Todd Smith, Planning Director
Planning and Environmental Review

Troy Givans, Director
Department of Community Development

County of Sacramento

Mitigated Negative Declaration

Pursuant to Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Article 6, Sections 15070 and 15071 of the California Code of Regulations and pursuant to the Procedures for Preparation and Processing of Environmental Documents adopted by the County of Sacramento pursuant to Sacramento County Ordinance No. SCC-116, the Environmental Coordinator of Sacramento County, State of California, does prepare, make, declare, publish, and cause to be filed with the County Clerk of Sacramento County, State of California, this Mitigated Negative Declaration re: The Project described as follows:

1. **Control Number:** PLER2022-00134

2. **Title and Short Description of Project:** Arden Way Complete Streets, Phase II

The proposed project would widen Arden Way from Ethan Way to Morse Avenue to accommodate bike and pedestrian improvements. Construction work will include new landscaped medians, asphalt overlay, elevated Class IV bike lanes, separated sidewalks with landscape strips, bus turnouts, curbs, and gutter openings.

The project will include 37 utility vault replacements to accommodate the undergrounding of utility lines along both sides of Arden Way. The project will include 95 upgraded street lighting and traffic signal interconnects that will either remain in place or be relocated slightly to accommodate street widening. The project may include up to 24 new streetlights. Two culvert locations may require extensions to accommodate the widening of Arden Way.

The expansion of Arden Way will require temporary construction easements and/or permanent acquisition of portions of 97 adjacent parcels. While the majority of these right of ways (ROWs) are temporary easements through the construction period, the overall number of acquisitions also include two Public Roadway Public Utility Easements (PRPUE), and 37 Public Utilities Public Facilities Easements (PUPFE).

3. **Assessor's Parcel Number:** Various

4. **Location of Project:** The project site is located along the east and westbound sidewalks of Arden Way between Ethan Way and Morse Avenue.

5. **Project Applicant:** Department of Transportation, County of Sacramento

6. Said project will not have a significant effect on the environment for the following reasons:
   a. It will not have the potential to 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, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory.
   b. It will not have the potential to achieve short-term, to the disadvantage of long-term, environmental goals.
   c. It will not have impacts, which are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable.
   d. It will not have environmental effects, which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly.

7. As a result thereof, the preparation of an environmental impact report pursuant to the Environmental Quality Act (Division 13 of the Public Resources Code of the State of California) is not required.

8. The attached Initial Study has been prepared by the Sacramento County Planning and Environmental Review Division in support of this Mitigated Negative Declaration. Further information may be obtained by contacting the Planning and Environmental Review Division at 827 Seventh Street, Room 225, Sacramento, California, 95814, or phone (916) 874-6141.

Julie Newton
Environmental Coordinator
County of Sacramento, State of California

COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW
INITIAL STUDY

PROJECT INFORMATION

CONTROL NUMBER: PLER2022-00134

NAME: Arden Way Complete Streets, Phase II

LOCATION: The project site is located along the east and westbound sidewalks of Arden Way between Ethan Way and Morse Avenue (Plate IS-1).

ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NUMBER: Various

APPLICANT:

Attn: Keith Gotwalt, Associate Civil Engineer
Department of Transportation, County of Sacramento
4111 Branch Center Rd.
Sacramento, CA 95827

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed project would widen Arden Way from Ethan Way to Morse Avenue to accommodate bike and pedestrian improvements. Construction work will include new landscaped medians, asphalt overlay, elevated Class IV bike lanes, separated sidewalks with landscape strips, bus turnouts, curbs, and gutter openings (see Plates IS-2.1-2.5).

The project will include 37 utility vault replacements to accommodate the undergrounding of utility lines along both sides of Arden Way. The project will include 95 upgraded street lighting and traffic signal interconnects that will either remain in place or be relocated slightly to accommodate street widening. The project may include up to 24 new streetlights (See Appendix C). Two culvert locations may require extensions to accommodate the widening of Arden Way. (See Plates IS-2.1-2.5 and Plates IS 9, IS-11).

The expansion of Arden Way will require temporary construction easements and/or permanent acquisition of portions of 97 adjacent parcels. While the majority of these right of ways (ROWs) are temporary easements through the construction period, the overall number of acquisitions also include two Public Roadway Public Utility

Easements (PRPUE), and 37 Public Utilities Public Facilities Easements (PUPFE). (See Land Use Discussion, Table IS-1, and Appendix A).

ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The project site is located within the Arden Arcade community of unincorporated Sacramento County (see Plate IS-1). The site is located on the north and south peripheries of Arden Way, extending approximately 1.5 miles between Ethan Way and Morse Avenue (see Plates IS-2.1-2.5). Zoning throughout the extent of the project includes Commercial/Office, Low-Density and Medium-Density Residential parcels (see Plate IS-3).

Sections of the Chicken Ranch Slough and Strong Ranch Slough exist as channelized culverts which drain beneath Arden Way. Current Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) insurance maps list these water bodies as regulatory floodways meriting runoff and drainage considerations for the project's proposed culvert widenings that expand over the east and westbound slough drainages (See Hydrology and Water Quality).

Chicken Ranch Slough and Strong Ranch Slough are listed by the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) as a Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland and Riverine Wetland habitat respectively, meriting considerations for potential impact to wetlands and wetland habitat (See Biological Resources).

The site is fully developed with mature trees and landscaping and the site exists within an urbanized corridor (See Biological Resources).

Overall, the project site is relatively flat, but does have changes in grade elevation from Ethan Way at ~38± feet along the eastern boundary of the parcel to a maximum rise of 52± feet along the intersection of Arden Way and Wright Street.

Plate IS-1: County Vicinity Map

Plate IS-2.1: Project Location Map (1 of 5)

Plate IS-2.2: Project Location Map (2 of 5)

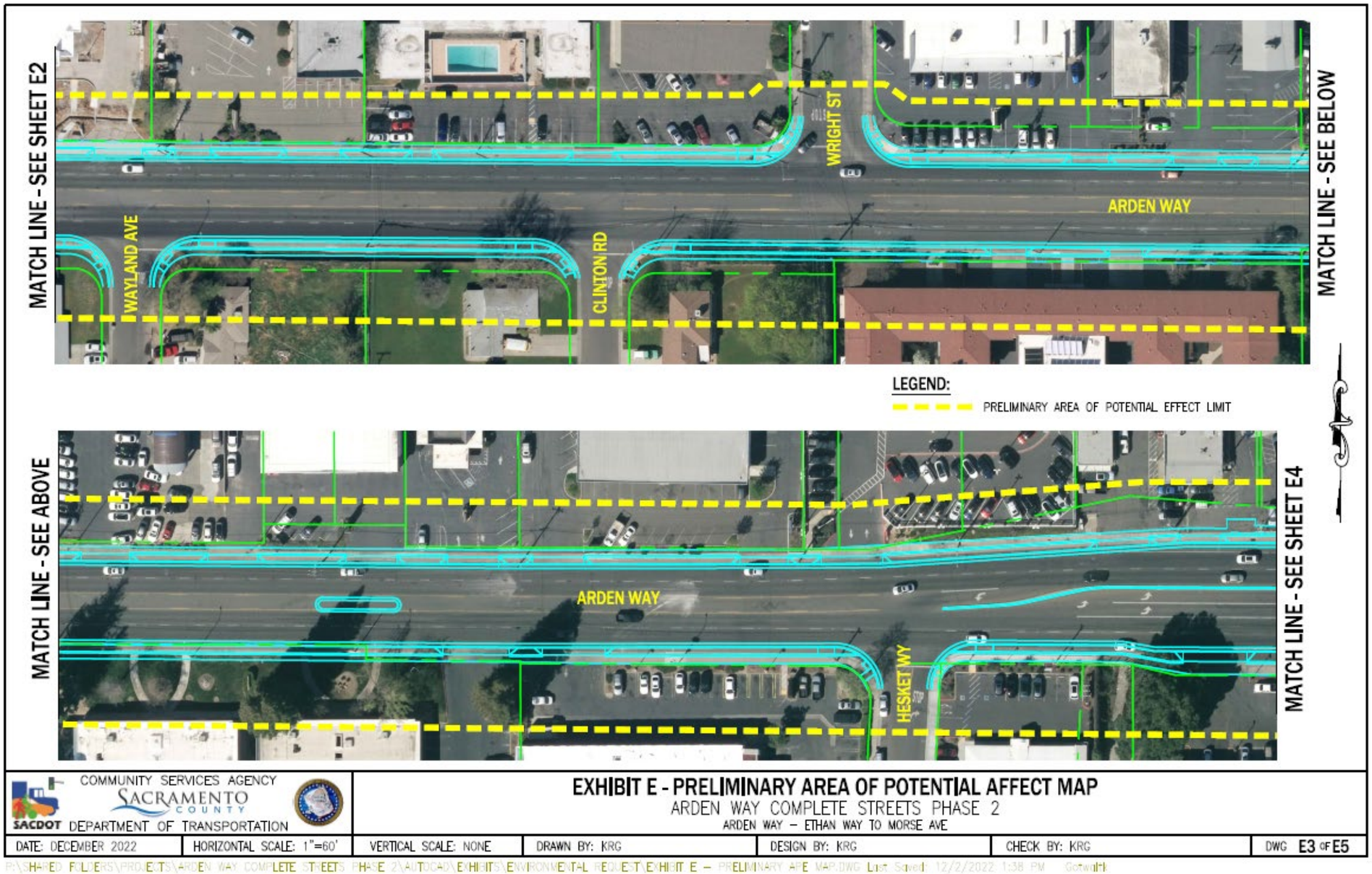
COMMUNITY SERVICES AGENCY
SACRAMENTO COUNTY
SACDOT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

EXHIBIT E - PRELIMINARY AREA OF POTENTIAL AFFECT MAP
ARDEN WAY COMPLETE STREETS PHASE 2
ARDEN WAY – ETHAN WAY TO MORSE AVE

DATE: DECEMBER 2022	HORIZONTAL SCALE: 1"=60'	VERTICAL SCALE: NONE	DRAWN BY: KRG	DESIGN BY: KRG	CHECK BY: KRG	DWG E3 OF E5

P:\SHARED FOLDERS\PROJECTS\ARDEN WAY COMPLETE STREETS PHASE 2\AUTOCAD\EXHIBITS\ENVIRONMENTAL REQUEST\EXHIBIT E – PRELIMINARY AREA MAP.DWG Last Saved: 12/2/2022 1:38 PM Gotwalt

Plate IS-2.3: Project Location Map (3 of 5)



COMMUNITY SERVICES AGENCY
SACRAMENTO COUNTY
SACDOT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

EXHIBIT E - PRELIMINARY AREA OF POTENTIAL AFFECT MAP
ARDEN WAY COMPLETE STREETS PHASE 2
ARDEN WAY – ETHAN WAY TO MORSE AVE

DATE: DECEMBER 2022	HORIZONTAL SCALE: 1"=60'	VERTICAL SCALE: NONE	DRAWN BY: KRG	DESIGN BY: KRG	CHECK BY: KRG	DWG E3 OF E5

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Plate IS-2.4: Project Location Map (4 of 5)

COMMUNITY SERVICES AGENCY
SACRAMENTO COUNTY
SACDOT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

EXHIBIT E - PRELIMINARY AREA OF POTENTIAL AFFECT MAP
ARDEN WAY COMPLETE STREETS PHASE 2
ARDEN WAY – ETHAN WAY TO MORSE AVE

DATE: DECEMBER 2022	HORIZONTAL SCALE: 1"=60'	VERTICAL SCALE: NONE	DRAWN BY: KRG	DESIGN BY: KRG	CHECK BY: KRG	DWG E4 OF E5

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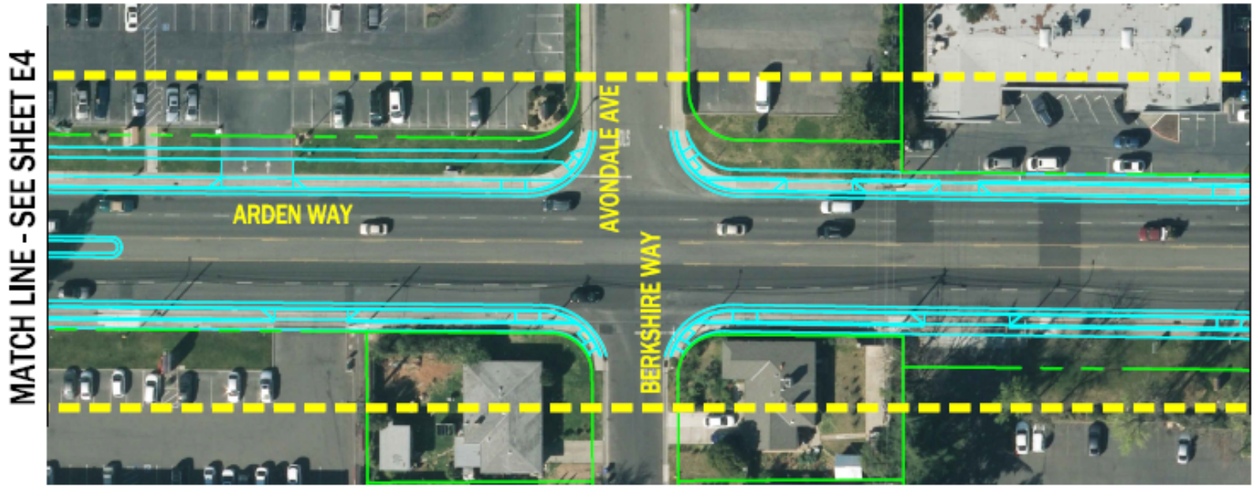
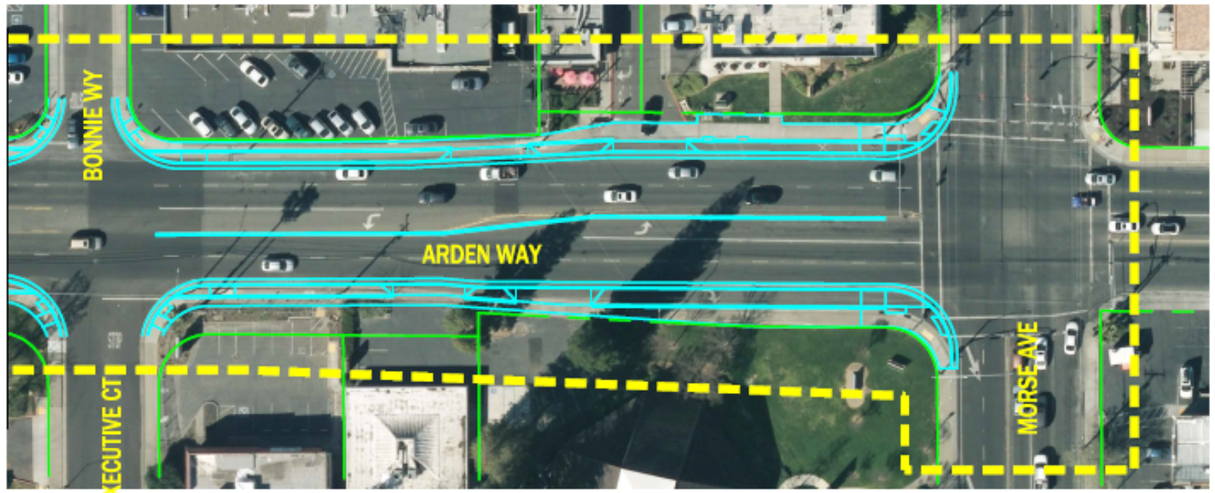
Plate IS-2.5: Project Location Map (5 of 5)



LEGEND:

PRELIMINARY AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECT LIMIT



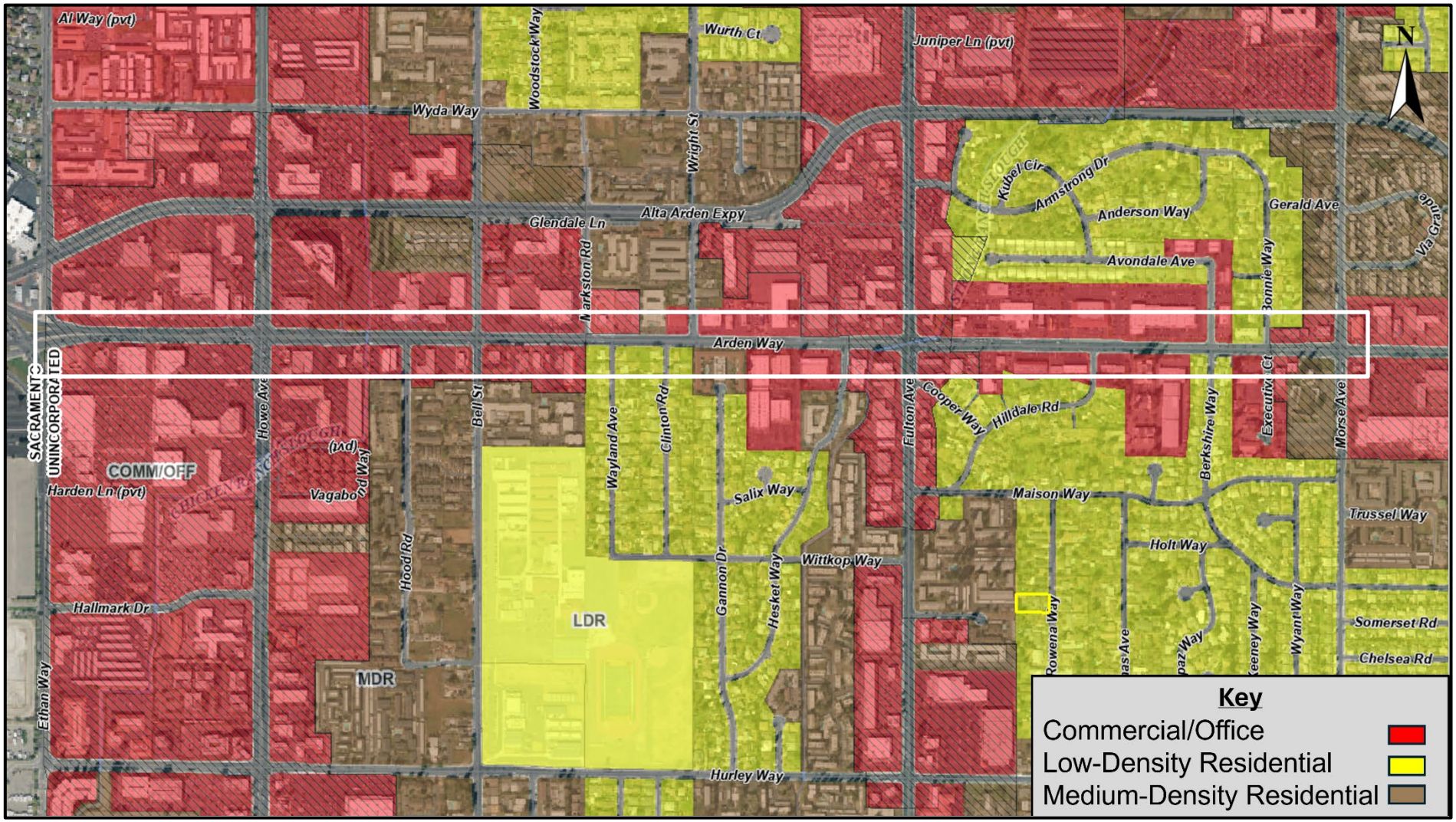
COMMUNITY SERVICES AGENCY
SACRAMENTO COUNTY
SACDOT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

EXHIBIT E - PRELIMINARY AREA OF POTENTIAL AFFECT MAP
ARDEN WAY COMPLETE STREETS PHASE 2
ARDEN WAY – ETHAN WAY TO MORSE AVE

DATE: DECEMBER 2022	HORIZONTAL SCALE: 1"=60'	VERTICAL SCALE: NONE	DRAWN BY: KRG	DESIGN BY: KRG	CHECK BY: KRG	DWG E5 OF E5

P:\SHARED FOLDERS\PROJECTS\ARDEN WAY COMPLETE STREETS PHASE 2\AUTOCAD\EXHIBITS\ENVIRONMENTAL REQUEST\EXHIBIT E – PRELIMINARY APE MAP.DWG Last Saved: 12/2/2022 1:38 PM Gotwalth

Plate IS-3: Project Location Zoning Map



ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

Appendix G of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) provides guidance for assessing the significance of potential environmental impacts. Based on this guidance, Sacramento County has developed an Initial Study Checklist (located at the end of this report). The Checklist identifies a range of potential significant effects by topical area. The topical discussions that follow are provided only when additional analysis beyond the Checklist is warranted.

LAND USE

This section supplements the Initial Study Checklist by analyzing if the project would:

- Physically divide an established community; conflict with a land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect; induce substantial population growth; or displace substantial numbers of existing housing or people.

EASEMENTS AND RIGHT OF WAY ACQUISITION

The expansion of Arden Way will require temporary construction easements and/or permanent acquisition of portions of 97 adjacent parcels. While the majority of these right of ways (ROWs) are temporary easements through the construction period, the overall number of acquisitions also include two Public Roadway Public Utility Easements (PRPUE), and 37 Public Utilities Public Facilities Easements (PUPFE). (See Table IS-1).

Compensation for right-of-way acquisition is typically carried out during the appraisal and compensation negotiations between the County and individual property owners. Sacramento County purchases rights-of-way by notifying the owners that the County requires them; informing the owners of their right to fair compensation; negotiating with the owner or the owner's representatives; and paying the agreed market value for the required right-of-way.

If agreement cannot be reached, the County may file a condemnation action in court; exercising the government's right of eminent domain as provided by the Constitution. In such a case, the court hears testimonies relative to the value of the lands and/or easements the County wishes to acquire. Based on the evidence presented by the County and the landowner, the court will make a determination on what is fair compensation. Either party may appeal the judge's decision if they are dissatisfied with the compensation awarded.

Typically, acquisition from either a willing seller or by eminent domain would only affect those areas of land needed for project construction or facilities and thus not affect the remainder of each parcel. In some cases, the property owners may need to obtain

waivers from mortgage holders and/or revise title insurance policies to cover a change in property description, because of selling a small portion of their land.

In acquiring property, the County (and the courts, if involved) would consider not only the value of the land, but the value of anything on the land. They would also consider whether there would be any effect on the remaining parcel by taking a portion of the property. Such effects are termed severance damages. If a public agency wishes to purchase half of a parcel, for example, that purchase may decrease the value of the remainder. In such cases, public agencies often buy the entire parcel since it can be less costly.

Although several properties along the roadway are likely to be affected by the loss of frontage area, appropriate compensation will be offered through the right-of-way acquisition process and will not result in significant physical disruption or division of an established community, or displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere. ROW acquisition land use impacts for project construction are considered ***less than significant.***

Table IS-1: Right of Way Acquisition List

Number	APN	Address	PRPUE	PUPFE	TCE
1	278-0223-015	2001 Arden Way			X
2	278-0223-014	2021 Arden Way			X
3	278-0223-035	2023 Arden Way			X
4	278-0223-036	2029 Arden Way			X
5	278-0223-037	2035 Arden Way			X
6	278-0223-009	2105 Arden Way			X
7	278-0223-027	2115 Arden Way			X
8	278-0223-007	2125 Arden Way		X	X
9	278-0223-032	1721 Howe Ave		X	X
10	285-0010-017	2000 Arden Way			X
11	285-0010-019	2024 Arden Way		X	X
12	285-0010-018	2030 Arden Way		X	X
13	285-0010-020	2100 Arden Way		X	X

Number	APN	Address	PRPUE	PUPFE	TCE
14	285-0010-021	2100 Arden Way		X	X
15	278-0290-041	2201 Arden Way		X	X
16	278-0290-043	1750 Howe Ave		X	X
17	278-0290-031	2243 Arden Way			X
18	278-0290-032	2245 Arden Way			X
19	278-0290-015	2265 Arden Way			X
20	278-0290-014	2269 Arden Way			X
21	278-0290-012	2285 Arden Way			X
22	278-0290-010	2293 Arden Way		X	X
23	285-0021-015	2200 Arden Way		X	X
24	285-0021-017	2210 Arden Way		X	X
25	285-0021-018	2220 Arden Way		X	X
26	285-0021-031	2230 Arden Way		X	X
27	285-0021-025	2238 Arden Way		X	X
28	285-0021-019	Arden Way			X
29	285-0021-006	2244 Arden Way		X	X
30	285-0021-007	2256 Arden Way		X	X
31	285-0021-008	2260 Arden Way	X	X	X
32	285-0022-030	2270 Arden Way			X
33	285-0022-027	2276 Arden Way			X
34	285-0022-031	2280 Arden Way		X	X
35	278-0250-032	2301 Arden Way		X	X
36	278-0250-033	2333 Arden Way		X	X

Number	APN	Address	PRPUE	PUPFE	TCE
37	278-0250-027	2345 Arden Way			X
38	278-0250-029	2361 Arden Way			X
39	278-0250-034	2383 Arden Way			X
40	278-0250-020	2391 Arden Way			X
41	278-0260-056	2401 Arden Way			X
42	278-0260-055	2409 Arden Way			X
43	278-0260-054	2419 Arden Way			X
44	278-0260-043	2425 Arden Way			X
45	278-0260-041	2429 Arden Way			X
46	278-0260-049	2437 Arden Way			X
47	278-0260-037	2445 Arden Way			X
48	278-0260-034	2501 Arden Way			X
49	278-0260-059	2535 Arden Way		X	X
50	278-0260-021	2539 Arden Way			X
51	278-0260-023	1705 Fulton Ave		X	X
52	285-0031-019	2300 Arden Way			X
53	285-0031-032	2312 Arden Way			X
54	285-0031-028	2324 Arden Way			X
55	285-0031-027	2330 Arden Way			X
56	285-0031-007	2334 Arden Way			X
57	285-0031-031	2344 Arden Way			X
58	285-0031-010	1637 Wayland Ave			X
59	285-0032-001	1636 Wayland Ave			X

Number	APN	Address	PRPUE	PUPFE	TCE
60	285-0032-002	1633 Clinton Road			X
61	285-0033-001	1632 Clinton Road			X
62	285-0040-005	2410 Arden Way		X	X
63	285-0040-046	2424 Arden Way	X	X	X
64	285-0040-045	2500 Arden Way		X	X
65	285-0040-042	2530 Arden Way		X	X
66	285-0040-044	2544 Arden Way			X
67	279-0230-002	1700 Fulton Ave		X	X
68	279-0230-001	1732 Fulton Ave		X	X
69	279-0230-019	2625 Arden Way		X	X
70	279-0230-005	2735 Arden Way			X
71	279-0230-015	2801 Arden Way			X
72	279-0243-011	2901 Arden Way			X
73	279-0243-010	2929 Arden Way			X
74	279-0241-030	1870 Avondale Ave			X
75	279-0241-007	3001 Arden Way		X	X
76	279-0242-008	3017 Arden Way		X	X
77	279-0242-014	3033 Arden Way			X
78	279-0242-013	3045 Arden Way			X
79	286-0011-001	2600 Arden Way		X	X
80	286-0011-028	2610 Arden Way		X	X
81	286-0011-031	2620 Arden Way		X	X
82	286-0011-030	2700 Arden Way			X

Number	APN	Address	PRPUE	PUPFE	TCE
83	286-0011-006	2710 Arden Way			X
84	286-0011-007	2720 Arden Way			X
85	286-0011-008	2730 Arden Way			X
86	286-0011-009	2740 Arden Way			X
87	286-0011-010	2800 Arden Way			X
88	286-0011-029	2810 Arden Way			X
89	286-0013-027	2830 Arden Way			X
90	286-0021-031	Arden Way			X
91	286-0021-029	2924 Arden Way			X
92	286-0021-003	2800 Berkshire Way		X	X
93	286-0022-049	2801 Berkshire Way		X	X
94	286-0022-048	3000 Arden Way			X
95	286-0022-030	3030 Arden Way			X
96	286-0022-032	3040 Arden Way			X
97	286-0022-047	1615 Morse Ave		X	X

AIR QUALITY

This section supplements the Initial Study Checklist by analyzing if the proposed project would:

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

The proposed project site is located in the Sacramento Valley Air Basin (SVAB). The SVAB's frequent temperature inversions result in a relatively stable atmosphere that increases the potential for pollution. Within the SVAB, the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District (SMAQMD) is responsible for ensuring that emission standards are not violated. Project related air emissions would have a significant effect if they would result in concentrations that either violate an ambient air quality standard

or contribute to an existing air quality violation (Table IS-2). Moreover, SMAQMD has established significance thresholds to determine if a proposed project's emission contribution significantly contributes to regional air quality impacts (Table IS-3).

Table IS-2: Air Quality Standards Attainment Status

Pollutant	Attainment with State Standards	Attainment with Federal Standards
Ozone	Non-Attainment (1 hour Standard[1] and 8 hour standard)	Non-Attainment, Classification = Severe -15* (8 hour[3] Standards) Attainment (1 hour standard[2])
Particulate Matter 10 Micron	Non-Attainment (24 hour Standard and Annual Mean)	Attainment (24 hour standard)
Particulate Matter 2.5 Micron	Attainment (Annual Standard)	Non-Attainment (24 hour Standard) and Attainment (Annual)
Carbon Monoxide	Attainment (1 hour and 8 hour Standards)	Attainment (1 hour and 8 hour Standards)
Nitrogen Dioxide	Attainment (1 hour Standard and Annual)	Unclassified/Attainment (1 hour and Annual)
Sulfur Dioxide[4]	Attainment (1 hour and 24 hour Standards)	Attainment/unclassifiable[5]
Lead	Attainment (30 Day Standard)	Attainment (3-month rolling average)
Visibility Reducing Particles	Unclassified (8 hour Standard)	No Federal Standard
Sulfates	Attainment (24 hour Standard)	No Federal Standard
Hydrogen Sulfide	Unclassified (1 hour Standard)	No Federal Standard

1. Per Health and Safety Code (HSC) § 40921.59(c), the classification is based on 1989-1001 data, and therefore does not change.

2. Air Quality meets Federal 1-hour Ozone standard (77 FR 64036). EPA revoked this standard, but some associated requirements still apply. The SMAQMD attained the standard in 2009.

3. For the 1997, 2008 and the 2015 Standard.

4. Cannot be classified

5. Designation was made as part of EPA's designations for the 2010 SO_2 Primary National Ambient Air Quality Standard – Round 3 Designation in December 2017

* Designations based on information from http://www.arb.ca.gov/desig/changes.htm#reports

Source: SMAQMD. "Air Quality Pollutants and Standards". Web. Accessed: December 3, 2018. http://airquality.org/air-quality-health/air-quality-pollutants-and-standards

Table IS-3: SMAQMD Significance Thresholds

	ROG[1] (lbs/day)	NO_x (lbs/day)	CO ($\mu g/m^3$)	PM_{10} (lbs/day)	$PM_{2.5}$ (lbs/day)
Construction (short-term)	None	85	CAAQS[2]	80[3*]	82[3*]
Operational (long-term)	65	65	CAAQS	80[3*]	82[3*]

1. Reactive Organic Gas

2. California Ambient Air Quality Standards

3*. Only applies to projects for which all feasible best available control technology (BACT) and best management practices (BMPs) have been applied. Projects that fail to apply all feasible BACT/BMPs must meet a significance threshold of 0 lbs/day.

CONSTRUCTION EMISSIONS/SHORT-TERM IMPACTS

Short-term air quality impacts are mostly due to dust (PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$) generated by construction and development activities, and emissions from equipment and vehicle engines (NO_x) operated during these activities. Dust generation is dependent on soil type and soil moisture, as well as the amount of total acreage actually involved in clearing, grubbing and grading activities. Clearing and earthmoving activities comprise the major source of construction dust generation, but traffic and general disturbance of the soil also contribute to the problem. Sand, lime or other fine particulate materials may be used during construction and stored on-site. If not stored properly, such materials could become airborne during periods of high winds. The effects of construction activities include increased dust fall and locally elevated levels of suspended particulates. PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$ are considered unhealthy because the particles are small enough to inhale and damage lung tissue, which can lead to respiratory problems.

CONSTRUCTION PARTICULATE MATTER EMISSIONS

The SMAQMD Guide includes screening criteria for construction-related particulate matter. Projects that are 35 acres or less in size will generally not exceed the SMAQMD's construction PM10 or PM2.5 thresholds of significance provided that the project does not:

- Include buildings more than 4 stories tall;
- Include demolition activities;
- Include significant trenching activities;
- Have a construction schedule that is unusually compact, fast-paced, or involves more than 2 phases (i.e., grading, paving, building construction, and architectural coatings) occurring simultaneously;
- Involve cut-and-fill operations (moving earth with haul trucks and/or flattening or terracing hills); or,

- Require import or export of soil materials that will require a considerable amount of haul truck activity.

Some PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$ emissions during project construction can be reduced through compliance with institutional requirements for dust abatement and erosion control. These institutional measures include the SMAQMD "District Rule 403-Fugitive Dust" and measures in the Sacramento County Code relating to land grading and erosion control.

The project site is less than 35 acres and does not involve buildings more than 4 stories tall; demolition activities; significant trenching activities; an unusually compact construction schedule; cut-and-fill operations; or, import or export of soil materials requiring a considerable amount of haul truck activity. Therefore, the project meets the SMAQMD Guide screening criteria for PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$.

The SMAQMD Guide includes a list of Basic Construction Emissions Control Practices that should be implemented on all projects, regardless of size. Dust abatement practices are required pursuant to SMAQMD Rule 403 and California Code of Regulations, Title 13, sections 2449(d)(3) and 2485; the SMAQMD Guide simply lays out the basic practices needed to comply. These requirements are already required by existing rules and regulations and have also been included as mitigation.

CONSTRUCTION OZONE PRECURSOR EMISSIONS (NO_X)

The SMAQMD Guide currently provides screening criteria for construction-related ozone precursor emissions (NO_x) similar to those which will be implemented for particulate matter. Projects that are 35 acres or less in size will generally not exceed the SMAQMD's construction NO_x thresholds of significance provided that the project does not:

- Include buildings more than 4 stories tall;
- Include demolition activities;
- Include significant trenching activities;
- Have a construction schedule that is unusually compact, fast-paced, or involves more than 2 phases (i.e., grading, paving, building construction, and architectural coatings) occurring simultaneously;
- Involve cut-and-fill operations (moving earth with haul trucks and/or flattening or terracing hills);
- Require import or export of soil materials that will require a considerable amount of haul truck activity; or,

- Require soil disturbance (i.e., grading) that exceeds 15 acres per day. Note that 15 acres is a screening level and shall not be used as a mitigation measure.

CONSTRUCTION EMISSIONS CONCLUSION

The screening criteria for construction emissions related to both particulate matter and ozone precursors are almost identical, as shown above. As noted, the project site is less than 35 acres (12 acres) and does not involve buildings more than 4 stories tall; significant trenching activities; an unusually compact construction schedule; or import or export of soil materials requiring a considerable amount of haul truck activity. The project shall comply with SMAQMD Basic Construction Emissions Control Practices (See Mitigation A). Therefore, the project falls below the SMAQMD Guide screening criteria for construction emissions related to both Particulate Matter and Ozone precursors and impacts are ***less than significant with mitigation***.

CRITERIA POLLUTANT HEALTH RISKS

All criteria air pollutants can have human health effects at certain concentrations. Air Districts develop region-specific CEQA thresholds of significance in consideration of existing air quality concentrations and attainment designations under the national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS) and California ambient air quality standards (CAAQS). The NAAQS and CAAQS are informed by a wide range of scientific evidence, which demonstrates that there are known safe concentrations of criteria air pollutants. Because the NAAQS and CAAQS are based on maximum pollutant levels in outdoor air that would not harm the public's health, and air district thresholds pertain to attainment of these standards, the thresholds established by air districts are also protective of human health. Sacramento County is currently in nonattainment of the NAAQS and CAAQS for ozone. Projects that emit criteria air pollutants in exceedance of SMAQMD's thresholds would contribute to the regional degradation of air quality that could result in adverse human health impacts.

Acute health effects of ozone exposure include increased respiratory and pulmonary resistance, cough, pain, shortness of breath, and lung inflammation. Chronic health effects include permeability of respiratory epithelia and the possibility of permanent lung impairment (EPA 2016).

HEALTH EFFECTS SCREENING

In order to estimate the potential health risks that could result from the operational emissions of ROG, NO_X, and $PM_{2.5}$, PER staff implemented the procedures within SMAQMD's *Instructions for Sac Metro Air District Minor Project and Strategic Area Project Health Effects Screening Tools* (SMAQMD's Instructions). To date, SMAQMD has published three options for analyzing projects: small projects may use the Minor Project Health Screening Tool, while larger projects may use the Strategic Area Project Health Screening Tool, and practitioners have the option to conduct project-specific modeling.

Both the Minor Project Health Screening Tool and Strategic Area Project Health Screening Tool are based on the maximum thresholds of significance adopted within the five air district regions contemplated within SMAQMD's *Guidance to Address the Friant Ranch Ruling for CEQA Projects in the Sac Metro Air District* (SMAQMD's Friant Guidance; October 2020). The air district thresholds considered in SMAQMD's Friant Guidance included thresholds from SMAQMD as well as the El Dorado County Air Quality Management District, the Feather River Air Quality Management District, the Placer County Air Pollution Control District, and the Yolo Solano Air Quality Management District. The highest allowable emission rates of NO_X, ROG, PM_{10}, and $PM_{2.5}$ from the five air districts is 82 pounds per day (lbs/day) for all four pollutants. Thus, the Minor Project Health Screening Tool is intended for use by projects that would result in emissions at or below 82 lbs/day, while the Strategic Area Project Health Screening Tool is intended for use by projects that would result in emissions between two and eight times greater than 82 lbs/day. The Strategic Area Project Screening Model was prepared by SMAQMD for five locations throughout the Sacramento region for two scenarios: two times and eight times the threshold of significance level (2xTOS and 8xTOS). The corresponding emissions levels included in the model for 2xTOS were 164 lb/day for ROG and NO_X, and 656 lb/day under the 8xTOS for ROG and NO_X (SMAQMD 2020).

As noted in SMAQMD's Friant Guidance, "each model generates conservative estimates of health effects, for two reasons: The tools' outputs are based on the simulation of a full year of exposure at the maximum daily average of the increases in air pollution concentration… [and] [t]he health effects are calculated for emissions levels that are very high" (SMAQMD 2020).

The model derives the estimated health risk associated with operation of the project based on increases in concentrations of ozone and $PM_{2.5}$ that were estimated using a photochemical grid model (PGM). The concentration estimates of the PGM are then applied to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Benefits Mapping and Analysis Program (BenMAP) to estimate the resulting health effects from concentration increases. PGMs and BenMAP were developed to assess air pollution and human health impacts over large areas and populations that far exceed the area of an average land use development project. These models were never designed to determine whether emissions generated by an individual development project would affect community health or the date an air basin would attain an ambient air quality standard. Rather, they are used to help inform regional planning strategies based on cumulative changes in emissions within an air basin or larger geography.

It must be cautioned that within the typical project-level scope of CEQA analyses, PGMs are unable to provide precise, spatially defined pollutant data at a local scale. In addition, as noted in SMAQMD's Friant Guidance, "BenMAP estimates potential health effects from a change in air pollutant concentrations but does not fully account for other factors affecting health such as access to medical care, genetics, income levels, behavior choices such as diet and exercise, and underlying health conditions" (2020). Thus, the modeling conducted for the health risk analysis is based on imprecise

mapping and only takes into account one of the main public health determinants (i.e., environmental influences).

DISCUSSION OF PROJECT IMPACTS: CRITERIA POLLUTANT HEALTH RISKS

Since the project was below the daily operational thresholds for criteria air pollutants, the Minor Project Health Screening Tool was used to estimate health risks. The results are shown in Table IS-4 and Table IS-5.

Table IS-4: $PM_{2.5}$ Health Risk Estimates

$PM_{2.5}$ Health Endpoint	Age Range [1]	Incidences Across the Reduced Sacramento 4-km Modeling Domain Resulting from Project Emissions (per year)[2,5]	Incidences Across the 5-Air-District Region Resulting from Project Emissions (per year)[2]	Percent of Background Health Incidences Across the 5-Air-District Region[3]	Total Number of Health Incidences Across the 5-Air-District Region (per year)[4]
		(Mean)	(Mean)		
Respiratory					
Emergency Room Visits, Asthma	0 - 99	1.2	1.2	0.0063%	18419
Hospital Admissions, Asthma	0 - 64	0.082	0.077	0.0041%	1846
Hospital Admissions, All Respiratory	65 - 99	0.35	0.32	0.0016%	19644
Cardiovascular					
Hospital Admissions, All Cardiovascular (less Myocardial Infarctions)	65 - 99	0.20	0.18	0.00075%	24037
Acute Myocardial Infarction, Nonfatal	18 - 24	0.000011	0.000099	0.0026%	4

Acute Myocardial Infarction, Nonfatal	25 - 44	0.0098	0.0099	0.0026%	308
Acute Myocardial Infarction, Nonfatal	45 - 54	0.022	0.021	0.0028%	741
Acute Myocardial Infarction, Nonfatal	55 - 64	0.036	0.034	0.0028%	1239
Acute Myocardial Infarction, Nonfatal	65 - 99	0.12	0.12	0.0023%	5052
Mortality					
Mortality, All Cause	30 - 99	2.4	2.2	0.0048%	44766

Notes:

1. Affected age ranges are shown. Other age ranges are available, but the endpoints and age ranges shown here are the ones used by the USEPA in their health assessments. The age ranges are consistent with the epidemiological study that is the basis of the health function.
2. Health effects are shown in terms of incidences of each health endpoint and how it compares to the base (2035 base year health effect incidences, or "background health incidence") values. Health effects are shown for the Reduced Sacramento 4-km Modeling Domain and the 5-Air-District Region.
3. The percent of background health incidence uses the mean incidence. The background health incidence is an estimate of the average number of people that are affected by the health endpoint in a given population over a given period of time. In this case, the background incidence rates cover the 5-Air-District Region (estimated 2035 population of 3,271,451 persons). Health incidence rates and other health data are typically collected by the government as well as the World Health Organization. The background incidence rates used here are obtained from BenMAP.
4. The total number of health incidences across the 5-Air-District Region is calculated based on the modeling data. The information is presented to assist in providing overall health context.
5. The technical specifications and map for the Reduced Sacramento 4-km Modeling Domain are included in Appendix A, Table A-1 and Appendix B, Figure B-2 of the *Guidance to Address the Friant Ranch Ruling for CEQA Projects in the Sac Metro Air District.*

Table IS-5: Ozone Health Risk Estimates

Ozone Health Endpoint	Age Range[1]	Incidences Across the Reduced Sacramento 4-km Modeling Domain Resulting from Project Emissions (per year)[2,5]	Incidences Across the 5-Air-District Region Resulting from Project Emissions (per year)[2]	Percent of Background Health Incidences Across the 5-Air-District Region[3]	Total Number of Health Incidences Across the 5-Air-District Region (per year)[4]
		(Mean)	(Mean)		

Respiratory					
Hospital Admissions, All Respiratory	65 - 99	0.086	0.069	0.00035%	19644
Emergency Room Visits, Asthma	0 - 17	0.44	0.38	0.0064%	5859
Emergency Room Visits, Asthma	18 - 99	0.70	0.60	0.0048%	12560
Mortality					
Mortality, Non-Accidental	0 - 99	0.054	0.046	0.00015%	30386

Notes:

1. Affected age ranges are shown. Other age ranges are available, but the endpoints and age ranges shown here are the ones used by the USEPA in their health assessments. The age ranges are consistent with the epidemiological study that is the basis of the health function.
2. Health effects are shown in terms of incidences of each health endpoint and how it compares to the base (2035 base year health effect incidences, or "background health incidence") values. Health effects are shown for the Reduced Sacramento 4-km Modeling Domain and the 5-Air-District Region.
3. The percent of background health incidence uses the mean incidence. The background health incidence is an estimate of the average number of people that are affected by the health endpoint in a given population over a given period of time. In this case, the background incidence rates cover the 5-Air-District Region (estimated 2035 population of 3,271,451 persons). Health incidence rates and other health data are typically collected by the government as well as the World Health Organization. The background incidence rates used here are obtained from BenMAP.
4. The total number of health incidences across the 5-Air-District Region is calculated based on the modeling data. The information is presented to assist in providing overall health context.
5. The technical specifications and map for the Reduced Sacramento 4-km Modeling Domain are included in Appendix A, Table A-1 and Appendix B, Figure B-2 of the *Guidance to Address the Friant Ranch Ruling for CEQA Projects in the Sac Metro Air District.*

It is important to note that the "model outputs are derived from the numbers of people who would be affected by [the] project due to their geographic proximity and based on average population through the Five-District-Region. The models do not take into account population subgroups with greater vulnerabilities to air pollution, except for ages for certain endpoints" (SMAQMD 2020). Therefore, it would be misleading to correlate the levels of criteria air pollutant and precursor emissions associated with project implementation to specific health outcomes. While the effects noted above could manifest in individuals, actual effects depend on factors specific to each individual, including life stage (e.g., older adults are more sensitive), preexisting cardiovascular or respiratory diseases, and genetic polymorphisms. Even if this specific medical information was known about each individual, there are wide ranges of potential outcomes from exposure to ozone precursors and particulates, from no effect to the effects listed in the tables. Ultimately, the health effects associated with the project, using the SMAQMD guidance "are conservatively estimated, and the actual effects may be zero" (SMAQMD 2020).

CONCLUSION: CRITERIA POLLUTANT HEALTH RISKS

Neither SMAQMD nor the County of Sacramento have adopted thresholds of significance for the assessment of health risks related to the emission of criteria pollutants. Furthermore, an industry standard level of significance has not been adopted or proposed. Due to the lack of adopted thresholds of significance the health risks, this data is presented for informational purposes and does not represent an attempt to arrive at any level-of-significance conclusions.

HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

This section supplements the Initial Study Checklist by analyzing if the proposed project would:

- Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the project area and/or increase the rate of amount of surface runoff in a manner that would result in flooding on- or off-site?

- Create substantial sources of polluted runoff or otherwise substantially degrade ground or surface water quality?

HYDROLOGY AND FLOODING

Most of the project site is within the FEMA Levee-Protected Flood Zone X, as determined by the 2012 FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map, panel number 182-705. Flood Zone X is defined as an "area determined to be outside the 500-year floodplain," which indicates there is statistically, for insurance rate mapping purposes, a less than 0.2 percent chance of a flood event occurring on the site for any given year. There is a narrow area of Regulatory Floodway (Chicken Ranch Slough and Strong Ranch Slough) which drains beneath Arden Way by way of channelized culverts (FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map Number 06067C0182H, See Plate IS-4.1 and IS-4.2).

As part of the street widening required to accommodate bike lanes on either side of Arden Way, the project will require up to ten feet of culvert extension on the north and south drainages of Strong Ranch Slough. The Sacramento County Floodplain Management Ordinance, Sacramento County Water Agency Code, and Sacramento County Improvement Standards include stipulations for bridge design which prevent a bridge from causing an obstruction to the flow of floodwaters, or otherwise causing substantial floodplain impacts. Project compliance with requirements outlined above, as administered by the County, will ensure that project-related hydrology and flooding impacts are ***less than significant.***

Plate IS-4.1: FEMA Flood Insurance Map: Chicken Ranch Slough

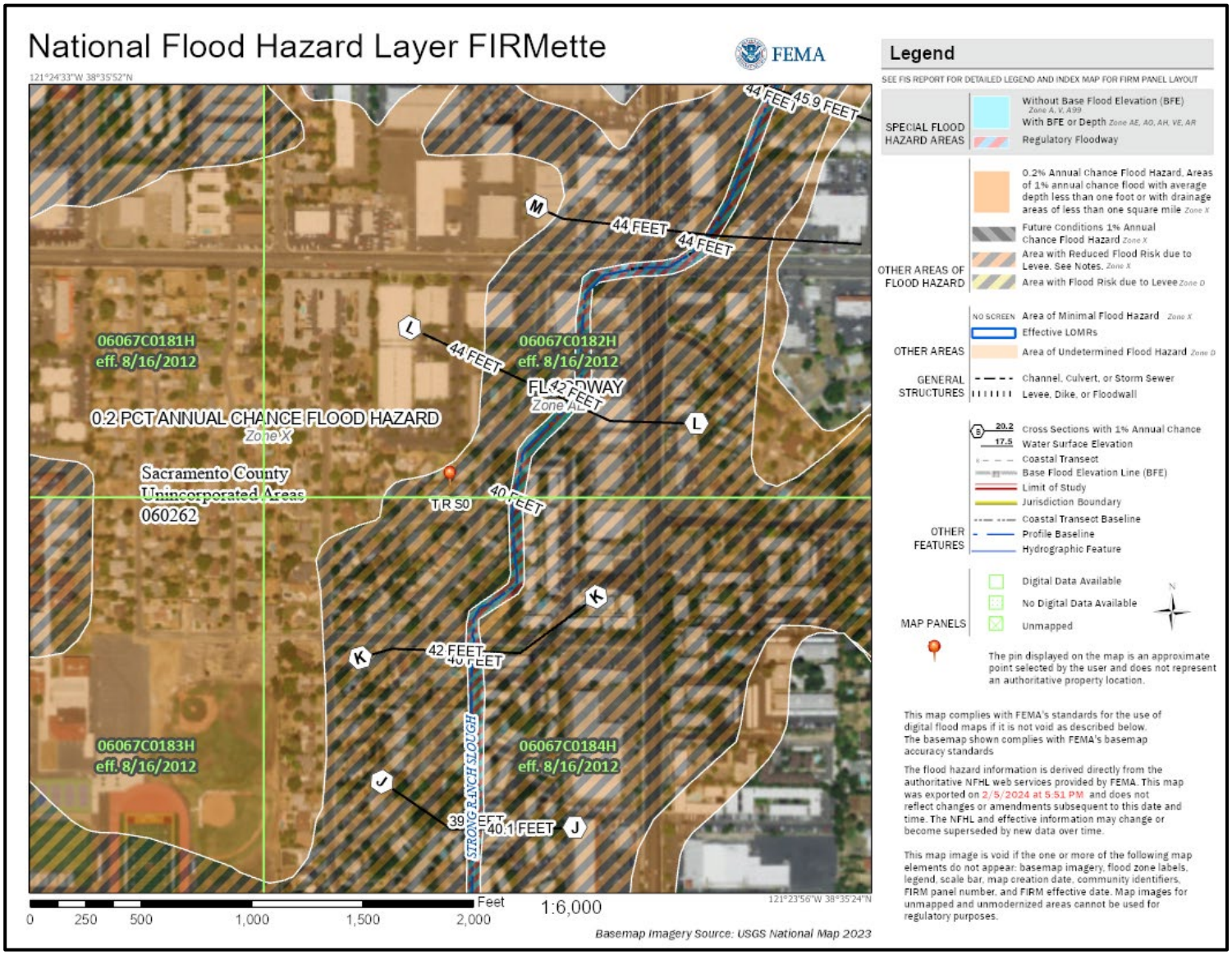
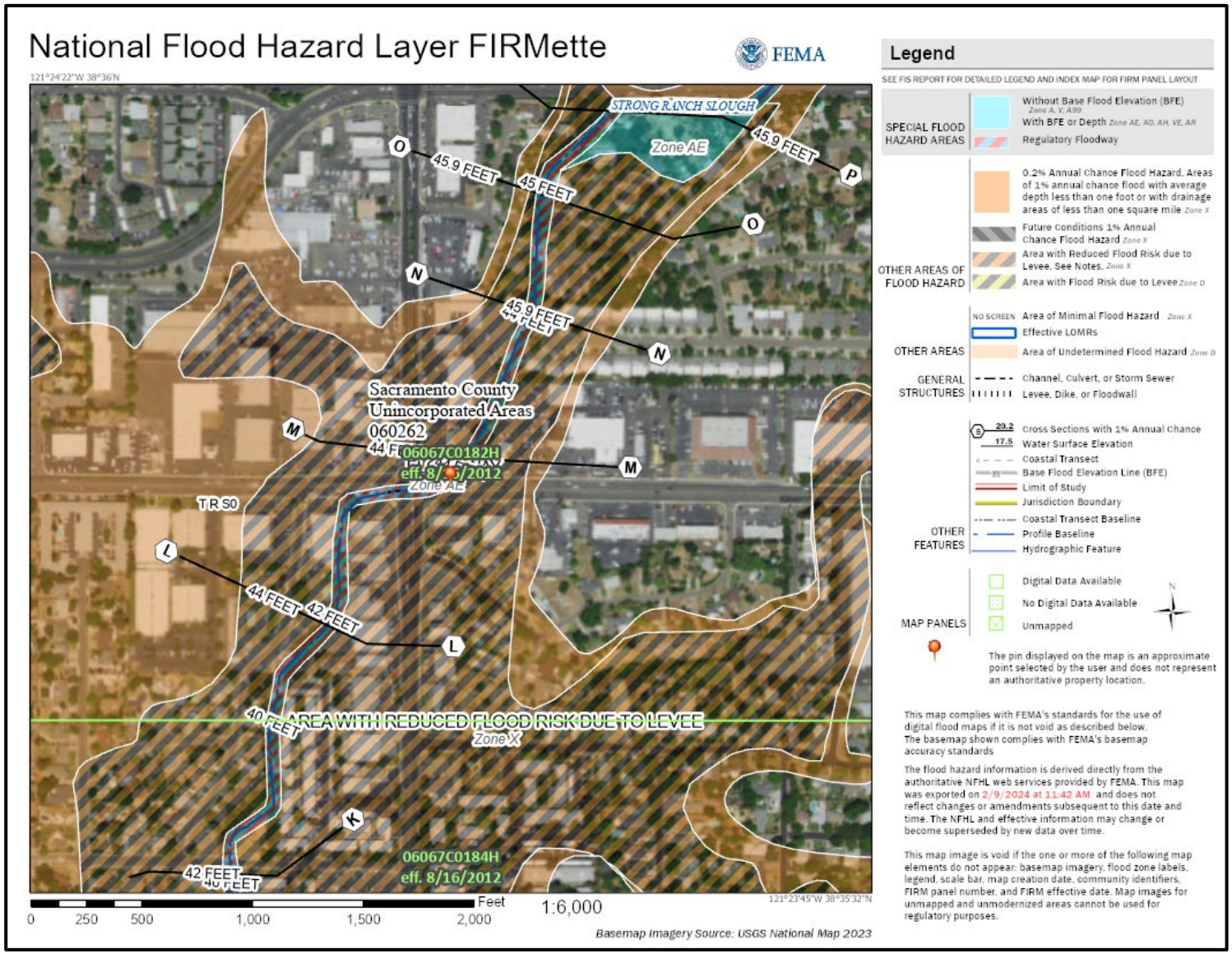


Plate IS-4.2: FEMA Flood Insurance Map: Strong Ranch Slough



WATER QUALITY

CONSTRUCTION WATER QUALITY: EROSION AND GRADING

Construction on undeveloped land exposes bare soil, which can be mobilized by rain or wind and displaced into waterways or become an air pollutant. Construction equipment can also track mud and dirt onto roadways, where rain will wash the sediment into storm drains and thence into surface waters. After construction is complete, various other pollutants generated by site use can also be washed into local waterways. These pollutants include, but are not limited to, vehicle fluids, heavy metals deposited by vehicles, and pesticides or fertilizers used in landscaping.

Sacramento County has a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Municipal Stormwater Permit issued by the Regional Water Board. The Municipal Stormwater Permit requires the County to reduce pollutants in stormwater discharges to the maximum extent practicable and to effectively prohibit non-stormwater discharges. The County complies with this permit in part by developing and enforcing ordinances and requirements to reduce the discharge of sediments and other pollutants in runoff from newly developing and redeveloping areas of the County.

The County has established a Stormwater Ordinance (Sacramento County Code 15.12). The Stormwater Ordinance prohibits the discharge of unauthorized non-stormwater to the County's stormwater conveyance system and local creeks. It applies to all private and public projects in the County, regardless of size or land use type. In addition, Sacramento County Code 16.44 (Land Grading and Erosion Control) requires private construction sites disturbing one or more acres or moving 350 cubic yards or more of earthen material to obtain a grading permit. To obtain a grading permit, project proponents must prepare and submit for approval an Erosion and Sediment Control (ESC) Plan describing erosion and sediment control best management practices (BMPs) that will be implemented during construction to prevent sediment from leaving the site and entering the County's storm drain system or local receiving waters. Construction projects not subject to SCC 16.44 are subject to the Stormwater Ordinance (SCC 15.12) described above.

In addition to complying with the County's ordinances and requirements, construction sites disturbing one or more acres are required to comply with the State's General Stormwater Permit for Construction Activities (CGP). CGP coverage is issued by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board): http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/stormwater/construction.shtml and enforced by the Regional Water Board. Coverage is obtained by submitting a Notice of Intent (NOI) to the State Board prior to construction and verified by receiving a WDID#. The CGP requires preparation and implementation of a site-specific Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) that must be kept on site at all times for review by the State inspector.

Applicable projects applying for a County grading permit must show proof that a WDID # has been obtained and must submit a copy of the SWPPP. Although the County has no

enforcement authority related to the CGP, the County does have the authority to ensure sediment/pollutants are not discharged and is required by its Municipal Stormwater Permit to verify that SWPPPs include the minimum components.

The project must include an effective combination of erosion, sediment and other pollution control BMPs in compliance with the County ordinances and the State's CGP.

Erosion controls should always be the *first line of defense*, to keep soil from being mobilized in wind and water. Examples include stabilized construction entrances, tackified mulch, 3-step hydroseeding, spray-on soil stabilizers and anchored blankets. Sediment controls are the *second line of defense*; they help to filter sediment out of runoff before it reaches the storm drains and local waterways. Examples include rock bags to protect storm drain inlets, staked or weighted straw wattles/fiber rolls, and silt fences.

In addition to erosion and sediment controls, the project must have BMPs in place to keep other construction-related wastes and pollutants out of the storm drains. Such practices include but are not limited to filtering water from dewatering operations, providing proper washout areas for concrete trucks and stucco/paint contractors, containing wastes, managing portable toilets properly, and dry sweeping instead of washing down dirty pavement.

It is the responsibility of the project proponent to verify that the proposed BMPs for the project are appropriate for the unique site conditions, including topography, soil type and anticipated volumes of water entering and leaving the site during the construction phase. In particular, the project proponent should check for the presence of colloidal clay soils on the site. Experience has shown that these soils do not settle out with conventional sedimentation and filtration BMPs. The project proponent may wish to conduct settling column tests in addition to other soils testing on the site, to ascertain whether conventional BMPs will work for the project.

If sediment-laden or otherwise polluted runoff discharges from the construction site are found to impact the County's storm drain system and/or Waters of the State, the property owner will be subject to enforcement action and possible fines by the County and the Regional Water Board.

OPERATION: STORMWATER RUNOFF

Development and urbanization can increase pollutant loads, temperature, volume and discharge velocity of runoff over the predevelopment condition. The increased volume, increased velocity, and discharge duration of stormwater runoff from developed areas has the potential to greatly accelerate downstream erosion and impair stream habitat in natural drainage systems. Studies have demonstrated a direct correlation between the degree of imperviousness of an area and the degradation of its receiving waters. These impacts must be mitigated by requiring appropriate runoff reduction and pollution prevention controls to minimize runoff and keep runoff clean for the life of the project.

The County requires that projects include source and/or treatment control measures on selected new development and redevelopment projects. Source control BMPs are intended to keep pollutants from contacting site runoff. Examples include "No Dumping-Drains to Creek/River" stencils/stamps on storm drain inlets to educate the public, and providing roofs over areas likely to contain pollutants, so that rainfall does not contact the pollutants. Treatment control measures are intended to remove pollutants that have already been mobilized in runoff. Examples include vegetated swales and water quality detention basins. These facilities slow water down and allow sediments and pollutants to settle out prior to discharge to receiving waters. Additionally, vegetated facilities provide filtration and pollutant uptake/adsorption. The project proponent should consider the use of "low impact development" techniques to reduce the amount of imperviousness on the site, since this will reduce the volume of runoff and therefore will reduce the size/cost of stormwater quality treatment required. Examples of low impact development techniques include pervious pavement and bioretention facilities.

The County requires developers to utilize the *Stormwater Quality Design Manual for the Sacramento Region, 2018* (Design Manual) in selecting and designing post-construction facilities to treat runoff from the project. Regardless of project type or size, developers are required to implement the minimum source control measures (Chapter 4 of the Design Manual). Low impact development measures and Treatment Control Measures are required of all projects exceeding the impervious surface threshold defined in Table 3-2 and 3-3 of the Design Manual. Further, depending on project size and location, hydromodification control measures may be required (Chapter 5 of the Design Manual).

Updates and background on the County's requirements for post-construction stormwater quality treatment controls, along with several downloadable publications, can be found at the following websites:

https://waterresources.saccounty.gov/stormwater/Pages/default.aspx

https://www.beriverfriendly.net/new-development/

The final selection and design of post-construction stormwater quality control measures is subject to the approval of the County Department of Water Resources; therefore, they should be contacted as early as possible in the design process for guidance. Project compliance with requirements outlined above will ensure that project-related stormwater pollution impacts are ***less than significant*.**

Public Services and Public Utilities

This section supplements the Initial Study Checklist by analyzing if the project would:

- Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of services.
- Exceed the capacity of an existing stormwater or sewage system, or if there would not be sufficient water supply to serve the project.

UTILITY INSTALLATION AND RELOCATION

The project will include 37 utility vault replacements to accommodate the undergrounding of utility lines along both sides of Arden Way. The project will include 95 upgraded street lighting and traffic signal interconnects that will either remain in place or be relocated slightly to accommodate street widening. The project may include up to 24 new streetlights (See Appendix C). Two culvert locations may require extensions to accommodate the widening of Arden Way. (See Plates IS-9, IS-11). The affected utilities are within the existing right-of-way and will be relocated to a different location within the public right-of-way or within the newly acquired ROW areas. No substantial disruption in utilities is expected due to construction of the project.

As set forth in utility coordinating procedures for cities and counties, adopted on November 19, 1992 by the Joint Utilities Coordination Committee – American Public Works Association (APWA), each utility is obligated to relocate their facilities when necessary to make way for the proper governmental use of the streets. For this reason, procedures have been established to assist cities, counties, and utilities in coordinating public improvement projects. These procedures set guidelines for project engineers responsible for the development of plans and specifications for city and county projects, to coordinate with utility providers during the design and pre-construction phases of the work.

The objectives of coordination are to identify utility locations and to minimize service interruption. These objectives are met by providing affected utility providers with the necessary construction plans showing project limits, centerline, right-of-ways, and other pertinent information. Utilities are then able to plan and initiate possible utility relocation prior to project construction.

Standard practices for locating, working around and relocating public utility lines, including coordination with affected agencies, will ensure that impacts related to public utilities will be ***less than significant***.

BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

This section supplements the Initial Study Checklist by analyzing if the proposed project would:

- Have a substantial adverse effect on any special status species, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, or threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community?

- Have a substantial adverse effect on riparian habitat or other sensitive natural communities?

- Have a substantial adverse effect on streams, wetlands, or other surface waters that are protected by federal, state, or local regulations and policies?

- Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources?

RIPARIAN HABITAT AND STREAMS

Riparian habitat is simply defined as a distinct community of plants and animals found in and alongside a stream or river. These communities can be up to a mile wide adjacent to large rivers, or a narrow border along the banks of small creeks. A stream is defined as a linear flowing waterway, either ephemeral or perennial, with a defined bed and banks. For riparian habitat, an impact is defined as any direct removal or modification of the habitat. For streams, a direct impact may occur if any fill or excavation occurs within the Ordinary High-Water Mark, which is the active channel of a stream. There is no regulatory setback for work proximate to streams, but the County Environmental Review section has typically required a minimum 50-foot setback[1]. The purpose of this setback is to avoid indirect impacts, such as the flow of polluted stormwater runoff into the channel. In addition, the Sacramento County General Plan Conservation Element contains several policies intended to protect riparian habitat. These are:

CO-58. Ensure no net loss of wetlands, riparian woodlands, and oak woodlands.

CO-59. Ensure mitigation occurs for any loss of or modification to the following types of acreage and habitat function:

- vernal pools,
- wetlands,
- riparian,
- native vegetative habitat, and
- special status species habitat.

DISCUSSION OF PROJECT IMPACTS: RIPARIAN HABITAT

The proposed project site involves groundwork within the north and south drainages of Chicken Ranch Slough and Strong Ranch Slough where they drain beneath Arden Way. This includes removal of the current concrete lining within the culverts extending up to 20 ft beyond the bridge expansions, and grading of the current slough channels prior to laying new foundation support for the overhead bridge expansions. The project does not propose additional auguring or pile driving within the slough channels.

A site visit confirmed that both waterways are channelized and concrete-lined, which substantially reduces its habitat value (See Plate IS-5, 6 and 7). Although there are some water plants growing in the channels, probably within sediments deposited on the

[1] Research suggests that some of the most common urban runoff pollutants – including sediment, nitrogen, and phosphorus – can be filtered over this distance by intervening vegetation. Source: McElfish, James M. et al. 2008. Planner's Guide to Wetland Buffers for Local Governments. Environmental Law Institute, Washington, D.C.

concrete bottom, the in-channel plant community is not robust, and the concrete prevents the growth of any plants along the side-slopes of the creek. The concrete terminates at the top edge of the bank, which is where the riparian plant community begins; this vegetation is dominated by large trees (refer to the Native and Non-Native Trees section).

The project will not result in tree removal or permanent impacts to riparian habitat. The critical issue will be that of maintaining the proper protections during construction, so that dirt, debris, and/or pollutants are prevented from entering the waterway. This is addressed in the "Water Quality" section of the analysis. The Project will not result in direct impacts to the creek, and mitigation applied to protect water quality will ensure that impacts to potential riparian habitat are ***less than significant*.**

WETLANDS AND OTHER SURFACE WATERS

Federal and state regulation (Clean Water Act Sections 404 and 401) uses the term "surface water" to refer to all standing or flowing water which is present above-ground either perennially or seasonally. There are many types of surface waters, but the two major groupings are linear waterways with a bed and bank (streams, rivers, etc.) and wetlands. The Clean Water Act has defined the term wetland to mean "those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions". The term "wetlands" includes a diverse assortment of habitats such as perennial and seasonal freshwater marshes, vernal pools, and wetted swales. The 1987 Army Corps Wetlands Delineation Manual is used to determine whether an area meets the technical criteria for a wetland and is therefore subject to local, State or Federal regulation of that habitat type. A delineation verification by the Army Corps will verify the size and condition of the wetlands and other waters in question and will help determine the extent of government jurisdiction.

Wetlands are regulated by both the Federal and State government, pursuant to the Clean Water Act Section 404 (federal) and Section 401 (state). The United States Army Corps of Engineers (Army Corps) is generally the lead agency for the federal permit process, and the Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) is generally the lead agency for the state permit process. The Clean Water Act protects all "navigable waters", which are defined as traditional navigable waters that are or were used for commerce or may be used for interstate commerce; tributaries of covered waters; and wetlands adjacent to covered waters, including tributaries. Isolated wetlands, that is, those wetlands that are not hydrologically connected to other "navigable" surface waters (or their tributaries), are not considered to be subject to the Clean Water Act.

Plate IS-5: South-Facing View of Chicken Ranch Slough at Arden Way

Plate IS-6: South-Facing View of Strong Ranch Slough at Arden Way

Plate IS-7: North-Facing View of Strong Ranch Slough at Arden Way

In addition to the Clean Water Act, the state also has jurisdiction over impacts to surface waters through the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, which does not require that waters be "navigable". For this reason, Federal non-jurisdictional waters – isolated wetlands – can be regulated by the State of California pursuant to Porter-Cologne.

The Clean Water Act establishes a "no net" loss" policy regarding wetlands for the state and federal governments, and General Plan Policy CO-58 establishes a "no net loss" policy for Sacramento County. Pursuant to these policies, any wetlands to be excavated or filled require 1:1 mitigation, and construction within the wetlands cannot take place until the appropriate permit(s) have been obtained from the Army Corps, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), the Regional Water Board, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and any other agencies with authority over surface waters. Any loss of delineated wetlands not mitigated through the permitting process must be mitigated, pursuant to County policy. Appropriate mitigation may include establishment of a conservation easement over wetlands, purchase of mitigation banking credits, or similar measures.

DISCUSSION OF PROJECT IMPACTS: WETLANDS AND OTHER SURFACE WATERS

According to the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI), Chicken Ranch Slough is considered a Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland and Strong Ranch Slough is considered a Riverine Wetland (See Plates IS-8 and IS-10).

Widening the sidewalks along Arden Way will require four culvert extensions: two for the north/south drainages of Chicken Ranch Slough, and two for the north/south drainages of Strong Ranch Slough. These extensions may include grading to create a "double box" culvert capable of bearing the weight of such an extension. As such, grading within the creek may include a dewatering plan along with removal of the existing concrete lining within the slough bed, grading for new foundation, and placement of new sidewalls. The new culvert extensions will maintain the same alignment as the existing channel.

The critical issue will be that of maintaining the proper protections during construction, so that dirt, debris, and/or pollutants are prevented from entering the waterway. This issue is addressed in the "Water Quality" section of the analysis. The Project does not propose reducing the area of the slough bed, and there is no long-term net loss of surface waters. Appropriate permitting though the Army Corps, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), the Regional Water Board, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and any other agencies with authority over surface water will ensure no permanent, adverse impacts to the creek, and mitigation applied to protect water quality will ensure that impacts to wetlands and surface waters are ***less than significant*.**

Plate IS-8: Chicken Ranch Slough

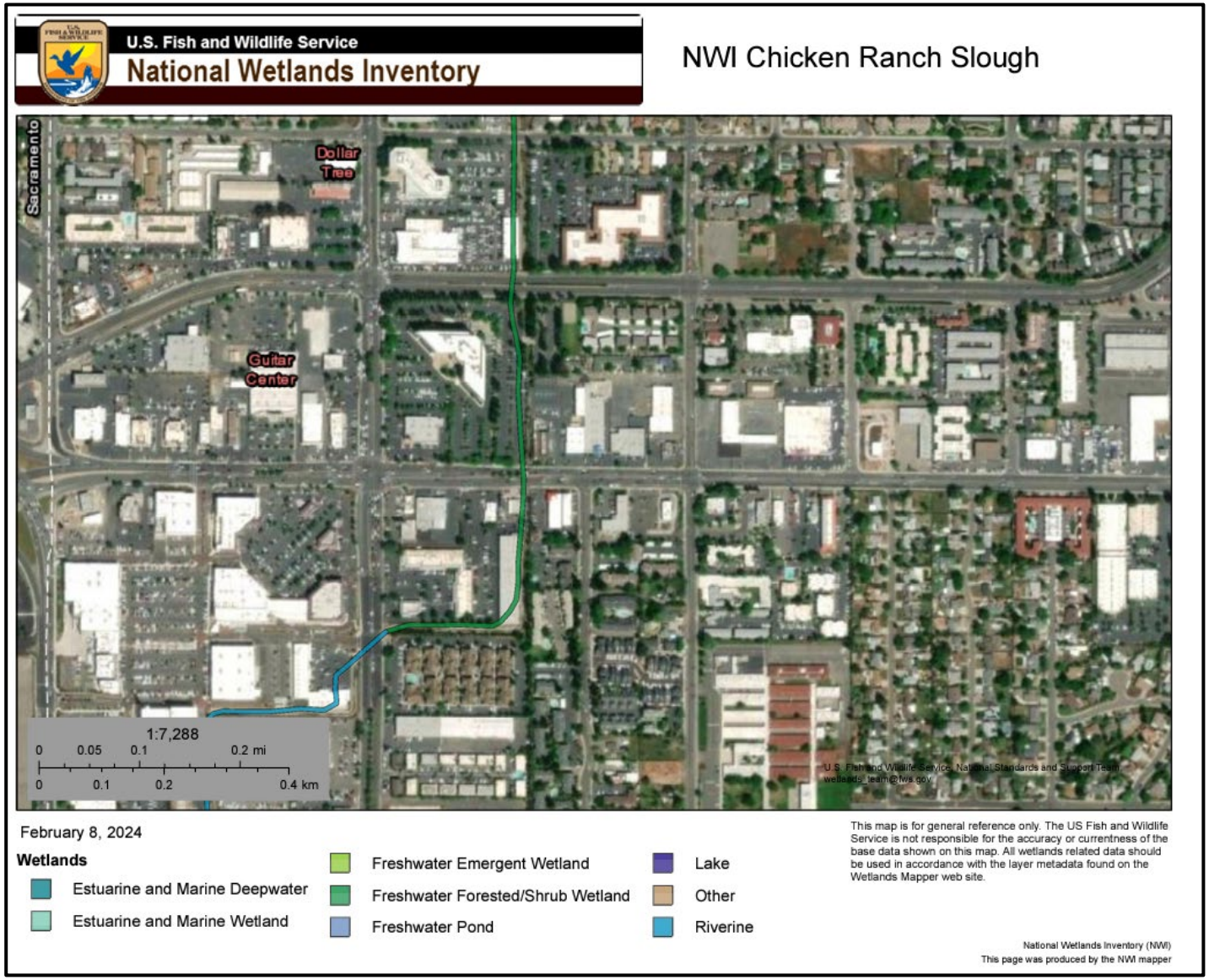


Plate IS-9: Chicken Slough Box Culvert Extensions

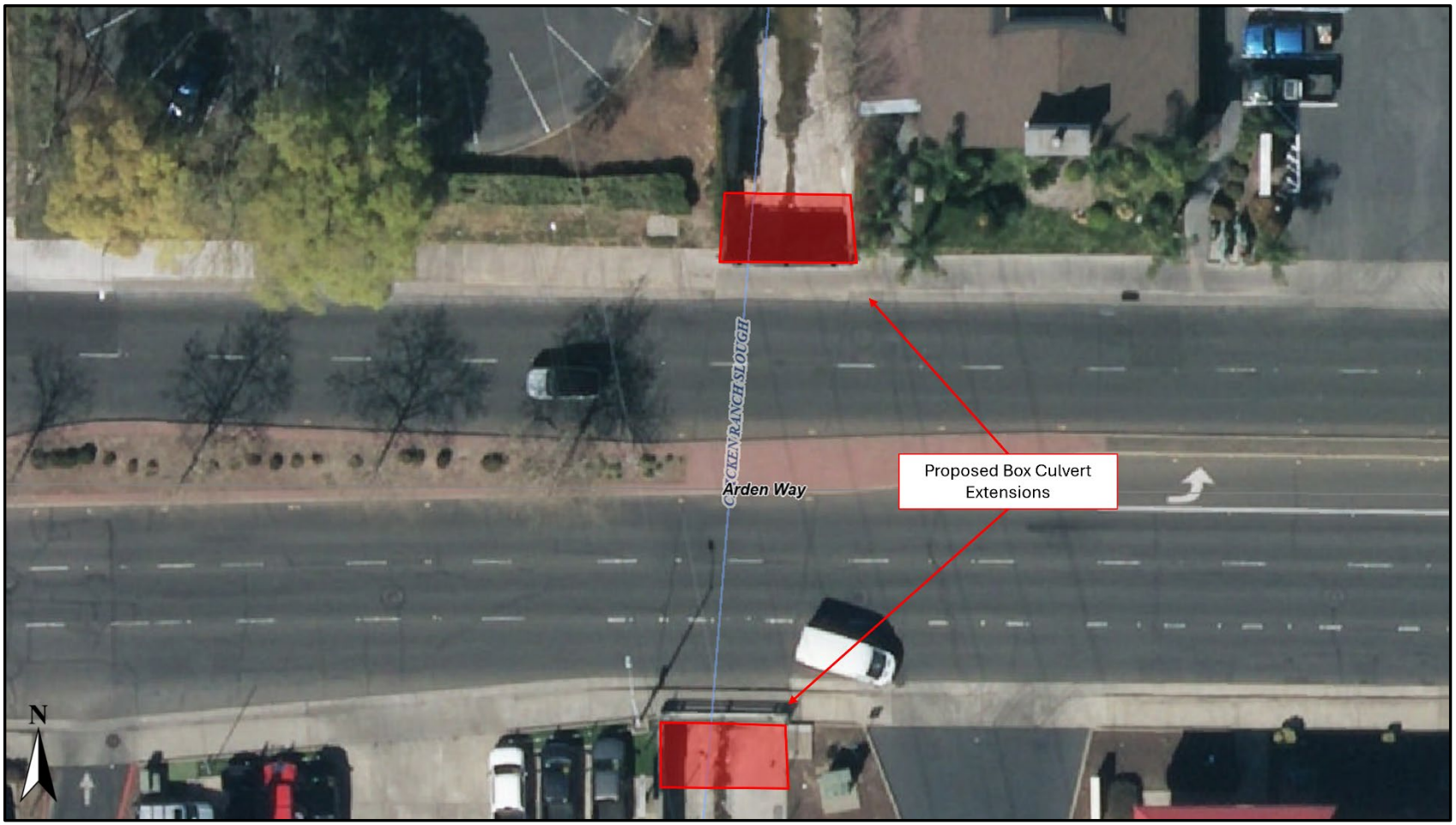


Plate IS-10: Strong Ranch Slough

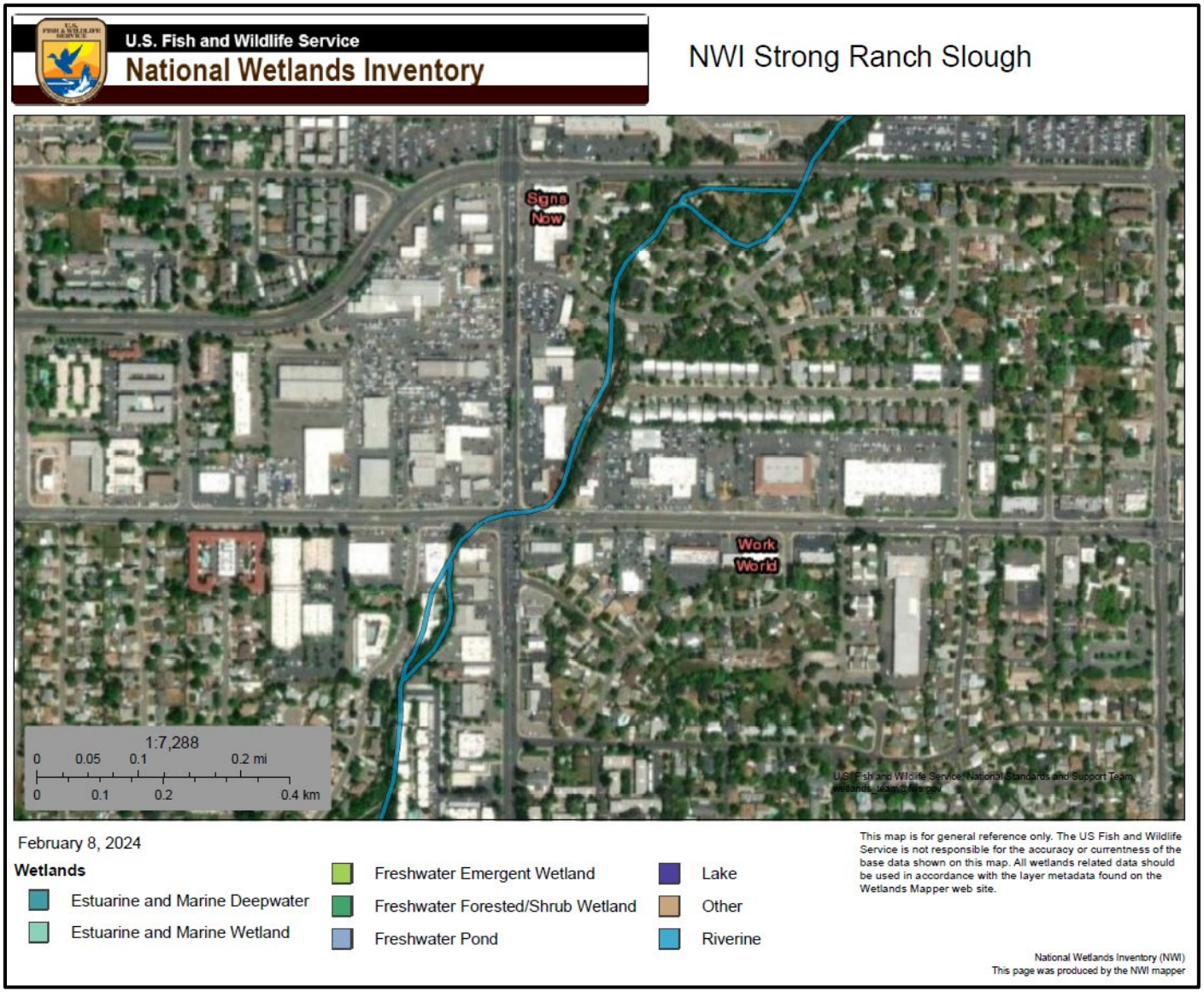
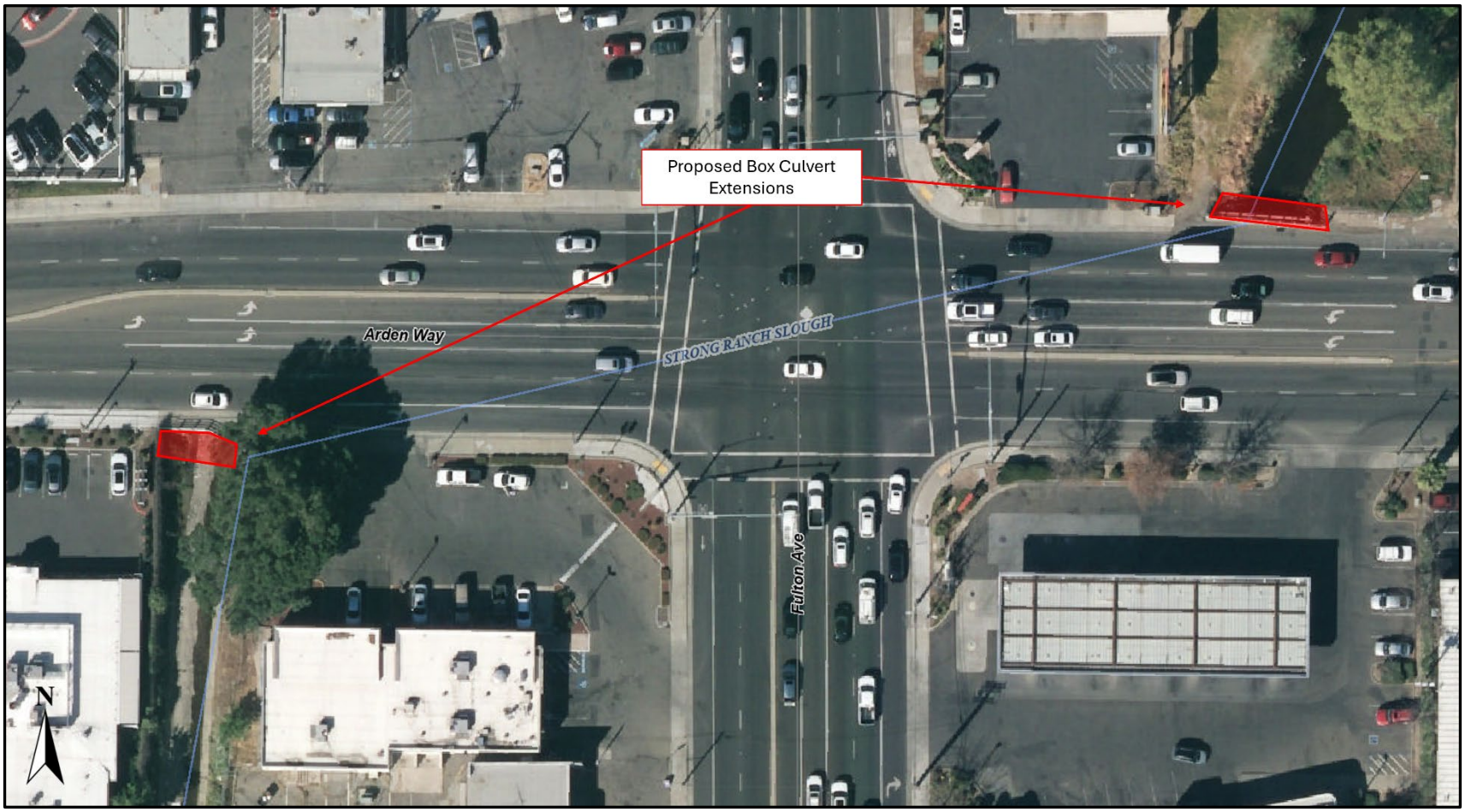


Plate IS-11: Strong Ranch Slough Box Culvert Extensions



Special Status Species

A "special status" species is one which has been identified as having relative scarcity and/or declining populations. Special status species include those formally listed as threatened or endangered, those proposed for formal listing, candidates for federal listing, and those classified as species of special concern. Also included are those species considered to be "fully protected" by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (California Fish and Wildlife), those granted "special animal" status for tracking and monitoring purposes, and those plant species considered to be rare, threatened, or endangered in California by the California Native Plant Society (CNPS).

Discussion of Project Impacts: Special Status Species

Relevant species for analysis were identified based on species information gathered from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (U.S. Fish and Wildlife) Sacramento office for federally listed species, from California Fish and Wildlife, and from CNPS. A California Fish and Wildlife California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB 2023) search was also conducted. For the initial CNDDB search, the study area was all lands within ten miles of the Project boundary, while the U.S. Fish and Wildlife list was based on species present within the Sacramento East 7.5-minute United States Geological Survey quadrangle. No sensitive plants were identified in the CNPS database.

It is unlikely that special status wildlife species could occur within the project site due to a lack of suitable habitat, the highly disturbed nature of ruderal vegetation and trees within the site, and the proximity of this site to heavy traffic and both residential and commercial development. The reach of Chicken Ranch Slough and Strong Ranch Slough within the project site does not provide suitable aquatic habitat for any native/listed fish species or western pond turtle because existing anthropogenic barriers to movement, such as a creek-wide buildup of trash and debris joined with low flow and stagnant water, impede fish passage. No historic Swainson's hawk nests occur within approximately 3 miles of the project site. CNDDB and IPaC searches showed no critical habitat for any listed species within the project site (CDFW and USFWS 2023).

Earthwork would include pavement and soil removal; trenching and utility relocation; concrete boring; and repaving. Given the highly urbanized nature of the project site, there is low potential for presence of the animals in the CNDBB and USFW databases. Therefore, impacts to biological resources are ***less than significant.***

Migratory Bird Treat Act

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918, which states "unless and except as permitted by regulations, it shall be unlawful at any time, by any means or in any manner, to pursue, hunt, take, capture, kill, attempt to take, capture, or kill" a migratory bird. Section 3(18) of the Federal Endangered Species Act defines the term "take" means to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or to attempt to engage in any such conduct. Causing a bird to abandon an active nest may cause harm to egg(s) or chick(s) and is therefore considered "take."

The project will require the removal of several mature trees which may support migratory nesting birds. To avoid take of nesting migratory birds, mitigation has been included to require that activities either occur outside of the nesting season, or to require that nests be buffered from construction activities until the nesting season is concluded. With mitigation, impacts to migratory nesting birds are ***less than significant***.

NON-NATIVE TREES AND SHADE CANOPY

SACRAMENTO COUNTY GENERAL PLAN CONSERVATION ELEMENT

The Sacramento County General Plan Conservation Element contains several policies aimed at preserving tree canopy within the County. These are:

> **CO-145**. Removal of non-native tree canopy for development shall be mitigated by creation of new tree canopy equivalent to the acreage of non-native tree canopy removed. New tree canopy acreage shall be calculated using the 15-year shade cover values for tree species.
>
> **CO-146**. If new tree canopy cannot be created on-site to mitigate for the non-native tree canopy removed for new development, project proponents (including public agencies) shall contribute to the Greenprint funding in an amount proportional to the tree canopy of the specific project.
>
> **CO-147**. Increase the number of trees planted within residential lots and within new and existing parking lots.
>
> **CO-149**. Trees planted within new or existing parking lots should utilize pervious cement and structured soils in a radius from the base of the tree necessary to maximize water infiltration sufficient to sustain the tree at full growth.

The 15-year shade cover values for tree species referenced in policy CO-145 are also referenced by the Sacramento County Zoning Code, Chapter 30, Article 4, and the list is maintained by the Sacramento County Department of Transportation, Landscape Planning and Design Division. The list includes more than seventy trees, so is not included here, but it is available at http://www.planning.saccounty.net/ under the "Environmental Documents CEQA/NEPA Overview" heading. Policy CO-146 references the Greenprint program, which is run by the Sacramento Tree Foundation and has a goal of planting five million trees in the Sacramento region.

SACRAMENTO COUNTY GENERAL PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ELEMENT

The Sacramento County General Plan Environmental Justice Element contains several policies aimed at preserving tree canopy within the County. These are:

> **EJ-23**. The County will achieve an equitable tree canopy in Environmental Justice (EJ) communities.

EJ-24. Increase tree canopy coverage to at least 35 percent in all unincorporated County neighborhoods by 2040, especially those that are in EJ communities.

EJ-25. Consistently enforce existing Tree Protection Ordinances including zoning code, the Tree Ordinance (SCC 19.04) and the Tree Preservation Ordinance (SCC 19.12).

Implementation Measures (EJ Communities)

During California Environmental Quality Act review of impacts for public works, private development, revitalization and master planning projects in under-canopied EJ Communities, mitigation shall be required that provides an extra 25% tree replacement and said mitigation shall be directed to the same EJ community where the impact occurs. (PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW)

PROJECT TREE SETTING

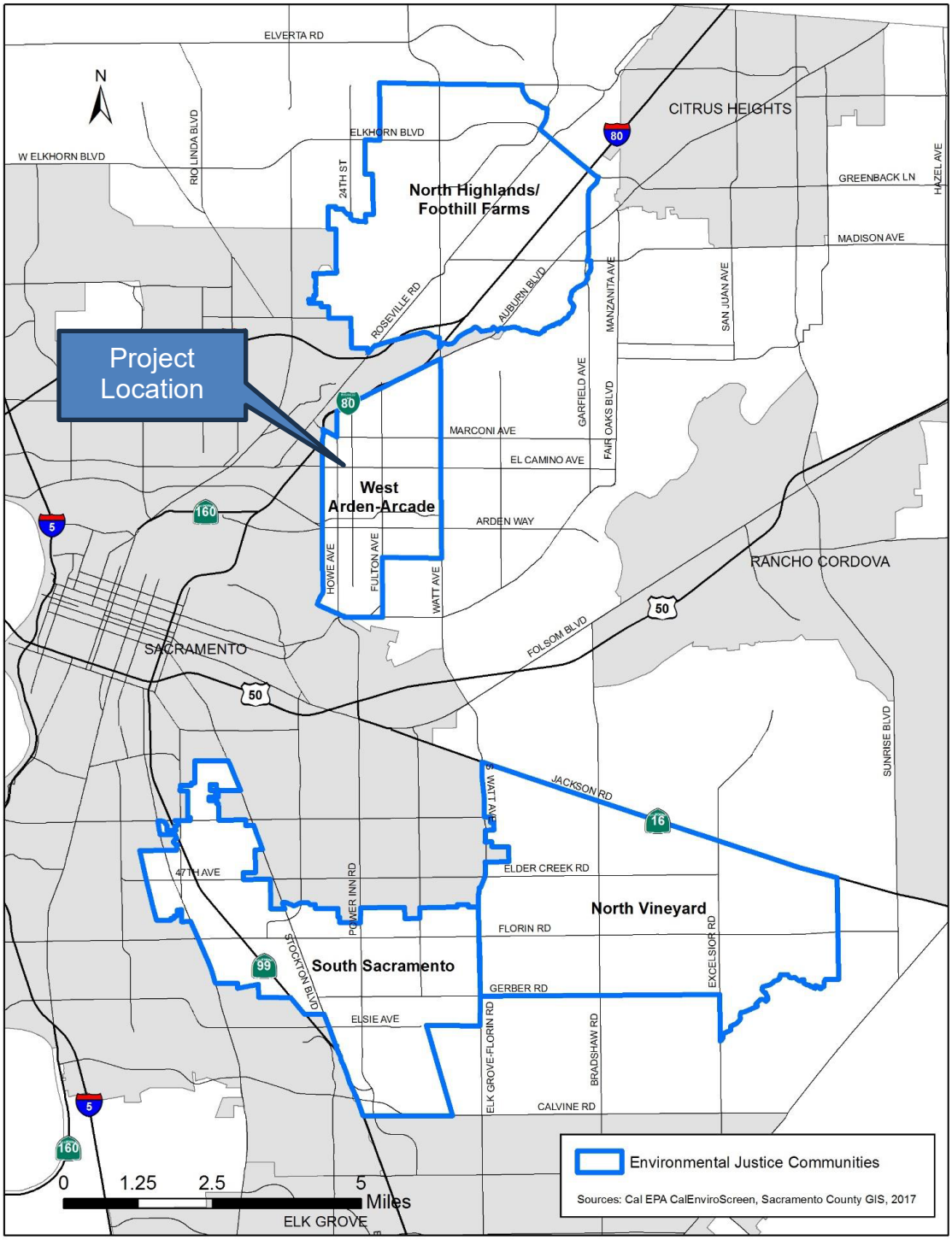
A tree inventory and map for the proposed project was prepared by Sacramento County Department of Transportation on November 17, 2022 (See Appendix B). The inventory identifies all tree species, drip lines, and estimated canopy area with notes on each specimen's overall health and assessed project impact. A total of 87 trees exist within the project's footprint, 67 of which will remain in place with minor to no impact to their drip lines. 20 non-native trees are proposed for removal due to construction encroachment. There are no identified protected native tree or oak species within the project site (See Table IS-6 below).

The full project site falls within the Environmental Justice community of West Arden Arcade (See Plate IS-12). According to the Sacramento County General Plan Environmental Justice Element, West Arden Arcade currently achieves a tree canopy considered equitable to adjacent non-EJ communities (Sacramento County EJ Element, p.51). West Arden Arcade is also subject to the Countywide Policy EJ-24 which proposes a minimum 35 percent increase in tree canopy by 2040.

Table IS-6: Trees Proposed for Removal

Number	Species	Canopy Area	Notes
24	Crape Myrtle	201.06	APN: 278-0260-034, North Side
25	Crape Myrtle	50.27	APN: 278-0260-034, North Side
26	Crape Myrtle	12.57	APN: 278-0260-034, North Side
29	Liquid Amber	2,123.72	APN: 279-0243-011, North Side
30	Liquid Amber	1,017.88	APN: 279-0243-011, North Side
39	Crape Myrtle	12.57	APN: 285-0010-020, South Side
40	Southern Magnolia	380.13	APN: 285-0010-020, South Side
41	Southern Magnolia	380.13	APN: 285-0010-020, South Side
42	Southern Magnolia	314.16	APN: 285-0010-020, South Side
43	Southern Magnolia	380.13	APN: 285-0010-020, South Side;
44	Southern Magnolia	452.39	APN: 285-0010-021, South Side
45	Southern Magnolia	314.16	APN: 285-0010-021, South Side
46	Southern Magnolia	615.75	APN: 285-0010-021, South Side
48	Southern Magnolia	1,385.44	APN: 285-0010-021, South Side
49	Chanticleer Pear	314.16	APN: 285-0021-015, South Side
50	Crape Myrtle	3.14	APN: 285-0021-025, South Side
51	Crape Myrtle	12.57	APN: 285-0021-025, South Side
56	Sycamore	1,963.50	APN: 285-0031-019, South Side
87	Redwood	415.48	APN: 286-0022-047, South Side

Plate IS-12: Sacramento County Environmental Justice Communities



DISCUSSION OF PROJECT IMPACTS: NON-NATIVE TREES AND SHADE CANOPY

The total non-native tree canopy loss due to the proposed removal of 20 non-native trees is estimated at approximately 5,332 square feet of canopy. To compensate for the loss of non-native tree canopy, tree plantings consistent with General Plan policy CO-145 will be required. This will be accomplished by planting enough trees from the County's approved landscape tree list so that planted trees yield an equivalent amount of canopy utilizing the Sacramento County Department of Transportation 15-year shade values. Mitigation will require either on-site replanting of non-native trees to the greatest extent feasible, or payment into the Greenprint program.

As an EJ community, West Arden Arcade requires maintenance of an equitable tree canopy and demonstrable progress toward the 2040 goal of 35 percent net increase in overall tree canopy. This increases the need for on-site replacement of non-native trees with an equivalent amount of canopy utilizing the Sacramento County Department of Transportation 15-year shade values. As such, removal of non-native tree canopy for development shall be mitigated by creation of new tree canopy equivalent to 125% the acreage of non-native tree canopy removed (See Mitigation Measure D). Impacts associated with non-native tree canopy removal are ***less than significant with mitigation.***

HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

This section supplements the Initial Study Checklist by analyzing if the project would:

- Create a significant hazard to the public or environment through routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials or if it will create reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment;

- Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school, or;

- Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites and, as a result, creates a significant hazard to the public or environment.

Sacramento County is responsible for enforcing the state regulations, both in the City of Sacramento and the County, governing hazardous waste generators, hazardous waste storage, and underground storage tanks (including inspections, enforcement and removals). The Sacramento County Environmental Management Department (EMD) regulates the use, storage and disposal of hazardous materials in Sacramento County by issuing permits, monitoring regulatory compliance, investigating complaints, and other enforcement activities. The EMD oversees remediation of certain contaminated sites resulting from leaking underground storage tanks.

The GeoTracker program, which is a resource for identifying environmental data (including the location of leaking storage tanks, cleanup sites, disposal sites, monitoring

wells, sites with hazardous waste permits and the status of such sites) for regulated facilities, is maintained by the State Water Resources Control Board. A search of the Geotracker database indicated the presence of two Clean Up Program sites and ten leaking underground storage tank (LUST) cleanup sites within .25 miles of the project site. All cleanups are currently listed as resolved. A search of the Envirostor database did not indicate the presence of known HAZMAT sites. The project is not located on a known hazardous materials site.

Lead in Roadside Soils

The project involves the ROW acquisition for a number of properties within the project area. The Land Use section of this document details which parcels will be subject to acquisitions as well as the extent of said acquisitions. ROW will be acquired along various portions of both sides of the project roadways to a width from approximately 1 to 10 feet.

Historically, lead was a common fuel additive, and as such, there is a possibility that the roadside soils may be contaminated with lead. This is called aerially deposited lead (ADL). Since construction of the project will disturb soil along roadways which may contain lead deposited by passing automobiles, requirements outlined in Title 8, Section 1532.1, will apply to the project pursuant to the California Code of Regulations. A Lead Compliance Plan will be required based upon the determination of applicability by a certified and/or registered professional.

Aerially deposited lead (ADL) is normally found along exposed soils adjacent to roadways. Segments of the project limits within the various roadway locations have either been fully paved or partially paved with exposed soil. Construction workers will be required to follow Title 8 OSHA rules/regulation pertaining to lead exposure, and in addition, notification and compliance with Title 8, Section 1532.1 will be addressed in contracting and construction documents for potential hazardous waste/material issues associated with soil potentially containing ADL. Mitigation is included requiring the preparation of a Phase II Initial Site Assessment (ISA) prior to ground disturbing activities. With mitigation, project impacts associated with hazards and hazardous materials are considered ***less than significant***.

Tribal Cultural Resources

This section supplements the Initial Study Checklist by analyzing if the proposed project would:

- Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource as defined in Public Resources Code 21074?

A “Tribal Cultural Resource” is defined as sites, features, places, cultural landscapes, sacred places, and objects with cultural value to a California Native American tribe that are either included or determined to be eligible for inclusion in the California Register of Historical Resources (California Register) or included in a local register of historical

resources, or a resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant.

SACRAMENTO COUNTY GENERAL PLAN CONSERVATION ELEMENT

The Sacramento County General Plan Conservation Element contains several policies aimed at preserving Tribal Cultural Resources within the County:

> **CO-150.** Utilize local, state and national resources, such as the NCIC, to assist in determining the need for a cultural resources survey during project review.
>
> **CO-152.** Consultations with Native American tribes shall be handled with confidentiality and respect regarding sensitive cultural resources on traditional tribal lands.
>
> **CO-155.** Native American burial sites encountered during preapproved survey or during construction shall, whenever possible, remain in situ. Excavation and reburial shall occur when in situ preservation is not possible or when the archeological significance of the site merits excavation and recording procedure. On-site reinterment shall have priority. The project developer shall provide the burden of proof that off site reinterment is the only feasible alternative. Reinterment shall be the responsibility of local tribal representatives.
>
> **CO-156.** The cost of all excavation conducted prior to completion of the project shall be the responsibility of the project developer.
>
> **CO-157.** Monitor projects during construction to ensure crews follow proper reporting, safeguards, and procedures.

DISCUSSION OF PROJECT IMPACTS: TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES

County Planning and Environmental Review (PER) conducted a records search on January 3rd, 2024, with the North Central Information Center (NCIC) to identify any registered archaeological sites or known resources within .5 miles of the project site. The search returned no results.

County PER submitted a Sacred Lands File request to the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) on December 28th, 2023, for additional information of known ancestral territories or sacred lands within .5 miles of the project site. On January 3rd, 2024, NAHC replied with negative results.

County PER distributed AB-52 notifications to all consulting tribes within Sacramento County on January 3rd, 2024. At a monthly tribal consultation meeting on January 23rd, 2024, the United Auburn Indian Community (UAIC) responded to consult, confirming that the project occurs within their ancestral territory, and in close proximity to known resources. UAIC's representatives requested a Tribal Cultural Resources discussion section be in the Initial Study with an "Inadvertent Discoveries" advisory and paid tribal

monitoring mitigation (See Mitigation Measures E and F). Thus, impacts relating to Tribal Cultural Resources are ***less than significant with mitigation.***

ENVIRONMENTAL MITIGATION MEASURES

Mitigation Measures A-E are critical to ensure that identified significant impacts of the project are reduced to a level of less than significant. Pursuant to Section 15074.1(b) of the CEQA Guidelines, each of these measures must be adopted exactly as written unless both of the following occur: (1) A public hearing is held on the proposed changes; (2) The hearing body adopts a written finding that the new measure is equivalent or more effective in mitigating or avoiding potential significant effects and that it in itself will not cause any potentially significant effect on the environment.

MITIGATION MEASURE A: BASIC CONSTRUCTION EMISSIONS CONTROL PRACTICES

The following Basic Construction Emissions Control Practices are considered feasible for controlling fugitive dust from a construction site. The practices also serve as best management practices (BMPs), allowing the use of the non-zero particulate matter significance thresholds. Control of fugitive dust is required by District Rule 403 and enforced by District staff.

1. Water all exposed surfaces two times daily. Exposed surfaces include, but are not limited to soil piles, graded areas, unpaved parking areas, staging areas, and access roads.
2. Cover or maintain at least two feet of free board space on haul trucks transporting soil, sand, or other loose material on the site. Any haul trucks that would be traveling along freeways or major roadways should be covered.
3. Use wet power vacuum street sweepers to remove any visible trackout mud or dirt onto adjacent public roads at least once a day. Use of dry power sweeping is prohibited.
4. Limit vehicle speeds on unpaved roads to 15 miles per hour (mph).
5. All roadways, driveways, sidewalks, parking lots to be paved should be completed as soon as possible. In addition, building pads should be laid as soon as possible after grading unless seeding or soil binders are used.

The following practices describe exhaust emission control from diesel powered fleets working at a construction site. California regulations limit idling from both on-road and off-road diesel-powered equipment. The California Air Resources Board (CARB) enforces idling limitations and compliance with diesel fleet regulations.

1. Minimize idling time either by shutting equipment off when not in use or reducing the time of idling to 5 minutes [California Code of Regulations, Title

13, sections 2449(d)(3) and 2485]. Provide clear signage that posts this requirement for workers at the entrances to the site.

2. Provide current certificate(s) of compliance for CARB's In-Use Off-Road Diesel-Fueled Fleets Regulation [California Code of Regulations, Title 13, sections 2449 and 2449.1]. For more information contact CARB at 877-593-6677, doors@arb.ca.gov, or www.arb.ca.gov/doors/compliance_cert1.html.

Maintain all construction equipment in proper working condition according to manufacturer's specifications. The equipment must be checked by a certified mechanic.

MITIGATION MEASURE B: AVOID, MINIMIZE AND COMPENSATE FOR IMPACTS ON CHICKEN RANCH SLOUGH AND STRONG RANCH SLOUGH AND COMPLY WITH FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL PERMITS

Prior to project implementation, the County and/or its construction contractor shall refine designs and construction plans related to installation of the box culvert extensions over Chicken Ranch Slough and Strong Ranch Slough and obtain the necessary permits for impacts on any jurisdictional features, if required. These include the following permits:

- Section 1600 Streambed Alteration Agreement from CDFW (for impact on riparian area and other sensitive natural communities not considered Waters of the U.S. (WUS) or State)
- CWA Section 404 permit from USACE for impacts to WUS
- CWA Section 401 Clean Water Certification from the Regional Water Quality Control Board for impacts to WUS
- Waste Discharge Permit from Regional Water Quality Control board for impacts to water of the state

As part of the permit applications, the County shall develop a habitat mitigation plan that will include mitigation for impacted waters of the US/State on a no-net-loss basis. The plan may include on-site restoration, if feasible, off-site preservation, or purchasing mitigation credits from an agency-approved wetlands mitigation bank, paying an agency-approved in-lieu fee, and/or developing conservation lands to compensate for permanent loss of resources. Mitigation ratios shall be no less than 1:1 and shall be determined during the permitting process.

The County shall implement all conditions of the permits, including any performance monitoring, if required for on-site restoration and report on the results of the monitoring to the appropriate agencies at the frequency and duration included in the permits.

MITIGATION MEASURE C: MIGRATORY BIRD NEST PROTECTION

To avoid impacts to nesting migratory birds the following shall apply:

1. If construction activity (which includes clearing, grubbing, or grading) is to commence within 50 feet of nesting habitat between February 1 and August 31, a survey for active migratory bird nests shall be conducted no more than 14 days prior to construction by a qualified biologist.

2. Trees slated for removal shall be removed during the period of September through January, in order to avoid the nesting season. Any trees that are to be removed during the nesting season, which is February through August, shall be surveyed by a qualified biologist and will only be removed if no nesting migratory birds are found.

3. If active nest(s) are found in the survey area, a non-disturbance buffer, the size of which has been determined by a qualified biologist, shall be established and maintained around the nest to prevent nest failure. All construction activities shall be avoided within this buffer area until a qualified biologist determines that nestlings have fledged, or until September 1.

MITIGATION MEASURE D: NON-NATIVE TREE CANOPY

Removal of 5,332 square feet of non-native tree canopy for sidewalk and roadway improvements shall be mitigated by creation of new tree canopy equivalent to the acreage of non-native tree canopy removed plus 25% pursuant to General Plan policy (6,665 square feet). New tree canopy acreage shall be calculated using the Sacramento County Department of Transportation 15-year shade cover values for tree species. Preference is given to on-site mitigation, but if this is infeasible, then funding shall be contributed to the Sacramento Tree Foundation's Greenprint program in an amount proportional to the tree canopy lost (as determined by the 15-year shade cover calculations for the tree species to be planted through the funding, with the cost to be determined by the Sacramento County Tree Foundation).

MITIGATION MEASURE E: HAZARDOUS MATERIALS (ADL)

Prior to project construction, prepare a Phase II Preliminary Environmental Assessment (ESA) which includes conducting soil lead testing within the limits of work in order to characterize the lateral and vertical extent and concentration of Aerially Deposited Lead (ADL).

1. Samples should be collected at various depths to determine the vertical extent of contamination and associated concentrations.
2. Analyze for Total Threshold Limit Concentration (TTLC). If it is greater than 1,000 mg/kg, it is hazardous waste.
3. If it is less than 1,000 mg/kg, it needs to be analyzed by the Waste Extraction Test (WET), unless it is less than 50 mg/kg (cannot fail WET below this concentration).

4. Analyze by WET for Soluble Threshold Limit Concentration (STLC). If it is greater than 5 mg/l, it is considered hazardous waste. If it is less than 5 mg/l it is not considered hazardous waste.
5. If the soil is not hazardous waste, but is contaminated at levels above background, implement a lead compliance plan and lead awareness training pursuant to Title 8 of the California Code of Regulations (Section 1532.1).

MITIGATION MEASURE F: INADVERTENT DISCOVERY OF CULTURAL RESOURCES OR TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES

In the event that human remains are discovered in any location other than a dedicated cemetery, work shall be halted, and the County Coroner contacted. For all other potential tribal cultural resources [TCRs], archaeological, or cultural resources discovered during project's ground disturbing activities, work shall be halted until a qualified archaeologist and/or tribal representative may evaluate the resource.

1. Unanticipated human remains. Pursuant to Sections 5097.97 and 5097.98 of the State Public Resources Code, and Section 7050.5 of the State Health and Safety Code, if a human bone or bone of unknown origin is found during construction, all work is to stop, and the County Coroner and the Planning and Environmental Review shall be immediately notified. If the remains are determined to be Native American, the coroner shall notify the Native American Heritage Commission within 24 hours, and the Native American Heritage Commission shall identify the person or persons it believes to be the most likely descendent from the deceased Native American. The most likely descendent may make recommendations to the landowner or the person responsible for the excavation work, for means of treating or disposition of, with appropriate dignity, the human remains and any associated grave goods.

2. Unanticipated cultural resources. In the event of an inadvertent discovery of cultural resources (excluding human remains) during construction, all work must halt within a 100-foot radius of the discovery. A qualified professional archaeologist, meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards for prehistoric and historic archaeology, shall be retained at the Applicant's expense to evaluate the significance of the find. If it is determined due to the types of deposits discovered that a Native American monitor is required, the Guidelines for Monitors/Consultants of Native American Cultural, Religious, and Burial Sites as established by the Native American Heritage Commission shall be followed, and the monitor shall be retained at the Applicant's expense.

a. Work cannot continue within the 100-foot radius of the discovery site until the archaeologist and/or tribal monitor conducts sufficient research and data collection to make a determination that the resource is either 1) not cultural in

origin; or 2) not potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places or California Register of Historical Resources.

b. If a potentially eligible resource is encountered, then the archaeologist and/or tribal monitor, Planning and Environmental Review staff, and project proponent shall arrange for either 1) total avoidance of the resource, if possible; or 2) test excavations or total data recovery as mitigation. The determination shall be formally documented in writing and submitted to the County Environmental Coordinator as verification that the provisions of CEQA for managing unanticipated discoveries have been met.

Mitigation Measure G: Compensated Construction Monitoring by Official Tribal Monitor

The project is required to retain an official tribal monitor from the United Auburn Indian Community to observe all ground disturbance activities to occur during the construction phase:

1. **Communication Protocols for Monitoring**: The applicant shall develop a set of communication protocols, to the satisfaction of the County and tribes, to identify all points of contact and to ensure that tribes are notified when the applicant will proceed with authorized construction activities. Points of contact will be established for the applicant, construction supervisor, monitoring tribes, and County Archaeologist, and the contact numbers and email addresses must be documented and shared among all parties. Points of contact are responsible for identifying backup representatives in the event they are unable to perform due to an absence or other reasons.

2. **Tribal Monitoring**: All construction-related ground-disturbing activity shall be monitored by a qualified tribal representative from UAIC on this Project to ensure that the procedures for unanticipated discoveries are addressed expeditiously and in accordance with the plan. The requirements for a monitor should be inclusive of all day and night construction activity that has the potential to result in ground disturbance. “Ground-disturbing activity” is defined herein as any activities that have the potential to disturb soil beyond that which was reasonably visible to tribal representatives and archaeologists during the pre- Project pedestrian survey. This includes grading; trenching; excavation for below-ground utility installation or foundation work; and any other below the ground activities. Monitoring is not required for backfilling of previously excavated areas, placement of equipment into excavated areas, reseeding, or revegetation, regrading or contouring of soil that was previously monitored, or for any aboveground Project activity or construction that does not include ground disturbance, but monitors are allowed to observe upon request.

The applicant is responsible for contacting tribal monitors whenever ground disturbance is to occur. If tribal monitors do not respond within 24 hours of the notification, the applicant will notify the County that contact was made with no response received and may proceed with ground disturbance following the guidelines of Measure E.

Tribal monitors will have the authority to request a temporary and reasonable pause of ground-disturbing activities within 50 feet of a discovery of up to 30 minutes to safely examine the ground more closely for indications of potential tribal cultural resources, without being impeded by construction equipment. Positive findings do not have a time limit for evaluation and recovery. In the event of the discovery of a potential tribal cultural resource, the procedures in Mitigation Measure F shall apply.

MITIGATION MEASURE COMPLIANCE

Comply with the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for this project, including the payment of 100% of the Division of Planning and Environmental Review staff costs, and the costs of any technical consultant services incurred during implementation of that Program.

INITIAL STUDY CHECKLIST

Appendix G of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) provides guidance for assessing the significance of potential environmental impacts. Based on this guidance, Sacramento County has developed the following Initial Study Checklist. The Checklist identifies a range of potential significant effects by topical area. The words "significant" and "significance" used throughout the following checklist are related to impacts as defined by the California Environmental Quality Act as follows:

1 Potentially Significant indicates there is substantial evidence that an effect MAY be significant. If there are one or more “Potentially Significant” entries an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is required. Further research of a potentially significant impact may reveal that the impact is actually less than significant or less than significant with mitigation.

2 Less than Significant with Mitigation applies where an impact could be significant but specific mitigation has been identified that reduces the impact to a less than significant level.

3 Less than Significant or No Impact indicates that either a project will have an impact but the impact is considered minor or that a project does not impact the particular resource.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
1. **LAND USE** - Would the project:					
a. Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?			X		The project is consistent with environmental policies of the Sacramento County General Plan, Arden Arcade Community Plan, and Sacramento County Zoning Code.
b. Physically disrupt or divide an established community?			X		The project will not create physical barriers that substantially limit movement within or through the community.
2. **POPULATION/HOUSING -** Would the project:					
a. Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area either directly (e.g., by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (e.g., through extension of infrastructure)?			X		The proposed infrastructure project is intended to service existing or planned development and will not induce substantial unplanned population growth.
b. Displace substantial amounts of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				X	The project will not result in the removal of existing housing, and thus will not displace substantial amounts of existing housing.
3. **AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES** - Would the project:					
a. Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance or areas containing prime soils to uses not conducive to agricultural production?				X	The project site is not designated as Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance on the current Sacramento County Important Farmland Map published by the California Department of Conservation. The site does not contain prime soils.
b. Conflict with any existing Williamson Act contract?				X	No Williamson Act contracts apply to the project site.
c. Introduce incompatible uses in the vicinity of existing agricultural uses?				X	The project does not occur in an area of agricultural production.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
4. **AESTHETICS -** Would the project:					
a. Substantially alter existing viewsheds such as scenic highways, corridors or vistas?			X		The project does not occur in the vicinity of any scenic highways, corridors, or vistas.
b. In non-urbanized area, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings?			X		The project is not located in a non-urbanized area.
c. If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?			X		Construction will not substantially degrade the visual character or quality of the project site. The project does not conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality.
d. Create a new source of substantial light, glare, or shadow that would result in safety hazards or adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?			X		The project proposes to replace and/or relocate 36 utility poles containing street lighting and signals. The number of lights will remain the same, therefore the project will not result in a new source of substantial light, glare or shadow that would result in safety hazards or adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area.
5. **AIRPORTS -** Would the project:					
a. Result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the vicinity of an airport/airstrip?				X	The project occurs outside of any identified public or private airport/airstrip safety zones.
b. Expose people residing or working in the project area to aircraft noise levels in excess of applicable standards?				X	The project occurs outside of any identified public or private airport/airstrip noise zones or contours.
c. Result in a substantial adverse effect upon the safe and efficient use of navigable airspace by aircraft?				X	The project does not affect navigable airspace.
d. Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?				X	The project does not involve or affect air traffic movement.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
6. **PUBLIC SERVICES -** Would the project:					
a. Have an adequate water supply for full buildout of the project?			X		The project will not result in increased demand for water supply.
b. Have adequate wastewater treatment and disposal facilities for full buildout of the project?			X		The Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District has adequate wastewater treatment and disposal capacity to service the proposed project.
c. Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?			X		The Kiefer Landfill has capacity to accommodate solid waste until the year 2050.
d. Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the construction of new water supply or wastewater treatment and disposal facilities or expansion of existing facilities?			X		The project will not result in the construction of new service line extensions. No significant new impacts would result.
e. Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of storm water drainage facilities?			X		Minor extension of infrastructure would be necessary to serve the proposed project. New gutter facilities are proposed within existing roadways and other developed areas, and the extension of facilities would take place within areas of existing infrastructure. There will be minor extension of box culverts where Chicken Ranch Slough and Strong Ranch Slough drain beneath Arden Way (Refer to Hydrology and Water Quality Discussion Section). No significant new impacts would result from stormwater facility extension.
f. Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of electric or natural gas service?			X		Some utility lines will be routed underground to accommodate the street completion. Existing utility lines are located along existing roadways and other developed areas, and the relocation of lines would take place within areas already proposed for development as part of the project. No significant new impacts would result from utility extension.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
g. Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of emergency services?			X		The project may incrementally increase demand for emergency services but would not cause substantial adverse physical impacts as a result of providing adequate service.
h. Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of public school services?				X	The project will not require the use of public-school services.
i. Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of park and recreation services?				X	The project will not require park and recreation services.
7. **TRANSPORTATION** - Would the project:					
a. Conflict with or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b) – measuring transportation impacts individually or cumulatively, using a vehicles miles traveled standard established by the County?				X	The proposed transportation project will reduce/have no impacts on vehicle miles traveled and is presumed to cause a less than significant transportation impact.
b. Result in a substantial adverse impact to access and/or circulation?			X		The proposed project is intended to improve existing access and/or circulation patterns. No impacts are anticipated as a result of the project.
c. Result in a substantial adverse impact to public safety on area roadways?			X		The project will be required to comply with applicable access and circulation requirements of the County Improvement Standards and the Uniform Fire Code. Upon compliance, impacts are less than significant.
d. Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?			X		The project supports the alternative transportation policies of the Sacramento County General Plan, the Alternative Transportation Plan and other adopted policies, plans or programs supporting alternative transportation.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
8. **AIR QUALITY** - Would the project:					
a. Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is in non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?		X			The project does not exceed the screening thresholds established by the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District and will not result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is in non-attainment. Compliance with existing dust abatement rules and standard construction mitigation for vehicle particulates will ensure that construction air quality impacts are less than significant.
b. Expose sensitive receptors to pollutant concentrations in excess of standards?			X		There are no sensitive receptors (i.e., schools, nursing homes, hospitals, daycare centers, etc.) adjacent to the project site. See Response 8.a.
c. Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?			X		The project will not generate objectionable odors.
9. **NOISE -** Would the project:					
a. Result in generation of a temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established by the local general plan, noise ordinance or applicable standards of other agencies?			X		The project is not in the vicinity of any uses that generate substantial noise, nor will the completed project generate substantial noise. The project will not result in exposure of persons to, or generation of, noise levels in excess of applicable standards.
b. Result in a substantial temporary increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity?			X		Project construction will result in a temporary increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity. This impact is less than significant due to the temporary nature of the these activities, limits on the duration of noise, and evening and nighttime restrictions imposed by the County Noise Ordinance (Chapter 6.68 of the County Code).

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
c. Generate excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels.			X		The project will not involve the use of pile driving or other methods that would produce excessive groundborne vibration or noise levels at the property boundary.
10. **HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY** - Would the project:					
a. Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or substantially interfere with groundwater recharge?			X		The project will not substantially increase water demand over the existing use.
b. Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the project area and/or increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner that would result in flooding on- or off-site?		X			The project does not involve any permanent modifications that would substantially alter the existing drainage pattern and or/increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner that would lead to flooding. Compliance with applicable requirements of the Sacramento County Floodplain Management Ordinance, Sacramento County Water Agency Code, and Sacramento County Improvement Standards will ensure that impacts are less than significant. Refer to the Hydrology and Water Quality Discussion in the Environmental Effects section above.
c. Develop within a 100-year floodplain as mapped on a federal Flood Insurance Rate Map or within a local flood hazard area?			X		The project site is in a local flood hazard area, but not in a federally mapped floodplain. Compliance with the County Floodplain Management Ordinance, County Drainage Ordinance, and Improvement Standards will assure less than significant impacts. Refer to the Hydrology and Water Quality discussion in the Environmental Effects section above.
d. Place structures that would impede or redirect flood flows within a 100-year floodplain?			X		The project site is not within a 100-year floodplain.
e. Develop in an area that is subject to 200 year urban levels of flood protection (ULOP)?				X	The project is not located in an area subject to 200-year urban levels of flood protection (ULOP).

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
f. Expose people or structures to a substantial risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?			X		The project will not expose people or structures to a substantial risk of loss, injury, or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam.
g. Create or contribute runoff that would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems?			X		The project does not propose any permanent physical changes that would affect runoff from the site, though dewatering may be necessary during the construction phase within Chicken Ranch Slough and Strong Ranch Slough. Refer to the Hydrology and Water Quality Discussion in the Environmental Effects section above.
h. Create substantial sources of polluted runoff or otherwise substantially degrade ground or surface water quality?			X		Compliance with the Stormwater Ordinance and Land Grading and Erosion Control Ordinance (Chapters 15.12 and 14.44 of the County Code respectively) will ensure that the project will not create substantial sources of polluted runoff or otherwise substantially degrade ground or surface water quality.
11. **GEOLOGY AND SOILS** - Would the project:					
a. Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including risk of loss, injury or death involving rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault?			X		Sacramento County is not within an Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone. Although there are no known active earthquake faults in the project area, the site could be subject to some ground shaking from regional faults. The Uniform Building Code contains applicable construction regulations for earthquake safety that will ensure less than significant impacts.
b. Result in substantial soil erosion, siltation or loss of topsoil?			X		Compliance with the County's Land Grading and Erosion Control Ordinance will reduce the amount of construction site erosion and minimize water quality degradation by providing stabilization and protection of disturbed areas, and by controlling the runoff of sediment and other pollutants during the course of construction.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
c. Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, soil expansion, liquefaction or collapse?			X		The project is not located on an unstable geologic or soil unit.
d. Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available?			X		A public sewer system is available to serve the project.
e. Result in a substantial loss of an important mineral resource?			X		The project is not located within an Aggregate Resource Area as identified by the Sacramento County General Plan Land Use Diagram, nor are any important mineral resources known to be located on the project site.
f. Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?			X		No known paleontological resources (e.g. fossil remains) or sites occur at the project location.
12. **BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES** - Would the project:					
a. Have a substantial adverse effect on any special status species, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, or threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community?			X		No special status species are known to exist on or utilize the project site, nor would the project substantially reduce wildlife habitat or species populations. See Biological Resources discussion in the Environmental Effects section above.
b. Have a substantial adverse effect on riparian habitat or other sensitive natural communities?		X			The project site contains potential riparian habitat within Chicken Ranch and Strong Ranch Sloughs. Mitigation is included to reduce impacts to less than significant levels. Refer to the Biological Resources discussion in the Environmental Effects section above.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
c. Have a substantial adverse effect on streams, wetlands, or other surface waters that are protected by federal, state, or local regulations and policies?		X			Channelized culverts for Chicken Ranch Slough and Strong Ranch Slough run beneath the project site, with some work requiring access and temporary alteration to the riparian habitat. Refer to the Biological Resources discussion in the Environmental Effects section above.
d. Have a substantial adverse effect on the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species?			X		Resident and/or migratory wildlife may be displaced by project construction; however, impacts are not anticipated to result in significant, long-term effects upon the movement of resident or migratory fish or wildlife species, and no major wildlife corridors would be affected.
e. Adversely affect or result in the removal of native or landmark trees?			X		There are no identified Native and/or landmark trees within the project site.
f. Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources?		X			The project proposes the removal of twenty non-native trees. Mitigation is included to ensure impacts are less than significant. Refer to the Biological Resources discussion in the Environmental Effects section above.
g. Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan or other approved local, regional, state or federal plan for the conservation of habitat?			X		There are no known conflicts with any approved plan for the conservation of habitat.
13. **CULTURAL RESOURCES -** Would the project:					
a. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource?			X		No known historical resources would be affected by the proposed project.
b. Have a substantial adverse effect on an archaeological resource?			X		The Northern California Information Center was contacted regarding the proposed project. A record search indicated that the project site is not considered sensitive for archaeological resources.
c. Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?			X		The project site is located outside any area considered sensitive for the existence of undiscovered human remains.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
14. **TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES -** Would the project:					
a. Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource as defined in Public Resources Code 21074?		X			Notification pursuant to Public Resources Code 21080.3.1(b) was provided to the tribes and request for consultation was received from the United Auburn Indian Community (UAIC). Tribal cultural resources have not been identified in the project area, but subsurface discoveries are known to occur throughout the Arden Arcade area. Refer to the Tribal Cultural Resources discussion in the Environmental Effects Section above.
15. **HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS** - Would the project:					
a. Create a substantial hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?			X		The project does not involve the transport, use, and/or disposal of known hazardous material.
b. Expose the public or the environment to a substantial hazard through reasonably foreseeable upset conditions involving the release of hazardous materials?			X		The project does not involve the transport, use, and/or disposal of known hazardous material.
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		The project does not involve the use or handling of known hazardous material.
d. Be located on a site that is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5, resulting in a substantial hazard to the public or the environment?			X		A search of the Geotracker database indicated the presence of two Clean Up Program sites and ten LUST cleanup sites within .25 miles of the project site. All cleanups are currently listed as resolved. A search of the Envirostor database did not indicate the presence of known HAZMAT sites. The project is not located on a known hazardous materials site.
e. Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response or emergency evacuation plan?			X		The project would not interfere with any known emergency response or evacuation plan.

	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No Impact	Comments
f. Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to or intermixed with urbanized areas?			X		The project is within the urbanized area of the unincorporated County. There is no significant risk of loss, injury, or death to people or structures associated with wildland fires.
16. ENERGY – Would the project:					
a. Result in potentially significant environmental impacts due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction?			X		The project promotes compliance with Title 24, Green Building Code, and will ensure that all project energy efficiency requirements are net resulting in less than significant impacts.
b. Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?			X		The project will comply with Title 24, Green Building Code, for all project efficiency requirements.
17. 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			GHG emissions associated with the project would occur over the short term from construction activities, consisting primarily of emissions from equipment exhaust. The project is within the screening criteria for construction related impacts related to air quality.
b. Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation for the purpose of reducing the emission of greenhouse gases?			X		The project is consistent with County policies adopted for the purpose or reducing the emission of greenhouse gases.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

LAND USE CONSISTENCY	**Current Land Use Designation**	**Consistent**	**Not Consistent**	**Comments**
General Plan		X		
Community Plan		X		

Land Use Zone		X		

APPENDICES

Appendix A: Preliminary Right of Way Acquisition Map

Appendix B: Tree Inventory List and Map

Appendix C: Utilities Relocation Map

Appendices can be found on the Planning and Environmental Review website at:

https://planningdocuments.saccounty.net/projectdetails.aspx?projectID=8779&communityID=0

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