & 43 CFR 10] and [Public Lands, Interior 43 CFR 8365.1-7]) require a defined protocol if human remains are discovered in the State of California regardless if the remains are modern or archaeological.

## **Mitigation Measure CR-5:**

If human remains or funerary objects are encountered during any activities associated with the project, work in the immediate vicinity (within a 100-foot buffer of the find) shall cease and the County Coroner shall be contacted pursuant to State Health and Safety Code §7050.5 and that code enforced for the duration of the project.

#### **Less than Significant with Mitigation**

Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated with the implementation of mitigation measures.

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

## SUBSTANTIATION: California Energy Consumption Database; Title 24 Building Energy Efficiency Standards; Submitted Project Materials

a) Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?

Electricity: The Proposed Project is the development of a hotel, gas station, and drivethrough restaurant facility. Southern California Edison (SCE) would provide electricity to the Project Site. In 2020, the Commercial sector of the Southern California Edison planning area consumed 28,799.603173 GWh of electricity. 16 The Project Site is currently vacant and does not use electricity. The implementation of the Proposed Project would result in an increase in electricity demand. The estimated electricity demand for the Proposed Project is 1.86 GWh per year. The Proposed Project's estimated annual electricity consumption compared to the 2019 annual electricity consumption of the overall Industry Sector in the SCE Planning Area would account for approximately 0.00453 percent of total electricity consumption. The existing SCE electrical facilities serving the project area are sufficient to meet this increased demand. Total electricity demand in SCE's service area is estimated to increase by approximately 12,000 GWh between the years 2015 and 2026. The increase in electricity demand from the Proposed Project is insignificant compared to the projected electricity demand for SCE's entire service area. Therefore, projected electrical demand would not significantly impact SCE's level of service.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> https://ecdms.energy.ca.gov/Default.aspx. Accessed May 16, 2022.

The Proposed Project has been designed to comply with the 2019 Building Energy Efficiency Standards. The County of San Bernardino will review and verify that the Proposed Project plans are in compliance with the most current version of the Building and Energy Efficiency Standards. The Proposed Project would also be required adhere to CALGreen, which establishes planning and design standards for sustainable developments and energy efficiency. The Proposed Project would not result in a significant impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation. No significant impacts are identified or required, and no mitigation measures are recommended.

Natural Gas: The Project Site would be serviced by Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas). The Project Site is currently vacant and has no demand for natural gas. Therefore, the development of the Proposed Project will create a permanent increase demand for natural gas. According to the California Energy Commission's Energy Report, the Industry Sector was responsible for 801.591595 million therms of natural gas consumption in the SoCalGas Planning Area in 2020.<sup>17</sup> Despite the ever-growing demand for electric power, the overall gas demand for electric generation is expected to decline at 1.4 percent per year for the next 17 years due to more efficient power plants, statewide efforts to reduce GHG emissions, and use of power generation resources that produce little to no carbon emissions. The Proposed Project's estimated annual natural gas demand is 30,871 therms. The Proposed Project's estimated annual electricity consumption compared to the 2019 annual natural gas consumption of the overall Commercial Sector in the SoCalGas Planning Area would account for approximately 0.005716 percent of total natural gas consumption. The Proposed Project would not result in a significant impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation. Therefore, the existing SoCalGas facilities is expected to meet the increased demand for natural gas.

## **Less Than Significant Impact**

b) Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?

The Proposed Project would be designed to comply with the County of San Bernardino Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Plan, and the State Building Energy Efficiency Standards (Title 24). Project development would not cause inefficient, wasteful and unnecessary energy consumption, and no adverse impacts would occur.

The Proposed Project would not conflict with any applicable plan, policy or regulation of an agency adopted to reduce GHG emissions, including Title 24, AB 32, and SB 32; therefore, the Project is consistent with AB 32, which aims to decrease emissions statewide to 1990 levels by to 2020. The Proposed Project would not conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency. Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are recommended.

#### No Impact

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> https://ecdms.energy.ca.gov/Default.aspx. Accessed May 16, 2022.

Therefore, no significant impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

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

f) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique \( \sum \) \	
SUBSTANTIATION: (Check  if project is located in the Geologic Hazards O	verlay
District):	
Countywide Plan; Preliminary Soils Evaluation, New Proposed Commercial Develop	pment
Located at South-West Corner of Valley Blvd. and Linden Avenue, City of Blooming	ngton,
California prepared by Sampson and Associates, December 14, 2021, Submitted F	Project
Materials; Fault Activity Map of California, 2010; California Important Land Finder; Ph	nase I
Cultural Resources Investigation	

- a) Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:
  - i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map Issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42

The Preliminary Soils Evaluation, *New Proposed Commercial Development Located at South-West Corner of Valley Blvd. and Linden Avenue, City of Bloomington, California (soils report), dated December 14, 2021*, was prepared for the Proposed Project by Sampson and Associates. The Project Site does not occur within an Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone<sup>18</sup> or County Fault Hazard Zone.<sup>19</sup> The San Jacinto Fault is 5.06 miles from the Project Site. Although the potential for rupture on-site cannot be dismissed, it is considered low due to the absence of known faults within the immediate vicinity. Nonetheless, the Proposed Project would be required to comply with the California Building Code requirements and the Uniform Fire Code requirements and all applicable statutes, codes, ordinances, and standards of the San Bernardino County Fire Department. Compliance with these codes and standards would address potential impacts resulting from an earthquake event. Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

#### **Less Than Significant Impact**

ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?

No active faults pass through Bloomington. As is the case for most areas of Southern California, ground shaking resulting from earthquakes associated with nearby and more distant faults may occur at the Project Site. The design of any structures on-site would incorporate measures to accommodate projected seismic ground shaking in accordance with the California Building Code (CBC) and local building regulations. The CBC is designed to preclude significant adverse effects associated with strong seismic

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup>Department of Conservation Fault Activity Map of California (2010). <a href="http://maps.conservation.ca.gov/cgs/fam/">http://maps.conservation.ca.gov/cgs/fam/</a>. Accessed May 16, 2022.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> San Bernardino Countywide Plan Draft EIR. Geology and Soils. Figure 5.6-1 "Alquist-Priolo Fault Zones and County Fault Hazard Zones."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> San Bernardino Countywide Plan Draft EIR. Geology and Soils. Figure 5.6-1 "Alquist-Priolo Fault Zones and County Fault Hazard Zones.

ground shaking. Compliance can ensure that the Proposed Project would not expose people or structures to substantial adverse effects, including loss, injury or death, involving seismic ground shaking.

#### **Less Than Significant Impact**

iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?

Liquefaction is a process in which cohesion-less, saturated, fine-grained sand and silt soils lose shear strength due to ground shaking and behave as fluid. Areas overlying groundwater within 30 to 50 feet of the surface are considered susceptible to liquefaction hazards. Ground failure associated with liquefaction can result in severe damage to structures. The Project Site is not located in an area susceptible to liquefaction. As reported in the soils report, no shallow groundwater was encountered. The report concluded that the Project Site is considered non-susceptible to seismically induced soils liquefaction. Therefore, no significant impacts are identified or are anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

#### **Less Than Significant Impact**

iv) Landslides?

Seismically induced landslides and other slope failures are common occurrences during or soon after earthquakes. The Project Site is not located within an area susceptible to landslides. Furthermore, the Project Site is near level with the surrounding area. As concluded in the soils report, the potential for seismically induced landslides to occur is considered low. Therefore, no impacts are identified or are anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

#### No Impact

b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?

Implementation of the Proposed Project would disturb more than one acre of soil. Therefore, the Proposed Project is subject to requirements of the State Water Resources Control Boards General Permit for Discharges of Storm Water Associated with Construction Activity (Construction General Permit Order 2009-2009-DWQ). Construction activity subject to this permit includes clearing, grading, and disturbances to the ground such as stockpiling or excavation. The Construction General Permit requires the development and implementation of a Storm Water Pollution and Prevention Plan (SWPPP). The SWPPP must list Best Management Practices (BMPs) to avoid and minimize soil erosion. Adherence to BMPs would ensure that the Proposed Project does not result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil. Therefore, no

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> San Bernardino Countywide Plan Draft EIR. Geology and Soils. Figure 5.6-3 "Liquefaction and Landslide Susceptibility."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> San Bernardino Countywide Plan Draft EIR. Geology and Soils. Figure 5.6-3 "Liquefaction and Landslide Susceptibility."

significant adverse impacts are identified or are anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

#### **Less Than Significant Impact**

c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on or off site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?

The Project Site is relatively flat with no prominent geologic features occurring on or within the vicinity of the Project Site. The elevation of the Project Site ranges from approximately 1102 feet to 1109 feet. The Project Site is not within an area susceptible to liquefaction or landslides.<sup>23</sup> As stated in the soils report, the proposed structures are expected to withstand predicted vertical and lateral ground spreading/displacements to an acceptable level of risk. Seismically induced lateral spreading involves lateral movement of soils due to ground shaking. Because the Project Site is relatively level, Sampson and Associates concludes that the potential for seismically induced lateral ground spreading should be considered low. Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

## **Less Than Significant Impact**

d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property?

Expansive soils (shrink-swell) are fine-grained clay silts subject to swelling and contracting in relation to the amount of moisture present in the soil. Structures built on expansive soils may incur damage due to differential settlement of the soil as expansion and contraction takes place. A high shrink-swell potential indicates a hazard to structures built on or with material having this rating. According to the soils report, the Project Site soils are considered "very low" in expansion characteristics with Expansion Index (EI) less than 10. Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or are anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

#### **Less Than Significant Impact**

e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?

The Proposed Project will be provided sewer services by the City of Rialto / Rialto Utility Authority via sewer lines in Valley Boulevard, and therefore an on-site septic system will not be required. The project will have no impacts on septic tanks.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> San Bernardino Countywide Plan Draft EIR. Geology and Soils. Figure 5.6-3 "Liquefaction and Landslide Susceptibility."

https://wvwd.maps.arcgis.com/apps/InformationLookup/index.html?appid=ce7206d1a7104c9eafb644e7a ae7ffd5

## No Impact

f) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?

Paleontological resources may occur anywhere in the County. To ensure earth disturbance activities at the Project do not disturb unknown resources, Mitigation Measure GEO-1 shall be implemented. Paleontological monitoring may be reduced or increased based upon the observations and recommendations of the professional-level project paleontologist.

GEO-1: If paleontological resources (fossils) are discovered, earth disturbance activities should stop, and the fossil location shall be protected and cordoned off at a distance of 50 feet in all directions. A qualified paleontologist should be notified immediately to determine the significance of the discovery. After examination of the fossil(s), and if the paleontologist determines the fossil(s) to be significant, monitoring for paleontological resources is warranted. Monitoring of mass grading and excavation activities in areas identified as likely to contain paleontological resources shall be performed by the paleontological monitor. Monitoring will be conducted in areas of grading or excavation in undisturbed sediments. The duration of monitoring shall be determined by the qualified project paleontologist. Paleontological monitors will be equipped to salvage fossils as they are unearthed to avoid construction delays. The monitor will be empowered to temporarily halt or divert equipment to allow removal of abundant or large specimens in a timely manner. Monitoring may be reduced if the potentially fossiliferous units are not present in the subsurface, or, if present, are determined upon exposure and examination by qualified paleontological personnel to have low potential to contain fossil resources. The monitor shall notify the project paleontologist, who will then notify the concerned parties of the discovery.

#### **Less than Significant with Mitigation**

Therefore, potential impacts can be reduced to less than significant level with implementation of mitigation measures above.

	Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant	No Impact
VIII.	GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS - Would t	he project:			
a)	Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?				
b)	Conflict with any applicable plan, policy or regulation of an agency adopted for the				

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purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?

#### SUBSTANTIATION:

Countywide Plan; Submitted Project Materials; Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHG) Reduction Plan (September 2011); March 2020 Screening Table

Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?

In September 2011, the County adopted a Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHG) Reduction Plan (September 2011) (GHG Plan). The GHG Plan presents a comprehensive set of actions to reduce the County's internal and external GHG emissions to 15% below current levels (2007 levels) by 2020, consistent with the AB 32 Scoping Plan. GHG emissions impacts are assessed through the GHG Development Review Process (DRP) by applying appropriate reduction requirements as part of the discretionary approval of new development projects. Through its development review process, the County will implement CEQA requiring new development projects to quantify project GHG emissions and adopt feasible mitigation to reduce project emissions below a level of significance. A review standard of 3,000 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent (MTCO2e) per year is used to identify projects that require the use of Screening Tables or a project-specific technical analysis to quantify and mitigate project emissions. The purpose of the Screening Tables is to provide guidance in measuring the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions attributable to certain design and construction measures incorporated into development projects.

The County's Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Plan (GHG Plan) was adopted on December 6, 2011 and became effective on January 6, 2012. The GHG Plan establishes a GHG emissions reduction target for the year 2020 that is 15 percent below 2007 emissions. The plan is consistent with AB 32 and sets the County on a path to achieve more substantial long-term reductions in the post-2020 period. Achieving this level of emissions will ensure that the contribution to greenhouse gas emissions from activities covered by the GHG Plan will not be cumulatively considerable.

Implementation of the County's GHG Plan is achieved through the Development Review Process by applying appropriate reduction requirements to projects, which reduce GHG emissions. All new developments are required to quantify the project's GHG emissions and adopt feasible mitigation to reduce project emissions below a level of significance. A review standard of 3,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (MTCO2e) per year is used to identify and mitigate project emissions.

GHG emissions were screened using CalEEMod version 2022.1. The emissions incorporate certain design reduction strategies. Such design reduction strategies included improved walkability by providing sidewalks, improve destination and pedestrian network accessibility. Refer to Table 7 for GHG screening.

> Table 7 **Greenhouse Gas Emissions** (Metric Tons per Year)

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Source/Phase	CO <sub>2</sub>	CH₄	N <sub>2</sub> 0
Area	1.2	0.0	0.0
Energy	458	0.0	0.0
Mobile	2,203	0.1	0.1
Waste	7.3	0.7	0.0
Water	4.5	0.1	0.0
Total MTCO2e	2,834		
Construction amortized	9.3		
Total MTCO2e	2,843.3		•
County Screening Threshold	3,000		

Source: CalEEMod.2022.1 Annual Emissions.

As shown in Table 7, the Proposed Project would generate approximately 2,843.3 MTCO2e per year and would not exceed the County screening threshold of 3,000 MTCO2e. However, the applicant would incorporate voluntary GHG Reduction Measures as consistent with the San Bernardino County GHG Reduction Plan Screening Tables, less than significant impact is anticipated. Refer to Appendix A for the measures.

## **Less than Significant with Mitigation**

b) Conflict with any applicable plan, policy or regulation of an agency adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?

The Proposed Project would comply with applicable County GHG Plan strategies. Any project that does not exceed 3,000 MTCO2e per year will be considered to be consistent with the SCAQMD's AQMP and determined to have a less than significant individual and cumulative impact for GHG emissions., the Proposed Project would not conflict with any applicable plan, policy or regulation of an agency adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases.

## **Less Than Significant Impact**

	Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant	No Impact
IX.	HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS -	Would the	project:		
a)	Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?				
b)	Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the				

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

#### SUBSTANTIATION:

Submitted Project Materials; EnviroStor Database; San Bernardino Countywide Plan Draft EIR: Hazards and Hazardous Materials

a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?

The Proposed Project is the development of a gas station, convenience store, hotel, a drive through restaurant, landscaping, and parking for automobiles. Components of the Proposed Project that may involve potential impacts from hazardous materials include the gas station, two underground storage tanks (USTs), and one healy tank. The 22,000-gallon storage tank would be a split tank that would store 87 and 91 octane fuel. A second tank with a capacity of 20,000 gallons would store E85 and diesel fuel. A permit to operate a UST system is required per California Code of Regulations Title 23, Division 3, Chapter 16, California Health and Safety Code Section (25280-25299.8) and Riverside County Ordinance 617. These regulations mandate the testing and frequent inspections of the UST facilities.

The Project Applicant would be required to prepare a Spill Contingency Plan to be filed with the County of Riverside Hazardous Materials Department. All operations of the

fueling station and related USTs would be required to comply with all federal, state and local laws regulating the management and use of hazardous materials.

Development of the Proposed Project would disturb more than one acre and would therefore also be subject to the NPDES permit requirements. Requirements of the permit would include development and implementation of a SWPPP, which is subject to Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) review and approval. The purpose of an SWPPP is to: 1) identify pollutant sources that may affect the quality of discharges of stormwater associated with construction activities; and 2) identify, construct and implement stormwater pollution control measures to reduce pollutants in stormwater discharges from the construction site during and after construction. The SWPPP would include BMPs to control and abate pollutants. Therefore, no significant impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

## **Less Than Significant Impact**

b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?

Hazardous or toxic materials transported in association with construction of the Proposed Project may include items such as oils, paints, and fuels. All construction materials would be kept in compliance with State and local regulations. Operational activities include standard maintenance that involve the use of commercially available productions, which would not create significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accidental release of hazardous materials into the environment. Additionally, state and federal regulations pertaining to the safety of fueling stations would mitigate the risk of accident conditions. Therefore, no significant impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

## **Less Than Significant Impact**

c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?

Slover Mountain High School is the nearest public school to the Project Site. It occurs approximately 0.47 miles southeast of the Project Site at 18829 Orange Street. No hazardous materials would be emitted within one-quarter mile of a school as a result of the construction and operation of the Proposed Project. Therefore, no impacts associated with emission of hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within 0.25-mile of a school are anticipated. No impacts or anticipated and no mitigation measures are required.

# No Impact

d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?

The Project Site was not found on the list of hazardous materials sites complied pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 by the California Department of Toxic Substances Control's EnviroStor data management system.<sup>24</sup> EnviroStor tracks cleanup, permitting, enforcement and investigation efforts at hazardous waste facilities and sites with known or suspected contamination issues. No hazardous materials sites are located within or in the immediate vicinity of the Project Site. Therefore, no impacts are identified or are anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

## No Impact

e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area?

The Project Site is not within an airport safety review area or Airport Runaway Protection Zone.<sup>25</sup> The Project Site is not located within the vicinity of a private or public airstrip. The nearest airport to the Project Site is Flabob Airport, approximately 5.4 miles south of the Project Site. Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

#### No Impact

f) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?

The Project Site does not contain any emergency facilities The Project Site is located on Valley Boulevard, a potential evacuation route during emergencies. Additionally, it is located approximately 0.27 miles west of Cedar Avenue, and the associated on-ramp to I-10. The I-10 freeway is an evacuation route within the Valley Region of the County. The Proposed Project is the development of a gas station, hotel, and a fast-food restaurant facility; it would reduce the number of trucks parked illegally on the streets of Bloomington. Therefore, it would facilitate, rather than interfere with, the use of evacuation routes. Furthermore, adequate on-site access for emergency vehicles would be verified during the County's plan review process. During construction, the contractor would be required to maintain adequate emergency access for emergency vehicles as required by the County. Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

# No Impact

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup>California Department of Toxic Substances Control. EnviroStor. Accessed May 17, 2022.

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> San Bernardino Countywide Plan Draft EIR. Hazards and Hazardous Materials. Figure 5.8-2 "Airport Safety Zones."
 <sup>26</sup> San Bernardino Countywide Plan Draft EIR. Hazards and Hazardous Materials. Table 5.8-10 "Evacuation Routes in San Bernardino County."

g) Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires?

The Project Site is not located within a High or Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone.<sup>27</sup> In addition, there are no intermixed wildland areas within the vicinity of the Project Site. The nearest wildland areas would be Jurupa Hills, located approximately 1.5 miles southwest of the Project Site. The Proposed Project is the development of a gas station, hotel, and drive-through restaurant facility, including landscaping and parking areas. It would not expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires. The Proposed Project is subject to review and approval from the San Bernardino County Fire Marshal. All new construction shall comply with the current Uniform Fire Code requirements and all applicable statues, codes, ordinances, and standards of the San Bernardino County Fire Department. Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or are anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

# **Less Than Significant Impact**

Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

	Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant	No Impact
Χ.	HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY - Woul	d the proje	ect:		
a)	Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality?				
b)	Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?				
c)	Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would:				
	<ul> <li>result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site;</li> </ul>				

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> San Bernardino Countywide Plan Draft EIR. Hazards and Hazardous Materials. Figure 5.8-4 "Fire Severity and Growth Areas in the Valley and Mountain Regions."

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	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 runoff; or		
	iv.	impede or redirect flood flows?		
d)	releas	od hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk se of pollutants due to project ation?		$\boxtimes$
e)	water	ict with or obstruct implementation of a quality control plan or sustainable advanter management plan?		

## SUBSTANTIATION:

Countywide Plan; Submitted Project Materials; Water Quality Management Plan for Hotel and Gas Station 18497 Valley Boulevard, Bloomington, CA 92316 prepared by HP Engineering; Hydrology - Hydraulics Report for Hotel and Gas Station APN: 0252-161-43, 43 prepared by HP Engineering, Inc. on January 12, 2022

Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality?

The Proposed Project would disturb approximately 2.78 acres and would therefore be subject to the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. The State of California is authorized to administer various aspects of the NPDES. Construction activities covered under the State's General Construction permit include the removal of vegetation, grading, excavating, or any other activity that causes the disturbance of one acre or more. The General Construction permit requires recipients to reduce or eliminate non-storm water discharges into stormwater systems, and to develop and implement a SWPPP. The SWPPP is based on the principles of Best Management Practices (BMPs) to control and abate pollutants. The SWPPP must include BMPs to prevent project-related pollutants from impacting surface waters.

The RWQCB has issued an area wide NPDES Storm Water Permit for the County of San Bernardino, the San Bernardino County Flood Control District and the unincorporated areas of San Bernardino County. The implementation of NPDES permits ensures that the State and Federal mandatory standards for the maintenance of clean water are met.

In addition, the County requires the preparation of a Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP) for development projects that involve the creation of 10,000 ft<sup>2</sup> or more of impervious surface collectively over the entire site and parking lots of 5,000 ft<sup>2</sup> or more exposed to storm water. A preliminary WQMP, dated January 12, 2022, was prepared for the Proposed Project by HP Engineering, Inc. The WQMP is intended to comply with

the requirements of the County of San Bernardino and the NPDES Area wide Stormwater Program requiring the preparation of a WQMP. All BMPs included as part of the project WQMP are required to be maintained through regularly scheduled inspection and maintenance. Review and approval of the WQMP would ensure that all potential pollutants of concern are minimized or otherwise appropriately treated prior to being discharged from the Project Site. Therefore, no significant impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

## **Less Than Significant Impact**

b) Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?

Water supply to the Project Site would be provided by the Marigold Mutual Water Company (MMWC). The San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District (SBVMWD) covers about 325 square miles in southwestern San Bernardino County, including the Community of Bloomington. The MMWC is within the SBVMWD service area. The SBVMD has developed a cooperative recharge program that is being successfully implemented to help replenish groundwater, using the State Water Project and local runoff.

The Proposed Project includes the development of a hotel, gas station, convenience store and drive-through restaurant on the Project Site. During operations of the Proposed Project, management of the landscape, and use of the office space and repair bays would be the only sources of demand for water on-site. It does not include uses that are water intensive. Moreover, implementation of Best Management Practices (BMPs) and the Proposed Project's underground Infiltration Chamber would ensure that stormwater discharge does not substantially alter the existing drainage pattern and water quality, thereby allowing runoff from the Project Site to be utilized as a resource that can eventually be used for groundwater recharge. Therefore, the Proposed Project is not anticipated to have a substantial impact on groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge. No significant impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

# **Less Than Significant Impact**

- 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;

Erosion is the wearing away of the ground surface as a result of the movement of wind or water, and siltation is the process by which water becomes dirty due to fine mineral particles in the water. Soil erosion could occur due to a storm event. Thus, the Proposed Project is subject to the requirements of the State Water Resources Control Board General Permit for Discharges of Storm Water Associated with Construction Activity. The Construction General Permit requires the development and implementation of a Storm Water Pollution and Prevention Plan (SWPPP). The SWPPP must list BMPs to

avoid and minimize soil erosion. Adherence to BMPs would prevent substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil. An underground infiltration chamber is proposed to treat the onsite runoff before draining into the County's storm drain system. Disturbed areas will be re-vegetated where possible. Mitigation Measure WQ-1 will be required to be implemented to minimize erosion and siltation due to stormwater BMP installation.

# Mitigation Measure WQ-1:

The Project Applicant shall install the underground filtration system in accordance with the Hydrological Study. The installation shall occur during the course of grading and shall be completed prior to the issuance of any building permits.

With implementation of Mitigation Measures WQ-1, the Proposed Project would not result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site.

# **Less than Significant with Mitigation**

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

According to the Preliminary WQMP, impervious area would be minimized as much as possible under proposed conditions. The Project Site has one drainage area. A Preliminary Hydrology- Hydraulics Report was prepared for the Proposed Project by HP Engineering, Inc. in January 2022. The Proposed Project is anticipated to increase peak flows and runoff volumes due to the proposed paving and increased impervious area. The Proposed Project includes 82,643 SF of impervious surface. The increase in flow rate should be mitigated onsite as to reduce the total site discharge to 90% of the predevelopment conditions per the San Bernardino County Hydrology Manual. Since no storm drain facilities occur adjacent to the Project Site and there is no sufficient elevation to accommodate an outlet for an onsite detention basin, the only option to mitigate storm water flow is an underground infiltration/retention system. This system will be designed to be capable of capturing storm flows from the 100-year event and provide enough capacity to reduce the total site discharge to 90 percent of the predeveloped condition.

Mitigation of developed peak flow rates can be achieved by capturing the storm volume to a point where the hydrograph outflow rates are less than the calculated Q100-year runoff of 8.90 cubic feet per second (cfs). Time of concentration would change due to the Proposed Project. Mitigation measures WQ-2 should be implemented to avoid substantially increasing the rate or amount of surface runoff.

# Mitigation Measure WQ-2:

An underground storm infiltration chamber with the capacity of 9,396 cubic-feet (CF), resulting in a peak discharge of 10.17 CF from the 100-year, 24-hour storm, will be installed to reduce developed peak flow rate to the maximum allowable peak flows. The under sidewalk drain of 2.5 feet wide has a capacity which is more than enough to handle the calculated Q100-year runoff of 8.90 cfs.

With implementation of Mitigation Measures WQ-2, the Proposed Project would not substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site.

## **Less than Significant with Mitigation**

iii) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of runoff; or

The total design capture volume (DCV) for the Proposed Project is 34,255 CF. The increase in runoff and flow rates shall be mitigated by implementing mitigation measures WQ-2 and WQ-3 above. With incorporation of an underground storm infiltration chamber with the capacity of 9,396 CF into the site design, the Proposed Project would not create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of runoff. Therefore, no additional mitigation measures are required.

## **Less than Significant with Mitigation**

iv) Impede or redirect flood flows?

The Project Site is not within a 100-Year Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) flood zone, 100-year Department of Water Resources Awareness Zone, or a 500-year FEMA flood zone. Under existing conditions, the site generally flows to the south, discharging onto the southern properties. Under proposed conditions, water would flow northwesterly, southwesterly and southeasterly from near the center of the Project Site. Water flowing northwesterly would be conveyed to high density polyethylene (HDPE) pipes and rerouted south to the underground storm infiltration chamber. Stormwater flowing southwesterly and southeasterly would eventually drain into the infiltration chamber. Development of the Proposed Project would not substantially impede or redirect flood flows. Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

#### **Less Than Significant Impact**

d) In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?

Due to the inland distance from the Pacific Ocean and any other significant body of water, tsunamis and seiches are not potential hazards in the vicinity of the Project Site. The closest body of water to the Project Site is Lake Evans, located approximately 5.10 miles southeast of the site and approximately 200 feet lower in elevation. The Project Site is neither located within a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) 100-year floodplain nor a 500-year floodplain. Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> San Bernardino Countywide Plan Draft EIR. Hydrology and Water Quality. Figure 5.9-2 "Flood Hazard Zones in the Valley and Mountain Regions."

# No Impact

Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable e) groundwater management plan?

The Proposed Project is subject to the NPDES permit. Requirements of the permit would include development and implementation of a SWPPP, which is subject to RWQCB review and approval. The purpose of an SWPPP is to: 1) identify pollutant sources that may affect the quality of discharges of stormwater associated with construction activities; and 2) identify, construct and implement stormwater pollution control measures to reduce pollutants in stormwater discharges from the construction site during and after construction. The SWPPP would include BMPs to control and abate pollutants and treat runoff that can be used for groundwater recharge. The Proposed Project would not otherwise substantially degrade water quality as appropriate measures relating to water quality protection. Appropriate BMPs will be reviewed and approved by the County. Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

# **Less Than Significant Impact**

Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

	Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant	No Impact
XI.	LAND USE AND PLANNING - Would the proje	ect:			
a)	Physically divide an established community?				
b)	Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?				
SUL	BSTANTIATION:				
Coun	tywide Plan; Submitted Project Materials				
ر د	Physically divide an established community?				

- Physically divide an established community? a)
- Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, b) policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?
- The Proposed Project is the development of a gas station, hotel, and drive-through a) restaurant on a 2.78-acre vacant property. The Project Site is located on Valley Boulevard, between Linden Avenue and Locust Avenue. It is surrounded by

commercial uses to the north and east, residential uses to the west, and a self-storage facility to the south.

The physical division of an established community is typically associated with construction of a linear feature, such as a major highway or railroad tracks, or removal of a means of access, such as a local road or bridge, which would impair mobility in an existing community or between a community and an outlying area. The Proposed Project does not include the construction of a linear feature. Therefore, the Proposed Project would neither physically divide an established community nor cause a significant environmental impact due to conflict with any land use plans or policies. No significant impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

b) The Project Site is located within the Community of Bloomington and is designated Special Development by the Countywide Plan with a zoning designation of Valley Corridor-Commercial (VC/COM). The VC/COM zone and the Proposed Project are appropriate for the project site because it is located on Valley Boulevard, a major arterial roadway.

The community of Bloomington is an environmental justice community and is considered a sensitive environment as identified in the Countywide Plan.

The Applicant has completed a Community Outreach effort to comply with Environmental Justice policies in the Countywide Plan. On September 7, 2022, the Applicant attended a Bloomington Municipal Advisory Committee meeting to present the Proposed Project. On July 14, 2022, a letter in English and Spanish was sent to the residents (253 recipients) and commercial properties in the Project area, prepared by Arrow Plaza, LLC, for the community information meeting held on August 9, 2022, and no response(s) to the letter was received.

Additional requirements of the Countywide Plan related to environmental justice include addressing air quality, health risk, and noise issues. These are addressed in respective sections of this Initial Study.

## **Less Than Significant Impact**

Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

		Potentially	Less than	Less than	No
	Issues	Significant	Significant	Significant	Impact
		Împact	with		
		•	Mitigation		
			Incorporated		
XII. MINER	RAL RESOURCES - Would the project	t:			

Arrow Plaza Project APNs: 0252-161-43, -45 July 2022  $\boxtimes$ Result in the loss of availability of a known a) mineral resource that will be of value to the region and the residents of the state? Result in the loss of availability of a locally b) important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan? **SUBSTANTIATION:** (Check if project is located within the Mineral Resource Zone Overlay): Countywide Plan; Submitted Project Materials; Mineral Land Classification Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that will be of value to the region and the residents of the state? According to the California Department of Conservation, Mineral Land Classification map, the Project Site occurs in the southwestern region of San Bernardino County, specifically in the 2008 Open File Report (OFR) SR206 Plate 1 and the 1995 OFR 94-08 (west). 29 The western portion of the Project Site occurs within Mineral Resource Zone 2 (MRZ-2)<sup>30</sup> An MRZ-2 zone is an area where geologic data indicate that significant Portland Cement Concrete (PCC)-Grade aggregate resources are present. The entirety of the Project Site is an MRZ-2 zone; an MRZ-2 zone of this size would not be economically viable to mine. Moreover, the Project Site is surrounded primarily by residential, commercial uses, a Post Office, and self-storage facilities. The current surrounding uses are not compatible for mineral resource extraction. Therefore, less than significant impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required. **Less Than Significant Impact** Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan? The Project Site has a current land use zoning of Valley Corridor - Commercial (VC/COM). With the approval of the CUP, the Proposed Project would be consistent with the Countywide Plan. Although the Project Site is within MRZ-2 zones, the size of the property and surrounding uses make the site unsuitable for mineral resources extraction. Therefore, no significant impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required. **Less Than Significant Impact** 

PROJ-2022-00014

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> Mineral Land Classification of a Part of Southwestern San Bernardino County: Open-File Report 94-08 (west) and SR206 Plate 1. Accessed May 15, 2022.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> County of San Bernardino. NR-4 Mineral Resources Zones web map. Accessed May 15, 2022.

Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

	Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant	No Impact
XIII.	NOISE - Would the project result in:				
a)	Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?				
b)	Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?				
c)	For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the Project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?				
SU	IBSTANTIATION: (Check if the project is located or is subject to severe not			_	
	wide Plan; Submitted Project Materials; Ac Eilar Associates, Inc., June 6, 2022	coustical .	Analysis Re	port for	Arrow
a)	Generation of a substantial temporary or perma the vicinity of the project in excess of standards noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other	establish	ed in the loca		
A Noise Impact Analysis, dated June 6, 2022, was prepared for the Proposed Project by Eliar Associates, Inc. to determine the noise impacts associated with the development of the Proposed Project.					
	Noise is measured on a logarithmic scale of so (dB). A-weighted decibels (dBA) approximate the to broad frequency noise source by discriminate the control of the control o	ne subjectiv	ve response o	of the hum	an ear

# **Existing Noise Level**

frequencies of the audible spectrum.

The background ambient noise levels in the Project study area as documented in the Noise Study are dominated by the transportation-related noise associated from surface streets. This includes the auto and heavy truck activities on study area roadway

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segments near the noise level measurement location. The 24-hour existing noise level measurement results are shown in Table 8.

Table 8 24-Hour Ambient Noise Level Measurements

Date	Time	Hourly Average Noise Level
January 20, 2022	2 p.m. – 3 p.m.	70.8
	3 p.m. – 4 p.m.	68.9
	4 p.m. – 5 p.m.	70.0
	5 p.m. – 6 p.m.	68.8
	6 p.m. – 7 p.m.	68.4
	7 p.m. – 8 p.m.	66.6
	8 p.m. – 9 p.m.	68.4
	9 p.m. – 10 p.m.	69.5
	10 p.m. – 11 p.m.	65.8
	11 p.m. – 12 a.m.	65.9
January 21, 2022	12 a.m. – 1 a.m.	63.6
	1 a.m. – 2 a.m.	66.1
	2 a.m. – 3 a.m.	65.2
	3 a.m. – 4 a.m.	66.5
	4 a.m. – 5 a.m.	67.3
	5 a.m. – 6 a.m.	69.2
	6 a.m. – 7 a.m.	69.5
	7 a.m. – 8 a.m.	69.2
	8 a.m. – 9 a.m.	67.4
	9 a.m. – 10 a.m.	68.3
	10 a.m. – 11 a.m.	67.6
	11 a.m. – 12 p.m.	67.5
	12 p.m. – 1 p.m.	68.9

Measured noise levels were observed to range from a minimum of 63.6 dBA between the hours of 12 a.m. and 1 a.m. on January 21, 2022 to a maximum of 70.8 dBA between 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. on January 20, 2022.

# Off-Site Traffic Noise Impacts

Average daily project-generated traffic impacts were evaluated to determine whether noise impacts from the project site would be significant. Calculations were performed to determine the approximate change in daily noise exposure at off-site receivers adjacent to roadways that serve the project site. A significant direct impact occurs when project traffic combines with existing traffic and causes a doubling of sound energy, which is an increase of 3 dB. Direct impacts were assessed by comparing existing traffic volumes to existing plus project traffic volumes. Project generated traffic noise increases are shown in Table 9.

Table 9 Anticipated Traffic Noise Increases with Project-Generated Traffic

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Roadway	Tı	Sound Level						
	Existing	Project	Existing Plus	Increase (dB)				
			Project					

Valley	17,429	475	17,904	0.1
Boulevard				
Linden Avenue	2,468	68	2,536	0.1

As shown in Table 9, the noise levels from project-generated traffic are expected to be less than 3dB at all off-site receivers adjacent to roadways that serve the Project site. For this reason, project-generated traffic noise levels are expected to be less than significant.

## Sensitive Receiver Locations

To assess the potential for long-term operational and short-term construction noise impacts, sensitive receiver locations were identified as representative locations for analysis and are shown in the Noise Study figures 5 and 6. Sensitive receivers are generally defined as locations where people reside or where the presence of unwanted sound could otherwise adversely affect the use of the land.

# **Operational Noise**

The County of San Bernardino County Code, Title 8 Development Code, Section 83.01.080(c) establishes the noise level standards for stationary noise sources. Since the Project's land use will potentially impact adjacent noise-sensitive uses in the Project study area, this noise study relies on the more conservative residential noise level standards to describe potential operational noise impacts. For residential properties, the exterior noise level shall not exceed 55 dBA  $L_{eq}$  during the daytime hours (7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.) and 45 dBA  $L_{eq}$  during the nighttime hours (10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.) for both the whole hour, and for not more than 30 minutes in any hour.

Using the reference noise levels to represent the Proposed Project operations that include truck terminal activity, entry gate and truck movements, roof-top air conditioning units, trash enclosure activity and repair shop activity, Urban Crossroads, Inc. calculated the operational source noise levels that are expected to be generated at the Project Site and the Project-related noise level increases that would be experienced at each of the sensitive receiver locations. The operational noise levels at the off-site receiver locations are expected to range from 32.9 to 48.1 dBA  $L_{\rm eq}$ .

Table 10 shows that the operational noise levels associated with Proposed Project will satisfy the County of San Bernardino exterior noise level standards adjusted to reflect the ambient noise levels at all nearby receiver locations with the planned 8-foot-high screen wall on the northern project boundary. Therefore, the operational noise impacts are considered less than significant at the nearest noise-sensitive receiver locations.

Table 10
Operational Noise Level Compliance

Receiver	Description	Noise Limit (dBA)	Noise Level (dBA)		
R1	North Property Line	60	39.4		
R2	South Property Line	60	48.1		
R3	East Property Line	60	35.7		
R4	West Property Line (North)	55	38.1		

R5	West Property Line (South)	55	36.1
R6	West Residential (North)	45	35.2
R7	West Residential (South)	45	32.9

As shown above, noise levels at adjacent property lines are anticipated to comply with the applicable noise limits of the County of San Bernardino with the project as currently designed. For these reasons, no additional project design features are deemed necessary to reduce noise levels from operational noise sources. Impacts from operational noise are less than significant.

# Construction Noise

Section 83.01.080(g)(3) of the County of San Bernardino Development Code indicates that construction activity is considered exempt from the noise level standards between the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. except on Sundays and Federal holidays. However, neither Countywide Plan nor the Development Code establish numeric maximum acceptable construction source noise levels at potentially affected receivers, which would allow for a quantified determination of what CEQA constitutes a substantial temporary or periodic noise increase. Therefore, a numerical construction threshold based on Federal Transit Administration (FTA) *Transit Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment Manual* is used for analysis of daytime construction impacts. The FTA considers a daytime exterior construction noise level of 80 dBA L<sub>eq</sub> as a reasonable threshold for noise sensitive residential land use.

To evaluate whether the Proposed Project will generate potentially significant short-term noise levels at nearest receiver locations, a construction-related daytime noise level threshold of 80 dBA L<sub>eq</sub> is used as a reasonable threshold to assess the daytime construction noise level impacts. The construction noise analysis shows that the nearest receiver locations will satisfy the reasonable daytime 80 dBA L<sub>eq</sub> significance threshold during Project construction activities as shown on Table 11. Therefore, the noise impacts due to Project construction noise is considered less than significant at all receiver locations.

Table 11

Typical Construction Noise Levels at Neighboring Properties

Stage	Receiver Location	8-Hour Average Noise Level (dBA)
	R8 (North Property Line)	61.6
Utilities and Grading	R9 (South Property Line)	70.1
	R10 (East Property Line)	63.9
	R11 (West Residential)	62.8
	R8 (North Property Line)	53.8
Foundation	R9 (South Property Line)	62.4
Foundation	R10 (East Property Line)	56.1
	R11 (West Residential)	55.0
Paving	R8 (North Property Line)	57.3

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i		
	R9 (South Property Line)	65.9
	R10 (East Property Line)	59.7
	R11 (West Residential)	58.6
	R8 (North Property Line)	57.4
Eromina	R9 (South Property Line)	65.9
Framing	R10 (East Property Line)	59.7
	R11 (West Residential)	58.6

No significant impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

# **Less Than Significant Impact**

b) Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?

The paving stage of construction has the potential to generate the highest vibration levels of the phases, as paving activities would take place closest to commercial receivers and may consist of the use of a vibratory roller. According to the Federal Transit Administration Transit Noise and Vibration Assessment Manual (see reference), a vibratory roller generates a peak particle velocity (PPV) of approximately 0.210 inches/second at a distance of 25 feet from equipment. The evaluation of an impact's significance can be determined by reviewing both the likelihood of annoyance to individuals as well as the potential for damage to existing structures. According to the Caltrans Transportation and Construction Vibration Guidance Manual, the appropriate threshold for damage to modern industrial or commercial structures is a PPV of 0.5 inches/second.

## **Less Than Significant Impact**

c) For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the Project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?

The Project Site is not within an airport safety review area or Airport Runaway Protection Zone. The Project Site is not located within the vicinity of a private or public airstrip. The nearest airport is Flabob Airport, which is approximately 5.4 miles southeast of the Project Site. Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

# No Impact

Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated and no mitigation measures are required.

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	Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant	No Impact		
XIV.	POPULATION AND HOUSING - Would the pi	roject:					
a)	Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?						
b)	Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?						
SUBSTANTIATION:							
Countywide Plan; Submitted Project Material, City of Rialto 6 <sup>th</sup> Cycle Housing Element Update 2021-2029 Section 2: Community Profile							

a) Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?

The Proposed Project is the development of a gas station, hotel, and drive-through restaurant facility. The Proposed Project would require 29 employees in total, who would come from the local labor pool. It should be noted that the City of Rialto has a 10.6% unemployment rate, which is the highest in the area and higher than the San Bernardino County average. Construction activities would be temporary and would not attract new employees to the area. The Project Site has a current zoning of Valley Corridor/Commercial (VC/COM). With approval of the Zone Change and CUP, the Proposed Project would be consistent with the Countywide Plan. The Proposed Project does not involve construction of new homes nor would it induce unplanned population growth by creating new jobs. Construction activities would be temporary and would not attract new employees to the area. No significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

# **Less Than Significant Impact**

b) Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?

The Project Site is currently vacant and does not contain any residential housing. Implementation of the Proposed Project would not remove housing or require construction of replacement housing elsewhere. Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

# No Impact

Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

	Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant	No Impact	
XV.	PUBLIC SERVICES					
a)	Would the project result in substantial adverse provision of new or physically altered governmental altered governmental facilities, the construct environmental impacts, in order to maintain ac or other performance objectives for any of the provision of the pro	ntal facilitie ion of whi ceptable se	s, need for r ich could c ervice ratios	new or phy ause sign	sically ificant	
	Fire Protection?			$\boxtimes$		
	Police Protection?			$\boxtimes$		
	Schools?			$\boxtimes$		
	Parks?				$\boxtimes$	
	Other Public Facilities?					
SUE	SUBSTANTIATION:					
Count	tywide Plan, 2007; Submitted Project Material	s				

a) Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:

#### Fire Protection?

There are two fire stations located within the Project's vicinity. San Bernardino County Fire Station 76, at 10174 Magnolia Street, is located approximately 0.1 miles east of the Project Site. Fire Station 77, at 17459 Slover Avenue, is located approximately 1.9 miles southwest of the Project Site. Both Station 76 and 77 are part of Division 1, Battalion 2 of the San Bernardino County Fire Department. Station 76 houses a Brush Engine, which can carry 600-1500 gallons of water, and a Medic Engine.

Services at Station 77 are paid for under contract with the City of Fontana. This station will need to be replaced in the future; if it were replaced to be more centralized in Fontana, Bloomington would lose level of service. In this event, a new station in southern Bloomington would be necessary. A replacement for Station #77, paid for under contract

with Fontana, could potentially be relocated and/or a new station built in south Bloomington.<sup>31</sup>

Comprehensive safety measures that comply with federal, state, and local worker safety and fire protection codes and regulations would be implemented into project design to minimize the potential for fires to occur during construction and operations. The Proposed Project would be required to comply with County fire suppression standards, provide adequate fire access and pay required development impact fees. Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

# **Less Than Significant Impact**

#### Police Protection?

The San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department (SBCSD) serves the Community of Bloomington and other unincorporated portions of the County. The nearest police station to the Project Site is the SBCSD station located at 17780 Arrow Boulevard, approximately 1.5 miles northwest of the Project Site. The SBCSD reviews staffing needs on a yearly basis and adjusts service levels as needed to maintain an adequate level of public protection. Additionally, development impact fees are collected at the time of building permit issuance to offset project impacts. Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

# **Less Than Significant Impact**

#### Schools?

The Project Site is served by the Colton Joint Unified School District. Construction activities would be temporary and would not result in substantial population growth. Employees required for operations are expected to come from the local labor force. The Proposed Project is not expected to draw any new residents to the region that would require expansion of existing schools or additional schools. With the collection of development impact fees, impacts related to school facilities are expected to be less than significant. Therefore, no significant impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

# **Less Than Significant Impact**

#### Parks?

The Proposed Project would not induce residential development nor significantly increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities, such that substantial physical deterioration of any facilities would result. Operation of the Proposed Project would place no demands on parks because it would not involve the construction of housing and would not involve the introduction of a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> San Bernardino Countywide Plan Draft EIR: Public Services. Page 5.14-16.

permanent human population into the area. Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

# No Impact

Other Public Facilities?

The Proposed Project would not result in an increased residential population or a significant increase in the work force. Implementation of the Proposed Project would not adversely affect other public facilities or require the construction of new or modified facilities. Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

## No Impact

Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

	Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant	No Impact
XVI.	RECREATION				
a)	Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility will occur or be accelerated?				
b)	Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?				
SUE	BSTANTIATION:				
Subm	itted Project Materials				

a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility will occur or be accelerated?

The Proposed Project requires 29 employees in various shifts. Employees are expected to come from the local labor force. It does not include development of residential housing or other uses that would lead to substantial population growth. Therefore, the Proposed Project would not result in an increase in the use of existing neighborhood or regional parks, or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facilities would occur or be accelerated. The Project Applicant's payment of required

fees will serve to mitigate any potential impacts related to the use of existing parks and other recreational facilities from the Proposed Project. No impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

## No Impact

b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?

The Proposed Project does not include the construction or expansion of recreational facilities. The employees required for the operations of the Proposed Project would come from the local labor force. No recreational facilities would be removed, and the addition of employees would not create the need for additional facilities. Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

# No Impact

Therefore, no adverse impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

	Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant	No Impact			
XVII.	TRANSPORTATION – Would the project:							
a)	Conflict with a program plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?							
b)	Would the project conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3 subdivision (b)?							
c)	Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?							
d)	Result in inadequate emergency access?							
SUE	BSTANTIATION:							
	Countywide Plan; Submitted Project Materials; Saber Hotel and Gas Station Project Traffic Analysis, Mizuta Traffic Consulting, June, 2022							

a) Conflict with a program plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?

A Traffic Analysis (TA), dated June 2022, was prepared for the Proposed Project by Mazuta Traffic Consulting. The purpose of the TA is to evaluate the potential circulation system deficiencies that may result from the development of the Proposed Project, and where necessary, recommend improvements to achieve acceptable operations consistent with the Countywide Plan level of service goals and policies. The TA has been prepared in accordance with the San Bernardino County Congestion Management Program (CMP) Guidelines for CMP Traffic Impact Analysis Reports, the County of San Bernardino Transportation Impact Study Guidelines (dated July 9, 2019), the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) Guide for the Preparation of Traffic Impact Studies (December 2002), and cnsultation with County staff during the TA scoping process.

For the purposes of the TA, potential deficiencies to traffic and circulation have been assessed for each of the following conditions:

- Existing Conditions (2022): disclosed to represent the baseline traffic conditions as they existed at the time the TA was prepared
- Opening Year Conditions (2023): This scenario represents the conditions on the anticipated year of opening for the Project, which is assumed to occur in 2023 and includes background growth from other approved/pending projects in the area.
- Opening Year Cumulative (2023) With Project: This scenario represents the conditions on the anticipated year of opening for the Project with the Project traffic.
- Horizon Year Conditions (2040): This scenario represents the conditions on the Horizon Year.
- Horizon Year Plus Project (2040): This scenario represents the conditions on the Horizon Year with the Project traffic

The following intersections were selected for analysis in the TA based on consultation with County staff:

- 1. Linden Avenue & Valley Boulevard
- 2. Project Driveway & Valley Boulevard (constructed as part of Project)
- 3. Linden Avenue & North Project Driveway (constructed as part of Project)
- 4. Linden Avenue & South Project Driveway (constructed as part of Project)

# Existing

Consistent with Existing (2022) traffic conditions, the study area intersections are anticipated to operate at acceptable LOS during the peak hours.

Opening Year Conditions (2023) without Project

Consistent with Existing (2023) traffic conditions, the study area intersections are anticipated to operate at acceptable LOS during the peak hours.

Opening Year Conditions (2023) with Project

Consistent with Existing (2023) traffic conditions, the study area intersections are anticipated to operate at acceptable LOS during the peak hours after the Project construction has been completed.

Horizon Year (2040) without Project

Consistent with Horizon (2040) traffic conditions, the peak area intersections are anticipated to operate at acceptable LOS during the peak hours.

Horizon Year Plus Project (2040)

Consistent with Horizon (2040) traffic conditions, the peak area intersections are anticipated to operate at acceptable LOS during the peak hours after the Project construction has been completed.

### Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities

There are no current or planned bicycle pathways in the project vicinity. There are also no sidewalks on the Project site. However, the Project will be installing sidewalks along the north and east borders of the Project. These pathways will connect to existing sidewalks to the east across Linden Avenue. The County of San Bernardino Countywide Plan does not include an exhibit showing bikeways and trails. Therefore, no conflict with a program plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including bicycle and pedestrian facilities, are anticipated.

## **Transit Service**

The study area is currently served by Omnitrans, a public transit agency serving various jurisdictions within San Bernardino County, with bus service along Valley Boulevard via Route 329. Omnitrans Route 329 runs in two loops, crossing the I-10 Freeway. Route 329 could serve the Proposed Project's employees and customers in the future. Transit service is reviewed and updated by Omnitrans periodically to address ridership, budget, and community demand needs. Changes in land use can affect these periodic adjustments which may lead to either enhanced or reduced service where appropriate.

# Countywide Plan Consistency

The Transportation and Mobility Element of the Countywide Plan:

• Establishes the location and operational conditions of the roadway network.

- Coordinates the transportation and mobility system with future land use patterns and projected growth.
- Provides guidance for the County's responsibility to satisfy the local and subregional mobility needs of residents, visitors and businesses in unincorporated areas.
- Addresses access and connectivity among the various communities, cities, towns, and regions, as well as the range and suitability of mobility options: vehicular, trucking, freight and passenger rail, air, pedestrian, bicycle, and transit.

The Proposed Project includes the development of a drive-thru restaurant, and a gas station/convenience store and a five-story hotel on a currently vacant parcel. The Proposed Project is anticipated to generate 1,702 two-way trips per day, with 123 AM peak hour trips and 108 PM peak hour trips. The following details how the Proposed Project would be consistent with the Countywide Plan goals and policies:

Goal TM 1: Unincorporated areas served by roads with capacity that is adequate for residents, businesses, tourists and emergency services.

**Policy-1.7:** We require new developments to pay its fair share contribution towards off-site transportation improvements.

**Consistent:** Prior to the issuance of building permits, the Project Applicant shall pay the Project's fair share contribution, as detailed in the Traffic Study.

Goal TM-2: Roads designed and built to standards in the unincorporated areas that reflect the rural, suburban, and urban context as well as the regional (valley, mountain, and desert) context.

**Policy TM-2.2:** We require roadway improvements that reinforce the character of the area, such as curbs and gutters, sidewalks, landscaping, street lighting, and pedestrian and bicycle facilities. We require fewer improvements in rural areas and more improvements in urbanized areas, consistent with the Development Code. Additional standards may be required in municipal spheres of influence.

**Consistent:** The Proposed Project would include landscaping within the Project Site and in the public right-of-way. The Project Site is currently surrounded by existing curbs, gutters, sidewalks and a few streetlights. The County of San Bernardino does not have any bikeways or regional trails within Bloomington

**Policy TM-2.3:** We require new development to mitigate project transportation impacts no later than prior to occupancy of the development to ensure transportation improvements are delivered concurrent with future development.

**Consistent:** Fair-share contributions would be paid prior to the issuance of building permits.

**Policy TM-2.6:** We promote shared/central access points for direct access to roads in unincorporated areas to minimize vehicle conflict points and improve safety, especially access points for commercial uses on adjacent properties.

**Consistent:** The Project will have three shared driveways, one on Bloomington Avenue, and two on Linden Avenue. Each building will have equal access to these driveways.

Goal TM-3: A pattern of development and transportation system that minimizes vehicle miles traveled (VMT).

**Policy TM-3.1:** We promote new development that will reduce household and employment VMT relative to existing conditions.

**Consistent:** The Proposed Project resides within a traffic analysis zone (TAZ) that generates VMT per employee 35.78% below the County existing VMT per employee threshold.

**Policy TM-3.2:** We support the implementation of transportation demand management techniques, mixed use strategies, and the placement of development in proximity to job and activity centers to reduce the number and length of vehicular trips.

**Consistent:** The Project Site is located within a developed area and surrounded by commercial services and residential development. The Proposed Project is anticipated to be local serving retail.

The Proposed Project would be consistent with the Transportation and Mobility Element of the Countywide Plan. Therefore, no significant impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

# **Less Than Significant Impact**

b) Would the project conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3 subdivision (b)?

Senate Bill 743 (SB 743), approved in 2013, endeavors to change the way transportation impacts will be determined according to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). In December 2018, the Natural Resources Agency finalized updates to CEQA Guidelines to incorporate SB 743 (i.e., Vehicle Miles Traveled [VMT]). The VMT thresholds and methodology outlined in the County's July 2019 TA guidelines were utilized to conduct the VMT screening analysis for the Project.

The San Bernardino County Transportation Authority (SBCTA) VMT Screening Tool (Screening Tool) allows users to input an assessor's parcel number (APN) to determine if a project's location meets one or more of the screening thresholds for land use projects identified in the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) Technical Advisory on Evaluating Transportation Impacts in CEQA (Technical Advisory). The County Guidelines provides details on appropriate "screening thresholds" that can be

> used to identify when a proposed land use project is anticipated to result in a less-thansignificant impact without conducting a more detailed analysis.

> According to the Screening Tool, there are several screening criteria that can be applied to effectively screen projects from VMT project-level assessments. The purpose is to screen out projects that are presumed to have a non-significant transportation impact based on facts of a project and to avoid unnecessary analysis and findings that would be inconsistent with the intent of SB 743. The following lists the screening criteria:

- 1. Transit Priority Area (TPA) Screening
- 2. Low VMT Area Screening
- 3. Project Type Screening

If the project meets any of the screening criteria above, they are presumed to not have a significant impact and are screened out from completing additional VMT analysis.

## TPA Screening

As described in the County Guidelines, projects located within a TPA (i.e., within 0.5 miles of an existing major transit stop or an existing stop along a high-quality transit corridor) may be presumed to have a less than significant impact absent substantial evidence to the contrary. The San Bernardino County Transportation Authority (SBCTA) VMT Screening Tool was used for this screening. The Project site is not located within 0.5 miles of an existing major transit stop or along a high-quality transit corridor. As a result, the TPA screening threshold is not met.

# Low VMT Area Screening

As described in the County Guidelines, residential and office projects located within a low VMT-generating area may be presumed to have a less than significant impact absent substantial evidence to the contrary. A low VMT area is defined as an individual traffic analysis zone (TAZ) where the total daily VMT per person/employee is greater than four percent below the existing VMT per person/employee baseline level for the unincorporated County. The SBCTA VMT Screening Tool was used for this screening. The project occurs in TAZ 53744601. The County's VMT per service population is 34.6. The Project's TAZ VMT per service population is 22.2, which is 35.78 percent lower than the baseline. As a result, the Low VMT Area screening threshold is met.

# Project Type Screening

As described in the County Guidelines, hotel projects generating less than 110 daily vehicle trips may be presumed to have a less than significant impact as their uses are often local serving in nature. For a hotel project, the threshold is less than 12 hotel rooms. The Project contains 87 hotel rooms, which exceeds the threshold. As a result, the Project Type screening threshold is not met.

Based on the review of the applicable VMT screening thresholds, the Project satisfies the Low VMT Area screening and is presumed to result in a less than a significant VMT impact.

# **Less Than Significant Impact**

c) Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?

The Project Site is not adjacent to windy roads. Moreover, the Proposed Project is the development of a gas station, hotel, and drive-through restaurant at an intersection already served by a signalized traffic intersection. It does not include a geometric design or incompatible uses that would substantially increase hazards. Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

## No Impact

d) Result in inadequate emergency access?

Access into the site would be via one driveway on Valley Boulevard and two driveways on Linden Avenue, all of which have been approved by the San Bernardino County Fire Department to maintain adequate emergency access. Therefore, no significant impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

# **Less Than Significant Impact**

	Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant	No Impact
ΧVI	II. TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES				
a)	Would the Project cause a substantial adverse chan resource, defined in Public Resources Code section cultural landscape that is geographically defined in landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value that is:	21074 as n terms of	either a site the size a	e, feature, nd scope	place, of the
i)					
ii)	A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resource Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe?				

#### SUBSTANTIATION:

Phase I Cultural Resources Investigation McKenna et al., February 22, 2020, Tribal Consultation

- a) i) Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or;
  - ii) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resource Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe?

California Assembly Bill 52 (AB52) was approved by Governor Brown on September 25, 2014. AB52 specifies that CEQA projects with an effect that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource may have a significant effect on the environment. As such, the bill requires lead agency consultation with California Native American tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with the geographic area of a proposed project, if the tribe requested to the lead agency, in writing, to be informed of proposed projects in that geographic area. The legislation further requires that the tribe-requested consultation be completed prior to determining whether a negative declaration, mitigated negative declaration, or environmental impact report is required for a project.

On June 21, 2022, the County provided notification to interested tribes requesting the Proposed Project. As of the date of preparation of this Initial Study, only the Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation Cultural Resources Department (YSMN) provided correspondence and requested a copy of the cultural report, geotechnical report and project plans. Upon receipt of these items, the tribe requested the following mitigation measures be made conditions of approval for the Project:

#### **Mitigation Measure TCR-1:**

The Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation Cultural Resources Department (YSMN) shall be contacted, as detailed in CR-3, of any pre-contact and/or historic-era cultural resources discovered during project implementation, and be provided information regarding the nature of the find, so as to provide Tribal input with regards to significance and treatment. Should the find be deemed significant, as defined by CEQA (as amended, 2015), a Cultural Resources Monitoring and Treatment Plan shall be created by the archaeologist, in coordination with YSMN, and all subsequent finds shall be subject to this Plan. This Plan shall allow for a monitor to be present that represents YSMN for the remainder of the project, should YSMN elect to place a monitor on-site.

# Mitigation Measure TCR-2:

July 2022

Any and all archaeological/cultural documents created as a part of the project (isolate records, site records, survey reports, testing reports, etc.) shall be supplied to the applicant and Lead Agency for dissemination to YSMN. The Lead Agency and/or applicant shall, in good faith, consult with YSMN throughout the life of the project.

# **Less than Significant with Mitigation**

	Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant	No Impact
XIX.	<b>UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS - Would</b>	d the proje	ect:		
a)	Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?				
b)	Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the Project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?				
c)	Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the Project that it has adequate capacity to serve the Project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?				
d)	Generate solid waste in excess of state or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?				
e)	Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?				
SUBS	STANTIATION:				

July 2022

# Countywide Plan; Submitted Project Materials; California Energy Commission Energy Report

a) Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?

The Proposed Project would not require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities. There are existing water and sewer lines adjacent to the Project Site in Linden Avenue. There are currently existing adequate source, storage, and distribution line capacities to provide potable water to the Project Site to satisfy the domestic water service requirements of the Proposed Project. The water mains to serve each service connections are currently installed and operable.

The Project Site is serviced by Southern California Edison (SCE), which provides the electrical service to the general area. The Proposed Project will receive electrical power by connecting to existing power lines along Valley Boulevard. The increased demand is expected to be sufficiently served by the existing SCE electrical facilities. Total electricity demand in SCE's service area is estimated to increase by approximately 12,000 Gigawatt hours between the years 2015 and 2026. In 2020, the Commercial sector of the Southern California Edison planning area consumed 28,799.603173 GWh of electricity.<sup>32</sup> The Project Site is currently vacant and does not use electricity. The implementation of the Proposed Project would result in an increase in electricity demand. The estimated electricity demand for the Proposed Project is 1.86 GWh per year. The Proposed Project's estimated annual electricity consumption compared to the 2019 annual electricity consumption of the overall Industry Sector in the SCE Planning Area would account for approximately 0.00453 percent of total electricity consumption. The existing SCE electrical facilities are sufficient to meet this increased demand. Total electricity demand in SCE's service area is estimated to increase by approximately 12,000 GWh between the years 2015 and 2026. The increase in electricity demand from the Proposed Project is insignificant compared to the projected electricity demand for SCE's entire service area. Therefore, projected electrical demand would not significantly impact SCE's level of service.

The Proposed Project has been designed to comply with the 2019 Building Energy Efficiency Standards. The County of San Bernardino would review and verify that the Proposed Project plans would be in compliance with the most current version of the Building and Energy Efficiency Standards. The Proposed Project would also be required adhere to CALGreen, which establishes planning and design standards for sustainable developments and energy efficiency. The Proposed Project would not result in a significant impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation. No significant impacts are identified or required, and no mitigation measures are recommended.

<sup>32</sup> https://ecdms.energy.ca.gov/Default.aspx. Accessed May 16, 2022.

> The Project Site would be serviced by Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas). The Project Site is currently vacant and has no demand for natural gas. Therefore, the development of the Proposed Project will create a permanent increase demand for natural gas. According to the California Energy Commission's Energy Report, the Industry Sector was responsible for 801.591595 million therms of natural gas consumption in the SoCalGas Planning Area in 2020.33 Despite the ever-growing demand for electric power, the overall gas demand for electric generation is expected to decline at 1.4 percent per year for the next 17 years due to more efficient power plants, statewide efforts to reduce GHG emissions, and use of power generation resources that produce little to no carbon emissions. The Proposed Project's estimated annual natural gas demand is 30,871 therms. The Proposed Project's estimated annual electricity consumption compared to the 2019 annual natural gas consumption of the overall Commercial Sector in the SoCalGas Planning Area would account for approximately 0.005716 percent of total natural gas consumption. The Proposed Project would not result in a significant impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation. Therefore, the existing SoCalGas facilities is expected to meet the increased demand for natural gas.

> The Proposed Project is the development of a hotel, gas station, and drive-through restaurant facility. The Proposed Project will be served by AT&T for telecommunication services. The company will enable their customers to lead more sustainable lives by expanding access technology and further integrating sustainability solutions.<sup>34</sup> It would not adversely impact or conflict with AT&T's sustainability goals. Therefore, no significant impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

## **Less Than Significant Impact**

b) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the Project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?

Water supply to the Project Site would be provided by the Marygold Mutual Water District (MMWD). The Marygold Mutual Water District (MMWD) covers about 1.5 square miles in southwestern San Bernardino County, including the Community of Bloomington. The MMWD is within the SBVMWD service area. The 2015 San Bernardino Valley Regional Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP), in compliance with the UMWP Act, compares the total projected water use with the projected water supply over the next twenty years. <sup>35</sup> According to the UWMP, water supplies are expected to exceed water demand for the next twenty years during normal, dry and multiple dry years.

<sup>33</sup> https://ecdms.energy.ca.gov/Default.aspx. Accessed May 16, 2022.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> AT&T. Progress Toward our 2020/2025 Goals. <a href="https://about.att.com/ecms/dam/csr/sustainability-reporting/PDF/2017/ATT-Goals.pdf">https://about.att.com/ecms/dam/csr/sustainability-reporting/PDF/2017/ATT-Goals.pdf</a>.

https://www.sbvmwd.com/home/showdocument?id=4196 Accessed May 17, 2022.

The Project Site's current designation is Valley Corridor-Commercial (VC/COM). The VC/COM land use zone provides sites for retail trade and personal services, recreation and entertainment services, wholesaling and warehousing, contract/construction services, transportation services, open lot services, and similar and compatible uses. Development of the Project Site for these general commercial uses would be accounted for in SBVMWD's projected water demand.

Therefore, the expected water demand for the Proposed Project would be as expected SBVMWD's projected water demand for the Project Site. Water supplies would be sufficient to serve the Proposed Project and reasonably foreseeable future development. No significant impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

# **Less Than Significant Impact**

c) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the Project that it has adequate capacity to serve the Project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?

The development of the Proposed Project would require connection to existing sewer lines in Valley Avenue, and would not require use of a wastewater treatment plant. Since the Proposed Project would not connect to an existing wastewater treatment facility, no impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

## No Impact

d) Generate solid waste in excess of state or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?

The Project Site is located approximately 6.8 miles southeast of the West Valley Transfer Station and approximately 4.9 miles south of the Mid-Valley Landfill. The 2,400 square-foot office building would be the Proposed Project's greatest generator of solid waste. According to the CalRecycle's estimated solid waste generation rates for the commercial sector, the Proposed Project would generate approximately 373.18 pounds of solid waste per day based on 10.53 pounds per day for retail establishments, 17 pounds per employee for fast food restaurants, and 2 pounds per room per day for hotels.<sup>36</sup> The Mid-Valley Sanitary Landfill currently has a maximum permitted throughput of 7,500 tons/day.

Waste generated from the Proposed Project is not expected to significantly impact solid waste collection systems. Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

# **Less Than Significant Impact**

e) Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?

<sup>36</sup> https://www2.calrecycle.ca.gov/WasteCharacterization/General/Rates. Accessed June 17, 2022.

Burrtec is the franchise waste hauler for the general area. The purpose of California Assembly Bill 341 is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by diverting commercial solid waste from landfills by recycling. It mandates businesses and public entities generating 4-cubic yards or more of trash to establish and maintain recycling services. County of San Bernardino, Department of Public Works, Solid Waste Management Division reviews and approves all new construction projects which are required to submit a Construction and Demolition Solid Waste Management Plan (waste management plan).

A project's waste management plan is to consist of two parts which are incorporated into the Conditions of Approval (COA's) by the County of San Bernardino Planning and Building & Safety divisions. As part of the plan, projects are required to estimate the amount of tonnage to be disposed and diverted during construction. Additionally, projects must provide the amount of waste that will be diverted and disposed of. Disposal/diversion receipts or certifications are required as a part of that summary.

The mandatory requirement to prepare a Construction and Demolition Solid Waste Management Plan would ensure that impacts related to construction waste would be less than significant. The Proposed Project would comply with all federal, State, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste. Solid waste produced during the construction phase or operational phase of the Proposed Project would be disposed of in accordance with all applicable statutes and regulations. Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

# **Less Than Significant Impact**

Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

	Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant	No Impact
XX.	<b>WILDFIRE:</b> If located in or near state responsibilities high fire hazard severity zones, would the project	_	or lands clas	sified as v	ery
a)	Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?				
b)	Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to, pollutant concentrations from wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?				
c)	Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water resources, power				

lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?

d) Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?

## **SUBSTANTIATION:**

County of San Bernardino Countywide Plan; Submitted Project Materials; CalFire VHFHSZ in LRA

a) Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?

The Project Site is not located within a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone.<sup>37</sup> The Project Site does not contain any emergency facilities. The I-10 freeway is an evacuation route within the Valley Region of the County.<sup>38</sup> The Project Site is adjacent to Valley Boulevard and approximately 0.1 miles north of the I-10. The Proposed Project is the development of a hotel, gas station, and drive-through restaurant facility. As part of the development of the Project, improvements to Valley Boulevard and Linden Avenue will be installed. Therefore, it would facilitate, rather than interfere with, the use of evacuation routes. Furthermore, adequate on-site access for emergency vehicles would be verified during the County's plan review process. During construction, the contractor would be required to maintain adequate emergency access for emergency vehicles as required by the County. Operations at the site would not interfere with an adopted emergency response or evacuation plan. Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

## **Less Than Significant Impact**

b) Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to, pollutant concentrations from wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?

With no major slopes, elevations on-site range from approximately 1102 feet to 1109 feet. The Project Site is not located within a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone.<sup>39</sup>

The Project Site is currently vacant. It is surrounded by either commercial or residential development to the south, east, and north. No wildlands occur within the vicinity. Due to the lack of wildfire fuel factors within the Project Site, the risk of wildfires is low.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> San Bernardino Countywide Plan Draft EIR. Hazards and Hazardous Materials. Figure 5.8-4 "Fire Severity and Growth Areas in the Valley and Mountain Regions."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> San Bernardino Countywide Plan Draft EIR. Hazards and Hazardous Materials. Table 5.8-10 "Evacuation Routes in San Bernardino County."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> San Bernardino Countywide Plan Draft EIR. Hazards and Hazardous Materials. Figure 5.8-4 "Fire Severity and Growth Areas in the Valley and Mountain Regions."

Therefore, no significant impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

c) Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water resources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?

The Proposed Project is the development of a hotel, gas station, and drive-through restaurant that includes landscaping, and parking spaces. It does not include the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure that would exacerbate fire risk. Implementation of the Proposed Project would reduce the risk of wildfires by eliminating ruderal grasses and providing hardscape. Therefore, no impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

## No Impact

d) Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?

Elevations on the Project Site range from 1102 feet to 1109 feet. Therefore, the Project Site is not subject to post-fire slope instability. The Project Site is not within a 100-Year Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) flood zone, 100-year Department of Water Resources Awareness Zone, or a 500-year FEMA flood zone. Moreover, there are no dams, reservoirs, or large bodies of water near the Project Site. Therefore, the Proposed Project would not expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes. No significant impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

## **Less Than Significant Impact**

N/A	Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant	No Impact
XXI.	MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE:				
a)	Does the project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels,				

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> San Bernardino Countywide Plan Draft EIR. Hydrology and Water Quality. Figure 5.9-2 "Flood Hazard Zones in the Valley and Mountain Regions."

threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?

on human beings, either directly or indirectly?

- b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?

  c) Does the project have environmental effects, which would cause substantial adverse effects
- a) Does the project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?

Potential impacts to biological resources would be reduced to a less than significant level with implementation of Mitigation Measure BIO-1. Therefore, the Proposed Project is not anticipated to have the potential to significantly degrade the overall quality of the region's environment, or substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population or 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. No significant impacts to cultural resources were identified in the Phase I Cultural Resources Investigation prepared for the Proposed Project. BFSA did not find any evidence of historical or prehistorical resources on the Project Site. However, implementation of Mitigation Measures CR-1, CR-2, CR-3 and TCR-1 and TCR-2 would ensure that the Proposed Project does not eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory. Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

## **Less than Significant with Mitigation**

b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?

Cumulative impacts are defined as two or more individual affects that, when considered together, are considerable or that compound or increase other environmental impacts. The cumulative impact from several projects is the change in the environment that results from the incremental impact of the development when added to the impacts of other closely related past, present, and reasonably foreseeable or probable future developments. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor, but collectively significant, developments taking place over a period. The CEQA Guidelines, Section 15130 (a) and (b), states:

- (a) Cumulative impacts shall be discussed when the project's incremental effect is cumulatively considerable.
- (b) The discussion of cumulative impacts shall reflect the severity of the impacts and their likelihood of occurrence, but the discussion need not provide as great detail as is provided of the effects attributable to the project. The discussion should be guided by the standards of practicality and reasonableness.

A cumulative project list was developed for the purposes of the Traffic Analysis through consultation with planning and engineering staff from the County of San Bernardino. The cumulative projects listed are those that would generate traffic and would contribute traffic to study area intersections. Cumulative projects from the neighboring jurisdictions of Fontana, Rialto, Jurupa Valley, and Colton have also been included. The TIA analyzed Opening Year Cumulative conditions with and without the Proposed Project. There are no additional intersections anticipated to operate at a deficient LOS during the peak hours with the addition of Project traffic, in addition to the locations identified for Opening Year Cumulative (2021) Without Project traffic conditions. Impacts associated with the Proposed Project would not be considered individually or cumulatively adverse or considerable.

Development of the Proposed Project will be conditioned to comply with current SCAQMD rules and regulations to minimize impacts to air quality. Impacts identified in this Initial Study can be reduced to a less than significant impact. Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or are anticipated, and no mitigation measures are required.

# **Less than Significant with Mitigation**

c) Does the project have environmental effects, which would cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?

Bloomington, as is the case for most of Southern California, is located within a seismically active region. As stated in the soils report, the San Jacinto Fault is approximately 5 miles from the Project Site. Although the potential for rupture on-site cannot be dismissed, it is considered low due to the absence of known faults within the immediate vicinity. Nonetheless, the Proposed Project would be required to comply with the California Building Code requirements and the Uniform Fire Code requirements and all applicable statutes, codes, ordinances, and standards of the San Bernardino County Fire Department.

All potential impacts have been thoroughly evaluated and have been deemed to be neither individually significant nor cumulatively considerable in terms of any adverse effects upon the region, the local community or its inhabitants. At a minimum, the project will be required to meet the conditions of approval for the project to be implemented. It is anticipated that all such conditions of approval will further ensure that no potential for adverse impacts will be introduced by construction activities, initial or future land uses authorized by the project approval.

The incorporation of design measures, County of San Bernardino policies, standards, and guidelines and proposed mitigation measures as identified within this Initial Study would ensure that the Proposed Project would have no significant adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly on an individual or cumulative basis.

**Less than Significant with Mitigation** 

Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are identified or anticipated with incorporation of mitigation measures.

October 2022

## **GENERAL REFERENCES**

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