Los Angeles Harbor College Stormwater Implementation Project

Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration

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March 2023

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

List of Figures

List of Tables

Appendices

Los Angeles Harbor College Stormwater Implementation Project

Initial Study/ Mitigated Negative Declaration

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 PURPOSE OF INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

The purpose of this Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) is to inform responsible and trustee agencies, public agencies, and the public that Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD), as the Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), has prepared an analysis for the proposed Los Angeles Harbor College Stormwater Implementation Project (proposed Project or Project). As Lead Agency under CEQA and as the decision-making body for nine community colleges, LACCD would be responsible for adopting the MND and approving the proposed Project.

This document has been prepared in accordance with the CEQA, (Pub. Resources Code, §21000 et seq.) as implemented by the State CEQA Guidelines (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, §15000 et seq.). Specifically, this document meets the requirements of State CEQA Guidelines §15000 and §15071, and the environmental checklist (Chapter 3) meets the requirements of State CEQA Guidelines §15063. An IS is prepared by a lead agency to determine if a project may have significant effects on the environment (State CEQA Guidelines Section 15063[a]), and to determine the appropriate environmental document. In accordance with State CEQA Guidelines Section 15070, "A public agency shall prepare…a proposed negative declaration or mitigated negative declaration…when:

> (a) The initial study shows that there is no substantial evidence…that the project may have a significant effect on the environment, or
>
> (b) The initial study identifies potentially significant effects, but
>
> (1) Revisions in the project plans or proposal made by, or agreed to by the applicant before a proposed mitigated negative declaration and initial study are released for public review would avoid the effects or mitigate the effects to a point where clearly no significant effects would occur, and
>
> (2) There is no substantial evidence, in light of the whole record before the agency, that the project as revised may have a significant effect on the environment."
>
> In this circumstance, the lead agency prepares a written statement describing its reasons for concluding that the project would not have a significant effect on the environment and, therefore, does not require the preparation of an environmental impact report (EIR). By contrast, an EIR is required when the project may have a significant environmental impact that cannot clearly be reduced to a less-than-significant effect by adoption of mitigation or revisions in the project design. The IS in this instance identifies that implementation of the project would not result in significant impacts with the incorporation of mitigation measures.

1.2 ANTICIPATED PERMITS AND COORDINATION

The anticipated permits and coordination with regulatory agencies for the proposed Project include:

Table 1.1. Anticipated Permits and Coordination Required for the Proposed Project

Agency	Permits/Approvals
Local/Regional Agencies	
City of Los Angeles	Compliance with development standards AB 939 Compliance Permit (Waste Hauler Permit)
Los Angeles Department of Water and Power	Access coordination
Los Angeles Fire Department – Fire Development Services	Fire safety coordination – Fire Code, Title 19, Uniform Building Code, City, and National codes
Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board	LARWQCB CWA Section 401 Water Quality Certification
State Agencies	
California Department of Fish and Wildlife	Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement (Fish and Game Code Section 1600)
California State Water Resources Control Board	Construction General Permit – Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP)
Federal Agencies	
United States Army Corps of Engineers	USACE NWP PCN (Outfall Structures and Associated Intake Structures) USACE OMB 0710-0003

1.3 PUBLIC REVIEW

When a proposed IS/MND is submitted to the State Clearinghouse (SCH) for state agency review, the public review period shall not be less than 30 days, unless otherwise approved by the SCH (State CEQA Guidelines, §15073). The notice of intent to adopt the proposed mitigated negative declaration (MND) shall include a copy of the proposed initial study (IS) and together the IS/MND shall be sent to every responsible agency and trustee agency concerned with the Project as well as every public agency with jurisdiction over resources affected by the Project. Pursuant to §15072, the lead agency shall notify in writing any public agency that provides comments on the proposed IS/MND of public hearings for the Project.

1.4 DOCUMENT ORGANIZATION

This IS/MND is organized as follows.

Section 1. Introduction. This section introduces the document and discusses public agencies, approvals, permits involved with the Project.

Section 2. Project Description. This section describes the purpose and need for the proposed Project, identifies Project objectives, and provides a detailed description of the Project.

Section 3. Environmental Checklist. This section provides an analysis of environmental impacts that would potentially occur as a result of the proposed Project. The list of mitigation measures is provided in this section.

Section 4. List of Preparers. This section identifies the report preparers.

Section 5. List of Acronyms and Abbreviations. This section lists common acronyms and abbreviations used throughout the document.

Section 6. References. This section lists the references used in preparation of this IS/MND.

2.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

2.1 PROJECT OVERVIEW

This IS/MND has been prepared to evaluate the reasonably foreseeable and potentially significant adverse environmental impacts associated with construction and maintenance of stormwater management infrastructure (proposed Project). This section discusses the location, objectives, and description of the proposed Project. The proposed Project would include construction of an underground infiltration system, biofiltration systems, hydrodynamic separators, and a concrete-lined flood control channel. The proposed Project would reduce on-campus flooding and improve water quality. The site is located at 1111 Figueroa Place, Wilmington, California.

2.2 PROJECT LOCATION AND SETTING

LACCD proposes to construct stormwater infrastructure consisting of a concrete-lined flood control channel, underground infiltration system, biofiltration systems, and two hydrodynamic separators to remove sediment and debris at Los Angeles Harbor College (LAHC). The proposed Project is located at 1111 Figueroa Place in the community of Wilmington in the City of Los Angeles (Figure 1). The Project site is primarily within the LAHC campus, with portions within the jurisdiction of the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power. Dr. Richard A. Vladovic Harbor Teacher Preparation Academy (VHTPA), a four-year Early College high school is located on the LAHC campus (VHTPA, 2022a).

The proposed Project would be constructed generally in the southwest corner of the LAHC campus in the baseball field, adjacent to Campus Drive, and to the west of Campus Drive, south of Harbor Park Golf Course.

The Project site is adjacent to a parking structure and parking lots to the north and undeveloped riparian areas to the south and west. The Project site is approximately 0.4 mile to the east of Harbor Freeway (Interstate 110) (Figure 1).

LAHC is located within the Dominguez Channel Watershed in southern Los Angeles County. The proposed underground infiltration system would capture and infiltrate the 85th percentile storm (RWQCB, 2022). Runoff from the campus is conveyed into the nearest storm drain inlet and outlets to Machado Lake to the west and to wetlands to the south.

2.2.1 Land Use and Zoning

The proposed Project is within an area covered by the Wilmington Harbor City Community Plan, which is part of the City of Los Angeles General Plan (City of Los Angeles, 2016). The proposed Project's land use designation is Public Facilities (City of Los Angeles, 2014). The Project site is on Assessor's Parcel Numbers (APNs) 7412012902, 7412012901, and 7412012900, and zoned Public Facilities (PF-1XL-O) under the City of Los Angeles Zoning Ordinance (City of Los Angeles, 2022).

Surrounding land uses include recreational facilities such as the Harbor Park Golf Course to the north and the Harbor Sports Complex to the northeast; residential development approximately 0.4 mile to the east and southeast; and industrial development approximately 0.5 mile to the south (Figure 1).

2.2.2 Existing Conditions

The proposed Project components would be constructed within the existing property of LAHC. LAHC provides associate and transfer degrees, certificates, economic and workforce development, and adult

and noncredit instruction (LAHC, 2022). The western portion of campus currently experiences flooding due to sediment accumulation in the adjacent earthen channel located within the southwest corner of LAHC and insufficient slope in the natural channel to effectively convey flows off site. The sediment accumulation causes stormwater runoff from both LAHC and the City of Los Angeles Harbor Park Golf Course and Harbor Sports Complex to back up into the storm drain and onto LAHC Campus Drive and Parking Lot 8.

2.2.3 Project Objectives

The construction of the new concrete channel would help eliminate flooding caused by sediment accumulation in an earthen channel located within the southwest corner of LAHC. The new concrete channel would effectively convey 50-year flows from on-campus and off-campus sources, eliminate backwater effects (i.e., pooling) that causes existing flooding, and reduce vector control issues (i.e., mosquitoes) (USACE, 2022; RWQCB, 2022). The installation of the underground infiltration system in the baseball field and the four biofiltration systems would also reduce flooding. The installation of a hydrodynamic separator upstream of the concrete lined channel and underground infiltration system would also reduce the accumulation of sediment and debris that currently causes flooding.

The primary goals and objectives of the proposed Project include the following:

- Eliminate flooding that currently occurs on the western portion of the LAHC campus during storm events.
- Reduce sediment accumulation in the existing West Drainage channel to help alleviate flooding on the LAHC campus during storm events.
- Provide stormwater capture for the majority of the LAHC campus to provide future compliance under the next Small MS4 Permit.
- Improve stormwater runoff quality.

2.3 PROPOSED PROJECT ELEMENTS

2.3.1 Project Details

The proposed Project includes construction of an underground infiltration system, four biofiltration systems, two hydrodynamic separators to remove sediment and trash, a concrete-lined flood control channel, and storm drains that would primarily provide stormwater capture for LAHC and provide future compliance under the next MS4 Permit while alleviating the flooding that occurs on campus during storm events. Each of the components is discussed further below and shown in Figure 2.

Figure 1. Project Location

Underground Infiltration System

The proposed Project would construct an approximately 85,000-cubic-foot infiltration system approximately 15 feet below the existing ground surface of the LAHC baseball field (Figure 2). It would capture up to 1 inch of stormwater from an approximately 78-acre drainage area, of which approximately 33 acres are from off-campus runoff from the City of Los Angeles (LAHC, 2021). This infiltration system would be connected to the existing storm drain network via trenching. During high flow events or when the infiltration system is full, flows would outlet to the proposed concrete-lined flood channel and ultimately Machado Lake.

Hydrodynamic Separators

Two hydrodynamic separators are proposed to remove trash and sediment before discharging to the underground infiltration system from two separate drainage areas for the Project. The systems are approximately 14 feet in depth and 8 feet in diameter. The systems have a treatment capacity of approximately 3 cubic feet per second (cfs) and a bypass capacity of 20 cfs.

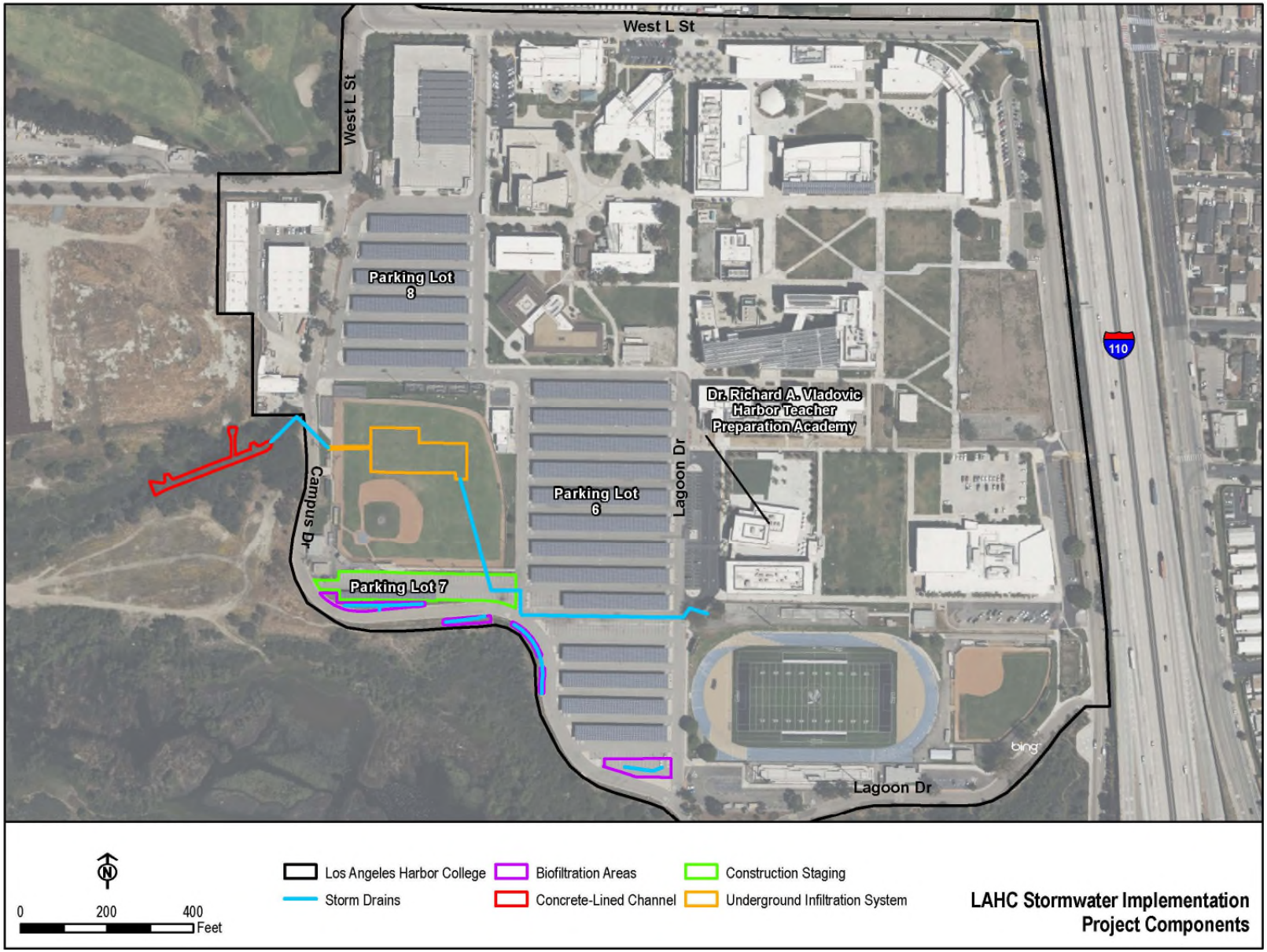
Biofiltration Systems

Four biofiltration systems are proposed in LAHC Parking Lot 6 and Parking Lot 7 in the southwestern portion of the campus (Figure 2). These components would capture drainage from approximately 3.2 acres that is not tributary to the underground infiltration system (LAHC, 2021). Construction of the biofiltration systems would require approximately 4.25 feet of excavation. The biofiltration systems would include an aggregate layer, underdrain, engineered 18-inch soil mix, mulch, plantings, and overflow riser. The biofiltration systems would use subsurface irrigation to conserve water.

Concrete-Lined Flood Channel

A concrete-lined flood channel would be constructed on the western portion of the LAHC campus (Figure 2). Construction of the channel would require removal of approximately 0.14 acre of native riparian vegetation, excavation of approximately 5 feet of soil, and grading of the new channel alignment. A guardian panel fence would be constructed on the southern channel wall, and personnel gates would be installed at the eastern and western ends to provide secure maintenance access. The existing spillway would be reconstructed to connect to the concrete channel. Concrete access ramps on the east and west would be constructed. The channel would tie into an existing storm drain at the upstream end of the channel, which currently conveys stormwater runoff from the western portion of the LAHC campus and a portion of the City of Los Angeles Harbor Park Golf Course and Harbor Sports Complex. Riprap would be placed at the downstream end before flows enter an existing natural channel. During construction and regrading of the new channel, fill material would be added to the streambed, and a 16-foot-wide concrete channel would be constructed on top and include an approximately 35-foot-wide riprap trapezoidal section towards the end to dissipate energy. This would allow the channel to convey 50-year flows (USACE, 2022).

Figure 2. Project Components



Storm Drains

The proposed Project would require trenching to install new storm drains to connect the Project components to each other and to the existing storm drain system. Flows from campus would be conveyed into a new storm drain connecting to the underground infiltration system. New low flow diversion structures and manholes would be installed to connect to the storm drain and convey water to the underground infiltration system. Flows from the western portion of the LAHC campus and a portion of the City of Los Angeles Harbor Park Golf Course and Harbor Sports Complex, in excess of the design storm for the underground infiltration system would be conveyed to the concrete-lined channel that would discharge to the natural channel west of the concrete-lined channel. Storm drains within the biofiltration systems would join a separate existing storm drain system that outlets to the wetland south of the LAHC campus. Trenching excavation depths would range between 6 and 15 feet. Trenching would be followed by recompacting, repaving, and regrading of surfaces to match pre-existing conditions.

2.3.2 Construction

Construction of the proposed Project is anticipated to occur over approximately six months, beginning in August 2023 and concluding in February 2024. To minimize impacts to students, LACCD would coordinate with LAHC to ensure construction would avoid peak traffic during VHTPA school hours (student drop off/pick up times occur around 8:30 a.m. and 3:35 p.m. on regular days, 8:30 a.m. and 2:35 p.m. on shortened days, and 9:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. during minimum days [VHTPA, 2022b]). Construction would occur Monday through Friday between 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. (one shift per day), consistent the City of Los Angeles building construction work hours. Construction would not occur on weekends. Lighting and relocation of utilities would not be required during construction.

Access to the Project site and staging areas would be provided by West L Street to the north off Figueroa Place. The staging area would be directly south of the LAHC baseball field within Parking Lot 7 (Figure 2). Construction equipment would be stored at the staging area. Excavated dirt would be stockpiled at the baseball field and staging area. Construction traffic would not occur on Lagoon Drive or within the parking lot to the east closest to the college buildings. Electricity needed for the construction manager's trailer would be provided on site, and no generators would be required. Concrete would primarily be produced off site and delivered to the Project site.

Construction of the infiltration system would require a total of approximately 15,550 cubic yards (CY) of excavation and approximately 11,195 CY of fill. Grading of the concrete-lined flood channel would require approximately 1,727 CY of excavation and approximately 2,458 CY of fill. Approximately 1,361 CY would be imported, and 630 CY would be exported (LACCD, 2021). Typical construction equipment would include backhoe, chainsaw, concrete mixing trucks, excavator, grader, grinder, paver, and water trucks.

Project construction would comply with the SWPPP in accordance with the Construction General Permit. A copy of the SWPPP would be kept at the construction site. During project construction activities, SWPPP best management practices (BMPs) for erosion and sediment control would be implemented at the site. The Qualified SWPPP Practitioner, under the direction of the Legally Responsible Person (i.e., Facilities Director), would be responsible for implementing and monitoring the SWPPP BMPs. Measures for erosion and sediment control would include the following:

Erosion Control BMPs	Sediment Control BMPs
EC-1: Scheduling	SE-1: Silt Fence
EC-2: Preservation of Existing Vegetation	SE-3: Sediment Trap
EC-3: Hydraulic Mulch	SE-4: Check Dams
EC-4: Hydroseeding	SE-5: Fiber Rolls
EC-5: Soil Binders	SE-6: Gravel Bag Berm
EC-6: Straw Mulch	SE-7: Street Sweeping and Vacuuming
EC-7: Geotextiles and Mats	SE-8: Sandbag Barrier
EC-8: Wood Mulching	SE-10: Storm Drain Inlet Protection

2.3.3 Operations and Maintenance

The channel would be maintained by LACCD or a qualified contractor. Maintenance of each Project component is described below.

Diversion structures

The gravity diversion structures would be inspected and cleaned quarterly and after storm events of 1 inch of rain or more and cleaned when debris is present. Regular maintenance would include removal of debris and vacuum cleaning at least once during the wet season and once during the dry season or as needed.

Hydrodynamic Separator

Regular inspections would be conducted quarterly and after storm events of 1 inch of rain or more. Cleaning would be performed if sediment has reached 75 percent of capacity in the isolated sump or when an appreciable level of trash or debris has accumulated, or when ponded water is present for more than 96 hours after a storm event indicating a blockage to the outlet pipe of the system.

Underground Infiltration System

Inspections would be conducted quarterly and after storm events of 1 inch of rain or more. Cleaning would be performed when sediment occupies more than 10 to 15 percent of the originally designed system's volume or on an annual basis, or if there is ponded water for more than 96 hours after a storm event.

Biofiltration Units

- Plants/Vegetation – Inspections minimum once per month. Maintenance triggers include excess vegetation greater than 12 inches; woody or non-biofiltration plants; vegetation blocking curb inlets; dead, diseased, dying or missing plants. Maintenance includes cutting and removal of vegetation as appropriate replacement of plants, removal of sediment.
- Mulch – Inspections minimum once per month or within four days after storm event. Maintenance activities include replacing mulch in eroded areas, identifying the cause of erosion, adjusting amounts of cobble to address energy dissipation, and removing mulch in sedimentation areas.
- Bioretention Soil Media – Inspections every 6 months or as needed if erosion or rodent damage is present. Maintenance activities would include replacing media in eroded or damaged areas; adjusting amounts of cobble to address energy dissipation; removing sediment accumulation; removing rodents to prevent damage; and removing clogs from the underdrains.
- Aggregate – Inspections annually or as needed if erosion or rodent damage is present. Mulch and bioretention soil media would be removed on side slopes and the invert of the system, and

aggregate would be replaced as needed. Rodent damage would be minimized by eradicating or relocating rodents as appropriate.

- Underdrain – Inspections annually or within four days after storm event or rodent damage is present. If the biofiltration system is ponded for more than 96 hours, the underdrain would be flushed and cleaned. If flushing fails to drain the system in 96 hours, the mulch, bioretention soil media, aggregate, and underdrain would be replaced. Rodent damage would be minimized by eradicating or relocating rodents as appropriate. Mulch and bioretention soil media would be removed from side slopes and aggregate and underdrain would be replaced as needed if rodent damage is present.
- Overflow Structure – Inspections monthly or within four days after storm event. Clogs would be remediated by flushing the system through the overflow structure. If flushing fails, the overflow structure would be removed and replaced, including mulch, bioretention soil media, and aggregate. Minor repairs would include patching chips and cracks to the concrete overflow structure and resetting frames and grates.
- Curb Inlet – Inspections annually, within four days after storm event, or after > magnitude 5.0 earthquake. Debris sand sediment would be removed to address clogs and allow stormwater to enter the system. If cracks or uplifting of curb inlets occur, the curb inlets would be grinded and patched to allow stormwater to enter the biofiltration system. If infeasible, the curb inlet would be replaced. Energy dissipation would be replaced or repaired to prevent erosion as needed. Minor repairs would include patching chips and cracks to the concrete curb inlets.
- Curb and Gutter – Inspections annually, within four days after storm event, or after > magnitude 5.0 earthquake. Sediment and debris would be removed. If cracking or uplifting of curb and gutter occurs preventing stormwater from being conveyed to the biofiltration system, the curb and gutter would be grinded and patched or replaced. Minor repairs would include patching chips and cracks to the concrete curb and gutter.
- Deep Curb – Inspections annually, or erosion is present, or after > magnitude 5.0 earthquake. If cracking or uplifting of deep curb occurs, the curb would be grinded or replaced. Minor repairs would include patching chips and cracks to the concrete deep curb.
- Irrigation System – Inspections minimum once per month. Maintenance activities include checking and repairing the system to address changes in flow rates or pressure.

Concrete-Lined Flood Control Channel

Sediment, trash, and debris would be removed from the channel using a skip loader or hand tools prior to the wet season or if the channel has standing water. Removed material would be disposed of at a landfill or other appropriate facility. If unusual stain or discoloration occurs within the concrete channel, a qualified contractor would enact a Spill Prevention Plan to evaluate approaches to remove the spill and regain flow capacity of the channel. Minor repairs include patching chips and cracks. Major repairs to address severe cracking or deterioration of concrete would be conducted by a qualified contractor. After large rain events, the channel would be inspected for sediment, trash, debris, standing water, and concrete damage. A fence would be constructed on the southern channel wall, which would be inspected prior to the wet season after large rain events to ensure there is no damage or holes that may allow access to the channel.

3.0 INITIAL STUDY ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

This Initial Study is prepared in accordance with State CEQA Guidelines Section 15063 and State CEQA Guidelines Appendix G.

1. Project Title:	Los Angeles Harbor College Stormwater Implementation Project
2. Lead Agency Name and Address:	Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD) 770 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90017
3. Contact Person and Phone Number:	Donald K. McLarty, Planning and Support Services Manager, BuildLACCD, (323) 980-2634
4. Project Location:	1111 Figueroa Place, Wilmington, CA 90744
5. Project Sponsor's Name and Address:	LACCD 770 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90017
6. General Plan Designation:	Public Facilities
7. Zoning:	Public Facilities (PF-1XL-O)
8. Description of Project:	The proposed Project would include construction of an underground infiltration system, hydrodynamic separators, biofiltration systems, storm drains, and a concrete-lined flood channel at Los Angeles Harbor College. The intent of the proposed Project is to reduce on-campus flooding and improve water quality while helping to provide future compliance under the next Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit.
9. Surrounding Land Uses/Setting	The immediate Project vicinity includes public facilities such as Los Angeles Harbor College and Dr. Richard A. Vladovic Harbor Teacher Preparation Academy (VHTPA). Surrounding land uses near the Project site include recreational facilities such as the Harbor Park Golf Course to the north and the Harbor Sports Complex to the northeast; residential development approximately 0.4 mile to the east and southeast; and industrial development approximately 0.5 mile to the south. Access to the Project site and staging areas would be provided by West L Street west of Figueroa Place.
10. Other Public Agencies Whose Approval is Required	Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board, State Water Resources Control Board, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, United States Army Corps of Engineers.
11. Have California Native American Tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project area requested consultation pursuant to Public Resources Code 21808.3.1?	No (refer to Section XVIII, Tribal Cultural Resources)

3.1 ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED

The environmental factors checked below would potentially be affected by this proposed Project, requiring implementation of mitigation. These environmental factors are indicated by "Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated" in the checklists throughout Sections I through XX.

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

3.2 DETERMINATION

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

	I find that the proposed Project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
X	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 proposed 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 an impact on the environment that is "potentially significant" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" but at least one effect (1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards and (2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis, as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
	I find that although the proposed Project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed Project, nothing further is required.

Donald K. McLarty Planning and Support Services Manager BuildLACCD Los Angeles Community College District	Date

3.3 EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

1. A brief explanation is required for all answers except "no impact" answers that are adequately supported by the information sources a lead agency cites in the parentheses following each question. A "no impact" answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A "no impact" answer should be explained if it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards (e.g., the project would not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis).
2. All answers must take account of the whole action involved, including off site as well as on site, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.
3. Once the lead agency has determined that a particular physical impact may occur, the checklist answers must indicate whether the impact is potentially significant, less than significant with mitigation, or less than significant. "Potentially significant impact" is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant. If there are one or more "potentially significant impact" entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.
4. "Negative declaration: less than significant with mitigation incorporated" applies when the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from a "potentially significant impact" to a "less than significant impact." The lead agency must describe the mitigation measures and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level.
5. Earlier analyses may be used if, pursuant to tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or negative declaration (Section 15063[c][3][D]). In this case, a brief discussion should identify the following:
   (a) Earlier analysis used. Identify and state where earlier analyses are available for review.
   (b) Impacts adequately addressed. Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of and adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.
   (c) Mitigation measures. For effects that are "less than significant with mitigation incorporated," describe the mitigation measures that were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.
6. Lead agencies are encouraged to incorporate into the checklist references to information sources for potential impacts (e.g., general plans, zoning ordinances). Reference to a previously prepared or outside document should, when appropriate, include a reference to the page or pages where the statement is substantiated.
7. Supporting information sources. A source list should be attached, and other sources used or individuals contacted should be cited in the discussion.
8. This is only a suggested form, and lead agencies are free to use different formats; however, lead agencies should normally address the questions from this checklist that are relevant to a project's environmental effects in whatever format is selected.
9. The explanation of each issue should identify:
   (a) the significance criteria or threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question, and

(b) the mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to a less than significant level.

10. The evaluations with this Initial Study assume compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, rules, and codes. In addition, the evaluation assumes that all conditions in applicable agency permits are complied with, including but not limited to local permits, air quality district permits, water quality permits and certifications, USACE permits, and other agency permits, as applicable.

Potential impacts associated with the proposed Project are addressed in the Initial Study Checklist and impact discussions below.

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

Discussion:

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

Less-than-Significant Impact. The Project site is surrounded by immediate views of the LAHC campus, a small portion of relatively undeveloped land where the concrete-lined flood channel would be developed, distant industrial development to the south, and a golf course to the north. The Project site has no scenic vistas. The proposed improvements would be compatible with the surrounding primarily urban area, as structures would either be underground or at-grade. The vegetated undeveloped portion of the Project site is not of high visual quality as it is dominated by non-native trees and ruderal vegetation.

Although construction equipment and materials may be visible from public vantage points, construction is not anticipated to extend beyond the approximately six-month construction schedule, and temporarily disturbed areas would be re-established upon completion of construction. Temporary modifications to aboveground structures would include constructing the concrete-lined flood channel, excavating the baseball field to install the underground infiltration system, removing and replacing vegetation, and repaving parking lots. Any native riparian vegetation removed during construction would be replaced at a 1:1 ratio. Therefore, potential construction impacts to scenic vistas would be less than significant, and no mitigation is required.

Additionally, all stormwater management infrastructure (underground infiltration system, hydrodynamic separators, biofiltration systems, and storm drains) would be located underground or at-grade. These modifications would be consistent with the existing visual character of the area and would not contrast with neighboring development or impact a scenic vista. Therefore, operational impacts to scenic vistas would be less than significant, and no mitigation is required.

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

No Impact. The Project site is approximately 0.4 mile west of Interstate 110 and approximately 0.5 mile south of California State Route 1, both of which are not Eligible State Scenic Highways along these segments (Caltrans, 2019). Construction of the proposed Project would not damage or adversely affect rock outcroppings or historic buildings, as the majority of construction activities would occur within an existing developed college campus. No aboveground buildings would be constructed that would obstruct views from a State scenic highway. Therefore, construction and operation of the proposed Project would have no impact to scenic resources within a State scenic highway, and no mitigation is required.

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 publicly accessible vantage point). If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?

Less-than-Significant Impact. The proposed Project would be located in a primarily urbanized area with only a small portion of proposed improvements located in a relatively undeveloped area with low visual quality. The Project site is currently zoned Public Facilities and would not conflict with any applicable zoning and land use regulations governing scenic quality. The proposed Project activities do not involve the construction of any large obtrusive aboveground structures that would degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site or its surroundings. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant, and no mitigation is required.

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

No Impact. Construction of the proposed Project would occur during daylight hours between 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. No lighting would be required during construction or operation activities, and no change to existing lighting would be needed. As such, the proposed Project would not create a new source of substantial light or glare that could adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area. Therefore, no impact would occur, and no mitigation is required.

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

Discussion:

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

No Impact. The Department of Conservation (DOC) California Important Farmland Finder identifies the Project site as Urban and Built-Up Land, which is defined as land occupied by

residential, industrial, commercial, institutional, or other similar structures with a building density of approximately six structures to a ten-acre parcel (DOC, 2016). As such, the Project site does not contain any Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance that would be converted to accommodate the proposed Project. Therefore, there would be no impact on designated farmland, and no mitigation is required.

b. Would the project conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?

No Impact. As discussed in Section II(a), the proposed Project would be located on Urban and Built-Up Land (DOC, 2016). Because the Project site would not be located on designated agricultural land, it would not be located on land enrolled in a Williamson Act contract. The Project site is zoned Public Facilities, and there are no agricultural zoning designations or agricultural uses within the Project limits or adjacent areas (City of Los Angeles, 2022). Therefore, there would be no impact on existing zoning for agricultural use or a Williamson Act contract, and no mitigation is required.

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

No Impact. As discussed in Section II(b), the Project site is zoned Public Facilities, and as a result, would not conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land, timberland, or timberland zoned Timberland Production. Therefore, there would be no impact on land zoned for forest land, and no mitigation is required.

d. Would the project result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?

No Impact. The proposed Project would occur in an area that does not include forest land. As such, the proposed Project would not result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use. Therefore, there would be no impact on forest land, and no mitigation is required.

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?

No Impact. As discussed in Sections II(a) through II(d), no farmland or forest land is included within the Project site or the surrounding area. As such, the proposed Project would not involve changes in the existing environment that could result in the conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use. Therefore, there would be no impact on agricultural or forest land uses or activities, and no mitigation is required.

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
III.	**AIR QUALITY** Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management district or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. **Would the project:**				
a.	Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?			X	
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?			X	
c.	Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?			X	
d.	Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people?			X	

Discussion:

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

Less-than-Significant Impact. South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) and the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) have developed air quality management plans (AQMPs) to meet the requirements of the Federal Clean Air Act (SCAQMD, 2022). The focus of the 2003 AQMP was to demonstrate attainment of the federal particulate matter (PM10) standard by 2006 and the federal 1-hour O_3 standard by 2010, and included a nitrogen dioxide (NO_2) maintenance plan. The 2007 AQMP focus was to demonstrate compliance with the new National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for particulate matter (PM)2.5, the NAAQS for PM10, 8-hour ozone (O_3), 1-hour O_3, and other air quality planning requirements. The 2012 AQMP addresses the 1-hour and 8-hour Ozone Plan inadequacies identified by the USEPA and provides a 24-hour PM2.5 plan. SCAQMD has completed and approved the 2016 AQMP, which has also been approved by CARB; however, that plan has not yet been approved by USEPA. The SCAQMD Draft Final Plan of the 2022 AQMP is in development to address the requirements for meeting the 2015 Ozone NAAQS (SCAQMD, 2022).

The proposed Project includes installation of stormwater management infrastructure, so it would not include major stationary emissions sources or cause new growth and would have limited operations and maintenance activities. The proposed Project would comply with all applicable SCAQMD rules and regulations. For example, SCAQMD Rule 403 (Fugitive Dust) applies to all construction activities, and as such, would apply during Project construction. This rule prohibits creation of dust plumes that are visible beyond the property line of the emission source and requires all active operations to implement applicable best available control measures. Therefore, the proposed Project would not conflict with, or obstruct, the applicable air quality plans. Impacts from Project construction and operation would be less than significant, and mitigation is not required.

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?

Less-than-Significant Impact. The proposed Project's emissions would occur during construction activities to install stormwater management infrastructure. Emissions emitted during Project construction would include trenching, excavation, grading, compacting, as well as emissions emitted during vehicle travel for employees and hauling. These emissions would be minimal and short term and are not anticipated to affect local or regional long-term air quality. Table 3.1 identifies daily maximum air pollutant emissions estimates that would occur during Project construction.

Table 3.1. LA Harbor College Project: Construction, Daily Emissions

	Maximum Daily Emissions (lbs/day)					
	VOC	**NOx**	**CO**	**SOx**	**PM10**	**PM2.5**
Maximum Emissions	4.66	54.52	51.13	0.15	5.02	2.64
SCAQMD Construction Significance Thresholds for CEQA Purposes	**75**	**100**	**550**	**150**	**150**	**55**

Source: SCAQMD, 2019. Appendix D.

Construction equipment and on-road vehicle traffic associated with construction would create exhaust emissions from fuel combustion and particulate matter from ground disturbing activities. As shown in Table 3.1, daily air pollutant emissions are less than the SCAQMD construction significance thresholds. During operations, emissions would be negligible and would be limited to inspections and maintenance of Project components. Impacts to air quality would be less than significant, and mitigation is not required.

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

Less-than-Significant Impact. SCAQMD LSTs are used to determine if a project could exceed ambient air quality thresholds for nearby sensitive receptors. LSTs only contain on-site emissions and do not include off-site vehicle trip emissions. The LSTs were established by SCAQMD for each source receptor area (SRA) within SCAQMD jurisdiction and represent on-site emission levels that could cause ambient air quality standard exceedances or substantial contributions to existing exceedances at given distances from the site to nearby receptor locations. SCAQMD identifies the Wilmington area as being within SRA 3.

The nearest sensitive receptors for construction activities are several residences located south of LAHC, just west of Figueroa Place, approximately 800 feet (approximately 240 meters) to the southeast. LAHC and VHTPA are the nearest schools, located on the Project site.

The SCAQMD LST emissions thresholds that are applicable within SRA 3 for a five-acre construction site with a receptor distance of 200 meters are as follows (SCAQMD, 2009):

- NOx – 222 lbs/day at 200 meters;
- CO – 4119 lbs/day at 200 meters;
- PM10 – 88 lbs/day at 200 meters;
- PM2.5 – 35 lbs/day at 200 meters;

Table 3.2 compares the maximum daily construction emissions worst-case assumptions for the proposed Project with the SCAQMD's most conservative applicable LSTs. Emissions compared are from Appendix D and include truck trips, representing a conservative estimate.

Table 3.2. LA Harbor College Project: Construction, Daily Emissions, Conservative Thresholds

	Maximum Daily Emissions (lbs/day)					
	VOC	**NOx**	**CO**	**SOx**	**PM10**	**PM2.5**
Maximum Emissions	4.66	54.52	51.13	0.15	5.02	2.64
SCAQMD Conservative Construction Significance Thresholds for CEQA Purposes	**-**	**222**	**4119**	**-**	**88**	**35**

Source: SCAQMD, 2009. Appendix D.

The proposed Project's maximum worst-case daily on-site construction emissions would not exceed the SCAQMD LSTs. Project operations would have negligible emissions that would not have the potential to exceed LST thresholds. Therefore, Project construction and operation would not be likely to expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations. Construction impacts would be less than significant, and operation impacts would be less than significant. Mitigation is not required.

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

Less-than-Significant Impact. Some objectionable odors may be temporarily created during construction-related activities, such as those from diesel exhaust and paving activities. The effects of any odors would be minimal because of the mandatory use of ultra-low sulfur diesel fuel by construction equipment, and the number of people adjacent to construction sources would be limited to those on the Project site. Residences located south of LAHC would be approximately 800 feet (approximately 240 meters) away. As such, construction-related odors would not affect a substantial number of people, and this impact would only occur in localized areas for a limited duration of time. Therefore, this impact would be less than significant, and mitigation is not required.

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
IV.	**BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES** **Would the project:**				
a.	Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?		X		
b.	Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in the City or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?		X		
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?		X		
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?		X		
e.	Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?				X
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?				X

Discussion:

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?

Less than Significant with Mitigation. As described in the Biological Resources Technical Report (Appendix A), no listed plant species were observed within the Project site, and none have a potential to be present. One special-status plant with a California Rare Plant Rank (CRPR) of 1B.1, Southern tarplant, is known from within 300 feet of the Project area. This plant was not detected within the Project site and is not expected to be impacted. If additional plants germinate within the Project site prior to the start of Project constriction, the loss of these plants would be less than significant because of the limited number of plants and the abundance of plants around Machado Lake, located west of the Project site.

As described in the Biological Resources Technical Report (Appendix A), no listed wildlife species were observed within the Project site, and none have the potential to be present. One listed species, least Bell's vireo, does have a potential to be impacted by noise associated with the Project because suitable nesting habitat is present within 500 feet of Project features. Impacts to least Bell's vireo would be avoided with the implementation of Mitigation Measures (MMs) BIO-1, BIO-2, and BIO-3 by requiring pre-construction surveys, establishing nest buffers, and monitoring noise levels to prevent nest avoidance.

Several non-listed special-status wildlife species have at least a moderate potential to be present on the project site including bald eagle, yellow warbler, Cooper's hawk, and several species of bats. These species are discussed in greater detail in Appendix A. With implementation of MMs BIO-1, BIO-2, and BIO-3, impacts to these species and any other special-status species would be reduced to a less-than-significant level.

Mitigation Measures

MM BIO-1 **Nesting Birds.** LACCD shall complete project construction outside of the bird nesting season (August 16 – February 14) to avoid potential impacts to nesting birds and special-status birds. If work must occur during the nesting season (February 15 – August 15), LACCD will retain a qualified biologist to conduct nesting bird surveys to ensure that no nesting birds are present on the Project site. If nests are found, the biologist shall establish appropriate nest buffers and work will not be allowed to occur within these buffers. The biologist will monitor the bird activities to ensure that nests are not impacted.

MM BIO-2 **Special-status Wildlife.** LACCD shall retain a qualified biologist to conduct a pre-construction biological survey within the limits of disturbance at the concrete-lined flood channel. The biologist shall survey the site for all special-status bats, birds, and other special-status wildlife species. If any special-status species are found, the qualified biologist shall work with LACCD to relocate these species or allow them to leave the project site on their own. The biologist shall also be present during initial vegetation clearing within the disturbance area at the concrete-lined flood channel.

MM BIO-3 **Noise Monitoring.** LACCD shall retain a qualified biologist to conduct noise monitoring during implementation of the Project. Noise monitoring shall be performed adjacent to the riparian habitat that is suitable for least Bell's vireo. The

qualified biologist shall collect baseline ambient noise levels three times (morning, midday, and afternoon), during a typical weekday, prior to the start of Project activities. During Project implementation, the qualified biologist shall take weekly measurements at the same time periods, to ensure that Project activities are not exceeding ambient noise levels by more than 10 decibels. Ensuring that noise levels are not exceeding ambient levels by 10 decibels will ensure that noise is not impacting least Bell's vireo habitat, territories, or active nests.

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

Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated. As described in the Biological Resources Technical Report (Appendix A), Project impacts would result in the temporary and permanent loss of riparian vegetation. Riparian vegetation to be removed for Project construction include Goodding's willow - red willow riparian woodland and forest (0.07 acres), mulefat thickets (0.06 acres), and Himalayan blackberry - rattlebox - edible fig riparian scrub (0.14 acres). The quality of the riparian habitat that would be impacted is poor due to the abundance of non-native species and previous impacts from transient encampments. Regardless, the loss of this riparian habitat may be significant without the proposed replacement of this vegetation, described in MM BIO-4, below. The Riparian Planting Plan (Appendix B) provides details on the riparian planting locations, irrigation plans, and plant palette. Native species included in the Riparian Planting Plan are Goodding's black willow (*Salix gooddingii*), blue elderberry (*Sambucus nigra* ssp. *caerulea*), mulefat (*Baccharis salicifolia*), wild grape (*Vitis girdiana*), mugwort (*Artemisia douglasiana*), blue wildrye (*Elymus glaucus*), yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*), California poppy (*Eschscholzia californica*), arroyo lupine (*Lupinus succulentus*), and California verbena (*Verbena lasiostachys*). The Riparian Planting Plan includes plants that are native to the Project site and densities that are expected to create replacement riparian habitat that is far superior to the habitat being impacted. MM BIO-4 would require the replacement of riparian vegetation at a ratio of 1:1 which would result in greater habitat value than what is present in the baseline condition. Implementation of MM BIO-4 would reduce the potential impacts to riparian vegetation to a less-than-significant level.

Mitigation Measures

MM BIO-4 Riparian Vegetation. LACCD shall replant all native riparian vegetation that is removed during project activities. Replacement and creation of native riparian habitat will also account for the loss of California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) streambeds. It is expected that up to 0.14 acres of native riparian vegetation and 0.4 acres of CDFW streambeds may be impacted and it shall be replaced at a 1:1 ratio. If riparian vegetation is avoided, these areas will not need to be replaced and would require less than 0.18 acres of restoration. The riparian vegetation replanting shall include Gooding's willow, mulefat, and other native species known from the project site or adjacent Machado Lake. The riparian vegetation replanting can occur adjacent to the new channel, on the northside of the new channel, or elsewhere on the LAHC property with suitable conditions. Irrigation will likely be required to establish the vegetation. The restoration area shall be maintained and monitored for a period of five years.

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?

Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated. As described in the Aquatic Resources Delineation Report (Appendix C), 0.03 acres of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Non-wetland Waters of the U.S., 0.03 acres of Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (LARWQCB) Wetlands and Waters of the State, and 0.18 of CDFW Streambeds and Vegetation are present within the Project site. This is based on an assessment of jurisdictional resources conducted by Aspen biologists on July 21, 2021. Impacts to these jurisdictional features would require regulatory permits to be obtained in order to construct the Project. They also require creation or enhancement of the wetlands and/or riparian habitat to off-set these impacts. BIO-4 described above requires LACCD to restore riparian habitat within the Project site at the completion of the project. LACCD has already begun to coordinate with the USACE, LARWQCB, and CDFW to obtain permits.

Lastly, LACCD will implement various Best Management Practices (BMPs) as part of standard Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) requirements for erosion control measures as part of the Project design. As discussed in Section 2.3.2 (Construction), these measures may include, but would not be limited to, minimizing the extent of disturbed areas and duration of exposure, stabilizing, and protecting disturbed areas, keeping runoff velocities low, and retaining sediment within the construction area. Therefore, impacts to protected waters during Project construction would be less than significant with mitigation incorporated.

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?

Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated. As described in the Biological Resources Technical Report (Appendix A), the Project site provides suitable nesting habitat for numerous resident and migratory bird species. Although no bird nests were observed during the surveys conducted in support of the Project, suitable nest sites are abundant throughout the Project site and adjacent open space, and many common bird species are expected to nest there. Implementation of MM BIO-1 above would reduce or avoid any potential impacts to nesting birds.

Given the limited extent of the Project area, the absence of wildlife corridors and the short duration of construction activities, the proposed Project's impacts on the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species would be less than significant. Impacts to nesting birds would be less than significant with mitigation incorporated.

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

No Impact. The only biological resources protected by City Ordinances (Ordinance No. 177404) pertain to specific tree species including oak trees, Southern California black walnut, Western sycamore, and California Bay. None of these trees were detected within the Project site. Therefore, the Project would not conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance. Therefore, no impacts would occur, and no mitigation is required.

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?

No Impact. There are no adopted Habitat Conservation Plans, Natural Community Conservation Plans, or other similar plans that overlap with the Project area in the Port of Los Angeles (CDFW, 2021b; USFWS, 2021). The nearest conservation plan area is the Rancho Palos Verdes Natural Community Conservation Plan area, which is located approximately one mile southwest of the Project area (City of Rancho Palos Verdes, 2018). The County of Los Angeles (County) has established official, designated areas, referred to as Significant Ecological Areas (SEAs), within the County that contain rare or unique biological resources. The proposed Project site is not in or adjacent to a SEAs, therefore, no impacts would occur, and no mitigation is required.

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

Cultural Resources Overview

This section provides an analysis of proposed Project impacts on cultural resources, including historical and archaeological resources as well as human remains, and is based on the results of cultural resources record search conducted by staff at the South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC), a review of past cultural resources reports, and the results of a Sacred Lands File (SLF) Search conducted by the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC). A cultural resources survey was not conducted on the Project site since the area is primarily within an already built environment (Los Angeles Harbor College).

Regulatory Framework

CEQA requires a Lead Agency determine whether a project may have a significant effect on historical resources (Public Resources Code [PRC] Section 21084.1), archaeological resources, or human remains. 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 (State CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5[a][1-3]). Resources listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) are automatically listed on the CRHR, along with State Landmarks and Points of Interest. The CRHR can also include properties designated under local ordinances or identified through local historical resource surveys. In addition, pursuant to PRC Section 5024.1(c), a resource shall be considered historically significant if it:

1. Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California's history and cultural heritage;
2. Is associated with the lives of persons important in our past;
3. 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
4. Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

If it can be demonstrated that a project would cause damage to a unique archaeological resource, the CEQA Lead Agency may require reasonable efforts be made to permit any or all of 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:

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

Methodology

A search of the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) was conducted to identify any previously recorded cultural resources and previously conducted cultural resources studies within the Project site and a 0.25-mile radius surrounding it. On November 30, 2022, staff from the SCCIC at California State University, Fullerton conducted the record search. The searches included a review of previous cultural resource studies and recorded resources. In addition, Rincon completed a review of the NRHP, the CRHR, the Historic Resources Inventory, and local inventories. An NAHC SLF search of the Project site and surrounding vicinity was also requested on October 10, 2022.

As a result of the record search, the SCCIC did not identify any previously recorded cultural resources within the Project site. Four previously recorded cultural resources were identified within the 0.25-mile radius consisting of two prehistoric sites, one multi-component (prehistoric age and historic age) site, and one resource that is undefined and of unknown age. Additionally, the SCCIC identified nine previous cultural resource studies within 0.25 mile of the Project site. Of these, six encompass all or portions of the Project site (Galaz 2022). Lastly, a SLF search was completed by the NAHC on November 14, 2022, with negative results (Green 2022).

Discussion:

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

Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated. As discussed above, no previously recorded historical resources were identified within the Project site. However, ground disturbing activity, such as grading, trenching, or excavations, has the potential to impact unknown buried resources that may be considered significant under CEQA. Implementation of MMs CUL-1, CUL-2, and CUL-3 would reduce impacts to unknown resources to a less-than-significant level.

Mitigation Measures

MM CUL-1 Worker Environmental Awareness Program. Prior to the initiation of construction, all construction personnel shall be trained by a qualified archaeologist meeting federal criteria under 36 CFR 61 regarding the recognition of possible buried cultural resources (i.e., prehistoric and/or historical artifacts, objects, or features) and protection of all archaeological resources during construction. Training shall inform all construction personnel of the procedures to be followed upon the discovery of cultural materials. All personnel shall be instructed that unauthorized removal or collection of artifacts is a violation of State law. Any excavation contract (or contracts for other activities that may have subsurface soil impacts) shall include clauses that

require construction personnel to attend the Worker Environmental Awareness Program, so they are aware of the potential for inadvertently exposing buried archaeological deposits.

MM CUL-2 **Inadvertent Discovery.** If previously unidentified cultural resources are uncovered during construction activities, construction work within 50 feet of the find shall be halted and directed away from the discovery until a Secretary of the Interior qualified archaeologist assesses the significance of the resource. The archaeologist, in consultation with LACCD, shall make the necessary plans for treatment of the find(s) and for the evaluation and mitigation of impacts if the find(s) is found to be eligible to the National or California Registers, or qualify as a unique archaeological resource under CEQA (PRC §21083.2).

MM CUL-3 **Treatment of Human Remains.** All human remains discovered are to be treated with respect and dignity. Upon discovery of human remains, all work within 50 feet of the discovery area must cease immediately, disturbance must be avoided, and the area must be secured. The County Coroner's Office must be called. The Coroner has 2 working days to examine the remains after notification. The appropriate land manager/owner of the site is to be called and informed of the discovery. It is very important that the suspected remains, and the area around them, are undisturbed and the proper authorities called to the scene as soon as possible, because it could be a crime scene. The Coroner would determine if the remains are archaeological/ historic or of modern origin and if there are any criminal or jurisdictional questions.

After the Coroner has determined that the remains are archaeological/historic-era, the Coroner would make recommendations concerning the treatment and disposition of the remains to the person responsible for the excavation, or to his or her authorized representative. If the Coroner believes the remains to be those of a Native American, he/she shall contact the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) by telephone within 24 hours.

The NAHC would immediately notify the person it believes to be the most likely descendant (MLD) of the remains. The MLD has 48 hours from the time given to access the site to make recommendations to the landowner for treatment or disposition of the human remains. If the descendant does not make recommendations within 48 hours, the landowner shall reinter the remains in an area of the property secure from further disturbance. If the landowner does not accept the descendant's recommendations, the owner or the descendant may request mediation by NAHC.

According to the California Health and Safety Code, six or more human burials at one location constitute a cemetery (Section 8100), and willful disturbance of human remains is a felony (Section 7052).

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

Less than Significant with Mitigation with Mitigation Incorporated. The record search did not identify any known archaeological resources in the Project site. However, the record search did identify prehistoric archaeological resource within a 0.25-mile radius. Ground-disturbing activity, such as grading, trenching, or excavations, has the potential to impact unknown buried resources that may be considered a unique archaeological resource per CEQA. Implementation of MMs

CUL-1, CUL-2, and CUL-3 would reduce impacts to unknown resources to a less-than-significant level.

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

Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated. No known human remains, or informal, undocumented cemeteries were identified within the Project area as a result of the record search, archival research, NAHC Sacred Lands File Search, or intensive pedestrian survey. In the unlikely event unknown buried human remains are encountered during ground disturbing activity, the implementation of MMs CUL-1, CUL-2, and CUL-3 would reduce potential impacts to a less-than-significant level.

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

Discussion:

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

Less-than-Significant Impact. Construction of the proposed Project would require the use of energy in the form of gasoline and diesel fuel for equipment and transportation of materials and electricity for the construction manager's trailer. However, the use of fuel and electricity for construction would not be large scale and would be temporary. Energy usage would not be wasteful or affect local or regional energy supplies. As such, construction impacts would be less than significant, and mitigation is not required.

Operation of the proposed Project would require the intermittent use of fuel for maintenance trucks and other equipment. The use of fuel would be relatively minimal when compared with the beneficial flood control and water quality improvement provided and would not be considered wasteful. Operation impacts would be less than significant, and mitigation is not required.

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

Less-than-Significant Impact. The Project would not conflict with energy efficiency plans, restrict the development of renewable energy projects, or restrict the use of renewable energy. The proposed Project does not include energy consumption sources that are directly subject to state or local energy efficiency plans. The use of on-road vehicles during project construction would be temporary and limited and would be required to meet ongoing federal and state fuel efficiency requirements. During operations, maintenance activities would be similar to existing conditions with limited increase in energy use due to maintenance of new stormwater infrastructure components. Therefore, the Project would not conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency. Impacts would be less than significant, and mitigation is not required.

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
VII.	**GEOLOGY AND SOILS** **Would the project:**				
a.	Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				
	i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.				X
	ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?			X	
	iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?			X	
	iv) Landslides?			X	
b.	Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?			X	
c.	Be located on geologic units 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?			X	
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?			X	
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?				X
f.	Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?		X		

Discussion:

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

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

No Impact. LAHC is located in a seismically active area of Southern California with numerous active faults in the vicinity; however, no Alquist-Priolo Fault Zones or other known Quaternary faults cross or are adjacent to the Project (DOC, 2023; USGS, 2023). The closest Alquist Priolo Fault Zone to the Project is for the Cherry Hill Fault, which is part of the Newport-Inglewood Fault Zone and is located approximately 5.6 miles northeast of the Project (DOC, 2023). The closest Quaternary fault to the Project is the Palos Verdes Fault zone, located approximately 1 mile to the southwest (USGS, 2023). The LAHC overlies the Compton blind thrust fault; however, this fault is a buried blind thrust with no surface expression that would create rupture plain at the surface during an earthquake. Therefore, no impact would occur, and no mitigation is required.

(ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?

Less-than-Significant Impact. The Project area would likely be subject to ground shaking associated with earthquakes on local and regional active faults. The intensity of the seismic ground shaking during an earthquake is dependent on the distance between the Project area and the epicenter of the earthquake, the magnitude of the earthquake, and the geologic conditions underlying and surrounding the Project area. Earthquakes occurring on faults closest to the Project area would most likely generate the largest ground motions. Significant active faults near the Project that could generate large earthquakes resulting in seismic ground shaking at the Project site include the following: the Compton blind thrust, the Palos Verdes fault zone, the Newport-Inglewood Fault zone, the Puente Hills blind thrust, the Santa Monica fault, the Elysian Park blind thrust, the Elsinore fault zone, the Malibu Coast fault, and the Hollywood fault (USGS, 2023). Large earthquakes on other regional faults could also trigger ground shaking at the Project site.

Three substantial damaging earthquakes have occurred within 35 miles of LAHC: the 1933 Long Beach Earthquake, the 1987 Whittier Narrows Earthquake, and the 1994 Northridge Earthquake. The 1933 Earthquake occurred on the Newport-Inglewood Fault Zone. Both the 1987 Whittier Narrows Earthquake and the 1994 Northridge Earthquake occurred on previously unknown blind thrust faults (LACCD, 2003).

The intensity of earthquake-induced ground motions can be described using ground accelerations, represented as a fraction of the acceleration of gravity (g). The United States Geological Survey (USGS) National Seismic Hazards Map (NSHM) was used to estimate peak ground accelerations for the Project (USGS, 2014). The NSHM Map depicts peak ground accelerations with a 2 percent probability of exceedance in 50 years, which corresponds to a return interval of 2,475 years for a maximum considered earthquake. Peak ground acceleration is the maximum acceleration experienced by a particle on the Earth's surface during an earthquake, and the units of acceleration are most commonly measured in terms of fractions of g, the acceleration due to gravity (980 cm/sec^2). Peak ground accelerations within the Project site are

mapped in the range of 0.6 to 0.8 g, which corresponds to moderate to strong ground shaking (USGS, 2014).

Seismically induced ground shaking could result in adverse effects and injury to workers in the event of a large local or regional earthquake. Project structures would be constructed per geotechnical seismic recommendations, and all State and local building and safety standards and regulations. Work activities would follow all State and local safety regulations. Therefore, seismic ground shaking would have less-than-significant impacts, and no mitigation is required.

(iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?

Less-than-Significant Impact. The California Geological Survey maps the eastern and southern areas of the proposed Project site as a Liquefaction Hazard zone (USGS, 2023). Liquefaction is the phenomenon in which saturated granular sediments temporarily lose their shear strength during periods of earthquake-induced strong ground shaking. The susceptibility of a site to liquefaction is a function of the depth, density, and water content of the granular sediments and the magnitude and frequency of earthquakes in the surrounding region. Saturated, unconsolidated silts, sands, and silty sands within 50 feet of the ground surface are most susceptible to liquefaction (unconsolidated sediments with groundwater levels of 50 feet below ground surface [bgs] or less). Liquefaction-related phenomena include lateral spreading, ground oscillation, flow failures, loss of bearing strength, subsidence, and buoyancy effects. The 2018 percolation study conducted by Koury Engineering indicated historic groundwater levels as high as 10 feet bgs, found no groundwater in their borings to the total explored depth of 45.6 feet, however some of their deeper samples were verging on wet, indicating groundwater was likely close (Koury, 2019). Sediments mapped in the 2018 borings consisted primarily of clays with layers of potentially liquefiable, loose to medium dense sand with varying amounts of silt (Koury, 2019).

Potentially liquefiable sediments exist with 50 feet of the ground surface, and although current groundwater levels in the area are likely at or below 50 feet in depth it would be possible for liquefaction to occur within some of the liquefiable sand layers in the event of an earthquake if groundwater levels were to recover to a higher level and potentially result in adverse effects. However, Project structures would be constructed per geotechnical seismic recommendations and all State and local building and safety standards and regulations. Therefore, liquefaction and related ground failures will have a less-than-significant impact, and no mitigation is required.

(iv) Landslides?

Less-than-Significant Impact. The proposed Project is in an urban area that is primarily flat to gently sloping. There is no potential for adverse impacts due to landslides of slope instability from natural slopes during Project construction or operation. However, construction activities would include excavation and trenching that would produce temporary steep slopes. However, federal, State, and local safety regulations and guidelines, and geotechnical recommendations would be followed and implemented as part of Project design. Therefore, any potential impacts involving temporary construction slope instability would be less than significant, and no mitigation is required.

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

Less-than-Significant Impact. Project construction would include excavation and trenching which would expose and loosen soils, making them susceptible to erosion by wind and water. Potential

soil erosion hazards vary depending on the use, conditions, and textures of the soils. The properties of soil that influence erosion by rainfall and runoff affect the infiltration capacity of soil, as well as the resistance of a soil to detachment and being carried away by falling or flowing water. Soils containing high percentages of fine sands and silt and that are low in density are generally the most erodible. As the clay and organic matter content of soils increases, the potential for erosion decreases. Clays act as a binder to soil particles, thus reducing the potential for erosion. Soils underlying the Project consist primarily of clays and sands with varying amounts of silt; the sandy soils will be more susceptible to erosion when exposed or disturbed.

The proposed Project would implement SWPPP BMPs (see Section 2.3.2) in compliance with the Construction General Permit to limit erosion from construction activities. Implementation of standard construction SWPPP BMPs during Project construction and maintenance during Project operation would reduce potential soil erosion impacts to less than significant. No mitigation measures are required.

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

Less-than-Significant Impact. The Project would have a less than significant impact regarding landslides, slope stability, and liquefaction as discussed above in Sections VII(a)(iii) and VII(a)(iv).

Subsidence is the sinking or gradual lowering of the earth's surface. Subsidence can result from either natural geologic causes such as faulting or from man-made causes such as groundwater pumping or oil and gas production (City of Long Beach, 2023). As groundwater or oil and gas is withdrawn, the pore- pressure in the sediments decreases allowing the weight of the overlying sediment to permanently compact or compress the fine-grained units. The Long Beach area historically subsided due to oil and gas extraction and groundwater extraction starting in the 1940s, causing damage to public and private properties (City of Long Beach, 2023). Subsidence in the area was slowed and stabilized starting in the mid-1950s by implementation of water injection into the oil and water bearing formations (City of Long Beach, 2023). The USGS Land Subsidence in California website includes maps of groundwater and oil subsidence in California and indicates that the Project is located in an area of groundwater pumping subsidence. The proposed Project would not exacerbate subsidence in the area, as the Project does not include the installation of any groundwater wells. The Project would aid in the infiltration of storm water into the shallow underlying aquifers. Therefore, impacts resulting in subsidence would be less than significant, and no mitigation is required.

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?

Less-than-Significant Impact. Expansive soils are characterized by their ability to undergo great volume change (shrink and swell) due to variation in soil moisture content. Changes in soil moisture could result from several factors, including rainfall, landscape irrigation, utility leakage, and/or perched groundwater. Expansive soils are typically very fine grained with a high to very high percentage of clay. Expansion potential of soil within the Project could vary from very low for soils developed in sandy materials to very high for soils developed on clay units. The impact from expansive soils would be less than significant with implementation of the geotechnical design recommendations and measures to reduce adverse effects of expansive soils in final Project design and construction of proposed Project. No mitigation is required.

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?

No Impact. The proposed Project does not include any wastewater disposal facilities or septic tanks; therefore, there would be no impact, and no mitigation is required.

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

Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated. The proposed Project includes excavation activities to install underground Project components. Geologic units underlying the Project consist of artificial fill and Quaternary alluvium and older alluvium (Koury, 2019). The Quaternary older alluvium is also referred to as the Palos Verdes Sand or San Pedro Sand (LACCD, 2003). Paleontological data reviews conducted in 2003 (LACCD, 2003) indicated that while no paleontological localities are recorded within LAHC, there are eight recorded localities in the Palos Verdes Sand and/or San Pedro Sand deposits located within 1.5 miles of LAHC (LACCD, 2003). These localities include horse, bison, flightless goose, mammoth, lampfish, camel, and dolphin fossils.

Based on the results of the previous paleontological data reviews for the Project area and vicinity, the older alluvium (Palos Verdes Sand and/or San Pedro Sand) are likely to contain unique fossil vertebrate remains and would be classified as having high to highly sensitive paleontological sensitivity. Artificial fill has no paleontological sensitivity due to its disturbed nature, and the alluvium has low paleontological sensitivity due to its young age and method of deposition. Approximately 5 feet of artificial fill is present; paleontological resources could be encountered during excavation for the underground infiltration system below this depth. Sensitive units may be disturbed in excavations 15 feet bgs for the infiltration system in the older alluvium (Palos Verdes Sand and/or San Pedro Sand), potentially resulting in the destruction of unique fossil resources—a potentially significant impact. The following mitigation measures are recommended to ensure that potential impacts to any unique paleontological resources that may be present would be reduced to a less-than-significant level.

Mitigation Measures

MM GEO-1 Paleontological Resource Monitoring and Mitigation Plan. Prior to the start of any Project-related construction activities, LACCD shall retain a State-approved paleontologist (Project Paleontologist) to prepare and implement a project-specific Paleontological Resource Mitigation Plan (PRMP), which shall be approved by the LACCD. The Project Paleontologist shall be responsible for implementing all the paleontological conditions of approval and for using qualified paleontologists to assist in work and field monitoring. At a minimum, information to be contained in the PRMP, in addition to other information required under the guidelines of the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology (SVP), is as follows:

- Description of the Project site and planned earthwork and excavation, and a map identifying locations where excavations and ground disturbing activities will or will be likely to encounter older alluvium (Palos Verdes Sand/ San Pedro Sand).
- The museum or repository that has agreed to accept the recovered fossils shall be identified in the PRMP.

- The PRMP shall detail methods of monitoring, recovery, preparation, and analysis of specimens, data analysis, reporting, and the final curation location of specimens at an identified repository.
- Identification of personnel with authority and responsibility to temporarily halt or divert ground disturbance activities to allow for recovery of significant specimens.
- The PRMP shall be submitted to the LACCD for review and approval 60 days prior to start of Project construction.

MM GEO-2 Worker Environmental Awareness Program (WEAP). Prior to the start of Project-related construction activities, a WEAP shall be developed by the Project Paleontologist. The WEAP shall address the potential to encounter paleontological resources in the field, the sensitivity and importance of these resources, and the legal obligations to preserve and protect such resources. The training program shall also include the set of reporting procedures that workers are to follow if paleontological resources are encountered during project activities. The WEAP may be combined with other environmental training programs for the project. All field personnel will receive WEAP training on paleontological resources prior to project-related construction activities.

MM GEO-3 Paleontological Monitoring and Fossil Recovery. Monitoring will entail the visual inspection of excavated or graded areas and trench sidewalls. If the Project Paleontologist determines full-time monitoring is no longer warranted, based on the geologic conditions at depth, he or she may recommend to the LACCD that monitoring be reduced or cease entirely.

If fossils are discovered, the Project Paleontologist shall temporarily direct, divert or halt construction activity to ensure that the fossil(s) can be removed in a safe and timely manner. The paleontological monitor, and/or Project Paleontologist shall evaluate the discovery and determine if the fossil may be considered significant, and if significant, recover the fossil.

Upon completion of Project ground disturbing activities, all significant fossils collected would be prepared in a properly equipped laboratory to a point ready for curation. Preparation may include the removal of excess matrix from fossil materials and stabilizing or repairing specimens. During preparation and inventory, the fossils specimens shall be identified to the lowest taxonomic level practical prior to curation at an accredited museum. The fossil specimens must be delivered to the approved repository (identified in the PRMP) and receipt(s) of collections submitted sent to LACCD no later than 60 days after all ground disturbing activities are completed.

MM GEO-4 Paleontological Resources Monitoring Report. LACCD shall prepare a paleontological resource mitigation and monitoring report by the Project Paleontologist following completion of ground disturbing activities. The contents of the report shall include, but not be limited to a description and inventory list of recovered fossil materials (if any); a map showing the location of paleontological resources found in the field; determinations of scientific significance; proof of accession of fossil materials into the pre-approved museum or other repository; and a statement by the Project Paleontologist that Project impacts to paleontological resources have been mitigated.

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

Discussion:

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

Less-than-Significant Impact. The proposed Project would emit GHGs through construction directly from the off-road equipment used at the Project site and the on-road motor vehicles needed to mobilize crew, equipment, and materials. The period of construction would be short-term, lasting approximately six months. Maintenance and operations are limited to routine cleaning and inspection, and thus operational GHG emissions would be negligible.

The SCAQMD has established a GHG significance threshold of 10,000 metric tons per year (SCAQMD, 2019). This threshold is based on project-life amortized average annual emissions. The proposed Project's estimated amortized annual emissions are summarized in Table 3.3. Appendix D includes the GHG emissions estimate calculations for proposed Project construction.

Table 3.3 Greenhouse Gas Emissions (MT CO2e)

Construction Emissions (on-road and off-road)	586.36
Amortized Annual Construction Emission	19.55
SCAQMD GHG Emissions Significance Threshold	10,000
Exceeds Threshold?	No

Source: Appendix D ; SCAQMD, 2019.

1 – Amortized emissions are the construction emissions divided over the project life (30 years for industrial projects per SCAQMD guidance).

Table 3.3 shows that Project construction GHG emissions would be well below the significance criteria. Therefore, the proposed Project would have less-than-significant GHG emissions impacts, and no mitigation is required.

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

Less-than-Significant Impact. Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions for the proposed Project would be generated from off-road equipment uses and on-road vehicle trips during construction and are expected to be minimal. Operational GHG emissions would be negligible. Estimated GHG emissions of the proposed Project would be well below the threshold of the federal and State mandatory reporting regulation. The relevant GHG emissions reduction measures from applicable State and County GHG emissions reduction plans are as follows.

AB32 Climate Change Scoping Plan (CARB, 2022). The AB32 Climate Change Scoping Plan was originally passed by the California legislature in 2008. Two updates were passed in 2013 and 2017, and the 2022 update aims to address changes in GHG emissions reductions goals. This plan includes emission reduction strategies to reach the state's GHG reduction target of 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030 (CARB, 2022). Emissions reduction strategies include increasing renewable energy and fuel use, increasing building efficiency, increasing zero or near zero emission vehicles, and community design strategies including public transit and walkable or bikeable communities.

Most emission reduction strategies in the AB32 Climate Change Scoping Plan do not directly impact construction emissions, however, strategies involving vehicle standards, vehicle idling time, and waste reduction apply to construction phase activities. Vehicles at the Project site would be required to comply with the Vehicle Climate Change Standards and limit idling time. Additionally, the State strategy for Solid Waste Reduction has been codified in 2012 under Senate Bill 1374 as the Construction and Demolition Waste Ordinance. The ordinance requires jurisdictions to divert a minimum of 50 percent of their non-hazardous construction and demolition waste from landfills. Waste from the proposed Project would be minimal, and a portion of material excavated on site would be reused for infill on site.

SCAQMD Rules 2701 and 2702. Rules 2701 and 2702 establish a program to voluntarily reduce GHG emissions. These rules are not applicable because the proposed Project is not proposing a GHG emissions reduction project.

In summary, GHG emissions from the proposed Project would be minimal and would conform to State and local GHG emissions reduction/climate change regulations and policies/strategies. Therefore, the proposed Project would have less-than-significant impacts, and no mitigation is required.

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
IX.	**HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS Would the project:**				
a.	Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?			X	
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?			X	
c.	Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?			X	
d.	Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code §65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?			X	
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?				X
f.	Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?			X	
g.	Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires?			X	

Discussion:

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

Less-than-Significant Impact. Urban runoff may contain sediment, fuel oils, grease, and chemicals from motor vehicles, fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides, bacteria from pet waste, heavy metals, etc. (LACPW, 2015), which would accumulate within the stormwater capture system, generally within

the stormwater pre-treatment system. This retention would help to minimize the impact of these materials compared to existing conditions by reducing contaminant loading to receiving waters. Vegetation and microbial activity in engineered soil of the biofiltration systems would work to biodegrade the typical fuels, oil, and grease in local urban runoff (LACPW, 2015).

Construction would involve the use of heavy equipment for excavation and construction of the proposed Project; the construction equipment would utilize fuels, lubricants, and other chemicals such as cleaning solvents and paints may be used during construction. Construction activities could result in the release of these materials during routine storage, use, transport, or disposal. LACCD and their contractor would be required to comply with all applicable federal, State, and local laws and regulations that pertain to the transport, storage, use, and disposal of hazardous materials and waste. Additionally, Project construction would comply with the standard construction SWPPP BMPs in accordance with the Construction General Permit which requires proper handling and management of construction materials, waste, and potential pollutant sources. Proper handling, health and safety practices, and prompt cleanup of any spill or release would reduce any potential adverse effects to people or the environment. Therefore, impacts from Project construction activities would be less than significant, and no mitigation is required.

Operation and maintenance activities would include periodic inspections and removal of accumulated sediment and debris and cleaning of the diversion structures, hydrodynamic separator, underground infiltration system, biofiltration systems, and the concrete-lined flood channel. Most of these maintenance activities would involve equipment or vehicles utilizing fuel and oil. As such, maintenance activities could result in the release of these materials during routine transport, disposal, or use. LACCD would be required to comply with all applicable federal, State, and local laws and regulations that pertain to the transport, storage, use, and disposal of hazardous materials and waste. Additionally, prompt cleanup of any spill or release would reduce any adverse effects related to spill or leaks of hazardous materials. Therefore, impacts from operation and maintenance activities would be less than significant, and no mitigation is required.

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?

Less-than-Significant Impact. As discussed in Section IX(a), the Project would comply with standard construction SWPPP BMPs and applicable federal, State, and local laws and regulations relating to the transport, storage, use, and disposal of hazardous materials and waste. Impacts related to potential releases or spills of hazardous materials during Project construction or operation and maintenance would be less than significant, and no mitigation is required.

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

Less-than-Significant Impact. The proposed Project is located on and within a LAHC, a community college which includes classrooms for teen and adult students. The LAHC also includes facilities within its campus for the Harbor Teach Preparation Academy for high school students north of the football field and east of Parking Lot 6, and a child development center located on the northwest side of campus adjacent to L Street.

The proposed Project would not require the use of hazardous materials or acutely hazardous materials, other than fuel and lubricants associated with operation of typical construction

equipment and maintenance equipment and vehicles. LACCD would be required to comply with all applicable federal, State, and local laws and regulations that pertain to the transport, storage, use, and disposal of hazardous materials and waste. Additionally, Project construction would comply with the SWPPP in accordance with the Construction General Permit which requires Housekeeping BMPs for the proper handling and management of construction materials, waste, and potential pollutant sources. Compliance with laws and regulations regarding the transport, storage, use, and disposal of hazardous materials and the Project SWPPP reduces the potential for adverse effects from hazardous materials with 0.25 miles of a school to less than significant. No mitigation is required.

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

Less-than-Significant Impact. The Project site is listed in the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) GeoTracker database as a leaking underground storage tank (LUST) cleanup site with a status of Case Closed (SWRCB, 2023a). The closed LUST site was related to removal of 6,000-gallon gasoline underground storage tank (UST) in 2005 near the central part of the campus, approximately 800 to 900 feet northeast and north of the proposed Project. During removal of the UST, trace methyl tert-butyl ether (MTBE) contamination was reported in the soil of the excavation. After the tank was removed, an investigation was conducted to delineate the extent of the contaminated soil, and the contaminated soil was subsequently removed (EPI, 2006). Due to the uncertainty regarding groundwater depth, a groundwater investigation was conducted in August 2006, and water samples were collected from the groundwater interface at and near to the former gasoline UST location. The samples were tested for MTBE, petroleum hydrocarbons, and other petroleum byproducts with all samples testing as Non- Detect (EPI, 2006). The site was subsequently closed with No Further Action required (SWRCB, 2023b).

No other hazardous materials sites pursuant to Government Code §65962.5 are located at LAHC or near the proposed Project (SWRCB, 2023a; DTSC, 2023). Due to the lack of known hazardous materials sites at or near the proposed Project, and the remediation and closure of the LUST site located east of the Project, it is unlikely that any known hazardous material sites would result in adverse effects during construction or operation of the proposed Project, therefore there is a less-than-significant impact for significant hazard to the public or environment from being located on a hazardous material site. No mitigation is required.

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

No Impact. The Project site is not located within an airport land use plan or within two miles of a public airport or public use airport. The closest airports to the project site are the Torrance Municipal Airport – Zamperini Field, located approximately 2.5 miles northwest, and Long Beach Airport, located approximately 7.3 miles northeast of the Project. Additionally, the Project site is not located within the vicinity of a private airstrip. Therefore, no impact would occur, and no mitigation is required.

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

Less-than-Significant Impact. The proposed Project construction activities, including trenching for storm drain lines would occur within surrounding roadways, which may result in temporary lane closures or blocking of emergency access on West L Street. However, closures would be temporary, and notification would be provided to emergency service providers to ensure that emergency responsiveness is not impaired. Alternative routes such as Figueroa Place and Lagoon Drive would also be available. The proposed Project would therefore not cause any changes that would impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan and thus construction impacts would be less than significant, and no mitigation is required.

Maintenance activities during Project operation would be conducted regularly (monthly to annually depending on maintenance activity) and would not require many trucks or equipment, and therefore would not affect emergency response or evacuation, resulting in no impact. No mitigation is required.

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

Less-than-Significant Impact. The proposed Project site is in a primarily urban setting and would not be subject to wildland fires. The proposed Project is not located within a State moderate, high, or very high fire hazard severity zone (FHSZ) nor a local very high FHSZ. The nearest very high FHSZ, mapped for the Rancho Palos Verdes area, is approximately 1.3 miles west of the proposed Project (CAL FIRE, 2022). Project construction would include equipment and vehicles that could ignite dry vegetation in the proposed concrete-lined flood channel area; however, the Project would comply with federal and State regulations for construction fire safety, such as requiring spark arrester protection in vehicles to reduce the potential of ignition. Project operations would not introduce a new risk of fire hazards, as open flames and other flammable materials would not be present on site. The closest local fire station, LAFD Station #85, is approximately one mile northwest from the Project site and would provide sufficient fire protection services in the event of a fire during construction or operation. Therefore, the Project would have a less-than-significant impact on exposing people to death or injury due to a wildland fires, and no mitigation is required.

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
X.	**HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY** **Would the project:**				
a.	Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality?			X	
b.	Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?			X	
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;			X	
	(ii) substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or offsite;			X	
	(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			X	
	(iv) impede or redirect flood flows?			X	
d.	In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?			X	
e.	Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?			X	

Discussion:

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

Less-than-Significant Impact. Water pollutants could be generated, including soil sediment and petroleum-based fuels or lubricants associated with equipment used during Project construction. Project construction would result in temporary excavation and grading. If not properly addressed, stormwater pollution and erosion may occur, which could affect surface water quality during construction. Impacts to water quality during construction would be minimized through implementation of standard erosion control measures (e.g., silt fence, sediment traps, and fiber rolls) per the SWPPP.

The proposed Project includes components to improve surface quality. Stormwater in the storm drains for the project based on the design treatment flow would be captured in two separate diversion structures that discharge to two separate hydrodynamic separators. Stormwater flows in exceedance of the design treatment flow would continue in the storm drains and outlet to the concrete-lined flood channel for the western storm drain. Stormwater flows would flow to the southern outlet structure to the wetlands south of the LAHC campus. Stormwater runoff from a portion of Lagoon Drive and a portion of Lot 6 would be conveyed to biofiltration systems located adjacent to Lagoon Drive and in portions of Parking Lot 6. The hydrodynamic separators would capture solid debris and sediment before discharging to the underground infiltration system, while the underground infiltration system would allow filtered water to infiltrate below ground. Biofiltration systems would capture solid debris, sediment, and filter stormwater pollutants prior to discharging stormwater to the southern campus storm drain system. Regular maintenance and would occur to maintain proper drainage and identify necessary maintenance of the underground infiltration system, hydrodynamic separators, biofiltration systems, concrete-lined flood channel, and storm drains.

Potential water pollutants could be generated by the collection of urban runoff and stormwater prior to discharge to Machado Lake and the wetland south of LAHC. The design treatment stormwater flows would be collected into the hydrodynamic separators for pretreatment before subsequent discharge to the underground infiltration system. The hydrodynamic separators and the underground infiltration system would remove trash, sediment, debris, and other stormwater pollutants that would otherwise pollute receiving waters. Stormwater flows in exceedance of the design treatment flow would bypass the diversion structure and outlet to the proposed concrete-lined flood channel and ultimately Machado Lake for the western storm drain. Stormwater flows in exceedance of the design treatment flow would bypass the diversion structure and discharge to the storm drain outlet located on the southern portion of campus and ultimately to the wetlands south of the LAHC campus. The biofiltration systems of Lagoon Drive and a portion of Lot 6 would remove trash, sediment, and debris, and other stormwater pollutants that would otherwise pollute receiving waters.

One of the primary benefits of the proposed Project is to improve water quality and to assist LACCD with future compliance with the next Small MS4 Permit. The underground infiltration system, hydrodynamic separators, and biofiltration systems would reduce the amount of trash, sediment, debris, and other stormwater pollutants being discharged into the Dominguez Channel Watershed. The hydrodynamic separators and underground infiltration system would intercept and treat the 85th percentile storm runoff from the approximately 78-acre drainage area. The

biofiltration systems would intercept and treat the 85th percentile storm runoff from the approximately 3-acre drainage area of a portion of Lagoon Drive and Parking Lot 6. As described in the Project Description, Project design features as well as site inspections and maintenance would effectively minimize potential erosion and siltation. Through proper implementation, the proposed Project would ultimately improve water quality in the region. Adverse impacts to State and federal water quality standards/requirements resulting from the operation of the proposed Project are not expected, as the Project would improve water quality. Additionally, maintenance of the concrete-lined flood control channel would include implementation of a Spill Prevention Plan if unusual stains or discoloration occur within the concrete channel. With proper implementation and maintenance, the proposed Project would not violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements. Therefore, this impact would be less than significant and the long-term impact to water quality would be beneficial, and no mitigation is required.

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?

Less-than-Significant Impact. The geotechnical study conducted by Koury Engineering indicated groundwater depths on the west side of the baseball field to be approximately 41.5 feet bgs, although historic groundwater levels were indicated to be as shallow as 10 feet bgs (Koury, 2019). The underground infiltration system would be constructed approximately 15 feet below the existing ground surface and is not likely to encounter groundwater. Thus, construction of the Project would not require dewatering of groundwater or use any groundwater supplies.

Operation of the proposed Project would not withdraw water from an aquifer or groundwater table and would not substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge. The proposed Project would infiltrate treated stormwater directly into the subsurface, contributing to groundwater recharge. The proposed biofiltration systems would include plantings irrigated by a subsurface irrigation system to conserve water. Therefore, there would be no net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of a local groundwater table level. Therefore, impacts from Project construction and operation would be less than significant, and no mitigation is required.

c. 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:

(i) result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site;

Less-than-Significant Impact. The proposed Project would require excavation and trenching, potentially exposing soil to erosion or siltation. Construction activities would comply with the SWPPP in accordance with the Construction General Permit. SWPPP BMPs for erosion and sediment control would include practices such as preserving existing vegetation, mulching, hydroseeding, using geotextiles, and installing sediment traps, fiber rolls, and gravel bag berms (see Section 2.3.2, Construction for complete list of BMPs). These standard BMPs would ensure that erosion and siltation impacts would be less than significant.

After installation of the underground components of the proposed Project, the site would be returned similar to existing conditions. Exposed soil from excavation and trenching would be restored with turf or asphalt. The site topography would be restored similar to existing conditions

and would not increase impervious surfaces, and substantial erosion or siltation would not occur. There would be no streams or rivers that would be altered. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant, and no mitigation is required.

(ii) substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or offsite

Less-than-Significant Impact. The Project's temporary construction activities would install diversion structures and storm drains that would improve site drainage by conveying flows more effectively than existing conditions. As described above, the site topography would be restored similar to existing conditions after the installation of the underground portions of the proposed Project. One of the primary benefits of the proposed Project is to reduce flooding that occurs on the western portion of the LAHC campus during storm events. The concrete-lined flood channel would alleviate flooding by effectively conveying 50-year flows from on-campus and off-campus sources and eliminating backwater effects (i.e., pooling) that cause existing flooding. Additionally, the underground infiltration system and biofiltration systems would capture flows to help prevent flooding. With the new storm drains, diversion structures, underground infiltration system, biofiltration systems, and concrete-lined flood channel, flows would be either infiltrated into the ground or conveyed off site and would reduce on- and off-site flooding.

The proposed Project would have a beneficial impact by reducing flooding. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant and the long-term impact to flooding issues would be beneficial. No mitigation is required.

(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

Less-than-Significant Impact. Project construction would not increase impervious surfaces that could contribute runoff water exceeding the capacity of existing stormwater drainage systems. However, ground disturbance and the presence of construction equipment may temporarily contribute to polluted runoff. Implementation of SWPPP BMPs as required by the Construction General Permit would address runoff pollution during construction.

During operations, the proposed approximately 85,000-cubic-foot infiltration system would capture up to 1 inch of stormwater from the existing storm drain network and infiltrate the water underground. Stormwater flows in exceedance of the design treatment flow would bypass the diversion structures and outlet to the proposed concrete-lined flood channel and ultimately Machado Lake for the western storm drain. Stormwater flows would flow to the southern outlet structure to the wetlands south of the LAHC campus. As such, the proposed Project would increase the capacity of the existing campus stormwater drainage system to reduce flooding. Furthermore, the proposed Project would include hydrodynamic separators and biofiltration systems to capture silt, sediment, and trash before flows are discharged to either the infiltration system or offsite, respectively. Therefore, the Project would improve the existing capacity of the stormwater drainage system and would not provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff. Impacts would be less than significant, and no mitigation is required.

(iv) impede or redirect flood flows?

Less-than-Significant Impact. Portions of the Project area (the concrete-lined flood channel, diversion structures, and biofiltration systems) would be located within the 0.2 percent Annual Chance Flood Hazard area (Zone X) or 1 percent Annual Chance Flood Hazard area (Zone AE) per the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Map Service Center (FEMA, 2021). The proposed Project would construct a new concrete-lined flood channel, storm drains, diversion structures, and an underground infiltration system to reduce flooding that occurs on the western portion of the LAHC campus during storm events. The proposed Project would construct biofiltration systems to intercept, detain, and filter stormwater runoff from of a portion of Lagoon Drive and Parking Lot 6. The Project would continue to discharge flows to Machado Lake to the west and wetlands to the south. As such, the proposed Project would not exacerbate flood flows. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant, and no mitigation is required.

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

Less-than-Significant Impact. The closest body of water to the Project site is Machado Lake, located approximately 0.25 mile west of the concrete-lined flood channel. As discussed in Section X(c)(iv), portions of the Project area would be located within the 0.2 percent Annual Chance Flood Hazard Area or 1 percent Annual Chance Flood Hazard area. The proposed Project would not construct any structures or involve operations that would release a substantial amount of pollutants, and it would not exacerbate flood risk. Furthermore, the majority of Project components would be underground and would aid in conveying flood flows off site or underground. Therefore, impacts relating to the risk of release of pollutants in a flood hazard or seiche zone would be less than significant, and no mitigation is required.

The proposed Project is located approximately 1 mile north of the Port of Los Angeles West Basin channel and is not within a tsunami hazard zone (DOC, 2022a). Therefore, no impact from a tsunami would occur, and no mitigation is required.

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

Less-than-Significant Impact. One of the primary objectives of the proposed Project is to provide future compliance with the Small MS4 Permit. The underground infiltration system, hydrodynamic separators, biofiltration systems, concrete-lined flood channel, and storm drains would help provide future compliance by reducing the discharge of pollutants, improving water quality, and satisfying the water quality requirements of the Clean Water Act and requirements of the Small MS4 Permit (National Archives and Records Administration, 2022). Through proper implementation and maintenance, these objectives and requirements would be met. As such, the proposed Project would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan. Therefore, this impact would be less than significant, and no mitigation is required.

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XI.	**LAND USE AND PLANNING** **Would the project:**				
a.	Physically divide an established community?				X
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?				X

Discussion:

a. Would the project physically divide an established community?

No Impact. The physical division of an established community typically refers to the construction of a linear features, such as a major highway or railroad tracks, or removal of a means of access, such as a local road or bridge, that would impair mobility within an existing community or between a community and outlying area. The proposed Project would construct and operate an underground infiltration system, hydrodynamic separators, biofiltration systems, and a concrete-line flood control channel within an existing college campus. No residential communities exist within the Project boundaries. Surrounding local roads would remain open to facilitate continuous mobility. As such, the Project would not create a barrier that could divide the surrounding community. Therefore, no impact would occur, and no mitigation is required.

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?

No Impact. The proposed Project would be subject to the policies and ordinances of the City of Los Angeles General Plan and the Wilmington-Harbor City Community Plan. According to the Wilmington-Harbor City Community Plan, the Project site's zoning and land use designations are Public Facilities (City of Los Angeles, 2014; City of Los Angeles, 2022). Construction and operation of the proposed Project would not conflict with the designated zoning or land use, as they would improve site conditions by reducing on-site flooding while supporting future compliance with the next Small MS4 Permit. As noted in Section 1.2, Anticipated Permits and Coordination, coordination with several regulatory Federal, State, and local/regional agencies would be required to allow for construction, operation, and maintenance of the proposed Project. As such, the proposed Project would not conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect. Therefore, no impact would occur, and no mitigation is required.

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XII.	**MINERAL RESOURCES** **Would the project:**				
a.	Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the State?				X
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?				X

Discussion:

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?

No Impact. The City of Los Angeles General Plan's Conservation Element Mineral Resources Map indicates that the Project site is not within any designated Mineral Resource Zones (MRZ) but is within State Designated Oil Fields (City of Los Angeles, 2001). Although the Project site is within State Designated Oil Fields, the site has been and currently is operated as a community college. According to the DOC Geologic Energy Management Division, no oil and gas wells are located within the Project site boundary. The nearest oil or gas well is approximately 0.30 mile east of the Project site (DOC, 2022b). Construction activities would not prevent access to this neighboring oil or gas well or impact existing activities, because it is located off site and its status is indicated as plugged. As such, the proposed Project would not prevent future oil extraction or conflict with existing oil extraction land use**.** Thus, the proposed Project would not 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. Therefore, no impacts would occur, and no mitigation is required.

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?

No Impact. As described in Section XII(a), the Project site is not located within an MRZ or an area that contains active oil and gas wells. The proposed Project would not conflict with existing oil extraction land use or prevent future oil extraction. As such, the proposed Project would not 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. Therefore, no impacts would occur, and no mitigation is required.

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XIII.	**NOISE** **Would the project result in:**				
a.	Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?			X	
b.	Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?			X	
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?				X

General Information on Noise

A brief background on the fundamentals of environmental acoustics is helpful in understanding how humans perceive various sound levels. Although extremely loud noises can cause temporary or permanent damage, the primary environmental impact of noise is annoyance. The objectionable characteristic of noise often refers to its loudness. Loudness represents the intensity of the sound wave, or the amplitude of the sound wave height measured in decibels (dB). Decibels are calculated on a logarithmic scale; thus, a 10-dB increase represents a 10-fold increase in acoustic energy or intensity, while a 20 dB increase represents a 100-fold increase in intensity. Decibels are the preferred measurement of environmental sound because of the direct relationship between a sound's intensity and the subjective "noisiness" of it. The A-weighted decibel system (dBA) is a convenient sound measurement technique that weights selected frequencies based on how well humans can perceive them.

Noise Effects on Humans. The range of human hearing spans from the minimal threshold of hearing (approximately 3 dBA) to that level of noise that is past the threshold of pain (approximately 120 dBA). In general, human sound perception is such that a change in sound level of 3 dB is just barely noticeable, while a change of 5 dB is clearly noticeable. A change of 10 dB is perceived as a doubling (or halving) of sound level. Noise levels are generally considered low when they are below 45 dBA, moderate in the 45 to 60 dBA range, and high above 60 dBA. Noise levels greater than 85 dBA can cause temporary or permanent hearing loss if exposure is sustained.

Ambient environmental noise levels can be characterized by several different descriptors. The energy equivalent level (Leq) describes the average or mean noise level over a specified period of time. Leq provides a useful measure of the impact of fluctuating noise levels on sensitive receptors over a period of time. Other descriptors of noise incorporate a weighting system that accounts for human's susceptibility

to noise irritations at night. Community Noise Equivalent Level (CNEL) is a measure of cumulative noise exposure over a 24-hour period, where a 5 dB penalty is added to evening hours (7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.) and a 10 dB penalty is added to night hours (10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.). Day/Night Average Noise Level (Ldn) is essentially the same as CNEL, with the exception that the evening penalty is dropped.

Noise Propagation. In air, sound from a point source radiates according to inverse square laws either spherically or hemispherically from the source, depending upon whether the noise source is near a reflecting surface such as the ground. Consequently, sound will decrease at a rate of 6 dB per doubling of distance from a point source. Additional decreases will occur due to sound absorption in the air, interaction with the ground, and shielding by intervening obstacles such as terrain (hills), wall, or buildings. A noise source which is relatively long, such as a constant stream of traffic, is called a line source, and the sound spreads cylindrically, at a rate of 3 dB per doubling of distance.

General Information on Vibration

Vibration from objects in contact with the ground will propagate energy through the ground and can be perceptible by humans and animals in the form of perceptible movement or in the form of rumbling sound caused by the vibration of room surfaces. The latter is described as ground-borne noise. High levels of vibration can result in architectural damage and structural damage depending upon the amplitude of the vibration and the fragileness of the building or structure.

Vibration is an oscillatory motion through a solid medium, in which the motion's amplitude can be described in terms of displacement, velocity, or acceleration. When assessing damage potential, vibration is often measured and reported in terms of peak particle velocity (PPV). For evaluating human response, the accepted manner to measure and report vibration is in terms of the root mean square amplitude. Like noise, vibration is normally expressed in terms of decibels (VdB) with a reference velocity of $1x10^{-6}$ inches per second (in/sec).

Environmental Setting

The Project site is primarily within the western and southern ends of the campus. In addition to LAHC, VHTPA, a four-year Early College high school is located on the LAHC campus adjacent to the proposed new storm drains. Surrounding land uses include recreational facilities such as the Harbor Park Golf Course to the north and the Harbor Sports Complex to the northeast; residential development approximately 0.4 mile to the east and southeast; and industrial development approximately 0.5 mile to the south. Dominant noise sources in proximity to the Project area include Harbor Freeway (I-110) and Figueroa Drive approximately 0.4 mile to the east.

Sensitive Receptors. Per the City of Los Angeles Noise Element, land uses considered to be noise sensitive generally include single-family and multi-unit dwellings; long-term care facilities; dormitories, motels, hotels, transient lodgings and other residential uses; houses of worship; hospitals; libraries; schools; auditoriums; concert halls; outdoor theaters; nature and wildlife preserves; and parks (City of Los Angeles, 1998). Classrooms within the LAHC campus and VHTPA are considered noise-sensitive uses and would be approximately 50 feet from the closest Project component (i.e., storm drain on the eastern end of Parking Lot 6). Other area noise-sensitive receptors include residences along W I Street (approximately 800 feet southwest to the proposed southernmost biofiltration areas and storm drains), and Ken Malloy Harbor Regional Park (approximately 2,000 feet west of the proposed concrete-lined flood channel).

Discussion:

a. Would the project result in exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance or applicable standards of other agencies?

Less-than-Significant Impact. The City of Los Angeles adopted a Noise Element as part of its General Plan in November 1998 (City of Los Angeles, 1998). The noise element provides an overview of various noise sources (current and anticipated) along with standards and policies. The following policies are applicable to the proposed Project:

- Policy 2.2: Enforce and/or implement applicable city, state and federal regulations intended to mitigate proposed noise producing activities, reduce intrusive noise and alleviate noise that is deemed a public nuisance.
- Policy 3.1: Develop land use policies and programs that will reduce or eliminate potential and existing noise impacts.

Chapter IV, Article I, Section 41.40 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) limits construction activities to the hours of 7:00 AM to 9:00 PM Monday through Friday, and 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM on Saturday (no work is allowed on Sundays or national holidays. Construction activities at the Project site would comply as they would be conducted Monday through Friday between 7:00 AM and 5:00 PM.

LAMC Section 112.05, Maximum Noise Level of Powered Equipment or Powered Hand Tools, details maximum noise levels for equipment in any residential zone or within 500 feet of a residential zone of the City. Construction equipment (e.g., crawler-tractors, dozers, trenchers, compactors, scrapers, pavement breakers, compressors and pneumatic or other powered equipment) as well as powered equipment of 20 horsepower (HP) or less intended for infrequent use (e.g., chain saws, log chippers and powered hand tools) must not exceed 75 A-weighted decibels (dBA) at a distance of 50 feet, unless compliance is technically infeasible. Technically infeasible means that the noise limitations cannot be attained during use of the equipment even with the use of mufflers, shields, sound barriers, and/or other noise reduction devices or techniques (City of Los Angeles, 2023). These provisions would not apply to the Project because no Project activities would occur in any residential zone or within 500 feet of a residential zone of the City.

The City's CEQA Thresholds Guide provides screening criteria if construction activities occur within 500 feet of a noise sensitive land use, where noise sensitive uses include residences, transient lodgings, schools, libraries, churches, hospitals, nursing homes, auditoriums, concert halls, amphitheaters, playgrounds, and parks; and if construction occurs during the hours specified in LAMC, Section 41.4. The CEQA Threshold Guide specifies that construction activities that last more than 10 days in a three-month period would cause a less-than-significant impact if the activity does not exceed existing ambient exterior noise levels by 5 dBA or more. Furthermore, the City's CEQA Threshold Guide states that Project operations would normally be significant if the ambient noise level measured at the property line of affected uses increases by 3 dBA in the Community Noise Equivalent Level (CNEL) to or within the "normally unacceptable" or "clearly unacceptable" category (generally over 70 decibels), or any increase in CNEL by 5 dBA or greater.

Project construction activities are estimated to be completed over approximately six months (August 2023 to February 2024). Construction activities could result in temporary increases in

ambient noise levels in the Project area on a short-term basis, resulting from use of construction equipment as described in Section 2.3.2, Construction. Maximum noise from these types of construction equipment ranges from 77 to 84 dBA at 50 feet from the source (FHWA, 2006). The nearest sensitive receptors would be the classrooms within the LAHC campus and VHTPA, some of which would be approximately 50 feet from the closest Project component (i.e., storm drain on the eastern end of Parking Lot 6). LAHC and VHTPA are zoned Public Facilities, and Project construction would occur during the hours specified in LAMC, Section 41.40. The duration of work nearest to the classrooms would be limited to the extent feasible. For example, equipment would be staged in Parking Lot 7, away from LAHC and VHTPA classroom buildings. As such, on-site construction noise would not result in noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, and the impact of construction noise would be less than significant.

The Project site would continue to operate as part of the existing LAHC campus and provide passive stormwater management. No operational noise would be generated, except for regular, low-intensity maintenance activities consisting of regular inspections and cleaning of Project structures. Operational noise levels would remain similar to existing ambient noise levels. As such, on-site noise from operations would not result in a substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels and operations noise impacts would be less than significant. No mitigation is required.

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

Less-than-Significant Impact. Vibration from routine construction equipment and activities might be perceptible to people in the immediate vicinity of construction activities. Trenching, excavation, and compacting restored ground surfaces and the passing of heavy trucks on uneven surfaces could each create perceptible vibration in the immediate vicinity of the activity. Other possible sources of substantial vibration, such as an impact activity like pile driving or use of explosives for rock blasting, are not a part of the proposed Project.

The level of groundborne vibration that could reach sensitive receptors depends on the distance to the receptor, the equipment type that is creating vibration (e.g., the frequency being produced), and the soil conditions surrounding the construction site. Installing components of the underground infiltration system, including connections to the existing storm drain system, could cause vibration levels potentially resulting in temporary annoyance to people within 50 feet of construction equipment. Because the temporary use of routine construction equipment generating groundborne vibrations would be localized around project components, and the activity would be no closer than approximately 50 feet from any occupied building, vibration would only be temporarily noticeable for receptors adjacent to the equipment.

Annoyance from vibration may occur when the vibration exceeds the threshold of perception. However, the threshold of perception occurs at a much lower level of ground displacement than the level that would be likely to lead to structural damage. Except for an impact device, such as a pile driver, most construction equipment can be readily positioned to avoid causing structural damage. The PPV is defined as the maximum instantaneous peak displacement of a vibration signal in inches per second (in/sec). The PPV is most frequently used to describe vibration impacts to buildings. As an example of this potential effect, trenching and then recompacting the site with a vibratory roller may cause approximately 0.21 in/sec PPV at 25 feet from the equipment. Adjusting for propagation over additional distance, the level at a receiver 50 feet away would be

less than 0.1 in/sec PPV. Vibration at this level would not exceed the criterion of 0.12 in/sec PPV that indicates a potential for damage to the most susceptible types of buildings, based on impact assessment procedures established by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA, 2018).

Construction-related vibration at these levels would not be considered excessive, and the effects would be temporary and diminish over increasing distance. No Project activity during construction or operation would be likely to create substantial vibration over a wide area or likely to result in vibration levels great enough to create physical damage of nearby structures. Because Project activities and facilities would not expose people to excessive groundborne vibration, this impact would be less than significant, and no mitigation is required.

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

No Impact. The Project site is not located within an airport land use plan. The nearest public airports are Torrance Municipal Airport – Zamperini Field, located approximately 2.3 miles to the west, and Long Beach Airport, located approximately 7.8 miles to the east. Given the distance between the Project site and the airports, the Project would not expose workers, students, or faculty in the area to excessive noise levels due to a public airport or public use airport. No mitigation is required.

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

Discussion:

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)?

No Impact. The proposed Project would develop stormwater management infrastructure and would not include the development of new residential facilities or the extension of roads or other growth-accommodating infrastructure. The Project's construction period is anticipated to last approximately six months and would not require a substantial number of construction personnel. No new employees would be needed for operations and maintenance of the proposed Project. Additionally, Los Angeles County has a considerable construction workforce of nearly 300,000 employees (U.S. Census Bureau, 2020). Because the proposed Project is located within a well-established, heavily populated urban community, existing housing stock and established infrastructure is sufficient. As such, the proposed Project would not indirectly induce substantial unplanned population growth. Therefore, no impacts on population and housing would occur, and no mitigation is required.

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

No Impact. The proposed Project would not remove existing housing from the available supply, and displacement would not occur which could otherwise require the construction of replacement housing. As such, the proposed Project would not displace people or require the construction of replacement housing. Therefore, no impact would occur, and mitigation is not required.

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XV.	**PUBLIC SERVICES** Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for any of the public services:				
a.	Fire protection?			X	
b.	Police protection?				X
c.	Schools?			X	
d.	Parks?				X
e.	Other public facilities?				X

Discussion:

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

a. Fire Protection

Less-than-Significant Impact. The proposed Project is designed to eliminate on-campus flooding, reduce sediment accumulation, provide stormwater capture, and improve stormwater runoff quality by constructing stormwater management infrastructure. Construction and operation of the proposed Project would not affect the area's population, and therefore, the proposed Project would not create a need for new or altered fire protection facilities. Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) Station #85 is located at 1331 West 253rd Street and is approximately 1 mile from the Project site (LAFD, 2022). Although temporary construction access on West L Street on campus could adversely affect emergency service and response times during Project construction, notification would be provided to emergency service providers to ensure that emergency response is not impaired. Alternative routes such as Figueroa Place and Lagoon Drive would also be available. Once construction is completed, any potential impacts to emergency service response times would cease. Maintenance of the proposed Project would be conducted regularly (monthly to annually depending on maintenance activity) and would not obstruct emergency access. As such, the proposed Project's construction and operation would not require the need for new or physically altered governmental facilities to the Project area. Therefore, the proposed Project would have a less-than-significant impact on fire protection services, and no mitigation is required.

b. Police Protection

No Impact. As discussed in Section XIV(a), the proposed Project would not induce any population growth that would require expanded police protection. Additionally, a new fence would be constructed on the southern wall of the proposed concrete-lined flood channel to provide security within the Project right-of-way. Thus, no new or altered police facilities would be needed as a result of the proposed Project. Therefore, operation and construction of the proposed Project would have no impact on police or sheriff protection services, and no mitigation is required.

c. Schools

Less-than-Significant Impact. The need for new schools is generally associated with an increase in the school-aged population or a decrease in the accessibility and availability of existing schools. Residential development would not occur under the proposed Project, and the school-aged population would not increase. Although the proposed improvements would be located on the LAHC campus, construction would be coordinated between LACCD and LAHC to avoid peak traffic during school hours to minimize disturbance of educational operations. Impacts related to emergency access during construction are addressed further under Section XVII(c), Transportation. As such, construction and operation of the proposed Project would not significantly affect the operation of existing school facilities, and new or physically altered facilities would not be needed. Therefore, the impacts would be less than significant, and no mitigation is required.

d. Parks

No Impact. The proposed Project would not develop new parks or reduce existing park facilities. Furthermore, the Project site would be confined to the LAHC campus and would not induce population growth that would increase demand for parks beyond the existing facilities. Therefore, no impacts to existing parks or need for new parks would occur, and no mitigation is required.

e. Other Public Facilities

No Impact. As previously discussed in Section XIV(a), the proposed Project does not include development that would induce substantial unplanned population growth that would increase the use of libraries, community centers, hospitals, or other public facilities. As such, a substantial increase in use of these public facilities would not occur. Therefore, no impacts on other public facilities would occur, and no mitigation is required.

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XVI.	**RECREATION**				
a.	Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?				X
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?			X	

Discussion:

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?

No Impact. Demand for neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities is generally associated with an increase in the number of permanent residents in the area. No residential facilities or features would be developed under the proposed Project that would result in an increase in the number of residents at existing recreational facilities. As such, increased use of existing parks or other recreational facilities would not occur. Therefore, no impacts would occur, and no mitigation is required.

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?

Less-than-Significant Impact. As discussed in Section XIV(a), Population and Housing, the proposed Project would not impact the area's population, and thus no increase in the demand for recreational facilities would occur. However, construction of the proposed underground infiltration system would require temporary closure of the LAHC baseball field. LACCD would coordinate with LAHC to identify alternative baseball fields such that the temporary closure of the recreational facility would not be substantial. Following the completion of the approximately six-month construction period, the baseball field would reopen and be available for students. Operation and maintenance would not require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities. Therefore, impacts on recreational facilities would be less than significant, and no mitigation is required.

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

Discussion:

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

Less-than-Significant Impact. The 2020 Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) Transportation Assessment Guidelines state that a project that "generally conforms with and does not obstruct the City's development policies and standards will generally be considered to be consistent" and not in conflict. The 2020 LADOT Transportation Assessment Guidelines include three screening criteria questions that are answered to help guide whether the project conflicts with City circulation system policies. If the answer is "no" to all of the following questions, a "no impact" determination can be made (LADOT, 2020).

(1) Does the project the project require a discretionary action that requires the decision maker to find that the project would substantially conform to the purpose, intent, and provisions of the general plan?

The proposed Project requires approval by the District Board of Trustees, which is by definition a discretionary action. However, this discretionary action does not require the decision maker to amend any project component to conform to the purpose, intent, or provision of any existing general plan. Therefore, the proposed Project would comply with all required City circulation system policies and does not deviate from any known general plan.

(2) Is the project known to directly conflict with a transportation plan, policy, or program adopted to support multimodal transportation options or public safety?

The proposed Project would not alter existing transportation routes or transportation options, nor would it alter access to public safety. Direct access to the Project site is provided by West L

Street to the north off Figueroa Place. The proposed Project would not require any modifications or closures to the public right-of-way. Project access would avoid Lagoon Drive on the southern portion of campus and east of Parking Lot 6 (see Figure 2), where primary student and faculty access typically occur. Some construction activities such as trenching to install the storm drains and diversion structures would occur on Lagoon Drive east of Parking Lot 6, but these activities would be short-term and cease upon completion. The proposed Project would not alter any major roads that would affect the local transportation network. Therefore, the proposed Project would not directly conflict with a transportation plan, policy, or program adopted to support multimodal transportation options or public safety.

(3) Is the project required to or proposing to make any voluntary modifications to the public right-of-way (e.g., dedications and/or improvements in the right-of-way, reconfigurations of curb line)?

The proposed Project does not include any modifications to existing roadways that support current or future bike lanes or bus stops and is not required to make any voluntary or required modifications to the public right-of-way. The proposed Project does not propose to include dedications or physical modifications to the public right-of-way, nor is it required. Impacts would be less than significant, and no mitigation is required.

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

No Impact. State CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.3 subdivision (b) provides criteria for analyzing transportation impacts. The guidelines state that a significant impact may occur if vehicle miles traveled (VMT) exceed an applicable threshold of significance.

The intent of State CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.3, subdivision (b)(1) and Threshold T-2.1 in the 2020 LADOT Transportation Assessment Guidelines is to assess whether a land use or office project would have a potential impact. The guidelines include two screening criteria questions that must be answered to determine consistency with State CEQA Guidelines Section 15063.3, subdivision (b)(1); the 2020 LADOT Transportation Assessment Guidelines state that if the answer is “no” to either question, then further analysis will not be required for this threshold, and a “no impact” determination can be made.

(1) Would the land use project generate a net increase of 250 or more daily vehicle trips?

(2) Would the project generate a net increase in daily VMT?

The LADOT threshold of 250 daily vehicle trips was proposed for automobiles (as the Office of Planning and Research (OPR) does not require VMT analysis of commercial trucks in CEQA documents). Therefore, based on OPR verbal guidance, heavy-duty truck trips are not included in this transportation analysis, but are analyzed in other resource areas, such as Air Quality, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Noise, and Energy (OPR, 2020).

Construction of the proposed Project would generate an estimated 32 vehicle roundtrips during a peak day. During typical operation of the proposed Project, vehicle trips would be negligible, as regular inspections and maintenance would be performed regularly throughout the year (see Section 2.3.3, Operations and Maintenance). Therefore, the proposed Project would not generate a net increase of 250 or more daily vehicle trips during construction or operation. In accordance

with the 2020 LADOT Transportation Assessment Guidelines, there would be no impacts, and no mitigation is required.

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

Less-than-Significant Impact. The 2020 LADOT Transportation Assessment Guidelines provide two screening criteria questions that must be answered to determine whether the Project would result in impacts due to geometric design hazards or incompatible uses.

(1) Is the project proposing new driveways, or introducing new vehicle access to the property from the public right-of-way?

(2) Is the project proposing to, or required to make any voluntary or required, modifications to the public right-of-way (e.g., street dedications, reconfigurations of curb line)?

The proposed Project would construct stormwater management components to reduce on-campus flooding and improve water quality, and no new driveways are proposed. Construction vehicles and equipment would access the site; however, this access would be temporary and occur only during the six-month construction period and would not represent a substantial hazard to existing traffic patterns. No modifications of the public right-of-way would occur. During operations, the stormwater infrastructure would not increase hazards to the transportation network, as no additional vehicle trips or incompatible uses would occur. Therefore, the proposed Project would result in a less-than-significant impact, and no mitigation is required.

d. Would the project result in inadequate emergency access?

Less-than-Significant Impact. During construction, vehicles would travel on local roads including West L Street and Figueroa Place to access the Project site to transport materials, construction equipment, and workers. Construction equipment and vehicles may impede emergency access on these local roads. However, this effect would be temporary and intermittent, as construction activities would be limited to the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. and last approximately six months. Additionally, LACCD would coordinate with LAHC to ensure construction would avoid peak traffic during VHTPA school hours to minimize obstructing access. Construction access via Lagoon Drive, which provides public access to LAHC and VHTPA, would be restricted to avoid obstructs to school traffic. Temporary impacts to emergency access would cease during operations, as no operational equipment or vehicles would be needed except for occasional maintenance activities. Therefore, the proposed Project would result in a less-than-significant impact, and no mitigation is required.

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XVIII.	**TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES** Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code §21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:				
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 §5020.1(k), or				X
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 Resource Code §5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.				X

Background on Tribal Cultural Resources

Tribal Cultural Resources (TCRs) is a newly defined class of resources under Assembly Bill (AB) 52. TCRs include sites, features, places, cultural landscapes, and sacred places or objects that have cultural value or significance to a California Native American tribe (Tribe). To qualify as a TCR, the resource must either: (1) be listed on, or be eligible for listing on, the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR) or other local historic register; or (2) constitute a resource that the lead agency, at its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, determines should be treated as a TCR (PRC §21074). AB 52 also states that tribal representatives are considered experts appropriate for providing substantial evidence regarding the locations, types, and significance of TCRs within their traditional and cultural affiliated geographic areas. Therefore, the identification and analysis of TCRs should involve government-to-government tribal consultation between the CEQA lead agency and interested tribal groups and/or tribal persons. (PRC § 21080.3.1(a)).

Approach to Analysis of Tribal Cultural Resources

Information presented in this section was gathered through AB 52 government-to-government consultation between LACCD and the California Native American Tribes that have cultural affiliations with the proposed Project site and that have requested to consult on the proposed Project. Supplementary information was gathered from the cultural resources literature and records search and the NAHC Sacred Lands File search.

Project Notification

AB 52 requires that within 14 days of the lead agency determining that a project application is complete, a formal notice and invitation to consult about the proposed Project is to be sent to all tribal representatives who have requested, in writing, to be notified of projects that may have a significant effect on TCRs located within the proposed Project area (PCR § 21080.3.1(d)).

AB 52 notification letters were sent to the following tribes identified by the NAHC Native American Contact List on December 20, 2022:

- Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation
- Gabrieleno/Tongva San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians
- Gabrielino Tongva Indians of California Tribal Council
- Gabrielino/Tongva Nation
- Gabrielino-Tongva Tribe
- Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians
- Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians

AB 52 Tribal Consultation

No requests to consult were received from any of the above listed tribes within the 30-day response time. Additionally, the NAHC Sacred Lands File search results were negative, and no resource has been determined by the lead agency, in its discretion, to be a TCR.

Discussion:

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

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 §5020.1(k), or

No Impact. As discussed above, no responses to AB 52 consultation requests were received within the 30-day response time; therefore, AB 52 consultation was not initiated. Additionally, the NAHC Sacred Lands File search yielded negative results. As such, no resources have been identified within the Project area through AB 52 consultation that is listed or eligible for listing in the CRHR or local register. Therefore, no impact would occur, and mitigation is not required.

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 Resource Code §5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.

No Impact. As discussed above, no responses to AB 52 consultation requests were received within the 30-day response time, therefore, AB 52 consultation was not initiated. Additionally, the NAHC

Sacred Lands File search yielded negative results nor have any resources been determined by the lead agency, in its discretion, to be a TCR. Therefore, no impact would occur, and mitigation is not required.

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XIX.	**UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS Would the project:**				
a.	Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?			X	
b.	Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?			X	
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?			X	
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?			X	
e.	Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?				X

Discussion:

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?

Less-than-Significant Impact. The proposed Project would divert, treat, and discharge runoff to the hydrodynamic separators, underground infiltration system, and biofiltration systems as well as divert stormwater to the concrete-lined flood channel, and ultimately offsite all of which will help to eliminate flooding, reduce sediment accumulation, provide stormwater capture, and improve runoff quality. During operations Project would not generate wastewater or require expanded electrical power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, and would provide

beneficial effects such as stormwater management and improving water quality. The proposed Project would also improve the site's existing stormwater drainage system and reduce on-site flooding. Impacts would be less than significant, and no mitigation is required.

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?

Less-than-Significant Impact. The proposed Project would require water supplies during construction primarily for dust suppression and concrete production. However, the demand for water supplies would be temporary and only occur during the approximately six-month construction period. As such, water demand during construction would not require new or expanded water supply resources. Operation of the proposed Project would require a negligible increase in demand for water for irrigation of the plantings in the biofiltration systems. The irrigation systems would use subsurface irrigation to conserve water and would not require excessive water use. The proposed Project would also infiltrate a portion of stormwater flows via the underground infiltration system that may replenish local groundwater supplies, providing a beneficial effect for water supplies. Therefore, the proposed Project would result in a less-than-significant impact, and no mitigation is required.

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?

Less-than-Significant Impact. The proposed Project may generate small amounts of wastewater from portable restrooms during the construction period. The volume of wastewater would be negligible compared to the overall wastewater generated by the City of Los Angeles, as an estimated peak number of 32 workers would be present on site during the six-month construction period. Construction-generated wastewater would likely be hauled by the contractor and treated by Los Angeles Sanitation and Environment (LASAN). During operations, runoff collected by the proposed Project would either be infiltrated below ground or diverted offsite to Machado Lake and wetlands to the south. No wastewater would be generated during operations. Neither construction nor operation of the proposed Project would create a substantial additional demand on the wastewater treatment provider. Impacts would be less than significant, and no mitigation is required.

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?

Less-than-Significant. Construction activities would include excavation and trenching, which would require the import and export of fill material. The largest potential source of solid waste during construction would be excavated material. Although it is anticipated that most clean soil would be reused onsite to cover the underground components, approximately 630 cubic yards from construction of the concrete-lined flood channel and approximately 4,692 cubic yards from construction of the underground infiltration system would be hauled offsite to a City-certified LASAN construction and demolition (C&D) processing facility, requiring an AB 939 Compliance Permit, or Waste Hauler Permit (LACCD, 2021; LASAN, 2022).

During operations, waste generated by the Project would be primarily limited to green waste and small amounts of trash. Operations would not generate a large quantity of solid waste in excess

of the capacity of local infrastructure. The Project would comply with the requirements of the AB 939 Permit, and operations would not generate a substantial volume of solid waste. Therefore, the Project would not exceed the permitted capacity of any of the City-certified C&D processing facilities. Impacts would be less than significant, and no mitigation is required.

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

No Impact. The proposed Project would be required to conform to the policies and programs of the City of Los Angeles' Solid Waste Integrated Resources Plan, which proposes an approach for the City to achieve a goal of 90 percent waste diversion by 2025. The proposed Project would comply with all applicable codes pertaining to solid waste disposal. These codes include Chapter VI Article 6 Garbage, Refuse Collection of the City of Los Angeles Municipal Code, Part 13 Title 42 - Public Health and Welfare of the California Health and Safety Code, and Chapter 39 Solid Waste Disposal - of the United States Code. As discussed in Section XIX(d), the proposed Project would require an AB 939 Permit to comply with the California Integrated Waste Management Act. AB 939 requires each city in the State to divert at least 50 percent of its solid waste from landfill disposal through source reduction, recycling, and composting. Therefore, the proposed Project would be consistent with the procedures and policies detailed in these codes, the Solid Waste Integrated Resources Plan, and related laws pertaining to solid waste disposal. The proposed Project would have no impact, and no mitigation is required.

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XX.	**WILDFIRE** If located in or near State responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, **would the project:**				
a.	Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?			X	
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 wildfire?			X	
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?			X	
d.	Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?			X	

a. Would the project substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?

Less-than-Significant Impact. The proposed Project would not cause any changes that would impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. LAHC identifies evacuation routes within the campus and ingress/egress points (LAHC, 2014). Trenching for storm drains lines would occur within a short portion of Campus Drive west of the baseball field and Lagoon Drive adjacent to VHTPA. These activities may result in temporary closures and detours but would not obstruct any of the emergency evacuation routes identified in the LAHC Evacuation Plan Map. Upon completion of construction, lane closures would not occur. Maintenance activities would be conducted regularly (monthly to annually depending on maintenance activity) and would not obstruct emergency access during operations. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant, and no mitigation is required.

b. Would the project, 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 wildfire?

Less-than-Significant Impact. The proposed Project is in a primarily highly urbanized setting that is relatively flat and developed as a college campus. It is not located within a moderate, high, or very high FHSZ and is located approximately 1.3 miles east of the nearest very high FHSZ in Rancho Palos Verdes (CAL FIRE, 2022). Although a portion of the Project site is within a disturbed riparian area, construction activities would not pose a substantial risk of wildfire, as the Project would comply with federal and State regulations for construction fire safety, such as requiring spark arrester protection in vehicles to reduce the potential of ignition. The nearest fire station, LAFD Station #85, is approximately one mile northwest from the Project site (1331 West 253rd Street) and would provide sufficient fire protection services in the event of a fire during construction or operation. Once operational, the proposed Project would improve existing storm flows and water quality and would not pose a substantial risk of fire. The proposed Project would not introduce a new risk of fire hazards, as open flames and other flammable materials would not be present on-site during operations. The Project area is unlikely to support favorable conditions for a wildfire. Therefore, the Project would have a less-than-significant impact on exacerbating wildfire risks and exposing people to pollutants from a wildfire, and no mitigation is required.

c. 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?

Less-than-Significant. The proposed Project would install underground stormwater management infrastructure that would not exacerbate the risk of fire. Construction activities would occur in existing streets within an urbanized area, and the Project would comply with federal and State regulations for construction fire safety. As described in Section XX(b), the proposed improvements would not pose a risk of fire hazards, as the Project is not located within a FHSZ. Typical maintenance of the stormwater management components would include the use of maintenance trucks on paved roads and would not exacerbate the risk of fire. As a result, impacts would be less than significant, and no mitigation is required.

d. Would the project expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?

Less-than-Significant Impact. The proposed Project is not located within a moderate, high, or very high FHSZ and is approximately 1.3 miles east of the nearest very high FHSZ in Rancho Palos Verdes (CAL FIRE, 2022). As such, the Project is in a primarily urban setting and not vulnerable to wildfire hazards and post-wildfire topographical instability. All of the proposed stormwater management components would be located on relatively flat terrain with no nearby hills or mountains, with the exception of the concrete-lined flood channel. The concrete-lined flood channel is adjacent to a slight slope, but no people or occupied structures would be located nearby that could be exposed to downslope hazards. Additionally, the DOC Earthquake Zones of Required Investigation map indicates that the Project does not fall within a landslide zone (DOC, 2023). Therefore, the Project would have a less-than-significant impact on exposing people and structures to downslope flooding or landslides as a result of post-fire slope instability and drainage changes. No mitigation is required.

		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XXI.	**MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE**				
a.	Does the project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?		X		
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.)			X	
c.	Does the project have environmental effects that would cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?			X	

Discussion:

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?

Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated. As discussed in Section IV, Biological Resources, the riparian habitat within the Project site is disturbed and was not observed to contain any listed plant or wildlife species, but may support listed species such as least Bell's vireo. Implementing MMs BIO-1, BIO-2, and BIO-3 by requiring pre-construction surveys, establishing nest buffers, and monitoring noise levels to prevent nest avoidance would minimize potential impacts to special-status species and nesting birds that may occur within the site. Therefore, the proposed Project would not substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species. Wildlife within and in the vicinity of the Project site include common bird species, some of which are considered migratory. Although no bird nests were observed during surveys conducted in support of the Project, suitable nest sites are abundant throughout the Project site and adjacent open

space, and many common bird species are expected to nest there. The proposed Project would implement MM BIO-1 to reduce or avoid any potential impacts to nesting birds. As such, the proposed Project would not cause the population of any species to drop below self-sustaining levels or reduce the population or range of special-status species with mitigation.

As discussed in Section V, (Cultural Resources), a record search and NAHC SLF search were conducted, and a review of the NRHP, CRHR, Historic Resources Inventory, and local inventories were conducted. The record searches and literature reviews did not show the presence of any previously recorded cultural resources within the Project site, and the SLF search produced negative results. As discussed in Section V(a), Cultural Resources, the proposed Project would involve ground disturbing activities that may still potentially impact unknown buried resources that may be considered significant under CEQA. Implementation of MMs CUL-1, CUL-2, and CUL-3 would reduce impacts to unknown resources to a less-than-significant level. As such, impacts to major examples of California history or prehistory would be less than significant with mitigation.

Overall, the proposed Project would have less-than-significant impacts regarding the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, reduce habitat and wildlife populations, eliminate plant or animal communities, reduce the range of special-status species, and eliminate California historical resources. No mitigation is required.

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.)

Less-than-Significant Impact. As discussed in each issue area in Sections I through XX, the proposed Project would have either no potentially significant impacts, and mitigation would reduce impacts to less than significant for biological resources and cultural resources. In the absence of significant Project-level impacts and a relatively small area of impact, the incremental contribution of the proposed Project would not be cumulatively considerable. Generally, contributions to air quality and greenhouse gas emissions impacts are cumulative due to the regional and global nature of air pollution and climate change, respectively. As described in Sections III, Air Quality, and VIII, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, the proposed Project would have less-than-significant impacts to these issue areas. All projects in the region would comply with applicable laws, further reducing their cumulative impacts to air quality and greenhouse gas emissions. Therefore, the proposed Project would not have a cumulatively considerable impact regarding these issues. Impacts are less than significant, and no mitigation is required.

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

Less-than-Significant Impact. Based on the issue area analyses in Sections I through XX, the proposed Project is not anticipated to have significant impacts that would cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly. All impacts related adverse effects on human beings, such as aesthetics, air quality, greenhouse gases, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, noise, and wildfire are less than significant with no mitigation required.

3.4 MITIGATION MEASURES

The following mitigation measures were identified for the proposed Project.

MM BIO-1 **Nesting Birds.** LACCD shall complete project construction outside of the bird nesting season (August 16 – February 14) to avoid potential impacts to nesting birds and special-status birds. If work must occur during the nesting season (February 15 – August 15), LACCD will retain a qualified biologist to conduct nesting bird surveys to ensure that no nesting birds are present on the Project site. If nests are found, the biologist shall establish appropriate nest buffers and work will not be allowed to occur within these buffers. The biologist will monitor the bird activities to ensure that nests are not impacted.

MM BIO-2 **Special-status Wildlife.** LACCD shall retain a qualified biologist to conduct a pre-construction biological survey within the limits of disturbance at the concrete-lined flood channel. The biologist shall survey the site for all special-status bats, birds, and other special-status wildlife species. If any special-status species are found, the qualified biologist shall work with LACCD to relocate these species or allow them to leave the project site on their own. The biologist shall also be present during initial vegetation clearing within the disturbance area at the concrete-lined flood channel.

MM BIO-3 **Noise Monitoring.** LACCD shall retain a qualified biologist to conduct noise monitoring during implementation of the Project. Noise monitoring shall be performed adjacent to the riparian habitat that is suitable for least Bell's vireo. The qualified biologist shall collect baseline ambient noise levels three times (morning, midday, and afternoon), during a typical weekday, prior to the start of Project activities. During Project implementation, the qualified biologist shall take weekly measurements at the same time periods, to ensure that Project activities are not exceeding ambient noise levels by more than 10 decibels. Ensuring that noise levels are not exceeding ambient levels by 10 decibels will ensure that noise is not impacting least Bell's vireo habitat, territories, or active nests.

MM BIO-4 **Riparian Vegetation.** LACCD shall replant all native riparian vegetation that is removed during project activities. Replacement and creation of native riparian habitat will also account for the loss of California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) streambeds. It is expected that up to 0.14 acres of native riparian vegetation and 0.4 acres of CDFW streambeds may be impacted and it shall be replaced at a 1:1 ratio. If riparian vegetation is avoided, these areas will not need to be replaced and would require less than 0.18 acres of restoration. The riparian vegetation replanting shall include Gooding's willow, mulefat, and other native species known from the project site or adjacent Machado Lake. The riparian vegetation replanting can occur adjacent to the new channel, on the northside of the new channel, or elsewhere on the LAHC property with suitable conditions. Irrigation will likely be required to establish the vegetation. The restoration area shall be maintained and monitored for a period of five years.

MM CUL-1 **Worker Environmental Awareness Program.** Prior to the initiation of construction, all construction personnel shall be trained by a qualified archaeologist meeting federal criteria under 36 CFR 61 regarding the recognition of possible buried cultural resources (i.e., prehistoric and/or historical artifacts, objects, or features) and protection of all archaeological resources during construction. Training shall inform all construction personnel of the procedures to be followed upon the discovery of cultural materials. All personnel shall be instructed that unauthorized removal or collection of artifacts is a violation of State law. Any excavation contract (or contracts for other activities that may have subsurface soil impacts) shall include clauses

that require construction personnel to attend the Worker Environmental Awareness Program, so they are aware of the potential for inadvertently exposing buried archaeological deposits.

MM CUL-2 **Inadvertent Discovery.** If previously unidentified cultural resources are uncovered during construction activities, construction work within 50 feet of the find shall be halted and directed away from the discovery until a Secretary of the Interior qualified archaeologist assesses the significance of the resource. The archaeologist, in consultation with LACCD, shall make the necessary plans for treatment of the find(s) and for the evaluation and mitigation of impacts if the find(s) is found to be eligible to the National or California Registers, or qualify as a unique archaeological resource under CEQA (PRC §21083.2).

MM CUL-3 **Treatment of Human Remains.** All human remains discovered are to be treated with respect and dignity. Upon discovery of human remains, all work within 50 feet of the discovery area must cease immediately, disturbance must be avoided, and the area must be secured. The County Coroner's Office must be called. The Coroner has 2 working days to examine the remains after notification. The appropriate land manager/owner of the site is to be called and informed of the discovery. It is very important that the suspected remains, and the area around them, are undisturbed and the proper authorities called to the scene as soon as possible, because it could be a crime scene. The Coroner would determine if the remains are archaeological/historic or of modern origin and if there are any criminal or jurisdictional questions.

After the Coroner has determined that the remains are archaeological/historic-era, the Coroner would make recommendations concerning the treatment and disposition of the remains to the person responsible for the excavation, or to his or her authorized representative. If the Coroner believes the remains to be those of a Native American, he/she shall contact the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) by telephone within 24 hours.

The NAHC would immediately notify the person it believes to be the most likely descendant (MLD) of the remains. The MLD has 48 hours from the time given to access the site to make recommendations to the landowner for treatment or disposition of the human remains. If the descendant does not make recommendations within 48 hours, the landowner shall reinter the remains in an area of the property secure from further disturbance. If the landowner does not accept the descendant's recommendations, the owner or the descendant may request mediation by NAHC.

According to the California Health and Safety Code, six or more human burials at one location constitute a cemetery (Section 8100), and willful disturbance of human remains is a felony (Section 7052).

MM GEO-1 **Paleontological Resource Monitoring and Mitigation Plan.** Prior to the start of any Project-related construction activities, LACCD shall retain a State-approved paleontologist (Project Paleontologist) to prepare and implement a project-specific Paleontological Resource Mitigation Plan (PRMP), which shall be approved by the LACCD. The Project Paleontologist shall be responsible for implementing all the paleontological conditions of approval and for using qualified paleontologists to assist in work and field monitoring. At a minimum, information to be contained in the PRMP, in addition to other information required under the guidelines of the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology (SVP), is as follows:

- Description of the Project site and planned earthwork and excavation, and a map identifying locations where excavations and ground disturbing activities will or will be likely to encounter older alluvium (Palos Verdes Sand/ San Pedro Sand).
- The museum or repository that has agreed to accept the recovered fossils shall be identified in the PRMP.
- The PRMP shall detail methods of monitoring, recovery, preparation, and analysis of specimens, data analysis, reporting, and the final curation location of specimens at an identified repository.
- Identification of personnel with authority and responsibility to temporarily halt or divert ground disturbance activities to allow for recovery of significant specimens.
- The PRMP shall be submitted to the LACCD for review and approval 60 days prior to start of Project construction.

MM GEO-2 Worker Environmental Awareness Program (WEAP). Prior to the start of Project-related construction activities, a WEAP shall be developed by the Project Paleontologist. The WEAP shall address the potential to encounter paleontological resources in the field, the sensitivity and importance of these resources, and the legal obligations to preserve and protect such resources. The training program shall also include the set of reporting procedures that workers are to follow if paleontological resources are encountered during project activities. The WEAP may be combined with other environmental training programs for the project. All field personnel will receive WEAP training on paleontological resources prior to project-related construction activities.

MM GEO-3 Paleontological Monitoring and Fossil Recovery. Monitoring will entail the visual inspection of excavated or graded areas and trench sidewalls. If the Project Paleontologist determines full-time monitoring is no longer warranted, based on the geologic conditions at depth, he or she may recommend to the LACCD that monitoring be reduced or cease entirely.

If fossils are discovered, the Project Paleontologist shall temporarily direct, divert or halt construction activity to ensure that the fossil(s) can be removed in a safe and timely manner. The paleontological monitor, and/or Project Paleontologist shall evaluate the discovery and determine if the fossil may be considered significant, and if significant, recover the fossil.

Upon completion of Project ground disturbing activities, all significant fossils collected would be prepared in a properly equipped laboratory to a point ready for curation. Preparation may include the removal of excess matrix from fossil materials and stabilizing or repairing specimens. During preparation and inventory, the fossils specimens shall be identified to the lowest taxonomic level practical prior to curation at an accredited museum. The fossil specimens must be delivered to the approved repository (identified in the PRMP) and receipt(s) of collections submitted sent to LACCD no later than 60 days after all ground disturbing activities are completed.

MM GEO-4 Paleontological Resources Monitoring Report. LACCD shall prepare a paleontological resource mitigation and monitoring report by the Project Paleontologist following completion of ground disturbing activities. The contents of the report shall include, but not be limited to a description and inventory list of recovered fossil materials (if any); a map showing the location of paleontological resources found in the field; determinations of scientific

significance; proof of accession of fossil materials into the pre-approved museum or other repository; and a statement by the Project Paleontologist that Project impacts to paleontological resources have been mitigated.

4.0 LIST OF PREPARERS

Table 4.1. CEQA Lead Agency: Los Angeles Community College District

Name	Project Role
Donald K. McLarty, AIA, NCARB, LEED-AP BD+C	Project Manager, Planning & Support Services Manager
Mary Ann Breckell	District Special Projects
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Alex Nelson	LAHC Director of Facilities
Mark Al-Soufi	LAHC College Project Director
Rick Shirley	LAHC College Project Manager
Joel Ochs	LAHC College Design Manager
Robin Byrd	Project Manager II

Table 4.2. Project Stormwater Consultant: Olaunu

Name	Project Role
Daniel Apt	Project Stormwater Consultant, President

Table 4.3. CEQA Consultant Team: Aspen Environmental Group

Name	Project Role
Stephanie Tang	Project Manager, Hydrology and Water Quality, Transportation
Avery Robinson	Aesthetics, Agricultural Resources, Land Use and Planning, Mineral Resources, Population and Housing, Public Services, Recreation, Utilities and Services Systems, Wildfire
Brewster Birdsall, PE, QEP	Air Quality, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Energy, Noise
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Kati Simpson	Graphics, Document/Production Coordinator

5.0 LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AB	Assembly Bill
AQMP	air quality management plan
bgs	below ground surface
BMP	Best Management Practice
C&D	construction and demolition
CDFW	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
cfs	cubic feet per second
CHRIS	California Historical Resources Information System
cm	centimeters
CNEL	Community Noise Equivalent Level
CO	carbon monoxide
CRHR	California Register of Historical Resources
CRPR	California Rare Plant Rank
CY	cubic yards
dB	decibels
dBA	A-weighted decibel
DOC	Department of Conservation
EIR	environmental impact report
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FHSZ	fire hazard severity zone
g	gravity
GHG	greenhouse gas
HP	horsepower
I	Interstate
IS	Initial Study
LACCD	Los Angeles Community College District
LADOT	Los Angeles Department of Transportation
LAFD	Los Angeles Fire Department
LAHC	Los Angeles Harbor College
LAMC	Los Angeles Municipal Code
LARWQCB	Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board
LASAN	Los Angeles Sanitation and Environment
lbs	pounds
Ldn	Day/Night Average Noise Level
LST	localized significance threshold
LUST	leaking underground storage tank
MLD	most likely descendant
MM	mitigation measure
MND	Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration
MRZ	Mineral Resource Zones
MS4	Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System
MTBE	methyl tert-butyl ether
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NAHC	Native American Heritage Commission
NO2	nitrogen dioxide

NOX	nitrogen oxide
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
NSHM	National Seismic Hazards Map
O3	ozone
PM	particulate matter
PPV	peak particle velocity
PRC	Public Resources Code
PRMP	Paleontological Resource Mitigation Plan
SCAG	Southern California Association of Governments
SCAQMD	South Coast Air Quality Management District
SCCIC	South Central Coastal Information Center
SCH	State Clearinghouse
SEA	Significant Ecological Area
sec	second
SLF	Sacred Lands File
SOx	sulfur oxide
SRA	source receptor area
SVP	Society of Vertebrate Paleontology
SWPPP	Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan
SWRCB	State Water Resources Control Board
TCR	Tribal Cultural Resource
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
USGS	United States Geological Survey
UST	underground storage tank
VdB	vibration velocity
VHTPA	Vladovic Harbor Teacher Preparation Academy
VMT	vehicle miles traveled
VOC	volatile organic compound
WEAP	Worker Environmental Awareness Program

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