

Appendix A Notice of Preparation and Initial Study

Appendices

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April 2018 | **Initial Study and Notice of Preparation**



OLD SCHOOLHOUSE REMOVAL

Azusa Unified School District



Azusa Unified School District

546 South Citrus Avenue. P.O. Box 500. Azusa, CA 91702-0500
Phone (626) 967-6211; FAX (626) 858-6123

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Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Proposed Old Schoolhouse Removal Project

Azusa Unified School District (District) will initiate preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the proposed Old Schoolhouse Removal project (Proposed Project) in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as set forth in Public Resources Code §§21000 et seq. and California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 3 §§15000 et seq.

The purpose of this notice is to (1) serve a public Notice of Preparation (NOP) of the Draft EIR for the Proposed Project pursuant to the CEQA Guidelines §15082, and (2) solicit comments regarding the scope of environmental issues, reasonable alternatives, and mitigation to be studied in the Draft EIR.

Project Location: The project site is at 403 North Angeleno Avenue in the City of Azusa, Los Angeles County, California. It is on the southeast corner of Slauson Middle School (340 West 5th Street).

Proposed Project: The District proposes to demolish the Old Schoolhouse structure, which may be the oldest and last remaining one-room schoolhouse in Azusa and the San Gabriel Valley. The Proposed Project includes capping utility systems connected to the structure, removing a fence that surrounds the Old Schoolhouse, and either installing landscape as a part of Slauson Middle School's lawn or paving the project site and adjoining area for a 14,000-square-foot parking lot with 31 stalls. The District would implement the Proposed Project during the fourth quarter of 2018.

Potential Environmental Effects: The Initial Study evaluated 18 environmental resource areas and concluded that the Proposed Project may cause a significant effect on cultural resources, which will be further discussed in the EIR. The project site is not on a list of sites enumerated under Government Code §65962.5.

Document Availability: The NOP and Initial Study are available for public review at the following locations:

- Slauson Middle School, Administrative Office, 340 West Fifth Street, Azusa, CA 91702
- AUSD, Main District Administrative Office, 546 South Citrus Avenue, Azusa, CA 91702
- <http://ausd-ca.schoolloop.com/business>

Public Review and Comment: The District will accept written comments on the scope of the Draft EIR beginning **April 30, 2018**, and ending **May 29, 2018**. Written comments must be received no later than May 29, 2018, and should be directed to the attention of Marc Bommarito, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services, at the address below:

Marc Bommarito
Assistant Superintendent, Business Services
Azusa Unified School District
546 South Citrus Avenue
Azusa, CA 91702
mbommarito@azusa.org
626-858-6162

"Education – The Torch that Lights the Path of Knowledge"

April 2018 | Initial Study

OLD SCHOOLHOUSE REMOVAL

Azusa Unified School District

Prepared for:

Azusa Unified School District

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Table of Contents

Section	Page
1. INTRODUCTION.....	1
1.1 ENVIRONMENTAL PROCESS.....	1
1.2 IMPACT TERMINOLOGY.....	2
1.3 ORGANIZATION OF THE INITIAL STUDY.....	2
2. ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING	5
2.1 PROJECT LOCATION	5
2.2 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING.....	5
2.3 EXISTING ZONING AND GENERAL PLAN	6
3. PROPOSED PROJECT.....	15
3.1 PROJECT CHARACTERISTICS.....	15
3.2 PROJECT APPROVAL AND PERMITS.....	15
4. ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST	19
4.1 BACKGROUND.....	19
4.2 ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED.....	20
4.3 DETERMINATION (TO BE COMPLETED BY THE LEAD AGENCY).....	20
4.4 EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS	21
5. ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS	23
5.1 AESTHETICS	23
5.2 AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY RESOURCES	24
5.3 AIR QUALITY	26
5.4 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES	29
5.5 CULTURAL RESOURCES	31
5.6 GEOLOGY AND SOILS.....	33
5.7 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS.....	35
5.8 HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS.....	36
5.9 HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY	39
5.10 LAND USE AND PLANNING	43
5.11 MINERAL RESOURCES.....	44
5.12 NOISE.....	45
5.13 POPULATION AND HOUSING	48
5.14 PUBLIC SERVICES.....	49
5.15 RECREATION	50
5.16 TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC.....	51
5.17 TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES	53
5.18 UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS	54
5.19 MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE	56
6. REFERENCES.....	59
7. LIST OF PREPARERS	61
7.1 AZUSA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT	61
7.2 PLACEWORKS.....	61

Table of Contents

List of Figures

Figure		Page
Figure 1	Regional Location	7
Figure 2	Local Vicinity	9
Figure 3	Aerial Photograph.....	11
Figure 4	Site Photographs	13
Figure 5	Site Plan	17

Abbreviations and Acronyms

AAQS	ambient air quality standards
AUSD	Azusa Unified School District
BMP	best management practice
CARB	California Air Resources Board
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
EIR	environmental impact report
FMMP	Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program
GHG	greenhouse gases
MBTA	Migratory Bird Treaty Act
MRZ	mineral resource zone
OHP	Office of Historic Preservation
SCAQMD	South Coast Air Quality Management District
SoCAB	South Coast Air Basin
VHFHSZ	Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone

Abbreviations and Acronyms

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1. Introduction

Azusa Unified School District (AUSD) proposes to remove a wood-frame building known as the “Old Schoolhouse” and to either install landscaping over the structure’s footprint or develop a parking lot with 31 spaces (proposed project). This initial study evaluates the potential environmental consequences and impacts of this proposed project.

1.1 ENVIRONMENTAL PROCESS

A “project,” which is an activity that may cause a direct or indirect physical change in the environment, is required to undergo environmental review. The completion of the environmental compliance process is governed by two principal regulations: California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA; Public Resources Code §§ 21000 et seq.) and the State CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations §§ 15000 et seq.).

CEQA was enacted in 1970 by the California Legislature to disclose to decision makers and the public the significant environmental effects of discretionary activities and to identify ways to avoid or reduce their environmental effects by requiring implementation of feasible mitigation measures and/or alternatives. Compliance with CEQA applies to all California government agencies at all levels, including local, regional, and state agencies, boards, commissions, and special districts, including school districts. Since AUSD is the public agency with the principal responsibility for carrying out and approving the proposed project, it is the lead agency for this project and therefore is required to conduct a review of the environmental effects that would be caused by the proposed project.

1.1.1 Initial Study

As described in CEQA Guidelines Section 15063, an initial study can be used to determine if a proposed project may have a significant impact on the environment and to assist in the preparation of an environmental impact report (EIR) by focusing on:

- Identifying the effects determined to be significant.
- Identifying the effects determined not to be significant.
- Explaining the reasons for determining that potentially significant effects would not be significant.
- Identifying whether a program EIR, tiering, or another appropriate process can be used for analysis of the project’s environmental effects.

1. Introduction

Based on the findings of this initial study, a focused project EIR will be prepared for the proposed project. A preliminary list of the environmental topics that have been identified for study in the EIR is provided in the environmental checklist (Section 4.2).

1.1.2 Environmental Impact Report

Public responses on the notice of preparation of the EIR and this initial study will form the scope of the EIR, which will include information necessary for AUSD and other state and local agencies to meet statutory responsibilities related to the proposed project. The EIR will be used by other public agencies when considering permits or other approvals necessary to implement the project. Once completed, the Draft EIR will be circulated to the public and affected agencies for review and comment. Comments on the Draft EIR will be responded to in the Final EIR.

1.1.3 Public Participation

One of the primary objectives of CEQA is to enhance public participation in the planning process, and public involvement is an essential feature of CEQA. Community members are encouraged to participate in the environmental review process, request to be notified, monitor newspapers for formal announcements, and submit substantive comments at every possible opportunity afforded by AUSD.

1.2 IMPACT TERMINOLOGY

- A finding of *no impact* is appropriate if the analysis concludes that the project would not affect the particular topic area in any way.
- An impact is considered *less than significant* if the analysis concludes that the project would cause no substantial adverse change to the environment and requires no mitigation.
- An impact is considered *less than significant with mitigation incorporated* if the analysis concludes that the project may have a substantial adverse effect on the environment; however, with the inclusion of environmental commitments or other enforceable measures, those adverse effects would be reduced or avoided and the project would ultimately result in no substantial adverse change to the environment.
- An impact is considered *potentially significant* if the analysis concludes that it could have a substantial adverse effect on the environment. If any impact is identified as potentially significant, additional analysis and preparation of an EIR is required. The EIR need only include potentially significant impacts identified in the Initial Study.

1.3 ORGANIZATION OF THE INITIAL STUDY

The content and format of this report are designed to meet the requirements of CEQA. This initial study contains the following sections:

1. Introduction

- **Section 1, *Introduction***, identifies the purpose and scope of the initial study, the terminology used, and organization of the report.
- **Section 2, *Environmental Setting***, describes the project location, existing conditions, surrounding land uses, and existing general plan designation and zoning for the project site and surrounding area.
- **Section 3, *Project Description***, identifies the project background and describes the project in detail.
- **Section 4, *Environmental Checklist***, presents the checklist and approach taken to evaluate project impacts.
- **Section 5, *Environmental Analysis***, provides a detailed evaluation of the resource topics and questions in the checklist.
- **Section 6, *References***, identifies all references and individuals cited in this initial study.
- **Section 7, *List of Preparers***, identifies the individuals who prepared this report and their areas of technical specialty.

1. Introduction

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2. Environmental Setting

2.1 PROJECT LOCATION

The project site is at 403 North Angeleno Avenue in the City of Azusa, Los Angeles County, California. The site is on the southeast corner of Slauson Middle School (340 West 5th Street), at the northwest corner of West 4th Street and North Angeleno Avenue. Regional access to the site is provided via Interstate 210 (I-210), which is 0.35 mile southwest of the site. Cities surrounding Azusa include Duarte and Bradbury to the west, Glendora to the east, and Irwindale and Covina to the south. Figure 1, *Regional Location*, and Figure 2, *Local Vicinity*, illustrate the project site in its regional and local contexts.

2.2 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

2.2.1 Existing Conditions

The project site is a roughly 0.2-acre area at the southeast corner of the Slauson Middle School campus. It is flat and surrounded by a chain-link fence that encloses the “Old Schoolhouse” building, grass lawn, and one ornamental tree. Figure 3, *Aerial Photograph*, shows a bird’s-eye view of the project site and surrounding uses.

The Old Schoolhouse may date from 1903. It is a one-story, rectangular-massed building that is approximately 56 feet long by 34 feet wide. It has a 48-foot-long gable roof, with an 8-foot-long shed roof on the west end of the building. The structure is supported on wooden posts. Plywood boards enclose the crawl space between the ground and the floor of the building. Figure 4, *Site Photographs*, shows the project site and current condition of the Old Schoolhouse.

The Old Schoolhouse is currently vacant, but was formerly used by Slauson Middle School and the District as a storage facility. Prior to its relocation to the project site in 1946, the Old Schoolhouse operated the former Riley School. The structure appears to be the oldest and last remaining one-room schoolhouse in Azusa and the San Gabriel Valley.

2.2.2 Surrounding Uses

The project site is at the southeast corner of Slauson Middle School, which is in a residential community. West 4th Street and North Angeleno Avenue are immediately south and east of the site. Two school buildings (a studio arts classroom and AUSD central kitchen) are to the north, and an unmarked parking area for approximately 10 vehicles is to the west. The parking lot is used for employees and delivery services; access into the lot is from West 4th Street. Memorial Park Recreation Center is south at West 4th Street, and residential uses are east of North Angeleno Avenue.

2. Environmental Setting

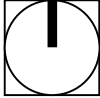
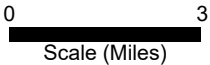
2.3 EXISTING ZONING AND GENERAL PLAN

The City of Azusa General Plan land use designation for the project site is Public School (PS). The site is zoned Institutional/School (IS) (Azusa 2005).

Figure 1 - Regional Location



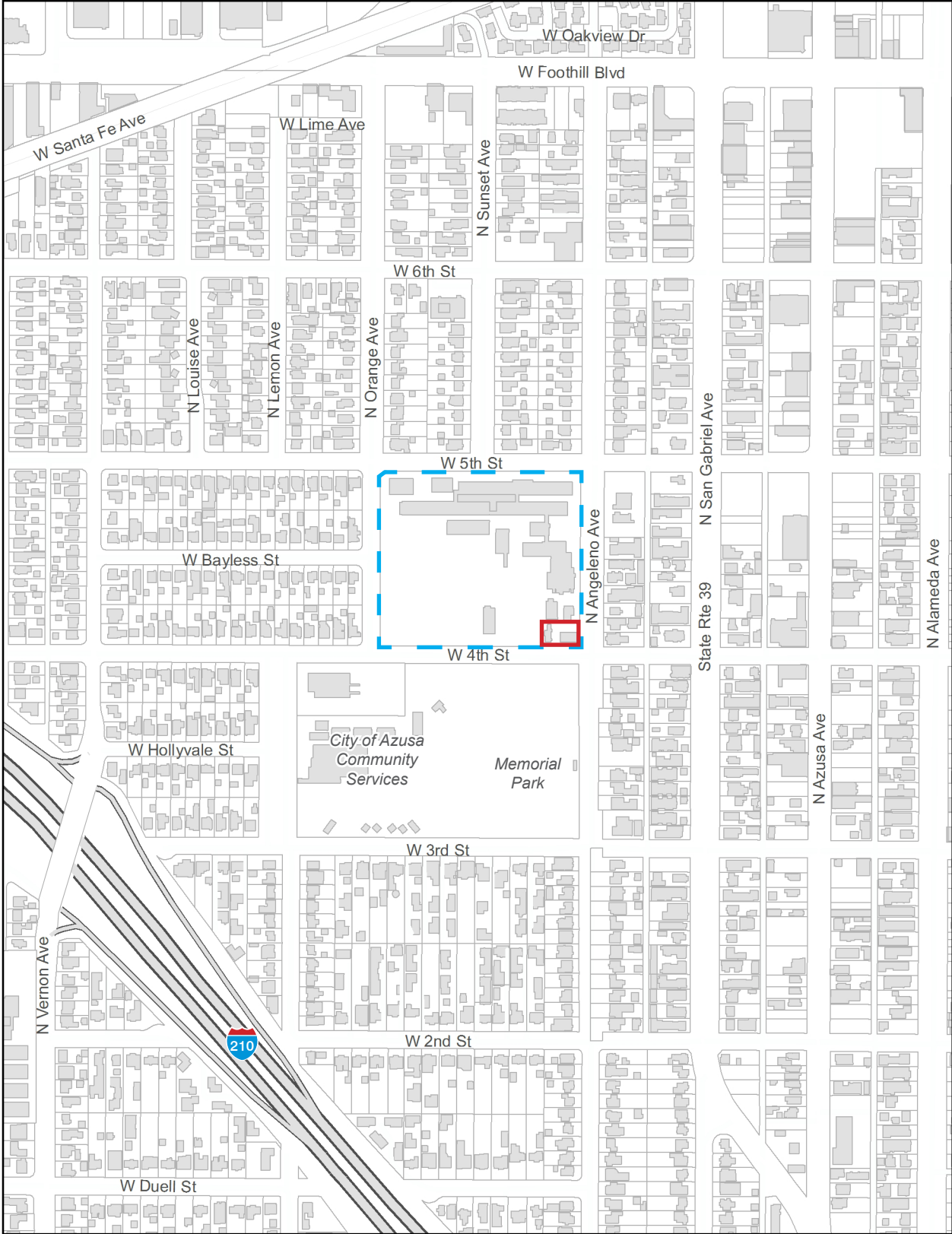
Source: ESRI, 2015



2. Environmental Setting

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Figure 2 - Local Vicinity



— School Boundary

— Project Boundary

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Scale (Feet)

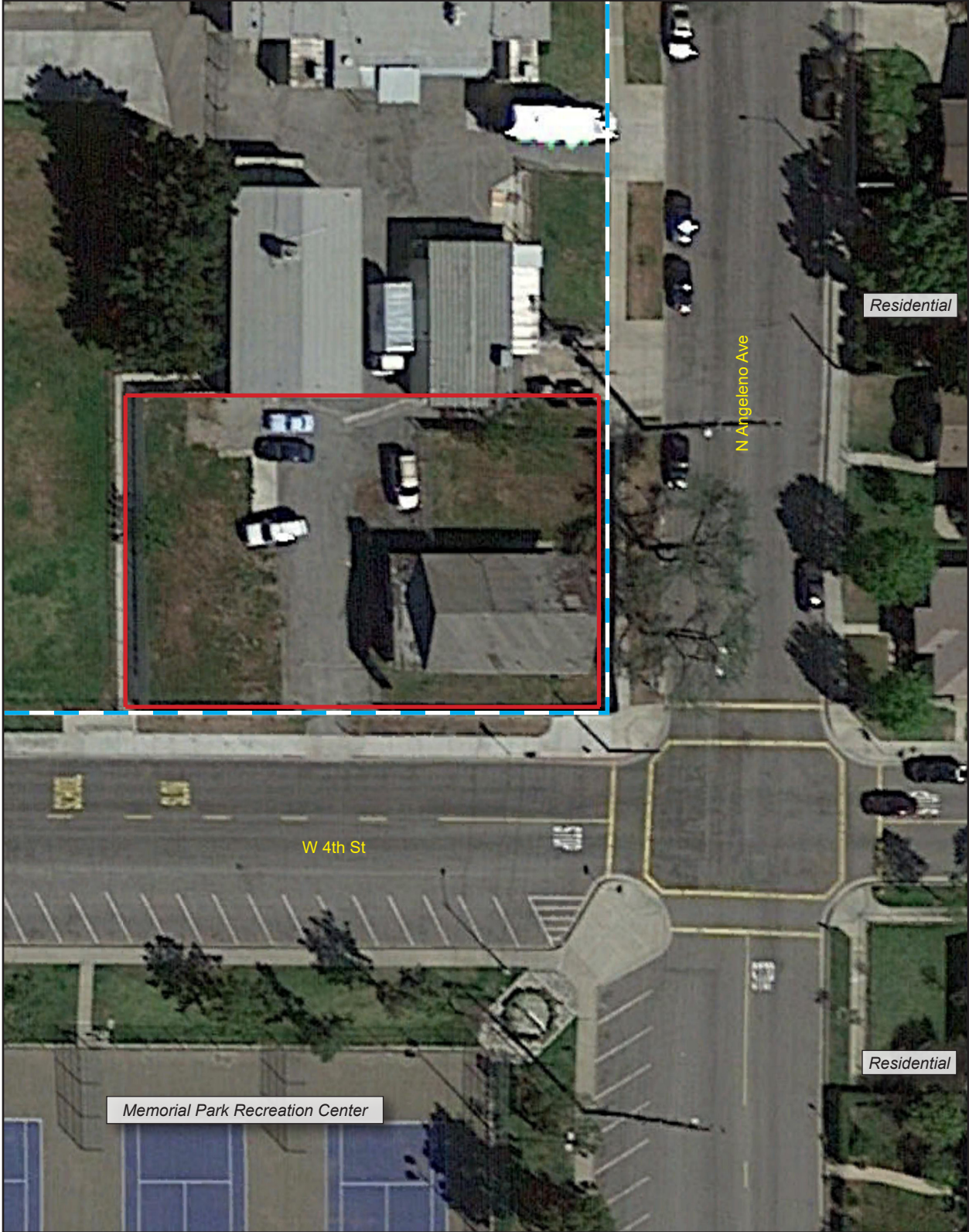


Source: ESRI, 2015

2. Environmental Setting

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Figure 3 - Aerial Photograph



— School Boundary

— Project Boundary

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Scale (Feet)



Source: ESRI, 2015

2. Environmental Setting

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Figure 4 - Site Photographs



The Old Schoolhouse building, front and north elevation. View facing southwest.



The Old Schoolhouse building, front (east) and south elevations. View facing northwest at the intersection of North Angeleno Avenue and West 4th Street.

2. Environmental Setting

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3. Proposed Project

3.1 PROJECT CHARACTERISTICS

AUSD proposes to demolish the Old Schoolhouse structure, remove existing fencing around it, and cap existing utility systems connected to the building. The site would be improved during the fourth quarter of 2018 under one of two options:

1. The approximately 3,750-square-foot area of the building would be replaced with landscaping and maintained as Slauson Middle School's lawn.
2. Consistent with the Slauson Middle School Facilities Master Plan, the building's footprint and adjoining parking area would be improved with a 31-stall parking lot and landscaping. This option encompasses an area of approximately 14,000 square feet and includes paving over approximately 5,000 square feet of existing landscape. Access to the parking lot would be from an existing driveway on West 4th Street. Figure 5, *Site Plan*, shows the parking lot layout.

3.2 PROJECT APPROVAL AND PERMITS

Lead Agency

AUSD is the lead agency under CEQA and has the final approval authority over the proposed project.

Responsible Agencies

A public agency other than the lead agency that has discretionary approval power over a project is known as a "responsible agency," as defined by CEQA Guidelines Section 15381. Removal of the Old Schoolhouse would not require approval (e.g., permits, financing approval, or participation agreement) from other public agencies. Therefore, no responsible agencies have been identified.

Reviewing Agencies

Reviewing agencies include agencies that do not have discretionary powers to approve or deny the proposed project or actions needed to implement it, but may review the initial study and EIR for adequacy and accuracy. Reviewing agencies for the proposed project may include but are not limited to:

- California Office of Historic Preservation (OHP)
- City of Azusa

3. Proposed Project

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Figure 5 - Site Plan



 Old Schoolhouse for Removal



Source: Google Earth Pro, 2018; Site Plan: MSP Architects, 2017

3. Proposed Project

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4. Environmental Checklist

4.1 BACKGROUND

1. **Project Title:** Old Schoolhouse Removal

2. **Lead Agency Name and Address:**

Azusa Unified School District
546 South Citrus Avenue
Azusa, CA 91702

3. **Contact Person and Phone Number:**

Marc Bommarito, Assistant Superintendent Business Services
626.967.6211

4. **Project Location:**

403 North Angeleno Avenue
Azusa, CA 91702

5. **Project Sponsor's Name and Address:**

Azusa City Unified School District
546 South Citrus Avenue
Azusa, CA 91702

6. **General Plan Designation:** Public School (PS)

7. **Zoning:** Institutional/School (IS)

8. **Description of Project:**

The District proposes to remove the Old Schoolhouse from the southeast corner of the Slauson Middle School campus. The building footprint would be improved with landscaping or developed as a part of a parking lot.

9. **Surrounding Land Uses and Setting:**

The proposed project is on the Slauson Middle School campus. The site is surrounded by school uses to the north and west, residential uses to the east, and a City park and recreation center to the south.

10. **Other Public Agencies Whose Approval Is Required:**

None

4. Environmental Checklist

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

4.3 DETERMINATION (TO BE COMPLETED BY THE LEAD AGENCY)

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

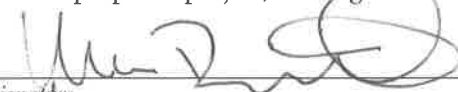
I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

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

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

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

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



Signature
Marc Bommer

Printed Name

April 17th 2018

Date
Azusa Unified

For

4. Environmental Checklist

4.4 EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

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

4. Environmental Checklist

8. This is only a suggested form, and lead agencies are free to use different formats; however, lead agencies should normally address the questions from this checklist that are relevant to a project's environmental effects in whatever format is selected.
9. The explanation of each issue should identify:
 - a. the significance criteria or threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question; and
 - b. the mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less than significant.

5. Environmental Analysis

5.1 AESTHETICS

Would the project:

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?				X
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?				X
c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?			X	
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?			X	

Comments:

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

No Impact. A scenic vista is generally defined as a panoramic view of a unique or unusual feature, such as mountains, hillsides, forests, the ocean, or urban skylines. It also may be defined as a particular view that provides visual and aesthetic relief from less attractive nearby features.

The San Gabriel Mountains are considered a scenic vista and are north of the Old Schoolhouse. The proposed removal of the Old Schoolhouse would expand views of the San Gabriel Mountains from West 4th Street, although the views would still be limited due to existing school facilities immediately north of the project site. Therefore, implementation of the project would not result in any impacts to scenic vistas. No further analysis is required in the EIR.

b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?

No Impact. Scenic resources are defined as landscape patterns and features that are visually or aesthetically pleasing, and that may contribute to a distinct community, area, or region. The project site contains the Old Schoolhouse, a small lawn, and an ornamental tree. While the Old Schoolhouse is eligible for listing as a historic building, this determination is based on its association with the history of education in the City of Azusa and that it is the oldest and only remaining one-room schoolhouse in Azusa and San Gabriel Valley. Its historical significance is not related to its architectural and/or visual features. There are no scenic trees or rock outcroppings on the project site or in the surrounding area.

5. Environmental Analysis

Furthermore, the nearest state-designated scenic highway to the project site is State Highway 2, which is over 12 miles north from the project site. Due to the distance and intervening structures between the project site and the highway, project implementation would not impact views of the highway or scenic resources that may exist near the highway. No further analysis is required in the EIR.

c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?

Less Than Significant Impact. The Old Schoolhouse has not been maintained and is surrounded by a fence. Both project options would alter the visual character of the site. The existing fence would be removed, and under the first option, the area would be improved with natural grass and be part of the school's existing lawn on North Angeleno Avenue. Under the second option, the area of the Old Schoolhouse and the adjoining unmarked parking area would be paved and developed as a formal parking lot (see Figure 5). Improvements under both options would be compatible with the surrounding school and park uses and would be maintained by the District. Therefore, impacts to the site's visual character and quality would be less than significant, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

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

Less Than Significant Impact. The proposed project would result in the removal of the Old Schoolhouse and installation of landscaping or development of a parking lot. There would be no new sources of light or glare under the landscaping option. Security lights, if installed under the parking lot option, would provide illumination similar to that of the existing security lighting on campus and street lights on West 4th Street and North Angeleno Avenue. Therefore, light and glare impacts would be less than significant, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

5.2 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. Would the project:

5. Environmental Analysis

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?				X
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?				X
c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code 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))?				X
d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?				X
e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?				X

Comments:

- 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?**

No Impact. The Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program (FMMP) creates maps and statistical data for analyzing impacts on California's agricultural resources. Land analyzed by the FMMP is rated by quality of soil and its irrigation status (in descending order: Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance).

The project site does not contain any farmland and is unclassified by the Department of Conservation FMMP (DLRP 2015). Additionally, according to the Department of Conservation 2012 Los Angeles County Important Farmland map, there is no land designated as Farmland of Statewide Importance, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Local Importance. The project would not convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance to nonagricultural use. No impact would occur from project implementation, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

- b) **Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?**

No Impact. The Williamson Act (Land Conservation Act of 1965) allows local governments to enter into contracts with private landowners to ensure that parcels of land retain agricultural or open space use. The project site is zoned IS (Azusa 2005). The project site is not within a Williamson Act contract, and no conflicts with the Williamson Act would occur from project implementation. No impact would occur, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

5. Environmental Analysis

- 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))?**

No Impact. The project site is zoned as IS (Azusa 2005). The project site does not contain forest land, timberland, or timberland zoned for Timberland Production. The surrounding area is developed with urban uses. Implementation of the proposed project would not create a new conflict with the existing zoning related to forest land or timberland. No impact would occur, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

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

No Impact. The project site and surrounding areas do not contain any forest land; the surrounding areas are developed with urban uses. Project implementation would not result in the loss of forest land or the conversion of forest land to nonforest use. No impact would occur, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

- 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 project site and surrounding areas do not contain any Farmland. Project implementation would not result in the conversion of Farmland to nonagricultural use or conversion of forest land to nonforest use. No impact would occur, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

5.3 AIR QUALITY

Would the project:

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?				X
b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?			X	
c) 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 (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?			X	
d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?			X	
e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?			X	

5. Environmental Analysis

Comments:

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

No Impact. The proposed removal of the Old Schoolhouse would not result in an increase in enrollment at Slauson Middle School, and the project would not have the potential to affect regional growth projections. Additionally, the regional emissions generated by the proposed demolition of the Old Schoolhouse would be less than the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) emissions thresholds. SCAQMD would not consider the project a substantial source of air pollutant emissions that would have the potential to affect the attainment designations in the South Coast Air Basin (SoCAB). Therefore, the project would not affect the regional emissions inventory or conflict with strategies in the air quality management plan. No impact would occur. This issue will not be addressed further in the EIR.

b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?

Less Than Significant Impact. The proposed removal of the Old Schoolhouse would generate air pollutants, primarily from exhaust emissions from off-road diesel-powered construction equipment; exhaust emissions from on-road vehicles; and dust generated by demolition activities. In the worst case, demolition activities would require the use of a backhoe and a dump truck. Site grading would not be required because the existing structure is supported above the ground by wooden posts. Emissions associated with the project would be short term and would not be substantial due to the relatively small size of the proposed activity. The site is currently used as a parking lot by employees and delivery services. Under both options, project implementation would not generate additional vehicle trips that would result in new emissions; therefore, the project would not violate any air quality standard, and impacts would be less than significant. No further analysis is required in the EIR.

c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is nonattainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?

Less Than Significant Impact. The project site is in the SoCAB, which is designated nonattainment for O₃ and PM_{2.5} under the California and National Ambient Air Quality Standards (AAQS), nonattainment for PM₁₀ under the California AAQS, and nonattainment for lead under the National AAQS (CARB 2014b). According to SCAQMD methodology, any project that does not exceed or can be mitigated to less than the daily threshold values would not add significantly to a cumulative impact (SCAQMD 1993). Demolition of the Old Schoolhouse would not result in emissions in excess of SCAQMD's significant thresholds. Therefore, the project would not result in a cumulatively considerable net increase in criteria pollutants, and impacts would be less than significant. No further analysis is required in the EIR.

d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?

Less Than Significant Impact. The project could expose sensitive receptors to elevated concentrations of pollutants if it would cause or contribute significantly to elevating pollutant concentrations. Localized significance thresholds are based on the California AAQS, which are the most stringent AAQS that have been

5. Environmental Analysis

established to provide a margin of safety in the protection of the public health and welfare. They are designed to protect sensitive receptors most susceptible to further respiratory distress, such as asthmatics, the elderly, very young children, people already weakened by other disease or illness, and persons engaged in strenuous work or exercise. There would be no long-term operation associated with the proposed project; therefore, no long-term localized air pollutant impacts would occur.

Demolition activities associated with the removal of the Old Schoolhouse would not be very extensive and would only require the use of a backhoe and a dump truck. The scale and duration of these activities would be negligible and would not create substantial criteria air pollutants. In addition, the building removal would occur during the summer of 2018 when school is not in session. Therefore, the project would not expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations. Impacts would be less than significant, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?

Less Than Significant Impact. The proposed project would not emit objectionable odors that would affect a substantial number of people. The threshold for odor is if a project creates an odor nuisance pursuant to SCAQMD Rule 402, Nuisance, which states:

A person shall not discharge from any source whatsoever such quantities of air contaminants or other material which cause injury, detriment, nuisance, or annoyance to any considerable number of persons or to the public, or which endanger the comfort, response, health or safety of any such persons or the public, or which cause, or have a natural tendency to cause, injury or damage to business or property. The provisions of this rule shall not apply to odors emanating from agricultural operations necessary for the growing of crops or the raising of fowl or animals.

Facilities that are considered to have objectionable odors include wastewater treatment plants, compost facilities, landfills, solid waste transfer stations, fiberglass manufacturing facilities, paint/coating operations (e.g., auto body shops), dairy farms, petroleum refineries, asphalt batch plants, chemical manufacturing, and food manufacturing facilities. The proposed project would not involve the construction of any of these facilities and would not create foul odors that constitute a public nuisance. Emissions from construction equipment, such as diesel exhaust, may generate odors. However, these odors would be low in concentration, temporary, and would not affect a substantial number of people. No significant impacts would occur, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

5. Environmental Analysis

5.4 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Would the project:

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service?			X	
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service?				X
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?				X
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?			X	
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?				X
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?				X

Comments:

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

Less Than Significant Impact. Special status species include those listed as endangered or threatened under the federal Endangered Species Act or California Endangered Species Act; species otherwise given certain designations by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife; and plant species listed as rare by the California Native Plant Society. There are 95 sensitive species documented in the City of Azusa (CDFW 2015). However, the project site is in an urban area and contains ornamental landscaping. The existing site conditions do not support habitat for sensitive species, and the site is frequently disturbed by mowing and other human activities. Impacts would be less than significant, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

5. Environmental Analysis

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

No Impact. Riparian habitat is characterized as the interface between land and a river or stream that supports plant or animal life. Sensitive natural communities are natural communities that are considered rare in the region by regulatory agencies, provide habitat for rare or sensitive plant or animal species, or are known to be important wildlife corridors. The project site is on a school site and developed with ornamental landscaping and a former school building. It does not contain riparian habitat or surface water. Thus, the project site would not have a direct impact on riparian habitat or sensitive natural communities, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

- c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?**

No Impact. The Federal Clean Water Act defines wetlands as land that is flooded or saturated by surface water or groundwater at a frequency and duration significant enough to support a prevalence of vegetation adapted to life in saturated soils (e.g., swamps, marshes, bogs). The project site is on a school campus and is surrounded by development. There are no wetlands on the project site. No impacts would occur, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

- 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?**

Less Than Significant Impact. The proposed project is the removal of the Old Schoolhouse from the Slauson Middle School campus. The project site is in an urban area with no wildlife corridors. The trees on and surrounding the project site would remain in place. In compliance with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 (MBTA), the District will conduct a preconstruction nesting bird survey as a part of the proposed project if construction occurs within the bird breeding season (February 1 through August 31). If active nests are observed, a no-construction buffer would be placed around the active nests. Construction within the buffer area would resume after the biologist confirms that the birds are no longer nesting. Compliance with regulations under the MBTA would result in less than significant impacts. No further analysis is required in the EIR.

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

No Impact. The City of Azusa Municipal Code Article VI, Tree Preservation, ensures and enhances safety and public welfare through proper care and maintenance of trees. Additionally, the city's General Plan Open Space and Biological Resource Element protection policies (1.1, 1.2, 2.1, 2.3) limit habitat modification and reduce impacts to biological resources (Azusa 2003b). Project implementation would not affect trees protected by local policies or ordinances, such as trees in the city's rights-of-way. No impacts to local policies concerning the protection of biological resources would occur, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

5. Environmental Analysis

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. There is currently no Habitat Conservation or Natural Community Conservation Plan established for the City of Azusa. Additionally, the project site does not lie within any other approved local or state habitat conservation plan, including the County of Los Angeles Significant Ecological Areas' (SEAs) study for the San Gabriel Canyon Region (2000), which covers areas near the project site. The proposed removal of the Old Schoolhouse would not impact adopted conservations plans, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

5.5 CULTURAL RESOURCES

Would the project:

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in § 15064.5?	X			
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to § 15064.5?			X	
c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?			X	
d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?			X	

Comments:

a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in § 15064.5?

Potentially Significant Impact. Section 15064.5 defines historic resources as resources listed or determined to be eligible for listing by the State Historical Resources Commission, a local register of historical resources, or the lead agency. Generally, a resource is considered “historically significant” if it meets one of the following criteria:

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

5. Environmental Analysis

Daly & Associates, a historic preservation firm, has been retained to prepare a historic resource assessment of the Old Schoolhouse. The findings of the evaluation and potential impacts to the Old Schoolhouse caused by the proposed project will be further disclosed in the EIR.

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

Less Than Significant Impact. The Old Schoolhouse is supported on wooden posts, and plywood boards enclose the crawl space between the ground and the floor of the building. The structure is also connected to water and electricity lines. Removal of the building and utility lines would require minimal soil disturbance. No archaeological resources are known to exist below the project site, and the areas within the project site have been previously disturbed by grading for the existing improvements. In the very unlikely event that archaeological resources are uncovered, they will be recovered and analyzed in accordance with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.5. Suspension of ground disturbances in the vicinity of the discoveries shall not be lifted until a qualified archaeologist has evaluated any discoveries to assess whether they are classified as historical resources or unique archaeological sites, pursuant to CEQA. Compliance with established standards would reduce potentially significant impacts on archaeological resources; therefore, this issue will not be further considered in the EIR.

c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?

Less Than Significant Impact. As stated above, the proposed removal of the Old Schoolhouse and associated utilities would require very limited ground disturbances. Consequently, it is very unlikely that paleontological resources would be discovered. In the unlikely event that paleontological resources are uncovered, AUSD will comply with CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(f), which provides that work in that area of the discovery shall halt until a qualified expert can assess the significance of the find, and, if necessary, develop appropriate avoidance and/or recovery. Compliance with established regulations would reduce impacts to a less than significant level; therefore, this issue will not be further considered in the EIR.

d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?

Less Than Significant Impact. There are no known human remains on the project site, and the site has not historically been used as a cemetery. Additionally, as discussed above, project implementation would result in minimal ground disturbance. Therefore, it is unlikely that the project would disturb any human remains. However, under California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5, if any human remains are discovered within the project site, disturbance of the site shall halt and remain stopped until a coroner has conducted an investigation into the determination of origin (CHSC 7050.5). If the coroner determines the remains are not under his jurisdiction (prehistoric), they are required to contact the Native American Heritage Commission within 24 hours (CHSC 7050.5). This organization is responsible for determining the most likely descendant for the area. Adherence to the California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 will reduce potential impacts associated with disturbance of human remains to less than significant. No further analysis is required in the EIR, and no mitigation measures are required.

5. Environmental Analysis

5.6 GEOLOGY AND SOILS

Would the project:

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				
i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map, issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.				X
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?				X
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?				X
iv) Landslides?				X
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?			X	
c) Be located on 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?				X
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?				X
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?				X

Comments:

- a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:
- i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning map, issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.

No Impact. The Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act was passed to prevent buildings from being developed on the surface of active faults to reduce hazards to human occupants and minimize risk for infrastructure damage. The project site is not within an Alquist-Priolo Fault Zone. The closest Alquist-Priolo Fault is the Duarte fault (Segment D of the Sierra Madre Fault that runs through Azusa) approximately 1,000 feet east of the site. Project implementation would not expose people or structures to the risks associated with the Duarte fault. Furthermore, the proposed project would result in a

5. Environmental Analysis

beneficial impact by removing a structure that is not compliant with current building standards. No impact would occur, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?

No Impact. The Duarte fault is approximately 1,000 feet east of the project site and is considered active by the County of Los Angeles (Azusa 2003c). The proposed removal of the Old Schoolhouse would not expose structures or people to risks caused by ground shaking from the Duarte fault or other earthquake faults. In fact, removal of the Old Schoolhouse building would remove any existing possible risks caused by potential collapse during strong ground shaking; the project would result in a beneficial impact. No impact related to seismic ground shaking would occur, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?

No Impact. Based on a review of the United States Geological Survey as well as the California Department of Conservation Earthquake Hazard Maps, the project site is in an area of liquefaction risk. However, because the proposed project would result in the removal of an unsecured structure, project implementation would actually result in a beneficial impact. Existing potential risks associated with seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction, would be eliminated. No impact would occur, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

iv) Landslides?

No Impact. The project site is flat and not surrounded by any slopes. Landslides are not expected to occur at the site. No further analysis is required in the EIR.

b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil

Less Than Significant Impact. The Old Schoolhouse is supported on wooden posts. Project implementation would result in limited erosion and exposure of topsoil during installation of landscaping or paving of the parking lot. Under either option, the project would be implemented using best management practices (BMPs), which would reduce erosion and loss of topsoil. Potential impacts would be short term and would not extensively degrade the quality or availability of topsoil. Impacts would be less than significant, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

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?

No Impact. The proposed project would result in the removal of an old and unstable building. No new structures would be constructed that could be subjected to potential unstable soils. No impact would occur, and there is no further analysis required in the EIR.

5. Environmental Analysis

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

No Impact. The proposed project would result in the removal of the Old Schoolhouse and installation of landscaping or development of a parking lot. The project does not propose any structures, and no impact caused by expansive soils would occur. No further analysis is required in the EIR.

- 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?**

No Impact. The Old Schoolhouse is connected to Slauson Middle School's wastewater system. The proposed removal of the building would not warrant construction of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems. No impact would occur, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

5.7 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

Would the project:

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?			X	
b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?				X

Comments:

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

Less Than Significant Impact. Global climate change is not confined to a particular project area and is generally accepted as the consequence of global industrialization over the last 200 years. A typical project, even a very large one, does not generate enough greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions on its own to influence global climate change significantly, hence, the issue of global climate change is, by definition, a cumulative environmental impact. The proposed removal of the Old Schoolhouse would generate a negligible amount of GHG emissions. Use of the site after the building is removed would require some maintenance that would also contribute to GHG emissions. However, the GHG emissions from the project would not exceed the SCAQMD's proposed screening threshold of 3,000 metric tons of CO₂-equivalent emissions. Therefore, the proposed project's contribution to GHG emissions is less than significant, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

5. Environmental Analysis

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

No Impact. The proposed project would result in the removal of an underutilized building and would not interfere with the Southern California Association of Governments' ability to implement regional strategies for reducing GHG emissions. Additionally, the proposed project would not conflict with any plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing GHG emissions. Implementation of the proposed project would have no impact, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

5.8 HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Would the project:

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?			X	
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?			X	
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?			X	
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?				X
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?				X
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?				X
g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?				X
h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?				X

5. Environmental Analysis

Comments:

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

Less Than Significant Impact. Project implementation—including demolition of the Old Schoolhouse and improvements to the school lawn or the development of a parking lot—would comply with applicable local, state, and federal regulations, including but not limited to those from the US Environmental Protection Agency and Occupational Safety and Health Administration for safe transport of materials to ensure public and environmental safety. The duration of demolition activities would be short and would not require the handling of significant amounts of hazardous substances. Additionally, BMPs would be used during removal of the building. Applicable BMPs for the proposed project may include, but are not limited to:

- Monitor subcontractors and employees to ensure they are practicing good housekeeping techniques and are aware of spill prevention, control, and cleanup procedures and proper waste disposal methods.
- Minimize disturbed soil exposure time and stabilize exposed soils.
- Inventory hazardous materials used, stored onsite, or contained in equipment. Seek out ways to remove or replace nonessential hazardous materials wherever possible.
- Provide a gravel pad onsite for materials and equipment delivery.

Compliance with local, state, and federal regulations and BMPs would significantly reduce impacts from transport or use of hazardous materials during project implementation. Impacts from routine transport or use of hazardous materials would be less than significant, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

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

Less Than Significant Impact. There are no known hazardous materials on the project site. Hazardous materials associated with the use of construction equipment would not be present in quantities that could pose a threat to the public or the environment if they were to spill. Once removed, maintenance of the site as a part of the school's lawn or a parking lot for employee use would not create any new hazards or introduce new hazardous materials beyond what is currently handled at the property. Compliance with local, state, and federal hazardous materials transportation and handling regulations would reduce any foreseeable upset or accidents. No significant impact would occur, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

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

Less Than Significant Impact. The proposed project is within the boundaries of Slauson Middle School. While construction activities would require the use of hazardous materials and generate hazardous emissions, this would be a short-term, one-time event. Furthermore, construction activities would comply with existing

5. Environmental Analysis

local, state, and federal regulations. The proposed project would not involve the storage, handling, or disposal of hazardous materials in sufficient quantities to pose a significant risk to the public or students at the school. Thus, impacts would be less than significant, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

- 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?**

No Impact. California Government Code Section 65962.5 requires the compilation of the following types of hazardous materials sites: hazardous waste facilities; hazardous waste discharges for which the State Water Quality Control Board has issued specific orders; public drinking water wells which contain detectable levels of organic contaminants; underground storage tanks with reported unauthorized releases; and solid waste disposal facilities from which hazardous waste has moved.

According to online databases that identify hazardous materials sites (Enviromapper, Geotracker, and Envirostor), the project site is not on or adjacent to a hazardous materials cleanup site or hazardous waste facility. Additionally, based on a review of historical aerial photographs as early as 1946, the project site, Slauson Middle School, and areas immediately adjacent to the project site appear to have been developed with the same residential, school, and park uses. No industrial uses are shown on or adjacent to the site in the aerial photographs reviewed. Therefore, the proposed removal of the Old Schoolhouse would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment. No further analysis is required in the EIR.

- 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 for people residing or working in the project area?**

No Impact. The closest airport to the project site is the El Monte Airport, 9.5 miles southwest of the project site. The project site does not lie within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, or within an airport land use plan. Additionally, the proposed project would not construct new development that would interfere with airport operations. The proposed project would not impact the safety of people residing or working in the project area. Thus, no further analysis is required in the EIR.

- f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?**

No Impact. The closest heliport to the project site is the Foothill Presbyterian Hospital Heliport, approximately three miles east of the project site in the City of Glendora. Implementation of the project would have no impact on the safety of people residing or working in the project area, or put them at risk of safety hazards associated with private airstrips. No further analysis is required in the EIR.

- g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?**

No Impact. The County of Los Angeles has eight disaster management areas. The City of Azusa falls within Area D, which comprises 23 cities. The City of Azusa's emergency operations center is at the Azusa City Hall

5. Environmental Analysis

Administration building. The emergency operations center is operated by the city's emergency services division, which is responsible for implementation of the emergency response plan in the event of an emergency, during which all city employees become disaster service workers. The proposed removal of the Old Schoolhouse would not impair or interfere with emergency operations of the City of Azusa. In fact, as public property, the project site could be used as an additional evacuation area in the event of an emergency. There would be no impacts, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?

No Impact. The northern portion of the City of Azusa is in a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone (VHFHSZ) (Azusa 2015). The project site, however, does not fall within the VHFHSZ. It is within an area categorized as a Non-VHFHSZ by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. Implementation of the proposed project would have no impact, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

5.9 HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

Would the project:

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?			X	
b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g. the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?				X
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner, which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?			X	
d) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner, which would result in flooding on- or off-site?			X	
e) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned storm water drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?			X	
f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?				X

5. Environmental Analysis

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
g) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?				X
h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?				X
i) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?				X
j) Expose people or structures to inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?				X

Comments:

a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?

Less Than Significant Impact. Construction equipment and activities could generate the following pollutants that could drain into the local storm drain system: trash and debris, oil and grease, sediments, oxygen-demanding substances, nutrients, heavy metals, pesticides, and organic compounds. As a part of the proposed project, the District would comply with local, state, and federal regulations to prevent construction impacts on stormwater runoff and to ensure that water quality standards are not compromised. The District would implement BMPs specified in the “California Storm Water Best Management Practice Handbook for Municipal, Industrial/Commercial and Construction Activity.” These may include covering all demolition material and waste, developing and implementing a spill recovery prevention/recovery plan, using water trucks to prevent dust emissions, and properly managing and maintaining vehicles and equipment.

The project would cap utility systems and would not result in waste discharge impacts. The landscaping option would increase pervious surfaces that would absorb surface runoff and reduce pollutant loads entering offsite stormwater facilities. The parking lot option would replace approximately 5,000 feet of unmaintained landscape with paving and new landscaping. However, the majority of the existing landscaped area is currently used for parking, and operation of the project site would not substantially change from existing conditions; the site would continue to be used for parking and would experience similar pollutant loads as under existing conditions. Therefore, impacts to water quality would be similar to existing conditions, and impacts would be less than significant. No further analysis is required in the EIR.

b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?

No Impact. The Old Schoolhouse is supported on wooden posts, and plywood boards enclose the crawl space between the ground and the building. Removal of the structure would increase the amount of pervious surfaces and consequently the recharge rate. No groundwater would be used for the project, and project implementation under the landscaping and parking lot options would not require excavation activities that

5. Environmental Analysis

would extend into the groundwater table. No impact would occur, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

- c) **Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner, which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?**

Less Than Significant Impact. Project implementation under both options would alter the existing drainage of the site but would not alter the course of a stream or river. Construction of the proposed improvements would be conducted using BMPs that would reduce impacts associated with erosion and siltation (see section 5.8[a]). Operation of the site under the landscaping option would result in an increase in pervious surfaces that would absorb surface runoff and reduce on- and offsite erosion and siltation impacts. The parking lot option would reduce exposed soil by paving over existing exposed surfaces with asphalt and installation of landscaping, thereby reducing potential for erosion or siltation impacts. Runoff would continue to be directed to existing drainage facilities. Project implementation would result in a less than significant impact to erosion and siltation, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

- d) **Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner, which would result in flooding on- or off-site?**

Less Than Significant Impact. Implementation of either project option would alter the existing drainage of the site. Installation of landscape would result in an increase in pervious surfaces that would absorb surface runoff and reduce the amount of surface runoff; therefore, no on- or offsite flooding impacts would occur. Implementation of the parking lot option would increase impervious surfaces by approximately 5,000 square feet compared to existing conditions. However, the proposed parking lot would include landscaping, and surface runoff would continue to be directed to existing drainage facilities. There are no streams or rivers onsite, and the proposed improvements would not result in on- or offsite flooding. Therefore, project implementation would result in a less than significant impact, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

- e) **Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned storm water drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?**

Less Than Significant Impact. The proposed landscaping option under the proposed project would increase pervious surfaces and reduce surface runoff compared to existing conditions. The parking lot option would increase approximately 5,000 square feet of impervious surfaces compared to existing conditions. The project site is currently developed with the Old Schoolhouse building, asphalt, and unmaintained landscaping area that is used for parking. Although development of the parking lot would increase the amount of impervious surfaces, there would be landscaping features to collect runoff and reduce volumes from flowing off the school property. Additionally, existing landscaping directly west and north of the project site would serve as a buffer and filter for stormwater runoff. Therefore, impacts to stormwater drainage facilities that would occur as a result of the proposed project would be less than significant, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

5. Environmental Analysis

f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?

No Impact. The proposed project would not result in substantial soil erosion and would not otherwise degrade water quality. The project site is too small to meaningfully affect water quality. No impacts would occur as a result of the proposed project, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

g) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?

No Impact. The project does not propose any housing and is outside the 100-year flood hazard area (FEMA 2008). No impact would occur, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?

No Impact. The project site is in Flood Zone X, which is outside the 500-year floodplain (FEMA 2008). No impact would occur, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

i) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?

No Impact. The closest dam to the project site is the Santa Fe Dam, which is about four miles southwest of the site. Project implementation would not expose people or structures to risks caused by flooding of a dam or levee. No impact would occur, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

j) Expose people or structures to inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?

No Impact. Inundation from a seiche can occur if a wave—typically caused by earth movement—overflows a containment wall of a reservoir, water storage tank, dam, or other artificial body of water. The closest water storage facilities are two reservoirs 1.5 miles north of the project site. Due to the distance and the intervening structures between the reservoirs and the project site, any potential risks from a seiche at these reservoirs would be limited. Also, the project site is about 50 miles inland from the Pacific Ocean, and no slopes are on or near the project site, so the risk of tsunami or mudflow is essentially nonexistent. No impact would occur. No further analysis is required in the EIR.

5. Environmental Analysis

5.10 LAND USE AND PLANNING

Would the project:

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Physically divide an established community?				X
b) Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?				X
c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?				X

Comments:

a) Physically divide an established community?

No Impact. The project is within the boundaries of Slauson Middle School, which is in a residential community. The proposed removal of the Old Schoolhouse would not result in the physical separation of the surrounding community. No impact would occur, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

b) Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?

No Impact. The Old Schoolhouse is not a designated local historic landmark. If the Old Schoolhouse were removed, the project site would be improved with grass or a parking lot as a part of the school. Neither the proposed removal of the structure nor continued use of the project area for school operations would conflict with land use plans, policies, and regulations. No impact would occur, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?

No Impact. See section 5.4(f). The proposed building removal project would not impact any habitat conservation or natural community conservation plans. No further analysis is required in the EIR.

5. Environmental Analysis

5.11 MINERAL RESOURCES

Would the project:

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be a value to the region and the residents of the state?				X
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?				X

Comments:

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

No Impact. The City of Azusa has mapped its mineral resources into four mineral resource zones (MRZ), pursuant to the California Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975.

- **MRZ-1.** Adequate information indicates that no significant mineral deposits are present or likely to be present.
- **MRZ-2.** Adequate information indicates that significant mineral deposits are present or there is a high likelihood for their presence, and development should be controlled.
- **MRZ-3.** The significance of mineral deposits cannot be determined from the available data.
- **MRZ-4.** There is insufficient data to assign any other MRZ designation.

The city of Azusa has active quarry operations at its northwestern edge. The project site is mapped under MRZ-2, but it is not in any of the quarry mining areas and is unavailable for mining due to the surrounding middle school, park, and residential uses. Implementation of the proposed project would not impact availability of a known mineral resource. No further analysis is required in the EIR.

- 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 proposed project would not result in the loss of availability of any mineral resources. The project site is not in a mineral resource recovery site. No impacts would occur, and no further analysis is required.

5. Environmental Analysis

5.12 NOISE

Would the project result in:

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?			X	
b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?			X	
c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?				X
d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?			X	
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?				X
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?				X

Comments:

- a) **Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?**

Less Than Significant Impact. Implementation of the proposed project would require the use of construction equipment for the demolition of the Old Schoolhouse and vehicles for transportation of materials. The District does not have its own noise thresholds, so the City of Azusa's are used for the purposes of this analysis. The City of Azusa uses the Office of Planning and Research's *General Plan Guidelines* to establish acceptable noise levels for exterior community noise:

- **Normally Acceptable.** Specified land use is satisfactory based on the assumption that any buildings involved are of normal conventional construction, without any special noise insulation requirements.
- **Conditionally Acceptable.** New construction or development should be undertaken only after a detailed analysis of the noise reduction requirements and needed noise insulation features are included in the design. Conventional construction with closed windows and fresh air supply systems or air conditioning will normally suffice.

5. Environmental Analysis

- **Normally Unacceptable.** New construction or development should generally be discouraged. If new construction or development does proceed, a detailed analysis of the noise reduction requirements must be made and needed noise insulation features included in the design.
- **Clearly Unacceptable.** New construction or development should generally not be undertaken.

According to the City of Azusa General Plan Noise Element, noise levels affecting school uses in the City of Azusa are normally acceptable at 50 to 65 dBA, conditionally acceptable at 60 to 65 dBA, normally unacceptable at 65 to 75 dBA, and clearly unacceptable at 75 dBA.

Demolition activities would result in limited soil haul and debris removal from the project site. The truck and soil-hauling trips would be negligible compared to the volumes of traffic in the vicinity of the project site and would not substantially increase vehicle noise at the site or the surrounding area. Therefore, construction noise levels at noise receptors along the construction routes would be less than significant.

The greatest noise increases during project construction would be related to the operation of a backhoe, which would generate a maximum noise level of 84 dBA at 50 feet, 79 dBA at 100 feet, and 73 dBA at 200 feet (FHWA 2006). The use of the heaviest equipment would be short term, no more than one or two days during city-permitted construction hours. Due to the proximity of the project site to the nearest noise-sensitive receptors—the closest classroom is 50 feet northwest of the project site and the closest residence is just under 100 feet from the project site—these receptors would experience construction-related noise levels of up to 84 dBA. However, demolition activities would last no more than two days and would occur during permitted hours in the summer when there are few, if any, students on the campus. This would reduce the exposure to sensitive receptors, and construction-related impacts would be considered less than significant.

Operation of the site under the landscaping or parking lot options would generate noise levels similar to those already experienced at the site from students and vehicles. Long-term noise impacts would be less than significant. Therefore, no further analysis is required in the EIR.

b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?

Less Than Significant Impact. Groundborne vibration and noise would primarily be associated with demolition of the Old Schoolhouse structure. The nearest classroom to the project site is 50 feet northwest of the Old Schoolhouse, and the nearest residence is approximately 100 feet to the east. Construction activities would occur during the city's accepted hours for use of construction equipment—from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday to Saturday—and would be short term in nature; therefore, implementation of the proposed project would not expose people to excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels. Impacts would be less than significant, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

5. Environmental Analysis

c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?

No Impact. The proposed use of the site as school lawn or parking would not introduce significant noise levels. The landscaped area would be used by students of Slauson Middle School and by the surrounding community, which would result in noise levels similar to those currently experienced at the campus. The proposed parking lot option would provide parking for employees and delivery services, which already occur at the campus. Therefore, ambient noise levels would be similar to their existing level as a result of the project, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?

Less Than Significant Impact. The proposed removal of the Old Schoolhouse would result in a temporary increase in ambient noise from construction vehicles and equipment. The truck and soil-hauling trips would create noise along the construction routes. However, the noise generated would be negligible compared to the traffic noise levels that already exist in the vicinity of the project site. Demolition activities could generate noise levels of 84 dBA at 50 feet, 79 dBA at 100 feet, and 73 dBA at 200 feet. However, construction noise would occur during the city's acceptable hours and days for use of construction equipment and would be short term, lasting no more than two days. Therefore, the temporary increase in ambient noise levels caused by construction would be considered less than significant, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

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 expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?

No Impact. The closest airport to the project site is the El Monte Airport, 9.5 miles southwest of the project site. The project site does not lie within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, or within an airport land use plan. Additionally, the proposed project would not construct new development that would interfere with airport operations. The proposed project would not impact the safety of people residing or working in the project area; therefore, no further analysis is required in the EIR.

f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?

No Impact. There are no airports or private airstrips within two miles of the project site. The proposed project would not expose people to excessive noise levels from aircraft overflights. No impact would occur, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

5. Environmental Analysis

5.13 POPULATION AND HOUSING

Would the project:

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?				X
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				X
c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				X

Comments:

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

No Impact. Population growth is directly correlated to the development of new homes or businesses. The proposed project does not include the construction of new homes or businesses. The proposed removal of the Old Schoolhouse would not contribute to population growth in the City of Azusa. There would be no impacts, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

- b) **Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?**

No Impact. The proposed project would not displace housing in the area surrounding the project site. The proposed removal of the Old Schoolhouse would have no impact on the displacement or replacement of housing in Azusa. No further analysis is required in the EIR.

- c) **Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?**

No Impact. Implementation of the proposed project would not displace people or create the need for housing elsewhere. There would be no impact, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

5. Environmental Analysis

5.14 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:

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Fire protection?				X
b) Police protection?				X
c) Schools?				X
d) Parks?				X
e) Other public facilities?				X

Comments:

a) Fire protection?

No Impact. The City of Azusa is served by Los Angeles County Fire Department Battalion 16 (Azusa 2015), which provides fire and emergency medical services. The closest fire station is Fire Station #32 at 605 North Angeleno Avenue, about 0.2 mile north of Slauson Middle School. Construction of the proposed improvements may cause a brief increase in the need for fire protection services due to the presence of construction vehicles and the potential for construction-related incidents. However, long-term operation of the site would not require the expansion of or new fire services. No impact would occur, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

b) Police protection?

No Impact. Azusa is serviced by the Azusa Police Department at 725 Alameda Avenue, 0.6 mile northeast of the project site. Construction of the improvements may cause a brief increase in the need for police services due to the presence of construction equipment and the potential for construction-related incidents. However, operation of the site would not require the expansion of or new police services. No impact would occur, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

c) Schools?

No Impact. The project site is on Slauson Middle School. The project would not increase the demand for school services or create a demand for new school facilities. Implementation of the proposed project would have no impact on school facilities, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

5. Environmental Analysis

d) Parks?

No Impact. The proposed project would not contribute to an increase in population and would therefore not generate the need for more parkland. No impact on parks would occur, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

e) Other public facilities?

No Impact. The need for an expansion of existing public facilities or development of new public facilities is frequently correlated with an increase in population. The proposed removal of the Old Schoolhouse would not result in an increase in population for the City of Azusa. There would be no impacts to public facilities. No further analysis is required in the EIR.

5.15 RECREATION

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

Comments:

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

No Impact. The demand for parks most often results from the development of new housing or other development actions that increase population. The proposed removal of the Old Schoolhouse and would not result in an increase to population. Therefore, it would not increase the use of nearby recreational facilities or contribute to their deterioration. No impacts would occur from the implementation of this project. No further analysis is required in the EIR.

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 project does not include recreational facilities nor require additional recreational facilities. No impact would occur, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

5. Environmental Analysis

5.16 TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC

Would the project:

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit?			X	
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?			X	
c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?				X
d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g. sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g. farm equipment)?				X
e) Result in inadequate emergency access?			X	
f) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?				X

Comments:

- a) **Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit?**

Less Than Significant Impact. The proposed removal of the Old Schoolhouse would involve limited construction trips to haul debris away. The few trips generated would have a less than significant impact on the road network. Construction vehicles would likely access the project site via the driveway on West 4th Street, and temporary detours and flagmen may be necessary during construction. However, these are standard procedures. The project site is currently used as a parking lot by employees and delivery services. The proposed parking lot option would not generate additional trips because it would not change the use of the site. Therefore, project impacts on the performance of the circulation system would be negligible, and the project would not have a significant effect on any transportation-related plan, ordinance, or policy. No further analysis is required in the EIR.

5. Environmental Analysis

- 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?**

Less Than Significant Impact. No project trips would be generated after construction, and trips generated during construction activities would be nominal. The project would not conflict with the Los Angeles County Congestion Management Program and would not significantly impact level of service standards, travel demand measures, or other standards. Impacts would be less than significant, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

- c) **Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?**

No Impact. The closest airport to the project site is the El Monte Airport, 9.5 miles southwest of the project site. The proposed project would not interfere with airport operations or affect safety risks. Thus, no further analysis is required in the EIR.

- d) **Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g. sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g. farm equipment)?**

No Impact. The proposed project would not change the design of roadways in the project area nor introduce incompatible uses onto roadways in the project area. No impact would occur, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

- e) **Result in inadequate emergency access?**

Less Than Significant Impact. The project would not affect emergency access. The proposed project would be implemented during the summer of 2018 when school is not in session, and would not alter access to the project site for emergency vehicles. The proposed project would not result in inadequate emergency access, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

- f) **Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?**

No Impact. The proposed project would not increase traffic or alter the design of roadways. The existing roadways near the project site would remain in their current state. Construction activities would be short term in nature and would not impact performance of transit facilities. The proposed project would not conflict with any adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative modes of transportation. No impacts are anticipated to occur, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

5. Environmental Analysis

5.17 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:

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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				X
b) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resource Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.			X	

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

No Impact. The project would remove a structure supported on wooden posts on a developed school site. The structure is not currently registered as a national, California, or local historical resource, although due to its age, it may be eligible for listing on the national and state registers (see 5.5a, *Cultural Resources*). Nevertheless, the project site does not contain tribal landscape nor is it a sacred place. The project site is a part of the Slauson Middle School campus, and removal of the structure and installation of landscaping or a parking lot would not require extensive groundwork that would expose soils beyond what was previously disturbed for development of the school. Therefore, project implementation would not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource. No impact would occur, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

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.

Less Than Significant Impact. A record search for sacred land files by the Native American Heritage Commission concluded with negative results. Additionally, the site was previously graded during construction of the school, and the building is supported on wooden posts with plywood boards enclosing the crawl

5. Environmental Analysis

space between the ground and bottom sill of the building. The project would result in minimal ground disturbance. Consequently, it is very unlikely that Native American tribal resources would be impacted from project implementation. In the unlikely event that tribal resources are uncovered during the proposed removal of the Old Schoolhouse, AUSD would comply with CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(f), which provides that work in that area of the discovery shall halt until a qualified expert can assess the significance of the find, and, if necessary, develop appropriate avoidance and/or recovery. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

5.18 UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS

Would the project:

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Exceed waste water treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?				X
b) Require or result in the construction of new water or waste water treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?				X
c) Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?			X	
d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources or are new or expanded entitlements needed?			X	
e) Result in a determination by the waste water treatment provider, which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?				X
f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?			X	
g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?				X

Comments:

a) Exceed waste water treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?

No Impact. The City of Azusa is part of the Region 4 Los Angeles County Regional Water Quality Control Board and connects to the main trunk lines of District No. 22 of the County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County. The Old Schoolhouse structure is situated on wooden planks and connected to water, electric, and sewer lines. The proposed removal of the Old Schoolhouse would require closure of the wastewater line connection. Installation of landscaping or the development of a parking lot within the

5. Environmental Analysis

site footprint would not result in wastewater generation. The proposed project would have no impact on wastewater treatment requirements, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

- b) Require or result in the construction of new water or waste water treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?**

No Impact. The project would not result in the generation of wastewater. There would be no impact to wastewater treatment facilities, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

- c) Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?**

Less Than Significant Impact. The project does not include construction of new stormwater drainage facilities. Under the landscaping option, the proposed project would increase the amount of pervious area on the project site and would allow more stormwater runoff to percolate into the ground, thereby reducing the impact on stormwater drainage facilities. Implementation of the parking lot option would increase impervious surfaces by approximately 5,000 square feet compared to existing conditions. However, the improvements would include landscaping features that would reduce runoff volumes from the project site. Additionally, there is landscaping directly west and east of the project site that would serve as a filter and buffer for stormwater runoff and would reduce runoff volumes entering offsite storm drains. The project would result in a negligible increase in runoff to offsite drainage facilities; therefore, impacts on stormwater drainage facilities would be negligible and new facilities would not be required. A less than significant impact would occur from project implementation, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

- d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?**

Less Than Significant Impact. The Azusa Light and Water Department provides water to the residents of the city, including the project site. The main source of the city's water is the San Gabriel Groundwater Basin, which is partially beneath the city. When groundwater supplies are insufficient, the city uses water from the San Gabriel River. Under the landscaping option, approximately 1,904 square feet of landscaping would be installed within the footprint of the Old Schoolhouse, which would increase water use. The landscaping would be watered but would comply with local policies and municipal ordinances related to watering hours and volume. The parking lot option would increase water use during construction; however, the project is relatively small, and water use for operation of either project option would not be substantial. The demand for water would not be substantial for either option, and impacts on water supply would be less than significant. No further analysis is required in the EIR.

- e) Result in a determination by the waste water 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?**

No Impact. The proposed project would not result in any new generation of wastewater. Therefore, no impact to the wastewater treatment provider would occur, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

5. Environmental Analysis

f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project’s solid waste disposal needs?

Less Than Significant Impact. Athens Disposal Company is responsible for collecting waste at Slauson Middle School and hauling it to landfills for disposal. Waste is collected and separated, and recyclable waste is taken to the Athens Material Recovery Facility at 14048 East Valley Boulevard in the City of Industry. The remaining nonrecyclable waste is hauled to the Azusa Land Reclamation Facility at 1211 West Gladstone Street in the City of Azusa. The Azusa Land Reclamation Facility has a remaining capacity of 51,512,201 cubic yards (CalRecycle 2017).

The project would not generate any postconstruction waste, and approximately 2,000 square feet of debris associated with the proposed demolition of the Old Schoolhouse would be recycled and or taken to the landfill. Since the amount of waste generated would be minimal, impacts would not be considered significant, and no further analysis is required in the EIR.

g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?

No Impact. AUSD complies with all county and state solid waste diversion, reduction, and recycling mandates, and would do so for the proposed project. No impact to federal, state, or local statutes related to solid waste would occur. No further analysis is required in the EIR.

5.19 MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

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

5. Environmental Analysis

Comments:

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

Potentially Significant Impact. The proposed project would not reduce the habitat, population, or range of a fish or wildlife species or endangered plant or animal species, or threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community. However, implementation of the proposed project would eliminate a potential historical resource that might have contributed to local history. This topic will be assessed further in the EIR.

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

Less Than Significant Impact. There are no known past, current, and probable projects that when combined with the proposed building removal project could result in a cumulative effect on the environment. This issue will not be further analyzed in the EIR.

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

Less Than Significant Impact. The proposed removal of the Old Schoolhouse would not cause substantial adverse effects on human beings. This issue will not be further analyzed in the EIR.

- d) **Does the project have the potential to achieve short-term environmental goals to the disadvantage of long-term environmental goals?**

Less Than Significant Impact. The proposed project might result in a potentially significant environmental impact to a historical resource. The potential removal of the resource, however, would not disadvantage long-term environmental goals. This issue will not be further analyzed in the EIR.

5. Environmental Analysis

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7. List of Preparers

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7. List of Preparers

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