MacArthur Lake Stormwater Capture Project

Notice of Preparation and Initial Study

April 2022

Prepared for

City of Los Angeles

Prepared by

1149 SOUTH BROADWAY, 9TH FLOOR
LOS ANGELES, CA 90015
TEL: (213) 485-2210
FAX: (213) 485-2979

April 7, 2022

NOTICE OF PREPARATION

TO: Responsible Agencies, Trustee Agencies, Stakeholders, and Interested Persons

FROM: City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works,
LA Sanitation & Environment/Safe Clean Water Implementation Division
1149 S. Broadway, 10th Floor MS 1149/756, Los Angeles, CA 90015

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE MACARTHUR LAKE STORMWATER CAPTURE PROJECT

The MacArthur Lake Stormwater Capture Project[1] (proposed project), led by the City of Los Angeles (City) Department of Public Works, Los Angeles Sanitation & Environment (LASAN) in partnership with the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP), would implement a regional multi-benefit stormwater project in MacArthur Park as part of the region's efforts under Los Angeles County's Safe Clean Water Program (SCWP) to meet water quality total maximum daily load (TMDL) limits for the Ballona Creek watershed and the current National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. LASAN is the Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and will prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the proposed project. The proposed project would divert and treat stormwater flows from the existing underground storm drain system and discharge it into MacArthur Lake for storage or return it to the storm drain system. Some of the water stored in the lake would subsequently be discharged to the sanitary sewer.

The City requests your agency's views on the scope and content of the environmental information relevant to your agency's statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed project, in accordance with California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15082(b). Your agency may need to use the EIR when considering any permit or other approval that your agency must issue for the proposed project. In addition, the City requests comments from other interested parties, stakeholders, and the general public on the scope of the environmental issues related to the proposed project.

Project Description: The proposed project would occur within the southwestern area of MacArthur Park and in the public rights-of-way on adjacent streets southwest of the park and in the alley that parallels 7th Street. MacArthur Park is a public park located at 2230 W. 6th Street in the Westlake neighborhood of central Los Angeles, approximately 1 mile northwest of downtown. The park is bound by 6th Street to the north, 7th Street to the south, Park View Street to the west, and Alvarado Street to the east. Wilshire Boulevard extends east-west through the park, dividing it into northern and southern sections. The

[1] In the SCWP funding application, the project was referred to as the MacArthur Lake Rehabilitation Project.

general location of the project is shown in **Figure 1.** Aboveground features of the project would consist of a new, lined treatment wetlands near the southwest corner of the park and some equipment within and/or adjacent to an existing pump house located south of the lake. The underground diversion, capture, and pretreatment structures would be located in Lake Street south of the park and in an adjacent alley. An additional underground stormwater treatment unit would be located along the southern edge of the park. Underground pipelines would be located in the park and in Lake Street, Grand View Street, 7th Street, and in a small portion of the alley that parallels 7th Street. The proposed project components are illustrated in **Figure 2**.

The proposed project would divert and treat portions of wet weather stormwater flows as well as dry weather flows from the existing underground storm drain system and discharge it into MacArthur Lake for storage or return it to the storm drain system. In-lake storage would decrease the use of potable water to maintain the lake water level. Some of the water that is stored in the lake would subsequently be discharged to the sanitary sewer system. General conceptual flows during wet weather and dry weather are illustrated in **Figure 3** and **Figure 4**, respectively. The project would reduce the amount of stormwater and dry weather flows, and their associated pollutant loads, that enter Ballona Creek and, ultimately, Santa Monica Bay. Additionally, the proposed project would enhance the park by creating treatment wetlands and providing educational opportunities, such as signage and information boards about stormwater management and park wetlands.

Construction of the proposed project is expected to last for approximately 22 months. One or two non-native mature trees and three recently-planted trees in the footprint of the treatment wetlands would be removed and replaced elsewhere within the park. In addition, installation of subsurface pipelines would require the removal and replacement of an additional tree within the park and four street trees along 7th Avenue and Lake Street. All tree removals and replacements in the park would be conducted in accordance with RAP policies; all removals and replacements of street trees would be conducted in accordance with policies of StreetsLA.

Environmental Impact Report: The EIR will evaluate the potential environmental impacts resulting from construction and operation of the proposed project, identify feasible potential mitigation measures, and analyze potentially feasible alternatives to the proposed project that could reduce or avoid identified significant impacts while still achieving most of the basic project objectives. The Initial Study has determined that the potential impacts associated with the proposed project include air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, greenhouse gas emissions, hydrology and water quality, construction noise and vibration, and tribal cultural resources.

Public Review Period: The Notice of Preparation/Initial Study (NOP/IS) will be circulated for a 30-day review period beginning on April 7, 2022, and ending on May 9, 2022. The document is available for review at the following locations:

- Online at http://www.lacitysan.org/ceqa
- MacArthur Park Community Center 2230 W. 6th Street, Los Angeles, CA 90057
- Felipe De Neve Branch Library, 2820 W. 6th Street, Los Angeles, CA 90057
- City Public Works building, LA Sanitation & Environment–Receptionist Desk, 1149 S. Broadway, 9th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90015

Comments: LASAN is requesting input during the NOP public review period from interested agencies, organizations, and private citizens regarding the scope and content of environmental information to be included in the EIR. In the future, public agencies receiving this notice may use the EIR prepared by LASAN when considering their permits or other approvals for the proposed project. All comments received during the public review period will be considered in the preparation of the EIR.

For your comments to be considered in the EIR process, please send your written comments on the NOP/IS to LASAN by one of the following delivery methods. In your comments, please include your name, email address, telephone number, address, and the subject line **"RE: MacArthur Lake Stormwater Capture Project NOP/IS Comments."**

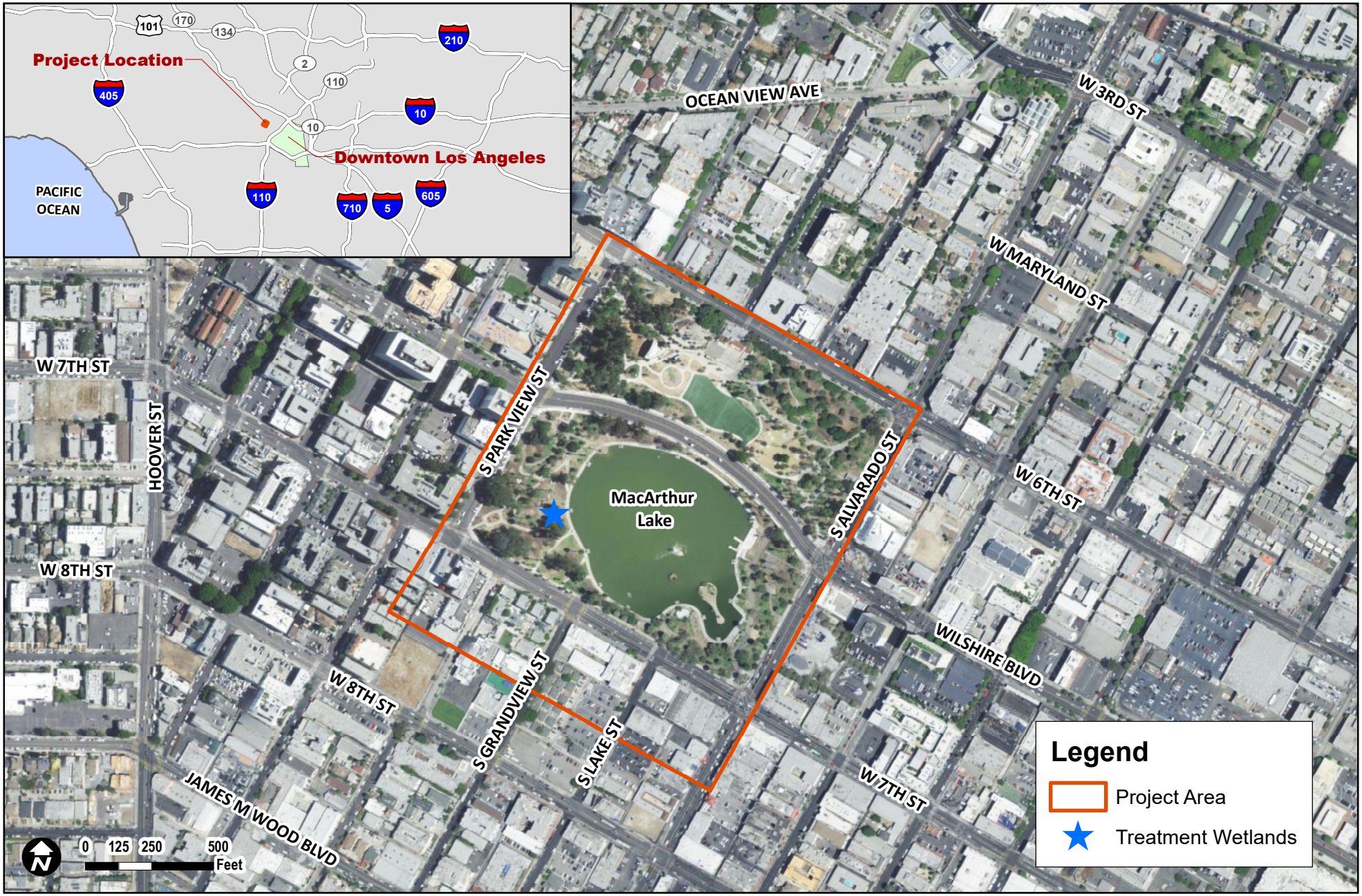
- Mail comments to: LA Sanitation & Environment – Safe Clean Water Implementation Division
  Attention: Alfredo Magallanes
  1149 S. Broadway, 10th Floor MS: 1149/756
  Los Angeles, CA 90015
- Or email comments to san.safecleanwater@lacity.org (please include "MacArthur Lake Stormwater Capture Project NOP/IS Comments" in the subject line)

Written comments must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on Monday, May 9, 2022.

Scoping Meeting: Two virtual public scoping meetings will be held to obtain input on the scope of the contents of the EIR, as well as to present information on the proposed project. No decisions regarding the proposed project will be made at the scoping meetings. One meeting will be held in English and one will be held in Spanish. The purpose of the meetings is to provide information and answer questions on the proposed project and the environmental analysis to be included in the EIR. Questions raised in the meetings will not be considered to be official scoping comments. Official comments must be submitted in writing as described above. The meeting dates and time are as follows:

- English-language meeting: **Tuesday, April 26, 2022**, 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- Spanish-language meeting: **Tuesday, April 26, 2022**, 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

More information regarding the meetings is provided on LASAN's website at http://www.lacitysan.org/ceqa.

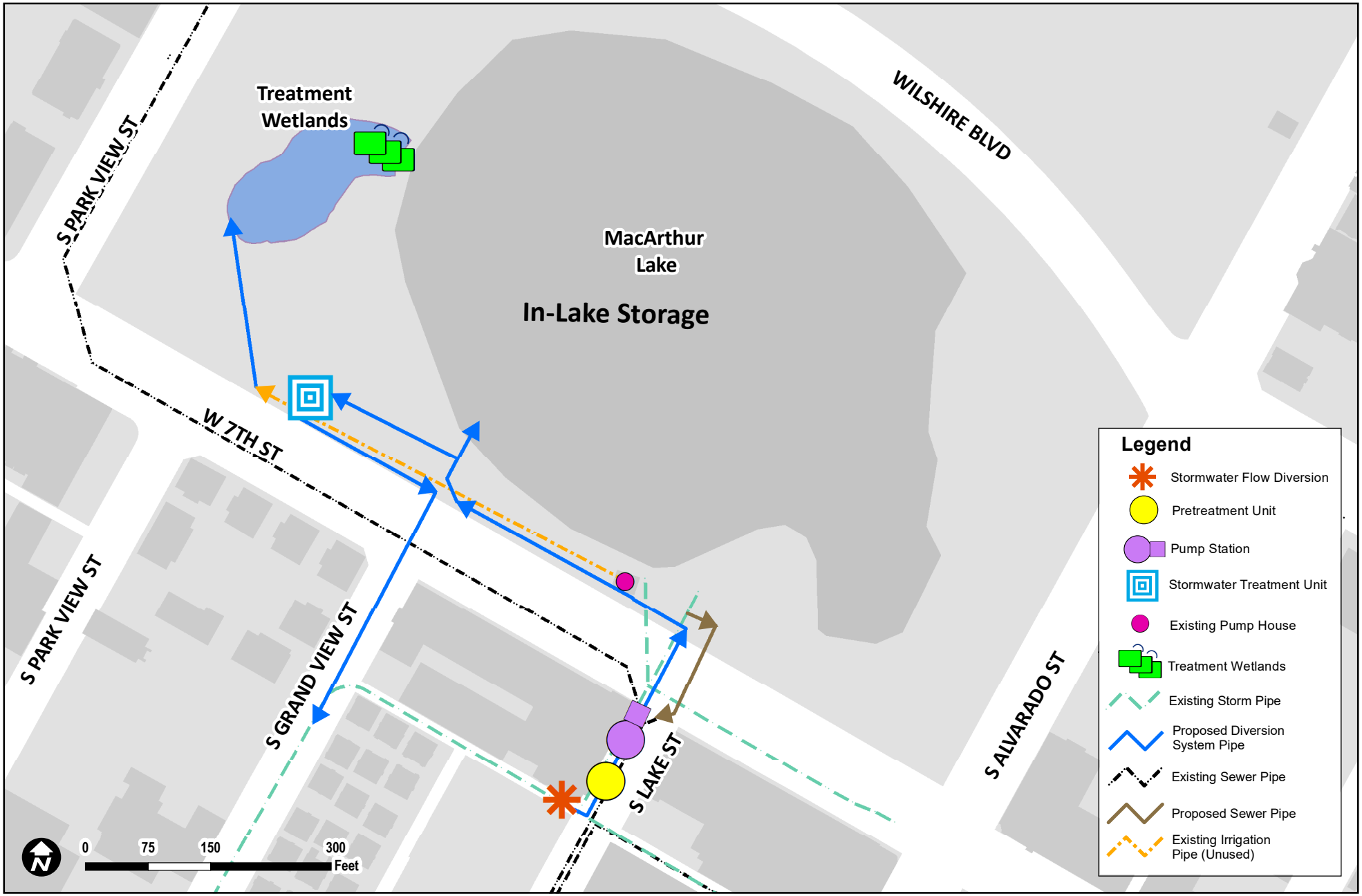


Sources: CDM Smith, 2022; Aerial Sources: Esri, United States Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency, 2022
Prepared by: CDM Smith, 2022

Figure 1

MacArthur Lake Stormwater Capture Project

PROJECT AREA

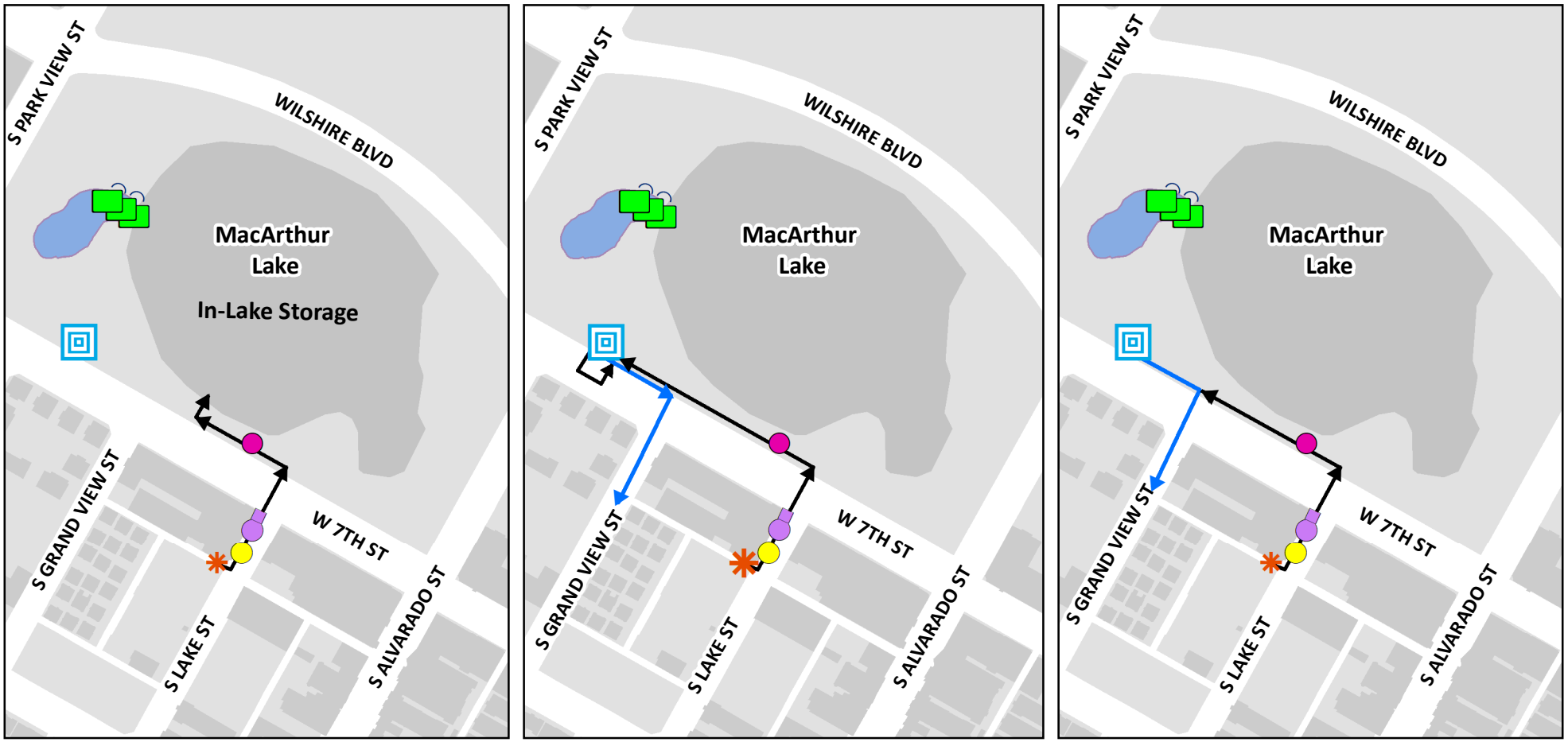


Sources: Cordoba Corporation, 2022; Navigate LA, 2022; Base Layer Source: Los Angeles GeoHub, 2022
Prepared by: CDM Smith, 2022

Figure 2

MacArthur Lake Stormwater Capture Project

PROPOSED PROJECT COMPONENTS



Step 1: In a storm event, the initial 5 AF (217,800 cf) of stormwater flow from the confluence of two storm drain pipes (30-inch pipe along Lake Street and 45-inch pipe along the alley) would be diverted to a pretreatment unit and then pumped into MacArthur Lake for storage.

Step 2: When MacArthur Lake is at capacity, after passing through the pretreatment unit, up to 6.9 cfs of the diverted stormwater flow would be directed to a stormwater treatment unit in the park and then be discharged to an existing 54-inch storm drain pipe along Grand View Street.

Step 3: When MacArthur Lake is at capacity, after passing through the pretreatment unit, diverted stormwater flow in excess of 6.9 cfs would be blended with treated stormwater from Step 2 and then discharged to the 54-inch storm drain pipe along Grand View Street.

0 75 150 300 Feet

N

Legend

- Stormwater Flow Diversion
- Pretreatment Unit
- Pump Station
- Stormwater Treatment Unit
- Existing Pump House
- Treatment Wetlands
- Water Flow
- Proposed Diversion System Pipe (Storm Drain Return)

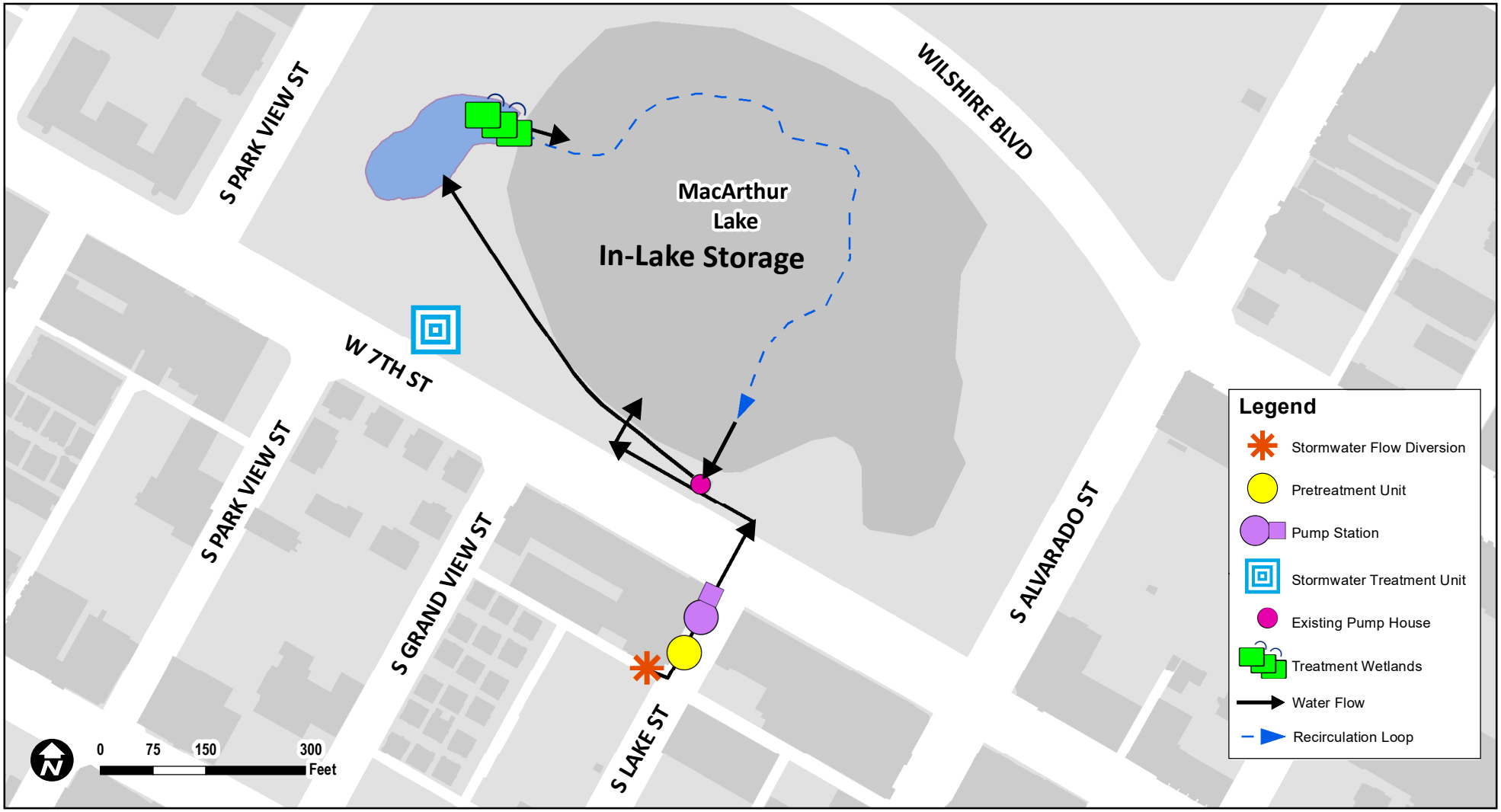
Notes:
AF = acre feet
cfs = cubic feet per second

Sources: Cordoba Corporation, 2022; Base Layer Source: Los Angeles GeoHub, 2022
Prepared by: CDM Smith, 2022

Figure 3

MacArthur Lake Stormwater Capture Project

CONCEPTUAL SIMPLIFIED FLOW DIAGRAMS - WET WEATHER FLOWS



In dry weather conditions, water flow from the confluence of two storm drain pipes (30-inch pipe along Lake Street and 45-inch pipe along the alley) would be diverted to a pretreatment unit and then pumped into MacArthur Lake for storage. Lake water would be recirculated from the lake and through a pipeline to a treatment wetlands on the west side of the lake. The water would flow through the treatment wetlands and back into the lake.

Sources: Cordoba Corporation, 2022; Base Layer Source: Los Angeles GeoHub, 2022
Prepared by: CDM Smith, 2022

Figure 4

MacArthur Lake Stormwater Capture Project

CONCEPTUAL SIMPLIFIED FLOW DIAGRAM - DRY WEATHER FLOWS

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INITIAL STUDY

MacArthur Lake Stormwater Capture Project

City of Los Angeles
Department of Public Works
LA Sanitation & Environment

April 2022

CDM Smith

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Section 1
Introduction

The City of Los Angeles (City) Department of Public Works, Bureau of Sanitation & Environment (LASAN) prepared this Initial Study (IS) to evaluate the environmental effects of the MacArthur Lake Stormwater Capture Project (proposed project). The proposed project is located west of downtown Los Angeles in the southern portion of MacArthur Park, 2230 W. 6th Street,[1] in public rights-of-way southwest of the park along 7th Street, S. Grand View Street and S. Lake Street as well as in the alley that parallels 7th Street. LASAN is the lead agency for this project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

1.1 CEQA Process

This document was prepared in accordance with CEQA, the California Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 21000 et seq, and the State CEQA Guidelines (14 California Code of Regulations [CCR] 15000 et seq). One of the main objectives of CEQA is to inform the public and decision-makers by disclosing the potential environmental effects of proposed activities. CEQA requires that the potential environmental effects of a project be evaluated prior to implementation. This IS includes a discussion of the effects that the proposed project would have on the environment. LASAN will consider the information in this document when determining the scope of the Environmental Impact Report (EIR).

1.2 Document Format

This IS contains the following sections:

Section 1. Introduction. This section provides an overview of the proposed project and the CEQA environmental documentation process.

Section 2. Project Description. This section provides a detailed description of the components that comprise the proposed project.

Section 3. Environmental Evaluation. This section includes a summary of the proposed project, identifies environmental resource areas that may be affected by the project, presents the CEQA determination based on the results of the IS, and describes the process for evaluating environmental impacts.

Section 4. Environmental Impact Analysis. This section presents the CEQA checklist questions (i.e., questions set forth in Appendix G of the State CEQA Guidelines that are intended to encourage thoughtful assessment of potential impacts in preparing an IS) along with the environmental analysis for each issue area identified on the environmental checklist. If it was determined that the proposed project would not have the potential to result in a significant impact on a given issue, then the relevant section presents a brief discussion as to why no significant impact is expected and concludes that no further analysis of that issue is needed in the EIR. If the proposed project could have a potentially significant impact on a resource, a summary of the potential impact(s) is provided, and a determination

[1] For ease of reading, directional street information is provided in the park address but is not otherwise used in this Initial Study.

is made that the issue identified in the checklist question(s) will be further evaluated in the EIR. This section also addresses mandatory findings of significance.

Section 5. Preparers and Contributors. This section provides a list of key personnel involved in the preparation of the IS.

Section 6. Acronyms and Abbreviations. This section provides a list of acronyms and abbreviations used throughout the IS.

Section 7. References. This section provides a list of reference materials used during the preparation of the IS.

The environmental analysis included in Section 4, Environmental Impact Analysis, is consistent with the CEQA IS format identified in the State CEQA Guidelines. In accordance with the Guidelines, impacts are separated into the following categories:

Potentially Significant Impact. This category is applicable if there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant. Environmental issues with this finding will be further evaluated in the EIR to be prepared for the proposed project.

Less Than Significant Impact After Mitigation Incorporated. As noted above, all impacts that may be significant will be evaluated in the EIR, along with feasible mitigation measures to reduce such impacts.

Less Than Significant Impact. This category is identified when the proposed project would result in impacts below the threshold of significance, and when no mitigation measures are required.

No Impact. This category applies when the proposed project would not create an impact in the specific environmental issue area. "No Impact" answers do not require a detailed explanation if they are adequately supported by the information sources cited by the lead agency that show that the impact does not apply to the specific project. A "No Impact" answer may be substantiated where it is based on project-specific factors and general standards.

Section 2

Proposed Project Description

2.1 Project Background

The MacArthur Lake Stormwater Capture Project (proposed project) is a City of Los Angeles (City) Department of Public Works, LA Sanitation & Environment (LASAN) stormwater quality improvement project to be funded by the County of Los Angeles Safe Clean Water Program (SCWP). The SCWP provides local, dedicated funding as part of a Regional Infrastructure Program with the overarching objective to plan, build, and maintain multibenefit, watershed-based projects that increase local water supplies, improve water quality, enhance communities, and protect public health.[2,3] The project site is located partially within MacArthur Park and partially within adjacent public rights-of-way in the City.

Regionally, the proposed project is located within the Central Santa Monica Bay watershed, as defined by the SCWP. Note, this watershed is referred to as the Ballona Creek watershed by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, Flood Control District. The Ballona Creek watershed receives drainage from an approximate 128-square-mile area of western Los Angeles County. During rain events, stormwater currently flows from impervious surfaces, such as streets and rooftops, primarily into storm drains below the City streets and is ultimately discharged to the ocean. Stormwater discharges within the Ballona Creek watershed are governed by the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit No. R4-2012-0175 (Permit), which was adopted on November 8, 2012, by the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) and became effective on December 28, 2012. The purpose of the Permit is to ensure storm water systems in Los Angeles County are not causing or contributing to exceedances of water quality objectives set to protect the beneficial uses in the receiving waters.[4] Pollutants of concern within the watershed include metals, toxics, and bacteria, with zinc being the limiting pollutant, as identified in the Ballona Creek Enhanced Watershed Management Program (EWMP). The EWMP identifies three types of control measures that are intended to achieve required pollutant reductions while also providing multiple benefits to the community and leveraging sustainable green infrastructure practices. One category of control measures consists of regional projects, which are centralized facilities located near the downstream ends of large drainage areas that are designed to provide a cost-effective mechanism for infiltration and pollutant reduction.[5] The proposed project is one such regional project, per the Ballona Creek EWMP.

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2 County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Flood Control District. *Safe Clean Water Program Brochure*. Available: https://safecleanwaterla.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/LACPW_SafeCleanWater_Brochure_V6B.pdf.

3 County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Flood Control District. *Safe Clean Water Program: Vision, Mission, & Goals*. Available: https://safecleanwaterla.org/about/vision-mission-goals/; accessed November 15, 2021.

4 Ballona Creek Watershed Management Group. *Coordinated Integrated Monitoring Program for the Ballona Creek Watershed*. September 7, 2015, revised May 31, 2019. Available: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/water_issues/programs/stormwater/municipal/watershed_management/ballona_creek/Final%20_Approved_Revised_Ballona_Creek_CIMP_2019-5-31.pdf.

5 Ballona Creek Watershed Management Group. *Enhanced Watershed Management Program for the Ballona Creek Watershed*. January 2016. Available: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/water_issues/programs/stormwater/municipal/watershed_management/ballona_creek/BallonaCreek_RevisedEWMP_corrected2016Feb1.pdf.

The proposed project aims to improve water quality in the Ballona Creek watershed to better achieve compliance with regulatory standards and provide tangible community benefits, such as enhancing lake water quality, partially offsetting potable water use, and providing educational features. The project would achieve these aims by capturing, treating, and reusing stormwater. The proposed project would also enhance MacArthur Park by increasing educational opportunities as well as adding to the park's passive recreational amenities.

2.2 Project Location and Surrounding Land Uses

The proposed project would occur at MacArthur Park and on adjacent streets south of the park (**Figure 2-1**). MacArthur Park is a public park located at 2230 W. 6th Street[6] in the Westlake neighborhood of central Los Angeles, approximately 1 mile northwest of downtown. The park is bound by 6th Street to the north, 7th Street to the south, Park View Street to the west, and Alvarado Street to the east. Wilshire Boulevard extends east-west through the park, dividing it into northern and southern sections. The proposed project would occur in the southern section of the park, with underground improvements in 7th Street south of the park, in an approximate one-block portion of Grand View Street south of 7th Street, in an approximate one-block portion of Lake Street south of 7th Street, and in an alley that parallels 7th Street to the south (specifically at the entrance of the alley at its intersection with Lake Street). The boundaries of the project site are illustrated in **Figure 2-2**.

The primary feature of the park is MacArthur Lake, which is located in the southern portion of the park. The lake encompasses approximately 8 acres and has a concrete and asphalt liner. Other features in the park include an amphitheater, bandshell, soccer field, playground, and a recreational center, all of which are located in the northern half of the park, north of Wilshire Boulevard. Mature trees, open turf area, walkways, and public art are also placed throughout the park. The portion of the project site that lies within the park primarily consists of open landscaped area, including turf grass, trees, and cement walkways. There are no public art or recreational structures on the project site.

Park users typically include families, adults of all ages, vendors, and unhoused populations. The park is often used as a community gathering place, a venue to exercise and play sports/games, and a spot to take lunch breaks. Other common activities in and near the park include families with children using the playground equipment, vendors selling food and beverages, religious groups holding gatherings, and recreationists engaging in bird-watching. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) stocks the lake with fish.

[6] For ease of reading, directional street information is provided in the park address but is not otherwise used in this Initial Study.

Sources: CDM Smith, 2022; Aerial Sources: Esri, United States Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency, 2022
Prepared by: CDM Smith, 2022

Figure 2-1

MacArthur Lake Stormwater Capture Project

PROJECT AREA

Sources: CDM Smith, 2022; Aerial Sources: Esri, United States Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency, 2022

Figure 2-2

MacArthur Lake Stormwater Capture Project

PROJECT LOCATION

The park is located in a highly developed urban area that consists of residential homes, commercial businesses, and public buildings. Across from the park to the north are commercial businesses, multifamily residential buildings, an assisted living facility, the Consulate of Mexico, and Los Angeles County offices. To the south along 7th Street, there are commercial businesses, medical offices, and an elementary school. To the west along Park View Street, there are multifamily residential buildings, commercial offices, a labor center, and an elementary school. To the east, there are commercial businesses, including several ground-floor businesses with residential units located on floors above. The Westlake/MacArthur Park subway station is located on Alvarado Street, across from the park. Street vendors are located on public streets surrounding the park, primarily along Alvarado Street. In an approximate one-block portion of Grand View Street and Lake Street south of 7th Street, within the project area, there is a similar mix of uses—including commercial and residential land uses, as well as the elementary school that is located south of the park.

2.3 Project Overview

The proposed project would divert a portion of wet weather stormwater flows as well as dry weather flows from the existing underground storm drain system, treat the water, and discharge it into MacArthur Lake for storage or return it to the storm drain system. This process would reduce the amount of stormwater and associated pollutant loads that enter Ballona Creek, the Ballona Creek wetlands, and, ultimately, Santa Monica Bay. Currently, an automated system is used to replenish the lake with potable water when lake levels drop as a result of evaporation. The diversion of stormwater from the storm drain system into the lake would decrease the amount of potable water that is used to maintain the lake level (i.e., lake refill). Additionally, the proposed project would enhance the park by creating treatment wetlands and providing educational opportunities, such as signage and information boards about stormwater management and wetlands.

The proposed project would divert stormwater and dry weather flows from a 216-acre drainage area (**Figure 2-3**) via a junction structure where three storm drains (a 54-inch-diameter storm drain, a 45-inch-diameter storm drain, and a 30-inch diameter storm drain) join together in an alley that parallels 7th Street near the intersection of the alley and Lake Street. After being diverted, the stormwater would flow through a pretreatment unit to remove trash and heavy suspended solids. A pump station would lift the stormwater and convey it through a pipeline below 7th Street. From this point, there are three possible flow paths:

- The initial stormwater flows (referred to as the “first flush”) would flow from the pump station directly into the lake for storage.
- Once the storage capacity of the lake has been reached, stormwater flows would be directed to a stormwater treatment unit, located within the park boundaries, that would provide additional treatment. Once stormwater passes through the stormwater treatment unit, it would be returned back to the storm drain system downstream of the diversion point through a pipeline that would be constructed below Grand View Street, where it would connect with an existing 54-inch-diameter storm drain in Grand View Street south of the alley. Treated stormwater discharged back to the storm drain system would flow through storm pipes to Ballona Creek and would ultimately reach the Ballona Wetlands and Santa Monica Bay. Discharges to the storm drain system would require a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit.

Sources: Cordoba Corporation, 2022; Base Layer Source: Los Angeles GeoHub, 2022
Prepared by: CDM Smith, 2022

Figure 2-3

PROJECT DRAINAGE AREAS

- If the stormwater treatment unit capacity is reached, stormwater would flow from the pump station to the return pipeline, where it would be blended with treated water from the stormwater treatment unit prior to being discharged back to the storm drain system in Grand View Street.

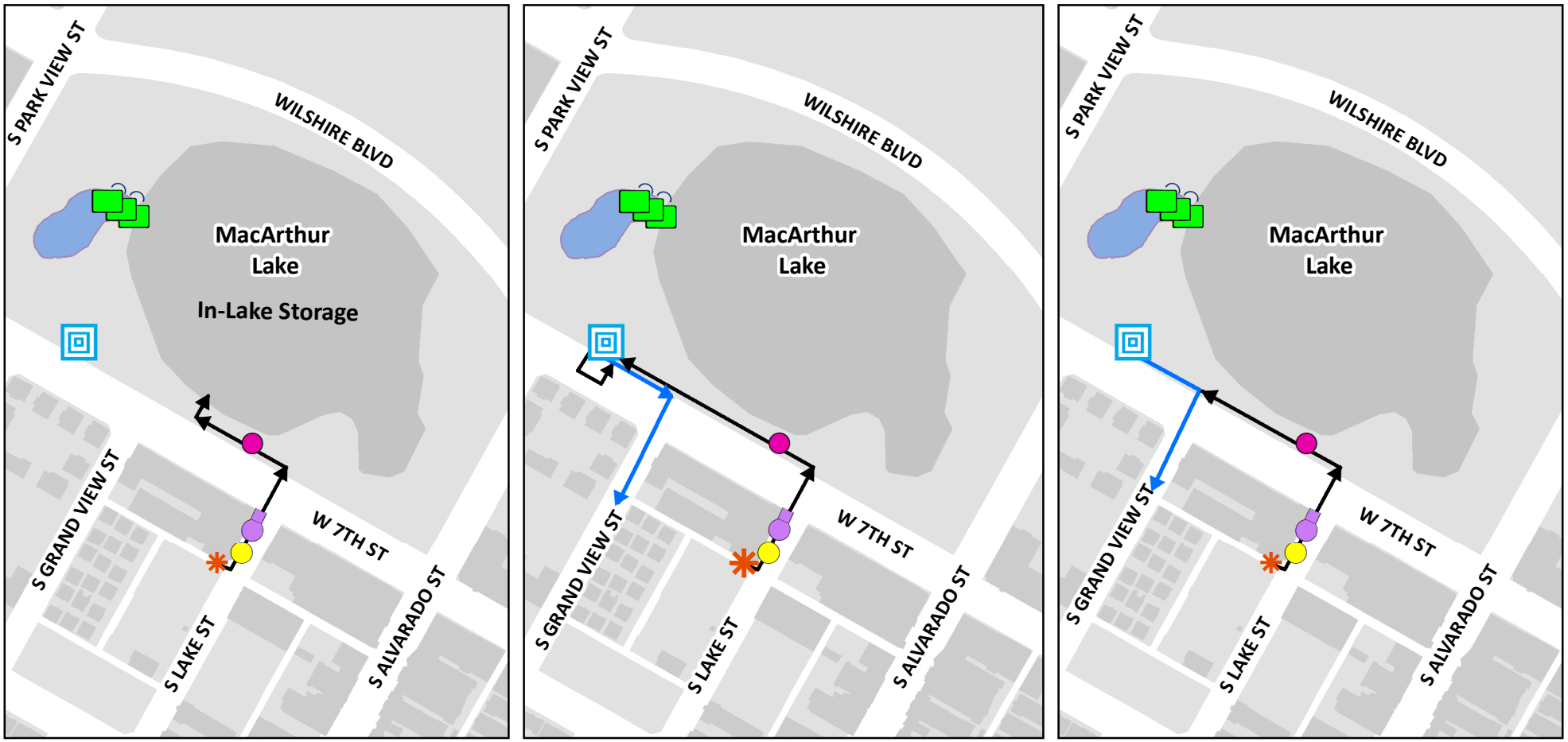
To provide room for storage, the water level in MacArthur Lake would be lowered during dry weather conditions by diverting up to 5 acre-feet (approximately 217,800 cubic feet) of water to the sanitary sewer via an existing 48-inch-diameter sewer in Lake Street. It is assumed that the lake would be lowered, on average, 12.5 times per year, and that discharges to the sanitary sewer would total approximately 62.5 acre-feet (approximately 2,722,500 cubic feet) per year. Discharges to the sewer system would occur a minimum of 48 hours after a storm event and would require an Industrial Waste Discharge Permit. Lake water discharged to the sewer would be treated at the Hyperion Water Reclamation Plant (HWRP). Effluent from HWRP may be beneficially reused.[7] Stormwater that is stored in MacArthur Lake and later discharged to the sanitary sewer for treatment at HWRP would meet the stormwater quality requirements by removing all pollutants.

During dry weather, flows would be diverted from the 30- and 45-inch-diameter storm drains in Lake Street through the pretreatment unit and to the pump station, which would lift the dry weather flows and convey them to MacArthur Lake. A lake recirculation lake pump would lift water from the lake to a treatment wetlands designed with a cascading configuration, which would be located on the western edge of the lake. The treatment wetlands would naturally filter the recirculated water from MacArthur Lake. General conceptual flow diagrams during wet weather and dry weather are provided in **Figure 2-4** and **Figure 2-5**, respectively.

2.4 Project Components

The proposed project would include stormwater flow diversion, pretreatment unit, two pump stations, stormwater treatment unit, treatment wetlands, pipelines to convey stormwater to and from the existing storm drain system and between the project components, and a pipeline to convey water from MacArthur Lake to the sanitary sewer system. An illustration of the proposed project components is provided in **Figure 2-6**. The individual project components are described below.

[7] The Hyperion Advanced Water Purification Facility (HAWPF) is a water recycling project at the HWRP that, upon anticipated completion in 2024, will produce 1.5 million gallons per day (mgd) of recycled water (expandable to 5 mgd) for non-potable water uses at HWRP and other nearby facilities. (City of Los Angeles, LA Sanitation & Environment. Hyperion Water Reclamation Plant: Hyperion Advanced Water Purification Facility. July 1, 2021. Available: https://www.lacitysan.org/san/sandocview?docname=cnt066743; City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Bureau of Engineering. Hyperion Advanced Water Purification Facility (HAWPF). Available: https://eng.lacity.org/about-us/divisions/environmental-management/projects/hyperion-advanced-water-purification-facility-hawpf. Accessed March 14, 2022). Through their Hyperion 2035 program, LASAN's long-term goal is to recycle 100 percent of purified water produced by the HWRP by 2035. (Tucker, Carol. Operation NEXT: LA's Next Major Water Source. LADWP Intake Magazine. Available: http://www.ladwpintake.com/operation-next-las-next-major-water-source/).



Step 1: In a storm event, the initial 5 AF (217,800 cf) of stormwater flow from the confluence of two storm drain pipes (30-inch pipe along Lake Street and 45-inch pipe along the alley) would be diverted to a pretreatment unit and then pumped into MacArthur Lake for storage.

Step 2: When MacArthur Lake is at capacity, after passing through the pretreatment unit, up to 6.9 cfs of the diverted stormwater flow would be directed to a stormwater treatment unit in the park and then be discharged to an existing 54-inch storm drain pipe along Grand View Street.

Step 3: When MacArthur Lake is at capacity, after passing through the pretreatment unit, diverted stormwater flow in excess of 6.9 cfs would be blended with treated stormwater from Step 2 and then discharged to the 54-inch storm drain pipe along Grand View Street.

0 75 150 300 Feet

Legend

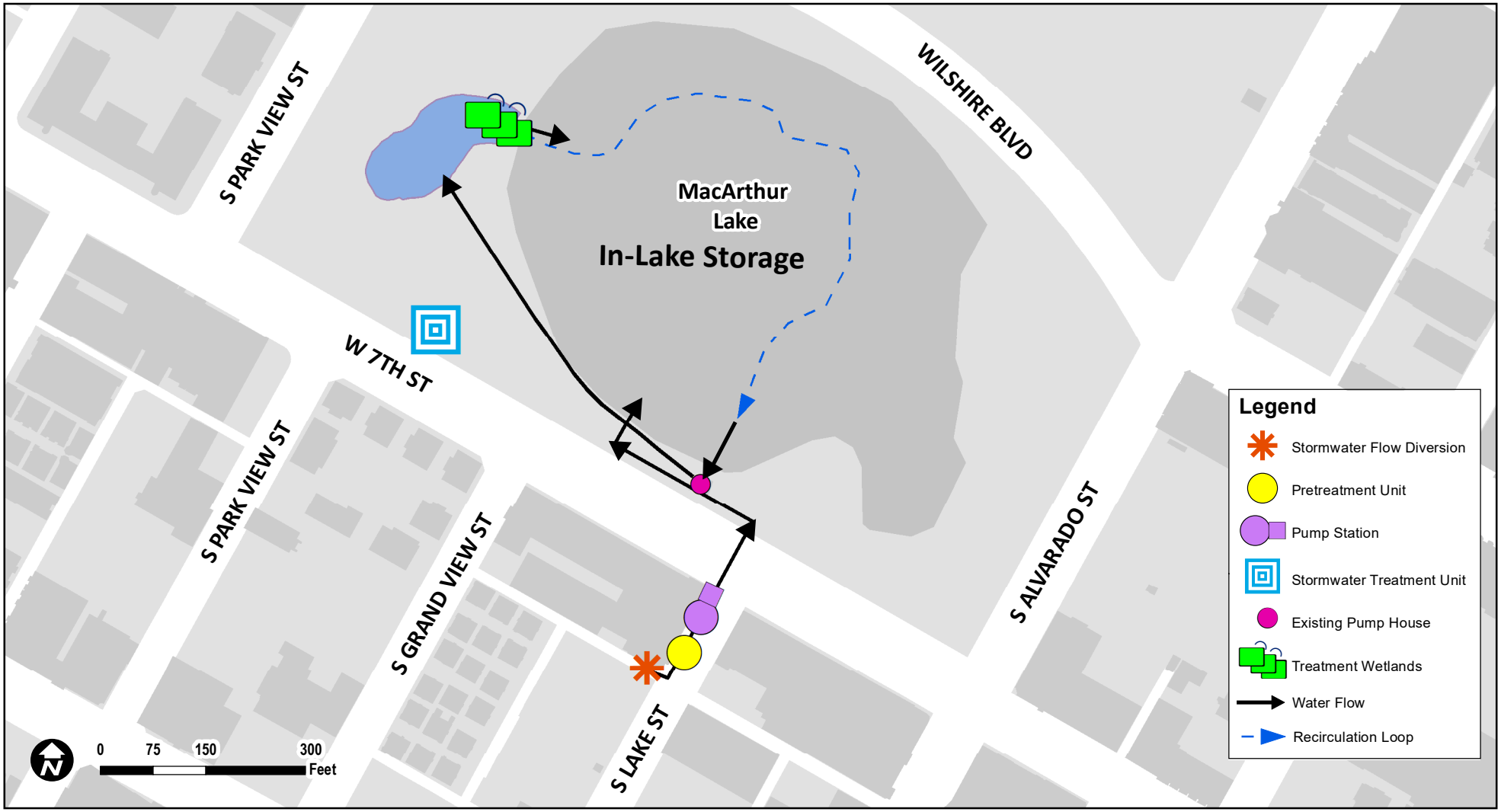
- Stormwater Flow Diversion
- Pretreatment Unit
- Pump Station
- Stormwater Treatment Unit
- Existing Pump House
- Treatment Wetlands
- Water Flow
- Proposed Diversion System Pipe (Storm Drain Return)

Notes:
AF = acre feet
cfs = cubic feet per second

Sources: Cordoba Corporation, 2022; Base Layer Source: Los Angeles GeoHub, 2022
Prepared by: CDM Smith, 2022

Figure 2-4

CONCEPTUAL SIMPLIFIED FLOW DIAGRAMS - WET WEATHER FLOWS



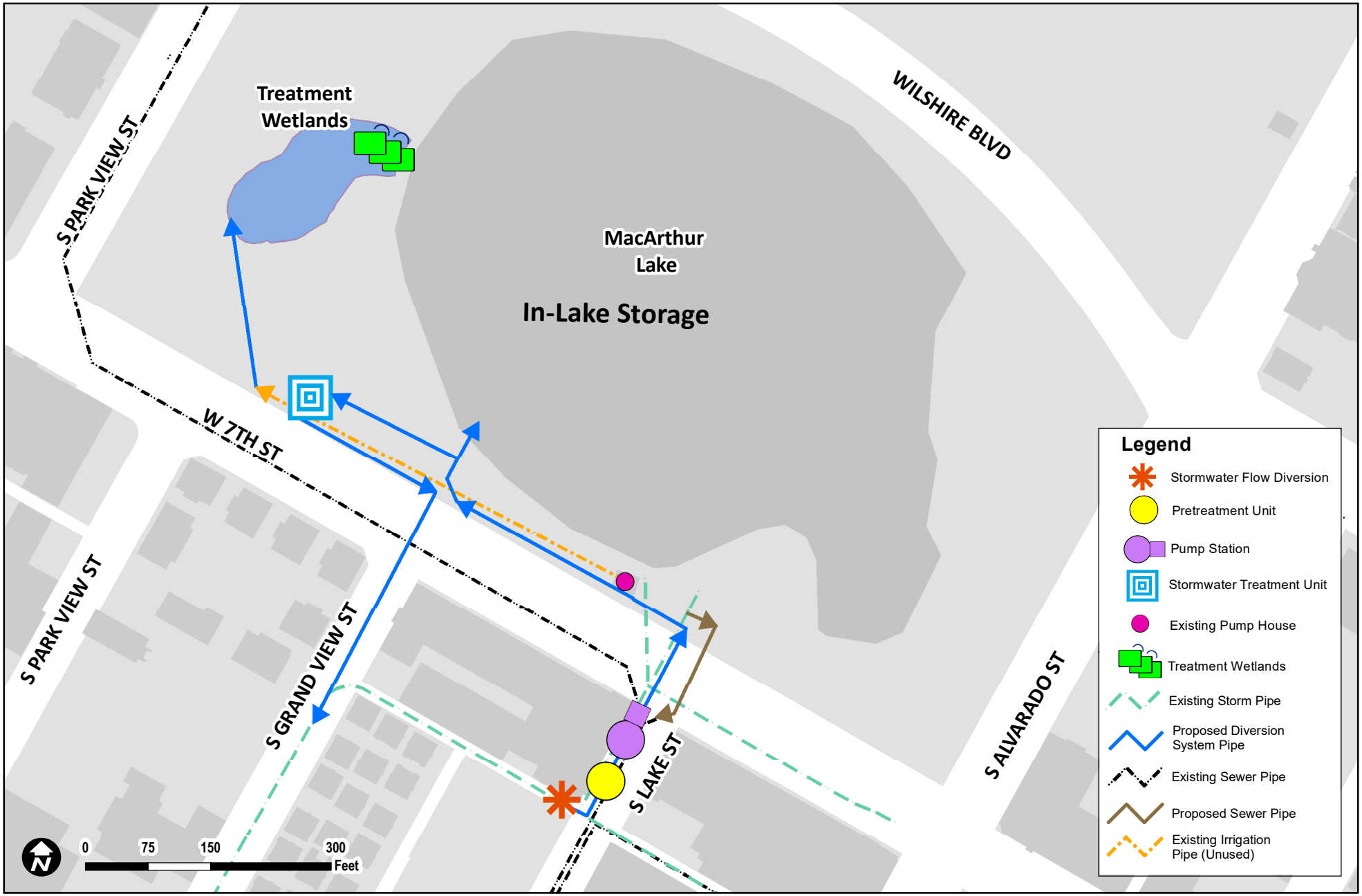
In dry weather conditions, water flow from the confluence of two storm drain pipes (30-inch pipe along Lake Street and 45-inch pipe along the alley) would be diverted to a pretreatment unit and then pumped into MacArthur Lake for storage. Lake water would be recirculated from the lake and through a pipeline to a treatment wetlands on the west side of the lake. The water would flow through the treatment wetlands and back into the lake.

Sources: Cordoba Corporation, 2022; Base Layer Source: Los Angeles GeoHub, 2022
Prepared by: CDM Smith, 2022

Figure 2-5

MacArthur Lake Stormwater Capture Project

CONCEPTUAL SIMPLIFIED FLOW DIAGRAM - DRY WEATHER FLOWS



Sources: Cordoba Corporation, 2022; Navigate LA, 2022; Base Layer Source: Los Angeles GeoHub, 2022
Prepared by: CDM Smith, 2022

Figure 2-6

2.4.1 Stormwater Diversion

An underground diversion structure would be installed at an existing underground stormwater maintenance hole located at the intersection of Lake Street and the alley that parallels 7th Street. Stormwater would be diverted at the maintenance hole from 30-inch-diameter and 45-inch-diameter City storm drains. The system would divert up to approximately 12 cubic feet per second (cfs) of captured stormwater from a 216-acre drainage area. During a storm event, stormwater in the existing storm drain system not diverted as part of the proposed project (i.e., stormwater in excess of the 12 cfs) would continue to flow through the existing storm drain system into Ballona Creek. The average number of annual storm events greater than or equal to 0.1 inches of rainfall is 20. The average volume that would be treated by the proposed project annually is 112.5 AF.[8]

2.4.2 Pre-treatment Unit and Pump Station

During wet weather conditions, approximately 12 cfs (the equivalent of approximately 5,400 gallons per minute [gpm]) of captured stormwater would be diverted to flow through an underground pretreatment unit to remove trash and large debris from the stormwater. This component would result in a 80.4-percent reduction in zinc[9] due to the removal of particles 120 microns or larger and almost a 100-percent reduction in trash.[10,11] A pump station sized for a maximum capacity of 12 cfs would pump the stormwater from the pretreatment unit. The pump station would house three pumps: two 50-horsepower (hp) pumps and one 7.5-hp pump. From the pump station, stormwater would be directed to one of three locations: (1) stormwater would be discharged directly into MacArthur Lake until the capacity of the lake is reached; (2) once the lake capacity is reached, up to 6.9 cfs would be routed to a stormwater treatment unit (described below) before being returned to the storm drain system; (3) flows above 6.9 cfs would be blended with treated water from the stormwater treatment unit before being returned to the storm drain system.

During dry weather conditions, dry weather flows would also flow through the underground pretreatment unit and pump station. From the pump station, dry weather flows would be routed directly to MacArthur Lake for storage.

The pretreatment unit and pump station would be located underground within Lake Street. A control panel to operate the station would be located aboveground in or adjacent to an existing pump house located within the park on the south side of MacArthur Lake. Construction of the pretreatment unit and pump station would require the removal and replacement of several street trees (see Section 2.5 below).

2.4.3 Stormwater Treatment Unit

A portion of the diverted stormwater would enter a stormwater treatment unit to be located within MacArthur Park between Grand View Street and Park View Street. The stormwater treatment unit

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8 Craftwater Engineering, Inc. Memo: TOS 53 – MacArthur Lake Rehab Basis of Design Site Opportunity Assessment Technical Memorandum.

9 Zinc is the limiting pollutant identified in the Ballona Creek Enhanced Water Management Program. As the limiting pollutant, when zinc is fully managed, other pollutants would also be managed to below allowable levels.

10 Craftwater Engineering, Inc. Memo: TOS 53 – MacArthur Lake Rehab Basis of Design Site Opportunity Assessment Technical Memorandum.

11 Taylor, Merrill, PE, Senior Project Manager. Craftwater Engineering, Inc. Email to Inge Wiersema, Carollo Engineers. March 18, 2022.

would further filter the stormwater before it is discharged back to the storm drain system. The stormwater treatment unit would remove an estimated 85 percent of total suspended solids, 70 percent of phosphorous, 99 percent of oil and grease, 68 percent of bacteria (fecal coliform), and between 72 percent and 98 percent of copper, lead, and zinc.[12]

2.4.4 Treatment Wetlands

Lake water quality would be enhanced through a natural treatment system, or treatment wetlands, that would be located at the western edge of the lake. The lake water would be recirculated through a series of cascading treatment wetlands that would follow the natural slope of the park back towards the lake. Wetland plants would filter the water and remove nutrients as the water recycles through the treatment wetlands and is returned to the lake. A dedicated, 5-hp recirculation pump would be installed in the existing pump house building to pump water out of the lake to the top of the wetlands where water would be dispersed and flow back into the lake by gravity. To maintain flow through the wetlands and avoid standing water, the pump station would be operated continuously, turning the lake volume over approximately every two months. The recirculation pump would pump 0.5 cfs of water; at this rate, the water would have a total retention time within the wetlands of approximately 10 hours. The treatment wetlands would reduce total nitrogen in the recirculated water by 28 percent, phosphorous by 13 percent, and Escherichia coli (E. coli) bacteria by 90 percent.

Water from the treatment wetlands would flow into the lake through a box culvert. A portion of the walkway that runs adjacent to the lake would be removed and replaced with a boardwalk, which would be constructed over the mouth of the treatment wetlands and would allow continued pedestrian access around the lake. The boardwalk would be constructed to be compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The treatment wetlands would offer educational and engaging opportunities for the public to learn more about the natural benefits of wetlands.

The treatment wetlands would be located in an area of the park that is currently occupied by open turf grass and walkways. Two trees within the treatment wetlands would need to be removed or relocated. In addition, three trees that were recently planted at the edge of the turf near the walkway that encircles the lake would need to be relocated. Additional information regarding tree removals is provided in Section 2.5 below. Removed trees would be replanted or replaced elsewhere in the park in accordance with City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) policies.[13] The proposed location of the treatment wetlands is in close proximity to a playground and recreation center planned by RAP. Implementation of the proposed project, including the treatment wetlands, would be coordinated with RAP.

2.4.5 MacArthur Lake

Stormwater would enter MacArthur Lake from the diversion via the pre-treatment system and pump station. Prior to a storm event, the lake water level would be lowered by approximately 8 inches (1.6 million gallons) to accommodate up to 5 acre-feet (approximately 217,800 cubic feet) of stormwater. It is anticipated that the lake drawdown would occur, on average, 12.5 times a year for a total draw down

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[12] Bio Clean Environmental. Water Polisher a Stormwater Filtration Solution. November 11, 2020. Available: https://biocleanenvironmental.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Water-Polisher_Brochure_11-19-2020v1.pdf.

[13] City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Recreation and Parks. Urban Forest Program. October 2004. Available: https://www.laparks.org/sites/default/files/forest/pdf/UrbanForestProgram.pdf.

of approximately 62.5 acre feet (approximately 2,722,500 cubic feet) per year. Water removed from the lake prior to a storm would be discharged to the sanitary sewer system, which would require a sewer discharge permit from LASAN. During a storm event, the pretreated stormwater would be pumped into the lake until a flow totalizer meter indicates that a total volume of 5 acre-feet (approximately 217,800 cubic feet) has been pumped to the lake or until the maximum water level in the lake has been reached, whichever comes first. Once the lake storage capacity has been reached, an automated valve would close, preventing further flow into the lake. Excess stormwater beyond the storage capacity of the lake would be routed as described in Section 2.3.

2.4.6 Recirculation System

A recirculation system would be designed to convey and distribute the lake water, including the captured dry weather flows and stormwater, for additional treatment. Specifically, a small quantity of lake water (about 0.5 cfs) would be recirculated through the treatment wetlands. This would provide water quality benefits to the lake by filtering suspended solids and as well as reducing nutrients and other chemicals as the water slowly flows through the wetland. The recirculation pump would operate 24 hours a day year-round (except during storm events), which would keep the wetlands from becoming stagnant and would reduce potential vectors such as mosquitos. The system would also allow the pump to be operated during dry weather conditions for maintenance purposes.

2.4.7 Pipelines

As shown in Figure 2-6, several new underground pipelines would be installed.

- A 24-inch-diameter pipeline would extend from the proposed diversion structure at the intersection of Lake Street and the alley, northeast on Lake Street to the pretreatment unit and the pump station. The pipeline would exit the pump station as an 18-inch pipeline and extend from Lake Street across 7th Street to the park, where it would proceed northwesterly, paralleling 7th Street, to the stormwater treatment unit that would be located within the park. A branch of this pipeline would cross the park to the lake.
- An 18-inch-diameter pipeline would return treated stormwater to the storm drain system. This pipeline would extend from the stormwater treatment unit in the park, across 7th Street, and down Grand View Street to connect to the existing 54-inch-diameter storm drain just south of the alley.
- A 6-inch-diameter pipeline would be installed within the park to provide for the circulation of water from the lake to the proposed treatment wetlands and back into the lake. The recirculation system would utilize an existing, unused irrigation line that originates at the existing pump house and extends to a point just west of the proposed stormwater treatment unit. The new, 6-inch-diameter line would extend from the terminus of this irrigation line to the top of the treatment wetlands.
- To enable discharge of water from the lake to the sanitary sewer system, an 18-inch-diameter pipeline would connect from an existing 24-inch-diameter lake drain line located near the existing pump house, continuing southeasterly parallel to 7th Street, and turning southwesterly on Lake Street where it would connect to an existing sewer maintenance hole along the 48-inch-diameter sewer line located in Lake Street.

Construction of the pipelines would require several trees to be removed or protected in place (see Section 2.5 below).

2.5 Project Construction

Proposed project construction activities would include site clearing, installation of the underground project components, installation of the treatment wetlands, and site restoration. Construction of the underground pipeline portion of the proposed project would occur within MacArthur Park and along the surrounding public rights-of-way, including 7th Street, Grand View Street, and Lake Street, with a small segment in the nearby alley. Construction of the stormwater treatment unit would occur in the park along 7th Street, and construction of the treatment wetlands and related pipeline would occur on the western edge of the lake. Construction of the project components in 7th Street, Lake Street, and Grand View Street would temporarily disrupt businesses and residences. In addition, construction of the storm drain system return pipeline in Grand View Street would result in a short-term (i.e., approximately 2-week) disruption in student pickup and drop-off at the MacArthur Park Elementary School for the Visual and Performing Arts (a pre-kindergarten through 5th grade elementary school that is located on the south side of 7th Street between Grand View Street and Park View Street; the school serves approximately 515 students).[14]

Construction activities associated with the underground components—including the diversion structure, pretreatment system, pump station, stormwater treatment unit, and pipelines—would entail asphalt/surface removal, excavation, trenching, pipelaying, backfilling, and surface restoration. Construction of the pipelines would use the open-trench method of construction, except near the intersection of 7th Street and Lake Street and 7th Street and Grand View Street, where a boring and jacking method may be used. Underground construction activities would necessitate the relocation of an 8-inch-diameter water supply line, a street lighting conduit in Lake Street, and a street lighting conduit on 7th street. Construction activities associated with the aboveground features, including the treatment wetlands, would necessitate the removal of existing turf and hardscape within the construction footprint, site preparation, site grading, excavation, installation of equipment/equipment housing, installation of the treatment wetlands and landscaping, and site restoration. Several trees located on the site of the treatment wetlands would require removal or relocation. In addition, construction of the pipelines would affect a number of trees. Some of the affected trees would require removal. In other cases, the pipelines would be located within the drip lines of several trees but removal would not be required; these trees would be protected in place. Most of the affected trees are located within the park, but several of the affected trees are street trees located within the parkway (i.e., between the sidewalk and the street). Removed trees would be replanted or replaced in accordance with City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) or Bureau of Street Services (StreetsLA) policies and requirements.[15,16] The work around the perimeter of the lake would include connecting the treatment wetlands to the lake, replacing a portion of the existing walkway with a

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[14] Los Angeles Unified School District. MacArthur Park Elementary School for the Visual and Performing Arts Website, About Our School. Available: https://www.macarthurparkes.org/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC_ID=315270&type=d. Accessed January 4, 2022.

[15] City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Recreation and Parks. Urban Forest Program. October 2004. Available: https://www.laparks.org/sites/default/files/forest/pdf/UrbanForestProgram.pdf.

[16] City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Bureau of Street Services (StreetsLA), Urban Forestry Division. Application for a Tree Removal Permit. Available: https://streetsla.lacity.org/sites/default/files/ufd_tree_removal_permit.pdf.

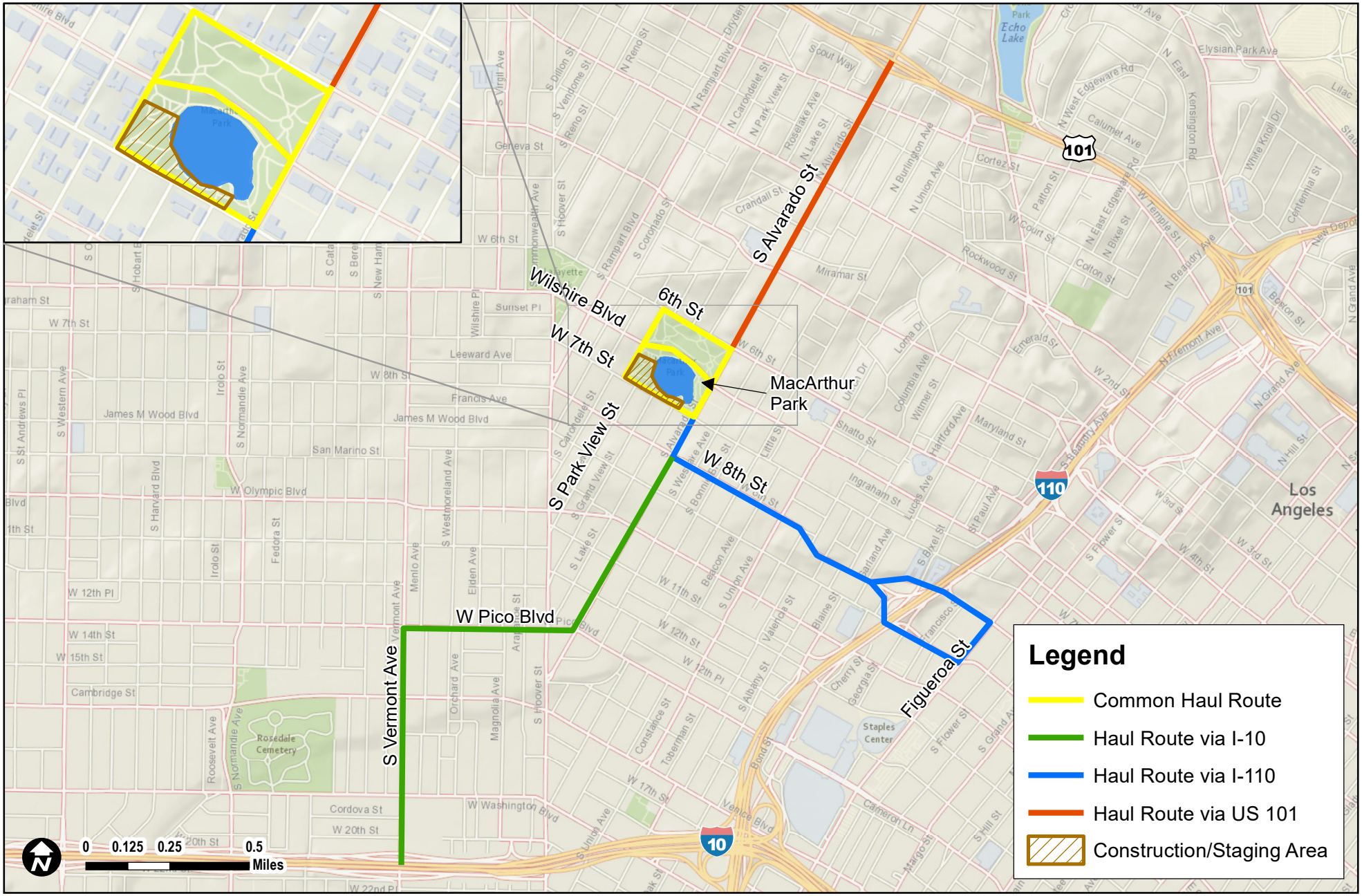
boardwalk over the mouth of the treatment wetlands, and installing an above-grade nozzle to introduce dry weather and wet weather flows into the lake.

A portion of the park would lie within the construction footprint. This portion, and other areas of the park within the vicinity, would be affected by construction activities. Construction would require a staging area to temporarily store supplies and materials, which would be located within the park (**Figure 2-7**). Construction areas would be fenced and closed to the public while construction activities are taking place. The proposed project would not require construction within the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) easement, although some temporary construction easements may be required for implementation of the proposed project. As shown in Figure 2-7, there would be three primary haul routes used to bring materials, equipment, and construction workers to and from the project site: (1) southwest along Alvarado Street from U.S. Route 101 (Hollywood Freeway), (2) northwest along 8th Street from State Route 110, and (3) north along Vermont Avenue from U.S. Highway 10 (Santa Monica Freeway) to east on Pico Boulevard then northeast on Alvarado Street.

Construction is expected to last for approximately 22 months. Installation of the underground components would occur concurrently as sections of pipeline are installed. The treatment wetlands would be installed following pipeline construction. At the peak of construction, approximately 15 workers would be on-site.

The majority of construction would occur between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Currently, there is no work anticipated on weekends or holidays or during nighttime hours. Work within roadways may be further restricted to avoid peak commute times. Temporary lane closures would be required for work within the public rights-of-way. In particular, at least one lane of travel may need to be closed for an extended period to accommodate pipeline construction. In addition, the bike lane along 7th Street would need to be closed temporarily, or bicycle traffic would need to be shifted/combined into the vehicular travel lane within the limits of the project construction area. Formal traffic control plans are required and would be prepared and approved by the City of Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) for any lane or street closures. It is expected that traffic control measures would be required during construction.

Construction of the stormwater diversion would require the temporary closure of the alley entrance at Lake Street. Access to the parking lot along Lake Street would be provided from a secondary entrance further south on Lake Street. Construction of the pretreatment unit and pump station would require the partial or complete, but temporary, closure of Lake Street. Construction of pipelines would require the temporary closure of one lane of Grand View Street and one or two lanes on 7th Street during a portion of the construction period. To minimize impacts to the school from any lane closures on Grand View Street for pipeline installation, construction of the pipeline on Grand View Street would be coordinated with the MacArthur Park Elementary School for the Visual and Performing Arts.



Sources: Cordoba Corporation, 2022; CDM Smith, 2022
Prepared by: CDM Smith, 2022

Figure 2-7

HAUL ROUTES

Implementation of the proposed project would conflict with existing underground utilities located within roadway rights-of-way, which could include water lines, natural gas lines, and communication lines. Utility conflicts would be identified during project designs. Construction would be coordinated with utility providers. Utilities would be avoided or relocated, as required.

Anticipated construction equipment is listed in **Table 2-1**.

Table 2-1 Anticipated Construction Equipment

Construction Task[1]	Equipment
All Tasks	Backhoe
	Concrete Truck
	Water Truck
	Pickup Truck
Diversion Structure[2]	Asphalt Milling Machine
	Excavator
	Paving Equipment
Drain Line Upgrade[2]	Asphalt Milling Machine
	Excavator
	Paving Equipment
	Pickup Truck
Pretreatment Unit[2]	Asphalt Milling Machine
	Excavator
	Paving Equipment
Pump Station[2]	Asphalt Milling Machine
	Crane
	Excavator
	Paving Equipment
	Pickup Truck
Actuated Valve and Meter Vaults[2]	Asphalt Milling Machine
	Excavator
	Paving Equipment
	Pickup Truck
Treatment Structures[2]	Bulldozer
	Excavator
Pipeline[2]	Asphalt Milling Machine
	Excavator
	Paving Equipment
Treatment Wetlands[2]	Bulldozer
	Excavator

Source: Cordoba Corporation, 2022.

Notes:

[1] Where construction tasks overlap, the equipment operating crews and equipment would be utilized in both tasks.

[2] Task equipment is in addition to the equipment listed for the "All Tasks" category.

2.6 Project Operations

The majority of the project components—including the diversion structure, pretreatment unit, pump station, stormwater treatment unit, and pipelines—would operate underground, with the primary aboveground feature being the treatment wetlands. The pump station would include an aboveground control panel, which would be located in or adjacent to the pump house located in the park on the south side of the lake.

During a storm event, if the pump equipment were to fail, there would be no diversion of stormwater water to the lake; stormwater flows would continue down the storm drain system and the City's storm drain system would function as it currently does. The majority of the project components would be located below ground and would not be subject to flooding. Above ground equipment would be located above flood elevations.

Oversight of the project's operation would primarily be performed via remote access through an automated system; however, some on-site operation and maintenance (O&M) would be required for the stormwater treatment unit and nature-based treatment systems. Regular maintenance would include inspections after storm events as well as annual inspections and system cleanings to remove any fine particles or trash filtered as part of the pretreatment processes. Two-person maintenance crews would conduct the inspections for the proposed project; estimated maintenance requirements are as follows:

- Inspection for pumping equipment – twice per year
- Cleaning for pumping equipment – twice per year
- Inspection/cleaning of other underground structures (such as the pretreatment unit and stormwater treatment unit) – 20 times (i.e., after every storm) and 5 times per year, respectively
- Inspection and cleaning of the treatment wetlands – four times per year

2.7 Anticipated Project Permits and Approvals

Certification of the EIR and approval of the proposed project would be required by the City of Los Angeles Board of Public Works. Project approval would also be required by the Board of Recreation and Parks Commissioners and the Los Angeles City Council. Additional approvals and permits anticipated to be required for the proposed project include, but are not limited to, those identified in **Table 2-2**.

Table 2-2 Agencies, Permits, and Approvals

Agency	Permit/Approval
California State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB)/Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB)	NPDES General Construction permit Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP)
City of Los Angeles	Construction "B" Permit (LAMC 62.106.b) Stormwater Discharge Industrial Waste Discharge (dewatered groundwater, sanitary sewer discharges) Temporary Traffic Control Storm Drain (SD) Permit Sewer Connection (S) Permit Maintenance Hole Opening (MH) Permit Excavation (U) Permit Building and Safety permits Recreation and Parks Encroachment Permit/Right-of-Entry Permit Tree Removal approval (Department of Recreation and Parks; Bureau of Engineering A Permit)
Various	Utility Relocation Agreements

Source: CDM Smith, 2022.

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Section 3
Environmental Evaluation

This section provides general information related to the proposed project, presents a summary of the potential impacts of the project relative to 20 environmental issue areas and mandatory findings of significance required under CEQA, and provides LASAN's determination regarding the type of CEQA document that will be prepared. The analysis begins with a summary delineation of the environmental factors (issue areas) addressed in the checklist and determines whether any potentially significant impacts were identified in the analysis. The analysis is followed by an explanation of the environmental factors potentially affected, including an evaluation of, and significance findings for, construction and operation of the proposed project.

The proposed project is evaluated in the context of the existing regulatory and environmental setting. Section 15382 of the CEQA Guidelines defines a significant effect on the environment as "a substantial, or potentially substantial, adverse change in any of the physical conditions within the area affected by the project, including land, air, water, minerals, flora, fauna, ambient noise, and objects of historic or aesthetic significance. A social or economic change by itself shall not be considered a significant effect on the environment. A social or economic change related to a physical change may be considered in determining whether the physical change is significant."[17]

Impacts are separated into the following categories:

- ***No Impact.*** This category applies when a project would not create an impact in the specific environmental issue area. A "No Impact" finding does not require an explanation when the finding is adequately supported by the cited information sources (e.g., exposure to a tsunami is clearly not a risk for projects not near the coast). A finding of "No Impact" is explained where the finding is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards (e.g., the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis).
- ***Less Than Significant Impact.*** This category is identified when the project would result in impacts below the threshold of significance and would therefore be less than significant.
- ***Less Than Significant After Mitigation.*** This category applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures would reduce a "Potentially Significant Impact" to a "Less Than Significant Impact." No such impacts for the proposed project are identified in this IS. Rather, impacts identified in the IS as being potentially significant will be evaluated further in the EIR. If the EIR identifies significant impacts, mitigation measures specific to each impact will be recommended and the level of significance after mitigation will be determined.
- ***Potentially Significant Impact.*** This category is applicable if there is substantial evidence that a significant adverse effect might occur. In accordance with CEQA, if there are one or more "Potentially Significant Impact" entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.

[17] California Natural Resources Agency. California State CEQA Guidelines. 2021.

3.1 Project Summary

Project Title

MacArthur Lake Stormwater Capture Project

Lead Agency Name and Address

City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, LA Sanitation & Environment
1149 S. Broadway, 9th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90015

Contact Person and Phone Number

Alfredo Magallanes, PE
Acting Division Manager, Watershed Protection Division
LA Sanitation & Environment
1149 S. Broadway, 10th Floor, MS: 1149/756
Los Angeles, CA 90015
Alfredo.Magallanes@lacity.org

Project Location

The proposed project would occur at MacArthur Park and in public rights-of-way southwest of the park. MacArthur Park is a public park located at 2230 W. 6th Street[18] in the Westlake neighborhood of central Los Angeles, approximately 1 mile northwest of downtown. The proposed project would occur in the southern portion of the park, on 7th Street south of the park, on an approximate one-block portion of Lake Street south of 7th Street, on an approximate one-block portion of Grand View Street south of 7th Street, and in a small portion of the alley that parallels 7th Street near its intersection with Lake Street.

General Plan Designation

The proposed project is located within the City's Westlake Community Plan Area, which designates the park as "Open Space" and the areas adjacent to 7th Street, Lake Street, and Grand View Street as "Community Commercial."

Zoning

The park has a zoning classification of Open Space. The public rights-of-way do not have a zoning classification but are adjacent to areas classified as Commercial Zone (C2) along 7th Street and Multiple Dwelling Zone (R4) along Grand View Street and Lake Street, adjacent to the project site.

[18] For ease of reading, directional street information is provided in the park address but is not otherwise used in this Initial Study.

Brief Description of Project

The proposed project consists of construction and operation of a stormwater management system that would divert a portion of wet weather stormwater flows as well as dry weather flows from an existing underground storm drain system, treat it, and discharge it into MacArthur Lake for storage or return it to the storm drain system. Storage in the lake would be achieved by discharging lake water via the sanitary sewer to the Hyperion Water Reclamation Plant (HWRP) prior to a storm event. Components of the project include an underground diversion structure, pretreatment unit, and pump station in Lake Street; a stormwater treatment unit and treatment wetlands in MacArthur Park; pipelines to convey the water to and from the storm drain system and to convey diverted flows to and from the proposed project components; a wetland recirculation loop and recirculation pump; and a pipeline from the lake to the sanitary sewer system.

Surrounding Land Use and Setting

The proposed project would be located within the southwestern portion of MacArthur Park. The project site is located in a highly developed urban area and is surrounded by land uses that include residential, commercial, mixed-use, and public buildings, as well as the northern portion of the park, which is located north of Wilshire Boulevard. Immediately across from the park to the north are commercial businesses, multifamily residential buildings, and government buildings; to the south along 7th Street are commercial business, medical offices, and an elementary school; to the west along Park View Street are multifamily residential buildings, commercial offices, a labor center, and an elementary school; and to the east are commercial businesses, including several ground-floor businesses with residential units located on floors above. The Westland/MacArthur Park subway station is located on Alvarado Street, across from the park to the east. Land uses on Lake Street include commercial uses on the southwest and southeast corners of Lake Street and 7th Street, and parking lots and a church on Lake Street south of 7th Street. Land uses on Grand View Street include the elementary school and commercial businesses at the intersection with 7th Street, and residential housing and a daycare facility to the south of these land uses.

Other Public Agencies Whose Approval is Required

California State Water Resources Control Board/Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board

California Native American Tribal Consultation

In accordance with Public Resources Code §21080.3.1, LASAN sent a notification of consultation opportunity to the tribes that requested such notification from the City of Los Angeles (City) pursuant to Public Resources Code §21080.3.1(b)(1). This process, including the consultation process (should it be requested by any tribe/s) as well as the conclusions of any such consultation, will be addressed in the EIR for the proposed project.

3.2 Environmental Factors Potentially Affected

The environmental factors checked below will be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact," as indicated by the checklists on the following pages. These issues will be further analyzed in the EIR to determine if the impact is significant. If the impact is determined to be significant in the EIR, then the EIR will further determine if feasible mitigation is available that can reduce the impact to a level that is less than significant.

☐ Aesthetics	☒ Greenhouse Gas Emissions	☐ Public Services
☐ Agriculture and Forestry	☐ Hazards and Hazardous Materials	☐ Recreation
☒ Air Quality	☒ Hydrology and Water Quality	☐ Transportation
☒ Biological Resources	☐ Land Use and Planning	☒ Tribal Cultural Resources
☒ Cultural Resources	☐ Mineral Resources	☐ Utilities/Service Systems
☐ Energy	☒ Noise	☐ Wildfire
☐ Geology and Soils[1]	☐ Population and Housing	☒ Mandatory Findings of Significance

Note:

[1] Impacts to paleontological resources (Issue VII(f)) were determined to be potentially significant. These impacts will be addressed in the Cultural Resources section of the EIR.

3.3 Determination

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

☐ I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a Negative Declaration will be prepared.

☐ I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

☒ I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.

☐ I find that the proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.

☐ I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

Signature	Acting Division Manager, Watershed Protection Division
	Title
Alfredo Magallanes, PE	04/05/2022
Typed/Printed Name	Date

3.4 Evaluation of Environmental Impacts

1. A brief explanation is required for all answers except "No Impact" answers that are adequately supported by the information sources a lead agency cites in the parentheses following each question. A "No Impact" answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A "No Impact" answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards (e.g., the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis).
2. All answers must take account of the whole action involved, including off-site as well as on-site, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.
3. Once the lead agency has determined that a particular physical impact may occur, then the checklist answers must indicate whether the impact is potentially significant, less than significant with mitigation, or less than significant. "Potentially Significant Impact" is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant. If there are one or more "Potentially Significant Impact" entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.
4. "Negative Declaration: Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated" applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from "Potentially Significant Impact" to a "Less Than Significant Impact." The lead agency must describe the mitigation measures, and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level (mitigation measures from "Earlier Analyses," as described in (5) below, may be cross-referenced).
5. Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or negative declaration. Section 15063(c)(3)(D). In this case, a brief discussion should identify the following:
    a. Earlier Analysis Used. Identify and state where they are available for review.
    b. Impacts Adequately Addressed. Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of and adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.

c. Mitigation Measures. For effects that are "Less than Significant with Mitigation Measures Incorporated," describe the mitigation measures which were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.

6. Lead agencies are encouraged to incorporate into the checklist references to information sources for potential impacts (e.g., general plans, zoning ordinances). Reference to a previously prepared or outside document should, where appropriate, include a reference to the page or pages where the statement is substantiated.

7. Supporting Information Sources: A source list should be attached, and other sources used or individuals contacted should be cited in the discussion.

8. This is only a suggested form, and lead agencies are free to use different formats; however, lead agencies should normally address the questions from this checklist that are relevant to a project's environmental effects in whatever format is selected.

9. The explanation of each issue should identify:

   a. the significance criteria or threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question; and
   b. the mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less than significance.

Section 4

Environmental Impact Analysis

I. AESTHETICS

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
I. AESTHETICS: Except as provided in Public Resources Code Section 21099, would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from publicly accessible vantage point.) If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?	☐	☐	☒	☐
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Except as provided in Public Resources Code Section 21099, would the project:

a. Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?

***Less Than Significant Impact*.** A scenic vista is generally defined as a vantage point with a broad and expansive view of a significant landscape feature (e.g., a mountain range, lake, or coastline) or of a significant historical or architectural feature (e.g., view of a historic tower). There are no designated scenic vistas in the project area. The project area is relatively flat and built out with urban development that surrounds MacArthur Park's recreational and open space uses. The project area is highly urbanized with commercial, institutional, and residential uses.

Within MacArthur Park, there are views of MacArthur Lake and park landscaping and amenities from the project site. Views of the downtown Los Angeles skyline, approximately 1.3 miles east/southeast of MacArthur Park, are available throughout the park. There are existing distant views of the San Gabriel mountains to the north, the Hollywood Hills to the northwest, and the Santa Monica Mountains to the west, but these are limited due to the topography of the project area, the mature landscaping found in MacArthur Park, and surrounding development—consisting of a mix of single-story, low-rise, and high-rise buildings—that, collectively, obstruct views of the mountains.

While construction of the proposed project would introduce new visual elements to the project area (i.e., construction equipment and staging), this would be temporary and would only occur in the areas where work was being performed. Additionally, the equipment would occur at street level in an area of existing structures that obscure views of the mountains. Therefore, construction activities would not result in a substantial adverse effect on scenic vistas. Construction impacts would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

b. Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings, or other locally recognized desirable aesthetic natural feature within a state or city-designated scenic highway?

***No Impact*.** The nearest designated state scenic highway is State Route (SR) 2, from approximately 3 miles north of Interstate (I) 210 in La Cañada to the San Bernardino County Line, the closest portion of which is located approximately 13 miles northeast of the project site.[19] The nearest national scenic byway is SR 110 (Arroyo Seco Historic Parkway Scenic Byway) from north of the I-110/I-101 interchange to Colorado Boulevard in Pasadena, the closest portion of which is located approximately 2 miles northeast of the project site. The project site is not within the viewshed of SR 2 or SR 110, nor is it located along or within any scenic roadway corridors identified in the City's General Plan[20] or the City's Citywide Maps program.[21] Therefore, the proposed project would not damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway. As a result, the proposed project would have no impact on scenic highways and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

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

Less Than Significant Impact. The project area consists of MacArthur Park and adjacent streets in the Westlake neighborhood of Central Los Angeles, approximately 1.3 miles west/northwest of downtown. MacArthur Park is a public park containing ornamental vegetation including mature trees, a concrete-lined lake (MacArthur Park Lake), walking paths, turf grasses, picnic areas, playgrounds, a concert pavilion, and a soccer field. Wilshire Boulevard divides the park into southern and northern portions. Two pedestrian tunnels under Wilshire Boulevard (accessible to park users) connect the southern and northern portions of the park. The lake, as with the proposed project, lies completely within the southern portion of the park. Other uses in the southern portion include walking paths around the lake and park perimeter, open recreational areas, public art, seating areas, and a pump house and other equipment. (The playgrounds, concert pavilion, and soccer field are in the northern portion of the park.) The primary visual features in the southern

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19 California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). California State Scenic Highway System Map. 2018. Available: https://caltrans.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=465dfd3d807c46cc8e8057116f1aacaa. Accessed January 14, 2022.

20 City of Los Angeles Department of City Planning. Mobility Plan 2035 – An Element of the General Plan. September 7, 2016. Available: https://planning.lacity.org/odocument/523f2a95-9d72-41d7-aba5-1972f84c1d36/Mobility_Plan_2035.pdf.

21 City of Los Angeles. General Plan Circulation. December 2020. Available: https://planning.lacity.org/odocument/cb924074-82d4-4ad6-9612-9293e9022ba0.

portion of the park are the lake and mature trees (including palm trees located within and around the perimeter of the park), turf grass, lampposts, and unhoused encampments. The area around the park is highly urbanized with commercial, institutional, and residential land uses. These land uses consist primarily of multifamily residential units, and commercial and mixed-use buildings ranging from one to three stories in height. There are several taller buildings adjacent to the park, including the seven-story Ansonia Apartments located along 6th Street and the County of Los Angeles Department of Social Services building. There is also an underground Metro station (Westlake/MacArthur Park Station) and station plaza located on Alvarado Street opposite the southeast side of the park. Land uses located south of the park along 7th Street, Grand View Street, and Lake Street include commercial businesses and medical offices, single-story residences, a church, and an elementary school that is located along 7th Street directly across the street from the park. As described under Issue I(a), the project site is located in an urbanized area of the City. Although the project site is surrounded by urban development, the park itself is open space; thus, this analysis considers both visual character and zoning. The visual character includes a range of land uses (e.g., commercial, institutional, residential) and architectural styles that represent a variety of building types, styles, construction periods, and building materials. Additionally, the park itself is a central visual feature that provides visual relief from the urban development and is a primary influence on the visual character. Unhoused encampments, located in the park and on sidewalks in the area, also contribute to the visual character.

Construction of the proposed project would result in temporary changes to the visual character of the project area, as viewed from surrounding uses and nearby publicly accessible vantage points. Construction activities in the park would include removal of existing turf and hardscaping within the construction footprint, site preparation, site grading, excavation, installation of pipelines, and installation of the treatment wetlands and aboveground equipment. Upon construction completion, there would be surface restoration, including new landscaping associated with the treatment wetlands, and landscaping restoration as needed in other areas disturbed by construction. Construction activities outside of the park along Grand View Street, Lake Street, 7th Street, and the alley that parallels 7th Street would include pavement removal, excavation, trenching, pipelaying, backfill, and surface restoration. Typical construction equipment would include tractors, backhoes, scrapers, pavers, cranes, pile drivers, and other commonly used construction equipment. While construction would alter the visual character of the park and adjacent streets, this would be temporary and would be concentrated in a small portion of the park. Thus, the proposed project's construction activities would not substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings. Following completion of construction, the proposed improvements would be visually consistent with the aesthetics of the park and surrounding land uses.

Chapter 1 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC), which consists of the City's Planning and Zoning Code, sets forth the regulations and standards regarding the allowable type, density, height, and design of new projects. The portion of the project site that lies within MacArthur Park is zoned Open Space (OS), land uses along 7th Street south of the park are zoned Commercial (C2), parcels adjacent to the proposed improvements within Grand View Street and Lake Street are zoned Multiple Dwelling (R4), and parcels along Park View Street are zoned Multiple Dwelling (R4) and Commercial (C2 and C4). In addition, the project site is within a Transit Priority Area (owing to its

proximity to the Westlake/MacArthur Park Metro Station). None of these zoning classifications contain regulations governing scenic quality.[22] The project area is within the Westlake Community Plan area, which does not include goals and design standards pertaining to the scenic quality of the community.[23]

Most of the proposed project components would be located underground. The majority of the underground features – i.e., the stormwater diversion, pre-treatment unit, pump station, and pipelines – would be installed in Lake Street, Grand View Street, and in a small portion of the alley that parallels 7th Street. Additional underground features, including pipelines and a recirculation system pump, would be installed in the park. Aboveground features would include a treatment wetland as well as equipment that would be located in or adjacent to the existing pump house located on the south side of MacArthur Lake. The nature-based treatment wetland would enhance the scenic characteristics of the park and provide visual interest to park users. The equipment that would be located aboveground would primarily be located inside the pump house building; any adjacent equipment would be similar to other infrastructure that is common in the urban environment and would not affect the visual character of the park.

For the reasons described above, construction and operation of the proposed project would not conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality, nor would it negatively affect the overall character of the project area or surroundings. The impact of the proposed project on scenic quality would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

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

***No Impact*.** Construction activities would occur during daylight hours and, therefore, would not require lighting. Operation of the proposed project would not alter existing light or create glare from the project site or in the project area. Therefore, the proposed project would not create a new source of substantial light or glare; the proposed project would have no impact with respect to light and glare and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

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[22] City of Los Angeles. Los Angeles Municipal Code, Chapter 1: General Provisions and Zoning. Available: https://codelibrary.amlegal.com/codes/los_angeles/latest/lamc/0-0-0-107408.

[23] City of Los Angeles. Westlake Community Plan. 1997. Available: https://planning.lacity.org/odocument/b189be15-6f71-43db-8a04-491fdd188729/Westlake_Community_Plan.pdf.

II. AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTRY RESOURCES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
II. AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTRY RESOURCES: In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment project; and forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board. Would the project:				
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance, as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code Section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Protection (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	☐	☐	☐	☒
e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Would the project:

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

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

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

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

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

No Impact (Issue a-e). The project area and surrounding vicinity do not contain prime farmland, unique farmland, or farmland of statewide importance, as identified on the California Important Farmland Finder. The project area is a developed urban area classified as "urban built-up land" by the California Important Farmland Finder.[24] The area surrounding the project site is fully developed with residential, intuitional, and commercial uses consisting of single-story, low-rise, and high-rise buildings. None of the land in the project area is subject to a Williamson Act contact.

The project area is not located on or in the vicinity of agricultural land or forest land, nor any land zoned for agricultural or forestry use. The proposed project would not convert agricultural lands to non-agricultural use; conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use or a Williamson Act contract; conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land or timberland; result in the loss of forest land or convert forest land to non-forest use; or otherwise involve other changes in the existing environment that would result in conversion of farmland or forest land to other uses. Therefore, no impacts to agricultural land, forest land, or timberland resources would occur with the implementation of the proposed project and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

III. Air Quality

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
III. AIR QUALITY: Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management district or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:				
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	☒	☐	☐	☐
b) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?	☒	☐	☐	☐
c) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	☒	☐	☐	☐
d) Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Would the project:

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

[24] California Department of Conservation. California Important Farmland Finder. Available: https://maps.conservation.ca.gov/dlrp/ciff/. Accessed January 9, 2022.

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

c. Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?

Potentially Significant Impact (Issue a-c). The South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) established CEQA air quality significance thresholds for both construction and operational criteria air pollutant emissions, below which project emissions would not be expected to result in a new violation, or contribute to an existing violation, of the California Ambient Air Quality Standards (CAAQS) or national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS).

Environmental Setting

The proposed project site is located within the South Coast Air Basin (SCAB), a geographic region consisting of the non-desert portions of the Los Angeles, Riverside, and San Bernadino Counties and all of Orange County. The SCAB covers an area of approximately 6,000 square miles and is bounded on the west by the Pacific Ocean; on the north and east by the San Gabriel, San Bernadino, and San Jacinto Mountains; and on the south by the San Diego County line.

The SCAB is in attainment of the CAAQS for carbon monoxide (CO), nitrogen dioxide (NO_2), sulfur dioxide (SO_2), lead (Pb), hydrogen sulfide (H_2S), sulfates, and vinyl chloride, but is designated nonattainment for ozone (O_3), inhalable particulate matter (PM_{10}), and fine particulate matter ($PM_{2.5}$). Of the NAAQS, the SCAB is in attainment for CO, NO_2, SO_2, and PM_{10}, but is designated nonattainment for O_3, $PM_{2.5}$, and Pb.[25]

SCAQMD is the principal agency responsible for comprehensive air pollution control throughout the SCAB. The SCAQMD works closely with other local and regional agencies, including the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), county transportation commissions, and local governments. The SCAQMD develops rules and regulations, establishes permitting requirements, inspects emissions sources, and enforces such measures to control air pollution throughout the SCAB to achieve and maintain attainment of the relevant CAAQS and NAAQS.

Construction

Construction of the proposed project would include surface demolition and trenching along existing roadways and within MacArthur Park; excavation; installation of an underground diversion structure, pump station, and pre-treatment equipment; creation of a nature-based treatment system (i.e., constructed wetlands); and landscaping. Air pollutant emissions associated with construction of the proposed project may exceed the SCAQMD air quality significance thresholds; therefore, the EIR will evaluate whether construction of the proposed project would: (a) conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan; (b) result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is nonattainment under an applicable federal and/or state ambient air quality standard (PM_{10}, $PM_{2.5}$, Pb, and O_3 precursor compounds [nitrogen oxides (NO_X) and volatile organic compounds (VOC)]); and/or (c) expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations. Analysis of proposed project

[25] California Air Resources Board. Ambient Air Quality Standards Designation Tool. Available: https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/aaqs-designation-tool. Accessed: December 30, 2021.

construction will consider exhaust emissions from construction equipment, hauling and delivery trucks, and construction worker commute trips; fugitive dust (PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$) emissions from demolition, soil disturbance, and vehicle operations on paved and unpaved surfaces; and fugitive VOC emissions associated with architectural coating, if applicable, and paving off-gassing.

Operations

Proposed project operations would include the operation of electric pumps and treatment equipment that would be located underground. This equipment would operate periodically to pump accumulate dry weather flow in non-storm conditions to maintain proper operation of the equipment, and would operate continuously during a storm event. A small recirculation pump station would operate continuously during dry weather periods that would circulate water from the lake to the treatment wetlands. Historical precipitation data from 2002 through 2011 indicates an average of 20 storm events per year for the project area. Following a storm event, filters would be cleared of trapped trash and sediment. The treatment wetlands installed as part of the project would be located at-grade in the park and would require periodic tending. These operational activities could require the use of personnel with hand tools and maintenance vehicles, potentially including the use of on-road trucks outfitted with equipment, such as tanks or pumps. The maintenance activities would also require trips to and from the site. The City of Los Angeles (City) has a target for converting all City fleet vehicles to zero-emission vehicles, where technically feasible, by 2028. [26] This would limit pollutant emissions associated with maintenance trips.

The proposed pump station would include three pumps with a combined maximum flow rate of 12 cfs. In addition, a 0.5 cfs pump would recirculate water from the lake through the natural treatment system. The pumps would be powered by electricity. Electricity in the project area is provided by the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP). LADWP's total in-basin electrical capacity was approximately 3,415 megawatts (MW) in 2017, less than half its total generation capacity of 8,009 MW.[27,28] Furthermore, in 2020, LADWP's power mix included a 36-percent renewable energy portfolio, and plans are being developed to accelerate LADWP's renewable energy portfolio to 100 percent by 2035.[29,30] Based on the periodic operation of the pumps, low in-basin portion of electrical generation and high renewable energy portfolio, operational emissions associated with project electrical demand would be negligible.

Because of the minimal need for direct pollutant-emitting equipment and the limited nature of proposed maintenance activities, emissions associated with proposed project operations would be minimal and would not conflict with or obstruct an applicable air quality plan, result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is

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26 City of Los Angeles, Office of the Mayor, Mayor Eric Garcetti. L.A.'s Green New Deal: Sustainable City pLAn, 2019. Available: http://plan.lamayor.org/sites/default/files/pLAn_2019_final.pdf.

27 City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power. Power Strategic Long-Term Resource Plan. December 2017. Available: https://www.ladwp.com/ladwp/faces/ladwp/aboutus/a-power/a-p-integratedresourceplanning/a-p-irp-documents.

28 City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power. Power Facts & Figures Webpage. Available: https://www.ladwp.com/ladwp/faces/ladwp/aboutus/a-power/a-p-factandfigures?_adf.ctrl-state=gko5zpl7m_17&_afrLoop=386847996814678. Accessed January 27, 2022.

29 City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power. 2020 Power Content Label. October 2020. Available: https://www.ladwp.com/ladwp/faces/ladwp/aboutus/a-power/a-p-powercontentlabel. Accessed January 12, 2022.

30 City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power. 2022 Strategic Long-Term Resource Plan Webpage. 2021. Available: https://www.ladwp.com/ladwp/faces/ladwp/aboutus/a-power/a-p-integratedresourceplanning. Accessed January 12, 2022.

nonattainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard, or expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations. Therefore, impacts to air quality from project operations would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

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

Less Than Significant Impact. This analysis focuses on emissions that would lead to odors and emissions of fugitive dust. The SCAQMD has established that, pursuant to CEQA, a project would result in a significant impact with respect to odor if it would create an odor nuisance condition as defined in SCAQMD Rule 402 "Nuisance." SCAQMD Rule 403 "Fugitive Dust" establishes requirements for the control of project-related dust.

Construction

Potential substantial odor sources during construction of the proposed project would include exhaust from diesel-fueled construction equipment and connection to the sanitary sewer. Diesel vehicle exhaust has a distinctive odor and the use of diesel-fueled equipment during construction would have the potential to generate near-field odors that may be considered unpleasant to certain individuals. Project construction would be mobile, with construction occurring at the stormwater runoff intertie, and then continuing along public roadways and through MacArthur Park during various phases of construction. In addition, businesses on the east and west sides of Lake Street could be impacted by odors during connection of the pipeline from the lake to the sanitary sewer system. However, because of the temporary and mobile nature of the proposed project construction, any individual location along the project construction route, including business on Lake Street, would not be exposed to project-related odors for a substantial period of time. Therefore, the project would not result in other emissions of construction odors that would adversely affect a substantial number of people and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

Construction of the project would be required to comply with SCAQMD Rule 403. The rule establishes provisions, based on the disturbed area of a project and the project's earthmoving intensity, which, when followed, would alleviate impacts to the public from project-related construction dust. The proposed project would be required to comply with SCAQMD Rule 403 and all applicable dust control provisions throughout project construction; therefore, the project would not result in emissions of construction dust which would adversely affect a substantial number of people and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

Operations

Potential substantial odor sources during operation of the proposed project include odors relating to water quality within MacArthur Lake. Good water quality is typically associated with no objectionable odors, whereas poor water quality is typically associated with nuisance odors, including those produced by eutrophic algal blooms and fish kills or direct off-gassing of odors from the water. A preliminary analysis of MacArthur Lake water quality was completed in 2021 based on water quality samples collected during 2020 and 2021 by the City. The analysis indicated that there are existing eutrophic conditions throughout the lake. While the proposed project would introduce stormwater and dry weather flows to the lake, these flows would not be expected to substantially alter water quality in the lake such that odors would be generated or existing odors would be

substantially exacerbated. Therefore, the project would not result in emissions of operational odors that would adversely affect a substantial number of people and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

Operation of the project would not result in a new source or increase the intensity of an existing source of fugitive dust in the project area; therefore, the project would not result in emissions of operational dust that would adversely affect a substantial number of people and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
III. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES: Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	☒	☐	☐	☐
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	☒	☐	☐	☐
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	☒	☐	☐	☐
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	☒	☐	☐	☐
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	☐	☐	☐	☒
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?	☒	☐	☐	☐

Would the project:

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

Potentially Significant Impact. The habitat present in the project area is associated with highly developed and landscaped urban areas, making the presence of special-status species highly unlikely. Special-status species include those federally- and/or state-listed as threatened, endangered, proposed, and/or candidate wildlife and plant species as well as those identified as species of concern by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW, for wildlife) and ranked as rare and/or sensitive by the California Native Plant Society (CNPS, for plants). Twenty special-status plant and animal species were identified from a search of the California Natural Diversity Database,[31] Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC),[32] and CNPS (2021)[33] within the Los Angeles quadrangle. These species are identified in **Table 4-1**. All the special-status plant species and one special-status mammal species have no potential to occur in the project area. The special-status amphibian, reptile, insect, and bird species all have very low potential to occur in the project area. Special-status bird species may occur transiently, but these special-status bird species are unlikely to use the project area for nesting, as suitable habitat is not present within the project study area (Table 4-1). The fish species present in MacArthur Lake are managed (stocked by CDFW) and assumed to be non-native. Potential construction impacts would be localized and would not extend to areas downstream of the project site. As detailed in Issues VII(b) and IX(a), construction best management practices (BMPs) would be implemented to minimize the potential for soil erosion and construction-related hazardous substances, such as fuels, from entering MacArthur Lake or being introduced into stormwater runoff that could flow downstream and enter Ballona Creek. Therefore, no impacts on special-status species downstream of the project site would occur during construction. Thus, construction of the proposed project would not have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on special-status species. Construction impacts on special-status species would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

Table 4-1 Special-Status Species and Potential to Occur in the Project Study Area

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status/CNPS Rank	Potential to Occur in the Project Study Area
Plants			
Davidson's saltscale	*Atriplex serenana* var. *davidsonii*	1B.2	No potential to occur. Suitable coastal scrub habitat or bluffs do not occur in the project study area.
Greata's aster	*Symphyotrichum greatae*	1B.3	No potential to occur. Suitable habitat does not occur in the project study area.
Los Angeles sunflower	*Helianthus nuttallii* ssp. *parishii*	1A	No potential to occur. Suitable marsh or swamp habitat is not present in the project study area.
Mesa horkelia	*Horkelia cuneata* var. *puberula*	1B.1	No potential to occur. Suitable chaparral, cismontane woodland, or coastal scrub habitat is not present in the project study area.
Parish's gooseberry	*Ribes divaricatum* var. *parishii*	1A	No potential to occur. Suitable riparian woodland habitat is not present in the project study area.

[31] California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). California Natural Diversity Database RareFind electronic database. May 2021. Accessed May 11, 2021.

[32] U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). Information for Planning and Consultation. May 2021. Available: https://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/. Accessed May 21, 2021.

[33] California Native Plant Society (CNPS). Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants. May 2021. Available: http://www.rareplants.cnps.org/. Accessed May 11, 2021.

Table 4-1 Special-Status Species and Potential to Occur in the Project Study Area			
Common Name	**Scientific Name**	**Status/CNPS Rank**	**Potential to Occur in the Project Study Area**
Prostate vernal pool navarretia	*Navarretia prostrata*	1B.2	No potential to occur. Suitable vernal pool habitat is not present in the project area.
Salt spring checkerbloom	*Sidalcea neomexicana*	2B.2	No potential to occur. Suitable habitat does not occur in the project area.
Amphibians and Reptiles			
California glossy snake	*Arizona elegans occidentalis*	SSC	Very low potential to occur. Suitable habitat does not occur in the project area.
Coast horned lizard	*Phrynosoma blainvillii*	SSC	Very low potential to occur. Suitable habitat does not occur in the project area.
Southern California legless lizard	*Anniella stebbinsi*	SSC	Very low potential to occur. Suitable habitat does not occur in the project area.
Western spadefoot	*Spea hammondii*	SSC	Very low potential to occur. Suitable habitat does not occur in the project area.
Insects			
Crotch bumble bee	*Bombus crotchii*	SE	Very low potential to occur. Suitable habitat does not occur in the project area.
Birds			
Bank swallow	*Riparia riparia*	ST	Very low potential to occur transiently. Suitable foraging and nesting habitat is not present within the project area.
Burrowing owl	*Athene cunicularia*	SSC	Very low or no potential to occur transiently. Suitable foraging habitat is very limited within the project area.
Coastal California gnatcatcher	*Polioptila californica californica*	FT, SSC	Very low potential to occur transiently. Suitable sage-scrub foraging habitat is not present within the project area.
Least Bell's vireo	*Vireo bellii pusillus*	FE, SE	Very low potential to occur transiently. Suitable riparian foraging habitat is not present within the project area.
Southwestern willow flycatcher	*Empidonax traillii extimus*	FE, SE	Very low potential to occur transiently. Suitable nesting habitat is not present within the project area.
Mammals			
American badger	*Taxidea taxus*	SSC	No potential to occur. Suitable habitat is not present within the project area.
Big free-tailed bat	*Nyctinomops macrotis*	SSC	Low potential to occur transiently. Suitable roosting habitat in the form of rugged rocky terrain is not present within the project area.
Western mastiff bat	*Eumops perotis californicus*	SSC	Low potential to occur transiently. Suitable habitat, including high natural rock faces and bridges, is not present within the project area.

Source: CDFW 2021; CNPS 2021; USFWS 2021.

Key:

SE = State Listed - Endangered; ST = State Listed - Threatened; FE = Federally Listed - Endangered; FT = Federally Listed -Threatened; SSC = California State Species of Special Concern; 1A = Presumed Extirpated in California; 1B.1 = Seriously Threatened in California; 1B.2 = Moderately Threatened in California; 1B.3 = Not Very Threatened in California; 2B.2 = Moderately Threatened in California but common elsewhere.

From an operational standpoint, the proposed project would divert a portion of wet weather stormwater flows as well as dry weather flows from the storm drain system for treatment followed by storage in MacArthur Lake or return to the storm drain system. Although some of the flows would be returned to the storm drain system following treatment, a portion of the diverted water would subsequently be discharged to the sanitary sewer system. Therefore, the proposed project would reduce the amount of stormwater and dry weather flows that flows into Ballona Creek. As previously described, special-status species have no or very low potential to occur in the project area and, therefore, no operational impacts on special-status species within the project site are expected to occur. However, further evaluation is required to assess the proposed project's operational impacts on special-status species downstream of the project area. The EIR will evaluate the potential for operation of the proposed project to have a significant effect on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status species downstream of the project area.

MacArthur Park supports trees and other vegetation that may provide potential nesting sites for migratory birds, including raptors. Migratory bird species use a variety of habitats and may nest within virtually any type of vegetation. Disturbances to vegetation providing bird nesting habitat during the bird nesting season, which generally spans from February 1 through September 1 (as early as January 1 for some raptors), may result in significant impacts on migratory birds protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Vegetation disturbance, including removal or trimming of trees, would occur during construction and may occur during maintenance of the proposed project.

Based on these considerations, the EIR will evaluate whether construction and operation of the proposed project would have a significant impact on migratory birds.

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

***Potentially Significant Impact*.** No sensitive natural communities or riparian habitat are present in the project area. The existing vegetation at MacArthur Park is ornamental and landscaped and includes turf grass, palm trees, and diverse non-native mature tree species. The portions of the project site along 7th Street, Lake Street, and Grand View Street have sparse landscaping consisting primarily of trees and shrubs along the rights-of-way and the perimeters of several properties. Additionally, the project area is not within a Significant Ecological Area (SEA), as designated by the County of Los Angeles.[34] The proposed project would construct treatment wetlands consisting of wetland plants along the western edge the lake, which could add a sensitive vegetation community to the project area and result in a long-term benefit. The Ballona Wetlands, downstream of the project area, are designated as an SEA and a state ecological reserve.[35] Potential construction impacts would be localized and would not extend to areas downstream of the project site. Construction BMPs would be implemented to minimize the potential for soil erosion and construction-related hazardous substances, such as fuels, from entering stormwater runoff that

[34] City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Bureau of Engineering. Navigate LA. Available: https://navigatela.lacity.org/navigatela/. Accessed January 19, 2022.

[35] City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Bureau of Engineering. Navigate LA. Available: https://navigatela.lacity.org/navigatela/. Accessed January 19, 2022.

could flow downstream and enter Ballona Creek. Thus, construction of the proposed project would not have a substantial adverse effect on sensitive vegetation communities or riparian vegetation. Construction impacts on riparian habitat or other sensitive natural communities would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

As previously described, there are no sensitive habitats located within the project site; therefore, no operational impacts within the project area would occur. However, further evaluation is required to assess the proposed project's impacts on riparian habitat and sensitive natural communities downstream of the project area, which could be under the jurisdiction of CDFW, as the proposed project would divert a portion of wet weather stormwater flows and dry weather flows from the storm drain system into MacArthur Lake, thus reducing the amount of stormwater that flows into Ballona Creek and, from there, into the Ballona Wetlands. The EIR will evaluate the potential for proposed project operations to have a substantial adverse effect on riparian habitat or other sensitive natural communities downstream of the project area.

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

Potentially Significant Impact. The project area includes MacArthur Lake, which qualifies as "waters of the State," which includes all surface waters and groundwater. The lake is concrete-lined and surrounded by a cement walkway; there are no existing wetlands at or near the lake. However, stormwater from the project area is indirectly discharged to Ballona Creek and, from there, flows into Ballona Wetlands. Therefore, this discussion focuses on the potential for the proposed project to result in a substantial adverse effect on the Ballona Wetlands that are located downstream.

MacArthur Park is in the Ballona Creek Watershed, which encompasses approximately 128 square miles. Stormwater from the project area enters the storm drain system and ultimately flows into Ballona Creek and Estuary, which are collectively 9.5 miles long. Ballona Estuary consists of the final 3.5-mile downstream stretch of Ballona Creek and ends at the Pacific Ocean. The Ballona Wetlands are connected to the estuary through tidal gates. Roughly 460 acres of the wetlands are located within the Ballona Creek Watershed; the wetlands are owned and managed by CDFW.[36]

As discussed in Issue VII, BMPs would be implemented during project construction to minimize the potential for soil erosion and construction-related hazardous substances from entering stormwater runoff that could flow downstream to Ballona Creek and, from there, into the Ballona Wetlands. Thus, construction of the proposed project would not have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands. Impacts of project construction on wetlands would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

MacArthur Lake is currently supplied by potable water. Under operation of the proposed project, a portion of wet weather flows as well as dry weather flows would be diverted from the storm drain system. A portion of these flows would be routed to MacArthur Lake for storage; some of this water

[36] Ballona Creek Watershed Management Group (BCWMG). Enhanced Watershed Management Program for the Ballona Creek Watershed. 2016. Available: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/water_issues/programs/stormwater/municipal/watershed_management/ballona_creek/BallonaCreek_RevisedEWMP_2016Jan19.pdf.

would subsequently be discharged to the sanitary sewer system. Such diversion would reduce the amount of stormwater that flows to downstream areas within the storm drain system, including Ballona Creek and the Ballona Wetlands. The reduced stormwater flows into Ballona Creek are not expected to be substantial; however, further evaluation is required to fully assess the proposed project's operational impacts on the Ballona Wetlands downstream of the project area. Thus, the EIR will evaluate the potential for proposed project operations to have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands downstream of the project area.

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

***Potentially Significant Impact*.** Regional and local wildlife movements are expected to be concentrated near topographic or vegetative features—including roads, drainages, and ridgelines—that allow convenient passage between areas of suitable habitat. The project site is in a developed area and does not include native habitat, nor does it connect two or more habitat areas. There are no wildlife corridors or nursery sites in the project area. The fish species present in MacArthur Lake are stocked by CDWF and assumed to be non-native and not self-sustaining. The Ballona Wetlands are located downstream of the project area. Potential construction impacts would be localized to the project area and would not extend to areas downstream of the project site. Construction BMPs would be implemented to minimize the potential for soil erosion and construction-related hazardous substances, such as fuels, from entering stormwater runoff that could flow downstream and enter Ballona Creek. Thus, construction of the proposed project would not interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident fish or wildlife species, migratory fish or wildlife species, or established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors or nursery sites. Construction impacts on native resident fish or wildlife species, migratory fish or wildlife species, and wildlife corridors would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

There are no wildlife corridors or nursery sites in the project area and, thus, no impacts to these resources would occur at the project site during operations. However, as part of the overall evaluation of the proposed project's operational impacts on downstream biological resources identified above, potential effects on the movement of native or migratory fish or wildlife species will also be considered. Thus, the EIR will evaluate the potential for proposed project operations to interfere substantially with the movement of native or migratory fish or wildlife species downstream of the project area.

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

***No Impact*.** Ordinance No. 177404 of the City's Municipal Code assures protection of and regulates removal of protected trees. This ordinance provides protection, by requiring permits for any removal or relocation, for specific "Southern California native tree species, measuring four inches

or more in cumulative diameter, four- and one-half feet above the ground level at the base of the tree."[37] Protected native tree species include the following:

- Oak trees, including Valley Oak (*Quercus lobata*) and California Live Oak (*Quercus agrifolia*), or any other tree of the oak genus indigenous to California but excluding the Scrub Oak (*Quercus dumosa*)
- Southern California Black Walnut (*Juglans californica* var. *californica*)
- Western Sycamore (*Platanus racemosa*)
- California Bay (Umbellularia californica)

In addition to the City's ordinance, RAP is responsible for trees growing in the City's parkland. RAP designates some park trees as Heritage trees, which are individual trees of any size or species that are specially designated because of their historical, commemorative, or horticultural significance. The list of designated Heritage Trees provides information related to activities that are planned to occur near Heritage trees.[38]

RAP has also developed an Urban Forest Program, which outlines procedures and standards that include criteria for the maintenance, removal, replacement, and planning of diverse tree species and the care of California native trees.[39]

No protected native tree species or Heritage trees occur within the proposed project footprint.[40] Thus, the proposed project would not conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, specifically the City's Tree Ordinance or RAP's tree policy and Urban Forest Program. There would be no impact on protected biological resources, including trees, and no further analysis in the EIR is required.

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

***Potentially Significant Impact*.** No Habitat Conservation Plans or Natural Community Conservation Plans are applicable to the project area or downstream area.[41] However, the Ballona Wetlands downstream of the project area is a state ecological reserve and designated by the county as an SEA.[42] As described previously in this IS, construction of the proposed project would not affect the Ballona Wetlands. Construction would have no impacts on local, regional, or state habitat conservation plans and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

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37 City of Los Angeles. Ordinance No. 177404. 2003. Available: https://planning.lacity.org/code_studies/other/protectedtreeord.pdf.

38 City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks. Heritage Trees. Available: https://www.laparks.org/forest/heritage-trees. Accessed March 1, 2022.

39 City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Recreation and Parks. Urban Forest Program. October 2004. Available: https://www.laparks.org/sites/default/files/forest/pdf/UrbanForestProgram.pdf.

40 City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Bureau of Engineering. Navigate LA. Available: https://navigatela.lacity.org/navigatela/. Accessed January 19, 2022.

41 California Department of Fish and Wildlife. California Natural Community Conservation Plans Map. 2019. Available: https://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=68626&inline. Accessed January 11, 2022.

42 City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Bureau of Engineering. Navigate LA. Available: https://navigatela.lacity.org/navigatela/. Accessed January 19, 2022.

Operation of the proposed project would divert a portion of wet weather stormwater flows as well as dry weather flows from the storm drain system into MacArthur Lake. Any water that exceeds the storage capacity in the lake would be returned to the storm drain system, where it would flow into Ballona Creek. However, some of the stormwater would be used to counterbalance and maintain the lake's water level, which is currently filled using potable water. Although some of the flows would be returned to the storm drain system following treatment, a portion of the diverted water would subsequently be discharged to the sanitary sewer system, thereby reducing the amount of stormwater that flows into Ballona Creek and, from there, into the Ballona Wetlands. The reduced stormwater flows into Ballona Creek are not expected to be substantial. However, further evaluation is required to assess the proposed project's operational impacts downstream of the project area, including the Ballona Wetlands. Thus, the EIR will evaluate the potential for proposed project operations to conflict with the provisions of an adopted regional or state habitat conservation plan.

V. CULTURAL RESOURCES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
V. CULTURAL RESOURCES: Would the project:				
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to Section §15064.5?	☒	☐	☐	☐
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?	☒	☐	☐	☐
c) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Would the project:

a. Have a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to §15064.5?

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

Potentially Significant Impact (Issue a-b). The EIR will evaluate whether construction of the proposed project would result in a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource. The City designated MacArthur Park as a Historic-Cultural Monument (HCM).[43] Construction activities in the park would include removing existing turf and hardscaping, site preparation, site grading, and excavation. However, these activities would be temporary and the park would be fully restored to preconstruction conditions upon completion of work. The implementation of treatment wetlands would result in a new aboveground feature in the park,

[43] City of Los Angeles Department of City Planning. Historic-Cultural Monument (HCM) List. Available: https://planning.lacity.org/odocument/24f6fce7-f73d-4bca-87bc-c77ed3fc5d4f/Historical_Cultural_Monuments_List.pdf.

replacing turf grass and paved walkways with the treatment wetlands and a boardwalk. While this would result in a new type of feature in the park, the park has undergone substantial changes over time since its establishment in the late-1800s. This includes the extension of Wilshire Boulevard through the park, modifications to the size of the lake and the addition of a concrete liner, and the construction of features such as the soccer field and public art. It is anticipated that the addition of the treatment wetlands would constitute a continuation of the evolving features of the park and that this would not be a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource. However, the potential for the proposed project to result in adverse impacts to the status of the park as an HCM will be evaluated in the EIR.

No structures would be demolished under the proposed project. However, historic and potentially historic buildings may be located within or adjacent to the project area, and could experience indirect impacts, such as vibration, during construction. As discussed in Issue XIII, the potential for the proposed project to result in a significant impact from construction equipment vibration, including impacts to park features or nearby buildings that may be historic, will be evaluated in the EIR.

Some of the trees within MacArthur Park are designated by the RAP as heritage trees, which are individual trees of any size or species that are designated as heritage because of their historical, commemorative, or horticultural significance. Further review will be included in the EIR to determine if any trees designated as historically significant or commemorative would be removed during construction and, should this occur, if such removal would result in a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource.

The project area consists of open space and public rights-of-way in a developed area that was previously graded and disturbed. Therefore, uncovering significant archaeological resources is expected to be unlikely. However, the potential for construction of the proposed project to result in a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource will be further evaluated in the EIR.

Operation of the proposed project would occur primarily underground, with only the treatment wetlands and some equipment and equipment housing located aboveground. Operation of the proposed project would not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical or archaeological resource and no further evaluation in the EIR of project operations is required.

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

Less Than Significant Impact. Because the project area has already been previously disturbed and developed, it was subject to construction and ground-disturbing activities. Nevertheless, ground-disturbing activities have the potential to disturb previously undiscovered subsurface human remains. If human remains are uncovered during ground-disturbing activities, there are regulatory provisions to address the handling of human remains in California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5, Public Resource Code 5097.98, and CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(e). Pursuant to these codes, if human remain are discovered, work on the portion of the project site where remains were uncovered would be suspended and the City's Department of Public Works (which would be responsible for construction of the proposed project) as well as the County Coroner would be immediately notified. If the coroner determines that the remains are not subject to his or her

authority and if the coroner recognizes or has reason to believe the human remains to be those of a Native American, he or she must consult with the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) by telephone within 24 hours to designate a Most Likely Descendant (MLD) who must recommend appropriate measures to the City regarding the treatment of the remains. If human remains were to be encountered during construction, compliance with existing requirements would ensure that impacts would be less than significant impact and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

Operation of the proposed project would occur primarily underground, with only the treatment wetlands and some equipment and equipment housing located aboveground. Operation of the proposed project would not result in disturbance of any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries. Therefore, impacts from project operations would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

VI. ENERGY

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

Would the project:

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

Less Than Significant Impact. The consumption of energy resources would be necessary during the construction and subsequent operation of the proposed project. Construction would consume energy resources in the form of gasoline and/or diesel fuel for construction equipment activity, hauling and vendor delivery trips, and gasoline fuel for worker vehicle trips. Operation of the project would consume energy in the form of gasoline fuel for maintenance vehicle activities and electricity for pumps and other ancillary equipment. Various regulations establish requirements that would reduce energy consumption where feasible and prevent the wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources. Construction and operational impacts are evaluated below.

Construction

The California Air Resources Board (CARB) In-Use Off-Road Diesel-Fueled Fleets Regulation would limit wasteful or unnecessary energy consumption from diesel-fueled construction equipment. As required by the rule, construction equipment 25 horsepower (hp) or greater would be prohibited from idling for more than 5 minutes, except where necessary for operation. CARB's Airborne Toxic Control Measure (ATCM) would similarly limit idling in heavy-duty on-road equipment, such as any project-related hauling or vendor delivery vehicles. These limits would reduce wasteful or unnecessary fuel burn associated with idling during construction activities. Energy consumption from worker vehicle trips would be driven by regional traffic and transit patterns, as well as automobile market drivers with respect to fuel efficiency and alternative-fueled vehicles. Owing to the small number of construction workers, energy consumption associated with construction worker vehicle trips would be minimal. Project-related construction would not result in a potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources during the construction period. The impact to energy resources from project construction would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

Operations

During proposed project operation, energy consumption would include electricity for pumps and other equipment operations and gasoline fuel for periodic maintenance vehicles and maintenance worker vehicles.

The project would include a pump station that would lift water from the pretreatment unit to the park. A second, smaller pump station would recirculate water from the lake to the treatment wetlands. The main pump station equipment would operate approximately one hour per day in non-storm conditions and would operate continuously during a storm event. (Historical precipitation data from 2002 through 2011 indicates an average of 20 storm events per year for the project area.[44]) Project pumps in the main pump station would have a combined maximum flow rate of 12 cfs. The smaller pump station would recirculate water from the lake to a tiered treatment wetlands to enhance lake water quality. The pump station would house a 5 hp, 0.5 cfs recirculation pump that would operate continuously to circulate water from the lake to the treatment wetlands. Water would flow through the treatment wetlands by gravity; no energy would be required to maintain flows in the wetlands.

[44] Craftwater Engineering. Memo: TOS 53 – MacArthur Lake Rehab Basis of Design Site Opportunity Assessment Technical Memorandum.

Project pumps would be powered by grid electricity provided by LADWP. In 2020, LADWP's power mix included a 36-percent renewable energy portfolio, and plans are being developed to accelerate LADWP's renewable energy portfolio to 100 percent by 2035.[45,46]

As noted in Section 2, O&M would only require a relatively small number of trips to the project site per year. Fuel consumption associated with operational worker vehicle trips and operational maintenance vehicles would be minimal. Moreover, the City of Los Angeles has a target for converting all City fleet vehicles to zero-emission vehicles (where technically feasible) by 2028, which would further reduce energy consumption associated with project operations.

For these reasons, the proposed project would not result in a potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources during project operation. The impact to energy resources from project operations would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

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

Less Than Significant Impact. In 2014, Mayor Eric Garcetti launched the City of Los Angeles' first-ever Sustainable City Plan ("pLAn"). The pLAn is a comprehensive and actionable policy roadmap intended to prepare the City for an environmentally healthy, economically prosperous, and equitable future for all.[47] In 2019, Mayor Garcetti launched the Green New Deal as a comprehensive update to the 2015 pLAn.[48] Notable energy-related features of the updated pLAn applicable to the proposed project include the requirement to convert all City fleet vehicles to zero-emission, where technically feasible, by 2028. LASAN would be required to meet these energy-efficiency requirements of the pLAn in its maintenance vehicle fleets and new construction. As a result, the project would not conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency; therefore, the impact of the proposed project on state and local plans pertaining to renewable energy or energy efficiency would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

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45 City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power. 2020 Power Content Label. October 2020. Available: https://www.ladwp.com/ladwp/faces/ladwp/aboutus/a-power/a-p-powercontentlabel.

46 City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power. 2022 Strategic Long-Term Resource Plan Webpage. 2021. Available: https://www.ladwp.com/ladwp/faces/ladwp/aboutus/a-power/a-p-integratedresourceplanning.

47 City of Los Angeles, Office of the Mayor, Mayor Eric Garcetti. Sustainable City pLAn, Transforming Los Angeles, Environment - Economy – Equity. April 8, 2015. Available: https://www.dropbox.com/s/e768n31r3k379w7/the-plan.pdf?dl=0.

48 City of Los Angeles, Office of the Mayor, Mayor Eric Garcetti. L.A.'s Green New Deal: Sustainable City pLAn, 2019. Available: http://plan.lamayor.org/sites/default/files/pLAn_2019_final.pdf.

VII. GEOLOGY AND SOILS

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

Would the project:

a. Directly or indirectly cause a potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death, involving:

i. Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the more recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.

Less Than Significant Impact. Fault rupture is the surface displacement that occurs along the surface of a fault during an earthquake. The project site is located within the seismically active Southern California region; there is a potential for fault rupture hazard due to an earthquake from local and regional faults throughout Southern California. The San Andreas Fault forms the tectonic boundary between the Pacific Plate and the North American Plate and poses the greatest seismic risk to the region. The fault is located over 34 miles from the project site. The United States Geological Survey (USGS) estimated a probability of 10 to 30 percent for a 7.5 or greater magnitude earthquake along the southern portion of the San Andreas fault within the next 30 years, beginning in 2014.[49] The potential impact of fault rupture hazard is considered to be greater on and near earthquake faults. The Alquist-Priolo Act is intended to identify areas with a higher potential for fault rupture hazard and mitigate this hazard by restricting new development for human occupancy on or near known earthquake faults. According to the California Department of Conservation, California Geological Survey (CGS), MacArthur Park is not located within a state-designated Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone.[50]

Table 4-2 lists the principal known active faults that may affect the project area. Since no known active or potentially active faults transect the project area, the potential for surface rupture is relatively low. However, lurching and cracking of ground surface from nearby seismic events is possible.[51]

Table 4-2 Principal Active Faults That May Affect the Project Study Area

Fault	Approximate Fault-to-Project Study Area Distance (miles)	Maximum Moment Magnitude (Mmax)
Upper Elysian Park Blind Thrust	2.0	6.7
Puente Hills Blind Thrust	3.4	7.0
Santa Monica	3.4	7.4
Hollywood	3.8	6.7
Raymond	5.3	6.8
Newport-Inglewood (L.A. Basin)	6.2	7.5
Verdugo	7.2	6.9
Sierra Madre	11.6	7.3
Elsinore	13.9	7.9
Malibu Coast	14.4	7.0
San Andreas	34.6	8.2
Source: Ninyo and Moore. Preliminary Geotechnical Evaluation MacArthur Park Lake Project. 2019.		

[49] U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), et. al. UCERF3: A New Earthquake Forecast for California's Complex Fault System. March 2015. Available: https://pubs.usgs.gov/fs/2015/3009/pdf/fs2015-3009.pdf.

[50] California Department of Conservation, California Geological Survey (CGS). Earthquake Zones of Required Investigation. Available: https://maps.conservation.ca.gov/cgs/EQZApp/app/. Accessed January 17, 2022.

[51] Ninyo and Moore. Preliminary Geotechnical Evaluation MacArthur Park Lake Project. 2019.

Despite being located in a strong seismically active region, the project site is not located on or in close proximity to an active fault or within an identified Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone. Nonetheless, the proposed project would be designed and constructed in conformance with applicable portions of building and seismic code requirements and industry standards, including the most recent edition of the Los Angeles Building Code (LABC), the California Building Code (CBC), and the Uniform Building Code (UBC), which would reduce potential impacts by ensuring that project components would be designed to withstand seismic or other geologic hazards. Such a design is considered to result in an acceptable level of risk for the Southern California region. Furthermore, the proposed project would be primarily located underground and no housing or building structures are proposed as part of the proposed project. As such, the potential for substantial direct or indirect adverse effects resulting from rupture of a known earthquake fault would be less than significant during construction and operation of the proposed project and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

ii. Strong seismic ground shaking?

***Less Than Significant Impact*.** As discussed in Issue VII(a)(i), the project site is located in Southern California, which is a seismically active area, and there is a high potential for the project site to experience strong seismic ground shaking or earthquakes from local or regional faults. Despite being located in a strong seismically active region, the project site is not located on or in close proximity to an active fault and is not located within an identified Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone. Like other projects located in the tectonically active Southern California region, the proposed project would likely experience shaking effects from surrounding faults during seismic events. However, the proposed project would not be affected by ground shaking more than any other area in the region.

All proposed facilities would be designed and built in accordance with all applicable seismic design provisions set forth by the LABC, the CBC, and the UBC; the City's Standard Specifications for Public Works Construction and its amendments; and recommendation of project-specific geotechnical studies that would be completed as part of project design. Additionally, all facets of construction and design would be required to meet the standards established during the final engineering design. Specifically, this would include measures such as the over-excavation of identified unsuitable base soils and geologic units; the proper composition, placement, and compaction of all construction backfill; the use of additional foundation design techniques, as necessary; and the utilization of appropriate construction materials and methods. These standards would ensure that facilities and mechanical equipment would be able to withstand specified seismic forces. Furthermore, the proposed project would primarily be located underground and no housing or building structures are proposed as part of the project. Therefore, the potential for direct or indirect adverse effects resulting from strong seismic ground shaking would be less than significant during construction and operation of the proposed project and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

iii. Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?

***Less Than Significant Impact*.** Liquefaction involves a sudden loss in strength of a saturated, cohesionless soil caused by the buildup of pore water pressure during cyclic loading, such as that produced by an earthquake. This increase in pore water pressure can temporarily transform the soil

into a fluid mass, resulting in differential settlements and ground deformations. The susceptibility of soil to liquefy tends to decrease as the density of the soil increases and the intensity of ground shaking decreases. Typically, liquefaction occurs in areas where there are loose soils and the depth to groundwater is less than 50 feet from the surface. Seismic shaking can also cause ground settlement without liquefaction occurring, including settlement of dry sands above the water table. Based on the subsurface evaluation performed during a preliminary geotechnical investigation conducted for the project, MacArthur Park is predominantly underlain by clayey fill and alluvium that are themselves underlain by relatively shallow bedrock materials. The groundwater level in the project area fluctuates, with historical readings ranging from 6 feet below the existing ground surface (bgs) to 55 feet bgs, with most samples ranging from 15 to 30 feet bgs.[52] According to the California Department of Conservation's California Earthquake Hazards Zone mapping application, the project site is not located within an Earthquake Zone of Required Investigation for liquefaction.[53] Therefore, the proposed project would not result in substantial adverse effects from seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction. Impacts of project construction and operation associated with seismic-related ground failure would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

iv. Landslides?

***No Impact*.** The project site and its surrounding areas are generally flat and highly urbanized. There are no mapped landslide zones on the project site, nor is the site within an Earthquake Zone of Required Investigation for landslides, according to the California Department of Conservation's California Earthquake Hazards Zone mapping application.[54] The proposed project is not within an area that is subject to landslides and, therefore, the proposed project would not result in substantial adverse effects from landslides. Impacts of project construction and operation related to landslides would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

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

***Less Than Significant Impact*.** Construction activities would include excavation and trenching for the underground equipment and pipelines, grading and excavation for the treatment wetlands, site preparation for temporary staging, and construction on relatively flat urbanized terrain. These activities could increase runoff from the project site and could result in erosion, although soil exposure would be temporary and short-term in nature. The City would comply with LABC Sections 91.7000 through 91.7016, which include construction requirements for grading, excavation, and use of fill. Compliance with these requirements would reduce the potential for wind or waterborne erosion during construction. In addition, the LABC requires an erosion control plan to be reviewed by the Department of Building and Safety prior to construction if grading exceeds 200 cubic yards and occurs during the rainy season (between November 1 and April 15), and the state MS4 Construction General Permit requires the preparation of a construction Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) and implementation of BMPs, including erosion and

[52] Ninyo and Moore. Preliminary Geotechnical Evaluation MacArthur Park Lake Project. 2019.
[53] California Department of Conservation. Earthquake Zones of Required Investigation. Available: https://maps.conservation.ca.gov/cgs/EQZApp/app/. Accessed January 17, 2022.
[54] California Department of Conservation. Earthquake Zones of Required Investigation. Available: https://maps.conservation.ca.gov/cgs/EQZApp/app/. Accessed January 17, 2022.

sedimentation control measures for ground disturbance of 1 acre or more. As a result, construction of the proposed project would not result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil; therefore, construction impacts would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

Upon completion of construction, all exposed areas would be returned to conditions similar to those prior to groundbreaking activities (i.e., hardscape areas would be repaved and landscaped areas would be revegetated). The only notable long-term change would be the replacement of existing turf with the treatment wetlands. However, the treatment wetlands would be vegetated and would not result in a substantial increase in exposed soils that could be subject to erosion. Moreover, because the lake itself is concrete-lined, no increased soil erosion is expected to occur from inflows to the lake from the treatment wetlands or from recirculation of the water within the lake. As such, operation of the proposed project would not result in substantial erosion or the loss of topsoil; therefore, operational impacts would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

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

Less Than Significant Impact. As previously discussed, the project site is not within a landside or liquefaction zone. Nonetheless, the proposed project would be designed, constructed, and operated in accordance with all applicable provisions set forth by in the LABC, CBC, and UBC; the City's Standard Specifications for Public Works Construction and its amendments; and recommendation of project-specific geotechnical studies that would be completed as part of project design. As such, implementation of the proposed project would not result in an on-site or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse. Project impacts would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

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

***Less Than Significant Impact*.** As discussed in Issue VII(a), the project site is predominantly underlain by clayey fill and alluvium that are underlain by relatively shallow bedrock materials, which are not expected to have the potential for shrink and swell with changes in moisture content. The project site is in an area where geologic conditions are generally suitable to support a substantial amount of development and land uses, including the existing residential and commercial uses and local roadways and subsurface infrastructure such as sewers, storm drains, water lines, and other subsurface utilities. In addition, the project elements would be designed, constructed, and operated in accordance with all applicable provisions set forth in the LABC, CBC, and UBC; the City's Standard Specifications for Public Works Construction; and project-specific geotechnical recommendations. Together, these would ensure that backfill would consist of clean, granular, non-expansive soil. In general, the on-site granular soils should be suitable for reuse as fill, provided they are free of trash, debris, or other deleterious materials. Compliance with applicable regulations would minimize the potential for hazards to occur because of expansive soils. As a result, implementation of the proposed project would not create substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property related to

expansive soils. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

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

No Impact. The proposed project does not include the construction of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems. As such, the implementation of the proposed project would have no impact associated with soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

f. Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geological feature?

Potentially Significant Impact. The project area does not contain any unique geologic features. With respect to paleontological resources, the project site consists of a portion of a public park as well as public rights-of-way that were previously developed with streets, paving, and utilities. The deepest construction activities would be associated with the subsurface project elements within 7th Street, Lake Street, and Grand View Street, as well as a small portion of the adjacent alley south of 7th Street. These roadways currently contain multiple underground utilities and were previously disturbed. Nevertheless, construction activities—including excavation, trenching, and removal of existing turf within the roadways and park—may expose fossilized remains. The EIR will evaluate, in conjunction with the Cultural Resources analysis, whether construction of the proposed project would result in direct or indirect destruction of a unique paleontological resource.

The proposed project's operation would occur primarily underground with only the treatment wetland and some equipment and equipment housing located aboveground. Once construction is complete, the operation of the proposed project would not directly or indirectly destroy any unique paleontological resources. Therefore, impacts of project operations on paleontological resources would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

VIII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
VIII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS: Would the project:				
a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	☒	☐	☐	☐
b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gas?	☒	☐	☐	☐

Would the project:

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

b. Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gas?

Potentially Significant Impact (Issue a-b). Construction of the proposed project would generate direct greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from vehicle exhaust associated with construction-related activities, including off-road on-site construction equipment, on-road off-site hauling and vendor delivery truck trips, and on-road off-site worker vehicle trips. During operations, the proposed project would generate direct GHG emissions from maintenance-related activities, including any truck or vehicle trips associated with project maintenance. Operation of the proposed project would generate indirect GHG emissions from the electrical energy of project pumps and associated equipment. The potential for the proposed project to (a) generate GHG emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment, and/or (b) conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of GHGs will be evaluated in the EIR.

IX. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
IX. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS: Would the project:				
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	☐	☐	☒	☐
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	☐	☐	☒	☐
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area?	☐	☐	☐	☒
f) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evaluation plan?	☐	☐	☒	☐
g) Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk or loss, injury or death involving wildland fires?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Would the project:

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

Less Than Significant Impact. Project construction would require the transportation, storage, use, and disposal of small amounts of certain hazardous substances, such as, but not limited to, fuels, lubricants, degreasers, and oil routinely used during construction activities. These types of materials are not acutely hazardous, and their transport, storage, handling, and disposal are strictly regulated. Nevertheless, inadvertent release of these materials into the environment could adversely impact soil, surface waters, or groundwater quality and potentially result in a significant hazard. Hazardous materials would be handled in compliance with applicable laws and regulations regarding transport, handling, storage, and disposal. As described in Issue IX, the proposed project would be required to implement BMPs as part of the required SWPPP in order to control stormwater runoff during construction. Applicable BMPs could include, but would not be limited to, vehicle and equipment fueling and maintenance; material delivery, storage, and use; spill prevention and control; solid and hazardous waste management; and contaminated soil management. In compliance with the SWPPP, construction-related hazardous substances would be staged and stored away from waterways and with secondary containment to contain incidental spills, if any, and prevent them from entering surface waters, including MacArthur Lake, in the event of an accidental release. Compliance with existing federal, state, and local regulations and routine precautions would reduce the likelihood of an accidental release of hazardous materials into the environment and would minimize the impact of an accident should one occur. With compliance with applicable regulations, the proposed project would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment related to the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials. Potential impacts from construction-related hazardous materials use would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

Oversight of the proposed project's operation would occur primarily remotely, with periodic inspection and maintenance conducted onsite. Most of the project components would be located underground as a closed system, with only the treatment wetland and some equipment and equipment housing located aboveground. The pretreatment unit would collect trash and large particles. The material that would be collected would include contaminated particles, which would be manually removed. Contaminated materials would be disposed of at a municipal or hazardous waste landfill, depending on the concentration of contaminants in the debris. Maintenance activities could also involve small quantities of hazardous substances associated with the operation of equipment and vehicles. Transport, use, storage, and disposal of such materials would comply with applicable regulations and would not involve quantities that could create a significant hazard to the public or the environment. Project operations would not generate or create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials during construction or operations. Operational impacts would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

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

***Less Than Significant Impact*.** Upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment could occur at the project site due to inadvertent releases of hazardous materials, environmental exposure to hazardous materials during construction, and exposure to existing soil and groundwater contamination, or other subsurface hazards, on the project site. Impacts associated with construction and operations are discussed below.

Construction

Construction activities associated with the proposed project would involve relatively small quantities of hazardous substances from the operation of equipment and vehicles. Construction vehicles may require refueling or maintenance that could result in minor releases of oil, diesel fuel, transmission fluid, or other materials. Accidental spills, leaks, fires, or other upsets involving hazardous materials represent a potential threat to human health and the environment if not properly treated. Construction contractors would be required to comply with federal, state, and local regulations governing the use of hazardous materials, including those related to accident prevention and containment.

The proposed project is in proximity to a methane hazard area. Methane can result from naturally occurring subsurface conditions, historic oil wells, or landfills. In Los Angeles, the majority of methane results from naturally occurring tar and crude oil. The City has defined two types of methane hazard zones—Methane Zones and Methane Buffer Zones—that require soil gas to be evaluated and mitigated, if needed, to reduce the risk of fire or explosion in buildings. The project area is located adjacent to a designated methane zone, which lies directly north of MacArthur Park. The park itself is within a methane buffer zone.[55] The City requires that all new buildings and paved areas comply with methane mitigation standards, set forth in Division 71 of the Los Angeles City Building Code.[56] These requirements apply to all new buildings and paved areas that exceed 5,000 square feet and are within 15 feet of the exterior wall of a commercial, industrial, institutional, or residential building. The proposed project would not involve the construction of any new buildings or paved areas that exceed 5,000 square feet. Nevertheless, it is likely that measures to address methane would be required to be implemented during project design and construction, which could include special equipment and, possibly, an impermeable liner beneath the pump station. Compliance with City requirements would ensure that impacts related to methane would be less than significant.

The limited quantities of hazardous materials that would be associated with project construction would not represent a significant hazard to the public or environment in the case of an accidental release. With compliance with existing regulations and routine precautions, construction of the proposed project would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through an upset or accident condition involving the release of hazardous materials. Therefore, construction

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55 City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Bureau of Engineering. Navigate LA. Available: https://navigatela.lacity.org/navigatela/. Accessed January 19, 2022.

56 City of Los Angeles. Los Angeles Municipal Code. Available: https://codelibrary.amlegal.com/codes/los_angeles/latest/lamc/0-0-0-178485.

impacts of the proposed project with respect to upset and accident conditions would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

Operation

Oversight of the proposed project's operation would occur primarily remotely, with periodic inspection and maintenance conducted onsite. Most of the project components would be located underground. Maintenance activities could involve small quantities of hazardous substances associated with the operation of equipment and vehicles. Use of such materials would comply with applicable regulations and would not involve quantities that could represent a significant hazard to the public or environment in the case of an accidental release. Operation of the proposed project would not generate or create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through an upset or accident condition involving the release of hazardous materials. Therefore, operations impacts of the proposed project with respect to upset and accident conditions would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

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

Less Than Significant Impact. There are four schools within one-quarter mile of the project site. MacArthur Park Elementary School for the Visual and Performing Arts is located on the south side of 7th Street between Grand View Street and Park View Street, directly across 7th Street from the portion of the project site in MacArthur Park and less than 30 feet from the proposed stormwater return pipeline in Grand View Street. The LA New Times Western preschool, a state preschool serving children ages 3 to 5, is located south of the park on Grand View Street, approximately 165 feet from the proposed pipeline in Grand View. Charles White Elementary Visual Arts Magnet School is located across from the west side of MacArthur Park on the northwest corner of Wilshire Boulevard and Park View Street, approximately 400 feet northwest of the project site. Equitas Academy #4 Middle School is located northwest of the park along 7th Street, approximately 615 feet from the nearest project improvements. All these schools are located within one-quarter mile of the project site.

No acutely hazardous materials would be used in association with the project. However, as described under Issues IX(a) and (b), construction and operation of the proposed project would involve the transport and use of small quantities of routinely used hazardous materials. Such materials would be transported, stored, used, and disposed of in accordance with applicable federal, state, and local codes and regulations and would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment. Operation of the proposed project would be mostly located underground in a closed system with only the treatment wetland and some equipment and equipment housing located aboveground. With adherence to existing regulations pertaining to transport, storage, and use of hazardous materials, the proposed project would not result in significant impacts to nearby schools associated with the routine use of hazardous materials, substances, or waste. Therefore, impacts from construction and operation of the proposed project on schools from hazardous materials would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

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

***Less Than Significant Impact*.** California Government Code Section 65962.5 requires various state agencies, including (but not limited to) the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), to compile lists of hazardous waste disposal facilities, unauthorized releases from underground storage tanks (USTs), hazardous substance release sites subject to a response action pursuant to Section 25356 of the California Health and Safety Code, contaminated drinking water wells, and solid waste facilities where there is known migration of hazardous waste, and submit such information to the Secretary for Environmental Protection on at least an annual basis. The SWRCB maintains a data management system—known as GeoTracker—for sites that impact, or have the potential to impact, water quality in California. Within the immediate project area, GeoTracker identifies one leaking UST (LUST) cleanup site, which was closed by the regulatory agencies. The site is located within MacArthur Park, although GeoTracker does not include any maps that identify the specific location within the park where the LUST site was located. The site was identified as having soil contamination that was detected when the UST was removed.[57] The contaminated soil was remediated in 2000 and the LUST case was closed in 2003.

The nearest open LUST case to the project site is located at 2101 8th Street, approximately 500 feet southeast of the proposed stormwater diversion on Lake Street and is associated with a former Union Oil Company of California service station. Potential contamination of the groundwater by petroleum hydrocarbons is of concern at the site. Remediation began in 2008 and is currently ongoing.[58] Two additional open LUST cases are located at 800 Hoover Street and 801 Hoover Street, approximately 1,400 feet west of the proposed treatment wetland.

Cleanup Program sites are non-federally owned sites regulated under the SWRCB Site Cleanup Program or a similar program under one of the regional water boards (e.g., RWQCB). GeoTracker identifies the nearest open Cleanup Program Site at 1616 Beverly Boulevard, almost 1 mile northeast of the proposed treatment wetland. This site was subject to oil production activities involving the use of three oil wells sometime between 1894 and 1906, when the wells were reportedly buried. The release of petroleum hydrocarbons in groundwater is of concern; site assessment activities began in 2021.[59]

Construction and operation would not occur in the vicinity of nearby open LUST or Cleanup Program sites. Moreover, the nearest LUST site was remediated and closed in 2003. Owing to the distance of the open sites from the project sites, the likelihood of encountering contaminated soil or groundwater from known sources of contamination is low. However, there is a potential for previously unknown contamination to be encountered during construction. Federal, state, and local

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57 California State Water Resources Control Board. GeoTracker: Case Summary – Mac Arthur Park. Available: https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/case_summary?global_id=T0603739908. Accessed January 10, 2022.

58 California State Water Resources Control Board. GeoTracker: Case Summary – Mac Arthur Park. Available: https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/case_summary?global_id=T0603701137. Accessed January 17, 2022.

59 California State Water Resources Control Board. GeoTracker: Case Summary – Mac Arthur Park. Available: https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/profile_report.asp?global_id=T10000016913. Accessed January 17, 2022.

regulations govern the handling of contaminated soils or groundwater encountered during construction. The construction contractor would be required to adhere to these requirements, were contamination to be discovered.

The proposed project is not located on a site of known contamination. Moreover, for the reasons previously outlined, construction and operation of the proposed project would not pose a hazardous risk to the public or the environment associated with sites in the general project area that are listed on government lists of contaminated sites. Thus, construction and operation of the proposed project would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment associated with being located on or near a site included on government lists. Construction and operational impacts of the proposed project would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

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

***No Impact*.** The project site is not located within an airport land use plan or within 2 miles of a public airport or public use airport. The nearest public-use airports are Los Angeles International Airport and Santa Monica Airport, located approximately 10 miles west/southwest and southwest of the project site, respectively, and Hollywood Burbank Airport, located approximately 10 miles northwest. Therefore, the proposed project would not result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area because of a nearby airport and no impact would occur. No further evaluation in the EIR is required.

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

***Less Than Significant Impact*.** Temporary lane and/or road closures on 7th Street, Lake Street, Grand View Street, and a portion of the alley that parallels 7th Street would be required during construction. Lane/road closures would occur in compliance with standard traffic control requirements. As part of standard construction specifications, any partial or complete street closures must occur in compliance with the Requirements for Temporary Controls in the current edition of the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) Part 6 (Temporary Traffic Control) and the traffic control plan approved as part of the construction permit. The includes notifying police and fire departments of the closing or partial closing and reopening of streets. Compliance with the traffic control requirements during construction would ensure that emergency vehicle access would remain available. Therefore, project construction would not significantly impair implementation or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. Impacts of project construction with respect to emergency response would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

Operation of the proposed project would occur primarily underground, where it would not affect emergency response or emergency evaluation. The only aboveground component consists of a treatment wetland and some equipment and equipment housing, which would not affect the surrounding rights-of-way. Although minor maintenance activities (which might include temporary lane closures) would be required to manage the system, compliance with traffic control

requirements during these activities would ensure that emergency vehicle access would remain available. Therefore, project operation would not significantly impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. Impacts of project operations with respect to emergency response would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

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

***No Impact*.** The project site is in an urban area surrounded by developed lands. It is not within a high wildland fire severity zone. Therefore, the proposed project would not expose people or structure, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildfires. No impact would occur and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

X. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
X. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY: Would the project:				
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or groundwater quality?	☒	☐	☐	☐
b) Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would:				
i. Result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site.	☐	☐	☒	☐
ii. Substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site.	☐	☐	☒	☐
iii. Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff.	☐	☐	☒	☐
iv. Impede or redirect flood flows?	☐	☐	☒	☐
d) In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?	☐	☐	☒	☐
e) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?	☒	☐	☐	☐

Would the project:

a. Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or groundwater quality?

***Potentially Significant Impact*.** MacArthur Park is in the Ballona Creek Watershed. Identified pollutants of concern within the watershed are trash, metals, toxics, and bacteria, with zinc being the limiting pollutant, as identified in the Ballona Creek Enhanced Watershed Management Program (EWMP)[60] and the Basin Plan for the Coastal Watersheds of Los Angeles and Ventura Counties (Basin Plan).[61] Currently, stormwater within the watershed flows from impervious surfaces into storm drains that reach Ballona Creek and is ultimately discharged to the Pacific Ocean.

Construction of the proposed project could result in sedimentation and release of other construction-related water quality pollutants to nearby surface waters. Construction activities would comply with the requirements of the State Construction General Permit (SWRCB Order No. 2009-0009-DWQ, as amended by 2010-0014-DWQ and 2012-0006-DWQ).[62] The Construction General Permit sets forth requirements to protect surface waters for construction activities involving more than 1 acre of ground disturbance through the preparation and implementation of project-specific construction SWPPP and BMPs. Compliance with the State Construction General Permit would reduce construction impacts on surface water quality and groundwater quality. Thus, construction impacts with respect to water quality standards, waste discharge requirements, and surface- and groundwater quality would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

Once constructed, the proposed project would divert a portion of wet weather flows stormwater flows as well as dry weather flows from the stormwater system and route it into MacArthur Lake for storage or return it to the storm drain system. By capturing some of the stormwater flows as well as dry weather flows for treatment that would otherwise enter Ballona Creek untreated, the proposed project would result in water quality benefits in Ballona Creek.[63] Further evaluation is required to determine if the input of the stormwater into the lake, and corresponding decrease in potable water used for lake refill, would result in an adverse change in lake water quality. Thus, the EIR will evaluate the potential for operation of the proposed project to degrade surface water quality in MacArthur Lake.

Proposed project operations would not substantially increase the amount of impervious surface in the project area or generate pollutants that would percolate into groundwater basins underlying

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60 BCWMG. Enhanced Watershed Management Program for the Ballona Creek Watershed. 2016. Available: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/water_issues/programs/stormwater/municipal/watershed_management/ballona_creek/BallonaCreek_RevisedEWMP_2016Jan19.pdf.

61 Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board. Basin Plan for the Coastal Watersheds of Los Angeles and Ventura Counties. 2014. Available: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/water_issues/programs/basin_plan/basin_plan_documentation.html.

62 SWRCB. Order No. 2009-0009-DWQ. NPDES General Permit for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Construction and Land Disturbance Activities. 2012. Available: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/stormwater/docs/constpermits/wqo_2009_0009_complete.pdf.

63 Los Angeles County. Waste Discharge Requirements for Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Discharges within the Coastal Watersheds of Los Angeles County, Except those Discharges Originating from the City of Long Beach MS4. Order No. R4-2012-0175, NPDES No. CAS-004001. 2016. Available: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/water_issues/programs/stormwater/municipal/los_angeles_ms4/2016/R4-2012-0175-A01.pdf.

the project area. Most project components would be located underground and, as previously mentioned, operations would be conducted in accordance with the Los Angeles County MS4 Permit. Thus, the proposed project would not result in impacts to groundwater quality from percolation of contaminated surface water during long-term project operations. Operation of the proposed project would not violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements related to groundwater or otherwise substantially degrade groundwater quality; no further analysis in the EIR is required.

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

***No Impact*.** The project area overlies the Coastal Plain of Los Angeles Central Subbasin within the larger Coastal Plain of Los Angeles Groundwater Basin.[64] The proposed project would not decrease groundwater supplies or result in an increase in additional impervious surface in sensitive groundwater recharge zones. Diverting a portion of the wet weather stormwater flows as well as the dry weather flows from the storm drain system into MacArthur Lake (and thereby reducing the amount of stormwater that flows into Ballona Creek) would not have an adverse effect on groundwater recharge because Ballona Creek is primarily concrete-lined, and no infiltration of stormwater occurs. The stormwater currently flows through the creek and is ultimately discharged into the Ballona Wetlands and Pacific Ocean and does not seep into the groundwater. As such, construction and operation of the proposed project would have no impact on groundwater levels, recharge, or storage and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

c. Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would:

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

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

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

iv. Impede or redirect flood flows.

***Less Than Significant Impact*.** Construction and operation of the proposed project would result in alterations to surface water runoff. Potential impacts are addressed below.

Construction

Construction activities have the potential to increase erosion and sedimentation around proposed construction and staging areas. As described, the proposed project would comply with the Construction General Permit, which would require implementation of a SWPPP that would identify BMPs designed to control erosion and stormwater runoff during construction. Thus, construction

[64] California Department of Water Resources. Groundwater Basin Boundary Assessment Tool. 2021. Available: https://gis.water.ca.gov/app/bbat/. Accessed January 19, 2022.

of the proposed project would not result in substantial erosion or siltation to surface waters in or near the project area. Construction activities would not substantially increase the amount of impervious surface in the project area or the volume or peaks of runoff entering the storm drain system and, therefore, would not contribute to flooding on- or off-site. With implementation of the SWPPP, construction activities would not create or contribute runoff that would exceed the capacity of stormwater drainage systems or result in additional substantial sources of polluted runoff. Construction impacts related to erosion, siltation, or surface runoff would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) flood insurance rate map 06037C1617G (dated 12/21/2018),[65] the central portion of MacArthur Park, including the lake and lake edges, is within Zone A, a Special Flood Hazard Area, and is subject to inundation by the 1-percent-annual-chance flood event (**Figure 4-1**). The edges of the park and most of the area surrounding the park are within Zone X, either in an area subject to inundation by the 0.2-percent-annual-chance flood event or in an area of minimal flood hazard. A portion of the treatment wetlands, the stormwater treatment unit, the aboveground pump house where some project equipment would be located, and portions of the pipelines located south and west of the lake, would be constructed in the flood hazard zone (Zone A). The storm drain system return pipeline in Grand View Street and crossing 7th Street, which would be underground, would be located in an area subject to the 0.2 percent annual chance flood event (Zone A). The diversion structure, pretreatment unit, and main pump station, and pipelines in Lake Street and crossing 7th Street, all of which would be underground, would be located in an area of minimal flooding (also Zone X). Construction would not result in any new structures or features that would impede or redirect flood flows. Thus, construction of the proposed project would not substantially increase the rate or amount of surface water runoff that would result in flooding or impede or redirect flood flows. Construction impacts related to flooding would be less than significant and no further analysis in the EIR is required.

Operation

Proposed project operations would not result in ground disturbance, so there would be no increase in erosion or siltation. Currently the lake is surrounded by a cement walkway. A portion of this walkway would be removed to connect the wetlands to the lake and allow water to flow from the wetlands into the lake. The walkway would be replaced with a boardwalk that would connect to the existing cement walkway. Vegetation in the treatment wetlands that would help to filter out sediments and pollutants would also stabilize the hydric soils and prevent substantial erosion or siltation occurring within the lake. Impacts of project operations related to erosion and siltation would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

[65] FEMA. National Flood Hazard Layer. Available: https://msc.fema.gov/portal/search?AddressQuery=2230%20W%206th%20St%2C%20Los%20Angeles%2C%20CA%2090057#searchresultsanchor. Accessed January 19, 2022.

Sources: FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Layer, 2022; Aerial Sources: Esri, United States Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency, 2022
Prepared by: CDM Smith, 2022

Figure 4-1

MacArthur Lake Stormwater Capture Project

FLOOD MAP

Implementation of the treatment wetlands, which would be lined, would convert pervious surfaces to largely impervious surfaces. Water flows within the treatment wetlands would be recirculated through MacArthur Lake and would not flow to adjacent areas within the park. Therefore, project operations would not substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff or result in flooding on- or off-site. Operational impacts with respect to surface runoff would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

The proposed project would modify an existing storm drain to divert a portion of wet weather stormwater flows as well as dry weather flows through a pretreatment system and into MacArthur Lake, which would reduce the amount of stormwater flowing through the storm drain downstream of the diversion. Prior to a storm event, the lake level would be lowered to accommodate the storage of diverted stormwater in the lake. Once the lake's storage capacity has been reached, up to 6.9 cfs of stormwater would be pumped through a stormwater treatment system and be discharged back into to the storm drain system downstream of the proposed diversion structure. If the lake is at its storage capacity and the storm flow exceeds the treatment capacity of the stormwater treatment unit (i.e., 6.9 cfs), excess flow would be blended with treated stormwater and discharged into the storm drain downstream of the diversion. Because the proposed project would divert stormwater and dry weather flows from the existing subsurface storm drain system, project operation would not increase the amount of stormwater entering the storm drain or exceed the capacity of the storm drainage system. Moreover, the project would remove or reduce polluted runoff and stormwater from downstream areas. Specifically, polluted dry weather flows and some of the stormwater flows would be removed from the storm drain system, treated in the pretreatment system, and stored in MacArthur Lake. A portion of this water would later be discharged to the sanitary sewer system. Other flows would be captured, treated, and returned to the drainage system. Therefore, the proposed project would not provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff. Impacts of project operations with respect to existing stormwater drainage systems would be less than significant and no further analysis in the EIR is required.

Most of the project components would be located underground and would not impede or redirect surface flood flows during project operations or be subject to flooding. As described in Section 2.6, during a storm event, if the pump equipment were to fail, there would be no diversion of stormwater water to the lake; stormwater flows would continue down the storm drain system and the City's storm drain system would function as it currently does. As noted in the discussion of construction impacts, a portion of the treatment wetlands, as well as the aboveground pump house where some project equipment would be located, would be within the flood hazard zone (Zone A). Neither the treatment wetlands nor the aboveground equipment would impede or redirect flood flows. Moreover, above ground equipment would be located above flood elevations. Thus, operation of the proposed project would not substantially increase the rate or amount of surface water runoff that would result in flooding or impede or redirect flood flows. Impacts from project operations related to flooding would be less than significant and no further analysis in the EIR is required.

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

***Less Than Significant Impact*.** Tsunamis are tidal waves generated in large bodies of water by fault displacement or major ground movement. The proposed project is located approximately 12 miles

from the Pacific Ocean and outside of the Tsunami Hazard Zone designated by the California Department of Conservation.[66] Seiches are standing waves that continue over large water bodies (usually partially or fully enclosed) and result from forces such as seismic activity.[67] MacArthur Lake is approximately 8 acres and is thus a smaller lake that would not be likely to generate a seiche that could cause substantial inundation of the surrounding area. Thus, tsunami and seiche hazards would be unlikely to occur in the project area. The risk of release of pollutants due to inundation during construction or operations from a tsunami or seiche would be less than significant; no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

As described under Issue VII(c), according to FEMA's flood insurance rate map 06037C1617G, the central portion of MacArthur Park, including the lake and lake edges, is within Zone A, a Special Flood Hazard Area subject to inundation by the 1-percent-annual-chance flood event. A portion of the treatment wetlands, the stormwater treatment unit, and portions of the pipelines located south and west of the lake would occur within this flood hazard zone. No construction would occur during periods of inundation from rain, and construction activities would comply with Construction General Permit conditions, including preparation of a SWPPP, which would require implementation of BMPs designed to avoid the release of pollutants during inundation events. Thus, construction of the proposed project would not risk release of pollutants due to inundation from flooding and no further analysis in the EIR is required.

Post construction, most of the proposed project components would be located underground, except for the treatment wetlands and some aboveground equipment. While maintenance activities would occur with Zone A, project operations would be conducted in compliance with Los Angeles County's MS4 Permit conditions, which requires measures to reduce pollutants discharged from a project site, such as safe storage of fluids. Thus, operation of the proposed project would not risk release of pollutants due to inundation from flooding and no further evaluated in the EIR is required.

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

Potentially Significant Impact. The Basin Plan does not identify MacArthur Lake as a water body that is covered by the plan. However, the Basin Plan does apply to the Ballona Creek watershed, including Ballona Creek and downstream areas.[68] This Basin Plan sets forth the regulatory water quality standards for surface waters and groundwater within the region. The water quality standards address both the designated beneficial uses for each water body and the water quality objectives to meet them. The proposed project is also covered under the Ballona Creek EWMP. The EWMP was developed by the Ballona Creek Watershed Management Group (BCWMG) to comply with the Los Angeles County MS4 permit requirements. The EWMP presents a comprehensive

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66 California Department of Conservation. Los Angeles County Tsunami Hazard Areas. 2019. Available: https://www.conservation.ca.gov/cgs/tsunami/maps/los-angeles. Accessed January 19, 2022.

67 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. What is a seiche? Available: https://oceanservice.noaa.gov/facts/seiche.html. Accessed January 19, 2022.

68 Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board. Basin Plan for the Coastal Watersheds of Los Angeles and Ventura Counties. 2014. Available: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/water_issues/programs/basin_plan/basin_plan_documentation.html.

stormwater management approach for the Ballona Creek watershed and addresses priority water quality conditions in the watershed.[69]

Project construction would comply with all applicable water quality permits and requirements, including the State Construction General Permit and preparation of a SWPPP; compliance would ensure that no conflict or obstruction to implementation of a water quality control plan would occur during construction. Construction impacts with respect to water quality control plans would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

The proposed project would divert a portion of wet weather stormwater flows as well as dry weather flows from the storm drain system. A portion of the captured water would be treated and stored in MacArthur Lake, which would reduce the amount of stormwater that flows into Ballona Creek. The remaining flows would be treated and returned to the storm drain which would result in water quality benefits in Ballona Creek by removing pollutants in compliance with the MS4 permit for coastal watersheds of Los Angeles County.[70] Further evaluation of the impacts of the proposed project on water quality in Ballona Creek will be conducted as part of the EIR. Specifically, the EIR will evaluate the potential for the operation of the proposed project to conflict with or obstruct the Basin Plan with respect to the Ballona Creek watershed.

The project area is in the Coastal Plain of Los Angeles Central Groundwater Basin, which is designated under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act as very low priority.[71] Furthermore, the proposed project would not decrease groundwater supplies or result in a notable increase in additional impervious surface in sensitive groundwater recharge zones. Moreover, the proposed treatment wetlands would be lined to prevent infiltration due to the presence of an LA Metro tunnel beneath the lake. As such, project construction and operations would not conflict with or obstruct a sustainable groundwater management plan and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

XI. LAND USE AND PLANNING

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XI. LAND USE AND PLANNING: Would the project:				
a) Physically divide an established community?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	☐	☐	☐	☒

[69] BCWMG. Enhanced Watershed Management Program for the Ballona Creek Watershed. 2016. Available: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/water_issues/programs/stormwater/municipal/watershed_management/ballona_creek/BallonaCreek_RevisedEWMP_2016Jan19.pdf.

[70] Los Angeles County. Waste Discharge Requirements for Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Discharges within the Coastal Watersheds of Los Angeles County, Except those Discharges Originating from the City of Long Beach MS4. Order No. R4-2012-0175, NPDES No. CAS-004001. 2016. Available: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/water_issues/programs/stormwater/municipal/los_angeles_ms4/2016/R4-2012-0175-A01.pdf.

[71] California Department of Water Resources. Basin Prioritization Dashboard. 2022. Available: https://gis.water.ca.gov/app/bp-dashboard/final/. Accessed January 11, 2022.

Would the project:

a. Physically divide an established community?

***Less Than Significant Impact*.** MacArthur Park is in a highly developed urban area and is surrounded by land uses that include residential, commercial, and public buildings. South of the project site on 7th Street are commercial businesses, medical offices, multi-family residential buildings, and an elementary school; south of 7th Street on Grand View Street are residential uses, a church, and a preschool; south of 7th on Lake Street are surface parking lots, a church, and residential uses; to the west on Park View Street are multifamily residential buildings, commercial offices, and a labor center. The Westland/MacArthur Park subway station is located on Alvarado Street, across the street from the park to the southeast. In recent years, MacArthur Park has been the location of a diverse group of unhoused populations. The number of unhoused residents fluctuates over time due to natural changes in the population as well as the implementation of housing programs by local agencies and organizations. A community assessment conducted for the proposed project found that, between May and August 2021, the number of unhoused residents ranged from approximately 50 to approximately 120 people.[72,73] The unhoused populations are in various portions of the park. In recent years (prior to the temporary closure of the park in late 2021 and early 2022), the majority of the unhoused were located within the southeastern portion of the park adjacent to Alvarado Street. Typically, much smaller numbers of unhoused individuals have been in the northernmost corner of the park near 6th Street and Park View Street (approximately 6 people in August 2021) and close to the project site in the westernmost corner of the park near 7th Street and Park View Street (approximately 4 people in August 2021).

Project construction would result in temporary lane or full road closures on 7th Street, Grand View Street, Lake Street, and in a small portion of the adjacent alley. Construction in the public right-of-way would not physically divide a community, and the streets and rights-of-way would be fully restored to preconstruction conditions upon completion of work. Construction within MacArthur Park would require the temporary closure of a portion of the park to install the project components and to provide a construction staging area (Figure 2-6), which would displace the existing unhoused population in that portion of the park. Unhoused residents would be relocated to another area of the park or to offsite housing. Because very few unhoused individuals are encamped in this portion of the park, this temporary relocation would not divide the unhoused community. For these reasons, project construction would not physically divide an established community; therefore, construction-related impacts on established communities would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

Following completion of construction, most of the project features would be located underground within the park or beneath existing public rights-of-way and would not affect adjacent land uses. The only aboveground feature of notable size would be the treatment wetlands located along the western edge of MacArthur Lake. The treatment wetlands would be in a portion of the park that is

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[72] City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Bureau of Sanitation & Environment. Community Assessment Brief. Prepared by Carollo Corporation and Mujeres de la Tierra. August 2021.

[73] Between October 2021 and February 2022, the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks closed the southern half of the park for rehabilitation. The unhoused population that had been living in this portion of the park was temporarily relocated during the closure.

only used by a small number of the unhoused community; therefore, project operations would not physically divide an established community. During project operation, maintenance activities would require temporary lane closures. Such lane closures would not divide an established community. For these reasons, impacts from project operations on established communities would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

b. Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?

***No Impact*.** The project site includes an approximately 2.5-acre area within the southwestern portion of MacArthur Lake, as well as areas within public rights-of-way, including Grand View Street and Lake Street approximately one block south of 7th Street directly south of the park and in a small portion of the alley south of 7th Street near Lake Street. The project area is located within the City's Westlake Community Plan Area. The land use designation for the portion of the project site located within MacArthur Park is Open Space. The other project components are in the public rights-of-way adjacent to areas that have general plan land use designations of Community Commercial and zoning designations of Multiple Dwelling (R4) Commercial (C2 and C4).[74,75]

Construction within MacArthur Park and in public rights-of-way would not dictate or influence the density of land use development. Land uses would continue to be determined by the General Plans, the Community Plans, and the zoning of individual parcels of land. Furthermore, the streets and rights-of-way would be fully restored to preconstruction conditions upon completion of work. Therefore, project construction would not conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect. There would be no construction impacts related to land use plans and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

Operation of the proposed project would largely be underground, with the treatment wetlands and some equipment and equipment housing as the only aboveground components. These aboveground features, which would be located within the western and southern portions of MacArthur Park, would not affect existing recreational uses or nearby land uses. The treatment wetlands and associated features would be consistent with the open space use of the park, as it would provide a new visual feature and pathway (as well as related educational signage) for park guests to utilize and enjoy throughout the year, thereby enhancing the recreational value of the park.

Operational and maintenance activities occurring in the roadway would necessitate temporary street closures (while the work was being conducted), with access to the facilities provided by utility holes. As with the construction discussed previously, work within the roadways would not have any impacts on land uses or land use plans. Operation of the proposed project would be consistent with surrounding land uses and would comply with policies and regulations pertaining to the General Plan and zoning designations. Operation of the project would not conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect.

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74 City of Los Angeles. ZIMAS. Available: http://zimas.lacity.org/. Accessed May 26, 2021.

75 City of Los Angeles. General Plan Land Use Map Westlake Community Plan. 2015. Available: https://planning.lacity.org/odocument/b1ab4266-378b-43d6-9e0d-37691adfc2a1/WLKplanmap.pdf.

There would be no operational impacts related to land use plans and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

XII. MINERAL RESOURCES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XII. MINERAL RESOURCES: Would the project:				
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Would the project:

a. Result in the loss of viability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?

b. Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?

No Impact (Issue a-b). There are no locally important mineral resources within the project area. The project area is located within a densely developed area surrounded by mostly commercial and residential uses. There are no existing or proposed mineral resource recovery activities in or around the project area, as the project area is highly urbanized. There are no gas, geothermal, or other known wells located on the project site, and the proposed project would neither result in a land use conflict with existing oil extraction operations nor would it preclude future oil extraction on underlying deposits. The project area consists of MacArthur Park and the surrounding city blocks, which—according to Exhibit A of the City of Los Angeles General Plan Conservation Element—is not located within a mineral resource zone.[76] Implementation of the proposed project would not result in the loss of availability of any known mineral or other available resource, nor would it result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local land use plan. Therefore, the proposed project would have no impact with respect to mineral resources and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

[76] City of Los Angeles. Conservation Element of the City of Los Angeles General Plan. 2001. Available: https://planning.lacity.org/odocument/28af7e21-ffdd-4f26-84e6-dfa967b2a1ee/Conservation_Element.pdf.

XIII. NOISE

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XIII. NOISE: Would the project result in:				
a) Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	☒	☐	☐	☐
b) Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	☒	☐	☐	☐
c) For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project are to excessive noise levels?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Would the project result in:

a. Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?

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

Potentially Significant Impact (Issue a-b). Construction of the proposed project would generate noise and vibration from construction vehicles and equipment. The EIR will evaluate whether construction of the proposed project would result in: (1) generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies; or (2) generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels.

Operation of the proposed project would occur primarily underground, with only the treatment wetlands and some equipment and equipment housing located aboveground. The equipment would be located within, or adjacent to, the existing pump house building located along the south side of MacArthur Park. Neither operation of the pump that would be used to recirculate water within the lake via the treatment wetland nor the aboveground pump station control panel would create substantial noise. Moreover, the pump house is located 280 feet or more from surrounding residential uses and equipment noise would not be audible at this distance. Operation of the equipment would not result in noticeable vibration. Periodic maintenance would necessitate truck visits throughout the year, but maintenance truck trips are not associated with the generation of substantial noise in excess of local noise standards or generation of excessive ground vibration. Therefore, operation of the proposed project would not generate substantial temporary or permanent noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise

ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies, nor would the proposed project generate excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise. Therefore, impacts of operations related to noise and vibration would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

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

***No Impact*.** As described in Issue IX(e), the proposed project site is located approximately 10 miles east/northeast of Santa Monica Airport, 10 miles northeast of Los Angeles International Airport, and 10.5 miles southeast of the Hollywood Burbank Airport. The project site is not located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan. Construction and operation of the proposed project would not expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels from airport operations. The project would have no impact related to airstrips or airports and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

XIV. POPULATION AND HOUSING

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XIV. POPULATION AND HOUSING: Would the project:				
a) Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Would the project:

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

***No Impact*.** The proposed project would divert a portion of wet weather stormwater flows as well as dry weather flows from the storm drain system for the purpose of enhancing stormwater management, improving water quality, and providing other benefits such as partially offsetting potable water supply. This would serve an existing City need to increase the production and use of recycled water to help address concerns over the long-term reliability of imported water. However, the reduction in potable water use with project implementation would be minor and would not induce population growth in the area, nor would the proposed project create new infrastructure that would be growth inducing. As such, the proposed project would have no impact with respect to unplanned population growth and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

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

***Less Than Significant Impact*.** The proposed project would have no impacts on permanent housing and no permanent residents would be displaced as a result of project construction or operation. As discussed in Issue XI(b), construction activities could temporarily displace a portion of the unhoused population near the construction area; unhoused individuals would be relocated during construction. It is estimated that the number of people who would be displaced would range from less than five to as many as several dozen. However, displacement would be temporary and would only affect portions of the southern half of the park. It is expected that unhoused individuals that normally inhabit the portion of the park that would be closed would either self-relocate during construction or be relocated to temporary housing by the City. Temporary relocation of unhoused individuals would not necessitate the construction of replacement housing elsewhere. Following completion of construction, the park would be reopened. No construction of replacement housing is required for the proposed project. Impacts from project construction and operations with respect to the displacement of people or housing would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

XV. PUBLIC SERVICES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XV. PUBLIC SERVICES.				
a) Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:				
i. Fire protection?	☐	☐	☐	☒
ii. Police protection?	☐	☐	☐	☒
iii. Schools?	☐	☐	☐	☒
iv. Parks?	☐	☐	☐	☒
v. Other public facilities?	☐	☐	☐	☒

a. Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts,

in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:

i. Fire protection?

***No Impact*.** The proposed project includes construction and operation of a stormwater management and treatment system and would not involve the construction of habitable structures or otherwise increase the population that could, in turn, increase the demand for fire protection services to a level that would generate a need for new or altered fire protection facilities.

Construction activities would occur primarily within public rights-of-way and within designated work areas in MacArthur Park. Construction would result in temporary lane or road closures and/or on-street parking restrictions on 7th Street, Grand View Street, Lake Street, and in the adjacent alley, which would temporarily reduce the capacity of the affected streets and could slow optimum fire protection response rates. Limited access to properties on Lake Street and Grand View Street could occur as a result of these closures and restrictions. However, these closures would be temporary, and construction would be subject to a traffic control plan and traffic lane requirements set forth by the Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT). The construction contractor(s) would be required to notify emergency response providers prior to construction activities in the roadways so that appropriate alternative routes could be planned or established by the emergency response providers, if warranted. As a consequence, construction would not substantially reduce fire protection response times such that new or physically altered fire protection facilities would be needed in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives.

With the exception of the treatment wetlands and some equipment and equipment housing, the proposed project components would be located underground. Project operations would not hinder emergency access or result in the need for new or physically altered fire protection facilities.

In summary, project construction and operation would not result in the need for new or physically altered fire protection facilities, the construction of which could lead to a substantial adverse physical impact. Therefore, the project would have no impact on fire protection facilities and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

ii. Police protection?

***No Impact*.** As with fire protection, the proposed project would not involve the construction of habitable structures or otherwise increase the population that could, in turn, increase the demand for law enforcement services to a level that would generate a need for new or altered police facilities.

As described in Issue XV(a)(i), construction would result in temporary lane or road closures and/or on-street parking restrictions on 7th Street, Grand View Street, Lake Street, and in the adjacent alley, which would temporarily reduce the capacity of the affected streets and could slow optimum police protection response rates. Limited access to properties on Grand View Street and Lake Street could occur because of these closures and restrictions. However, these

closures would be temporary, and construction would be subject to a traffic control plan and traffic lane requirements set forth by the LADOT. The construction contractor(s) would be required to notify emergency response providers prior to construction activities in the roadways so that appropriate alternative routes could be planned or established by the emergency response providers, if warranted. As a consequence, construction would not substantially reduce police protection response times such that new or physically altered police facilities would be needed in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives.

With the exception of the treatment wetlands and some equipment and equipment housing, the proposed project components would be located underground. Project operations would not hinder emergency access or result in the need for new or physically altered police protection facilities.

In summary, project construction and operation would not result in the need for new or physically altered police facilities, the construction of which could lead to a substantial adverse physical impact. Therefore, the project would have no impact on police facilities and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

iii. Schools?

***No Impact*.** The proposed project would not involve the construction of habitable structures or otherwise increase the population that could, in turn, result in additional student enrollment that would generate a need for new or altered schools in the area.

MacArthur Park Elementary School for the Visual and Performing Arts is located on 7th Street, Grand View Street, and Park View Street. Student pickup and drop off occurs on Grand View Street in close proximity to a proposed pipeline. During construction, temporary lane and/or road closures and on-street parking restrictions near Grand View Street could require modifications to student loading and drop-off locations and procedures at the school. As described in Issue XV(a)(i), lane/road closures would be temporary and would occur in compliance with standard construction traffic requirements. LASAN would coordinate with the school to inform them of the construction activities and work with the school to minimize disruptions. No new or altered school facilities would be required to address student access during construction.

Operation of the proposed project would not affect student enrollment, nor would it result in the need for new or altered schools in the area.

In summary, project construction and operation would not result in the need for new or physically altered school facilities, the construction of which could lead to a substantial adverse physical impact. Therefore, the project would have no impact with respect to new or altered school facilities and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

iv. Parks?

***No Impact*.** As noted, the proposed project would not involve residential development or otherwise increase the population that could, in turn, generate a need for new or altered park facilities.

As described previously, construction within MacArthur Park would lead to temporary closure of a portion of the park, thereby temporarily limiting recreational uses. However, other areas of the park and park access points would remain open throughout construction; therefore, there would be no need for new or physically altered park facilities during construction.

Following completion of construction, access to the park would be fully reinstated and areas disturbed during construction would be restored.

In summary, construction and operation of the proposed project would not result in population increases that would result in the need for new park facilities in order to maintain acceptable service ratios or other performance objectives for park services. Therefore, the project would have no impact and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

v. Other public facilities?

***No Impact*.** The proposed project involves the construction of a stormwater management and treatment system that would capture, treat, and reuse stormwater to remove pollutants from the watershed and provide other benefits such as reducing potable water use within the park. The proposed project facilities would be operated and maintained by the City and would not affect other government services or public facilities. There would be no impact on other public facilities and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

XVI. RECREATION

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XVI. RECREATION.				
a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	☐	☐	☒	☐

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

***Less Than Significant Impact*.** The proposed project would not involve the construction of habitable structures or otherwise increase the population that could, in turn, increase the demand for recreational facilities within MacArthur Park such that substantial deterioration of these recreational facilities would occur.

Construction activities in the park would include removing existing turf and hardscaping, site preparation, grading, excavation, and installation of project components, including the stormwater

treatment unit, underground pipelines, and the aboveground treatment wetlands. Temporary closures to a portion of the park would occur during construction, as described in Section 2 and shown in Figure 2-6. However, the majority of MacArthur Park would remain open to the public, and thus, no substantive change in the use of these or other recreation facilities in the area is expected. Therefore, impacts from project construction on recreational facilities would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

During project operations, the treatment wetlands, consisting of a tiered water feature with emergent vegetation and boulders, would take up a small portion of the park that is currently occupied by open turf, mature trees, and a paved walkway. While the proposed treatment wetlands would slightly reduce the amount of open turf area within the park, it would provide a new visual feature that is expected to be a point of interest. The treatment wetlands would include boulders and benches that would provide seating as well as a boardwalk for park guests to utilize and enjoy throughout the year. Educational signage would further enhance the recreational value of the park. While the treatment wetlands would provide a new feature within the park, it is not expected to increase the number of visitors coming to the park or otherwise increase the use of the park to an extent that would result in, or accelerate, the physical deterioration of the facility. In summary, construction and operation of the proposed project would not increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks, including MacArthur Park, or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur. Operational impacts on recreation would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

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

***Less Than Significant Impact*.** The proposed project does not include the installation of new active recreational facilities; however, the treatment wetlands would provide a new passive recreational feature in the park and the water quality improvements in the lake may provide recreational enhancement. Physical effects associated with construction and operation of the proposed stormwater improvements, including these passive recreational components, are addressed throughout this IS. Any potential significant impacts are identified under the applicable resource area topic and will be further evaluated in the EIR. The proposed project would not result in any physical effects related to recreational facilities that are not already addressed in this IS. Therefore, impacts related to recreational facilities would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

XVII. TRANSPORTATION

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XVII. TRANSPORTATION: Would the project:				
a) Conflict with a program, plan, ordinance, or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle, and pedestrian facilities?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.3, Subdivision (b)?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c) Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d) Result in inadequate emergency access?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Would the project:

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

***Less Than Significant Impact*.** The proposed project consists of a stormwater management system that would capture and treat stormwater. The proposed project would not result in any long-term changes to bus stops, bicycle lanes or racks, sidewalks, or other non-automotive transportation infrastructure. However, temporary lane and/or roadway closures would occur during construction within public rights-of-way, including Lake Street, Grand View Street, 7th Street, and a small portion of the alley that parallels 7th Street to the south near the entrance to Lake Street. As a result, the bike lane along 7th Street adjacent to MacArthur Park would be closed temporarily, or bicycle traffic would be shifted/combined into the vehicular travel lane, within the limits of the project construction area. All lane closures would be short-term and subject to a traffic control plan and the traffic lane requirements set forth by LADOT. Upon completion of construction, public rights-of-way would be returned to the same conditions as prior to groundbreaking activities and the bicycle lane would be reopened. During construction, portions of some of the walking paths within MacArthur Park would be closed. The majority of the closed walking paths would be reopened after construction. A portion of the walking path along the lake at the mouth of the treatment wetland would be replaced with an ADA-compliant boardwalk. With the addition of the boardwalk, a continuous pedestrian pathway would be available around the entire lake after completion of construction. Because construction would not result in any long-term changes to transit, roadway, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, the proposed project would not conflict with any goals or policies contained in the Mobility Element of the Los Angeles General Plan or other City planning

documents.[77] Impacts of construction on programs, plans, ordinances, or policies addressing the circulation system would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

Operation of the proposed project would occur primarily underground with only the treatment wetland and some equipment and equipment housing located aboveground. The aboveground features would be located within the park and not within any public rights-of-way. Maintenance activities would occur within Lake Street, 7th Avenue, and at the entrance of the alley that parallels 7th Avenue to the south, and may result in the need for temporary lane and/or road closures. However, the project facilities would be accessed via utility holes which and maintenance would be expected to require limited lane closures, leaving the remaining portion of the street accessible. As with construction discussed above, temporary street closures during operations would be subject to a traffic control plan if warranted, and the traffic lane requirements set forth by LADOT. Operation of the proposed project would not result in any permanent changes to transit, roadway, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities and, therefore, would not conflict with any adopted goals or policies contained in the Mobility Element of the Los Angeles General Plan or other City planning documents.[78] Impacts of operations on programs, plans, ordinances, or policies addressing the circulation system would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

b. Conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, Subdivision (b).

***Less Than Significant Impact*.** Section 15064.3 of the CEQA Guidelines provides criteria for analyzing transportation impacts that apply to land use projects and transportation projects, with the main focus of the impacts analysis being on vehicle miles traveled (VMT).

The proposed project is located within the City and is subject to LADOT's Transportation Assessment Guidelines (TAG).[79] The LADOT TAG was published in July 2019, and was updated in July 2020, in light of the State CEQA Guidelines requirement that transportation analyses in CEQA documents address VMT impacts rather than congestion-based impacts (i.e., Level of Service [LOS] impacts). LADOT's guidelines for evaluation of CEQA transportation impacts apply to the following project types:

- Development projects, defined as any proposed land use project that changes the use within an existing structure or creates an addition to an existing structure, or new construction, which includes any occupied floor area.
- Transportation infrastructure projects for which a transportation analysis is required (e.g., lane reconfiguration, roadway improvement, transit project).

A land use project is defined in the guidelines as "any discretionary action that changes development capacity (such as a zone change or re-designation of a general plan land use) or results in new construction, additions, or change of use." The proposed project is not a development project or a land use project, as defined by the TAG, and is not a transportation infrastructure

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77 City of Los Angeles Department of City Planning. Mobility Plan 2035 – An Element of the General Plan. September 7, 2016. Available: https://planning.lacity.org/odocument/523f2a95-9d72-41d7-aba5-1972f84c1d36/Mobility_Plan_2035.pdf.

78 City of Los Angeles Department of City Planning. Mobility Plan 2035 – An Element of the General Plan. September 7, 2016. Available: https://planning.lacity.org/odocument/523f2a95-9d72-41d7-aba5-1972f84c1d36/Mobility_Plan_2035.pdf.

79 City of Los Angeles Department of Transportation. Transportation Assessment Guidelines. July 2020. Available: https://ladot.lacity.org/sites/default/files/documents/2020-transportation-assessment-guidelines_final_2020.07.27_0.pdf.

project. Moreover, impacts from project construction are considered to be non-CEQA impacts per LADOT's TAG. Therefore, the preparation of a transportation assessment that evaluates the potential impacts of the proposed project on VMT is not required.

Notwithstanding the above, even if one were to consider the proposed project a land use project, LADOT's TAG includes screening criteria for determining if a project would conflict or be inconsistent with Section 15064.3(b)(1) of the State CEQA Guidelines. Specifically, a land use project that would generate a net increase of less than 250 daily vehicle trips would be considered to have no impact with respect to Section 15064.3(b)(1). Operation of the proposed project would not generate regular daily vehicle trips. Occasional trips for inspection, maintenance, and cleaning would occur as detailed in Section 2.6. These trips would be minimal and would not exceed 250 or more daily vehicle trips. Therefore, the proposed project would not conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.3, Subdivision (b). Impacts related to VMT would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

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

No Impact. There are no hazardous design features (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses proposed as part of the proposed project. The proposed project would not permanently alter any roadways or introduce incompatible equipment onto public streets. While construction would occur within public streets, thereby requiring temporary lane and/or road closures, this would be short-term and subject to a traffic control plan. Upon completion of construction, public rights-of-way would be returned to the same conditions as prior to groundbreaking activities. Therefore, the proposed project would not increase hazards due to a design feature or incompatible use; the project would have no impacts related to geometric design features and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

d. Result in inadequate emergency access?

Less Than Significant Impact. The proposed project would require construction in public rights-of-way that would involve temporary lane and possibly road closures. Construction would be subject to a traffic control plan and the traffic lane requirements set forth by LADOT. As noted in Issue XV(a)(i), the construction contractor(s) would be required to notify emergency response providers prior to construction activities in the roadways so that appropriate alternative routes could be planned or established by the emergency response providers, if warranted. All aboveground features would be located within an existing park, which would not affect emergency access. Therefore, construction and operation of the proposed project would not result in inadequate emergency access. Impacts would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

XVIII. TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XVIII. TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES.				
a) Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:				
i. Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code Section 5020.1(k), or	☒	☐	☐	☐
ii. A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in Subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in Subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American Tribe.	☒	☐	☐	☐

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

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

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

Potentially Significant Impact. The project site is located in a developed area that was previously graded and disturbed. However, the potential for construction of the proposed project to cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource—defined in Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American Tribe—will be evaluated in the EIR. Specifically, the

EIR will evaluate whether construction of the proposed project would result in a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource that is: (1) listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHP) or in a local register of historical resources as defined in PRC Section 5020.1(k); or (2) a resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in Subdivision (c) of PRC Section 5024.1, with consideration of the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.

Operation of the proposed project would occur primarily underground, with only the treatment wetland and some equipment and equipment housing located aboveground. Operation of the proposed project would not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, as defined in the Public Resources Code. Therefore, impacts of project operation on tribal cultural resource would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

XIX. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS

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

Would the project:

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

***Less Than Significant Impact*.** The proposed project consists of a stormwater management system that would divert a portion of wet weather stormwater flow as well as dry weather flows from existing storm drains, treat it, and discharge it into MacArthur Lake for storage or return it to the storm drain system. Physical effects associated with construction and operation of the stormwater system improvements are addressed throughout this IS. Any potential significant impacts are identified under the applicable resource area topic and will be further evaluated in the EIR.

Regarding other utilities, the proposed project is located in a developed area that is served by existing utilities and would not increase demand for utility service (e.g., water, wastewater treatment, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications) such that new or expanded facilities would be needed. Project construction would require small amounts of water for dust suppression, which could be provided by existing infrastructure. Operations would reduce potable water consumption by a small amount as the amount of potable water that would be needed to refill the lake would be partially offset by treated stormwater. As addressed in Issue VI, project operations would require electricity to power pumps associated with the treatment system. However, only small amounts of electricity would be required, which would not require the relocation or reconstruction of new electric power facilities.

The installation of the underground project components would necessitate the minor relocation of existing underground utility lines located in public rights-of-way and within MacArthur Park. Utility relocation would include the relocation of an 8-inch-diamter water supply line, a street lighting conduit in Lake Street, and a street light conduit on 7th street. These activities would occur in conjunction with other project construction activities and would not result in any physical effects that are not already addressed in this IS.

For the reasons described above, the proposed project would not require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or stormwater drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects that are not addressed elsewhere in the IS. Impacts on utility facilities would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

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

***Less Than Significant Impact*.** Construction of the proposed project would require the short-term use of small amounts of potable water for worksite clean-up activities and dust suppression; however, the amounts would be minimal and are not expected to adversely affect existing water supplies. Operation of the proposed project would not increase potable water demand; rather, it would capture, divert, and convey a portion of wet weather stormwater flows as well as dry weather flows through treatment systems for storage in MacArthur Lake or return it to the storm drain system. This would reduce the amount of potable water used to fill MacArthur Lake in the dry season. Therefore, project operation would result in water supply benefits. Overall, impacts on water supplies would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

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

Less Than Significant Impact. The proposed project involves stormwater management and would not regularly result in the generation of wastewater requiring conveyance and treatment to the City's sanitary sewer system. An existing connection to the sanitary sewer system would be utilized as part of the proposed to draw down the lake level in advance of an anticipated storm event to create a storage buffer. The water discharged to the sanitary sewer system would be treated at HWRP and would potentially be used as recycled water. These discharges to the sanitary sewer would be subject to a discharge permit issued by LASAN. The wastewater conveyances that would accept discharges from the proposed project currently have adequate capacity.[80] For these reasons, implementation of the proposed project would not result in a determination by the City (as the wastewater treatment provider) that it has inadequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the City's existing commitments. Project impacts on the wastewater treatment system would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

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

Less Than Significant Impact. Construction activities would produce some construction-related waste. Some materials, such as green waste and concrete, could be composted or recycled and would not require landfill disposal. Inert construction waste would require disposal in permitted inert waste landfills. The total remaining permitted inert (or unclassified landfill) waste capacity in Los Angeles County was estimated to be approximately 58.84 million tons in 2019 (excluding inert debris disposal sites). Based on the average countywide 2019 disposal rate of 854 tons per day, this capacity would be exhausted in 221 years. Therefore, there is no projected shortfall in disposal capacity for inert waste within Los Angeles County.[81] The amount of debris expected to be generated during project construction would not have an adverse effect on landfill capacity. Impacts from project construction with respect to solid waste would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

During project operations, trash and sediment would be collected from the stormwater system, which would require disposal. Additionally, the wetlands would be periodically cleaned when trash accumulates. However, these activities would merely collect trash generated elsewhere; no new sources of trash would be generated by project operations. The collection and disposal of trash from the stormwater system are not anticipated to generate significant amounts of solid waste. Therefore, construction and operation of the proposed project would not generate solid waste in excess of state or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals. Impacts from project operations with respect to solid waste would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

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

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80 Ali Poosti, Division Manager, City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Bureau of Sanitation, Wastewater Engineering Services Division. Letter to Shahram Kharaghani, Division Manager, City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Bureau of Sanitation, Watershed Protection Division. Subject: MacArthur Lake Rehabilitation Project – Request for Wastewater Service Information. March 30, 2021.

81 County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works. Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan 2019 Annual Report. 2020. Available: https://dpw.lacounty.gov/epd/swims/ShowDoc.aspx?id=14372&hp=yes&type=PDF.

Less Than Significant Impact. All solid waste disposal would be managed in accordance with applicable federal, state, and local statutes and regulations. Construction waste is accepted at local disposal facilities and recycling is encouraged. During project operation, the proposed pretreatment system would collect waste by separating debris from stormwater, preventing it from being deposited in the ocean or Ballona Wetlands. Waste collected during separation would be minimal and would not be incompatible with solid waste reduction statutes or regulations. Therefore, impacts related to solid waste statutes and regulations from the implementation of the proposed project would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

XX. WILDFIRE

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XX. WILDFIRE: If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project:				
a) Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒
b) Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c) Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines, or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d) Expose people or structure to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?	☐	☐	☐	☒

If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project:

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

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

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

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

No Impact (Issue a-d). PRC Sections 4201–4204 direct the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CalFire) to map fire hazards based on relevant factors such as fuels, terrain, and weather. CalFire, through its Fire and Resources Assessment Program (FRAP), has mapped areas of significant fire hazards throughout the state. CalFire establishes local and state responsibility areas for wildfire protection and identifies areas within fire hazard severity zones (FHSZ)—classified as moderate, high, and very high fire hazard severity zones (VHFHSZ). The project area is located in a fully built-out, urbanized area of the City. The project site and surrounding area are relatively flat, and the project site is not located proximate to a hillside or waterway. The project site is not in or near a state responsibility area or lands classified as VHFHSZ.[82] Furthermore, the City maps the broad scope of potential fire hazards within city limits and defines areas in selected wildfire hazard areas. The project area is not located within a City-designated wildfire severity zone.[83] In summary, the project site is not located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as VHFHSZ; therefore, the proposed project would have no impacts related to wildfire and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

XXI. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XXI. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE.				
a) Does the project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	☒	☐	☐	☐
b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.)	☒	☐	☐	☐
c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	☒	☐	☐	☐

[82] California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CalFire). FHSZ Viewer. Available: https://egis.fire.ca.gov/FHSZ/. Accessed January 17, 2022.

[83] City of Los Angeles Emergency Management Department. City of Los Angeles 2018 Local Hazard Mitigation Plan. Prepared by Tetra Tech. Available: https://emergency.lacity.org/sites/g/files/wph1791/files/2021-10/2018_LA_HMP_Final_with_maps_2018-02-09.pdf.

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

***Potentially Significant Impact*.** The proposed project is located in a highly developed and landscaped area. As discussed under Issue IV, there is low potential for any plant or animal species listed on any state or federal lists of endangered, threatened, or special-status species; riparian/wetland areas; or native trees within the project area. However, as the proposed project would reduce the amount of stormwater that flows into Ballona Creek, there is potential for operational impacts to special-status species, wildlife species, and riparian habitat downstream of the project area. Therefore, the EIR will evaluate the potential for operation of the proposed project to substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, or substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal.

There are no known archaeological, paleontological, or tribal cultural resources located on the project site, and the disturbed nature of the site makes the site's sensitivity to such resources low. However, as discussed under Issues V(b) and VII(f), the potential exists for the destruction of previously unidentified buried archaeological or paleontological resources at the project site during construction, if such resources are present. In addition, as discussed in Issue XVIII, the potential exists for encountering tribal cultural resources. Therefore, the EIR for the proposed project will evaluate whether construction of the proposed project would (1) eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory by causing a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5; (2) directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site; or (3) cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, as defined in Public Resources Code Section 21074.

As described in Section V(a), there is the potential for construction activities associated with the construction equipment vibration to indirectly impact park features or nearby buildings that may be historic. The EIR will evaluate the potential for the proposed project to eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history, and will determine whether the project would cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource defined by State CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5.

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

Potentially Significant Impact. Cumulative impacts are defined as "two or more individual effects which, when considered together, are considerable or which compound or increase other

environmental impacts."[84] In accordance with CEQA, the lead agency must consider whether a cumulative impact is significant and, if so, whether the project's incremental contribution to that impact is cumulatively considerable. The following evaluation of impacts that are individually limited, but may be cumulatively considerable, addresses impacts determined in the previous sections to be "Less Than Significant." Environmental factors associated with the proposed project determined as having "No Impact" would, by definition, not contribute to a cumulatively considerable impact. Project-related environmental factors identified as being a "Potentially Significant Impact" will be further evaluated in the EIR, which will include analysis of cumulative impacts.

Cumulative projects considered in this analysis include improvements at MacArthur Park and projects in the nearby vicinity. Various projects occurring within the park in the nearby vicinity of the proposed MacArthur Lake Stormwater Capture Project include the renovation and upgrading of existing recreational and park facilities, the establishment of new additional recreational/park areas and facilities, the improvement of park entries, the addition of art displays/installations, and the provision and improvement of ADA access within and around the park. Specifically, in the vicinity of the proposed treatment wetlands, the City proposes to construct a playground, including new play equipment consisting of surfacing and drainage, landscape and irrigation, LED lighting, drinking fountain, security camera(s), and trash receptacle(s).

Adjacent to MacArthur Park are several street improvement projects, such as the Maya Corridor Project along 6th Street that involves placemaking elements, ADA upgrades to sidewalks and curb ramps, custom paving at intersections and sidewalks, two monument gateways, custom bus stop lighting, and street trees and tree wells, to pay homage to the Mayan descendants who currently live in Los Angeles. Another street improvement project is the Alvarado Great Streets Project located between Wilshire Boulevard and 7th Street on the southeast side of MacArthur Park; it is part of the City's Great Streets Project and will include a midblock crosswalk and east side curb extension, midblock traffic signal, street trees, bus stop lighting, and new transit shelters, among other improvements. Additionally, 7th Street will be enhanced with streetscape improvements for the 7th Street LANI Westlake Transit Improvement Project, which will provide bus shelters, bus stop security lighting, street trees, and community identifiers/medallions. A number of private development projects are reasonably foreseeable in the general vicinity of the project site, such as the Westlake/MacArthur Park Joint Development (also known as Centro Westlake), a joint mixed-use development by Metro and a private developer that would include 668 apartments, 300 hotel rooms, 124,000 square feet of commercial uses, and over 75,000 square feet of open space on a site located directly across the street from MacArthur Park between Alvarado Street and Westlake Street south of Wilshire Boulevard;[85,86] the Lake on Wilshire Development, a mixed-use development that would include a multicultural and performing arts center, residential apartments,

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84 14 California Code of Regulations. Section 15355, Cumulative Impacts.

85 Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority. Joint Development – Westlake/MacArthur Park Station Phase B Webpage. Available: https://www.metro.net/projects/joint-development-westlake-macarthur-park-station-phase-b/#documents. Accessed January 27, 2022.

86 Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority. Next stop: building communities–Westlake/MacArthur Park Joint Development. August 19, 2020. Available: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/l36ad0b1ko9p020/AAAqPZfH_ZQyKAyrRvUtqR0Ta/Board%20Report%20Presentation.pdf?dl=0.

and a hotel on the east side of Westlake Street south of Wilshire Boulevard;[87] the Park View Project, a mixed-use project with 264 residential units and approximately 9,724 square feet of retail proposed on the west side of Park View Street between 7th Street and 8th Street;[88,89] and the MacArthur Renovation Project, located at the northwest corner of Park View Street and 6th Street that would include a performance arts venue and hotel.[90] Cumulative projects within the Ballona Creek watershed have also been proposed or are being considered. The watershed projects would not result in any cumulative impacts to those environmental factors determined to be "Less than Significant" in this IS because the nature and scope of those environmental factors are more geographically limited (i.e., are in the vicinity of the project site). Cumulative impacts of the proposed project in association with the reasonably foreseeable watershed projects on biological resources and hydrology/water quality will be addressed in the EIR.

The following describes the potential for the "Less Than Significant" impacts of the proposed project, when combined with the other projects previously described, to result in a cumulatively significant impact and, if so, whether the proposed project would have a cumulatively considerable contribution on the significant cumulative impact.

Aesthetics: The proposed project would occur in an area that is highly urbanized with commercial, institutional, and residential land uses. There are existing views of MacArthur Lake and park landscaping amenities from the project site, as well as views of the downtown Los Angeles skyline and some limited, but largely obscured, views of hills and mountains in more distant areas. The basic nature and location of the improvements associated with the proposed project, as well as with the other projects in the vicinity, would not materially alter the existing urban setting and associated view characteristics of the area. As such, cumulative impacts would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

Air Quality: According to the SCAQMD,[91] projects that do not exceed the SCAQMD's significance thresholds are generally not considered to be cumulatively significant. As discussed in Section III(d), because of the minimal need for direct pollutant-emitting equipment and the limited nature of proposed maintenance activities, emissions associated with proposed project operations would be minimal and would not conflict with or obstruct an applicable air quality plan, result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is nonattainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard, or expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations. Therefore, the contribution of project operations to cumulative air quality emissions would not be cumulatively considerable. As described in Section III(d), implementation of the proposed project would have a less than significant impact relative to other emissions, such as dust and diesel exhaust odors during construction, adversely affecting a substantial number of people. Dust emissions impacts would be minimized through compliance with SCAQMD Rule 403, and diesel exhaust odors would be

87 The Lake on Wilshire Homepage. Available: https://www.thelakeonwilshire.com/en/about/. Accessed January 19, 2022.
88 City of Los Angeles Planning. Letter of Determination: 2401-2147 West 8th Street and 729-751 South Park View Street
89 Pacific Apartments Corp. Park View Homepage. Available: http://www.pacificapt.com/733-park-view.html. Accessed January 20, 2022.
90 Omgivning. MacArthur Hotel. Available: https://omgivning.com/projects/macarthur-hotel/. Accessed January 19, 2022.
91 South Coast Air Quality Management District. White Paper on Potential Control Strategies to Address Cumulative Impacts from Air Pollution. August 2003.

transitory and generally only a near-field odor that may be considered unpleasant to certain individuals. These bases for why such impacts would be less than significant for the proposed project would also apply to the other projects in the vicinity (i.e., dust control requirements would apply to all projects and diesel exhaust emissions tend to be very localized and readily dispersed). As such, cumulative impacts would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

Biological Resources: As with the proposed project, other projects in the vicinity are located within a highly and landscaped urban area making the presence of special-status species, sensitive habitat, and state or federally protected wetlands a low likelihood or sporadic in nature. As described in Issues III(b) and III(c), construction of the proposed project poses the potential for soil erosion and construction-related hazardous substances to enter stormwater runoff that could flow downstream to Ballona Creek and, ultimately, into the Ballona Wetlands. That potential would also exist with construction of other projects in the vicinity where stormwater runoff flows to Ballona Creek. That potential impact would be minimized by BMPs implemented in conjunction with construction SWPPP that would be required for each cumulative project that disturbs an area greater than 1 acre in size, in accordance with the State Construction General Permit. As such, cumulative construction impacts on biological resources would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

Cultural Resources: With regard to the potential to encounter human remains during excavation activities, compliance with existing requirements applicable to such a discovery would apply to both the proposed project as well as other projects. Such an impact, if any, would be less than significant on both a project basis and a cumulative basis and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

Energy: Section VI of the IS describes how and why energy consumption associated with project construction would be less than significant, relative to such energy consumption not being wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary, especially in light of applicable regulatory requirements. Such requirements would also apply to construction of the other projects in the vicinity. Compliance with regulatory requirements would also help ensure that cumulative energy consumption would not be wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary, nor would the cumulative projects conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency. Additionally, it should be noted that the basic nature of the other projects in the vicinity of the proposed project generally reflects the types of development and redevelopment that occur on an ongoing basis in highly urbanized areas, which is, in general, considered to be typical and not characterized as being wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary. As such, cumulative impacts would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

Geology/Soils: Risks and hazards associated with geology and soils are site-specific and not considered cumulative in nature. Moreover, the proposed project as well as the other cumulative projects would be subject to standard building codes and specifications, including LABC, CBC, UBC, and the City's Standard Specifications for Public Works Construction, which include provisions that address geotechnical and soils hazards. In addition to these codes, SWPPP requirements include further provisions related to soil erosion and loss of topsoil. Compliance with building codes and other requirements would ensure that project-specific geotechnical and soils impacts would be less

than significant. As such, there would be no cumulative impact to geology and soils and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

Hazards and Hazardous Materials: Neither the proposed project nor any of the cumulative projects are industrial in nature; therefore, the use of hazardous materials associated with these projects would be limited and incidental in nature. As with Geology and Soils, compliance with applicable regulations would ensure that potential impacts associated with hazards and hazards materials during construction and operation of the proposed project and other cumulative projects would be less than significant. Cumulative impacts related to hazards and hazardous materials would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

Hydrology and Water Quality: As with the proposed project, other projects in the vicinity are located within a highly developed urban area. It is not anticipated that development of the proposed project in conjunction with other projects in the vicinity would result in a substantial change in surface or subsurface hydrology or result in a release of pollutants due to project inundation associated with floods, tsunamis, or seiches. Regarding water quality, construction activities in general pose the potential for soil erosion and construction-related hazardous substances to enter stormwater runoff that could impact downstream water quality. That potential impact would be minimized by BMPs implemented in conjunction with the construction SWPPPs for each cumulative project that disturbs an area greater than 1 acre in size, in accordance with the State Construction General Permit. As such, cumulative construction related to drainage patterns or the release of pollutants from project inundation would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

Land Use and Planning: As discussed in Issue XI(a), implementation of the proposed project would not physically divide a community, although construction activities would temporarily displace the existing unhoused population in the southern portion of MacArthur Park where the project site is located. There is the potential that implementation of other projects in the vicinity would displace other existing unhoused populations, if present. However, this effect is not considered to be a significant cumulative impact relative to physically dividing an established community and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

Noise: As discussed in Issues XIII(a) and XIII(b), operation of the proposed project, particularly the equipment located at the pump house, would generate some amounts of noise and vibration; however, the impact would be less than significant. Such noise and vibration would be very specific to, and localized around, the pump house near MacArthur Lake. There are no other sources of noise and vibration nearby from the other cumulative projects. Therefore, cumulative impacts related to operational noise and vibration would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

Population/Housing: As discussed in Issue XIV(b), the proposed project would not involve the removal of any permanent housing necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere; therefore, the proposed project would not contribute to cumulative impacts relative removal/displacement of permanent housing. As also discussed in Issue XIV(b), the proposed project may result in the temporary displacement of unhoused individuals. To the extent there are unhoused populations living at the other project sites, as there are at the proposed project site,

development may result in temporary or permanent displacement of such populations, depending upon the specific characteristics of each project and whether assistance would be provided for relocating such populations. The provision of replacement housing for City's unhoused population is a City policy decision and outside of the scope of an individual project; projects that would provide replacement housing for the unhoused would be subject to their own CEQA evaluation. Further evaluation of potential cumulative impacts associated with displacement of unhoused populations is outside the scope of the project EIR.

Transportation: As discussed in Issue XVII, there are no habitable structures associated with the proposed project and long-term operational VMT would be limited to occasional trips associated with periodic O&M. These trips would be well below the LADOT TAG VMT analysis screening threshold of 250 or more daily trips. It is possible that the large multiuse projects planned for the project area could generate VMT that individually could result in VMT impacts and, when combined, could be cumulatively significant.[92] However, inasmuch as the daily trip generation associated with long-term operation of the MacArthur Lake Stormwater Capture Project would be negligible, the proposed project's contribution to any significant cumulative impact would not be cumulatively considerable and would not cause a conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.3(b). Therefore, no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

With regard to inadequate emergency access, other projects in the local area would be subject to the same requirements as the proposed project, with respect to construction traffic control plans and traffic lane requirements set forth by LADOT; construction of the individual cumulative projects would require coordination with emergency response providers. Therefore, cumulative impacts with respect to emergency access would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

Utilities: As discussed in Issue XIX, construction of subsurface improvements associated with the proposed project may necessitate the minor relocation of existing underground utility lines. To the extent that the other projects nearby may also require relocation or modification of existing underground utility lines, those impacts would be specific to the footprint of those projects and would be subject to rules and regulations applicable to those activities as well as coordination with the affected utility providers. As a result, cumulative impacts to utility facilities would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

With regard to water supply, the amount of water required during construction of the proposed project would be negligible. In the long-term, the proposed project would reduce the demand for potable water and would have no adverse impact on water supplies. Therefore, the proposed project would not contribute to a cumulative impact to water supplies.

With regard to adequate wastewater treatment capacity, many of the cumulative projects, such as street improvement projects, would not generate any wastewater; those that may generate a notable amount of wastewater, such as the Westlake/MacArthur Park Joint Development, Lake on Wilshire Development, Park View Project, and MacArthur Renovation Project, would be required to

[92] The LADOT TAG screening criteria for determining whether a VMT analysis is required for a CEQA analysis are applied on a project-by-project basis (i.e., "Would *the Project* [emphasis added] generate a new increase of 250 or more daily vehicle trips?"), and not in terms of whether the total daily trip generation of multiple projects combined would exceed 250.

obtain sewer connection permits from LASAN, which would include an assessment of the capacity of sanitary sewers within the project area.

Relative to solid waste landfill capacity and attainment of solid waste reduction goals, the proposed project would generate a small amount of green waste and inert waste during construction. Municipal solid waste would not result from project construction or operation; therefore, the project would not contribute to cumulative impacts related to municipal solid waste. Construction of the cumulative projects nearby would also generate inert solid waste and green waste during construction. However, the countywide insert waste landfill capacity is estimated to be available for approximately 221 years. Moreover, all the projects would be subject to applicable federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste reduction. Therefore, cumulative impacts related to inert solid waste would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

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

Potentially Significant Impact. Based on the analysis in this IS, the proposed project would have the potential to result in potentially significant impacts related to air quality (construction only); biological resources; cultural resources, including paleontological resources (construction only); greenhouse gas emissions; hydrology/water quality; noise (construction only); and tribal cultural resources (construction only), which could potentially result in substantial adverse effects on human beings. The potential for the proposed project to result in such impacts will be evaluated in the EIR.

Based on the analysis in this IS, the proposed project would not have any environmental effects that could cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly, related to aesthetics, agriculture and forestry resources, air quality (from project operation), cultural resources (from project operation), energy, geology and soils, hazards and hazardous materials, land use and planning, mineral resources, noise (from project operation), population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation, tribal cultural resources (from project operation), utilities and service systems, and wildfire. Therefore, potential impacts to these resource areas would be less than significant and no further evaluation in the EIR is required.

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Section 5

List of Preparers and Contributors

Lead Agency

City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Bureau of Sanitation
1149 S. Broadway, 10th Floor
Los Angeles, California 90015

Julie Allen, PE – Assistant General Manager/Stormwater Program Manager
Alfredo Magallanes, PE – Division Manager, Watershed Protection Division/Project Manager, MacArthur Lake Stormwater Capture Project
Carman Andrade, PE – Project Engineer
Marisol Ibarra – Project Engineer

Initial Study Preparation

CDM Smith
600 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 750
Los Angeles, California 90017

Scott Dellinger, PE – CEQA Task Director
Robin Ijams – CEQA Task Manager
Kathleen Owston – CEQA Assistant Task Manager/Senior Environmental Planner
Anthony Skidmore, AICP – CEQA Specialist/Technical Review
Emma Argiroff, CEP-IT – Environmental Planner
Wendy Coyne – Document Preparation
Matthew Egge, AICP – Senior Environmental Planner
Jeremy Gilbride, EIT – Air Quality Specialist
Jennifer Jones, ESA Certified Ecologist – Senior Biologist
Alex Kessel – Environmental Planner
Gwen Pelletier, ENV SP, SCAQMD Certified Permitting Professional – Senior Air Quality Specialist
Juan Ramirez, GISP – Environmental Planner
Annamarie Weddle, AICP Candidate – Environmental Planner

Design Team

Carollo (Program Manager)
707 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 3920
Los Angeles, California 90017

Jim Rasmus, PE, BCEE, ENV SP – Consultant Team Technical Advisor
Inge Wiersema, PE, ENV SP – Consultant Team Project Manager
Leneyde Chavez – Engagement and Outreach Task Manager

Cordoba Corporation (Engineering Design)
1401 North Broadway
Los Angeles, California 90012

Mary Vorissis, PE – Design Task Manager
Masih Bari, PhD, PE – Assistant Design Task Manager/Project Engineer
Danielle Chupa – Project Coordinator
Ian Cesario – Lead Design Engineer

Section 6
Acronyms

ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act
ATCM	airborne toxic control measure
BCWMG	Ballona Creek Watershed Management Group
bgs	below existing ground surface
BMP	best management practice
C2/C4	Commercial Zone
CAAQS	California Ambient Air Quality Standards
CalFire	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
Caltrans	California Department of Transportation
CARB	California Air Resources Board
CBC	California Building Code
CCR	California Code of Regulations
CDFW	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
cfs	cubic feet per second
CGS	California Geological Survey
City	City of Los Angeles
CNPS	California Native Plant Society
CO	carbon monoxide
CRHP	California Register of Historic Places
DTSC	California Department of Toxic Substances Control
EIR	Environmental Impact Report
EWMP	Enhanced Watershed Management Program
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FHSZ	Fire Hazard Severity Zones
FRAP	CalFire Fire and Resources Assessment Program
GHG	greenhouse gas
gpm	gallons per minute

H_2S	hydrogen sulfide
HCM	Historic-Cultural Monument
HWRP	Hyperion Water Reclamation Plant
hp	horsepower
I	Interstate
IPaC	Information for Planning and Consultation
IS	Initial Study
LABC	City of Los Angeles Building Code
LADOT	City of Los Angeles Department of Transportation
LADWP	City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
LAMC	City of Los Angeles Municipal Code
LASAN	City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Bureau of Sanitation and Environment
LOS	level of service
LUST	leaking underground storage tank
Metro	Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
MGD	million gallons per day
MH	maintenance hole opening
MLD	Most Likely Descendant
Mmax	Maximum Moment Magnitude
MS4	municipal separate storm sewer system
MUTCD	Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices
MW	megawatts
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NAHC	Native American Heritage Commission
NO_2	nitrogen dioxide
NO_X	nitrogen oxides
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
O_3	ozone
O&M	operation and maintenance
OS	Open Space

Pb	lead
pLAn	City of Los Angeles Sustainability Plan
PM	particulate matter
$PM_{2.5}$	PM less than 2.5 microns in aerodynamic diameter (fine PM)
PM_{10}	PM less than 10 microns in aerodynamic diameter
PRC	Public Resources Code
R4	Multiple Dwelling Zone
RAP	Department of Recreation and Parks
RWQCB	Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board
S	Sewer Connection
SCAB	Southern Coast Air Basin
SCAG	Southern California Association of Governments
SCAQMD	South Coast Air Quality Management District
SCWP	Safe Clean Water Program
SD	Storm Drain
SEA	Significant Ecological Area
SO_2	sulfur dioxide
SR	State Route
StreetsLA	City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Bureau of Street Services
SWPPP	Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan
SWRCB	State Water Resources Control Board
TAG	LADOT's Transportation Assessment Guidelines
U	Excavation
UBC	Uniform Building Code
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	U.S. Geological Survey
UST	underground storage tank
VHFHSZ	very high fire hazard severity zone
VMT	vehicle miles traveled
VOC	volatile organic compound

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Section 7
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