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Initial Study / Negative Declaration Landscape and Site Design Ordinance

Environmental Case Number: ENV-2022-4857-ND

Project Location: Citywide

Community Plan Area: Citywide

Council Districts: Citywide

Project Description: The Proposed Project involves the adoption of a new ordinance known as the “Landscape and Site Design Ordinance” (Proposed Ordinance) that will amend the City’s current Landscape Ordinance (No. 170,978), Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) Sections 12.40 through 12.43, previously adopted in May 1996 and amended in April 2005. The proposed amendment to LAMC Sections 12.40 through 12.43 will create new landscape and site design objective standards (Landscape and Site Design Point System) using a dynamic and flexible performance-based point system, in order to implement healthy building design and climate-adapted site design. Through established point targets dependent on project types, the Point System will establish a more efficient and effective implementation process. The objective design standards represent a more comprehensive approach to site design that aligns with broader Citywide policy goals of climate resilience, designing for health and the protection and enhancement of the City’s urban forest and biodiversity. Related amendments to LAMC Sections 12.03, 12.10.5, 12.11.5, 12.12.2, 12.13, 12.21, 12.21.1, 12.40, 12.41, 12.42, 12.43, 13.08, 13.09, 14.00, 19.04, 62.177 and 91.7012 are necessary in order to effectuate the Landscape and Site Design Ordinance and Point System.

The proposed Landscape and Site Design Ordinance will address pressing sustainability and health-related needs, building upon The Plan for a Healthy Los Angeles, the General Plan’s Health and Wellness Element, and the Citywide Design Guidelines that are in effect today. Policy 2.2 of The Plan for a Healthy Los Angeles (Chapter 2.2) addresses healthy building design and construction and the relationship of health to the built environment. This policy encourages the design and rehabilitation of buildings and sites for healthy living and working conditions, promoting enhanced pedestrian-oriented circulation, lighting, attractive and open stairs, healthy building materials and universal accessibility. Secondly, a future Implementation Program identified in the Plan for a Healthy Los Angeles (Program 36) speaks to streamlining

October 2024

and updating the 1996 City of Los Angeles Landscape Guidelines and Ordinance to better respond to climate change and healthy communities.

The proposed Landscape and Site Design Point System implements Policy 2.2 of the Plan for a Healthy Los Angeles through a set of objective standards that are organized into the following three design approaches: (1) Pedestrian-First Design, (2) 360 Degree Design and (3) Climate-Adapted Landscape and Site Design, similar to the Citywide Design Guidelines. Under each design approach, the standards are further organized under topical categories accompanied by corresponding strategies that are identified as either Mandatory or Elective, each with an assigned point value. Residential and non-residential projects may employ any of the standards in each category to obtain a required total of points, some of which will be mandatory, with a minimum of three points in each category and at least eight Designing for Health standards. To encourage the protection and expansion of tree canopy and heat island reduction in climate-vulnerable communities, projects that are in a mapped “Health and Urban Forest Equity Priority” area, per the draft Zoning Information file that accompanies the Proposed Ordinance, will be required to meet two additional health-related standards in the Landscape and Site Design Point System. These projects will also be eligible for up to five additional bonus points if certain standards related to tree canopy conservation, tree planting, and reduction of climate impacts are selected. Industrial or hybrid-Industrial projects and surface parking lot projects must meet a total of 15 points, through a combination of Mandatory and Elective standards.

The proposed Landscape and Site Design Ordinance also includes a new definition for Outdoor Amenity Areas to support the integration of indoor and outdoor spaces. Outdoor Amenity Areas are outdoor spaces that are covered with overhead structures like patios, terraces, and courtyards and/or outdoor spaces that are only partially enclosed. This new definition and set of standards, allows for creative design solutions for outdoor areas that provide shade and comfort without counting these outdoor spaces toward the building’s floor area and height.

PREPARED BY:
City of Los Angeles
Department of City Planning
Citywide Policy Division, Urban Design Studio

INITIAL STUDY

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
1. Introduction	4
2. Executive Summary	7
3. Project Description	
3.1 Project Summary	12
3.2 Environmental Setting	13
3.3 Description Of Project	14
3.4 Requested Permits And Approvals	15
4 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ANALYSIS	17
I. AESTHETICS	17
II. AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY RESOURCES	19
III. AIR QUALITY	21
IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES	22
V. CULTURAL RESOURCES	24
VI. ENERGY	25
VII. GEOLOGY AND SOILS	26
VIII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS	28
IX. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS	30
X. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY	32
XI. LAND USE AND PLANNING	35
XII. MINERAL RESOURCES	36
XIII. NOISE	37
XIV. POPULATION AND HOUSING	38
XV. PUBLIC SERVICES	39
XVI. RECREATION	40
XVII. TRANSPORTATION	41
XVIII. TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES	44
XIX. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS	45
XX. WILDFIRE	49
XXI. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE	51

INITIAL STUDY

1 INTRODUCTION

This Initial Study (IS) document evaluates potential environmental effects resulting from construction and operation of the proposed **Landscape and Site Design Ordinance** project (“Project”). The Project is subject to the guidelines and regulations of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Therefore, this document has been prepared in compliance with the relevant provisions of CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines as implemented by the City of Los Angeles (City). Based on the analysis provided within this Initial Study, the City has concluded that the Project will not result in significant impacts on the environment. This Initial Study and Negative Declaration are intended as informational documents and are ultimately required to be adopted by the decision maker prior to project approval by the City.

1.1 PURPOSE OF AN INITIAL STUDY

The California Environmental Quality Act was enacted in 1970 with several basic purposes: (1) to inform governmental decision makers and the public about the potential significant environmental effects of proposed projects; (2) to identify ways that environmental damage can be avoided or significantly reduced; (3) to prevent significant, avoidable damage to the environment by requiring changes in projects through the use of feasible alternatives or mitigation measures; and (4) to disclose to the public the reasons behind a project’s approval even if significant environmental effects are anticipated.

The Department of City Planning, as Lead Agency, has determined that the Project is subject to CEQA, and the preparation of an Initial Study is required.

An Initial Study is a preliminary analysis conducted by the Lead Agency, in consultation with other agencies (responsible or trustee agencies, as applicable), to determine whether there is substantial evidence that a project may have a significant effect on the environment. If the Initial Study concludes that the Project, with mitigation, may have a significant effect on the environment, an Environmental Impact Report should be prepared; otherwise the Lead Agency may adopt a Negative Declaration or a Mitigated Negative Declaration.

This Initial Study has been prepared in accordance with CEQA (Public Resources Code §21000 et seq.), and the State CEQA Guidelines (Title 14, California Code of Regulations, §15000 et seq.).

1.2. ORGANIZATION OF THE INITIAL STUDY

This Initial Study is organized into four sections as follows:

1. INTRODUCTION

Describes the purpose and content of the Initial Study, and provides an overview of the CEQA process.

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Provides Project information, identifies key areas of environmental concern, and includes a determination whether the Project may have a significant effect on the environment.

3. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Provides a description of the environmental setting and the Project, including Project characteristics and a list of discretionary actions.

4. EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Contains the completed Initial Study Checklist and discussion of the environmental factors that would be potentially affected by the Project.

1.3. CEQA PROCESS

In compliance with the State CEQA Guidelines, the City, as the Lead Agency for the Project, will provide opportunities for the public to participate in the environmental review process. As described below, throughout the CEQA process, an effort will be made to inform, contact, and solicit input on the Project from various government agencies and the general public, including stakeholders and other interested parties.

At the onset of the environmental review process, the City has prepared an Initial Study to identify the preliminary environmental impacts of the project. The Initial Study for the Project determined that the Project would not have significant environmental impacts. In compliance with the requirements of AB 52, the City provided formal notification of the Project on September 14, 2022 to California Native American tribes that have requested notification in the City of Los Angeles, and no tribes requested consultation.

If the Project is approved, then within five days of the action, the City will file a Notice of Determination with the County Clerk. The Notice of Determination is posted by the County Clerk within 24 hours of receipt. This begins a 30-day statute of limitations on legal challenges to the approval under CEQA. The ability to challenge the approval in court may be limited to those persons who objected to the approval of the Project, and to issues that were presented to the Lead Agency by any person, either orally or in writing, during the public comment period.

1.3.1 Initial Study

At the onset of the environmental review process, the City has prepared this Initial Study to determine if the Project may have a significant effect on the environment. This Initial Study determined that the Project would not have significant environmental impacts.

A Notice of Intent to Adopt a Negative Declaration (ND) is provided to inform the general public, responsible agencies, trustee agencies, and the county clerk of the availability of the document and the locations where the document can be reviewed. A 30-day review period is identified to allow the public and agencies to review the document. The notice is mailed to any interested parties and is noticed to the public through publication in a newspaper of general circulation.

The decision-making body then considers the Mitigated Negative Declaration or Negative Declaration, together with any comments received during the public review process, and may adopt the ND and approve the project. In addition, when approving a project for which an ND has been prepared, the decision-making body must find that there is no substantial evidence that the project will have a significant effect on the environment, and that the ND reflects the lead agency's independent judgment and analysis.

INITIAL STUDY

2 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

PROJECT TITLE	LANDSCAPE AND SITE DESIGN ORDINANCE
ENVIRONMENTAL CASE NO.	ENV-2022-4857-ND
RELATED CASES	CPC-2022-4856-CA

PROJECT LOCATION	CITYWIDE
COMMUNITY PLAN AREA	ALL
GENERAL PLAN DESIGNATION	VARIOUS
ZONING	VARIOUS
COUNCIL DISTRICT	ALL

LEAD CITY AGENCY	City of Los Angeles Department of City Planning
STAFF CONTACT	DANAI ZAIRE
ADDRESS	221 N. FIGUEROA STREET, ROOM 1450 LOS ANGELES, CA 90012
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APPLICANT	City of Los Angeles Department of City Planning
ADDRESS	221 N. FIGUEROA STREET, ROOM 1450 LOS ANGELES, CA 90012
PHONE NUMBER	213.847.3709

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Proposed Project involves the adoption of a new ordinance known as the “Landscape and Site Design Ordinance” (Proposed Ordinance) that will amend the City's current Landscape Ordinance (No. 170,978), Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) Sections 12.40 through 12.43, previously adopted in May 1996 and amended in April 2005. The proposed amendment to LAMC Sections 12.40 through 12.43 will create new landscape and site design objective standards (Landscape and Site Design Point System) using a dynamic and flexible performance-based point system, in order to implement healthy building design and climate-adapted site design. Through established point targets dependent on project types, the Point System will establish a more efficient and effective implementation process. The objective design standards represent a more comprehensive approach to site design that aligns with broader Citywide policy goals of climate resilience, designing for health and the protection and enhancement of the City’s urban forest and biodiversity. Related amendments to LAMC Sections 12.03, 12.10.5, 12.11.5, 12.12.2, 12.13, 12.21, 12.21.1, 12.40, 12.41, 12.42, 12.43, 13.08, 13.09, 14.00, 19.04, 62.177 and 91.7012 are necessary in order to effectuate the Landscape and Site Design Ordinance and Point System.

The proposed Landscape and Site Design Ordinance will apply Citywide and will address pressing sustainability and health-related needs, building upon The Plan for a Healthy Los Angeles, the General Plan’s Health and Wellness Element, and the Citywide Design Guidelines that are in effect today. Policy 2.2 of The Plan for a Healthy Los Angeles (Chapter 2.2) addresses healthy building design and construction and the relationship of health to the built environment. This policy encourages the design and rehabilitation of buildings and sites for healthy living and working conditions, promoting enhanced pedestrian-oriented circulation, lighting, attractive and open stairs, healthy building materials and universal accessibility. Secondly, a future Implementation Program identified in the Plan for a Healthy Los Angeles (Program 36) speaks to streamlining and updating the 1996 City of Los Angeles Landscape Guidelines and Ordinance to better respond to climate change and healthy communities.

The proposed Landscape and Site Design Point System implements Policy 2.2 of the Plan for a Healthy Los Angeles through a set of objective standards that are organized into the following three design approaches: (1) Pedestrian-First Design, (2) 360 Degree Design and (3) Climate-Adapted Landscape and Site Design, similar to the Citywide Design Guidelines. Under each design approach, the standards are further organized under topical categories accompanied by corresponding strategies that are identified as either Mandatory or Elective, each with an assigned point value. The Ordinance will apply to residential and non-residential projects that may employ any of the standards in each category to obtain a required total of points, some of which will be mandatory, with a minimum of three points in each category and at least eight Designing for Health standards. To encourage the protection and expansion of tree canopy and heat island reduction in climate-vulnerable communities, projects that are in a mapped “Health and Urban Forest Equity Priority” area, per the draft Zoning Information file that accompanies the Proposed Ordinance, will be required to meet two additional health-related standards in the Landscape and Site Design Point System. These projects will also be eligible for up to five additional bonus points if certain standards related to tree canopy conservation, tree planting, and reduction of climate impacts are selected. Industrial or hybrid-Industrial projects and surface parking lot projects must meet a total of 15 points, through a combination of Mandatory and Elective standards.

The proposed Landscape and Site Design Ordinance also includes a new definition for Outdoor Amenity Areas to support the integration of indoor and outdoor spaces. Outdoor Amenity Areas

are outdoor spaces that are covered with overhead structures like patios, terraces, and courtyards and/or outdoor spaces that are only partially enclosed. This new definition and set of standards, allows for creative design solutions for outdoor areas that provide shade and comfort without counting these outdoor spaces toward the building's floor area and height.

ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

Citywide.

(For additional detail, see "Section 3. PROJECT DESCRIPTION").

OTHER PUBLIC AGENCIES WHOSE APPROVAL IS REQUIRED

(e.g. permits, financing approval, or participation agreement)

None

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

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

DETERMINATION

(To be completed by the Lead Agency)

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I find that the Project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
<input type="checkbox"/>	I find that although the Project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions on the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
<input type="checkbox"/>	I find the Project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
<input type="checkbox"/>	I find the Project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
<input type="checkbox"/>	I find that although the Project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION , including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the Project, nothing further is required.

Danai Zaire
PRINTED NAME

City Planner
TITLE


SIGNATURE

10/18/2024
DATE

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

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

INITIAL STUDY

3 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

3.1 PROJECT SUMMARY

The Proposed Project involves the adoption of a new ordinance called the “Landscape and Site Design Ordinance” that will replace the City's former Landscape Ordinance (No. 170,978), Los Angeles Municipal Code Sections 12.40-43 previously adopted in May 1996 and amended in April 2005. The proposed amendment to LAMC Sections 12.40-43 will create new landscape and site design objective standards through the Landscape and Site Design Point System in order to support healthier buildings and communities, and address climate change through design interventions. Through this effort, the amendment will establish clear objective design standards resulting in a more efficient and effective implementation process.

Through a comprehensive set of standards on topics ranging from site design, climate resilience, tree canopy coverage, and healthy building design best practices, the Landscape and Site Design Point System accompanying the Ordinance is organized into the following three design approaches:(1) Pedestrian-First Design, (2) 360 Degree Design and (3) Climate-Adapted Landscape and Site Design in alignment with the Citywide Design Guidelines adopted by the City Planning Commission in 2019. Under each design approach, the standards are further organized under topical categories accompanied by corresponding strategies identified as either Mandatory or Elective, each with an assigned point value. Residential and non-residential projects may employ any of the standards in each category to obtain a required total point target, with a minimum of three points required in each category and at least eight Designing for Health strategies selected, which may be used to satisfy the point target.

To encourage the protection and expansion of tree canopy and heat island reduction in climate-vulnerable communities, projects that are in a mapped “Health and Urban Forest Equity Priority” area, per the draft Zoning Information file that accompanies the Proposed Ordinance, will be required to meet two additional health-related standards in the Landscape and Site Design Point System. These projects will also be eligible for up to five additional bonus points if certain standards related to tree canopy conservation preservation or, tree planting, and reduction of climate impacts are selected. Industrial or hybrid-Industrial projects and surface parking lot projects must meet a total of 15 points, through a combination of Mandatory and Elective standards.

The proposed Landscape and Site Design Ordinance also includes a new definition for Outdoor Amenity Areas accompanied by a set of standards that allow for creative design solutions for outdoor areas that provide shade and comfort without counting these outdoor spaces toward the building's floor area and height.

3.2 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The Proposed Ordinance will apply Citywide, except in areas covered by the new Zoning Code, Chapter 1A. The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance is similar in scope to the current Landscape Ordinance and it will apply to the following project types:

- a) the construction of any new residential or mixed-use building with five or more dwelling units or guest rooms/efficiency dwelling units, and/or division of land creating five or more lots in conjunction with new construction,
- b) the construction of any new non-residential building for commercial, institutional, or public use. This includes infill of new, detached buildings on-site with existing buildings,
- c) the construction of any new industrial use building listed in the Subject Use list in LAMC Section 13.18, or hybrid-industrial use building, and
- d) parking area construction or reconfiguration projects, specifically projects involving resurfacing or regrading of existing surface parking areas and/or the creation of new surface parking areas for any size parking area. The re-stripping of parking areas, changes necessary to meet accessible parking standards, electric vehicle parking requirements, or for general maintenance and upkeep of parking facilities accessory to the primary use of land, are also considered a "Project" unless they involve a surface parking area with less than 8 parking stalls. Modifications to existing surface parking areas involving eight or more parking stalls which involve restriping, resurfacing, or regrading shall be subject to the Landscape and Site Design Ordinance.

The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance will exempt:

- a) projects consisting exclusively of additions of floor area, alterations, or changes of use, or interior tenant improvements to existing residential or non-residential buildings,
- b) projects consisting of new construction of accessory buildings incidental to the main use and Outdoor Dining Areas,
- c) new construction, addition, or remodel of buildings consisting of four or fewer dwelling units, inclusive of accessory dwelling units,
- d) any structure or use of land that is primarily comprised of permeable ground surfaces as defined in the Landscape and Site Design Ordinance or otherwise contains landscaping such as cemeteries, golf courses, ball fields, public parks, natural reserves, or open spaces, and the like. To qualify for this exemption, at least 60 percent of the lot or lots must be permeable and artificial turf areas are not be deemed permeable for purposes of this exemption,
- e) use of land for temporary uses (construction staging, seasonal uses like Christmas tree lots, pumpkin patch lots, and farmer's market lots, and other similar uses),
- f) reconfiguration or resurfacing of existing surface parking areas that do not include re-stripping of parking areas, changes necessary to meet accessible parking standards, electric vehicle parking requirements, or general maintenance and upkeep of parking facilities accessory to the primary use of land, provided that such changes to existing surface parking areas involve fewer than eight parking stalls, and g) sites designated as Historic-Cultural Monuments that include landscape features that have been identified as a character-defining feature, subject to review by the Office of Historic Resources.

3.3 DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT

3.3.1 Project Overview

The Proposed Ordinance amends Sections 12.03, 12.10.5, 12.11.5, 12.12.2, 12.13, 12.21, 12.21.1, 12.40, 12.41, 12.42, 12.43, 13.08, 13.09, 14.00, 19.04, 62.177 and 91.7012 of Chapter 1 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) to update the existing Landscape Ordinance, to establish Landscape and Site Design standards, and to define and streamline provisions related to Outdoor Amenity Areas. The proposed Landscape and Site Design standards support development patterns that promote physical activity, enhance pedestrian safety and comfort; address climate change and improve air quality through the protection of sensitive uses and inclusion of drought-tolerant, shade-producing, and locally native plant species, all of which, when taken together, help to foster healthy communities. The Proposed Ordinance addresses pressing sustainability and health-related needs, building upon The Plan for a Healthy Los Angeles, the General Plan's Health and Wellness Element, and the Citywide Design Guidelines in effect today. The new Outdoor Amenity Area definition and standards will also help to create functional outdoor spaces that integrate open space into the built environment, provide shade, and promote social interaction.

The proposed Landscape and Site Design Ordinance will be implemented through a point-based system similar to the one in the current Landscape Ordinance. The Landscape Ordinance in effect today is primarily implemented through a point system that relies upon Design Guidelines, contained within a 52-page document, with out-of-date requirements that have resulted in redundancies and gaps in implementation. At the existing point-based system, the requirements vary based upon the size of the lot. The proposed Landscape and Site Design Ordinance, will replace the City's current Landscape Ordinance with new Landscape and Site Design objective standards.

This transition to objective design standards builds upon the Citywide Design Guidelines (adopted by the City Planning Commission in 2019), which are organized under the same three design approaches: Pedestrian-First Design, 360 Degree Design, and Climate-Adapted Design. These overarching objectives have culminated in the development of the Landscape and Site Design Ordinance, which includes numerous ways to elevate design quality throughout the City. Under each design approach, the standards are further organized under topical categories accompanied by corresponding strategies that are identified as either Mandatory or Elective, each with an assigned point value. Residential and non-residential projects may employ any of the standards in each category to obtain a required total of points, some of which will be mandatory, with a minimum of three points in each category and at least eight Designing for Health standards.

To encourage the protection and expansion of tree canopy and heat island reduction in climate-vulnerable communities, projects that are in a mapped "Health and Urban Forest Equity Priority" area, per the draft Zoning Information file that accompanies the Proposed Ordinance, will be required to meet two (2) additional health-related standards in the Landscape and Site Design Point System. These projects will also be eligible for up to five additional bonus points if certain standards related to tree canopy conservation, tree planting, and reduction of climate impacts are selected. Industrial or hybrid-Industrial projects and surface parking lot projects must meet a total of 15 points, through a combination of Mandatory and Elective standards.

In an earlier proposal during initial concept development for the Landscape and Site Design Ordinance, an incentive was considered that would have allowed a waiver of Site Plan Review and Major Development Conditional Use for projects achieving high quality design by exceeding the required total point target by 30% or more. While this incentive ultimately was not included in the draft ordinance, the Landscape and Site Design Ordinance has been integrated with the proposed Citywide Housing Incentive Program. Projects pursuant to the Mixed Income Incentive Program, Affordable Housing Incentive Program, or State Density Bonus Program will require 30 points in lieu of the 27 points otherwise required by this Section if one or more of the following incentives are requested under the Menu of Incentives: Lot Coverage, Lot Width, Open Space, or Relief from a Development Standard Not on the Menu. Projects seeking incentives not on the Menu of Incentives pursuant to the Mixed Income Incentive Program will require 35 points for compliance with the Landscape and Site Design Ordinance.

The proposed Landscape and Site Design Ordinance also includes a new definition for Outdoor Amenity Areas to support the integration of indoor and outdoor spaces. The current Zoning Code impedes the creation of usable shared outdoor space and under current regulations any type of overhead covering defines a space as “floor area”. This element of the Zoning Code has often disincentivized building designs to take advantage of passive cooling and connect indoor and outdoor uses, and has resulted in building volumes that appear bulky with limited access to the outdoors for building occupants. To address this long-standing issue, the proposed code amendment, which complements the goals and strategies of the Landscape and Site Design Ordinance, includes a definition for Outdoor Amenity Areas as a new type of partially covered or enclosed outdoor space that can be excluded from the calculation of floor area and height. This new definition and set of standards, allows for creative design solutions for outdoor areas that provide shade and comfort without counting these outdoor spaces toward the building’s floor area and height. It is important to note that this proposed amendment is not mandating Outdoor Amenity Areas, but instead enabling a way to identify these unique types of spaces and regulate them with modest development standards.

The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance does not authorize or expand any development project or authorize any ground disturbing or construction activities. The Landscape and Site Design standards will shape the design of new development by addressing features such as the form and design of new development to encourage healthy building design, climate-adapted and pedestrian-oriented design, however the standards will not override the underlying zoning and as such are not anticipated to affect development potential. The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance will not induce population growth or displacement or result in any incentives that would alter existing or planned development patterns.

3.4 REQUESTED PERMITS AND APPROVALS

The list below includes the anticipated requests for approval of the Project. The Negative Declaration will analyze impacts associated with the Project and will provide environmental review sufficient for all necessary entitlements and public agency actions associated with the Project. The discretionary entitlements, reviews, permits and approvals required to implement the Project include, but are not necessarily limited to, the following:

- Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15074(b), consideration and adoption of Negative Declaration, No. ENV-2022-4857-ND (“Negative Declaration”).
- Adoption of amendments to Chapter 1 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) Sections 12.03 12.22, 12.40, 12.41, 12.42, 12.43, 13.08, 13.09, 14.00, and 19.04 to replace the

current 1996 Landscape Ordinance with the Landscape and Site Design Ordinance and associated Point System;

- Adoption of amendments to Chapter 1 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) Sections 12.03, 12.10.5, 12.11.5, 12.12.2, 12.13, 12.21, 12.21.1, and 12.22 to define Outdoor Amenity Areas and establish development standards;
- Adoption of amendments to Section 62.177 of Chapter 6 (Establishment of Tree Replacement and Planting In-Lieu Fee of Article 2 (Streets and Sidewalks) and amendments to Section 91.7012 of Chapter 9 (Planting and Irrigation of Cut and Fill Slopes in Hillside Areas) of Division 70: Grading, Excavations, and Fills, of Article 1 of the LAMC necessary for the implementation of the the Landscape and Site Design Ordinance.

INITIAL STUDY

4 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

I. AESTHETICS

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

No Impact

The proposed Landscape and Site Design Ordinance will not have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista because the Ordinance does not authorize any new construction and no changes are proposed that would indirectly increase building size or scale. There will be no direct or indirect impact to scenic vistas, or scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings, or other locally recognized desirable aesthetic natural features within a state scenic highway.

There are two designated state scenic highways within the City of Los Angeles: the Arroyo Seco Historic Parkway, (also known as the Pasadena Freeway SRO110) and Topanga Canyon State Scenic Highway (SR-27). Where scenic resources have been identified in the two designated state scenic highways within the City, existing policies are already in place to protect them and this proposal would not change any of those protections. As for any future development project, compliance with existing Scenic Highways Plans, Community Plans, and the Los Angeles Municipal Code, as well as other applicable specific plans, overlays, potential impacts to scenic vistas and viewsheds would be mitigated on a case-by-case basis. Nothing in the project is proposing to change any existing plans or policies that are intended to protect scenic resources.

The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance will also not substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings. The Proposed Project will instead provide beneficial impacts since it will incentivize the screening of undesirable uses like parking and it will promote further analysis of existing building conditions, including elements such as the bulk, massing, and architectural treatment, in order for new proposed projects to respond to the local area context and the relationships with adjacent buildings.

The Proposed Ordinance will not create any new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect daytime or nighttime views in the area. Instead, the Proposed Project is expected to reduce the potential for new sources of light or glare that would adversely affect day or nighttime views by minimizing parking light visibility and by incentivizing the reduction of glass on south and west facades. Based on the above reasoning there are no reasonably foreseeable impacts from the Proposed Project. Any effect to the aesthetics deriving from the point system offered by the Landscape and Site Design Ordinance would be expected to be a beneficial aesthetic impact to improve and upgrade current and future conditions because it prompts proposed projects to be shaped to consider the quality and functionality of the City's urban fabric.

II. AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY RESOURCES

In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Department of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment Project; and forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c. Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d. Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e. Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- a) **Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?**
- b) **Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?**
- c) **Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?**
- d) **Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?**
- e) **Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?**

No Impact.

The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance does not propose any new construction or ground disturbing activities. The Ordinance would apply only to multifamily, commercial, and industrial projects and will not impact agricultural or forest land. No rezoning is proposed as part of this Project and therefore the Project would not result in the conversion of any existing agricultural or forest land uses. Existing uses permitted within agricultural zones would be unaffected. Moreover, the project is not anticipated to induce development or in any other way alter existing development patterns. The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance will not convert farmland to non-agricultural use, affect an agricultural preserve eligible for enrollment under a Williamson Act contract, or impact forest land or timber land. The Ordinance would not conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land or timberland. Therefore, the Proposed Ordinance would have no impact related to agricultural and forestry resources. No impact would occur, and no mitigation would be required.

Additionally, the Landscape and Site Design Ordinance would not conflict with any existing zoning for an agricultural use. Additionally, only land located within an agricultural preserve is eligible for enrollment under a Williamson Act contract, and since the project area does not contain any lands covered by a Williamson Act contract, the project does not conflict with the Williamson Act. As stated above, since the Project is not anticipated to induce development or in any other way alter existing development patterns, it will not directly or indirectly result in the loss or conversion of any forest land, timberland, timberland zoned Timberland Production, Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance or the conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural use. The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance would further promote conservation, soil and water quality and biodiversity and habitat by putting regulations in place that protect existing trees, preserve existing and further encourage native and drought tolerant landscaping, promote biodiversity and habitat, and the protection of the environment. Therefore, no impact would occur and no mitigation measures are required.

III. AIR QUALITY

Where available, the significance criteria established by the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) may be relied upon to make the following determinations.

	<u>Potentially Significant Impact</u>	<u>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</u>	<u>Less Than Significant Impact</u>	<u>No Impact</u>
Would the project:				
a. Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c. Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d. Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?
- b) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the air basin is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?
- c) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?
- d) Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people?

No Impact.

The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance will neither obstruct the implementation of South Coast Air Quality Management District plans, nor violate any air quality standard, nor contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation. The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance does not propose any new construction or ground disturbing activities. Moreover, the project is not anticipated to induce or encourage development or in any other way alter the existing development patterns. No rezoning is proposed as part of the Proposed Ordinance and therefore it would not alter the density or intensity of any use. As no new construction is proposed and no excavation would occur as a result of the Proposed Project's adoption, the Landscape and Site Design Ordinance will not directly result in the cumulative net increase of any criteria pollutant, expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, or create objectionable odors.

The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance is expected to protect the health of buildings users and to indirectly improve air quality by promoting walkability through design standards that encourage pedestrian and bicyclist amenities, protection of on-site significant trees, and the planting of new trees. Trees are proven to affect the concentration of air pollutants by directly removing pollutants or avoiding emissions and secondary pollutant formation in the atmosphere. Individual future projects have the potential to prioritize pedestrian circulation over the use of vehicles to generate fewer vehicular trips than existing conditions and therefore could potentially lessen cumulative long-term air quality impacts in excess of current conditions. Future projects located near freeways will have to comply with standards to protect building users from air pollution and future projects will be incentivized to provide shade trees on private property and in the public realm to promote passive cooling and cleaner air. Since the Proposed Project will not result in an increase in construction activities; it would not result in new sources of objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people. Therefore, no impact would occur and no mitigation measures are required.

IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

<u>Potentially Significant Impact</u>	<u>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</u>	<u>Less Than Significant Impact</u>	<u>No Impact</u>
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Would the project:

- | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <p>a. Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?</p> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <p>b. Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or US Fish and Wildlife Service?</p> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <p>c. Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?</p> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <p>d. Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?</p> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

- e. Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?
- f. Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?

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

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

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

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

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

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

No Impact.

The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance does not propose any new construction or ground disturbing activities. The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance will not impact existing zoning and land use designations. As the Proposed Ordinance will not directly or indirectly result in new development or any rezoning, it would not have a substantial adverse effect on any state or federally listed species, riparian habitat, state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.), sensitive natural communities, migratory fish or wildlife species, established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, native wildlife nursery sites, adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Plan, trees, or marine animals. The Project sets standards in place to conserve and protect the City’s biodiversity and habitat and to expand the City’s tree canopy. Conservation and expansion of the City’s tree canopy will result in the maintenance of existing ecosystems and will provide additional bird and animal habitat.

Although there are vacant lots within the City that may contain remnant grassland habitat or natural drainage courses, they are generally located in a developed and urbanized region and

are mostly segmented and lack the continuity that is consistent with those known to support any candidate, sensitive, or special-status species. Therefore, the Proposed Ordinance would have no impacts on these resources.

The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance would not conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as the City’s Protected Tree Ordinance. The proposed Landscape and Site Design Ordinance encourages the preservation of existing mature trees building upon the City’s Green New Deal goal of increasing tree canopy in areas of greatest need by at least 50% by 2028. Under the “Conservation” category of the point system, the Project proposes that future project applicants provide a tree report prepared by a certified Arborist or a Tree Survey, with recommendations for retention of existing Protected trees, Significant trees and street trees. Individual future projects will remain subject to preservation, relocation and replacement of protected trees pursuant to the Los Angeles Municipal Code.

Furthermore, there are no adopted Habitat Conservation Plans, or Natural Community Conservation Plans, or other approved habitat conservation plans in the City. For future construction or improvements, each individual project will be subject to CEQA, when applicable, and evaluated for proximity to any potential designated Significant Ecological Area that may exist within a respective Community Plan Area. Therefore, no impact would occur and no mitigation measures are required.

V. CULTURAL RESOURCES

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

- a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines §15064.5?
- b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines §15064.5?
- c) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries?

No Impact.

The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance does not authorize any physical modifications which would result will not induce new development or change development patterns. The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance would also involve no ground disturbing activities. The Proposed Ordinance would not impact existing zoning and land use designations and would not create any new development, produce any change of use, or affect the level of density. Therefore, the Landscape and Site Design Ordinance would not have a substantial adverse effect on any historical resource, archaeological resource, or human remains. Therefore, no impact would occur and no mitigation measures are required.

VI. ENERGY

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

- a) **Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?**
- b) **Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?**

No Impact.

The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance does not authorize any new construction or any new operations, therefore there will be no impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation.

The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance also does not conflict with or obstruct any state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency. Instead, the Proposed Ordinance is expected to align with the direction of anticipated changes in State building energy codes, by supporting the use of renewable energy and increasing energy efficiency by promoting climate-adapted landscape and site design solutions. For instance, the Proposed Project encourages architectural shading devices to lower cooling demand and incentivizes the use of passive cooling strategies that reduce solar heat gain. Therefore, no impact would occur and no mitigation measures are required.

VII. GEOLOGY AND SOILS

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Directly or indirectly cause substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				
i. Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ii. Strong seismic ground shaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iii. Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
iv. Landslides?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c. Be located on a geologic unit that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d. Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e. Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f. Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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

- i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.
- ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?
- iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?
- iv) Landslides?

- b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?**
- c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse?**
- d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18 1 B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property?**
- e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?**
- f) . Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?**

No Impact.

In 2015, the California Supreme Court in *California Building Industry Association v. Bay Area Air Quality Management District (CBIA v. BAAQMD)*, held that CEQA generally does not require a lead agency to consider the impacts of the existing environment on the future residents or users of a project. However, if a project exacerbates a condition in the existing environment, the lead agency is required to analyze the impact of that exacerbated condition on future residents and users of a project, as well as other impacted individuals.

The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance does not propose any new construction, any specific development project, or any ground disturbing activities. The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance does not involve any zone changes or changes to the existing land uses or density and would not be anticipated to induce development or otherwise change development patterns. As such, the Landscape and Site Design Ordinance does not exacerbate any condition in the existing environment related to any earthquake faults, seismic ground shaking, soil erosion, or contribute to the instability of any soils or improper use of any septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems. Future development projects located within areas susceptible to surface landslides and liquefaction would be designed and constructed in conformance with all existing and applicable regulations designed to protect site occupants from risks related to unstable soil. Further, because the Landscape and Site Design Ordinance involves no ground disturbing activities, there would be no impact on any paleontological resources or unique geologic features.

The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance would have no impact related to seismic hazards, liquefaction, landslides, soil erosion, loss of topsoil, unstable geologic units, expansive soils, or wastewater disposal. In fact, the Proposed Project encourages the retention of on-site topsoil by incentivizing the retention of native soil to be conserved and stockpiled, either on- or off-site during grading operations of future projects and to be returned to the sites during fine grading operations. Therefore, no impact would occur and no mitigation measures are required

VIII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

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

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

b) **Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?**

No Impact.

The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance does not propose any new construction, any specific development project, or any ground disturbing activities. The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance does not involve any zone changes or changes to existing land uses or density and would not be anticipated to induce development or otherwise change development patterns. The Proposed Ordinance will encourage future projects to consider the incorporation of more climate-adapted landscape and site design. Climate-adapted design focuses on solutions that respond to Los Angeles' exceptional Mediterranean climate as well as rapidly changing climatic conditions, by reducing the need for imported water, nourishing the local habitat and watershed and limiting greenhouse gas emissions.

The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance is expected to indirectly decrease levels of greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs) by promoting sustainable landscape and site design techniques and physical improvements that can encourage pedestrian and bicyclist amenities and the use of transit. The Proposed Project would not facilitate growth and does not propose any development projects that would conflict with the City's adopted Plan for a Healthy Los Angeles, the Mobility Plan 2035 or the City's Green New Deal (Sustainability Plan 2019). The City's Green New Deal establishes a target to cut greenhouse gas emissions to 50% below 1990 levels by 2025; 73% below 1990 levels by 2035; and becoming carbon neutral by 2050. The Mobility Plan 2035, accounts for the growth and development in the City as envisioned under the General Plan and targets for reductions in vehicle miles traveled (VMT) that will

reduce the amount of carbon emissions and improve the region’s air quality. In addition, by supporting efforts to reduce GHGs, the Project would also support SCAG’s RTP/SCS, which integrates land use, housing, and transportation strategies to achieve an eight percent reduction in GHGs from transportation sources by 2020 and a 19 percent reduction in GHGs from transportation sources by 2035. These regional targets are set by the California Air Resources Board (CARB) under Senate Bill 375, to help achieve significant additional GHG emission reductions from changed land use patterns and improved transportation in support of the State’s climate goals, as well as in support of statewide public health and air quality objectives.

Finally the Landscape and Site Design Ordinance will support the policies and programs of the Plan for a Healthy Los Angeles, such as reduced vehicle use and idling (Policy 5.1); increasing the number of trees and green spaces (Policy 3.8); improving energy efficiency (Policy 5.6); reducing noxious activities (Policy 5.4); promoting land uses that reduce per capita GHG emissions (Policy 5.7); and increasing the City’s resilience to risks resulting from climate change (Policy 5.6). These policies would aid in implementing the City’s Green New Deal and would aid in reducing overall citywide GHG emissions.

As such, the Landscape and Site Design Ordinance is furthering policies aimed at greenhouse gas reduction and will not conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purposes of reducing greenhouse gasses. Therefore, no impact would occur, and no mitigation measures are required.

IX. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c. Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
d. Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e. For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f. Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g. Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

No Impact.

The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance does not propose any new construction, any specific development project, or any ground disturbing activities. The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance does not involve any zone changes or changes to the existing land uses or density and would not be anticipated to induce development or otherwise change development patterns. Because no physical construction is proposed, there would be no significant hazard to the public or the environment from the routine transport, use or disposal of hazardous materials or from wildfires. The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance is applicable to development of five units or more, therefore the Proposed Ordinance is primarily expected to apply to those projects located in highly urbanized areas. Since most projects subject to this Ordinance will be located in highly urbanized areas of the City, there will be no reasonably foreseeable impact to wildfire risk.

The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance would not result in any safety hazard or excessive noise. The Proposed Ordinance includes strategies that promote the protection of human health and the environment. The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance would not interfere with any adopted emergency response or emergency evacuation plans. Therefore, no impact would occur, and no mitigation measures are required.

X. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

	<u>Potentially Significant Impact</u>	<u>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</u>	<u>Less Than Significant Impact</u>	<u>No Impact</u>
Would the project:				
a. Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
c. Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
i. Result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site;				
ii. Substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site;				
iii. Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff; or				
iv. Impede or redirect flood flows?				
d. In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e. Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality?

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

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

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

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

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

iv. Impede or redirect flood flows?

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

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

No Impact.

The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance does not propose any new construction, any specific development project, or any ground disturbing activities. The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance does not involve any zone changes or changes to the existing land uses or density and would not be anticipated to induce development or otherwise change development patterns. The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance contains standards that advance water conservation and reduce stormwater runoff. The Proposed Project encourages specific landscape features to increase opportunities to capture stormwater on-site and redirect it to planted areas on site when feasible, encourage the use of greywater for landscape irrigation, and promote biodiversity through native vegetation and habitat within parameters set forth by the city's building code.

The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance would not impact run-off, any surface water body, groundwater supplies, flood, tsunami or seiche zones, hydrology, or water quality. No water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan would be impacted because any future development would be restricted to the existing allowable land uses and would continue to be subject to all applicable state or local water quality control plans or sustainable groundwater management plans. Therefore, no impact would occur, and no mitigation measures are required.

XI. LAND USE AND PLANNING

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
Would the project:				
a. Physically divide an established community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

a) Physically divide an established community?

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

No Impact.

The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance does not propose any new construction, any specific development project(s), or any ground disturbing activities. As such, the Landscape and Site Design Ordinance would not result in a physical division of an existing community. The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance is consistent with local land use plans, goals, and policies and in substantial conformance with the purpose, intent and provisions of the General Plan or any other plans, policies or regulations adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect. The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance is intended to foster a sense of community by facilitating safe, functional, and attractive developments that are walkable and pedestrian-oriented.

The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance will address pressing sustainability and health-related needs, building upon The Plan for a Healthy Los Angeles, the General Plan’s Health and Wellness Element, and the Citywide Design Guidelines in effect today. The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance will meet the policies of The Plan for a Healthy Los Angeles related to healthy building design and construction (Policy 2.2), in order to promote a healthy built environment. The Proposed Project encourages the design and rehabilitation of buildings and sites for healthy living and working conditions, promotes pedestrian circulation, healthy building materials, access to natural light and ventilation, and the use of stairs. It will also satisfy the Plan for a Healthy Los Angeles Implementation Program 36 which calls for streamlining and updating the City of Los Angeles Landscape Guidelines and Ordinance to promote climate adaptation and sustainability. The Proposed Ordinance will include various strategies to promote public health and safety, walkability and physical activity, context sensitive design, climate resilient buildings, biodiversity and habitat, integrated landscaping and horticulture, social interaction, and sustainable design.

The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance also meets the intent of the General Plan Framework Element to enhance the livability of all neighborhoods by upgrading the quality of development and improving the quality of the public realm (Objective 5.5). Additionally, the Ordinance meets the intent of Objective 5.8 of the Framework Element to “reinforce or encourage the establishment of a strong pedestrian orientation in designated neighborhood districts, community centers, and pedestrian-oriented subareas within regional centers, so that these districts and centers can serve as a focus of activity for the surrounding community and a focus for investment.” The Proposed Project is expected to improve urban form and incrementally create more walkable neighborhoods. Therefore, no impact would occur and no mitigation measures are required.

XII. MINERAL RESOURCES

	<u>Potentially Significant Impact</u>	<u>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</u>	<u>Less Than Significant Impact</u>	<u>No Impact</u>
Would the project:				
a. Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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

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

No Impact.

The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance does not propose any new construction, any specific development project(s), or any ground disturbing activities. The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance does not involve any zone changes or changes to the existing land uses or density and would not be anticipated to induce development or otherwise change development patterns. The Proposed Project has no effect on mineral resources locally or regionally. The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance will not result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan. Therefore, no impact would occur and no mitigation measures are required.

XIII. NOISE

	<u>Potentially Significant Impact</u>	<u>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</u>	<u>Less Than Significant Impact</u>	<u>No Impact</u>
<p>Would the project result in:</p> <p>a. Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>b. Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>c. For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- a) **Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?**
- b) **Generation of, excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?**
- c) **For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan, or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?**

No Impact.

The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance does not propose any new construction, any specific development project(s), or any ground disturbing activities. The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance does not involve any zone changes or changes to the existing land uses or density and would not be anticipated to induce development or otherwise change development patterns. Because the Proposed Project will not foreseeably result in new construction or operations, there would be no change that would result in a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels, groundborne vibration levels, or result in a project that would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels. The proposed Landscape and Site Design Ordinance will include various strategies to promote public health and safety. More specifically, the Project includes provisions for loading and drive-thru uses adjacent to residential land uses in order to reduce idling and spillover noise to

less than 50db at the property line. For purposes of operational impacts, the City is using the threshold in the Los Angeles 2006 CEQA threshold guide, of 40 db at night and 50 db during daytime hours as the Presumed Ambient Noise Levels (dBA) for residential projects, which is based upon the City’s Noise Ordinance, LAMC Section 111.03.

The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance introduces a code amendment that will allow qualifying Outdoor Amenity Areas to not count toward the building’s total floor area and height. The Outdoor Amenity Area provisions will likely result in the increased usage of outdoor spaces by allowing areas that would otherwise be entirely outdoors and exposed to direct sunlight and heat to be covered or partially enclosed. However, Outdoor Amenity Areas will only be permitted in residential, mixed-use, and commercial zones where rooftop open space and other types of common open space areas are currently allowed. The Outdoor Amenity Area development standards require that where Outdoor Amenity Areas are proposed within 100 feet of residential uses, no amplified sound is permitted after 10:00 pm. It is important to also note that per Assembly Bill 1307, noise generated by occupants of residential projects is not a significant effect on the environment under the California Environmental Quality Act. Outdoor Amenity Areas differ from areas that are entirely outdoors in that they are either partially covered overhead or partially enclosed on the sides, thereby further buffering sound from nearby uses. Occupancies will still be subject to regulatory limits established by building and fire/life safety codes. Finally, Outdoor Amenity Areas will remain subject to the City’s Noise Ordinance. Therefore, no impact would occur and no mitigation measures are required.

XIV. POPULATION AND HOUSING

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

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

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

No Impact.

The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance does not propose any new construction, any specific development of project(s), or any ground disturbing activities. The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance does not involve any zone changes or changes to the existing land uses or density and will not foreseeably induce development or otherwise alter existing development patterns. The Proposed Ordinance would neither induce population growth nor direct population growth to any new areas. Therefore, no impact would occur, and no mitigation measures are required.

The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance is not expected to increase the cost of construction and rental prices thereby indirectly causing displacement. With over 100 available points in the Point System, there are many pathways to achieve the required point targets to satisfy the Ordinance requirements, many of which are low cost or cost-neutral. Additionally, the State and the City have many policies and regulations in place aimed at protecting and replenishing housing units. These regulations will continue to apply since this project does not modify any of those regulations. Therefore, no impact would occur, and no further analysis is required.

XV. PUBLIC SERVICES

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

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Fire protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Police protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c. Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d. Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
e. Other public facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
a) Fire protection?				
b) Police protection?				
c) Schools?				
d) Parks?				
e) Other public facilities?				

No Impact.

The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance does not propose any new construction, any specific development of project(s), or any ground disturbing activities. The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance does not involve any zone changes or changes to existing land uses or density and would not be anticipated to induce development or otherwise change development patterns. As such, the Proposed Project would not increase the number of residents in any given neighborhood and therefore, are not expected to result in an increased demand for parks, schools or other public facilities. Therefore, no impact would occur and no mitigation measures are required.

XVI. RECREATION

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a. Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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

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

No Impact.

The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance does not propose any new construction, any specific development project(s), or any ground disturbing activities. The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance does not involve any zone changes or changes to existing land uses or density and would not be anticipated to induce development or otherwise change development patterns. As discussed, the Proposed Ordinance is not expected to induce substantial population growth within the City. Since the Landscape and Site Design Ordinance does not increase density, the Proposed Project would not increase the number of residents in any given neighborhood and therefore, is not expected to result in an increase in the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated. Additionally, the inclusion of residential or non-residential amenities in proposed projects and the better use and programming of private open space as incentivized by the Proposed Project will potentially help counterbalance demand in neighborhood and regional parks. The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance does not include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment. However, the Landscape and Site Design Ordinance does include provisions that require future individual projects to include at least three site plan amenities for residential projects and one for non-residential projects with usable and accessible open space from a list of Common Open Space Amenities. Therefore, no impact would occur and no mitigation measures are required.

XVII. TRANSPORTATION¹

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

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

¹ Until the City has adopted new Transportation thresholds (or July 1, 2020, whichever is sooner), question b will remain unchanged. Once new thresholds have been adopted, the Initial Study will be updated to reflect the 2019 Appendix G for question b.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b. Conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including, but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c. Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d. Result in inadequate emergency access?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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

b) Conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including, but not limited to, level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?

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

d) Result in inadequate emergency access?

No Impact.

The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance does not propose any new construction, any specific development project(s), or any ground disturbing activities. The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance does not involve any zone changes or changes to existing land uses or density and would not be anticipated to induce development or otherwise change development patterns. No direct or indirect impacts are expected on existing traffic patterns and road capacity. Adoption of the Landscape and Site Design Ordinance would improve the design and site planning of a variety of building types, including new housing projects, but would not impact population growth or capacity. The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance does not generate new housing units and therefore will not increase the number of individuals who would require vehicular transportation. Vehicular traffic congestion would not be impacted because the project does not involve any zone changes or changes to existing land use designations, which would increase population or employment density in the City. However, the Landscape and Site Design Ordinance does encourage use of active transportation and enhanced connectivity, and in improvement of street segments incrementally, and in doing so, could support reductions in

VMT. Therefore, the Proposed Project is not expected to increase the VMT within the City or to result in an increase in traffic.

Furthermore, the Landscape and Site Design Ordinance promotes the inclusion of bicycle facilities, better connections to transit stops, pedestrian oriented design, and a greater degree of walkability which could potentially reduce the amount of vehicular traffic and trip increases. As such, the Landscape and Site Design Ordinance would not exacerbate Vehicular Miles Traveled (VMT) or result in an increase in the number of vehicle trips.

The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance is intended to support adopted policies, plans and programs that support alternative modes of transportation. The Proposed Project encourages walkability, and improvements addressing pedestrian access, comfort and safety adhering to the goals of the Mobility Plan 2035 that aim to decrease VMT per capita by 5% every five years, to 20% by 2035. By encouraging more attractive non-vehicle alternatives, including the use of transit, walking, and bicycling, the Proposed Project supports ways to reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT) per capita.

The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance does not increase hazards due to a geometric design feature or incompatible uses nor does it result in inadequate emergency access. Therefore, no impact would occur and no mitigation measures are required.

XVIII. TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES

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

	<u>Potentially Significant Impact</u>	<u>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</u>	<u>Less Than Significant Impact</u>	<u>No Impact</u>
a. Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resource Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

a) Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is: Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1 (k)?

b) Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is: A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resource Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe?

No Impact.

The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance does not propose any new construction, any specific development project(s), or any ground disturbing activities. The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance does not involve any zone changes or changes to existing land uses or density and would not be anticipated to induce development or otherwise change development patterns. Assembly Bill 52 (AB 52) established a formal consultation process for California Native American Tribes to identify potential significant impacts to Tribal Cultural Resources, as defined in Public Resources Code §21074, as part of CEQA. As specified in AB 52, lead agencies must provide notice inviting consultation to California Native American tribes that are traditionally and culturally affiliated with the geographic area of a proposed project if the Tribe has submitted a request in writing to be notified of proposed ordinances. The Tribe must respond in writing within 30 days of the City’s AB52 notice. The Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) provided a list of Native American groups and individuals who might have knowledge of the religious and/or cultural significance of resources that may be in and near the project site.

In compliance with the requirements of AB 52, the City provided formal notification of the Project on September 14, 2022 to California Native American tribes that have requested notification in the City of Los Angeles, and no tribes requested consultation. Copies of the respective letters are in the administrative record. Most tribal cultural resources are anticipated with buried resources and land valued for association with tribal practices. The Proposed Project will not result in any excavation of soils or ground disturbance, and therefore, no related impacts would occur.

XIX. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS

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

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
c. Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d. Generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e. Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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

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

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

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

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

No Impact.

The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance does not propose any new construction, any specific development project(s), or any ground disturbing activities. The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance does not involve any zone changes or changes to existing land uses or density and would not be anticipated to induce development or otherwise change development patterns. The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance does not intensify the demand on any public utilities.

Development in accordance with the Landscape and Site Design Ordinance would occur in urbanized areas and would be expected to connect to the existing sewer lines. Development in accordance with the Landscape and Site Design Ordinance would be required to comply with all

applicable City regulations. Based on the 2020 LADWP Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP), it is estimated that the City would not outgrow its wastewater treatment capacity by the year 2028 especially given aggressive water conservation strategies.

Additionally, the LADWP provides water service to the City. Water would be conveyed to proposed projects along existing circulating water mains of varying sizes. The LADWP has an ongoing program of facility replacement and upgrades to meet the anticipated water demands based upon the City's adopted General Plan Framework Element. The LADWP can supply water to development projects that are consistent with SCAG growth assumptions contained in the Urban Water Management Plan; development in accordance with the Landscape and Site Design standards would be consistent with SCAG's growth assumptions. Development in accordance with the Landscape and Site Design Ordinance would be required to comply with water conservation requirements and ensure that adequate infrastructure exists.

Furthermore, the Proposed Project encourages methods to decrease demands on water supplies during normal, dry, and drought conditions; for example, the Landscape and Site Design Ordinance incentivizes the use of drought-tolerant plant materials, the reintroduction of California native plant species in urban landscapes which tend to be drought tolerant, and installation of greywater systems in future projects to meet at least 25% of the irrigation demand. Other standards also require the installation of permeable paving materials which allow groundwater resources to be replenished and the use of composting facilities as potential site amenities in residential and mixed-use projects to reduce organic waste. Therefore, no impact would occur and no mitigation measures are required.

Development that occurs in accordance with the Landscape and Site Design Ordinance would occur in existing urbanized areas and is not anticipated to result in a significant increase in individual site runoff or changes to the local drainage patterns. Runoff from individual proposed projects would continue to be collected and directed towards existing storm drains. In addition, development in accordance with the Landscape and Site Design Ordinance would be required to comply with existing local, state, and federal regulations to mitigate potential stormwater impacts.

To comply with the City's Green Building Code, future development that disturbs less than one acre of land and is not part of a larger common plan of development which in total disturbs one acre or more, would be required to manage stormwater drainage during construction by implementing one or more of the following measures:

- Retention basins of sufficient size shall be utilized to retain stormwater on the site;
- Where stormwater is conveyed to a public drainage system, collection point, gutter, or similar disposal method, water shall be filtered by use of a barrier system, wattle or other method approved by the City
- Compliance with the City's stormwater management ordinance.

All proposed projects would comply with the City's grading permit regulations, which require the implementation of grading and dust control measures, including a wet weather erosion control plan if construction occurs during the rainy season, as well as inspections to ensure that sedimentation and erosion is minimized. Therefore, there would be no impact.

In accordance with the City's LID Ordinance, proposed projects would be required to incorporate appropriate stormwater pollution control measures into the design plans and submit these plans to the City's Department of Public Works, Bureau of Sanitation, Watershed Protection Division (WPD) for review and approval. Therefore, no impact would occur and no mitigation measures are required.

Solid waste collected throughout the City by private and public haulers is disposed of at facilities (e.g., landfills and incinerators) owned and operated by Los Angeles County (County), as well as in landfills located in surrounding counties. While the majority of the solid waste generated by local jurisdictions is disposed of at facilities owned, operated, and located in the County, the County has established importation agreements with several surrounding counties including, Kern, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, and Ventura. The Azusa Land Reclamation Landfill is the only facility owned and operated by the County that accepts inert waste. Further, several additional inert facilities are located throughout the County and operate under a state permit, including Durbin Landfill located in the City of Irwindale, Sun Valley Landfill located in the City of Los Angeles, and Chandler's Palos Verdes Sand and Gravel located in the City of Rolling Hills Estates. Inert waste collected in the County can be disposed of at these facilities.

In 2007, the City of Los Angeles initiated a Solid Waste Integrated Resource Plan (SWIRP) with goals of moving toward zero waste by 2030. Under the City's RENEW LA Plan, the City committed to reaching Zero Waste by diverting 70 percent of the solid waste generated in the City by 2013, diverting 90 percent by 2025, and becoming a zero waste city by 2030.

Construction waste materials of proposed projects are expected to be typical construction debris, including wood, paper, glass, plastic, metals, cardboard, and green wastes. Pursuant to the California Green Building Code, individual project applicants would be required to recycle/divert 65 percent of the construction waste. Construction and operation of proposed projects would be required to comply with all applicable regulations related to solid waste, including County and City General Plans, and goals and policies for recycling and diversion of solid waste to ensure compliance with the California Integrated Waste Management Act (AB 9393), the California Solid Waste Reuse and Recycling Act, and the Solid Waste Diversion Rule (AB 341). The remainder would be disposed of in a Class III landfill. Proposed projects would be required to comply with the CalGreen Building Code, which requires diversion and recycling of waste to the maximum extent feasible.

The County identifies landfill capacity in 15 year planning periods, the most recent of which ends in 2027. Recent landfill expansion approvals and proposal for expansion at existing County landfills indicate that solid waste disposal facilities and other waste management options

will be available beyond this date as new facilities and technologies are created to meet demand. Further, the County completes annual reviews of solid waste demand and existing capacity (of each facility) in each subsequent annual report, to ensure the solid waste generated in the County can be properly disposed of at existing solid waste facilities. There would be no impacts, and no mitigation would be required.

XX. WILDFIRE

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

	<u>Potentially Significant Impact</u>	<u>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</u>	<u>Less Than Significant Impact</u>	<u>No Impact</u>
Would the project:				
a. Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to, pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c. Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d. Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
a) Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?				
b) Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to, pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?				
c) Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?				
d) Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?				

No Impact.

The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance does not propose any new construction, any specific development project(s), or any ground disturbing activities. The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance does not involve any zone changes or changes to existing land uses or density and would not be anticipated to induce development or otherwise change development patterns. The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance does not impair any potential response or emergency evacuation plan. As no development is proposed as part of Project, the Landscape and Site Design Ordinance does not exacerbate any pre-fire or post-fire wildfire risks or require the need for the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure.

Prior to the issuance of any building permits for any proposed project (e.g., demolition, addition to, new construction) projects are reviewed by the LAFD to ensure new development is designed and constructed in conformance with all applicable LAFD Fire Code policies applicable to wildfire protection. This would include project features such as the installation of an automatic sprinkler system, smoke detectors, and a fire alarm system, particularly in high fire severity zones.

Additionally, the Project promotes the use of native plants that often are superior when it comes to fire resistance. Based on tests conducted at the Las Pilitas Nursery in Santa Margarita, California-native buckwheat (*Eriogonum* spp. and cvs., Zones 7–11) varieties burn very slowly. Native California sagebrush (*Artemisa californica*, Zones 7–9), also ignited slowly and researchers concluded it can help shield against wildfire's spread. Even some of the larger natives, such as California lilac (*Ceanothus* spp. and cvs., Zones 7–10), when subjected to a direct flame test, took longer than sixty seconds to ignite. A lot of native plants from Southern California have small, hard, brittle leaves, often with a waxy coating. Their toughness protects the interior water content. That makes them naturally more resistant to fire (Jane Gates, *All the Garden's a Stage: Choosing the Best Performing Plants for a Sustainable Garden*). The project also promotes the use of mulch that helps retain moisture at the roots of your plants, elevates humidity close to the ground, and is not likely to flame up in a fire. Finally, to ensure that trees and landscaping are not only installed but also properly maintained, the Proposed Ordinance introduced a Landscape Management Plan requirement. Therefore, no impact would occur and no mitigation measures are required.

XXI. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

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

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

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

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

No Impact.

The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance does not propose any new construction, any specific development project(s), or any ground disturbing activities. The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance does not involve any zone changes or changes to existing land uses or

density. The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance does not include any new construction, therefore it would not impact any endangered fauna or flora, modify any special status species habitat. The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance does not reduce or restrict the range of endangered plants or animals because they do not propose to rezone property such that a further increase in development in sensitive ecological areas would occur, thereby threatening rare or endangered flora or fauna.

The Landscape and Site Design Ordinance has no impacts, therefore, there are no cumulatively considerable impacts. Further, the Landscape and Site Design Ordinance will produce no environmental impact which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly. Rather, the environmental benefits of the Landscape and Site Design Ordinance are anticipated to be positive and projects completed in compliance with the proposed Ordinance are expected to have fewer environmental impacts than those presently being constructed. Projects subject to the Ordinance will be of a higher quality overall and will include outdoor amenities and spaces that encourage social interaction, high quality improvements to the public realm, an emphasis on landscaping and green spaces with native plants, shade trees and an overall sustainable and health-oriented design. Therefore, no impact would occur, and no mitigation measures are required.

CONCLUSION

Based upon the information set forth above, in the staff report related to this update and the substantial evidence contained in the whole of the record of proceedings, the City has determined that the adoption of the Landscape and Site Design Ordinance would have no impact on the environment and a negative declaration may be adopted.