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Executive Summary

This document is an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) analyzing the environmental effects of the proposed 2022 Regional Transportation Plan & Sustainable Communities Strategy (proposed 2022 RTP SCS). This section summarizes the characteristics of the proposed project, alternatives to the proposed project, and the environmental impacts and mitigation measures associated with the proposed project.

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Project Description

This EIR has been prepared to examine the potential environmental effects of the proposed 2022 Regional Transportation Plan & Sustainable Communities Strategy (hereafter referred to as the proposed 2022 RTP/SCS). The following is a summary of the full project description, which can be found in Chapter 2, *Project Description*.

The proposed 2022 RTP/SCS covers the entire area of San Joaquin County and includes all the incorporated cities and unincorporated communities contained therein. Refer to Figure 2-1 in Chapter 2, *Project Description*, for a map of the project location. Capital improvement projects identified in the proposed 2022 RTP/SCS are located on State highways, county roads and locally owned streets, as well as on transit district property and public utility lands.

Project Objectives

The purpose of the proposed 2022 RTP/SCS is to coordinate and facilitate the programming and budgeting of all transportation facilities and services within the SJCOG region through the year 2046 and demonstrate how the region will integrate transportation and land use planning to meet the greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets established by the California Air Resources Board and in accordance with other State and Federal regulations. It identifies reasonably available sources of funding for transportation. The proposed 2022 RTP/SCS is a plan for improving the quality of life for residents of the SJCOG region by planning for wise transportation investments and informed land use choices. The Plan achieves its overall objectives by combining transportation investment policies with integrated land use strategies that reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. The project objectives are as follows:

- Enhance the Environment for Existing and Future Generations and Conserve Energy;
- Maximize Mobility and Accessibility;
- Increase Safety and Security;
- Preserve the Efficiency of the Existing Transportation System;
- Support Economic Vitality;

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- Promote Interagency Coordination and Public Participation for Transportation Decision-Making and Planning Efforts;
- Maximize Cost-Effectiveness; and
- Improve the Quality of Life for Residents.

Project Characteristics

The RTP/SCS is based on a preferred land use and transportation scenario which lays out a pattern of future growth and transportation system investment for the region emphasizing a transit-oriented development and an urban infill approach to land use and housing. Accordingly, population and employment growth is allocated principally within existing urban areas near public transit. Allocation of future growth directly addresses jobs-housing balance issues.

The preferred scenario consists of an intensified land use distribution approach that concentrates the forecasted population and employment growth in existing urban areas along centers and corridors. This focus intends to minimize impacts on rural areas which contain the majority of agricultural land throughout the County. The transportation network includes additional highway, local street, active transportation, and transit investments to serve a more concentrated urban growth pattern. The preferred scenario also shifts investment towards bicycle and pedestrian improvements that complement public transit and other non-vehicle alternatives.

SJCOG, in developing scenario strategies, identified emerging trends that SJCOG as a regional planning agency could influence. The trends are transportation technology (particularly driverless vehicles), impacts from extreme weather events due to changes in climate, and the increase in teleworking and internet shopping (the e-economy). Three futures with assumptions about land use and transportation in the year 2046 were then prepared with each future dominated by one of the three emerging trends. These futures were used to prepare the alternative scenarios or packages of assumptions for testing.

The plan identifies transportation system needs consistent with the preferred scenario and includes comprehensive lists of programmed and planned transportation investments that are intended to meet performance goals for mobility, safety, congestion relief, system preservation and environmental protection. In addition to its other components, the preferred scenario also includes an enhanced transit strategy that creates a framework for future transit service expansion at such time as new revenue sources become available. Recognizing the uncertain nature of future new revenue sources, it takes a targeted, balanced and flexible approach to expanding transit service as needed in the future. The enhanced transit strategy commits to transit service expansion as new revenue sources become available, (1) identifying when transit enhancements are actually needed through quantitative triggers, and (2) protecting existing funding for competing local demands, such as street and road maintenance. The enhanced transit strategy is a strategy for the future. It does not change the list of fiscally constrained, programmed and planned transportation projects.

The plan includes an executive summary and nine chapters:

- Executive Summary. Includes an overview of 2022 RTP/SCS, the preferred scenario and its
 performance, an explanation of the planning process, and the allocation of transportation
 funding.
- 1. **Creating a Sustainable Communities Strategy.** Discusses the region's geographic and regulatory setting and provides projects on county population, housing, and employment. This chapter sketches the region's transportation system and economic assets, including goods movement by

- roads, water, air, and rail. It also contains an overview of how the RTP/SCS will achieve sustainability goals through regional collaborations for regional solutions.
- 2. **Civic Engagement**. Describes the extent of work and effort invested in civic engagement throughout San Joaquin County to shape the proposed 2022 RTP/SCS.
- 3. **The Building Blocks.** Provides information on policies contained within the proposed 2022 RTP/SCS
- 4. **Financing the Transportation System.** Describes how 2022 RTP/SCS allocates and applies existing and new sources of revenue, and fiscal constraints.
- 5. **Performance of the Sustainable Communities Strategy.** Describes the performance of the SCS in comparison to the 2018 RTP/SCS.
- 6. **Economic Vitality.** Discusses the role of transportation in achieving economic vitality in San Joaquin County, including roadways, public transportation, railways, airports, and a port.
- 7. **Innovations and Technology.** Discusses technological trends and ways SJCOG is moving to meet technology challenges for the SJCOG region.
- 8. **Housing.** Describes the current state of housing in the SJCOG region and the effects of housing costs on the SJCOG region's residents. It also evaluates proposed 2022 RTP/SCS strategies to support local agencies in increasing housing production.
- 9. **Framework for Moving Forward.** Identifies foreseen challenges and opportunities to future development and discusses the effects of implementation of the proposed 2022 RTP/SCS.

Alternatives

As required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), this EIR examines alternatives to the proposed project. Studied alternatives include the following two alternatives. Based on the alternatives analysis, Alternative 2 was determined to be the environmentally superior alternative.

- Alternative 1: No Project Alternative (SCS Scenario A: Stay the Course). In this scenario, the region does not change course and makes investments based on the last regional plan. Growth occurs primarily in new growth areas identified in the region's General or Specific Plans. The prioritized land use strategies include the following:
 - Prioritize projects that make more efficient use of existing road network
 - Prioritize large employer recruitment
 - Improve access to safe and convenient walking and biking options
 - Prioritize projects that improve and expand access to public transit

Transportation investments are focused on managed lanes, ACE Rail, enhanced bus rapid transit. The prioritized transportation strategies include the following:

- Only transportation projects included in the 2018 RTP would be constructed (excludes projects listed in Table 6-1 in the Chapter 6, Alternatives)
- Prioritize expanding the roadway network
- Alternative 2: Remake Centers and Corridors (SCS Scenario B: Remake Centers and Corridors). Traditional employment centers and aging commercial corridors are remade into residentially-focused neighborhoods. Growth is focused on urban arterials, existing neighborhoods, and job centers. The prioritized land use strategies include the following:
 - Encourage infill development

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- Promote a broader range of housing types
- Develop a regional trust fund dedicated to addressing housing issues

Transportation focus investments in transit and bike/ped for infill locations along existing arterials, improvements/maintenance to local arterials to facilitate new types of development. The prioritized land use strategies include the following:

- Prioritize "complete streets" projects throughout the region
- Greater prioritization on projects that improve and expand access to public transit

Chapter 6 of the EIR describes these alternatives in further detail and compares their impacts to the proposed 2022 RTP/SCS's impacts. The alternatives are also compared to each other as well as the proposed project, and Chapter 6 provides an environmentally superior CEQA analysis.

Areas of Known Controversy

The EIR scoping process identified few areas of known controversy for the proposed project. Responses to the Notice of Preparation of a Draft EIR and input received are summarized in Table 1-1 of Chapter 1, *Introduction*.

Issues to be Resolved

Issues to be resolved include the choice among alternatives, and the nature of mitigation measures to be adopted.

Summary of Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Table ES-1 summarizes the direct environmental impacts of the proposed project, proposed mitigation measures, and residual impacts (the impact after application of mitigation, if required). Impacts are categorized as follows:

- Significant and Unavoidable. An impact that cannot be reduced to below the threshold level given feasible mitigation measures. Such an impact requires a Statement of Overriding Considerations to be adopted if the proposed project is approved per §15093 of the State CEQA Guidelines.
- Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated. An impact that can be reduced to below the threshold level given feasible mitigation measures.
- Less than Significant. An impact that may be adverse but does not exceed the threshold levels and does not require mitigation measures.
- **No Impact:** The proposed project would have no effect on environmental conditions or would reduce existing environmental problems or hazards.

Cumulative impacts of the proposed 2022 RTP/SCS are not summarized Table ES-1. They are evaluated in each resource section of the EIR in Chapter 4.

Table ES-1 Summary of Environmental Impacts, Mitigation Measures, and Residual Impacts

Impact	Mitigation Measure(s)	Impact Finding
Aesthetic and Visual Resources		
Impact AES-1. The proposed transportation projects and land use projects envisioned under the proposed 2022 RTP/SCS would have a substantial adverse effect on scenic vistas and substantially damage scenic resources within a state scenic highway. Impacts would be significant and unavoidable.	AES-1(a) Tree Protection and Replacement. The implementing agency for new roadways, extensions and widenings of existing roadways, trails and facility improvement projects shall, or can and should, avoid the removal of existing mature trees to the extent possible consistent with adopted local City and County policies as applicable. The implementing agency of a particular proposed 2022 RTP/SCS project shall replace any trees lost at a minimum 2:1 basis and incorporate them into the landscaping design for the roadway when feasible, or as required by local or County requirements. The implementing agency also shall ensure the continued vitality of replaced trees through periodic maintenance. AES-1(b) Discouragement of Architectural Features that Block Scenic Views. The implementing agency shall, or can and should, design projects to minimize contrasts in scale and massing between the project and surrounding natural forms and development. Setbacks and acoustical design of adjacent structures shall be preferentially used as mitigation for potential noise impacts arising from increased traffic volumes associated with adjacent land development. The use of sound walls, or any other architectural features that could block views from the scenic highways or other view corridors, shall be discouraged to the extent possible. Where use of sound walls is found to be necessary, walls shall incorporate offsets, accents, and landscaping to prevent monotony. In addition, sound walls shall be complementary in color and texture to surrounding natural features.	Significant and Unavoidable
Impact AES-2. The proposed transportation projects and land use patterns envisioned by the proposed 2022 RTP/SCS would in non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site or its surroundings, and in an urbanized area, would conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality. Impacts would be significant and unavoidable.	 AES-2 Design Measures for Visual Compatibility. The implementing agency shall, or can and should, require measures that minimize contrasts in scale and massing between the project and surrounding natural forms and developments. Strategies to achieve this include: Siting or designing projects to minimize their intrusion into important viewsheds; Avoiding large cuts and fills when the visual environment (natural or urban) would be substantially disrupted; Ensuring that re-contouring provides a smooth and gradual transition between modified landforms and existing grade; Developing transportation systems to be compatible with the surrounding environments (e.g., colors and materials of construction material; scale of improvements); Designing and installing landscaping to add natural elements and visual interest to soften hard edges, as well as to restore natural features along corridors where possible after widening, interchange modifications, realignment, or construction of ancillary facilities; and Designing new structures to be compatible in scale, mass, character, and architecture with existing structures. 	Significant and Unavoidable

Impact AES-3. Development of proposed transportation improvement projects and land use patterns envisioned under proposed 2022 RTP/SCS would create a new source of substantial light or glare that would adversely affect daytime or nighttime views in the area. Impacts are significant and unavoidable.

AES-3(a) Roadway and Project Lighting. Implementing agencies shall, or can and should, minimize roadway lighting to the extent possible, consistent with safety and security objectives, and shall not exceed the minimum height requirements of the local jurisdiction in which the project is proposed. This may be accomplished through the use of back shields, hoods, low intensity lighting, and using as few lights as necessary to achieve the goals of the project.

AES-3(b) Lighting Design Measures. As part of planning, design, and engineering for projects, project sponsors shall, or can and should, ensure that projects proposed near light-sensitive uses avoid substantial spillover lighting. Potential design measures include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Lighting shall consist of cutoff-type fixtures that cast low-angle illumination to minimize incidental spillover of light into adjacent properties and undeveloped open space. Fixtures that project light upward or horizontally shall not be used.
- Lighting shall be directed away from habitat and open space areas adjacent to the project site.
- Light mountings shall be downcast, and the height of the poles minimized to reduce potential for backscatter into
 the nighttime sky and incidental spillover of light onto adjacent private properties and undeveloped open space.
 Light poles will be 20 feet high or shorter. Luminary mountings shall have non-glare finishes.
- Exterior lighting features shall be directed downward and shielded in order to confine light to the boundaries of the subject project. Where more intense lighting is necessary for safety purposes, the design shall include landscaping to block light from sensitive land uses, such as residences.

AES-3(c) Glare Reduction Measures. Implementing agencies shall, or can and should, minimize and control glare from transportation and land use projects near glare-sensitive uses through the adoption of project design features such as:

- Planting trees along transportation corridors to reduce glare from the sun;
- Creating tree wells in existing sidewalks;
- Adding trees in new curb extensions and traffic circles;
- Adding trees to public parks and greenways;
- Landscaping off-street parking areas, loading areas, and service areas;
- Limiting the use of reflective materials, such as metal;
- Using non-reflective material, such as paint, vegetative screening, matte finish coatings, and masonry;
- Screening parking areas by using vegetation or trees;
- Using low-reflective glass;
- Complying with applicable general plan policies, municipal code regulations, city or local controls related to glare;
- Tree species planted to comply with this measure shall provide substantial shade cover when mature. Utilities shall be installed underground along these routes wherever feasible to allow trees to grow and provide shade without need for severe pruning.

Significant and Unavoidable

Impact	Mitigation Measure(s)	Impact Finding
Air Quality		
Impact AQ-1. The proposed 2022 RTP/SCS would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan. Impacts would be less than significant.	None required.	Less than Significant
Impact AQ-2. Construction activities associated with transportation improvements and land use projects envisioned by the proposed 2022 RTP/SCS would result in a cumulatively considerable net increase in criteria pollutants for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard. This impact would be significant and unavoidable.	 AQ-2(a) Application of SJVAPCD Feasible Mitigation Measures. For all projects, the implementing agency shall incorporate the most recent SJVAPCD feasible construction mitigation measures and/or technologies for reducing inhalable particles based on analysis of individual sites and project circumstances. Additional and/or modified measures may be adopted by SJVAPCD prior to implementation of individual projects under the proposed 2022 RTP/SCS; therefore, the most current list of feasible mitigation measures at the time of project implementation shall be used. The current SJVAPCD feasible mitigation measures include the following (SJVAPCD 2015b): All disturbed areas, including storage piles, which are not being actively utilized for construction purposes, shall be effectively stabilized of dust emissions using water, chemical stabilizer/suppressant, tarp cover, or other suitable cover or vegetative ground cover. All land clearing, grubbing, scraping, excavation, land leveling, grading, cut and fill, and demolition activities shall be effectively controlled of fugitive dust emissions utilizing application of water or by presoaking. When materials are transported off-site, all material shall be covered, or effectively wetted to limit visible dust emissions, and at least six inches of freeboard space from the top of the container shall be maintained. Following the addition of materials to, or the removal of materials from, the surface of outdoor storage piles, said piles shall be effectively stabilized of fugitive dust emissions utilizing sufficient water or chemical stabilizer/suppressant. An owner/operator of any site with 150 or more vehicle trips per day, or 20 or more vehicle trips per day by vehicles with three or more axles shall implement measures to prevent carryout and trackout. Limit the hours of operation of heavy-duty equipment and/or the amount of equipment in use. AQ-2(b) Diesel Equipment Emissions	Significant and Unavoidable

Impact	Mitigation Measure(s)	Impact Finding
Impact AQ-3. Operation of the proposed transportation improvements and land use projects envisioned by the proposed 2022 RTP/SCS would result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of a criteria pollutant for which the project region is nonattainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard. Impacts would be significant and unavoidable.	AQ-3 Long-term Regional Operational Emissions. Implementing agencies can and should implement long-term operational emissions reduction measures. Such reduction measures include the following: Require that all interior and exterior architectural coatings for all developments utilize coatings following SJVAPCD Rule 4601, Architectural Coatings. Increase building envelope energy efficiency standards in excess of applicable building standards and encourage new development to achieve zero net energy use. Install energy-efficient appliances, interior lighting, and building mechanical systems. Encourage installation of solar panels for new residential and commercial development. Locate sensitive receptors more than 500 feet of a freeway, 500 feet of urban roads with 100,000 vehicles/day, or rural roads with 50,000 vehicles/day. Locate sensitive receptors more than 1,000 feet of a major diesel rail service or railyards. Where adequate buffer cannot be implemented, implement the following: Install air filtration (as part of mechanical ventilation systems or stand-alone air cleaners) to indoor reduce pollution exposure for residents and other sensitive populations in buildings that are close to transportation network improvement projects. Use air filtration devices rated MERV-13 or higher. Plant trees and/or vegetation suited to trapping roadway air pollution and/or sound walls between sensitive receptors and the pollution source. The vegetation buffer should be thick, with full coverage from the ground to the top of the canopy Install higher efficacy public street and exterior lighting. Use passive solar designs to take advantage of solar heating and natural cooling. Install solar and tankless hot water heaters. Exclude wood-burning fireplaces and stoves. Incorporate design measures and infrastructure that promotes safe and efficient use of alternative modes of transportation (e.g., neighborhood electric vehicles, bicycles) pedestrian access, and public transportation use. Such measures may include incorpor	Significant and Unavoidable
Impact AQ-4. The proposed transportation improvements	for ride sharing vehicles, and providing a web site or message board for coordinating rides). None required.	Less than Significant
and land use projects envisioned by the proposed 2022 RTP/SCS would expose sensitive receptors to substantial particulate matter		Significant

pollutant concentrations. However, because the proposed 2022 RTP/SCS would reduce exposure in comparison to baseline conditions, Impacts would be less than significant.

Impact AQ-5. The transportation improvements and land use projects envisioned by the proposed 2022 RTP/SCS would expose sensitive receptors to substantial TAC concentrations. Impacts would be significant and unavoidable.

AQ-4 Health Risk Reduction Measures. Transportation project sponsor agencies shall implement the following measures for projects that could facilitate an increase in vehicle trips:

Significant and Unavoidable

- During project-specific design and CEQA review, the potential localized particulate (PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}) impacts and their health risks shall be evaluated for individual projects. Localized particulate matter concentrations shall be estimated using procedures and guidelines consistent with U.S. EPA 2015's *Transportation Conformity Guidance for Quantitative Hot-Spot Analyses in PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀ Nonattainment and Maintenance Areas.* If required based on the project-level hotspot analysis, project-specific mitigation shall be added to the project design concept or scope to ensure that local particulate (PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}) emissions would not reach a concentration at any location that would cause estimated cancer risk to exceed the SJVAPCD threshold of 20 in one million. Per the U.S. EPA guidance (2015), potential mitigation measures to be considered may include but shall not be limited to: providing a retrofit program for older higher emitting vehicles, anti-idling requirements or policies, controlling fugitive dust, routing traffic away from populated zones and replacing older buses with cleaner buses. These measures can and should be implemented to reduce localized particulate impacts as needed.
- For projects that do not meet screening criteria, retain a qualified air quality consultant to prepare a health risk assessment (HRA) in accordance with CARB and OEHHA requirements to determine the exposure of nearby residents to TAC concentrations.
- If impacts result in increased risks to sensitive receptors above significance thresholds, plant trees and/or vegetation suited to trapping TACs and/or sound walls between sensitive receptors and the pollution source.

In addition, consistent with the general guidance contained in CARB's Air Quality and Land Use Handbook (2005) and Technical Advisory on Strategies to Reduce Air Pollution Exposure Near High-Volume Roadways (2017), cities and counties shall incorporate appropriate and feasible measures into project building design for land use projects including residential, school and other sensitive uses located within 500 feet (or other appropriate distance as determined by the lead agency) of freeways, heavily travelled arterials, railways and other sources of diesel particulate matter, including roadways experiencing significant vehicle delays. The appropriate measures shall include one or more of the following methods, as appliable and as determined by a qualified professional. The implementing agency shall incorporate health risk reduction measures based on an analysis of individual sites and project circumstances. These measures may include:

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Mitigation Measure(s) **Impact Finding Impact** Avoid siting new sensitive land uses within 500 feet of a freeway or railway. Require development projects for new sensitive land uses to be designed to minimize exposure to roadwayrelated pollutants to the maximum extent feasible through inclusion of design components including air filtration and physical barriers. Do not locate sensitive receptors near the entry and exit points of a distribution center. Locate structures and outdoor living areas for sensitive uses as far as possible from the source of emissions. As feasible, locate doors, outdoor living areas and air intake vents primarily on the side of the building away from nearby high volume roadways or other pollution source. As feasible, incorporate dense, tiered vegetation that regains foliage year-round and has a long life span between the pollution source and the project. Maintain a 50-foot buffer from a typical gas dispensing facility (under 3.6 million gallons of gas per year). Install, operate, and maintain in good working order a central heating and ventilation (HV) system or other air take system in the building, or in each individual residential unit, that meets the efficiency standard of the MERV 13. The HV system should include the following features: Installation of a high efficiency filter and/or carbon filter-to-filter particulates and other chemical matter from entering the building. Use of either HEPA filters or ASHRAE 85 percent supply filters. Completion of ongoing maintenance. Retain a qualified HV consultant or Home Energy Rating Systems rater during the design phase of the project to locate the HV system based on exposure modeling from the mobile and/or stationary pollutant sources. Maintain positive pressure within the building. Achieve a performance standard of at least one air exchange per hour of fresh outside filtered air. Achieve a performance standard of at least four air exchanges per hour of recirculation. Achieve a performance standard of 0.25 air exchanges per hour of unfiltered infiltration if the building is not positively pressurized. Require project owners to provide a disclosure statement to occupants and buyers summarizing technical studies that reflect health concerns about exposure to highway/freeway exhaust emissions. Impact AQ-6. Construction of None required. Less than the proposed transportation Significant improvements and land use projects envisioned by the proposed 2022 RTP/SCS would not result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people. Impacts would be less than significant.

Biological Resources

Impact BIO-1. Implementation of transportation projects and the land use scenario envisioned by the proposed 2022 RTP/SCS may result in impacts to special-status plant and animal species, either directly or through habitat modifications. This impact would be significant but mitigable. For agencies utilizing the SJMSCP, this impact would be less than significant.

BIO-1(a) Biological Resources Screening and Assessment. On a project-by-project basis, a preliminary biological resource screening shall be performed as part of the environmental review process to determine whether the project has any potential to impact biological resources. If it is determined that the project has no potential to impact biological resources, no further action is required. If the project would have the potential to impact biological resources, prior to construction, a qualified biologist shall conduct a biological resources assessment (BRA) to document the existing biological resources within the project footprint plus a buffer and to determine the potential impacts to those resources. The biological resources assessment shall evaluate the potential for impacts to all biological resources including, but not limited to: special-status species, nesting birds, wildlife movement, sensitive plant communities, critical habitat, Essential Fish Habitat, and other resources judged to be sensitive by local, state, and/or federal agencies. In addition, the assessment shall document potential modifications to existing infrastructure suitable for wildlife movement (e.g., culvert, underpass, etc.) Pending the results of the BRA, design alterations, further technical studies (i.e., protocol surveys) and/or consultations with the USFWS, CDFW and/or other local, state, and federal agencies may be required. If the project cannot be designed without complete avoidance, the sponsor agency shall coordinate with the appropriate regulatory agency (i.e., USFWS, NMFS, CDFW, USACE) to obtain regulatory permits and implement project - specific mitigation prior to any construction activities. The following mitigation measures [BIO-1(b) through BIO-1(j)] shall be incorporated only as applicable into the BRA for projects where specific resources are present or may be present and impacted by the project. Note that specific surveys described in the mitigation measures below may be completed as part of the biological resources assessment where suitable habitat is present. The results of the biological resources screening and assessment shall be provided to the implementing agency for review and approval.

BIO-1(b) Special-Status Plant Species Surveys. If completion of the project-specific biological resources assessment determines that special-status plant species have potential to occur on-site, surveys for special-status plants shall be completed prior to any vegetation removal, grubbing, or other construction activity of each project (including staging and mobilization). The surveys shall be floristic in nature and shall be seasonally timed to coincide with the target species identified in the project-specific BRA. All plant surveys shall be conducted by a qualified biologist approved by the implementing agency no more than two years prior to project implementation. All special-status plant species identified on-site shall be mapped onto a site-specific aerial photograph or topographic map. Surveys shall be conducted in accordance with the most current protocols established by the CNPS, CDFW, and/or USFWS. A report of the survey results shall be submitted to the implementing agency for review. If special-status plant species are identified, mitigation measure BIO-1(c) shall apply.

BIO-1(c) Special-Status Plant Species Avoidance, Minimization, and Mitigation. If state or federally listed and/or CRPR 1 and 2 species are found during special-status plant surveys [pursuant to mitigation measure BIO-1(b)], then the project shall be re-designed to avoid impacting these plant species to the maximum extent feasible. Occurrences of these species that are not within the immediate disturbance footprint but are located within 50 feet of disturbance limits shall have bright orange protective fencing installed at least 30 feet beyond their extent, or other distance as approved by a qualified biologist, to protect them from harm. If CRPR 3 and 4 species are found, the biologist shall

Less than
Significant with
Mitigation
Incorporated

Less than
Significant for
agencies utilizing
the SJMSCP

evaluate to determine if they meet criteria to be considered special-status, and if so, the same process as identified for CRPR 1 and 2 species shall apply.

If special-status plants species cannot be avoided and would be impacted by a project implemented under the 2022 RTP/SCS, all impacts shall be mitigated at a minimum ratio of 1:1 (number of acres or individuals restored to number of acres or individuals impacted) for each species as a component of habitat restoration. A restoration plan shall be prepared and submitted to SJCOG, and/or the local jurisdiction overseeing the project for approval. The restoration plan shall include, at a minimum, the following components.

- Description of the project/impact site (i.e., location, responsible parties, areas to be impacted by habitat type);
- Goal(s) of the compensatory mitigation project [type(s) and area(s) of habitat to be established, restored, enhanced, and/or preserved; specific functions and values of habitat type(s) to be established, restored, enhanced, and/or preserved];
- Description of the proposed compensatory mitigation site (location and size, ownership status, existing functions and values);
- Implementation plan for the compensatory mitigation site (rationale for expecting implementation success, responsible parties, schedule, site preparation, planting plan);
- Maintenance activities during the monitoring period, including weed removal as appropriate (activities, responsible parties, schedule);
- Monitoring plan for the compensatory mitigation site, including no less than quarterly monitoring for the first
 year (performance standards, target functions and values, target acreages to be established, restored, enhanced,
 and/or preserved, annual monitoring reports);
- Success criteria based on the goals and measurable objectives; said criteria to include numeric criteria to be selected based on the scale of the restoration effort and the restoration technique used:
 - At least 80 percent survival of container plants, and/or
 - Successful establishment the required number of individuals planted from seed to meet required replacement ratios; and/or
 - Sampling-based recruitment/survival criteria to achieve vegetative cover or total number of surviving individuals equal to at least 70 percent of the equivalent metric in reference sites for the same habitat type; sampling-based criteria must use a scientifically valid vegetation sampling method;
- An adaptive management program and remedial measures to address any shortcomings in meeting success criteria:
- Notification of completion of compensatory mitigation and agency confirmation; and
- Contingency measures (initiating procedures, alternative locations for contingency compensatory mitigation, funding mechanism).

BIO-1(d) Endangered/Threatened Animal Species Habitat Assessment and Protocol Surveys. Specific habitat assessment and survey protocol surveys are established for several federally and/or state endangered or threatened species. If the results of the biological resources assessment determine that suitable habitat may be present for any

such species, protocol habitat assessments/surveys shall be completed in accordance with CDFW and/or USFWS/NMFS protocols prior to issuance of any construction permits/project approvals.

Alternatively, in lieu of conducting protocol surveys, the implementing agency may choose to assume presence within the project footprint and proceed with development of appropriate avoidance measures, consultation, and permitting, as applicable.

If the target species is detected during protocol surveys, or protocol surveys are not conducted and presence assumed based on suitable habitat, mitigation measure BIO-1(e) shall apply.

BIO-1(e) Endangered/Threatened Animal Species Avoidance and Compensatory Mitigation. If habitat is occupied or presumed occupied by federal and/or state listed species and would be impacted by the project, the implementing agency shall re-design the project in coordination with a qualified biologist to avoid impacting occupied/presumed occupied habitat to the maximum extent feasible. Disturbance limits shall have bright orange protective fencing installed at least 50 feet beyond their extent, or other distance as approved by a qualified biologist, to protect the habitat. If occupied or presumed occupied habitat cannot be avoided, the implementing agency shall provide the total acreages for habitat that would be impacted prior to the issuance of construction permits/approvals. The implementing agency shall purchase credits at a USFWS, and/or CDFW approved conservation bank and/or establish conservation easements or funds for acquisition of conservation easements as compensatory mitigation to offset impacts to federal and/or state listed species habitat.

Compensatory mitigation shall be provided at the following ratios for permanent impacts in accordance with the *San Joaquin County Multi-Species Habitat Conservation and Open Space Plan* (SJMSCP 2000) of not less than 1:1 (area mitigated: area impacted) for agricultural habitat lands and 3:1 for natural lands (non-wetland). Compensatory mitigation may be combined/nested with special-status plant species and sensitive community restoration where applicable. Temporary impact areas shall be restored to pre-project conditions.

If the implementing agency establishes conservation easement(s) (on- and/or off-site) to serve as compensatory mitigation for federal and/or state listed species habitat impacts, compensatory mitigation areas shall have a restrictive covenant prohibiting future development/disturbance and shall be managed in perpetuity to encourage persistence and enhancement of the preserved target species. Compensatory mitigation lands cannot be located on land that is currently held publicly for resource protection. The compensatory mitigation areas shall be managed by a conservation lands management entity or other qualified easement holder. In addition, the implementing agency shall retain a qualified biologist to prepare a Habitat Mitigation and Monitoring Plan (HMMP) to ensure the success of compensatory mitigation sites that are to be conserved for compensation of permanent impacts to federal and/or state listed species. The HMMP shall identify long term site management needs, routine monitoring techniques, techniques, and success criteria, and shall determine if the conservation site requires restoration to function as a suitable mitigation site. If restoration is required on the conservation site, the HMMP shall contain the restoration components outlined under the Restoration Plan listed in measure BIO-1(c). The HMMP shall be submitted to the implementing agency for approval.

BIO-1(f) Endangered/Threatened Species Avoidance and Minimization. The following measures shall be applied to aquatic and terrestrial species, where appropriate. Project sponsors shall select from these measures as appropriate

depending on site conditions, the species with potential for occurrence, and the results of the biological resources screening and assessment (measure BIO-1[a]).

- Preconstruction surveys for federal and/or state listed species with potential to occur shall be conducted where suitable habitat is present by a qualified biologist not more than 48 hours prior to the start of construction activities. The survey area shall include the proposed disturbance area and all proposed ingress/egress routes, plus a 100-foot buffer. If any life stage of federal and/or state listed species is found within the survey area, the appropriate measures in the BO or Habitat Conservation Plan(HCP)/Incidental Take Permit (ITP) issued by the USFWS/NMFS (relevant to federal listed species) and/or the ITP issued by the CDFW (relevant to state listed species) shall be implemented; or if such guidance is not in place for the activity, the USFWS, NMFS and/or CDFW shall be consulted to determine the appropriate course of action. The results of the pre-construction surveys shall be submitted to the implementing agency for review and approval prior to start of construction.
- Ground disturbance shall be limited to the minimum necessary to complete the project. The project limits of disturbance shall be flagged. Areas of special biological concern shall have highly visible orange construction fencing.
- All projects occurring within/adjacent to aquatic habitats (including riparian habitats and wetlands) shall be completed between April 1 and October 31, to avoid impacts to sensitive aquatic species.
- All projects occurring within or adjacent to sensitive habitats that may support federally and/or state endangered/threatened species shall have a qualified biologist present during all initial ground disturbing/vegetation clearing activities. Once initial ground disturbing/vegetation clearing activities have been completed, said biologist shall conduct daily pre-activity clearance surveys for endangered/threatened species. Alternatively, and upon approval of the CDFW and/or USFWS or as outlined in project permits, said biologist may conduct site inspections at a minimum of once per week to ensure all prescribed avoidance and minimization measures are begin fully implemented.
- No endangered/threatened species shall be captured and relocated without authorization from the CDFW and/or USFWS.
- If pumps are used for dewatering activities, all intakes shall be completely screened with wire mesh not larger than five millimeters to prevent animals from entering the pump system.
- If at any time during construction of the project an endangered/threatened species enters the construction site or otherwise may be impacted by the project, all project activities shall cease. At that point the USFWS, NMFS and/or CDFW shall be consulted to determine the appropriate course of action, or the appropriate measures implemented in accordance with the BO or HCP/ITP issued by the USFWS (relevant to federal listed species) and/or the ITP issued by the CDFW (relevant to state listed species) and work can then continue as guided by those documents and the agencies as appropriate.
- All vehicle maintenance/fueling/staging shall occur not less than 100 feet from any riparian habitat or water body. Suitable containment procedures shall be implemented to prevent spills.
- No equipment shall be permitted to enter wetted portions of any affected drainage channel.

- All equipment operating within streambeds (restricted to conditions in which water is not present) shall be in good conditions and free of leaks. Spill containment shall be installed under all equipment staged within stream areas and extra spill containment and clean up materials shall be located in close proximity for easy access.
- At the end of each workday, excavations shall be secured with cover, or a ramp shall be provided to prevent wildlife entrapment.
- All trenches, pipes, culverts, or similar structures shall be inspected for animals prior to burying, capping, moving, or filling.

BIO-1(g) Non-Listed Special-status Animal Species Avoidance and Minimization. Depending on the species identified in the BRA, measures shall be selected from among the following to reduce the potential for impacts to non-listed special-status animal species:

- Preconstruction clearance surveys shall be conducted within 14 days prior to the start of construction (including staging and mobilization). The surveys shall cover the entire disturbance footprint plus a minimum 100-foot buffer and shall identify all special-status animal species that may occur on-site. All non-listed special-status species shall be relocated from the site either through direct capture or through passive exclusion. A report of the preconstruction survey shall be submitted to the implementing agency for their review and approval prior to the start of construction.
- A qualified biologist shall be present during all initial ground disturbing activities, including vegetation removal, to recover special-status animal species unearthed by construction activities.
- Upon completion of the project, a qualified biologist shall prepare a final compliance report documenting all
 compliance activities implemented for the project, including the preconstruction survey results. The report shall
 be submitted within 30 days of completion of the project.
- If special-status bat species may be present and impacted by the project, within 30 days of the start of construction a qualified biologist shall conduct presence/absence surveys for special-status bats, in consultation with the CDFW, where suitable roosting habitat is present. Surveys shall be conducted using acoustic detectors and by searching tree cavities, crevices, and other areas where bats may roost. If active bat roosts or colonies are present, the biologist shall evaluate the type of roost to determine the next step.
 - If a maternity colony is present, all construction activities shall be postponed within a 250-foot buffer around the maternity colony until it is determined by a qualified biologist that the young have dispersed or as recommended by CDFW through consultation. Once it has been determined that the roost is clear of bats, the roost shall be removed immediately.
 - If a roost is determined by a qualified biologist to be used by a large number of bats (large hibernaculum), alternative roosts, such as bat boxes if appropriate for the species, shall be designed and installed near the project site. The number and size of alternative roosts installed will depend on the size of the hibernaculum and shall be determined through consultations with the CDFW.
 - If other active roosts are located, exclusion devices such as valves, sheeting or flap-style one-way devices that allow bats to exit but not re-enter roosts discourage bats from occupying the site.

BIO-1(h) Preconstruction Surveys for Nesting Birds. For construction activities occurring during the nesting season (generally February 1 to September 15), surveys for nesting birds covered by the CFGC, the MBTA, and Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act shall be conducted by a qualified biologist no more than 14 days prior to vegetation removal activities.

A qualified biologist shall conduct preconstruction surveys for raptors. The survey for the presence of bald and golden eagles, shall cover all areas within of the disturbance footprint plus a one-mile buffer where access can be secured. The survey area for all other nesting bird and raptor species shall include the disturbance footprint plus a 300-foot and 500-foot buffer, respectively.

If active nests (nests with eggs or chicks) are located, the qualified biologist shall establish an appropriate avoidance buffer ranging from 50 to 300 feet based on the species biology and the current and anticipated disturbance levels occurring in vicinity of the nest. The objective of the buffer shall be to reduce disturbance of nesting birds. All buffers shall be marked using high-visibility flagging or fencing, and, unless approved by the qualified biologist, no construction activities shall be allowed within the buffers until the young have fledged from the nest or the nest fails. For bald or golden eagle nests identified during the preconstruction surveys, an avoidance buffer of up to one mile shall be established on a case-by-case basis in consultation with the USFWS and CDFW. The size of the buffer may be influenced by the existing conditions and disturbance regime, relevant landscape characteristics, and the nature, timing, and duration of the expected disturbance. The buffer shall be established between February 1 and September 15; however, buffers may be relaxed earlier than September 15 if a qualified ornithologist determines that a given nest has failed or that all surviving chicks have fledged, and the nest is no longer in use.

A report of these preconstruction nesting bird surveys and nest monitoring (if applicable) shall be submitted to the implementing agency for review and approval prior to the start of construction.

BIO-1(i) Fence and Signpost Restriction. Any fencing posts or signs installed temporarily or permanently throughout the course of the project shall have the top three post holes covered or filled with screws or bolts to prevent the entrapment of wildlife, specifically the talons of birds of prey. Also, fencing shall incorporate wildlife friendly design elements, such as smooth wires and having a 6-inch or greater gap above grade. Fencing shall also be designed to be wildlife friendly (e.g., smooth top wire, smooth bottom wire at 6 inches above grade, etc.).

BIO-1(j) Worker Environmental Awareness Program (WEAP). Prior to initiation of construction activities (including staging and mobilization), all personnel associated with project construction shall attend WEAP training, conducted by a qualified biologist, to aid workers in recognizing special-status resources that may occur in the project area. The specifics of this program shall include identification of the sensitive species and habitats, a description of the regulatory status and general ecological characteristics of sensitive resources, and review of the limits of construction and mitigation measures required to reduce impacts to biological resources within the work area. A fact sheet conveying this information shall also be prepared for distribution to all contractors, their employers, and other personnel involved with construction of the project. All employees shall sign a form documenting that they have attended the WEAP and understand the information presented to them.

Impact BIO-2. Implementation of transportation projects and the land use scenario envisioned by the proposed 2022 RTP/SCS would result in substantial adverse impacts on sensitive habitats, including state or federally protected wetlands. This impact would be significant, but mitigable. This impact would be significant but mitigable. For agencies utilizing the SJMSCP, this impact would be less than significant.

BIO-2(a) Aquatic Resources Jurisdictional Delineation and Impact Avoidance. If the results of measure BIO-1(a) indicates projects implemented under the 2022 RTP/SCS occur within or adjacent to wetland, drainages, riparian habitats, or other areas that may fall under the jurisdiction of the CDFW, USACE, and RWQCB, a qualified biologist shall complete an aquatic resources delineation in accordance with the requirement set forth by each agency. The result shall be submitted to the implementing agency, USACE, RWQCB, CDFW as appropriate, for review and approval, and the project shall be designed to minimize impacts to jurisdictional areas to the extent feasible. The delineation shall serve as the basis to identify potentially jurisdictional areas to be protected during construction, through implementation of the avoidance and minimization identified in measure BIO-2(f).

If jurisdictional areas are expected to be impacted, then the RWQCB would require a Waste Discharge Requirements (WDR) permit and/or Section 401 Water Quality Certification (depending upon whether the feature falls under federal jurisdiction). If CDFW asserts its jurisdictional authority, then a Streambed Alteration Agreement pursuant to Section 1600 et seq. of the CFGC would also be required prior to construction within the areas of CDFW jurisdiction. If the USACE asserts its authority, then a permit pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act would likely be required.

BIO-2(b) Wetland, Drainages, and Riparian Habitat Restoration. Impacts to jurisdictional drainages, wetlands and riparian habitat shall be mitigated in accordance with the SJMSCP at a minimum ratio of 2:1 preservation plus 1:1 creation for vernal pools within the *Vernal Pool Zone*, as mapped by the SJMSCP Zone Map, and at least 1:1 creation plus 2:1 preservation for wetlands other than vernal pools (acres of habitat restored to acres impacted) and shall occur on-site or as close to the impacted habitat as possible. A mitigation and monitoring plan shall be developed by a qualified biologist in accordance with the restoration plan component requirements in mitigation measure BIO-1(c) above and shall be implemented for no less than five years after construction of the segment, or until the implementing agency and/or the permitting authority (e.g., CDFW or USACE) has determined that restoration has been successful. Alternatively, mitigation shall be accomplished through purchase of credits from an approved wetlands mitigation bank.

BIO-2(c) Landscaping Plan. If landscaping is proposed for a specific project, a qualified biologist/landscape architect shall prepare a landscape plan for that project. This plan shall indicate the locations and species of plants to be installed. Drought tolerant, locally native plant species shall be used. Noxious, invasive, and/or non-native plant species that are recognized on the Federal Noxious Weed List, California Noxious Weeds List, and/or California Invasive Plant Council Inventory as moderate to highly invasive species shall not be permitted. Species selected for planting shall be regionally appropriate native species that are known to occur in the adjacent native habitat types.

BIO-2(d) Sensitive Natural Community Avoidance and Mitigation. If the results of measure BIO-1(a) indicates projects implemented under the 2022 RTP/SCS would impact sensitive vegetation communities, impacts to sensitive communities shall be avoided through final project design modifications. Bright orange construction fencing shall be placed a minimum of 30 feet outside the edge of areas of sensitive communities that will be retained prior to any initiation of ground disturbance activities and shall remain in place until construction is complete. No vehicles, person, materials, or equipment shall be allowed in protected areas.

If the implementing agency determines that sensitive communities cannot be avoided, impacts shall be mitigated onsite or offsite at a ratio of 1:1 for permanently impacted sensitive communities (habitat restored for habitat lost). Less than
Significant with
Mitigation
Incorporated

Less than Significant for agencies utilizing the SJMSCP

Temporarily impacted areas shall be restored to pre-project conditions. A Restoration Plan shall be developed by a qualified biologist. The restoration plan shall be implemented for a period of not less than five years. Off-site habitat acquisition and off-site restoration and/or enhancement may be considered if onsite restoration is determined as unachievable, as long as the off-site proposals result in equal compensatory value. Replacement ratios for off-site mitigation may be different than those required for onsite mitigation. The plan shall include, at a minimum, the same components in accordance with the restoration plan component requirements in mitigation measure BIO-1(c) above.

BIO-2(e) Invasive Weed Prevention and Management Program. Prior to start of construction for each project that occurs within or adjacent to native habitats, an Invasive Weed Prevention and Management Program shall be developed by a qualified biologist to prevent invasion of native habitat by non-native plant species. The plan shall be submitted to the implementing agency for review and approval. A list of target species shall be included, along with measures for early detection and eradication.

The plan, which shall be implemented by the project sponsor, shall also include, but not be limited to, the following measures to prevent the introduction of invasive weed species:

- During construction, the project shall make all reasonable efforts to limit the use of imported soils for fill. Soils
 currently existing on-site should be used for fill material. If the use of imported fill material is necessary, the
 imported material must be obtained from a source that is known to be free of invasive plant species.
- To minimize colonization of disturbed areas and the spread of invasive species, the contractor shall: stockpile
 topsoil and redeposit the stockpiled soil after construction or transport the topsoil to a permitted landfill for
 disposal.
- The erosion control/ restoration plans for the project must emphasize the use of native species that are expected to occur in the area and that are considered suitable for use at the project site.
- All erosion control materials, including straw bales, straw wattles, or mulch used on-site must be free of invasive species seed.
- Exotic and invasive plant species shall be excluded from any erosion control seed mixes and/or landscaping plant
 palettes associated with the proposed project
- All disturbed areas shall be hydroseeded with a mix of locally native species upon completion of work in those areas. In areas where construction is ongoing, hydroseeding shall occur where no construction activities have occurred within six (6) weeks since ground disturbing activities ceased. If exotic species invade these areas prior to hydroseeding, weed removal shall occur in consultation with a qualified biologist and in accordance with the restoration plan.

BIO-2(f) Wetlands, Drainages, and Riparian Habitat Best Management Practices During Construction. The following best management practices shall be required for development within or adjacent to wetlands, drainages, or riparian habitat:

Access routes, staging, and construction areas shall be limited to the minimum area necessary to achieve the
project goal and minimize impacts to other waters including locating access routes and ancillary construction
areas outside of jurisdictional areas.

- To control sedimentation during and after project implementation, appropriate erosion control materials shall be deployed to minimize adverse effects on jurisdictional areas in the vicinity of the project.
- Project activities within the jurisdictional areas should occur during the dry season (typically between June 1 and November 1) in any given year, or as otherwise directed by the regulatory agencies.
- During construction, no litter or construction debris shall be placed within jurisdictional areas. All such debris and
 waste shall be picked up daily and properly disposed of at an appropriate site.
- All project-generated debris, building materials, and rubbish shall be removed from jurisdictional areas and from areas where such materials could be washed into them.
- Raw cement, concrete or washings thereof, asphalt, paint or other coating material, oil or other petroleum products, or any other substances which could be hazardous to aquatic species resulting from project-related activities, shall be prevented from contaminating the soil and/or entering wetlands, drainages, or riparian habitat.
- All refueling, maintenance, and staging of equipment and vehicles shall occur at least 100 feet from bodies of
 water and in a location where a potential spill would not drain directly toward aquatic habitat (e.g., on a slope
 that drains away from the water source). Prior to the onset of work activities, a plan must be in place for prompt
 and effective response to any accidental spills.

Impact BIO-3. Implementation of transportation projects and the land use scenario envisioned by the proposed 2022 RTP/SCS would interfere substantially with wildlife movement, including fish migration, and/or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites. This impact would be significant, and unavoidable.

BIO-3(a) Project Design for Wildlife Connectivity. The implementing agency shall implement the following measures. All projects including long segments of fencing and lighting shall be designed to minimize impacts to wildlife. Where fencing or other project components is required for public safety concerns, these project components shall be designed to permit wildlife movement by incorporating design features such as:

- A minimum 16 inches between the ground and the bottom of the fence to provide clearance for small animals;
- A minimum 12 inches between the top two wires, or top the fence with a wooden rail, mesh, or chain link instead of wire to prevent animals from becoming entangled;
- If privacy fencing is required near open space areas, openings at the bottom of the fence measure at least 16 inches in diameter shall be installed at reasonable intervals to allow wildlife movement, or the fence may be installed with the bottom at least 16 inches above the ground level;
- If fencing or other project components must be designed in such a manner that wildlife passage would not be permitted, wildlife crossing structures shall be incorporated into the project design as appropriate; and
- Lighting installed as part of any project shall be designed to be minimally disruptive to wildlife (see mitigation measure AES-3(a) Roadway Lighting for lighting requirements).

BIO-3(b) Maintain Connectivity in Drainages. No permanent structures shall be placed within any drainage or river that would impede wildlife movement (i.e., no hardened caps or other structures in the stream channel perpendicular to stream flow be left exposed or at depth with moderate to high risk for exposure as a result of natural bed scour during high flow events and thereby potentially create impediments to passage).

In addition, upon completion of construction within any drainage, areas of stream channel and banks that are temporarily impacted shall be returned to pre-construction contours and in a condition that allows for unimpeded passage through the area once the work has been complete.

Significant and Unavoidable

Impact	Mitigation Measure(s)	Impact Finding
	If water is to be diverted around work sites, a diversion plan shall be submitted to SJCOG and/or local jurisdiction for review and approval prior to issuance of project construction permits/approvals. The diversion shall be designed in a way as to not impede movement while the diversion is in place.	
	BIO-3 (c) Construction Best Management Practices to Minimize Disruption to Wildlife. The following construction BMPs shall be incorporated into all grading and construction plans in order to minimize temporary disruption of wildlife, which could hinder wildlife movement:	
	 Designation of a 20 mile per hour speed limit in all construction areas. 	
	 Daily construction work schedules shall be limited to daylight hours only. 	
	 Mufflers shall be used on all construction equipment and vehicles shall be in good operating condition. 	
	 All trash shall be placed in sealed containers and shall be removed from the project site a minimum of once per week. 	
	 No pets are permitted on project site during construction. 	
mpact BIO-4. Implementation of transportation mprovements and the land use scenario envisioned by the proposed 2022 RTP/SCS would not conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy. This impact would be ess than significant.	None required.	Less than Significant
mpact BIO-5. Implementation f transportation projects and ne land use scenario nvisioned by the 2022 TP/SCS would not conflict with the provisions of an dopted Habitat Conservation lan, Natural Community onservation Plan, or other pproved local, regional, or tate habitat conservation lan. Impacts would be ignificant, but mitigable.	Implementation of Mitigation Measures BIO-1(a) through BIO-3(c) are required.	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated

Cultural Resources

Impact CR-1. Transportation improvement projects and the land use scenario envisioned by the proposed 2022 RTP/SCS would cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to §15064.5. This impact would be significant and unavoidable.

CR-1 Built Environment Historical Resources Impact Mitigation. Prior to individual project permit issuance, the implementing agency of a 2022 RTP/SCS project involving a building or structure over 45 years of age shall prepare a map defining the project area. This map shall indicate the areas of disturbance associated with construction and operation of the facility and will help in determining whether known and potential historical resources are located within the project area. If a structure greater than 45 years in age is within the identified impact zone, a survey and evaluation of the structure(s) to determine their eligibility for recognition under State, federal, or local historic resource designation criteria shall be conducted. The evaluation shall be prepared by an architectural historian or historical architect meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation, Professional Qualification Standards (PQS) as defined in 36 CFR Part 61. All buildings and structures 45 years of age or older within the project area shall be evaluated in their historic context and documented in a report meeting the State Office of Historic Preservation guidelines. All evaluated properties shall be documented on Department of Parks and Recreation Series 523 Forms. The report shall be submitted to the implementing agency for review and concurrence.

If historical resources are identified within the project area of a proposed development, efforts shall be made to the extent feasible to ensure that impacts are mitigated. Application of mitigation shall generally be overseen by a qualified architectural historian or historic architect meeting the PQS, unless unnecessary in the circumstances (e.g., preservation in place). In conjunction with any development application that may affect the historical resource, a report identifying and specifying the treatment of character-defining features and construction activities shall be provided to the implementing agency for review.

To the greatest extent possible the relocation, rehabilitation, or alteration of the resource shall be consistent with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatments of Historic Properties (Standards). In accordance with CEQA, a project that has been determined to conform with the Standards generally would not cause a significant adverse direct or indirect impact to historical resources (14 CCR § 15126.4[b)(][1]). Application of the Standards shall be overseen by a qualified architectural historian or historic architect meeting the PQS. In conjunction with any development application that may affect the historical resource, a report identifying and specifying the treatment of character-defining features and construction activities shall be provided to the implementing agency for review and concurrence.

If significant historical resources are identified on a development site and compliance with the Standards and/or avoidance is not possible, appropriate site-specific mitigation measures shall be established and undertaken. Mitigation measures may include documentation of the historical resource in the form of a Historic American Building Survey-Like report. The report shall comply with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Architectural and Engineering Documentation and shall generally follow the HABS Level III requirements, including digital photographic recordation, detailed historic narrative report, and compilation of historic research. The documentation shall be completed by a qualified architectural historian or historian who meets the PQS and submitted to the implementing

Significant and Unavoidable

Impact	Mitigation Measure(s) agency prior to issuance of any permits for demolition or alteration of the historical resource. Copies of the report shall be provided to a local library and/or other appropriate repositories.	Impact Finding
Impact CR-2. Construction activity associated with transportation improvement projects and the land use scenario envisioned by the proposed 2022 RTP/SCS may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5. Potential impacts to archaeological resources would be significant and unavoidable.	CR-2(a) Archaeological Resources Impact Minimization. Before construction activities, implementing agencies shall retain a qualified archaeologist to conduct a record search at the Central California Information Center to determine whether the project area has been previously surveyed and whether resources were identified. When recommended by the Information Center, implementing agencies shall retain a qualified archaeologist to conduct archaeological surveys before construction activities. Implementing agencies shall, or can and should, follow recommendations identified in the survey, which may include, but would not be limited to: subsurface testing, designing and implementing a Worker Environmental Awareness Program (WEAP), construction monitoring by a qualified archaeologist, or avoidance of sites and preservation in place, and/or data recovery if avoidance is not feasible. Recommended mitigation measures shall be consistent with CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.4(b)(3) recommendations and may include but not be limited to preservation in place and/or data recovery. All cultural resources work shall follow accepted professional standards in recording any find including submittal of standard DPR Primary Record forms (Form DPR 523) and location information to the appropriate California Historical Resources Information System office for the project area. CR-2(b) Unanticipated Discoveries During Construction. During construction activities, implementing agencies shall, or can and should, implement the following measures. If evidence of any prehistoric or historic-era subsurface archaeological features, deposits or tribal cultural resources are discovered during construction-related earthmoving activities (e.g., ceramic shard, trash scatters, lithic scatters), all ground-disturbing activity proximate to the discovery shall be halted until a qualified archaeologist (36 CFR Section 61) can assess the significance of the find. If the find is a prehistoric archaeologist of the find is a prehistoric archaeologist of th	Significant and Unavoidable
Impact CR-3. Construction activity associated with transportation improvement projects and the land use	None required.	Less than Significant

scenario envisioned by the 2022 RTP/SCS could result in disturbances to human remains including those	Mitigation Measure(s)	Impact Finding
interred outside of formal cemeteries. Potential impacts to human remains would be less than significant.		
Energy		
Impact E-1. Future transportation improvement projects and implementation of the land use scenario envisioned by the proposed 2022 RTP/SCS would not result in significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources. This impact would be less than significant.	None required.	Less than Significant
Impact E-2. The proposed 2022 RTP/SCS would not increase reliance on fossil fuels or decrease reliance on renewable energy sources. This impact would be less than significant.	None required.	Less than Significant
Impact E-3. The proposed 2022 RTP/SCS would not conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency. This impact would be less than significant.	None required.	Less than Significant

Impact	Mitigation Measure(s)	Impact Finding
Agriculture and Forestry Resour	ces	
Impact AG-1. The proposed 2022 RTP/SCS could result in the conversion of important farmland to nonagricultural use, and/or conflict with existing zoning for agriculture. This impact would be significant and unavoidable.	 AG-1 Impact Avoidance and Minimization. Project sponsors shall implement measures, where feasible and necessary based on project-and site-specific considerations that include but are not limited to those identified below. Require project relocation or corridor realignment, where feasible, to avoid Important Farmland; Manage project construction to minimize the introduction of invasive species or weeds that may affect agricultural production on agricultural land adjacent to project sites. Managing project construction may include washing construction equipment before bringing equipment on-site, using certified weed-free straw bales for construction Best Management Practices (BMPs), and other similar measures. Provide buffers, berms, setbacks, fencing, or other project design measures to protect surrounding agriculture, and to reduce conflict with farming that could result from implementation of transportation improvements and/or development included as a part of the RTP/SCS; Achieve compensatory mitigation in advance of impacts through purchase or creation of mitigation credits or the implementation of mitigation projects through Regional Advance Mitigation Planning, as deemed appropriate by permitting agencies; and/or Require acquisition of conservation easements on land in the same jurisdiction, if feasible, and at least equal in quality and size to converted Important Farmland, to offset the loss of Important Farmland. 	Significant and Unavoidable
Impact AG-2. The proposed 2022 RTP/SCS would not conflict with existing zoning for forest land, timberland, or timberland production, and would not convert forest land to non-forest uses. This impact would be less than significant.	None required.	Less than Significant
Environmental Justice		
Impact EJ-1. The proposed transportation improvements and land use projects envisioned by the proposed 2022 RTP/SCS would not result in adverse impacts to EJ households. This impact would be less than significant.	None required.	Less than Significant

Impact	Mitigation Measure(s)	Impact Finding
Impact EJ-2. The proposed transportation improvements envisioned by the Proposed 2022 RTP/SCS would not result in a disproportionately lower distribution of benefits to EJ communities. This impact would be less than significant.	None required.	Less than Significant
Impact EJ-3. Implementation of the land use scenario envisioned by the proposed 2022 RTP/SCS would increase the availability of affordable housing stock. This impact would be less than significant.	None required.	Less than Significant
Geology and Soils		
Impact GEO-1. The transportation improvements and land use projects envisioned by the proposed 2022 RTP/SCS would not directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving rupture of a known earthquake fault, strong seismic ground shaking, seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction, or landslides. Impacts would be less than significant.	None required.	Less than Significant
Impact GEO-2. The proposed transportation improvements and land use projects envisioned by the proposed 2022 RTP/SCS would not result	None required.	Less than Significant

Impact	Mitigation Measure(s)	Impact Finding
in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil. Impacts would be less than significant.		
Impact GEO-3. Implementation of transportation improvements and future projects included in the land use scenario envisioned in the proposed 2022 RTP/SCS could be located on potentially unstable soils, in areas of lateral spreading, subsidence, or high liquefaction potential, or areas of expansive soil. Impacts would be Less than significant.	None required.	Less than Significant
Impact GEO-4. The transportation improvements and land use projects envisioned by the proposed 2022 RTP/SCS in rural areas may have soils incapable of adequately supporting septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems. Impacts would be less than significant.	None required.	Less than Significant
Impact GEO-5. Implementation of the proposed transportation improvements and the land use scenario envisioned by 2022 RTP/SCS could cause a substantial adverse change in or disturb known and unknown paleontological resources as defined in CEQA guidelines	GEO-5 Paleontological Resources Mitigation and Monitoring Program. The implementing agency of a proposed 2022 RTP/SCS project involving ground disturbing activities (including grading, trenching, foundation work and other excavations) shall, or can and should, retain a qualified paleontologist, defined as a paleontologist who meets the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology (SVP) standards for Qualified Professional Paleontologist (SVP 2010), to conduct a Paleontological Resources Assessment (PRA). The PRA shall determine the age and paleontological sensitivity of geologic formations underlying the proposed disturbance area, consistent with SVP Standard Procedures for the Assessment and Mitigation of Adverse Impacts to Paleontological Resources (SVP 2010) guidelines for categorizing paleontological sensitivity of geologic units within a project area. If underlying formations are found to have a high potential (sensitivity) for paleontological resources and/or could be considered a unique geologic feature, the following measures shall apply:	Significant and Unavoidable

section 15064.5. Impacts to paleontological resources would be significant and unavoidable.

- Avoidance. Avoid routes and project designs that would permanently alter unique paleontological and geological features. If avoidance practices cannot be implemented, the following measures shall apply.
- Retention of a Qualified Paleontologist. A Qualified Paleontologist shall be retained to create a Paleontological Resources Monitoring and Mitigation Program (PRMMP) to direct all mitigation measures related to paleontological resources. The Qualified Paleontologist shall meet the qualifications for a Qualified Professional Paleontologist, which is defined by the SVP as an individual, preferably with an M.S. or Ph.D. in paleontology or geology, who is experienced with paleontological procedures and techniques, who is knowledgeable in the geology of California, and who has worked as a paleontological mitigation project supervisor for a least two years (SVP 2010).
- Paleontological Worker Environmental Awareness Program (WEAP). Prior to the start of ground disturbance
 activity, construction personnel shall be informed on the appearance of fossils and the procedures for notifying
 paleontological staff should fossils be discovered by construction staff.
- Paleontological Monitoring. Paleontological monitoring shall be conducted by a qualified paleontological monitor, who is defined as an individual who has experience with collection and salvage of paleontological resources and meets the minimum standards of the SVP (2010) for a Paleontological Resources Monitor. The duration and timing of the monitoring will be determined by the Qualified Paleontologist based on the observation of the geologic setting from initial ground disturbance. If the Qualified Paleontologist determines that full-time monitoring is no longer warranted, based on the specific geologic conditions once the full depth of excavations has been reached, they may recommend that monitoring be reduced to periodic spot-checking or ceased entirely. Monitoring shall be reinstated if any new ground disturbances are required, and reduction or suspension shall be reconsidered by the Qualified Paleontologist at that time. In the event of a fossil discovery by the paleontological monitor or construction personnel, all work in the immediate vicinity of the find shall cease. A Qualified Paleontologist shall evaluate the find before restarting construction activity in the area. If it is determined that the fossil(s) is (are) scientifically significant, the Qualified Paleontologist shall complete the following conditions to mitigate impacts to significant fossil resources:
- Fossil Salvage. If fossils are discovered, the implementing agency shall be notified immediately, and the qualified paleontologist (or paleontological monitor) shall recover them. Typically, fossils can be safely salvaged quickly by a single paleontologist and not disrupt construction activity. In some cases, larger fossils (such as complete skeletons or large mammal fossils) require more extensive excavation and longer salvage periods. In this case, the paleontologist should have the authority to temporarily direct, divert or halt construction activity to ensure that the fossil(s) can be removed in a safe and timely manner.
- Preparation and Curation of Recovered Fossils. Once salvaged, fossils shall be identified to the lowest possible
 taxonomic level, prepared to a curation-ready condition, and curated in a scientific institution with a permanent
 paleontological collection along with all pertinent field notes, photos, data, and maps.
- Final Paleontological Mitigation and Monitoring Report. Upon completion of ground disturbing activity (and curation of fossils, if necessary) the Qualified Paleontologist shall prepare a final mitigation and monitoring report outlining the results of the PRMMP. The report shall include discussion of the location, duration and methods of the monitoring, stratigraphic sections, any recovered fossils, and the scientific significance of those fossils, and

Mitigation Measure(s) **Impact Finding Impact** where fossils were curated. The report shall be submitted to the sponsor agency. If the monitoring efforts recovered fossils, then a copy of the report shall also be submitted to the designated museum repository **Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Climate Change** Significant and **Impact GHG-1.** Construction of GHG-1 Construction GHG Reduction Measures. The project sponsor shall incorporate the most recent GHG emission the transportation reduction measures for off-road construction vehicles during construction. The measures shall be noted on all Unavoidable construction plans, and the implementing agency shall perform periodic site inspections. Current GHG-reducing improvements and land use projects envisioned by the measures include the following: proposed 2022 RTP/SCS would Use of diesel construction equipment meeting CARB's Tier 4 certified engines wherever feasible for off-road heavygenerate GHG emissions that duty diesel engines and comply with the State Off-Road Regulation. Where the use of Tier 4 engines is not feasible, may have a significant impact Tier 3 certified engines shall be used; where the use of Tier 3 engines are not feasible, Tier 2 certified engines shall on the environment. Impacts be used; would be significant and Use of on-road heavy-duty trucks that meet CARB's 2007 or cleaner certification standard for on-road heavy-duty unavoidable. diesel engines, and comply with the State On-Road Regulation; Minimizing idling time (e.g., five-minute maximum). Signs shall be posted in the designated queuing areas and or iob sites to remind drivers and operators of the five-minute idling limit: Use of electric-powered equipment in place of diesel-powered equipment when feasible; Use of alternatively fueled or catalyst-equipped diesel construction equipment when feasible, to the extent electric powered equipment is not feasible; Substitute gasoline-powered in place of diesel-powered equipment, when neither electric-powered equipment or alternatively fueled or catalyst-equipped diesel equipment is feasible; and Incentives for construction workers to carpool and/or use electric vehicles to commute to and from the project site. GHG-2 Land Use Project Energy Consumption and Water Use Reduction Measures. For land use projects under their Significant and **Impact GHG-2.** Proposed transportation improvements iurisdiction, cities and the County can and should implement measures to reduce energy consumption, water use. unavoidable and land use projects solid waste generation, and VMT, all of which contribute to GHG emissions. Project-specific environmental documents envisioned by the proposed may adjust these mitigation measures as necessary to respond to site-specific conditions. These measures include, but 2022 RTP/SCS would result in a are not limited to: net increase in GHG emissions Require new residential and commercial construction to install solar energy systems or be solar-ready by 2046 compared to the Require new residential and commercial development to install low flow water fixtures existing baseline conditions Require new residential and commercial development to install water-efficient drought-tolerant landscaping, and would therefore have a including the use of compost and mulch significant impact on the Require new development to exceed the applicable Title 24 energy-efficiency requirements environment. Impacts would Require new development to be fully electric be significant and unavoidable. Require new residential and commercial development to offer information on recycling, composting, and disposal of household hazardous waste and e-waste Require new development to implement circulation design elements in parking lots for no-residential uses to reduce vehicle queuing and improve the pedestrian environment

Impact	Mitigation Measure(s)	Impact Finding
Impact GHG-3. The transportation improvements and land use projects envisioned by the proposed 2022 RTP/SCS would not conflict with regional SB 375 per capita passenger vehicle CO ₂ emission reduction targets of 16 percent by 2035 from 2005 levels. Impacts would be less than significant.	None required.	Less than Significant
Impact GHG-4. Implementation of the proposed 2022 RTP/SCS would conflict with the State's ability to achieve SB 32, EOs S-3-05 and B-55-18, and applicable local GHG reduction plan targets and goals. Impacts would be significant and unavoidable.	GHG-4(a) Transportation-Related GHG Reduction Measures. The implementing agency shall incorporate the most recent GHG emission reduction measures and/or technologies for reducing VMT and associated transportation related GHG emissions. Current GHG-reducing measures include the following: Installation of electric vehicle charging stations beyond those required by State and local codes Utilization of electric vehicles and/or alternatively fueled vehicles in company fleet Provision of dedicated parking for carpools, vanpool, and clean air vehicles Provision of vanpool and/or shuttle service for employees Implementation of reduced parking minimum requirements Implementation of maximum parking limits Provision of bicycle parking facilities beyond those required by State and local codes Provision of bicycle-share program Expansion of bicycle routes/lanes along the project site frontage Provision of new or improved transit amenities (e.g., covered turnouts, bicycle racks, covered benches, signage, lighting) if project site is located along an existing transit route Expansion of existing transit routes Provision of transit subsidies Expansion of sidewalk infrastructure along the project site frontage Provision of safe, pedestrian-friendly, and interconnected sidewalks and streetscapes Provision of employee lockers and showers Provision of alternative work schedule options, such as telework or reduced schedule (e.g., 9/80 or 10/40 schedules), for employees Implementation of transportation demand management programs to educate and incentivize residents and/or employees to use transit, smart commute, and alternative transportation options	Significant and Unavoidable

Impact	Mitigation Measure(s)	Impact Finding
Hazards and Hazardous Materia	ls	
Impact HAZ-1. Transportation improvement projects and land use patterns included in the 2022 RTP/SCS may facilitate the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous material, and may result in reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions. Mandatory compliance with existing regulations and programs would minimize the risk associated with these activities or accident conditions. Impacts would be less than significant.	None required.	Less than Significant
Impact HAZ-2. Transportation improvement projects and land use patterns included in the 2022 RTP/SCS may facilitate the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous material, and may result in reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions. Mandatory compliance with existing regulations and programs would minimize the risk associated with these activities or accident conditions. Impacts would be less than significant.	None required.	Less than Significant
Impact HAZ-3. The 2022 RTP/SCS includes land use patterns and transportation projects that could occur on	HAZ-3 Site Remediation. If an individual project included in the 2022 RTP/SCS is located on or near a hazardous material and/or waste site pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 or has the potential for residual hazardous materials and/or waste as a result of location and/or prior uses, the project sponsor shall prepare a Phase I ESA in accordance with the American Society for Testing and Materials' E-1527-05 standard. For work requiring any	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated

Impact	Mitigation Measure(s)	Impact Finding
previously unknown hazardous material sites or sites on the list compiled by Government Code Section 65962.5, and therefore create a significant hazard to the public or environment. This impact would be significant but mitigable.	demolition or renovation, the Phase I ESA shall make recommendations for any hazardous building materials survey work that shall be done. All recommendations included in a Phase I ESA prepared for a site shall be implemented. If a Phase I ESA indicates the presence or likely presence of contamination, the implementing agency shall require a Phase II ESA, and recommendations of the Phase II ESA shall be fully implemented. Examples of typical recommendations provided in Phase I/II ESAs include removal of contaminated soil in accordance with a soil management plan approved by the local environmental health department; covering stockpiles of contaminated soil to prevent fugitive dust emissions; capturing groundwater encountered during construction in a holding tank for additional testing and characterization and disposal based on its characterization; and development of a health and safety plan for construction workers.	
	For any project located on or near sites that are not listed and do not have the potential for residual hazardous materials as a result of historic land uses, no action is required unless unknown hazards are discovered during development. In that case, the implementing agency shall discontinue development until DTSC, RWQCB, SJVAPCD, and/or other responsible agency issues a determination, which would likely require a Phase I ESA as part of the assessment.	
Impact HAZ-4. Transportation improvement projects and land use scenario envisioned by the 2022 RTP/SCS may be located at or near a public use airport or private airstrip. Existing regulations and regulatory oversight would reduce the inherent hazard of development near airports to safe levels, and this impact would be less than significant.	None required.	Less than Significant
Impact HAZ-5. Transportation improvement projects and the land use scenario envisioned by the 2022 RTP/SCS could interfere with existing emergency response and evacuation. However, required regular updates to emergency response and evacuation plans would account for development and projects and standard notification of	None required.	Less than Significant

Impact	Mitigation Measure(s)	Impact Finding
emergency response agencies during construction activities would ensure evacuation and response routes are modified appropriately. Impacts related to interference or impairment of an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan would be less than significant.		
Hydrology and Water Quality		
Impact HYD-1. Implementation of proposed transportation projects and future projects included in the land use scenario envisioned in the proposed 2022 RTP/SCS would not violate water quality standards or waste discharge requirements, or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality. Impacts would be less than significant.	None required.	Less than Significant
Impact HYD-2. Implementation of proposed transportation and land use projects envisioned in the proposed 2022 RTP/SCS would substantially decrease groundwater supplies. and interfere with groundwater recharge such that it may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basins. Impacts would be significant and unavoidable.	HYD-2(a) Construction Dust Suppression Water Supply. For all proposed 2022 RTP/SCS projects, where feasible, reclaimed and/or recycled water shall be used for dust suppression during construction activities. This includes use of such reclaimed water in water trucks utilized for project construction occurring outside developed areas and away from water infrastructure which would otherwise provide such reclaimed water. It should be noted that use of reclaimed water in water trucks is generally no different than use of potable water, and therefore use of reclaimed water in projects that will require the use of water trucks should be given extra consideration as a measure which can enable use of reclaimed water in areas where it would otherwise be impossible due to lack of infrastructure. This measure shall be noted on construction plans and shall be spot checked by the local jurisdiction. HYD-2(b) Landscape Watering. In jurisdictions that do not already have an appropriate local regulatory program related to landscape watering, or for proposed 2022 RTP/SCS projects that are not required to comply with AB 1881, projects that include landscaping shall be designed with drought tolerant plants and drip irrigation. When feasible, native plant species shall be used. In addition, landscaping associated with proposed improvements shall be maintained using reclaimed water when feasible. If reclaimed water could feasibly be utilized for project landscape	Significant and Unavoidable

Impact	Mitigation Measure(s)	Impact Finding
	watering due to proximity of reclaimed water sources but is unavailable due to lack of connecting infrastructure, local agencies or transportation sponsors shall conduct an analysis of the upgrades needed to provide such infrastructure, which will include the potential for new connections to existing reclaimed water systems to provide reclaimed water to other nearby sources besides the proposed project in the analysis, and shall perform such steps as necessary to utilize available reclaimed water if feasible.	
mpact HYD-3. Transportation and future land use projects implementing the proposed 2022 RTP/SCS would not substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of a site or area through alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces in a manner where drainage changes would result in flooding on- or off-site, redirect or impede flood flows, exceed the capacity of stormwater systems, or provide additional polluted runoff. Impacts would be less than significant.	None required.	Less than Significant
mpact HYD-4. Transportation and land use projects mplementing the proposed 2022 RTP/SCS would not risk release of pollutants due to project inundation in flood mazard, tsunami, or seiche zones. Impacts would be less than significant.	None required.	Less than significant
Impact HYD-5. Transportation and land use projects Implementing the proposed 2022 RTP/SCS would not	None required.	Less than significant.

Impact	Mitigation Measure(s)	Impact Finding
conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plans. Impacts would be less than significant.		
Land Use & Planning		
Impact LU-1. Implementation of proposed transportation improvements and the land use scenario envisioned by the proposed 2022 RTP/SCS would not physically divide an established community. This impact would be less than significant.	None required.	Less than Significant
Impact LU-2. 2022 RTP/SCS project implementation would not cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation) and result in a physical change to the environment. This impact would be less than significant.	Mitigation measures are provided for applicable resources throughout their respective environmental issue area sections of the EIR to reduce impacts.	Less than Significant
Noise		
Impact N-1. Construction activity associated with transportation improvements and land use projects envisioned by the proposed 2022 RTP/SCS would generate a substantial temporary increase in ambient noise levels in excess of standards established in local general plans or noise ordinances and	 N-1 Construction Noise Reduction. To reduce construction noise levels to achieve applicable standards, implementing agencies for transportation and land use projects shall implement the measures identified below where feasible and necessary. a. Compliance with local Construction Noise Regulations. Implementing agencies shall ensure that, where residences or other noise sensitive uses are located within 800 feet of construction sites without pile driving, appropriate measures shall be implemented to ensure consistency with local noise ordinance requirements relating to construction. Specific techniques may include, but are not limited to, restrictions on construction timing, use of sound blankets on construction equipment, and the use of temporary walls and noise barriers to block and deflect noise. 	Significant and Unavoidable

would generate a substantial absolute noise increase over existing noise levels. This impact would be significant and unavoidable.

- b. Noise Complaint and Enforcement Manager. Designate an on-site construction complaint and enforcement manager for projects within 800 feet of sensitive receivers. Implementing agencies shall post phone numbers for the on-site enforcement manager at construction sites along with complaint procedures and who to notify in the event of a problem.
- Pile Driving. For any project within 3,200 feet of sensitive receptors that requires pilings, the implementing agency shall require caisson drilling or sonic pile driving as opposed to pile driving, where feasible. This shall be accomplished through the placement of conditions on the project during its individual environmental review.
- d. **Construction Equipment Noise Control**. Implementing agencies shall ensure that equipment and trucks used for project construction utilize the best available noise control techniques (including mufflers, use of intake silencers, ducts, engine enclosures, and acoustically attenuating shields or shrouds).
- e. **Impact Equipment Noise Control.** Implementing agencies shall ensure that impact equipment (e.g., jack hammers, pavement breakers, and rock drills) used for project construction be hydraulically or electrically powered wherever feasible to avoid noise associated with compressed air exhaust from pneumatically powered tools. Where use of pneumatically powered tools is unavoidable, use of an exhaust muffler on the compressed air exhaust can lower noise levels from the exhaust by up to about 10 dBA. When feasible, external jackets on the impact equipment can achieve a reduction of 5 dBA. Whenever feasible, use quieter procedures, such as drilling rather than impact equipment operation.
- f. Construction Activity Timing Restrictions. The following timing restrictions shall apply to 2022 RTP/SCS activates creating noise levels at or above 65 dBA at a nearby dwelling unit, except where timing restrictions are already established in local codes or policies. Construction activities shall be limited to:
 - Monday through Friday: 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.
 - Saturday: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- g. Placement of Stationary Noise Sources. Locate stationary noise sources as far from noise-sensitive receptors as possible. Stationary noise sources that must be located near existing receptors will be equipped with the best available mufflers.

Impact N-2. Proposed transportation improvements envisioned by the proposed 2022 RTP/SCS would generate a substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in excess of standards or over existing noise levels and generate a substantial absolute noise increase over existing noise levels. This

N-2 Noise Assessment and Control for Mobile and Point Source Reduction. Implementing agencies shall complete detailed noise assessments using applicable guidelines (e.g., Caltrans Traffic Noise Analysis Protocol) for roadway and rail projects that may impact noise sensitive receptors. The implementing agency shall ensure that a noise survey is conducted that, at minimum:

- Determines existing and projected noise levels
- Determines the amount of attenuation needed to reduce potential noise impacts to applicable State and local standards
- Identifies potential alternate alignments that allow greater distance from, or greater buffering of, noise-sensitive areas
- If warranted, recommends methods for mitigating noise impacts, including:
 - Appropriate setbacks

Significant and Unavoidable

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Mitigation Measure(s) **Impact Finding Impact** impact would be significant Sound attenuating building design, including retrofit of existing structures with sound attenuating building and unavoidable. materials Use of sound barriers (earthen berms, sound walls, or some combination of the two) Locate transit-related passenger stations, central maintenance facilities, decentralized maintenance facilities, and electric substations away from sensitive receptors to the maximum extent feasible Where new or expanded roadways or transit are found to expose receptors to noise exceeding normally acceptable levels, the individual project lead agency shall implement techniques as recommended in the project-specific noise assessments. The preferred methods for mitigating noise impacts shall include the use of appropriate setbacks and sound attenuating building design, including retrofit of existing structures with sound attenuating building materials where feasible. In instances where use of these techniques is not feasible, the use of sound barriers (earthen berms. sound walls, or some combination of the two) shall be considered. Long expanses of walls or fences may be interrupted with offsets and provided with accents to prevent monotony. Landscape pockets and pedestrian access through walls may be provided. Whenever possible, a combination of elements shall be used, including open grade paving, solid fences, walls, and landscaped berms. Other techniques such as rubberized asphalt or "quiet pavement" shall be used where feasible to reduce road noise for new roadway segments or modifications requiring repaying. The effectiveness of noise reduction measures shall be monitored by taking noise measurements and installing adaptive mitigation measures to achieve applicable standards N-3(a) Vibration Mitigation for Construction of Transportation Projects. Where local vibration and groundborne Significant and **Impact N-3**. Construction noise standards do not apply, implementing agencies of proposed 2022 RTP/SCS projects utilizing heavy construction Unavoidable activities associated with transportation projects and equipment shall estimate vibration levels generated by construction activities and use the Caltrans vibration damage land use projects would potential threshold criteria to screen for and screen out projects as to their potential to damage buildings on site or generate excessive near a project. groundborne vibration levels. **Caltrans Vibration Damage Potential Threshold Criteria** New truck and bus traffic Maximum PPV (in/sec) resulting from the 2022 Continuous/ RTP/SCS would generate Structure and Condition **Transient Sources Frequent Intermittent Sources** excessive vibration levels. Extremely fragile historic buildings 0.12 0.08 These impacts would be significant and unavoidable. Fragile buildings 0.20 0.10 Historic and some old buildings 0.50 0.25 Older Residential structures 0.50 0.30 New residential structures 1.00 0.50 Modern industrial structures 2.00 0.50 Source: Transportation and Construction Vibration Guidance Manual (2020b)

If construction equipment would generate vibration levels exceeding acceptable levels as established by Caltrans, implementing agencies of the proposed 2022 RTP/SCS shall, or can and should, complete the following tasks:

- Prior to construction, survey the project site for vulnerable buildings, and complete geotechnical testing (preconstruction assessment of the existing subsurface conditions and structural integrity), for any older or historic buildings within 50 feet of pile driving. The testing shall be completed by a qualified geotechnical engineer and qualified historic preservation professional and/or structural engineer.
- Prepare and submit a report to the lead agency that contains the results of the geological testing. If recommended by the preconstruction report implementing agencies shall require ground vibration monitoring of nearby historic structures. Methods and technologies shall be based on the specific conditions at the construction site. The preconstruction assessment shall include a monitoring program to detect ground settlement or lateral movement of structures in the vicinity of pile-driving activities and identify corrective measures to be taken should monitored vibration levels indicate the potential for building damage. In the event of unacceptable ground movement with the potential to cause structural damage, all impact work shall cease, and corrective measures shall be implemented to minimize the risk to the subject, or adjacent, historic structure.
- To minimize disturbance withing 550 feet of pile-driving activities, implement "quiet" pile-driving technology, such as predrilling of piles and the use of more than one pile driver to shorten the duration of pile driving), where feasible, in consideration of geotechnical and structural requirements and conditions as defined as part of the geotechnical testing, if testing was feasible.
- Use cushion blocks to dampen noise from pile driving.
- Phase operations of construction equipment to avoid simultaneous vibration sources

N-3(b) Vibration Mitigation for Operation of Transportation Projects. Where local vibration and groundborne noise standards do not apply, implementing agencies of proposed 2022 RTP/SCS projects shall comply with all applicable local vibration and groundborne noise standards, or in the absence of such local standards, comply with guidance provided by the FTA in Transit Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment (FTA 2018) to assess impacts to buildings and sensitive receptors and reduce vibration and groundborne noise. FTA recommended thresholds shall be used except in areas where local standards for groundborne noise and vibration have been established. Methods that can be implemented to reduce vibration and groundborne noise impacts include, but are not limited to:

- Bus and Truck Traffic
 - Constructing of noise barriers
 - Use noise reducing tires and wheel construction on bus wheels
 - Use vehicle skirts (i.e., a partial enclosure around each wheel with absorptive treatment) on freight vehicle wheels

Impact N-4. Land use projects envisioned by the 2022 RTP/SCS may place sensitive receptors in areas with noise

N-4 Noise Mitigation for Land Uses. If a land use project is located in an area with exterior ambient noise levels above local noise standards, the implementing agency shall ensure that a noise study is conducted to determine the existing exterior noise levels in the vicinity of the project. If the project would be impacted by ambient noise levels, feasible attenuation measures shall be used to reduce operational noise to meet acceptable standards. In addition, noise

Significant and Unavoidable

Impact	Mitigation Measure(s)	Impact Finding
levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance. This impact would be significant and unavoidable.	insulation techniques shall be utilized to reduce indoor noise levels to thresholds set in applicable State and/or local standards. Such measures may include but are not limited to: dual-paned windows, solid core exterior doors with perimeter weather stripping, air conditioning system so that windows and doors may remain closed, and situating exterior doors away from roads. The noise study and determination of appropriate mitigation measures shall be completed during the project's individual environmental review.	
Fransportation		
Impact T-1. transportation projects and land use projects envisioned by the proposed 2022 RTP/SCS would not conflict with any program, plan, ordinance, or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle, and pedestrian facilities. This impact would be less than significant.	None required.	Less than Significant
Impact T-2. The proposed 2022 would result in an overall increase in regional VMT above baseline (2016) conditions. The proposed 2022 RTP/SCS would result in an increase in VMT per capita below the above baseline (2016) conditions. Regional VMT and VMT per capita impacts from implementation of the proposed 2022 RTP/SCS would be significant and unavoidable. The induced travel impact at the regional level would be less than significant.	T-2(a) Regional VMT Reduction Programs. Implementing agencies shall require implementation of VMT reduction strategies through TDM programs, impact fee programs, mitigation banks or exchange programs, in-lieu fee programs, and other land use project conditions that reduce VMT. Programs shall be designed to reduce VMT from existing land uses, where feasible, and from new discretionary residential or employment land use projects. The design of programs and project specific mitigation shall focus on VMT reduction strategies that increase travel choices and improve the comfort and convenience of sharing rides in private vehicles, using public transit, biking, or walking. Modifications may include but are not limited to: Provide car-sharing, vanpool, bike sharing, and ride-sharing programs Implement or provide access to commute reduction programs Provide a bus rapid transit system Improve pedestrian or bicycle networks, or transit service Provide transit passes Encourage telecommute programs Incorporate affordable housing into the project Increase density Increase mixed uses within the project area Incorporate improved pedestrian connections within the project/neighborhood Incentivize development in low VMT communities Incentivize housing near commercial and offices	Significant and Unavoidable

Impact	Mitigation Measure(s)	Impact Finding
	 Increase access to goods and services, such as groceries, schools, and daycare Incorporate neighborhood electric vehicle network Orient the project toward transit, bicycle, and pedestrian facilities Provide traffic calming Provide bicycle parking Limit parking Separate out parking costs Provide parking cash-out programs 	
Impact T-3. Proposed transportation and land use projects implementing the proposed 2022 RTP/SCS would not substantially increase hazards due to geometric design features or incompatible uses. This impact would be less than significant.	None required.	Less than Significant
Impact T-4. Transportation and land use projects implementing the proposed 2022 RTP/SCS would not result in inadequate emergency vehicle access or interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. This impact would be less than significant.	None required.	Less than Significant
Tribal Cultural Resources		
Impact TCR-1. Implementation of proposed transportation improvements and future projects included in the land use scenario envisioned in the 2022 RTP/SCS has the potential to impact tribal cultural resources. Impacts	TCR-1(a) Identified Tribal Cultural Resources Impact Minimization. Implementing agencies shall, or can and should, comply with AB 52, which may require formal tribal consultation. If the implementing agency determines that a project may cause a substantial adverse change to a tribal cultural resource, they shall implement mitigation measures identified in the consultation process required under PRC Section 21080.3.2, or shall implement the following measures where feasible to avoid or minimize the project-specific significant adverse impacts: Avoidance and preservation of the resources in place, including, but not limited to: designing and building the project to avoid the resources and protect the cultural and natural context, or planning greenspace, parks, or other open space to incorporate the resources with culturally appropriate protection and management criteria.	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated

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Impact Mitigation Measure(s) Impact Finding

would be less than significant with mitigation incorporated.

- Treating the resource with culturally appropriate dignity, taking into account the tribal cultural values and meaning of the resource, including, but not limited to, the following:
 - Protecting the cultural character and integrity of the resource
 - Protecting the traditional use of the resource
 - Protecting the confidentiality of the resource
- Establishment of permanent conservation easements or other culturally appropriate property management criteria for the purposes of preserving or utilizing the resources or places.
- Native American monitoring by the appropriate tribe during soil disturbance for all projects in areas identified as sensitive for potential tribal cultural resources and/or in the vicinity (within 100 feet) of known tribal cultural resources.

TCR-1(b) Unanticipated Tribal Cultural Resources Impact Minimization. If unanticipated potential tribal cultural resources are encountered during ground-disturbing activities, work in the immediate area must halt and the appropriate tribal representative(s), the implementing agency, and an archaeologist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards for archaeology (National Park Service [NPS] 1983) shall be contacted immediately to evaluate the find. If, in consultation with the implementing agency, the archaeologist and/or tribal representative determines the discovery to be a tribal cultural resource and thus, significant under CEQA, a mitigation plan shall be prepared and implemented in accordance with state guidelines and in consultation with tribal representatives. If the resource cannot be avoided, a mitigation plan shall be developed to address tribal concerns.

Wildfire

Impact WF-1. Proposed transportation improvements and land use projects envisioned by the proposed 2022 RTP/SCS would be located in or near an SRA or very high fire hazard severity zone, and significant risks of loss, injury, or death from wildfires or downstream flooding or landslides would occur. Impacts would be significant but mitigable.

WF-1(a) Wildfire Risk Reduction. If an individual transportation or land use project included in 2022 RTP/SCS is located within or less than two miles from an SRA or very high fire hazard severity zones, the implementing agency shall require appropriate mitigation to reduce the risk. Examples of mitigation to reduce risk of loss, injury or death from wildlife include, but are not limited to:

- Require the use of fire-resistant vegetation native to San Joaquin County and/or the local microclimate of the project site and discourage the use of fire-prone species especially nonnative, invasive species.
- Enforce defensible space regulations to keep overgrown and unmanaged vegetation, accumulations of trash and other flammable material away from structures.
- Provide public education about wildfire risk, fire prevention measures, and safety procedures and practices to allow for safe evacuation and/or options to shelter-in-place.
- Require adherence to the local hazard mitigation plan, as well as the local general plan policies and programs aimed at reducing the risk of wildfires through land use compatibility, training, sustainable development, brush management, public outreach, and service standards for fire departments.
- Ensure sufficient emergency water supply.
- Encourage the use of fire-resistant vegetation native to San Joaquin County and/or the local microclimate of the project site and discourage the use of fire-prone species especially non-native, invasive species.
- Require a fire safety plan be submitted to and approved by the local fire protection agency. The fire safety plan shall include all of the fire safety features incorporated into the project and the schedule for implementation of

Less than
Significant with
Mitigation
Incorporated

the features. The local fire protection agency may require changes to the plan or may reject the plan if it does not adequately address fire hazards associated with the project as a whole or the individual phase of the project.

- Prohibit certain project construction activities with potential to ignite wildfires during red-flag warnings issued by the National Weather Service for the project site location. Example activities that should be prohibited during redflag warnings include welding and grinding outside of enclosed buildings.
- Require fire extinguishers to be onsite during construction of projects. Fire extinguishers shall be maintained to
 function according to manufacturer specifications. Construction personnel shall receive training on the proper
 methods of using a fire extinguisher.
- Smoking and open fires shall be prohibited at individual transportation or land use projects sites included in 2022 RTP/SCS during construction and operations. A copy of the notification to all contractors regarding prohibiting smoking and burning shall be provided to the County.

WF-1(b) Fire Protection Plan. Individual transportation or land use projects included in the 2022 RTP/SCS shall prepare a Fire Protection Plan that meets Fire Prevention Bureau of San Joaquin County requirements. The plan shall contain (but not be limited to) the following provisions:

- All construction equipment shall be equipped with appropriate spark arrestors and carry fire extinguishers.
- A fire watch with appropriate firefighting equipment shall be available at the Project site at all times when welding activities are taking place. Welding shall not occur when sustained winds exceed that set forth by the Fire Prevention Bureau of San Joaquin County unless a Fire Prevention Bureau of San Joaquin County -approved wind shield is on site.
- A vegetation management plan shall be prepared to address vegetation clearance around all Wind Turbine Generators (WTGs) and a regularly scheduled brush clearance of vegetation on and adjacent to all access roads, power lines, and other facilities.
- Operational fire water tanks shall be installed prior to construction.
- Provisions for fire/emergency services access if roadway blockage occurs due to large loads during construction and operation
- Cleared, maintained parking areas shall be designated; no parking shall be allowed in non-designated areas.
- The need for and/or use of dedicated repeaters for emergency services.
- Appropriate Hot work permits (such as cutting and welding permits) shall be obtained from the jurisdictional fire agency.
- Compliance with California PRC 4291, 4442, and 4443

