



Hidden Valley Park Pickleball Project (City Project No. C5047)

Initial Study – Mitigated Negative Declaration

prepared by

City of Martinez
525 Henrietta Street
Martinez, California 94553
Contact: Ali Hatefi, Senior Civil Engineer

prepared with the assistance of

Rincon Consultants, Inc.
449 15th Street, Suite 303
Oakland, California 94612

Septmeber 2022



RINCON CONSULTANTS, INC.
Environmental Scientists | Planners | Engineers
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Acronyms and Abbreviations

2017 Plan	2017 Clean Air Plan
ALUCP	Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan
BAAQMD	Bay Area Air Quality Management District
CalGreen	California Green Building Standards Code
CAP	Climate Action Plan
CARB	California Air Resources Board
CCWD	Contra Costa Water District
CEC	California Energy Commission
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CHRIS	California Historical Resources Information System
CO	carbon monoxide
CRHR	California Register of Historical Resources
DOC	California Department of Conservation
DTSC	Department of Toxic Substances Control
ksf	thousand square feet
kV	kilovolt
LED	light-emitting diode
MCE	Marin Clean Energy
MG	million gallons
MT	metric tons
MWD	Martinez Water Department
NAHC	Native American Heritage Commission
NM	Noise Measurement
NWIC	Northwest Information Center
PG&E	Pacific Gas and Electric
PM2.5	particulate matter smaller than 2.5 microns in diameter
PM10	particulate matter smaller than 10 microns in diameter
ppm	parts per million
PPOS	Public Permanent Open Space
PRC	Public Resources Code
PRMCC	Parks, Recreation, Marina, and Cultural Commission

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ROG	reactive organic gases
ROW	right-of-way
SEMS	Superfund Enterprise Management System
SFBAAB	San Francisco Bay Area Air Basin
SLF	Sacred Lands File
SWRCB	State Water Resources Control Board
TAC	Toxic Air Contaminants
USEPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
UWMP	Urban Water Management Plan
VMT	vehicle miles traveled

Initial Study

1. Project Title

Hidden Valley Park Pickleball Project
City Project No. C5047

2. Lead Agency Name and Address

City of Martinez
525 Henrietta Street
Martinez, California 94553

3. Contact Person

Ali Hatefi, Senior Civil Engineer
(925) 372-3519
ahatefi@cityofmartinez.org

4. Project Location

The project site is in the City of Martinez in Contra Costa County (Figure 1). The site consists of the portion of Hidden Valley Park that is on the north side of Center Avenue just east of its intersection with Redwood Drive (Figure 2). A 230 kilovolt (kV) overhead transmission line, owned and operated by Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) runs above the project site (California Energy Commission 2021). The project site includes one assessor parcel number: 155-370-071-5. The project site includes two existing tennis courts, which are 14,400 square feet in size (7,200 square feet each) and an additional vacant area where a third pickleball court would be installed that is 9,310 square feet in size.

5. General Plan Designation

The General Plan land use designation of the project site is Public Permanent Open Space (PPOS).

6. Zoning

The project site is in the One Family Residential District (R-6.0).

7. Project Description

The project would involve renovations and/or additions to the portion of Hidden Valley Park north of Center Avenue, including renovations to existing amenities and/or addition of new amenities, including pickleball courts. The project objective is to provide pickleball amenities to meet the increased demand from the City of Martinez's pickleball community.

Background

A group of local pickleball players approached the Parks, Recreation, Marina, and Cultural Commission (PRMCC) and the City Council in 2014 to request pickleball courts in Martinez. To accommodate this request, one tennis court at Hidden Valley Park was striped in November 2014 for two pickleball courts, thereby creating a dual-use facility. Two net sets were purchased (stands, nets, paddles, and balls) and the Public Works Maintenance Parks Division provided a Knaack Box for year-round storage. In early December 2014, the pickleball courts were opened to the public.

The two pickleball courts proved popular with both resident and non-resident players so the local pickleball players requested to convert two tennis courts at Nancy Boyd Park to permanent pickleball courts. On June 26, 2015, the Parks Subcommittee of the PRMCC held a public meeting to discuss converting two additional tennis courts to pickleball courts. The Council Chamber was full of tennis and pickleball players and testimony was taken from 16 people on both sides of the issue. Through public discussion, the Cappy Ricks Park tennis courts were determined to be the best location for expanded pickleball use.

On August 18, 2015, the PRMCC met and received comments and questions from the audience on pickleball and discussed ideas and options. A Commissioner noted at the meeting that Cappy Ricks Park had recently been remodeled at a cost of approximately \$840,000 using Measure H Funds. The project was completed in August 2014 and included a complete rehabilitation of the tennis courts (fencing, surfacing, poles, nets, and striping). The Commission decided that the courts could be painted with pickleball lines to keep the integrity of the Measure H Funds and add the new pickleball amenity but were concerned about the limited number of tennis courts citywide and therefore were not in favor of losing two tennis courts to pickleball. The item was forwarded to the City Council with the following recommendation: *receive report, hold discussion, provide input to staff and adopt resolution to transfer \$60,000 from General Fund Unassigned Reserves to Capital Improvement Program Project C5047, the Hidden Valley Park Tennis and Pickleball Renovation Project, to establish budget for geotechnical evaluation, topographical survey and environmental analysis necessary for renovation and/or expansion of tennis courts at Hidden Valley Park to accommodate pickleball.*

At the October 21, 2015 City Council meeting, a lengthy pickleball discussion was held and resulted in the City Council establishing an Ad-Hoc Pickleball Subcommittee comprised of Councilmembers DeLaney and McKillop. This Subcommittee met on multiple occasions and recommended various short and long-term measures, which were presented to the PRMCC on February 16, 2016. These short-term measures included restriping additional courts, establishing priority hours for pickleball, and installing signage at Hidden Valley Park.

Striping for two additional pickleball courts was subsequently added at Hidden Valley Park, bringing the total number of available pickleball courts to four. Priority hours (Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays 5:00 – 7:00 p.m., Fridays 8:30 a.m. – 12 noon, and Saturdays 8:00 a.m. – 12 noon) and signage were also implemented. The Ad-Hoc Subcommittee also recommended long-term measures for establishment of dedicated pickleball courts in Martinez, with Hidden Valley Park north of the existing courts identified as the preferred site.

Further development of pickleball amenities in Martinez has stalled since 2016. In 2021, City staff and members of the PRMCC and City Council received correspondences and public comments from members of the Martinez Pickleball Club advocating for dedicated pickleball courts in Martinez. The group specifically requested to convert two tennis courts at either Hidden Valley Park or Nancy Boyd Park to at least four and potentially six designated pickleball courts. Over the course of recent

meetings about the development of the new park proposed at Pine Meadow Drive, several members of the City Council advocated for converting tennis courts at Hidden Valley Park to pickleball. The Mayor also requested for the PRMCC to begin evaluating this project.

A discussion was held with the PRMCC on January 18, 2022, during which the history of pickleball in Martinez was revisited. Several members of the Martinez Pickleball Club spoke in favor of dedicated pickleball courts in Martinez and requested Hidden Valley Park as their preferred location. Additionally, the Martinez Pickleball Club advocates have recommended construction of replacement courts at Hidden Valley Park given the courts' age and condition. Following the January 18th discussion, the PRMCC delegated the item to the Parks and Waterfront Subcommittee for further evaluation.

Staff subsequently met with the City Council's Franchise and Public Infrastructure Subcommittee on February 17, 2022 to confirm the Subcommittee's support for the PRMCC's further evaluation of (and potential recommendations for) permanently converting the existing two tennis courts at Hidden Valley Park to pickleball. The Subcommittee confirmed this interest and also requested staff to include an evaluation of the potential for additional courts to be constructed at Hidden Valley Park as a means of accommodating both tennis and pickleball users.

Following extensive public discussion previously held with both the PRMCC and City Council from August 2021 to January 2022, the Parks and Waterfront Subcommittee was delegated the assignment of reviewing the potential conversion or expansion of tennis courts at Hidden Valley Park to accommodate pickleball. The Subcommittee met on March 15, 2022 to hold an initial discussion regarding this topic. The Subcommittee met three times to discuss this topic, on March 15, 2022, April 19, 2022, and May 17, 2022, at which time a recommendation was made to the PRMCC.

During the regular PRMCC meeting (May 17), staff presented updated designs and cost estimates for the two preferred Subcommittee alternatives, as follows:

- Alternative 1 – Resurface existing tennis courts, retain first court for tennis and convert second court to dedicated pickleball with expanded area at corners, with enhanced fencing and accessories (posts, nets), lighting fixture upgrades to LED, access path on north side of Court #2, and site amenities (benches, tables, receptacles, etc.). Estimated construction cost is approximately \$406,250 with contingency.
- Alternative 3 – Same as Alternative 1, but with addition of a new court area to the north for four additional pickleball courts on a slightly expanded footprint per pickleball court guidelines, and including LED lighting fixtures, paving between Courts #2 and #3 and access path to Court #3, and site amenities (benches, tables, receptacles, etc.). Estimated construction cost is approximately \$910,000 with contingency.

During the regular session PRMCC meeting, the Commission by motion unanimously recommended Alternative 3 to the City Council, with Alternative 1 recommended as a backup in the event Alternative 3 was not supported and requested staff to revisit/refine the project budget numbers.

This Initial Study analyzes the potential impacts from implementing Alternative 3 (referred to as the "project" in this Initial Study). Alternative 1 would have fewer impacts than Alternative 3; therefore, the impacts identified in this Initial Study would apply to both Alternatives 1 and 3.

Existing Conditions

The project site is currently used as a public park located in an urban, residential environment. The project site is on a City-owned parcel, for which PG&E has an easement. The site has two existing tennis courts, a vacant area located north of a tennis court and south of a basketball half-court, and a trail that connects the tennis courts to Center Avenue, Glacier Court, Lakeside Court, and Ophir Court. Hidden Valley Park is open to the public 1 hour after sunrise to 10:30 p.m., pursuant to the City's Municipal Code Section 8.24.150. The site has a flat topography and landscaped vegetation around the project site.

In November 2014, one of the tennis courts was striped for two pickleball courts, which resulted in a dual-use facility for both tennis and pickleball. After that, the other tennis court was striped for an additional two pickleball courts, which brought the total number of pickleball courts at Hidden Valley Park to four. Hidden Valley Park currently has priority use hours for pickleball use on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays (5 to 7 p.m.), Fridays (8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.), and Saturdays (8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.).

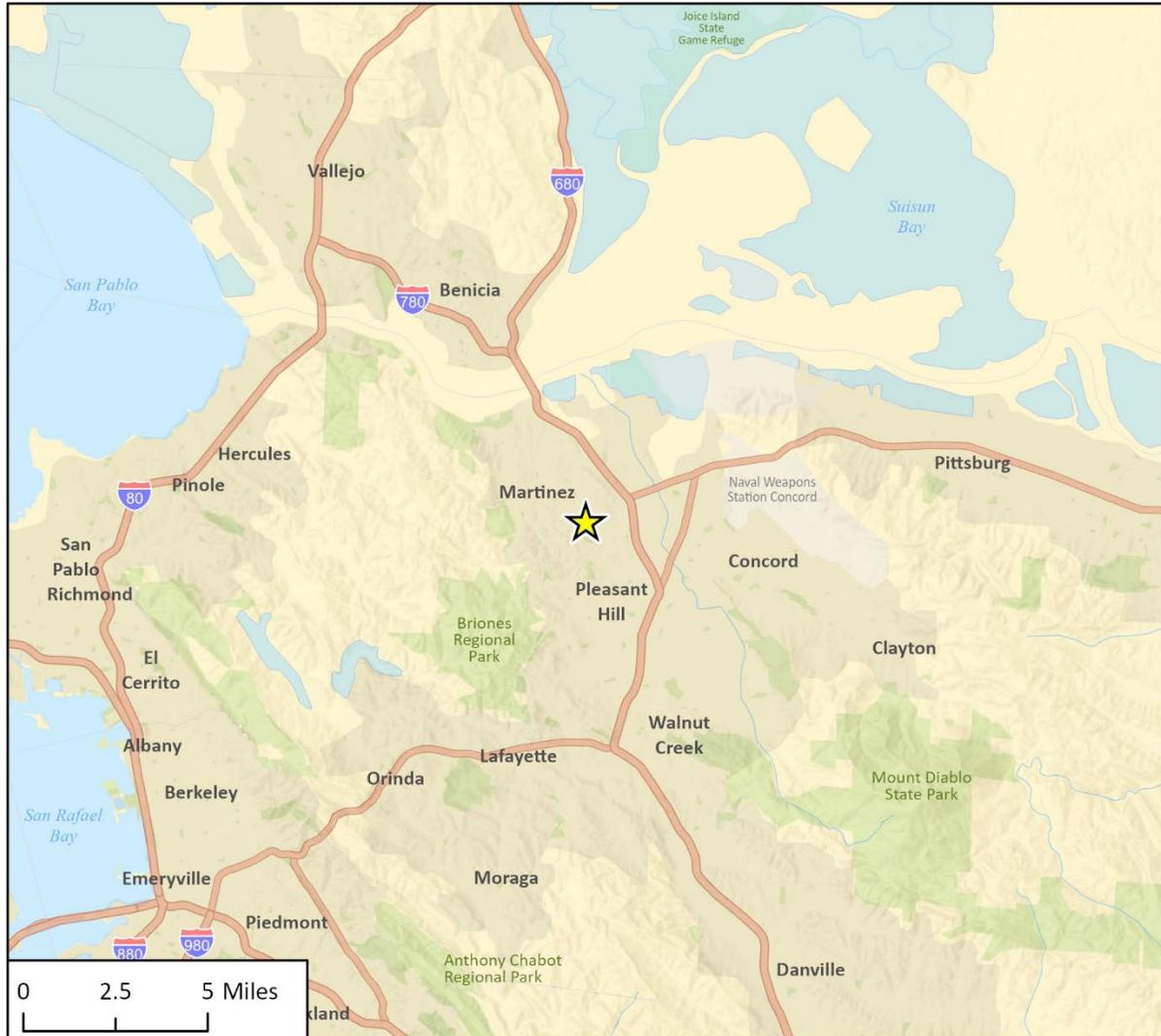
Proposed Park Renovations and New Amenities

The project site currently includes two existing tennis courts and an area that is vacant located between the northern tennis court and the half-basketball court. The project includes the following improvements, which are depicted in Figure 3:

- **Court #1.** Resurface and restripe an existing court for tennis (Court #1), upgrade existing lights at Court #1, and provide new site amenities for sitting and socializing.
- **Court #2.** Convert an existing tennis court (Court #2) to four pickleball courts (Courts #2A, #2B, #2C, and #2D), which would include resurfacing and restriping; add new fencing; upgrade existing lights; and provide new site amenities for sitting and socializing.
- **Court #3.** Construct four new pickleball courts (Courts #3A, #3B, #3C, and #3D) north of Courts #2A to #2D on an existing vacant area; add new fencing; add new lighting; and provide new site amenities for sitting and socializing.
- **New Access.** Add pavement between Courts #2 and the proposed Court #3 and a new access path to Court #3.

Implementation of the project would not result in the removal of trees; however, some minor vegetation removal would be required. The project would include a fully automatic water-conserving irrigation system comprised of drip and bubbler applications. Landscaping irrigation control would be operated by a weather-based controller with a rain sensor control to minimize watering during and after rain events.

Figure 1 Regional Location



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Location Maps
Regional Location

★ Project Location

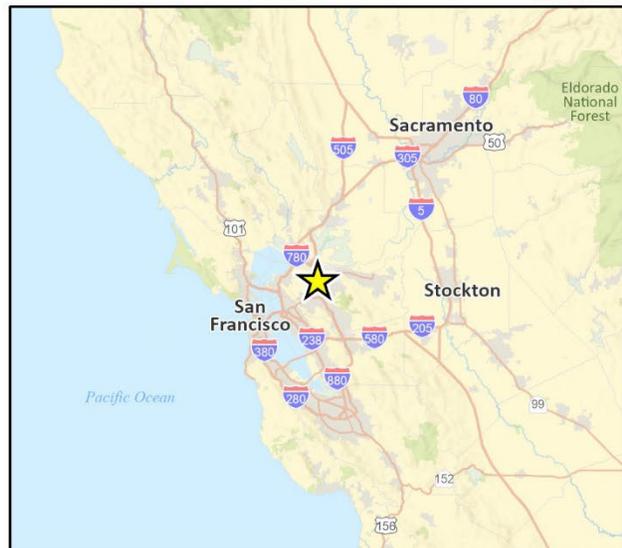


Figure 2 Project Site

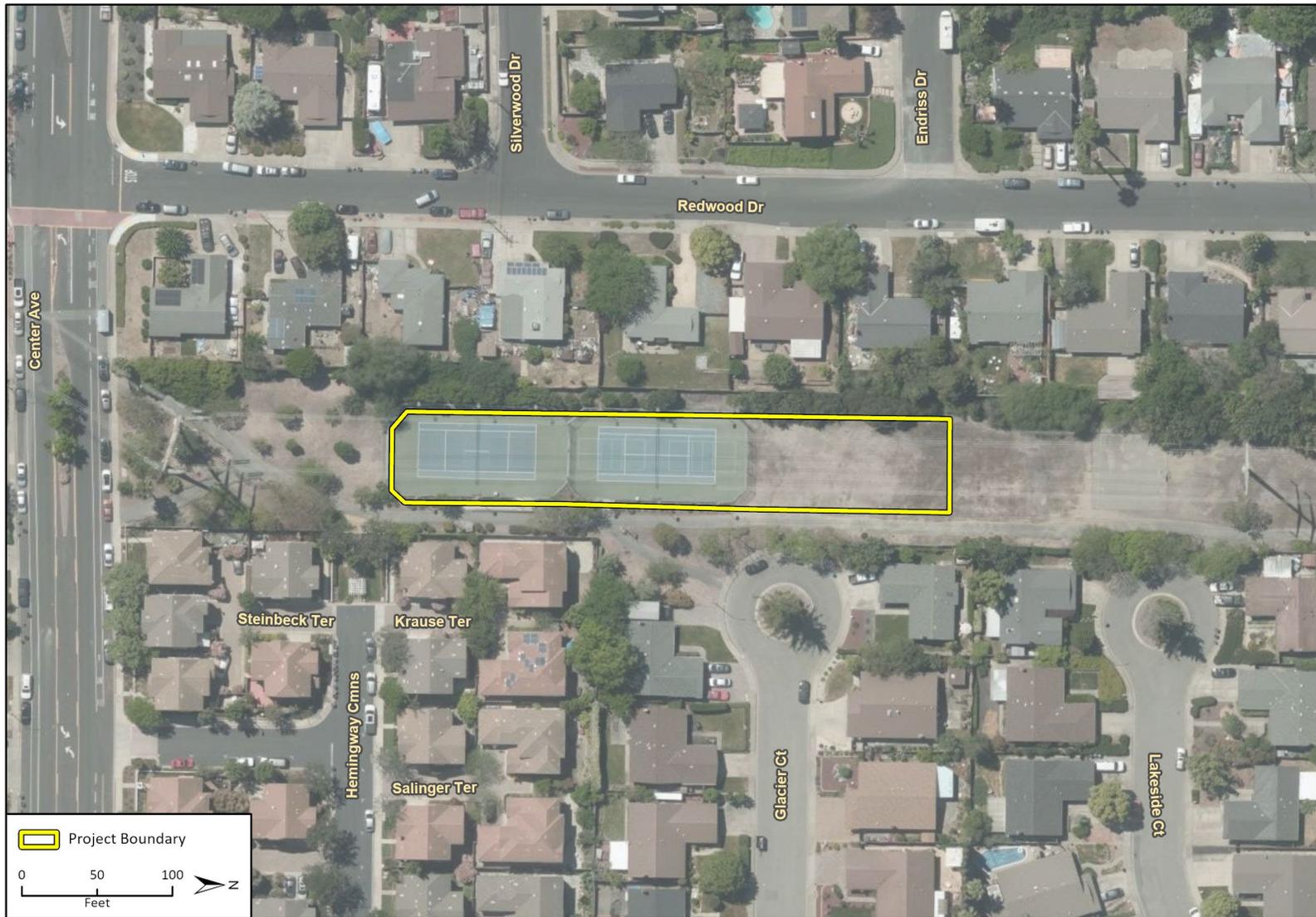


Figure 3 Proposed Site Plan



Source: RHAA Landscape Architects, 2022.

Park Operations

The project would not change the hours of operation for Hidden Valley Park and people would continue to be able to use the park from 1 hour after sunrise to 10:30 p.m., pursuant to the Martinez Municipal Code (Section 8.24.150). However, with project implementation, pickleball would no longer be restricted to priority use hours and pickleball could be played at the pickleball courts anytime during park hours. Pickleball players are expected to hold pickleball tournaments intermittently throughout the year.

Construction

Project construction is expected to last approximately 5 months, with an anticipated start date of June 2023, and would include the following phases with the associated durations:

- Site Preparation: 2 weeks
- Earthwork and Grading: 3 weeks
- Curbing and Paving: 6 weeks
- Fencing, Furnishings, and Net: 4 weeks
- Landscaping: 3 weeks

Project construction would require small to medium-sized equipment, including a tractor loader, backhoe, and 10-wheel truck for earthwork and grading. Construction would also require track or wheel asphalt pavers and a tandem vibratory roller for court asphalt paving. Truck hauling would be limited to export of construction debris and import of aggregate base for the court paving. Construction staging is expected to occur on City property and not on adjacent private property or public roadways/right-of-way. As a part of this project, an erosion control plan will be developed and implemented during construction. Best management practices will be implemented during construction to reduce erosion.

8. Surrounding Land Uses and Setting

Surrounding land uses are primarily residential. Single-family residences are located to the north, east, and west of the project site. Cedar Avenue, residences, Hidden Valley Elementary, and the main portion of Hidden Valley Park are located south of the project site across Center Avenue. Hidden Valley School is located approximately 0.1 mile southeast of the project site and Contra Costa Juvenile Hall is located approximately 0.15 mile north of the project site.

9. Other Public Agencies Whose Approval is Required

None.

10. Have California Native American Tribes Traditionally and Culturally Affiliated with the Project Area Requested Consultation Pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21080.3.1?

The City of Martinez prepared and mailed letters on July 28, 2022 to local Native Americans who have requested notification under AB52. Under AB 52, tribes have 30 days to respond and request consultation. The City did not receive any responses from tribes regarding this project. The following list represents Tribes that were sent letters:

- Lone Band of Miwok
- Amah Mutsun Tribal Band of Mission San Juan Bautista
- Chicken Ranch Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians
- Guidiville Indian Rancheria
- Indian Canyon Mutsun Band of Costanoan
- Muwekma Ohlone Indian Tribe of the SF Bay Area
- Nashville Enterprise Miwok-Maidu-Nishinam Tribe
- The Ohlone Indian Tribe
- Wilton Rancheria
- The Confederated Villages of Lisjan

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Environmental Factors Potentially Affected

This project would potentially affect the environmental factors checked below, involving at least one impact that is “Potentially Significant” or “Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated” as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics | <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture and Forestry Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Energy |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Geology/Soils | <input type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse Gas Emissions | <input type="checkbox"/> Hazards & Hazardous Materials |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrology/Water Quality | <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use/Planning | <input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Noise | <input type="checkbox"/> Population/Housing | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Services |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recreation | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tribal Cultural Resources |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Utilities/Service Systems | <input type="checkbox"/> Wildfire | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of Significance |

Determination

Based on 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 to 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 “less than significant with mitigation incorporated” 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.

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- I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potential 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

Date

Printed Name

Title

Environmental Checklist

1 Aesthetics

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Except as provided in Public Resources Code Section 21099, would the project:				
a. Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Substantially damage scenic resources, including but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Create a new source of substantial light or glare that would adversely affect daytime or nighttime views in the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Setting

The project site is adjacent to open space and residential uses. The site is maintained for public recreation and does not contain scenic resources. One main concrete path borders the eastern perimeter of the project site. A transmission line runs overhead of the project site and transmission towers are visible to the south and north. Center Avenue is visible to the south. The area surrounding the site is urbanized with single family residences visible to the east and west, which are partially screened by vegetation and wood fencing. Representative photographs of the project site are shown in Figure 4.

Figure 4 Project Site Photographs



Impacts

- a. *Would the project have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?*

A scenic vista is a view from a public place (roadway, designated scenic viewing spot, etc.) that is expansive and considered important by the lead agency. It can be obtained from an elevated position (such as from the top of a hillside) or it can be seen from a public viewpoint with a longer-range view of the landscape. An adverse effect would occur if the project would block or otherwise adversely affect the scenic vista upon implementation. There are no scenic vistas viewable through or from the project site and the project would not involve the construction of a structure that would block a scenic vista. There would be no impact.

NO IMPACT

- b. *Would the project substantially damage scenic resources, including but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?*

The project site is not located in or near, and is not visible from, a designated State Scenic Highway (Caltrans 2019) and would not substantially damage scenic resources associated with State-designated scenic highways. There would be no impact.

NO IMPACT

- c. *Would the project, 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?*

Given the surrounding residential uses to the east and west, the roadway to the south, and the overhead transmission lines, the project site has a residential visual character. The project site is currently visible from adjacent residences to the east and west. Some residences to the east have unblocked views to the project site. Residences to the east and west have partially filtered views of the project site through trees and wood fencing. Roadway users of Center Avenue have a partially obstructed view of the project site due to trees. Grading would temporarily expose adjacent residences to disturbed soil and construction equipment; however, this adverse effect on residential views would be temporary and limited to the initial site preparation and grading phases. The renovations and/or addition of a pickleball court would not substantially alter or degrade the existing visual character, as the change would not be a significant change from existing conditions (paved courts for racket sports). Therefore, impacts related to scenic quality would be less than significant.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

- d. *Would the project create a new source of substantial light or glare that would adversely affect daytime or nighttime views in the area?*

The project site currently contains approximately twelve lights located along the existing tennis courts and existing pathway that provide nighttime lighting for park users. The project would add eight additional lights along the proposed new pickleball court in the northern area of the project site. Proposed lighting locations are identified on Figure 3. The lighting system would consist of pole mounted light-emitting diode (LED) luminaires with an overall height of 20 feet with backside

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shields or louvers to minimize light trespass. The lighting would be Night Sky Approved, meaning that they minimize glare while reducing light trespass and skyglow. Because the project site already contains lights adjacent to the proposed lights and because lighting would be Night Sky Approved, the proposed lights would not be a significant source of new light. Therefore, project's visual impacts from light and glare would be less than significant.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

2 Agriculture and Forestry Resources

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use or a Williamson Act contract?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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))?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d. Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Setting

The project site is an existing park and is not zoned for agricultural, timberland, or forestry use. The site is identified as urban and built-up land by the California Department of Conservation (DOC) (DOC 2017 and 2021). There are no Important Farmlands, Williamson Act lands, or other federal farmland program agreements on or adjacent to the project site (DOC 2017 and 2021). In addition, there are no forest lands located on the project site.

Impacts

- a. *Would the project convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?*
- b. *Would the project conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use or a Williamson Act contract?*
- c. *Would the project 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. *Would the project result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?*
- e. *Would the project 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?*

As described in the Setting, there are no agricultural lands or forest lands on or adjacent to the project site. The project would not convert agricultural land to non-agricultural uses, or forest land to non-forest use, either directly or indirectly. The project would have no impact on agriculture or forestry resources.

NO IMPACT

3 Air Quality

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Setting

Air Quality Standards and Attainment

The City of Martinez is in Contra Costa County, which is a subregion of the San Francisco Bay Area Air Basin (SFBAAB), which is under the jurisdiction of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD). The SFBAAB includes the counties of San Francisco, Santa Clara, San Mateo, Marin, Napa, Contra Costa, Alameda, the southeast portion of Sonoma County, and the southwest portion of Solano County.

As the local air quality management agency, BAAQMD is required to monitor air pollutant levels to ensure that state and federal air quality standards are met and, if they are not met, to develop strategies to meet them. Depending on whether standards are met or exceeded, a local air basin is classified as in “attainment” or “non-attainment.” BAAQMD is in non-attainment for the national standards for ozone and particulate matter smaller than 2.5 microns in diameter (PM_{2.5}) and in non-attainment for the state standard for ozone, PM_{2.5}, and particulate matter smaller than 10 microns in diameter (PM₁₀) (BAAQMD 2017a).

Air Quality Management

BAAQMD is primarily responsible for assuring that national and state ambient air quality standards are attained and maintained in the Bay Area. BAAQMD adopted the 2017 Clean Air Plan (2017 Plan) as an update to the 2010 Clean Air Plan. The 2017 Plan provides a regional strategy to protect public health and the climate. To fulfill state ozone planning requirements, the 2017 control strategy includes all feasible measures to reduce emissions of ozone precursors—reactive organic gases (ROG) and nitrogen oxides (NO_x)—and reduce transport of ozone and its precursors to neighboring

air basins. The 2017 Plan builds upon and enhances the BAAQMD's efforts to reduce emissions of fine particulate matter and toxic air contaminants (BAAQMD 2017b).

BAAQMD Screening Criteria

BAAQMD recommends that lead agencies determine appropriate air quality emissions thresholds of significance based on substantial evidence in the record. BAAQMD's significance thresholds, in the updated May 2017 CEQA Air Quality Guidelines for project operations within the SFBAAB, are the most appropriate thresholds for use in determining air quality impacts of the project. BAAQMD developed screening criteria to provide lead agencies and project applicants with a conservative indication of whether a project could result in potentially significant air quality impacts. If a project meets all the screening criteria, then the lead agency or applicant would not need to perform a detailed air quality assessment of their project's air pollutant emissions (BAAQMD 2017c).

The screening criteria for operational criteria pollutant emissions of racquetball/health developments (which is the category most applicable for the proposed project) is 128 thousand square feet (ksf). For construction-related emissions, the screening criteria is 277 ksf. As provided by the BAAQMD's CEQA Air Quality Guidelines, if a project meets the screening criteria for an impact category and is consistent with the methodology used to develop the screening criteria, then its air quality impact for that category may be considered less than significant.

For a project to meet the screening criteria for construction, it cannot include any of the following activities during construction:

- Demolition
- Simultaneous occurrence of more than two construction phases (e.g., paving and building construction occurring simultaneously)
- Simultaneous construction of more than one land use type (e.g., project would develop residential and commercial uses on the same site) (not applicable to high density infill development)
- Extensive site preparation (i.e., greater than default assumptions used by the Urban Land Use Emissions Model for grading, cut/fill, or earth movement)
- Extensive material transport (e.g., greater than 10,000 cubic yards of soil import/export) requiring a considerable amount of haul truck activity

BAAQMD also provides a preliminary screening methodology to conservatively determine whether a project would exceed carbon monoxide (CO) thresholds. If the following criteria are met, a project would result in a less than significant impact related to local CO concentrations:

- Project is consistent with an applicable congestion management program established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways, regional transportation plan, and local congestion management agency plans.
- The project traffic would not increase traffic volumes at affected intersections to more than 44,000 vehicles per hour.
- The project traffic would not increase traffic volumes at affected intersections to more than 24,000 vehicles per hour where vertical and/or horizontal mixing is substantially limited (e.g., tunnel, parking garage, bridge underpass, natural or urban street canyon, below-grade roadway).

Impacts

a. Would the project conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?

The California Clean Air Act requires that air districts create a Clean Air Plan that describes how the jurisdiction will meet air quality standards. The most recently adopted applicable air quality plan is the BAAQMD's 2017 Plan. As described in the *Air Quality Management* Section above, the 2017 Plan updates the most recent Bay Area Ozone plan (the 2010 Clean Air Plan), pursuant to air quality planning requirements defined in the California Health and Safety Code. To fulfill state ozone planning requirements, the 2017 control strategy includes all feasible measures to reduce emissions of ozone precursors—ROG and NO_x—and reduce transport of ozone and its precursors to neighboring air basins.

The 2017 Plan builds upon and enhances the BAAQMD's efforts to reduce emissions of fine particulate matter and Toxic Air Contaminants (TAC). The 2017 Plan does not include control measures that apply directly to individual development projects. Instead, the control strategy includes control measures related to stationary sources, transportation, energy, buildings, agriculture, natural and working lands, waste management, water, and super-GHG pollutants.

The 2017 Plan focuses on two paramount goals:

- Protect air quality and health at the regional and local scale by attaining all national and state air quality standards and eliminating disparities among Bay Area communities in cancer health risk from TACs
- Protect the climate by reducing Bay Area GHG emissions to 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030, and 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050

Under BAAQMD's methodology, a determination of consistency with the 2017 Plan should demonstrate that a project:

- Supports the primary goals of the air quality plan
- Includes applicable control measures from the air quality plan
- Does not disrupt or hinder implementation of any air quality plan control measures

A project that would not support the 2017 Plan goals would not be considered consistent with the 2017 Plan. Table 1 provides the consistency evaluation with the control strategies applicable to the project.

Table 1 2017 Plan Applicable Strategies

Control Strategy	Evaluation
Direct new development to areas that are well served by transit, and conducive to bicycling and walking.	The project, which would involve changes to an existing park, is not new development; therefore, this policy is not applicable. However, dedicated bike lanes and sidewalks are located along Center Avenue, and the site is within a mile of bus stops on Milano Way and Arnold Drive for County Connection routes 19, 316 and 99X.
Expand the production of low-carbon, renewable energy by promoting on-site technologies such as rooftop solar, wind and ground-source heat pumps.	The project would not include the development of a new building. Therefore, the expansion of the production of low-carbon, renewable energy is not applicable.
Promote energy and water efficiency in both new and existing buildings.	The project would include energy efficient fixtures to comply with CalGreen requirements.
Promote the switch from natural gas to electricity for space and water heating in Bay Area buildings.	The project would not include the development of a new building. Therefore, the switch from natural gas to electricity for space and water heating is not applicable.

Consistent with the BAAQMD’s CEQA thresholds, the project would not conflict with or obstruct the implementation of the 2017 Clean Air Plan. In addition, as described in Impact *b* below, the project would not result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria air pollutant. This impact would be less than significant.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

b. Would the project 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?

Project construction would result in temporary construction emissions. Construction activities such as the operation of construction vehicles and equipment over unpaved areas, grading, trenching, and disturbance of stockpiled soils have the potential to generate fugitive dust (PM₁₀) through the exposure of soil to wind erosion and the tracking of soil onto roadways. Exhaust emissions associated with heavy-duty construction equipment would potentially degrade regional air quality. Project construction would require a minimal amount of material transport, construction phases would not overlap, and the project would not require demolition. Therefore, the project meets the BAAQMD screening criteria for construction discussed in *Setting* and a detailed air quality assessment does not need to be performed. Rather, the following text identifies whether the project meets BAAQMD’s screening size for projects.

The construction-related screening size for a racquetball/health land use type (the land use type most representative of the project) is 277 ksf. The project site includes two existing tennis courts that are 14,400 square feet and would include a third pickleball court that would be 9,310 square feet, for a total of 23,710-square feet or approximately 23.71 ksf, which is well below the 277 ksf screening size. Therefore, the project would not exceed the BAAQMD construction-related screening criteria and would not result in the generation of construction-related criteria air pollutants and/or precursors that would result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria air pollutant. Construction impacts would be less than significant.

Long-term emissions associated with operation would include emissions from vehicle trips (mobile sources), electricity use (energy sources), and landscape maintenance equipment. The operational criteria pollutant screening size for a racquetball/health land use type is 128 ksf. As discussed above,

the project site would be a total of approximately 23.71 ksf, which is well below the 128 ksf screening size. Therefore, the project would not exceed the BAAQMD operational-related screening criteria and would not result in the generation of operational-related criteria air pollutants and/or precursors that would result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria air pollutant. Operational impacts would be less than significant.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

c. Would the project expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?

A project's indirect CO emissions would be significant if they contribute to a violation of the State standards for CO (9.0 parts per million (ppm) averaged over eight hours and 20 ppm over one hour). BAAQMD provides a preliminary screening methodology to conservatively determine whether a project would exceed CO thresholds. As discussed above in *Setting*, if the BAAQMD preliminary CO screening criteria are met, a project would not have a significant impact related to local CO concentrations.

As described in Section 17, *Transportation*, the project is anticipated to generate 121 daily trips. In addition, the project would be consistent with the Contra Costa County Transportation Authority's 2019 Congestion Management Program and would not increase traffic volumes at an intersection used to access the project site to more than 44,000 vehicles per hour or 24,000 vehicles per hour where vertical and/or horizontal mixing is substantially limited. Therefore, the project would have a less than significant impact on local CO concentrations.

The California Air Resources Board (CARB) has identified diesel particulate matter as the primary airborne carcinogen in the state (CARB 2014). TACs include a defined set of air pollutants that may pose a present or potential hazard to human health. Common sources of TACs and PM_{2.5} include gasoline stations, dry cleaners, diesel backup generators, truck distribution centers, freeways, and other major roadways (BAAQMD 2017c). The project does not propose construction of gas stations, dry cleaners, highways, roadways, or other sources that could be considered permitted or non-permitted source of toxic air contaminants or PM_{2.5} in proximity to sensitive receivers. The project would not introduce a new stationary source of emissions and would not result in particulate matter greater than BAAQMD thresholds. Moreover, as described above under criterion (b), the project would not exceed emissions thresholds during construction or operation. Impacts would be less than significant.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

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

Table 3-3 in the BAAQMD's 2017 CEQA Guidelines provides odor screening distances for land uses that have the potential to generate substantial odor complaints. These uses include wastewater treatment plants, landfills or transfer stations, refineries, composting facilities, confined animal facilities, food manufacturing, smelting plants, and chemical plants (BAAQMD 2017c). None of these identified uses would occur on or in the vicinity of the project site. The project does not include odor-complaint generating uses identified by the BAAQMD CEQA Guidelines and would not generate objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people during operation.

During construction activities, heavy equipment and vehicles would emit odors associated with vehicle and engine exhaust during normal use and when idling. However, such emissions would be

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intermittent in nature and would dissipate rapidly with increasing distance from the source. Therefore, the project would not generate objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people. This impact would be less than significant.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

4 Biological Resources

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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 Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e. Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Setting

The project site is in an urbanized area surrounded by residential and recreational development. The southern portion of the project site is developed with tennis and pickleball courts, while the northern portion is landscaped open space. Directly to the east and west of the site are single-family residences and directly to the south and north is open space. Center Avenue, an approximately 60-foot-wide roadway, abuts the open space to the south of the project site. A paved basketball court abuts the open space to the north of the site. A paved path connects the project site to Center Avenue, Hemingway Common, Glacier Court, and Ophir Court. No trees are on the project site; however, trees are adjacent to the project site. The vegetation in the northern portion of the site is landscaped/mowed ruderal vegetation. There are no riparian areas on or adjacent to the project site.

Impacts

- a. *Would the project 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 Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?*

The site's existing condition, which is surrounded by urban development and disturbed by regular mowing and human use, and the lack of natural vegetation communities or suitable ecological conditions preclude the potential for rare plants to occur within the site. No special-status plant species are expected to occur on the project site and, therefore, no impacts to special-status plant species would occur. Similarly, the existing urban conditions reduce the potential for special-status wildlife. However, given the existing trees adjacent to the project site, there is the potential for nesting birds to occur near the project site. Nesting birds could be disturbed from vibration or noise during construction. Therefore, Mitigation Measure BIO-1 would be required to reduce impacts to nesting birds. Implementation of Mitigation Measure BIO-1 would ensure protection of nesting birds and would reduce impacts to less than significant levels.

Mitigation Measure

BIO-1 Nesting Bird Avoidance

To avoid impacts to nesting birds and raptors, initial ground disturbance shall occur outside the nesting bird breeding season (March 1 through August 31). If construction must begin during the nesting bird breeding season, a qualified biologist shall conduct a nesting bird and raptor pre-construction survey in the disturbance footprint plus a 250-foot buffer, no more than two weeks prior to the initiation of construction activities. If the project is phased, a subsequent pre-construction survey shall be conducted prior to each phase of construction, if there is a break in construction activities greater than two weeks. If no active nests are observed, no further action is required.

Pre-construction nesting bird and raptor surveys shall be conducted during the time of day when birds are active and should be of sufficient duration to reliably conclude presence/absence of nesting birds and raptors on the project site and in the designated buffer. A report of the nesting bird and raptor surveys results, if applicable, shall be submitted to the City for review and approval prior to clearance for grading. If nests are found, their locations shall be flagged and mapped onto an aerial photograph of the project site at a scale no less than 1" = 200' and/or recorded with the

use of a GPS unit. Avoidance buffers shall be established around active nests. Depending upon the species, suitable minimum buffers may be as follows:

- Non-raptor species – minimum of 50 feet
- Raptor species – minimum of 250 feet

The qualified biologist shall determine and demarcate appropriate buffers. If active nests are present, all construction work shall be conducted outside the established buffer zone from the nest. No ground disturbance shall occur in this buffer until the qualified biologist confirms that breeding/nesting is completed, and all the young have fledged. If buffer zones are determined to be infeasible, a qualified biological monitor must be on-site to monitor construction activities in the buffer zones to ensure active nests and nesting birds are not impacted. Nesting bird surveys are not required for construction activities that occur between September 1 and January 31.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION INCORPORATED

- b. *Would the project have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?*
- c. *Would the project 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?*
- e. *Would the project conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?*

The project site contains no riparian habitat, sensitive natural community, wetlands, or biological resources, such as trees. Therefore, the project would have no substantial adverse effect on a riparian habitat, sensitive natural community, state or federally protected wetlands, or conflict with local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources. There would be no impact.

NO IMPACT

- d. *Would the project 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?*

Given the urbanized nature of the area and surrounding roadways, the project would not interfere substantially with the movement of wildlife species. The site is not located within a known regional wildlife movement corridor or other sensitive biological area. Therefore, there would be no impact to migratory corridors.

NO IMPACT

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

The boundary of the East Contra Costa County Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Community Conservation Plan is approximately 15 miles east of Martinez. As the city is not located within the boundaries of this or any other habitat conservation plan/natural community conservation plan, the

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project would not conflict with the provisions of an adopted habitat conservation plan, natural community conservation plan, or other approved local, regional, or State habitat conservation plan and there would be no impacts.

NO IMPACT

5 Cultural Resources

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to §15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Setting

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires a lead agency determine whether a project may have a significant effect on historical resources (Public Resources Code [PRC], Section 21084.1). A historical resource is a resource listed in, or determined to be eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR); a resource included in a local register of historical resources; or any object, building, structure, site, area, place, record, or manuscript that a lead agency determines to be historically significant (CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5[a][1-3]). Historical resources may include eligible built environment resources and archaeological resources from any time period. Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5[a](3), a resource is considered historically significant if it meets the following criteria:

- Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California’s history and cultural heritage;
- Is associated with the lives of persons important in our past;
- Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, or represents the work of an important creative individual, or possesses high artistic values; or
- Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(c) provides further guidance on archaeological resources. If an archaeological resource does not qualify as a historical resource, it may meet the definition of a “unique archaeological resource” as identified in PRC Section 21083.2. If it can be demonstrated that a project would cause damage to a unique archaeological resource, the lead agency may require reasonable efforts be made to permit any or all these resources to be preserved in place or left in an undisturbed state. To the extent that resources cannot be left undisturbed, mitigation measures are required (PRC, Section 21083.2[a][b]).

PRC Section 21083.2(g) defines a unique archaeological resource as an archaeological artifact, object, or site about which it can be clearly demonstrated that, without merely adding to the current body of knowledge, there is a high probability that it:

- Contains information needed to answer important scientific research questions and that there is a demonstrable public interest in that information;
- Has a special and particular quality such as being the oldest of its type or the best available example of its type; or
- Is directly associated with a scientifically recognized important prehistoric or historic event or person.

CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5 also provides guidance for addressing the potential presence of human remains, including those discovered during the implementation of a project.

Research consisted of a California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) records search at the Northwest Information Center (NWIC) on July 8, 2022, of the project site with a 0.25-mile radius buffer; a search of the Sacred Lands File (SLF) with the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC); and a review of historic maps and aerial photographs. The NWIC is the official state repository for cultural resources records and reports for the county in which the proposed project falls. The purpose of the records search was to identify previously recorded cultural resources, as well as previously conducted cultural resources studies within the project site and a 0.25-mile radius surrounding it. The National Register of Historic Places, the CRHR, the California Historical Landmarks list, and the Built Environment Resources Directory, as well as its predecessor the California State Historic Property Data File were also consulted for information regarding the project site.

Impacts

- a. *Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to §15064.5?*¹

Historical topographic maps from 1897 to 1947 indicate that the project site was undeveloped land. According to topographic maps, unnamed roads cross the area beginning in 1959 (USGS 2022). Aerial imagery from 1958 confirms that some roads are in the project vicinity and that in 1968 some residential development began to the west of the project site. By 1980, the current project site was in use as an athletic field with painted lines on the turf (NETR Online 2022). In 2000, the residential development to the east of the project site was completed and the current site remained an athletic facility through the present.

The results of the record search show that there is a historic age house (Primary No. P-07-002710) approximately 0.25 mile north of the project site. However, no historic-age built resources occur within or directly adjacent to the project site. Therefore, no substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to *CEQA Guidelines* Section 15064.5 would occur due to the project.

NO IMPACT

¹ Question a broadly refers to historical resources. To clearly differentiate between archaeological and built environment resources, analysis under Question a is limited to built environment resources. Archaeological resources, including those that may be considered historical resources pursuant to Section 15064.5 and those that may be considered unique archaeological resources pursuant to Section 21083.2, are considered under Question b.

- b. *Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?*

The results of the record search show that there is a historic age house (Primary No. P-07-002710) approximately 0.25 mile north of the project site. However, no previously recorded prehistoric or historic archaeological resources were identified within 0.25 mile of the project site. The lack of previously recorded resources does not preclude the discovery of unanticipated resources on the project site. Therefore, mitigation is required to identify and evaluate unrecorded cultural resources that are encountered during project implementation. Mitigation Measure CR-1 would reduce the severity of the potential impact by identifying unanticipated discoveries, determining their status under CEQA, and (if the discovery is significant) recovering the scientifically consequential information that would otherwise be lost if the discovery were destroyed. With the incorporation of Mitigation Measure CR-1, the impacts to archaeological resources pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5 would be less than significant.

Mitigation Measure

CR-1 Unanticipated Discovery of Cultural Resources

In the event that archaeological resources are unexpectedly encountered during ground-disturbing activities, work within 25 feet of the find should be halted and an archaeologist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards for archeology (National Park Service 1983) should be contacted immediately to evaluate the find. If the find is prehistoric, then a Native American representative should also be contacted to participate in the evaluation of the find. If necessary, the evaluation may require preparation of a treatment plan and archaeological testing for CRHR eligibility. If the discovery proves to be eligible for the CRHR and cannot be avoided by the project, additional work, such as data recovery excavation, may be warranted to mitigate impacts to historical resources.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION INCORPORATED

- c. *Would the project disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?*

No human remains are known to exist within the project site. Pursuant to State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 and PRC Section 5097.98, the State of California requires that ground disturbing activities cease if unanticipated human remains are unearthed until the County Coroner has made the necessary findings as to the origin and disposition. If the remains are determined to be of Native American descent, the Coroner has 24 hours to notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), which would determine and notify a most likely descendant. The most likely descendant shall complete the inspection of the site and make recommendations to the landowner within 48 hours of being granted access. The find shall be treated in accordance with Public Resources Code Sections 5097.9 and 5097.933. Compliance with the State requirements for the treatment of human remains would ensure that impacts remain less than significant.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

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6 Energy

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Result in a potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Setting

As a state, California is one of the lowest per capita energy users in the United States, ranked 48th in the nation, due to its energy efficiency programs and mild climate (United States Energy Information Administration 2022). Electricity and natural gas are primarily consumed by the built environment for lighting, appliances, heating and cooling systems, fireplaces, and other uses such as industrial processes in addition to being consumed by alternative fuel vehicles. Most of California’s electricity is generated in state with approximately 30 percent imported from the Northwest and Southwest in 2020 (California Energy Commission [CEC] 2022a). In addition, approximately 33 percent of California’s electricity supply comes from renewable energy sources, such as wind, solar photovoltaic, geothermal, and biomass (CEC 2022a). In 2018, Senate Bill 100 accelerated the state’s Renewable Portfolio Standards Program, codified in the Public Utilities Act, by requiring electricity providers to increase procurement from eligible renewable energy and zero-carbon resources to 60 percent by 2030 and 100 percent by 2045. Electricity would be provided to the project by either PG&E or Marin Clean Energy (MCE). Table 2 summarizes the electricity consumption for Contra Costa County and for PG&E, as compared to statewide consumption.

Table 2 2020 Electricity and Natural Gas Consumption

Energy Type	Contra Costa County	PG&E	California	Proportion of PG&E Consumption	Proportion of Statewide Consumption ¹
Electricity (GWh)	8,622	78,519	279,510	11%	3%

GWh = gigawatt-hours

¹ For reference, the population of Contra Costa County (1,165,927 persons) is approximately 2.9 percent of the population of California (39,538,223 persons) (California Department of Finance 2022).

Source: CEC 2022b

Petroleum fuels are primarily consumed by on-road and off-road equipment, in addition to some industrial processes, with California being one of the top petroleum-producing states in the nation. Gasoline, which is used by light-duty cars, pickup trucks, and sport utility vehicles, is the most used

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transportation fuel in California with 11.2 billion gallons sold in 2020 (CEC 2022c). Diesel, which is used primarily by heavy duty-trucks, delivery vehicles, buses, trains, ships, boats and barges, farm equipment, and heavy-duty construction and military vehicles, is the second most used fuel in California with 1.6 billion gallons sold in 2020 (CEC 2022c). Table 3 summarizes the petroleum fuel consumption for Contra Costa County, as compared to statewide consumption.

Table 3 2020 Annual Gasoline and Diesel Consumption

Fuel Type	Contra Costa County (millions of gallons)	California (millions of gallons)	Proportion of Statewide Consumption ¹
Gasoline	336	12,572	2.7%
Diesel	23	1,744	1.3%

¹ For reference, the population of Contra Costa County (1,165,927 persons) is approximately 2.9 percent of the population of California (39,538,223 persons) (California Department of Finance 2022).
Source: CEC 2022c

- a. *Would the project result in a potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?*

Project construction would result in short-term consumption of energy from the use of construction equipment and processes. Energy use would be primarily from fuel consumption to operate heavy-duty equipment, light-duty vehicles, machinery, and generators. Temporary grid power may also be provided to construction trailers or electric construction equipment. Project construction would be required to comply with the California Green Building Standards Code (CalGreen). CalGreen includes specific requirements related to recycling, construction materials, and energy efficiency standards that apply to construction to minimize wasteful, inefficient, and unnecessary energy consumption. Project construction would not involve wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources.

The project would involve the use of minimal electricity and no natural gas during operation. Electricity would be used to power court lighting and petroleum fuel would be used for landscaping. The project would include no structures requiring energy. Electricity use would be insignificant and impacts on energy from court operation would be less than significant. The project would also involve the use of energy from private vehicles to travel to and from the site. According to the United States Department of Energy (USDOE), the average miles per gallon for all cars in operational year 2020 is 24.2 miles per gallon (USDOE 2020). As described in Section 17, *Transportation*, the project is expected to reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT) because pickleball users would drive shorter distances to the project site, rather than driving to pickleball courts outside of the City. Therefore, the project would not result in wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources from travel to and from the site. Overall, project operation would result in consumption of fuels from vehicle trips, landscaping equipment, and electricity to power court lights. Project energy consumed would represent a negligible change compared to existing conditions. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

- b. *Would the project conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?*

Energy use during project construction would be primarily in the form of fuel consumption to operate heavy equipment, light-duty vehicles, machinery, and generators. Temporary grid power may also be provided to construction trailers or electric construction equipment. Energy use during construction would be temporary and construction equipment used would be typical of other construction projects in the region. Project construction would not result in wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources. As discussed under Impact a., above, operational energy use would be negligible and would not conflict with the City of Martinez's Climate Action Plan (CAP). The CAP has the goal to reduce GHG emissions from sources within the City, which would occur through fewer VMT. Therefore, potential impacts associated with renewable energy and energy efficiency would be less than significant.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

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7 Geology and Soils

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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Would the project:

a. Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				
1. 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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Strong seismic ground shaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Landslides?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f. Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Setting

The San Francisco Bay area is one of the most seismically active areas in the United States. Generally defined, an earthquake is an abrupt release of accumulated energy in the form of seismic waves when movement occurs along a fault. Faults are categorized as active, potentially active, and inactive. Three faults of primary significance are around Martinez. These include the Franklin Fault (potentially part of the Calaveras Fault), the Concord-Green Valley Fault, and the Southampton Fault (potentially part of the Calaveras Fault) (City of Martinez 2021). The Concord-Green Valley Fault, approximately two miles east of the project site, has been classified as an Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone.

The project site is within a seismically active region and earthquakes have the potential to cause ground shaking of significant magnitude. Liquefaction is a seismic phenomenon in which loose, saturated granular, and silty fine-grained soils lose their structure or strength when subjected to high-intensity ground shaking, transforming them from a solid to a liquefied state. The project site is not subject to liquefaction hazards (City of Martinez 2021). Landslides and slope instability are characterized by the movement of soils and surficial deposits, known as colluvium, and bedrock down steep slopes. This movement results from wet weather, adverse structures, seismic shaking, and/or improper grading and drainage. The project site's topography is flat and there are permeable surfaces surrounding the existing courts.

Impacts

- a.1. *Would the project directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault?*
- a.2. *Would the project directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving strong seismic ground shaking?*

Implementation of the project may expose people to seismic ground shaking due to the project site's proximity to the Concord-Green Valley Fault, which is an Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault. However, the site is not within the Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault zone itself (DOC 2022). The project involves renovating and adding recreational amenities to an existing park, which would not introduce habitable structures or substantial numbers of additional people to the site. Therefore, the project's impact would be less than significant.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

- a.3. *Would the project directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?*

The project site is not located in a liquefaction zone (City of Martinez 2021). As described under item a.1 and a.2, the project would not substantially alter existing hazards related to seismic events. Therefore, the impact would be less than significant.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

- a.4. *Would the project directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving landslides?*

The project site is located on land with flat topography. The site and its surrounding and uses are currently developed. There are no steep slopes or exposed soil areas on or near the project site that could result in a landslide. There would be no impact.

NO IMPACT

b. Would the project result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?

The potential for erosion generally increases after soil and vegetation have been disturbed via clearing and grading, with loose soils creating conditions that lead to erosion. The project would involve removal of soil. This action would result in the potential for soil erosion. However, erosion potential would remain low due to the flat topography of the project site. Temporary erosion impacts during construction would be addressed by adherence to erosion control measures required as part of Martinez Municipal Code Section 15.04.060, which are required for any project that disturbs over 0.5 acre. Project construction would involve disturbance of approximately 0.54 acre during resurfacing of existing courts and construction of a new court on the vacant area. An erosion control plan would be developed and implemented during construction. Best management practices would be implemented during construction to reduce erosion. Erosion control standards would apply to both wind- and water-related erosion. Implementation of standard and required erosion control measures would reduce erosion impacts to less than significant.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

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

As discussed under item a.4., the project site is not in a liquefaction zone and would not be subject directly to instability resulting from liquefaction, subsidence, spreading, landslide, or collapse. Furthermore, the project does not propose habitable structures that would be at risk of collapse under unstable soil conditions. Therefore, the project would not be located on a site that is unstable or at risk of being unstable, nor would it place structures at risk of collapse under unstable soil conditions. Impacts would be less than significant.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

d. Would the project 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?

The project site is underlain by cut and fill land-Millsholm complex and tierra loam, which may be expansive (NRCS 2022). However, the project includes only minor construction activity and would not increase the number of buildings or habitable structures that would be significantly affected by the contraction and expansion of expansive soils. Impacts would be less than significant.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

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

The project would not include the use or installation of a septic tank or alternative wastewater disposal system; therefore, there would be no impact.

NO IMPACT

- f. *Would the project directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?*

The project would require ground disturbance and grading on-site which could lead to the encounter of unknown paleontological resources during construction, resulting in a potentially significant impact. In compliance with General Plan Policy HCA-I-1.1g, Mitigation Measure GEO-1 would be required to mitigate the potential risk of destroying unknown paleontological resources and would ensure that the potential impacts to paleontological resources would be less than significant.

Mitigation Measure

GEO-1 Unanticipated Discovery of Paleontological Resources

In the event that an unanticipated fossil discovery is made during the course of project construction, it is the responsibility of any worker who observes fossils within the project site to stop work within 100 feet of the find and notify a qualified professional paleontologist who shall be retained to evaluate the discovery, determine its significance and if additional mitigation or treatment is warranted. Work in the area of the discovery will resume once the find is properly documented and authorization is given by the City to resume construction work. Any significant paleontological resources found during construction monitoring shall be prepared, identified, analyzed, and permanently curated in an approved regional museum repository. The paleontologist shall submit a report to the City to document compliance within 30 days of its completion.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION INCORPORATED

8 Greenhouse Gas Emissions

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Setting

Climate Change and Greenhouse Gases

In response to an increase in man-made GHG concentrations over the past 150 years, California has implemented AB 32, the “California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006.” On September 8, 2016, the governor signed Senate Bill 32 (SB 32) into law, which requires the State to further reduce GHGs to 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030. On December 14, 2017, CARB adopted the 2017 Scoping Plan, which provides a framework for achieving the 2030 target. The 2017 Scoping Plan does not provide project-level thresholds for land use development. Instead, it recommends that local governments adopt policies and locally-appropriate quantitative thresholds consistent with a statewide per capita goal of six metric tons (MT) CO₂e by 2030 and two MT CO₂e by 2050 (CARB 2017). As stated in the 2017 Scoping Plan, these goals may be appropriate for plan-level analyses (city, county, subregional, or regional level), but not for specific individual projects because they include all emissions sectors in the State.

Most individual projects do not generate enough GHG emissions to directly influence climate change. However, physical changes caused by a project can contribute incrementally to cumulative effects that are significant, even if individual changes resulting from a project are limited. The issue of climate change typically involves an analysis of whether a project’s contribution towards an impact would be cumulatively considerable. “Cumulatively considerable” means that the incremental effects of an individual project are significant when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, other current projects, and probable future projects (CEQA Guidelines, Section 15064[h][1]).

City of Martinez Climate Action Plan

The City of Martinez CAP establishes strategies to reduce GHG emissions known to contribute to climate change, to conserve energy and other natural resources, and to prepare the community for the expected effects of global warming (City of Martinez 2009). The CAP includes specific goals and objectives to reduce GHG emissions, including policies, programs, and actions to facilitate change.

The CAP establishes four key GHG emissions categories (transportation, energy, solid waste, and water) as priorities for adapting to the local physical changes in the environment resulting from climate change.

Thresholds

Pursuant to the requirements of SB 97, the California Natural Resources Agency adopted amendments to the CEQA Guidelines for the feasible mitigation of GHG emissions and analysis of the effects of GHG emissions. The adopted CEQA Guidelines provide regulatory guidance on the analysis and mitigation of GHG emissions in CEQA documents, while giving lead agencies the discretion to set quantitative or qualitative thresholds for the assessment and mitigation of GHGs and climate change impacts.

To evaluate whether a project may generate a quantity of GHG emissions that may have a significant impact on the environment, state agencies have developed several operational bright-line significance thresholds. Significance thresholds are numeric mass emissions thresholds that identify the level at which additional analysis of project GHG emissions is necessary. Projects that attain the significance target, with or without mitigation, would result in less than significant GHG emissions.

In late 2015, the California Supreme Court's Newhall Ranch decision confirmed that there are multiple potential pathways for evaluating GHG emissions consistent with CEQA, depending on the circumstances of a given project (*Center for Biological Diversity v. Department of Fish and Wildlife* (2015) 62 Cal. 4th 204). Given the legislative attention and judicial action regarding post-2020 goals and the scientific evidence that additional GHG reductions are needed through the year 2050, the Association of Environmental Professionals' Climate Change Committee published a white paper in October 2016 to provide guidance on defensible GHG thresholds for use in CEQA analyses, and GHG reduction targets in climate action plans, in light of the change in focus on the 2030 reduction target and questions raised in the Newhall Ranch case (Association of Environmental Professionals 2016).

The Association of Environmental Professionals Climate Change Committee white paper identified seven thresholds for operational emissions. The following four methods are the most widely used evaluation criteria.²

- 1. Consistency with a Qualified GHG Reduction Plan. For a project located within a jurisdiction that has adopted a qualified GHG reduction plan (as defined by CEQA Guidelines Section 15183.5), GHG emissions would be less than significant if the project is anticipated by the plan and fully consistent with the plan. However, projects with a horizon year beyond 2020 should not tier from a plan that is qualified up to 2020.
- 2. Bright line Thresholds. There are two types of bright line thresholds:
 - a. Standalone Threshold. Emissions exceeding standalone thresholds would be considered significant.
 - b. Screening Threshold. Emissions exceeding screening thresholds would require evaluation using a second-tier threshold, such as an efficiency threshold or other threshold concept to

² The three other thresholds are best management practices (BMP/best available mitigation (BAM), compliance with regulations, and a hybrid threshold concept: separate transportation and non-transportation threshold. The BMP/BAM concept would require creation and implementation of an approved list of BMPs to ensure compliance with statewide reduction targets. No such list has been created/approved to date. Compliance with existing regulations is not recommended until the state has developed its regulatory framework to meet 2030 GHG reduction targets. Finally, the hybrid transportation and non-transportation thresholds approach is generally reserved for residential and/or mixed-use projects qualifying for relief from analysis of GHG emissions from cars and light-duty trucks. As such, none of these thresholds specifically apply to this project.

determine whether project emissions would be considered significant. However, projects with a horizon year beyond 2020 should take into account the type and amount of land use projects and their expected emissions out to the year 2030.

- 3. Efficiency Thresholds. Land use sector efficiency thresholds are currently based on AB 32 targets and should not be used for projects with a horizon year beyond 2020. Efficiency metrics should be adjusted for 2030 and include applicable land uses.
- 4. Percent Below “Business as Usual.” GHG emissions would be less than significant if the project reduces Business as Usual emissions by the same amount as the statewide 2020 reductions. However, this method is no longer recommended following the Newhall Ranch ruling.

Operational emissions methods (1), (3), and (4) are not applicable. The City of Martinez adopted a Climate Action Plan (CAP) in 2009 (City of Martinez 2009). However, the CAP only addresses 2020 emission targets and cannot be used for project streamlining under CEQA. Operational emissions Method (2b) is used as the threshold for operational emissions.

Impacts

- a. *Would the project generate GHG emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?*

Project construction would generate temporary, short-term GHG emissions through travel to and from the project site and from the operation of construction equipment, such as loaders, backhoes, pavers, and rollers. Earthwork would typically generate the greatest amount of emissions due to the use of grading equipment and soil hauling. Nonetheless, the City would be required to comply with BAAQMD rules and regulations regarding emission control measures, such as the In-Use Off-Road Diesel-Fueled Fleets Regulation and idling restrictions. Additionally, GHG emissions generated from project construction would be short-term in nature and would cease following the completion of the project. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant

The operational GHG screening size for a racquetball/health land use type is 24 ksf. The project site would be a total of 23.71 ksf, which is less than the 24 ksf screening size. Therefore, the project would not exceed the BAAQMD operational GHG screening criteria and would not result in the generation of operational GHG emissions that directly or indirectly impact the environment significantly. Furthermore, as discussed in Section 17, *Transportation*, project trips are expected to be predominantly from within the city and most trips would be fewer than 5 miles because the project would be considered a locally serving public facility. Therefore, GHG impacts would be less than significant.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

- b. *Would the project conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?*

Table 4 evaluates the project’s consistency with the applicable GHG reduction measures outlined in the CAP and shows that the project would be consistent with those measures. The CAP includes specific goals and measures to meet estimated GHG reductions for compliance with state GHG reduction goals. The project would comply with these goals and measures. The project would comply with Martinez Municipal Code Section 15.07.010, which incorporates CALGreen and includes

Hidden Valley Park Pickleball Project (City Project No. 5047)

specific requirements related to recycling, construction materials, and energy efficiency standards. This would apply to project construction to minimize wasteful, inefficient, and unnecessary energy consumption. Therefore, the project would not conflict with state regulations intended to reduce GHG emissions statewide and would be consistent with applicable GHG reduction plans. Impacts related to GHG emissions would be less than significant.

Table 4 Project Consistency with the Martinez Change Action Plan Programs

Martinez CAP Goal	Project Consistency
Program E1: Martinez Green Building Standards	Consistent. The project would meet the California Green Building Standards Code, which is incorporated into the Martinez Municipal Code.
Program SW1: Think Reusable, Less Disposable	Consistent. Consistent with Chapter 8.19 of the Martinez Municipal Code and CalGreen Building Code, the project would be required to recycle at least 50 percent of its construction waste.
Program W1: Promote Water Conservation	Consistent. The project includes features that would promote water conservation, including a fully automatic water-conserving irrigation system comprised of drip and bubbler applications. Landscaping irrigation control would be operated by a weather-based controller with a rain sensor control to minimize watering during and after rain events.
Program A1: Tree City USA	Consistent. The project would not remove existing on-site vegetation or trees and the trees adjacent to the project site would be maintained.

Source: City of Martinez 2009

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

9 Hazards and Hazardous Materials

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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Would the project:

a. Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within 0.25 mile of an existing or proposed school?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Be located on a site that is included on a list of hazardous material 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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e. For a project located in 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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Setting

Government Code Section 65962.5 requires the California Environmental Protection Agency to develop an updated list of hazardous material sites (Cortese List). The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) is responsible for a portion of the information contained in the Cortese List. Other State and local government agencies are required to provide additional hazardous material release information for the Cortese List. The analysis for this section included a review of the following resources on July 7, 2022, to provide hazardous material release information:

- USEPA
 - Superfund Enterprise Management System (SEMS)
 - Envirofacts Database
- State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB)
 - GeoTracker search for leaking underground storage tanks and other clean-up sites
- DTSC
 - EnviroStor database for hazardous waste facilities or known contamination sites

Based on review of these databases, it was determined that Hidden Valley Park and adjacent land uses, including the project site, are not included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 (United States Environmental Protection Agency [USEPA] 2022a; USEPA 2022b; SWRCB 2022; DTSC 2022).

The project site is located within a low fire hazard area and is surrounded by urban development. Schools in the project vicinity include Hidden Valley Elementary School, located approximately 500 feet (0.1 mile) southeast of the project site. The nearest airport to the project site is the Buchanan Field Airport, located approximately 1.5 miles east of the project site.

Impacts

- a. *Would the project create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?*

Project construction would temporarily increase the transport, use, and disposal of hazardous materials, including diesel fuel, oil, solvents, and other similar construction-related hazardous materials. The operation of construction vehicles and equipment, and use of construction-related hazardous materials could introduce the potential for an accidental spill or release to occur. These materials would be contained within receptacles specifically engineered for safe storage, would not be transported, stored, or used in quantities which would pose a significant hazard to the public or construction workers themselves, and would be disposed of offsite at an appropriate facility. Furthermore, construction would be temporary and the transport, use, and storage of hazardous materials during project construction would be subject to all applicable state and federal laws, such as the Hazardous Materials Transportation Act, Resource Conservation Act, California Hazardous Materials Management Act, and the California Code of Regulations, Title 22.

The project site is an existing park, and this use would continue with project operation. Parks do not involve the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials. Occasional use of small amounts of hazardous materials would likely occur for cleaning and maintaining facilities, such as

cleaners, paint, and landscaping products, similar to materials currently used on the site. Transport and use of such materials would be in accordance with all applicable State and federal laws, such as those mentioned above. Therefore, the project would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through a foreseeable upset or accident, or the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials. Impacts would be less than significant.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

- b. Would the project 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?*

The project would include renovations to a public park. Ongoing and proposed uses at the park, such as the new pickleball court would not involve the routine transport, use, storage, or disposal of hazardous materials. As discussed under d. below, there is no known soil or groundwater contamination at the site that would be disturbed or released during construction. Therefore, the project would not create a significant hazard through releasing hazardous materials into the environment. Impacts would be less than significant.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

- c. Would the project emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within 0.25 mile of an existing or proposed school?*

Hidden Valley Elementary School is located approximately 500 feet (0.1 mile) southeast of the project site. As described in *criterion a*, an accidental spill or release of hazardous or potentially hazardous materials, such as vehicle and equipment fuels could occur during project construction. Hazardous materials used during project construction would be disposed of offsite in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations. Therefore, potential impacts associated with an accidental emission or release of hazardous materials in proximity to a school would be less than significant.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

- d. Would the project be located on a site that is included on a list of hazardous material 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?*

As described under *Setting*, there are no hazardous materials sites listed within 0.25 mile of the project site (USEPA 2022a; USEPA 2022b; SWRCB 2022; DTSC 2022). Therefore, the project would not be located on a site, or directly adjacent to a site that is included on a list of hazardous material sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5. No impact would occur.

NO IMPACT

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

Buchanan Field Airport is located approximately 1.5 mile east of the project site. Figure 3A of the Contra Costa County Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (ALUCP) shows the project site as within the Buchanan Field Airport Influence Area (Contra Costa Airport Land Use Commission 2000). Figures 3B and 3C of the ALUCP show the project site is not within a noise contour area or safety zone area, respectively (Contra Costa Airport Land Use Commission 2000). Figures 3D of the report

show the project site is within an area subject to airspace protection criteria, which includes height restrictions. Because the project would include the installation of pickleball courts and associated amenities, the project would not exceed height restrictions associated with the ALUCP. Therefore, the project would not result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working at the project site. This would be a less than significant impact.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

- f. Would the project impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?*

The project would include renovations to a public park. Hidden Valley Park currently features a pathway along the east side of the existing tennis courts which connects to Center Avenue, Hemingway Common, Glacier Court, Lakeside Court, and Ophir Court, providing adequate emergency access to the project site. Furthermore, there are currently 40 public parking spaces located approximately 450 feet south of the project site within the existing parking lot for Hidden Valley Park, providing adequate parking for emergency vehicles. Project improvements would result in the addition of pavement connecting the converted tennis court to the new pickleball courts, as well as two separate court access paths for the new pickleball courts. These connections and access paths shown in Figure 3, would provide additional emergency access to the park. The project would not involve changes to any roads in the vicinity of the park. The project could result in minor traffic increases during construction due to equipment and worker vehicles traveling to and from the project site. Similarly, the project could result in minor traffic increases during operation due to the predicted increase in public use. However, the increase in traffic during project construction and operation would not result in congestion such that access would be substantially impeded. As such, the project would not interfere with an emergency response or evacuation plan. As emergency access would increase due to the proposed court connections and access paths, and because the increase in traffic would not be substantial, impacts would be less than significant.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

- g. Would the project expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires?*

The project is not located in a very high fire hazard severity zone or within the Local Responsibility Area (CAL FIRE 2009). In addition, the project would not include new features or amenities that would substantially increase wildfire risk on the site. Therefore, the project would be unlikely to expose people or structures to any risk associated with wildland fires. No impact would occur.

NO IMPACT

10 Hydrology and Water Quality

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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;	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(ii) Substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site;	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(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; or	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(iv) Impede or redirect flood flows?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Setting

The project site is flat and contains approximately 14,400 square feet of existing tennis courts and partially undeveloped areas. Groundwater infiltration occurs throughout in the undeveloped portion of the site and around the edges of the existing impervious tennis courts. Stormwater entering the project site may flow off-site and enter the stormwater system as runoff, or infiltrate underlying soils.

The project site's existing drainage pattern is currently uncontrolled (i.e., drainage is not guided). All municipalities within Contra Costa County are required to develop restrictive surface water control standards for new development projects to comply with Provision C.3 of the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) Municipal Regional Stormwater NPDES Permit order No. R2-2015-0049. The Contra Costa County Clean Water Program developed a Stormwater C.3 Guidebook for implementing the RWQCB Municipal Regional Stormwater NPDES Permit C.3 requirements, known as the "C.3 Standards." Development projects that create or replace 10,000 or more square feet of impervious surface area must contain and treat stormwater runoff from the site.

The project would be served by Contra Costa Water District (CCWD), which maintains an Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) (CCWD 2016). The UWMP includes CCWD's planning activities to ensure adequate water supplies to meet existing and future demands for water. CCWD utilizes water treatment plants to ensure water quality standards and goals are met.

The City receives untreated imported water from CCWD via the Contra Costa Canal, which is part of the Central Valley Project developed by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. CCWD stores this water in the Martinez Reservoir, which is located at the terminus of the Contra Costa Canal and CCWD's Shortcut Pipeline. Martinez Reservoir is an open, earthen reservoir and is estimated to have a capacity of 79.6 million gallons (MG) based on a 2003 bathymetry. The project site is not underlain by a groundwater basin. Groundwater resources in the CCWD service area do not supply significant amounts of water to meet or augment untreated water demands (City of Martinez 2016).

According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), the project site is in Zone X, which is characterized as an area of minimal flood hazard and having a less than 0.2 percent annual chance to be inundated by flood waters because of a storm event (Map # 06013C0277F, June 16, 2009) (Federal Emergency Management Agency 2009). The project site is located approximately 3.75 miles southeast of the San Francisco Bay and is not located in a tsunami or seiche zone (DOC 2022). The Martinez Dam, which contains the Martinez Reservoir, is the closest dam to the project site, at approximately two miles north of the site.

Impacts

- a. *Would the project violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality?*

Construction activities could result in temporary impacts to the quality of runoff leaving the site. Grading activity during construction has the potential to impact water quality through erosion and through debris carried in runoff. Furthermore, project construction would involve heavy equipment that could result in an increase in fuel, oil, and lubricants in the stormwater runoff due to leaks or accidental releases. As discussed in Section 7, *Geology and Soils* under impact b., the City would implement an erosion control plan during construction of the project. With compliance the erosion control plan, impacts would be less than significant.

Operationally, the project would result in minor changes to stormwater flow due to the addition of impervious surfaces. The new impervious surfaces would not represent a substantial change in the existing conditions and would be surrounded by open space that can percolate runoff into the groundwater. The City would review the design plans for adherence to water quality regulations. With compliance with existing regulations and review by City staff, impacts would be less than significant.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

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

The project site is not underlain by a groundwater basin and the adjacent Ygnacio Valley Groundwater Basin does not have a Groundwater Sustainability Plan. Additionally, CCWD does not use groundwater as a major source of water and project operation would not require the use of water. The project would introduce at least 9,310 square feet of new impervious surfaces for a new pickleball court. This would impede groundwater recharge within the footprint of impervious surfaces. However, the pervious surfaces on three sides of the proposed courts would allow for percolation of water into the underlying soils and potentially contribute to groundwater recharge. Considering the lack of water use by the project, lack of groundwater use by CCWD, the project's small footprint, and that surrounding pervious areas would allow water to infiltrate into the soil, the project would not substantially interfere with groundwater recharge, and these impacts would be less than significant.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

- c.(i) *Would the project substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?*
- c.(ii) *Would the project substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site?*
- c.(iii) *Would the project substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner that would 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?*
- c.(iv) *Would the project substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would impede or redirect flood flows?*

Since the project would create or replace less than 10,000 feet of impervious surface area, the project is not a C.3 regulated project. Given the minimal changes from existing conditions and Martinez Municipal Code, as discussed under impact a., the project would not result in the

substantial alteration of the existing drainage pattern that could lead to erosion, siltation, flooding, polluted runoff, or redirect flood flows. Impacts would be less than significant.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

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

Since the project site is not within a flood hazard or tsunami zone, impacts due to project release of pollutants due to flood hazard would be less than significant. Based on the distance of the project site from Martinez Dam, the project site is not in the inundation area for this dam or for any other dam or levee. Therefore, the project would not result in the risk of release of pollutants due to inundation by a tsunami, seiche, or flooding. Impacts would be less than significant.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

- e. *Would the project conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?*

The project site is within the boundaries of the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay Basin. The plan includes goals for beneficial uses of water in the region. The project would not conflict with these goals or otherwise degrade the water quality of surface water and groundwater in the area, as discussed under impacts c(i) through c(iv). Therefore, the project would not conflict with or obstruct the implementation of applicable plans, and impacts would be less than significant. Project implementation would not increase water demand at the project site, and therefore would not interfere with the ability of CCWD to maintain water quality standards.

Furthermore, the project does not overlay a groundwater basin. The nearest groundwater basin would be the Ygnacio Valley Groundwater Basin, which is not identified as a high priority basin and does not have a developed Groundwater Sustainability Plan to date. Because no groundwater management plans are currently adopted or approved for groundwater use in the project vicinity, and the project would not introduce more intensive uses or more water-demanding uses than allowed under existing zoning, impacts would be less than significant.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

11 Land Use and Planning

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Physically divide an established community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Setting

The project site is currently a park (Hidden Valley Park) with two existing tennis courts. The site’s General Plan land use designation is Public Permanent Open Space (PPOS). The project site is zoned as One Family Residential District (R-6.0).

Impacts

a. *Would the project physically divide an established community?*

The project would involve renovating and adding amenities to an existing park. The project would not change the land use or existing function of the site and would not expand the footprint of the existing park. As such, the project would not divide an established community. There would be no impact.

NO IMPACT

b. *Would the project 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?*

The project would not require a change in zoning or land use. The project is proposed by the City of Martinez to provide improved facilities to the public on land designated for such uses in the General Plan. As the project would be consistent with the current General Plan land use designation, there would be no impact.

NO IMPACT

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12 Mineral Resources

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Setting

According to the State Division of Mines and Geology, the project site does not contain identified mineral resources (California Division of Mines and Geology 1996). The City’s General Plan and the County General Plan do not identify significant mineral resources or mining operations in Martinez (City of Martinez 1973; Contra Costa County 2004).

Impacts

- a. *Would the project 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. *Would the project 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?*

As identified in the setting, there are no mineral resources located on the project site and the project would not result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource, including a locally important mineral resource. Therefore, no impact would occur.

NO IMPACT

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13 Noise

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Setting

City of Martinez Municipal Code

Section 8.34 (Noise Control) of the Martinez Municipal Code prescribes standards prohibiting detrimental levels of noise to implement the goals of the Noise Element of the General Plan. The following standards would be applicable to the project and are included below verbatim:

- Section 8.34.020, Noise Standards
 - A. Acceptable standards for noise levels shall be as follows:
 1. A L_{dn} of 60 dBA is the standard for exterior noise. An L_{dn} of 60 dBA is a maximum noise level of 50 dBA between 10:00 p.m. - 7:00 a.m. and 60 dBA between 7:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.³

³ The City of Martinez Municipal Code defines L_{dn} as the day/night average sound level that accounts for human sensitivity to nighttime noise. L_{dn} is calculated from the cumulative noise exposure measured over a 24 hour day in terms of A-weighted sound energy. The 24-hour day is divided into two subperiods, the daytime period from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. and the nighttime period from 10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. A 10 dBA weighting factor is applied to the noise levels during the nighttime period.

- Section 8.34.030, Noise Regulations. The following specific acts are declared to be public nuisances and are prohibited, subject to the exemptions set forth herein.
 - A. No person shall cause or allow to cause, any source of sound at any location within the City or allow the creation of any noise on property owned, leased, occupied or otherwise controlled by such person, which when measured within public or private indoor or outdoor space on the property where the noise disturbance is being experienced, causes the noise level to exceed the standards set forth in Section 8.34.020.
 - B. The operation or use of any of the following before 7:00 a.m., or after 7:00 p.m. daily (except Saturday, Sunday, and State, federal or local holidays, when the prohibited time shall be before 9:00 a.m. and after 5:00 p.m.).
 1. A hammer or any other device or implement used to repeatedly pound or strike an object.
 2. An impact wrench, or other tool or equipment powered by compressed air.
 3. Any tool or piece of equipment powered by an internal-combustion engine such as, but not limited to, chain saw, backpack leaf blower, and lawn mower. Except as specifically included in this Chapter, motor vehicles, powered by an internal combustion engine and subject to the State of California Vehicle Code, are excluded from this prohibition.
 4. Any electrically or battery powered tool or piece of equipment used for cutting drilling, or shaping wood, plastic, metal or other materials or objects, such as but not limited to a saw, drill, lathe, or router.
 5. Any of the following: the operation and/or loading or unloading of heavy equipment (such as but not limited to bulldozer, road grader, back hoe), ground drilling and boring equipment, hydraulic crane and boom equipment, portable power generator or pump, pavement equipment (such as but not limited to pneumatic hammer, pavement breaker, tamper, compacting equipment), pile-driving equipment, vibrating roller, sand blaster, gunite machine, trencher, concrete truck, and hot kettle pump and the like.
 6. Construction, demolition, excavation, erection, alteration, or repair activity.

Sensitive Receivers

The City of Martinez General Plan Noise Element identifies noise-sensitive land uses as hospitals, schools, churches, senior care uses and similar facilities (City of Martinez 2016). Vibration-sensitive receivers, which are like noise-sensitive receivers, include residences and institutional uses, such as schools, churches, and hospitals. Vibration-sensitive receivers also include buildings where vibrations may interfere with vibration-sensitive equipment that is affected by vibration levels that may be well below those associated with human annoyance (e.g., recording studios or medical facilities with sensitive equipment). The nearest sensitive receivers are single-family residences adjacent to the project site to the west and east.

Noise Measurements

The most prevalent source of noise in the project site vicinity is recreational tennis and pickleball activity. Secondary noise sources include vehicular traffic on Center Avenue and Glacier Court. To characterize ambient sound levels at the project site, one 15-minute sound level measurement was conducted on Saturday, July 23, 2022, at 10:08 a.m. A Larson Davis SoundTrack LxT1, ANSI Type 1 integrating sound level meter was used to conduct the measurements. Noise Measurement (NM) 1 was conducted to measure noise from pickleball players using the pickleball courts. These noise

levels are also representative of ambient noise levels at the nearest sensitive receivers to the project site (i.e., residences adjacent to the east and west). Noise from this activity included players' voices, the paddle hitting the ball, and shoe movements on the court. Table 5 summarizes the results of the noise measurement.

Table 5 Project Site Vicinity Sound Level Monitoring Results - Short-Term

Measurement Location	Sample Times	Approximate Distance to Primary Noise Source	L _{eq} (dBA)	L _{min} (dBA)	L _{max} (dBA)
NM-1 Eastern Boundary of Project Site	10:08 – 10:23 a.m.	45 feet to center of tennis/pickleball court	56	38	70

L_{eq} = average noise level equivalent; dBA = A-weighted decibel; L_{min} = minimum instantaneous noise level; L_{max} = maximum instantaneous noise level⁴

Construction Noise

Construction noise was estimated using the FHWA Roadway Construction Noise Model (RCNM) (FHWA 2006). Appendix A includes the methodology for how RCNM predicts construction noise levels.

Impacts

- a. *Would the project result in 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?*

Construction

Construction activity would result in temporary noise in the project vicinity, exposing surrounding nearby receivers to increased noise levels. Construction noise would typically be higher during the heavier periods of initial construction (i.e., site preparation and grading) and would be lower during the later construction phases (i.e., court paving). Typical heavy construction equipment during project grading would be a loader, backhoe, and dump trucks. It is assumed that diesel engines would power all construction equipment. Construction equipment would not all operate at the same time or location. In addition, construction equipment would not be in constant use during the 8-hour operating day.

Project construction would occur nearest to the single-family residences east and west of the project site. Over the course of a typical construction day, construction equipment could be located as close as 50 feet to the properties but could be located at distances farther away over the course of a day due to the nature of construction. Construction equipment is typically dispersed in various areas of the site, with only a limited amount of equipment operating near a given location at a particular time. The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) 2018 *Transit Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment* document recommends this approach on page 177, stating that for the distance variable in their construction noise calculation “assumes that all equipment operates at the center of the project.” Therefore, it is common, industry standard practice to analyze average construction noise from the center of the site because this is the approximate center of where noise is being

⁴ dBA is equivalent to the A-weighted sound level. dBA is a decibel scale that approximates the way the human ear responds to frequency levels. A-weighted scales are used for measurement of overall noise levels. L_{eq} is the equivalent noise level that is summed over a one-hour period. L_{max} is the highest sound pressure level within a measuring period and L_{min} is the lowest sound pressure level within a measuring period.

generated as equipment moves around the site throughout the workday. To analyze average construction noise from the center of the site, 50 feet from the closest single-family residences was used.

Table 6 identifies the average expected noise levels from the center of the construction site, approximately 50 feet from the nearest sensitive receivers. Since the City does not have a quantified construction noise limit, the FTA-recommends a construction noise limit of 80 dBA $L_{eq}(8\text{-hr})$ be used.

At 50 feet, a tractor loader and a backhoe are estimated to produce a noise level of up to 79 dBA L_{eq} , and a paver and roller are estimated to produce a noise level of up to 77 dBA L_{eq} . Noise modeling calculations are included in Appendix A. Construction noise levels from this equipment would not exceed the threshold of 80 dBA $L_{eq}(8\text{-hr})$ at residential land uses. In addition, construction would occur within the allowed hours from 7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. on weekdays, pursuant to City of Martinez Municipal Code Section 8.34.030. As such, construction noise impacts would be less than significant.

Nonetheless, because estimated noise levels (79 dBA) would be very close to the threshold of 80 dBA, mitigation to reduce construction noise to nearby sensitive receivers is recommended. The City could implement Mitigation Measure NOI-1, which requires construction equipment utilize noise-control techniques, locate stationary sources as far from sensitive receivers as possible, prohibit unnecessary amplified noise, and limit the use of noise producing signals.

Table 6 Estimated Noise Levels by Construction Phase

Construction Phase	Equipment	Estimated Noise (dBA L_{eq}) at 50 feet
Earthwork	Tractor Loader and Backhoe	79
Court Asphalt Paving	Paver and Roller	77

Source: Roadway Construction Noise Model. See Appendix A for modeling outputs.

Operations

Project implementation would result in an increase of traffic trips on roadways in the project vicinity. As identified in Section 17, *Transportation*, the project would generate approximately 121 daily vehicle trips. In general, a 3-dBA increase in traffic noise is barely perceptible to people, while a 5-dBA increase is readily noticeable (Caltrans 2013). Traffic volumes on area roadways would have to approximately double for the resulting traffic noise levels to generate a barely perceptible 3-dBA increase. The project would result in approximately 121 additional daily vehicle trips, which would not double the existing traffic volumes on roadways effected by the project, including Center Avenue. Therefore, the project would not generate enough traffic to result in a noticeable 3-dBA increase in ambient noise levels. Impacts would be less than significant.

The project would not change the hours of operation for Hidden Valley Park and people would continue to be able to use the park from 1 hour after sunrise to 10:30 p.m., pursuant to the Martinez Municipal Code (Section 8.24.150). Recreational noise would continue to consist of noise from tennis and/or pickleball being played, including noise from the ball hitting a racquet, noise from the ball bouncing off the court, noise from the ball hitting the chain link fence, and noise from players or nearby spectators. As shown in Table 5, a single game of pickleball would create a noise level of 56 dBA L_{eq} at 45 feet. A maximum-case scenario was modeled assuming that all eight pickleball courts and the tennis court were being used simultaneously. The results of modeling indicate that project operational recreational noise levels at the nearest residential property line would be up to 61 dBA L_{eq} . Appendix A includes additional information about the operational noise

modeling. This would be above the City's threshold of 60 dBA between the hours of 7:00 A.M. and 10:00 P.M. and above the threshold of 50 dBA between the hours of 10:00 P.M. and 7:00 A.M. Mitigation Measure NOI-2 would be required.

With implementation of Mitigation Measure NOI-2, operational noise would be reduced by at least 10 dBA to 51 dBA L_{eq} or less, which would not exceed the daytime threshold of 60 dBA L_{eq} . Through limiting operational hours to 10:00 P.M. the threshold of 50 dBA L_{eq} would not apply and the project would not expose nearby sensitive receptors to nighttime recreational noise (FHWA 2011, Bies et. al. 2018, Harris 1991). Impacts would be reduced to less than significant levels with mitigation.

Mitigation Measures

NOI-1 Construction Noise Reduction (Recommended)

The City shall implement the following measures during project construction:

- During the entire active construction period, equipment, tools, and trucks used for project construction shall utilize the best available noise control techniques (e.g., improved mufflers, use of intake silencers, ducts, engine enclosures, and acoustically attenuating shields or shrouds), wherever feasible.
- During the entire active construction period, stationary noise sources shall be located as far from sensitive receivers as possible, muffled, and enclosed within temporary sheds or insulation barriers, or other measures for equivalent noise reduction will be incorporated to the extent feasible.
- Signs shall be posted at the job site entrance(s) to reinforce the prohibition of unnecessary engine idling. All equipment shall be turned off if not in use for more than 5 minutes.
- Prohibit stereos and other amplified noise not necessary for the completion of construction work.
- During the entire active construction period and to the extent feasible, the use of noise producing signals, including horns, whistles, alarms, and bells shall be for safety warning purposes only. The construction manager shall ensure the use of smart back-up alarms, which automatically adjust the alarm level based on the background noise level or switch off back-up alarms and replace with human spotters in compliance with safety requirements and laws.

NOI-2 Recreational Noise Reduction

The City shall implement the following measures into the project design:

- Affix sound blankets to the approximately 12-foot-high chain-link fences enclosing the courts, while still providing some visibility to the courts for safety and spectator viewing. The sound blankets shall be at least 1/8-inch thick and continuous from grade to top of the fence with no gaps.
- Limit operational hours to end at 10:00 P.M.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION INCORPORATED

b. Would the project result in generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?

The project does not include any substantial vibration sources associated with operation. Therefore, operational vibration impacts would be less than significant. Thus, construction activities have the

greatest potential to generate ground-borne vibration affecting nearby receivers, especially during grading and excavation of the project site. Table 7 shows vibration levels of anticipated grading and excavation equipment used during construction. The greatest vibration source during construction in the project vicinity would be a vibratory roller. Neither blasting nor pile driving would be required for construction of the project.

Table 7 Vibration Levels Measured during Construction Activities

Equipment	PPV at 25 feet (inches/second)
Vibratory Roller	0.210
Large Bulldozer	0.089
Loaded Trucks	0.076
Small Bulldozer	0.003

Source: FTA 2018

Based on FTA recommendations, limiting vibration levels to below 0.2 inches/second peak particle velocity (in/sec PPV) at residential structures would prevent architectural damage regardless of building construction type. The greatest anticipated source of vibration during construction activities would be from a roller, which may be used within 25 feet of the nearest off-site sensitive receivers, the single-family residences to the east and west. A roller would create approximately 0.21 in/sec PPV at 25 feet (FTA 2018), which exceeds the FTA recommendation of limiting vibration levels to below 0.2 in/sec PPV. Therefore, if a vibratory roller is operated within 25 feet of a nearby off-site structure, the 0.2 in/sec PPV threshold would be exceeded and impacts would be significant. Implementation of Mitigation Measure NOI-3 would reduce this impact to a less than significant level.

Mitigation Measure

NOI-3 Construction Vibration

Construction plans for the project must require a 25-foot buffer distance from residential structures for vibratory rollers. A static roller shall be used in lieu of a vibratory roller for paving activities within 25 feet of an off-site residential structure.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION INCORPORATED

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

The Buchanan Field Airport, which is the airport nearest to the project site is located approximately 1.7 miles to the east of the project site. The project would not be located within the noise contours of the airport (County of Contra Costa 2000). Therefore, no substantial noise exposure from airport noise would occur to construction workers or future users of the project and there would be no impact.

NO IMPACT

14 Population and Housing

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (e.g., by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (e.g., through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Setting

The City of Martinez’s current population is estimated to be 36,819 people (U.S. Census Bureau 2022). Plan Bay Area 2040 anticipates that the population of the City will grow to 40,035 by 2040 (Association of Bay Area Governments 2020).

Impacts

- a. *Would the project 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. *Would the project displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?*

The project would involve renovating and adding amenities to an existing park. The project would not involve residential or commercial development. Thus, the project would not displace existing housing or people or create a substantial source of new employment. There would be an expected increase in recreation on the project site associated with the improvements to the park, but this would not lead to direct impacts to population, housing, or displacement of people or housing. There would be no impact.

NO IMPACT

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15 Public Services

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, or the 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:				
1 Fire protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2 Police protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3 Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4 Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5 Other public facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Setting

The project site is served by the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District. The District’s Operations Division provides emergency and non-emergency services through 77 daily staffing personnel across 24 fully staffed fire stations, and two additional stations staffed with on-call reserve firefighters (Contra Costa County Fire Protection District 2022). The nearest fire station is Station 9, located at 209 Center Avenue in Pacheco approximately one mile east of the project site.

The project site is also served by the Martinez Police Department, which includes a staff of approximately 33 sworn officers. The Martinez Police Department divides the City into four Neighborhood Policing Areas, each assigned at least four officers; the project site is contained within Neighborhood Policing Area 4. Martinez Police Department headquarters is located at 525 Henrietta Street, approximately 3 miles northwest of the project site (City of Martinez 2022a).

The project site falls within the Mount Diablo Unified School District, which serves over 29,000 students at more than 50 schools throughout Contra Costa County (Mount Diablo Unified School District 2022). As described under Section 9, *Hazards and Hazardous Materials*, the nearest school to the project site is Hidden Valley Elementary School, located approximately 500 feet (0.1 mile) southeast of the project site. The nearest library facility to the project site is the Martinez Branch of the Contra Costa County Library system, located at 740 Court Street, approximately 3.5 miles northwest of the project site.

The project site is within an existing park that is part of the City's parks and recreation system. According to the City of Martinez General Plan Parks & Community Facilities Element, the City currently maintains approximately 235.34 acres of land that accounts for 24 neighborhood, community, memorial, plaza, and school parks. The City's established parkland to resident ratio is 5 acres of park space for every 1,000 residents. The current parkland to resident ratio is 6.1 acres of park space per every 1,000 residents (City of Martinez 2021).

Impacts

- a.1. Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered fire protection facilities, or the need for new or physically altered fire protection facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives?*
- a.2. Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered police protection facilities, or the need for new or physically altered police protection facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives?*
- a.3. Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered schools, or the need for new or physically altered schools, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios or other performance objectives?*
- a.5. Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of other new or physically altered public facilities, or the need for other new or physically altered public facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives?*

The proposed park renovations, improvements, and amenity upgrades would not substantially increase park usage in such a way that would require additional public services or result in increased demand for police or fire services. The project would not add new residents, permanent employees, or students to the area, nor would the project change the park's existing land use or zoning designation. In fact, the project would help meet the existing demand for pickleball courts. As such, the project would not result in the need for new fire protection facilities, police protection facilities, schools, or other public facilities, such as libraries. No impact would occur.

NO IMPACT

- a.4. Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered parks, or the need for new or physically altered parks, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios or other performance objectives?*

The project consists of physical improvements to and expansion of Hidden Valley Park. The City is currently meeting its established parkland to resident ratio and this project would not affect that ratio. As such, the project would not result in adverse physical impacts to parks, or the need for new

parks or other public facilities. The project's environmental impacts are discussed throughout this document and addressed through mitigation, including Mitigation Measures BIO-1, CR-1, GEO-1, NOI-1, NOI-2, NOI-3, and TCR-1. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant with mitigation.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION INCORPORATED

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16 Recreation

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
a. 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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Setting

As described in Section 15, *Public Services*, the project site is within an existing park (Hidden Valley Park) that is part of the City’s parks and recreation system. Hidden Valley Park is currently used for passive and active recreation. According to the City of Martinez General Plan Parks & Community Facilities Element, the City currently maintains approximately 235.34 acres of land that accounts for 24 neighborhood, community, memorial, plaza, and school parks (City of Martinez 2021). In addition to the City’s parks and recreation system, the City’s residents have access to over 410 acres of natural areas and open spaces maintained by the City, East Bay Regional Parks District, and Muir Heritage Land Trust. According to the Global Pickleball Network, there are currently 13 pickleball court locations in the greater San Francisco Bay region. The existing Hidden Valley Park pickleball courts are the only ones located within the City of Martinez (Global Pickleball Network 2022).

Impacts

- 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?*

Although the project would result in increased use of the park due to the availability of existing and new courts for a longer period of time, substantial numbers of increased visitors are not anticipated. This project would help meet existing demand. In addition, the project would not add residential or commercial uses that would increase population or employment opportunities and would not result in increased use of existing recreational facilities on or near the project site. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Hidden Valley Park Pickleball Project (City Project No. 5047)

- 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?*

As described under *criterion a*, above, the project would include a variety of improvements and additions to the existing Hidden Valley Park. Environmental effects evaluated in this Initial Study conclude that potential project-related impacts would be reduced to less than significant levels when mitigation is incorporated. The project would not require the construction or expansion of other recreational facilities that may have adverse physical effects. As such, impacts would be less than significant with mitigation measures, including Mitigation Measures BIO-1, CR-1, GEO-1, NOI-1, NOI-2, NOI-3, and TCR-1.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION INCORPORATED

17 Transportation

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Conflict with a program, plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible use (e.g., farm equipment)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d. Result in inadequate emergency access?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Setting

The project site is in the City of Martinez and is served by a circulation system that facilitates multimodal travel including walking, bicycling, public transportation, and motor vehicles, and includes a network of freeways, highways, local streets, and bicycle facilities. People are able to access the project site using a walkway that connects it to Center Avenue, Glacier Court, Lakeside Court, and Ophir Court.

The project is expected to generate additional vehicle trips to the project site. Existing trip rates are not available for pickleball courts; however, rates for tennis courts are known. According to the Institute of Transportation Engineers, tennis courts typically generate an average of approximately 30.32 total trips per day. As such, those rates are applied to estimate trip rates for the project. As shown in Table 8, the existing tennis court and pickleball courts currently generate approximately 151 trips. As shown in Table 8, the implementation of the project would generate an additional 121 total daily vehicle trips.

Table 8 Estimated Project Vehicle Trip Generation

Uses	Trip Generation Rate	Number of Courts	Total Daily Trips
Existing Use: Tennis	30.32 per court	1	30
Existing Use: Pickleball	30.32 per court	4	121
New Use: Pickleball	30.32 per court	4	121

Source: ITE Trip Generation Manual, 10th Edition

Impacts

- a. *Would the project conflict with a program, plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?*

The City of Martinez Transportation Element and the Contra Costa Countywide Transportation Plan address the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities. The project would not include changes to streets or bicycle and pedestrian facilities surrounding the project site. People using the tennis and pickleball courts would drive, walk, bicycle, and use other forms of transportation (i.e., public transportation, scooters, etc.) to access the project site. People would continue to park private vehicles at the public parking lot for Hidden Valley Park, as well as street parking on Center Avenue. People would continue to access the project site via the walkways located off Center Avenue, Glacier Court, Lakeside Court, and Ophir Court. Because the project would not alter traffic patterns or volume and would not conflict with existing programs, plans, ordinances, or policies addressing circulation. The project's impacts on the circulation system would be less than significant.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

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

CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.3 identifies vehicle miles traveled (VMT) as the most appropriate criteria to evaluate a project's transportation impacts. While the City of Martinez has not adopted any CEQA thresholds related to VMT, the Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) established VMT as the methodology for evaluating transportation impacts and identified guidelines for evaluating VMT impacts in June 2020. CCTA identifies screening criteria for projects that are expected to have a less than significant VMT impact. The screening criteria includes the following, which are pertinent to this project:

- Projects of 10,000 square feet or less of non-residential space or 20 residential units or less, or otherwise generating less than 836 VMT per day.
- Public facilities (e.g., emergency services, passive parks (low-intensity recreation, open space), libraries, community centers, public utilities) and government buildings.

The project would meet the criteria identified above. Since there are two existing courts on the project site, one being used solely for tennis and the other being used for both tennis and pickleball, the project's size would be the proposed third court for pickleball. That third pickleball court would be less than 10,000 square feet in size. In addition, the project is expected to generate approximately 121 trips per day, which would be substantially below the CCTA's screening criteria of 836 VMT per day. Because project trips are expected to be predominantly from within the city, most trips would be fewer than 5 miles. Furthermore, the project would be considered a locally serving public facility.

The project would reduce VMT compared to existing conditions because residents of Martinez who currently drive outside of the city for pickleball courts would use the project's courts. According to an informal survey of 50 local pickleball users, people currently drive to neighboring cities of Concord, Walnut Creek, Lafayette, and Vallejo, as well as other communities to play pickleball at least once per month (see Appendix B). In addition, approximately 30 percent of the individuals that took the survey identified that they would use alternative forms of transportation, other than a car

to access the project courts. Therefore, the number of miles (and therefore VMT) that Martinez and other local residents would drive to access pickleball courts would be reduced. For all of these reasons, the project would have a less than significant impact.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

- c. *Would the project substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible use (e.g., farm equipment)?*

The project would not incorporate new geometric design features or incompatible uses. The project would be limited to improvements at Hidden Valley Park and would not affect roadways, bicycle lanes, or pedestrian walkways. As such, the project would not incorporate new geometric design features and would not increase hazards. Furthermore, because the project would expand recreational uses within an existing park, the project would not introduce incompatible uses. There would be no impact.

NO IMPACT

- d. *Would the project result in inadequate emergency access?*

The project would not diminish existing roadway emergency access to the project site or its surroundings. The project consists of physical improvements to and expansion of Hidden Valley Park and would not affect roadways or the existing walkways leading to the project site. In addition, the project would not introduce barriers or other obstacles which would result in inadequate emergency access. There would be no impact on emergency access.

NO IMPACT

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18 Tribal Cultural Resources

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in a Public Resources Code Section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, or 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:

a. 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)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. 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.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

As of July 1, 2015, California Assembly Bill 52 of 2014 (AB 52) was enacted and expands CEQA by defining a new resource category, “tribal cultural resources.” AB 52 establishes that “A project with an effect that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource is a project that may have a significant effect on the environment” (PRC Section 21084.2). It further states that the lead agency shall establish measures to avoid impacts that would alter the significant characteristics of a tribal cultural resource, when feasible (PRC Section 21084.3).

PRC Section 21074 (a)(1)(A) and (B) defines tribal cultural resources as “sites, features, places, cultural landscapes, sacred places, and objects with cultural value to a California Native American tribe” and is:

- Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or
- A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources

Code Section 5024.1. In applying these criteria, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.

AB 52 also establishes a formal consultation process for California tribes regarding those resources. The consultation process must be completed before a CEQA document can be certified. Under AB 52, lead agencies are required to “begin consultation with a California Native American tribe that is traditionally and culturally affiliated with the geographic area of the proposed project.” Native American tribes to be included in the process are those that have requested notice of projects proposed within the jurisdiction of the lead agency.

The City of Martinez prepared and mailed letters on July 28, 2022 to local Native Americans who have requested notification under AB52. Under AB 52, tribes have 30 days to respond and request consultation. The City did not receive any responses from tribes regarding this project. The following list represents Tribes that were sent letters:

- Lone Band of Miwok
- Amah Mutsun Tribal Band of Mission San Juan Bautista
- Chicken Ranch Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians
- Guidiville Indian Rancheria
- Indian Canyon Mutsun Band of Costanoan
- Muwekma Ohlone Indian Tribe of the SF Bay Area
- Nashville Enterprise Miwok-Maidu-Nishinam Tribe
- The Ohlone Indian Tribe
- Wilton Rancheria
- The Confederated Villages of Lisjan

- a. *Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource as defined in Public Resources Code Section 21074 that is listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code Section 5020.1(k)?*

Though there are no previously recorded cultural resources present within the project site, it is possible that ground disturbance during project construction could encounter unknown tribal cultural resources or known cultural resources that may be identified as tribal cultural resources. The project, therefore, has the potential to significantly impact tribal cultural resources through ground disturbance and looting or vandalism of encountered resources. Implementation of Mitigation Measure TCR-1 would ensure that unanticipated discoveries of tribal cultural resources are avoided or, where avoidance is infeasible, mitigated to a less than significant level.

Mitigation Measure

TCR-1 Suspension of Work Around Tribal Cultural Resources

In the event that cultural resources of Native American origin are identified during implementation of the project, all earth-disturbing work within 50 feet of the find shall be temporarily suspended or redirected until an archaeologist has evaluated the nature and significance of the find as a cultural resource and an appropriate local Native American representative is consulted. If the City, in consultation with local Native Americans, determines that the resource is a tribal cultural resource

and thus significant under CEQA, a mitigation plan shall be prepared and implemented in accordance with state guidelines and in consultation with local Native American group(s). The plan shall include avoidance of the resource or, if avoidance of the resource is infeasible, the plan shall outline the appropriate treatment of the resource in coordination with the appropriate local Native American tribal representative and, if applicable, a qualified archaeologist. Examples of appropriate mitigation for tribal cultural resources include, but are not limited to, protecting the cultural character and integrity of the resource, protecting traditional use of the resource, protecting the confidentiality of the resource, or heritage recovery.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION INCORPORATED

- b. Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource as defined in Public Resources Code 21074 that is 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?*

As discussed above, there are no previously recorded cultural resources present within the project site. However, there is still a possibility that ground disturbance could encounter unknown tribal cultural resources. Implementation of Mitigation Measure TCR-1 would ensure that any unanticipated discoveries of tribal cultural resources are avoided or, where avoidance is infeasible, mitigated to a less than significant level.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION INCORPORATED

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19 Utilities and Service Systems

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Setting

Water would be supplied to the project site by City of Martinez Water Department (MWD). MWD buys raw water from the CCWD and withdraws it from the Martinez Reservoir. Water demand associated with development in Martinez is projected to be 4,093 acre-feet in 2030 and 3,936 acre-feet in 2040. According to the General Plan, there are sufficient water supplies expected to be reasonably available through 2040 to meet projected demand. Similarly, CCWD anticipates an adequate supply of water to meet projected demand in normal years or single-dry years through 2040. Future multiple-dry year scenarios could result in supply shortfalls of up to approximately 15 percent of demand; however, any potential supply shortfalls experienced during such dry year

conditions would be met through a combination of a short-term conservation programs or short-term water purchases (City of Martinez 2021).

Wastewater generated during project construction would likely be disposed of at the City of Martinez Water Treatment Plant, which is located approximately 2.3 miles north of the project site. The Martinez Water Treatment Plant is designed to treat up to 54 million gallons of wastewater per day; the facility currently treats an average of 34 million gallons of wastewater per day (Central Contra Costa Sanitary District 2022).

There are three major drainage basins within the City of Martinez and the surrounding area: Grayson Creek, Vine Hill Drainage Basin, and Alhambra Creek. Grayson Creek is a perennial stream that drains the majority of Pleasant Hill in addition to a small area at the southernmost limits of the City (City of Martinez 2021). Stormwater drainage in the vicinity of the project site is generally conveyed via stormwater drainage systems and surface facilities to Grayson Creek, which ultimately drains into the Suisun Bay.

Energy would be supplied to the project site by MCE. MCE is a not-for-profit public electricity provider that offers both 50 percent and 100 percent renewable electricity services in the Bay area. MCE has been the default electricity provider in the City of Martinez since 2018. However, PG&E continues to transmit and distribute the electricity (City of Martinez 2022b).

Impacts

- a. *Would the project require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?*

The project would include renovations to a public park, which would not include the construction of buildings or uses that would require new or expanded water, wastewater treatment, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunication services.

As described under Section 10, *Hydrology and Water Quality*, project construction would require minimal amounts of water for dust suppression. It is anticipated that water required during construction of the project would be provided by a water truck. Operation of the project would not require additional water use. Therefore, the project would not result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water facilities.

The project would result in the addition of approximately 9,310 square feet of impervious surfaces. The addition of impervious surfaces could increase the amount of stormwater runoff from the project site. However, runoff would continue to drain to Greyson Creek and ultimately into the Suisun Bay. Therefore, the project would not require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded stormwater drainage facilities.

Project construction would require a minimal amount of electricity during the use of power tools. Energy use during construction would be temporary in nature, and construction equipment used would be typical of similar-sized construction projects in the region. It is anticipated that any electric-powered construction equipment would be powered by a generator or by existing available power lines and connections and would not result in a substantial demand on the existing energy supply. Project implementation would result in the addition of new lighting and upgrading of existing lighting. Energy demands associated with the new light fixtures would be minimal and similar to the energy demands of other light fixtures in Hidden Valley Park. New lighting would be

installed and operated with extensions from the existing electric system. Therefore, the project would not require or result in additional electric power or natural gas facilities.

Neither project construction nor operation would require telecommunications infrastructure. Therefore, the project would not result in the relocation or construction of new telecommunications facilities.

Overall, the project would not require the relocation or construction of new utilities. Impacts would be less than significant.

NO IMPACT

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

Project construction would require minimal amounts of water. As described under *Setting*, the City of Martinez anticipates there are sufficient water supplies expected to be reasonably available through 2040 to meet projected demand. As such, adequate water supplies would be available to meet the minimal demands of the project for dust suppression purposes. Project operation would not require additional water use. Impacts to water supply would be less than significant.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

- c. *Would the project 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?*

Project operation would result in minimal additional wastewater discharge into the City's wastewater system from people using park restrooms. The project, however, would not result in new buildings or induce growth. Any wastewater would be disposed of at the City of Martinez Water Treatment Plant, which is located approximately 2.3 miles north of the project site. The Martinez Water Treatment Plant is designed to treat up to 54 million gallons of wastewater per day, and currently treats an average of 34 million gallons of wastewater per day. As such, the Martinez Water Treatment Plant has a remaining treatment capacity of 20 million gallons per day (Central Contra Costa Sanitary District 2022). Therefore, the City of Martinez Water Treatment Plant has sufficient capacity to treat the minimal wastewater from operation of the project. Therefore, impacts on wastewater treatment capacity would be less than significant.

NO IMPACT

- d. *Would the project 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. *Would the project comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?*

Project construction would generate waste, resulting in the need for solid waste disposal. Recoverable materials generated during construction would be separated and recycled to minimize construction waste and exportation from the site, resulting in limited demand on the County's landfills. Remaining construction waste could be disposed of at Keller Canyon Landfill, located

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approximately 8.6 miles east of the project site. Long-term project operation would not generate substantial solid waste beyond what is already generated by park users.

Keller Canyon Landfill is a public Class II solid waste landfill in Pittsburg, with a maximum permitted capacity of 3,500 tons per day. The Keller Canyon Landfill is permitted to accept industrial, biosolid, agricultural, construction/demolition, and mixed municipal wastes. The landfill's estimated remaining capacity is approximately 63 million cubic yards, with an estimated closure date of December 2050 (CalRecycle 2019). Keller Canyon Landfill would have sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's temporary solid waste disposal needs associated with construction activities. In addition, the project would be required to comply with applicable statutes and regulations related to solid waste, including those within Chapter 8.16 (Solid Waste Management) of the City of Martinez Municipal Code and Policy PCU-P-8.2 of the City of Martinez General Plan Circulation Element. Overall, the project would not generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure. Furthermore, the project would comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste. These impacts would be less than significant.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

20 Wildfire

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d. Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslopes or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Setting

The project site is not in or near a very high fire hazard severity zone or state responsibility area. The project site is located approximately 2 miles from a very high fire hazard severity zone in a local responsibility area and approximately 3 miles from a high fire hazard severity zone in a state responsibility area (CAL FIRE 2007 and 2009).

Impacts

- If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?*
- If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project, due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire*

Hidden Valley Park Pickleball Project (City Project No. 5047)

risks and thereby expose project occupants to pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?

- c. *If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project 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. *If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslopes or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?*

As described in the Setting, the project site is not located in or near a state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones; therefore, no wildfire impacts would occur.

NO IMPACT

21 Mandatory Findings of Significance

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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Does the project:

- | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <p>a. 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?</p> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <p>b. 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)?</p> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <p>c. Have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?</p> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

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?*

As described in Section 4, *Biological Resources*, the project does not have the potential to impact sensitive plant species or wetlands and has low potential to impact nesting birds. Given the existing trees adjacent to the project site, there is potential for nesting birds to be present and Mitigation Measure BIO-1 would be required to reduce impacts to nesting birds through nesting bird avoidance. The project site is generally surrounded by urban development and is not part of a substantial wildlife corridor or wildlife area. Therefore, the project would not substantially reduce the habitat of fish species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels,

eliminate a plant or animal community, or reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal. Impacts to the substantial degradation of wildlife species would be reduced with implementation of Mitigation Measure BIO-1.

As noted under Section 5, *Cultural Resources*, Section 7, *Geology and Soils*, and Section 18, *Tribal Cultural Resources*, the possibility of discovery of historical, archeological, tribal cultural, or paleontological resources on the project site is possible. However, the project site does not contain known important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory. Mitigation Measures CR-1, GEO-1, and TCR-1 requires the implementation of a process for evaluating and, as necessary, avoiding impacts to resources unexpectedly found during construction. Therefore, impacts to important examples of California history or prehistory would be less than significant with mitigation incorporated.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION INCORPORATED

- 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)?*

As concluded in Sections 1 through 20, the project would have no impact, less than significant impact, or less than significant impact with mitigation incorporated, with respect to all environmental issues considered in this document. Cumulative impacts related to several resource areas have been addressed in the individual resource sections of this Initial Study, including air quality and GHG emissions (see CEQA Guidelines Section 15064(h)(3)). As discussed in Section 3, *Air Quality*, and in Section 8, *Greenhouse Gas Emissions*, the project would result in less than significant impacts associated with air quality and GHG emissions during project construction and operation. The impact analysis in these sections uses thresholds that already account for cumulative (regional impacts). Therefore, air quality and GHG emissions associated with operation and construction would be less than significant and would not be cumulatively considerable.

The project site is in a developed neighborhood and there are no cumulative projects in the project vicinity. As discussed in Section 13, *Noise*, the project would not generate significant construction noise because construction noise would remain below applicable thresholds. Section 13, *Noise*, also identified that noise and vibration impacts would be less than significant with application of Mitigation Measure NOI-1, NOI-2, and NOI-3. There are no additional cumulative projects within the vicinity of the project; therefore, no cumulative noise impact would occur.

As described in Section 17, *Transportation*, the project is expected to generate 121 daily trips. In addition, due to the existing demand for pickleball courts in Martinez, VMT is expected to be reduced because pickleball users would drive shorter distances to the project site, rather than driving to pickleball courts outside of the City. As such, the project would not contribute to a cumulative transportation impact.

This Initial Study determined that, for some of the other resource areas (e.g., agriculture and forestry resources, land use and planning, mineral resources, population and housing, wildfire), the project would have no impact compared to existing conditions. Therefore, the project would not contribute to cumulative impacts related to these issues. Other issues (e.g., biological resources, cultural resources, geology, hazards and hazardous materials, and tribal cultural resources) are by their nature project-specific and impacts at one location do not add to impacts at other locations or

create additive impacts. As such, cumulative impacts would be less than significant (not cumulatively considerable).

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

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

In general, impacts to human beings are attributed to impacts from air quality, hazards and hazardous materials, and noise. As detailed in Section 3, *Air Quality*, activities associated with the project would not result in significant air quality impacts. As detailed in Section 13, *Noise*, activities associated with the project would not result in significant air quality impacts with implementation of mitigation measures NOI-1 NOI-2, and NOI-3, which focus on reducing noise from construction and recreational activities, and reducing vibration during construction. Similarly, as discussed in Section 9, *Hazards and Hazardous Materials*, activities associated with the project would not result in significant adverse hazards related to hazardous materials. The project would include improvements to an existing park. After mitigation, there would be no substantial impacts resulting from project implementation that would cause substantial adverse effects on human beings either directly or indirectly. Therefore, the project would have a less than significant impact from adverse effects on human beings.

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION INCORPORATED

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Appendix A

Supporting Noise Information

Noise

Setting

a. Overview of Sound Measurement

Sound is a vibratory disturbance created by a moving or vibrating source, which is capable of being detected by the hearing organs. Noise is defined as sound that is loud, unpleasant, unexpected, or undesired and may therefore be classified as a more specific group of sounds. The effects of noise on people can include general annoyance, interference with speech communication, sleep disturbance, and, in the extreme, hearing impairment (California Department of Transportation [Caltrans] 2013).

Noise levels are commonly measured in decibels (dB) using the A-weighted sound pressure level (dBA). The A-weighting scale is an adjustment to the actual sound pressure levels so that they are consistent with the human hearing response, which is most sensitive to frequencies around 4,000 Hertz and less sensitive to frequencies around and below 100 Hertz (Kinsler, et. al. 1999). Decibels are measured on a logarithmic scale that quantifies sound intensity in a manner similar to the Richter scale used to measure earthquake magnitudes. A doubling of the energy of a noise source, such as doubling of traffic volume, would increase the noise level by 3 dBA; reducing the energy in half would result in a 3 dBA decrease (Crocker 2007).

Human perception of noise has no simple correlation with sound energy: the perception of sound is not linear in terms of dBA or in terms of sound energy. Two sources do not “sound twice as loud” as one source. It is widely accepted that the average healthy ear can barely perceive changes of 3 dBA, increase or decrease (i.e., twice the sound energy); that a change of 5 dBA is readily perceptible (eight times the sound energy); and that an increase (or decrease) of 10 dBA sounds twice (half) as loud (10.5 times the sound energy) (Crocker 2007).

Sound changes in both level and frequency spectrum as it travels from the source to the receiver. The most obvious change is the decrease in level as the distance from the source increases. The manner by which noise reduces with distance depends on factors such as the type of sources (e.g., point or line, the path the sound will travel, site conditions, and obstructions). Noise levels from a point source typically attenuate, or drop off, at a rate of 6 dBA per doubling of distance (e.g., construction, industrial machinery, ventilation units). Noise from a line source (e.g., roadway, pipeline, railroad) typically attenuates at about 3 dBA per doubling of distance (Caltrans 2013). The propagation of noise is also affected by the intervening ground, known as ground absorption. A hard site, such as a parking lot or smooth body of water, receives no additional ground attenuation and the changes in noise levels with distance (drop-off rate) result from simply the geometric spreading of the source. An additional ground attenuation value of 1.5 dBA per doubling of distance applies to a soft site (e.g., soft dirt, grass, or scattered bushes and trees) (Caltrans 2013). Noise levels may also be reduced by intervening structures; the amount of attenuation provided by this “shielding” depends on the size of the object and the frequencies of the noise levels. Natural terrain features such as hills and dense woods, and man-made features such as buildings and walls, can significantly alter noise levels. Generally, any large structure blocking the line of sight will provide at least a 5-dBA reduction in source noise levels at the receiver (Federal Highway Administration [FHWA] 2011). Structures can substantially reduce exposure to noise as well. The FHWA’s guidelines indicate that modern building construction generally provides an exterior-to-interior noise level reduction of 20 to 35 dBA with closed windows.

The impact of noise is not a function of loudness alone. The time of day when noise occurs and the duration of the noise are also important factors of project noise impact. Most noise that lasts for more than a few seconds is variable in its intensity. Consequently, a variety of noise descriptors have been developed. One of the most frequently used noise metrics is the equivalent noise level (L_{eq}); it considers both duration and sound power level. Typically, L_{eq} is summed over a one-hour period. L_{max} is the highest sound pressure level within the sampling period, and L_{min} is the lowest sound pressure level within the measuring period (Crocker 2007).

Noise that occurs at night tends to be more disturbing than that occurring during the day. Community noise is usually measured using Day-Night Average Level (L_{dn}), which is the 24-hour average noise level with a +10 dBA penalty for noise occurring during nighttime (10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.) hours; it is also measured using Community Noise Equivalent Level (CNEL), which is the 24-hour average noise level with a +5 dBA penalty for noise occurring from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. and a +10 dBA penalty for noise occurring from 10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. (Caltrans 2013a). Noise levels described by L_{dn} and CNEL usually differ by about 1 dBA. The relationship between the peak-hour L_{eq} value and the L_{dn} /CNEL depends on the distribution of traffic during the day, evening, and night. Quiet suburban areas typically have CNEL noise levels in the range of 40 to 50 dBA, while areas near arterial streets are in the 50 to 60-plus CNEL range. Normal conversational levels are in the 60 to 65-dBA L_{eq} range; ambient noise levels greater than 65 dBA L_{eq} can interrupt conversations (Federal Transit Administration [FTA] 2018).

b. Vibration

Groundborne vibration of concern in environmental analysis consists of the oscillatory waves that move from a source through the ground to adjacent structures. The number of cycles per second of oscillation makes up the vibration frequency, described in terms of Hz. The frequency of a vibrating object describes how rapidly it oscillates. The normal frequency range of most groundborne vibration that can be felt by the human body starts from a low frequency of less than 1 Hz and goes to a high of about 200 Hz (Crocker 2007).

While people have varying sensitivities to vibrations at different frequencies, in general they are most sensitive to low-frequency vibration. Vibration in buildings, such as from nearby construction activities, may cause windows, items on shelves, and pictures on walls to rattle. Vibration of building components can also take the form of an audible low-frequency rumbling noise, referred to as groundborne noise. Groundborne noise is usually only a problem when the originating vibration spectrum is dominated by frequencies in the upper end of the range (60 to 200 Hz), or when foundations or utilities, such as sewer and water pipes, physically connect the structure and the vibration source (FTA 2018). Although groundborne vibration is sometimes noticeable in outdoor environments, it is almost never annoying to people who are outdoors. The primary concern from vibration is that it can be intrusive and annoying to building occupants and vibration-sensitive land uses.

Vibration energy spreads out as it travels through the ground, causing the vibration level to diminish with distance away from the source. High-frequency vibrations diminish much more rapidly than low frequencies, so low frequencies tend to dominate the spectrum at large distances from the source. Discontinuities in the soil strata can also cause diffractions or channeling effects that affect the propagation of vibration over long distances (Caltrans 2020). When a building is impacted by vibration, a ground-to-foundation coupling loss will usually reduce the overall vibration level. However, under rare circumstances, the ground-to-foundation coupling may actually amplify the vibration level due to structural resonances of the floors and walls.

Vibration amplitudes are usually expressed in peak particle velocity (PPV) or root mean squared (RMS) vibration velocity. The PPV and RMS velocity are normally described in inches per second (in/sec) PPV is

defined as the maximum instantaneous positive or negative peak of a vibration signal. PPV is often used in monitoring of blasting vibration because it is related to the stresses that are experienced by buildings (Caltrans 2020).

c. Existing Noise Setting

Sensitive Receivers

Noise exposure goals for various types of land uses reflect the varying noise sensitivities associated with those uses. Sensitive receivers are defined as places where noise could interfere with regular activities such as sleeping, talking, and recreating, which include hospitals, residences, convalescent homes, schools, churches, libraries, and religious institutions. Noise sensitive receivers near the site include single-family residences to the north, east, and west.

Vibration sensitive receivers are similar to noise sensitive receivers, such as residences, and institutional uses, such as schools, churches, and hospitals. However, vibration sensitive receivers also include buildings where vibrations may interfere with vibration-sensitive equipment, affected by levels that may be well below those associated with human annoyance.

Construction Noise Methodology

Construction noise was estimated using the FHWA Roadway Construction Noise Model (RCNM) (FHWA 2006). RCNM predicts construction noise levels for a variety of construction operations based on empirical data and the application of acoustical propagation formulas. Using RCNM, construction-noise levels were estimated at noise-sensitive receivers near the project site. RCNM provides reference noise levels for standard construction equipment, with an attenuation rate of 6 dBA per doubling of distance for stationary equipment.

Variation in power imposes additional complexity in characterizing the noise source level from construction equipment. Power variation is accounted for by describing the noise at a reference distance from the equipment operating at full power and adjusting it based on the duty cycle of the activity to determine the L_{eq} of the operation (FTA 2018). Each phase of construction has a specific equipment mix, depending on the work to be accomplished during that phase. Each phase also has its own noise characteristics; some will have higher continuous noise levels than others, and some have high-impact noise levels.

	L1 (dBA)	Distance (ft)	L2 (dBA)	Distance to Sensitive Receptor (ft)
Pickleball Court 1	56	45	49.06425028	100
Pickleball Court 2	56	45	48.23639657	110
Pickleball Court 3	56	45	56	45
Pickleball Court 4	56	45	52.16228948	70
Pickleball Court 5	56	45	55.08485019	50
Pickleball Court 6	56	45	52.16228948	70
Pickleball Court 7	56	45	48.23639657	110
Pickleball Court 8	56	45	47.48062535	120
Tennis Court	56	45	43.72081571	185
Combined Noise Level				61.28085044

*If all 8 pickleball courts and the tennis court are being used simultaneously, the combined noise level is 61 dBA

Barrier Calculations

Input Variables

Reference Noise Level (dBA)	61
Reference Distance (ft)	45
Site Conditions <i>(Choice: Hard or Soft)</i>	Hard

Output Calculations

Distance from Barrier to Source (ft)	Distance from Barrier to Receiver (ft)	Distance from Source to Receiver (ft)	Height of Source (ft)	Height of Wall (ft)	Height of Receiver (ft)	Noise Level Reduction (dBA)	Unabated Noise Level (dBA)	Resultant Noise Level (dBA)
10	20	30	5	12	15	11.92	65	52.60

Appendix B

Pickleball Users Survey Results

Are you a Martinez resident? 50 responses

Value	Count	Percentage
Yes	32	64%
No	18	36%

If you don't live in Martinez, what is your home city? 18 responses

Value	Count	Percentage
Border Pleasant Hill	1	5.6%
Concord	1	5.6%
Lafayette	1	5.6%
Martinez	1	5.6%
Pittsburg	1	5.6%
Pleasant Hill	8	44.4%
Vallejo	1	5.6%
Walnut Creek	1	22.2%

Where do you play in addition to Martinez courts? (Check all that apply)47 responses

Value	Count	Percentage
Willow Pass, Concord	38	80.9%
Rudgear, Walnut Creek	15	31.9%
Glen Cove, Vallejo	2	4.3%
Lafayette Community Center	10	21.3%
Other	13	27.7%

If you marked "other," where else do you play?14 responses

Castro Park, El Cerrito

Twice a month

Berkeley, Orinda

Discovery Bay, Alameda, oakland

Village Oaks

Private group in Concord

Walnut Creek Rec & Alamo Rec Center

Hill Park Novato

Westaire, Martinez

I just started this week playing and I would prefer to play in my hometown of Martinez twice a week

Heather Farm

Hidden Valley

Rossmoor

Piedmont and Bushrod

How often do you play at other courts? (Estimate number of days per week or month.)⁴⁶ responses

Value	Count	Percentage
0	2	4.3%
1	4	8.7%
1 day/week	1	2.2%
1 every other month	1	2.2%
1-2/week	1	2.2%
2	2	4.3%
2 per month	1	2.2%
2 times a month	1	2.2%
2 to 3 times per week	1	2.2%
2/month	1	2.2%
3	1	2.2%
3 days per week	1	2.2%
3 per week	1	2.2%
3 times per week	1	2.2%
3-4	1	2.2%
3-4 days per week	1	2.2%
3/mo	1	2.2%
4	2	4.3%
4 days	1	2.2%
4-5 times a week	1	2.2%
5 or 6 days a week	1	2.2%
6 days a week	1	2.2%
6 times per month	1	2.2%
8 days per month	1	2.2%
At least once a week	1	2.2%
Five days a week	1	2.2%
Have only played there before finding out about Martinez courts	1	2.2%
I just started playing this week... first time was in Martinez this morning	1	2.2%
Monthly	2	4.3%
Now about 2x per week	1	2.2%
Once a week	1	2.2%
Once a week on average	1	2.2%
Once per week	1	2.2%
Since nets to be put up are a hassle, just 2	1	2.2%
Twice a month	1	2.2%
Twice a week	2	4.3%
Twice a week	1	2.2%
Two days a month	1	2.2%

Would you ever use transportation other than a car to play at Hidden Valley? 50 responses

Value	Count	Percentage
Yes	18	36%
No	17	34%
Maybe	15	30%