AGENDA

CITY OF CARSON

REGULAR MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

701 East Carson Street, Carson, CA 90745

EXECUTIVE CONFERENCE ROOM, 2ND FLOOR

Wednesday, July 2, 2014

6:30 p.m.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:**

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

3. **ROLL CALL:** Environmental Commissioners: Burr, Hellerud, Hopson, Jimenez, Love, Mack, Muckey, Perry, Taylor

4. **AGENDA POSTING CERTIFICATION:** In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, if you require a disability related modification or accommodation to attend or participate in this meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please call the City Clerk's office at 310-952-1720 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. (Government Code Section 54954.2)

5. **AGENDA APPROVAL:**

6. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:** For items **NOT** on the agenda. Speakers are limited to three minutes.

7. **MINUTES APPROVAL:**
   a. June 4, 2014

8. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
   a. N/A

9. **NEW BUSINESS**
   a. Examples of Other General Plans
   b. List of Specific Recommendations to City Council
   c. Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan Initial Study

10. **WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**
    a. Completion of "Commemorative Polo Shirt Input" (to be provided at the meeting)

11. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**
    a. Audience
    b. Commissioners
    c. Staff
       i. Ethics Training Certificates
       ii. Car2Go in Carson
       iii. Shell Site Tour
       iv. Form 700, Not needed

12. **ADJOURNMENT**

Upcoming Meetings: August 6, September 3, October 1, November 5, December 3

MINUTES
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
June 4, 2014

6:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER: 6:41 pm

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Chairperson Love

ROLL CALL: Planner Saied Naaseh called the roll as follows:

Present: Commissioners: Burr, Hellerud, Hopson, Jimenez, Love, Mack, Muckey, Perry.

Absent: Taylor

Staff Present: Planner Saied Naaseh

SECRETARY'S REPORT

N/A

AGENDA APPROVAL

Approved 8-0

MINUTES APPROVAL

a. May 7, 2014, Approved 8-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. N/A

NEW BUSINESS

a. **General Plan Air Quality Goals, Policies, and Implementation Measures,** Commission concurred that new policies are needed to further the goals of the Commission and suggested: all sizes of particulate matter should be a concern in Carson; toxic releases are also a concern in Carson; City should explore the contents of a Public Health Element in the General Plan; alternative transportation programs should be evaluated in Carson to reduce vehicle trips, transit options should be easier to access such as using apps. Commission also indicated concerns regarding soil and water contamination.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

a. **Kinder Morgan Good Neighbor Agreement in reference to Kinder Morgan, Asthma Allergy Foundation, "Asthma Bus" for LA Unified School District.** Staff provided the requested information to the Commission.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

a. **Audience**, None

b. Commissioners,
   i. Requested staff to provide a copy of the "Survey" to be used at the May 16th event.
   ii. Requested update on the HERO program

c. Staff
   i. **Shell CRP Comments,** Staff informed the Commission that their comments were provided to City Council members and Shell. Staff informed the Commission that Shell would like to attend one of the Commission meeting s to provide a presentation.
   ii. **Community Outreach Ideas**, Commission discussed future projects such as City events.
   iii. **Ethics Training Certificate for Commissioners Mack and Taylor,** Certificates were yet not issued by the City Clerk's office. They will be distributed at the next meeting.
   i. **New City badges for Commissioners,** Badges were distributed.

AJOURNMENT

At 8:05 pm, the meeting was adjourned to July 2, 2014, 6:30 pm.

_____
CHAIRPERSON LOVE

ATTEST:

_____
SAIED NAASEH, ASSOCIATE PLANNER

CITY OF CARSON

STAFF COMMUNICATION TO
THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

NEW BUSINESS July 2, 2014

SUBJECT: Examples of General Plans from Other Cities

REQUEST: Review, discuss, and provide feedback on desirable General Plan Elements, Goals, and Policies

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I. Introduction

The Commission expressed an interest in exploring General Plan goals and policies that deal with various topics that would further the Commission's Mission Statement and goals which were adopted in 2013:

Goals:

- Provide Environmental Leadership
- Encourage Community Involvement
- Offer Educational Opportunities

Mission Statement:

- Guiding a sustainable future for Carson through environmental awareness, and education to enhance the quality of life for residents.

II. Background

On June, 4, 2014, staff provided the commission with some information regarding the City's General Plan. A General Plan is a comprehensive long-range planning tool that is used to guide the growth of the community. In addition, the General Plan's goals, policies, and implementation measures are used by staff, commissions, and City Council to formulate policy.

III. Analysis

Planning Division's intern, Sarah Oliveira, has researched other model General Plans that have been updated recently. Specifically, the General Plans' for Riverside County, Marin County, City of Fullerton, and City of Richmond were reviewed. The elements researched include Public Health, Transportation, Sustainability/Energy, and Fiscal Responsibility. The Commission is encouraged to review the attachment and highlight the language that they believe could be applied in Carson. It should be noted that these are General Plan goals and policy and are broad. Further

implementation measures need to be developed to implement these goals and policies.

IV. Recommendation

Review, discuss, and provide feedback on desirable General Plan Elements, Goals, and Policies.

V. Exhibits

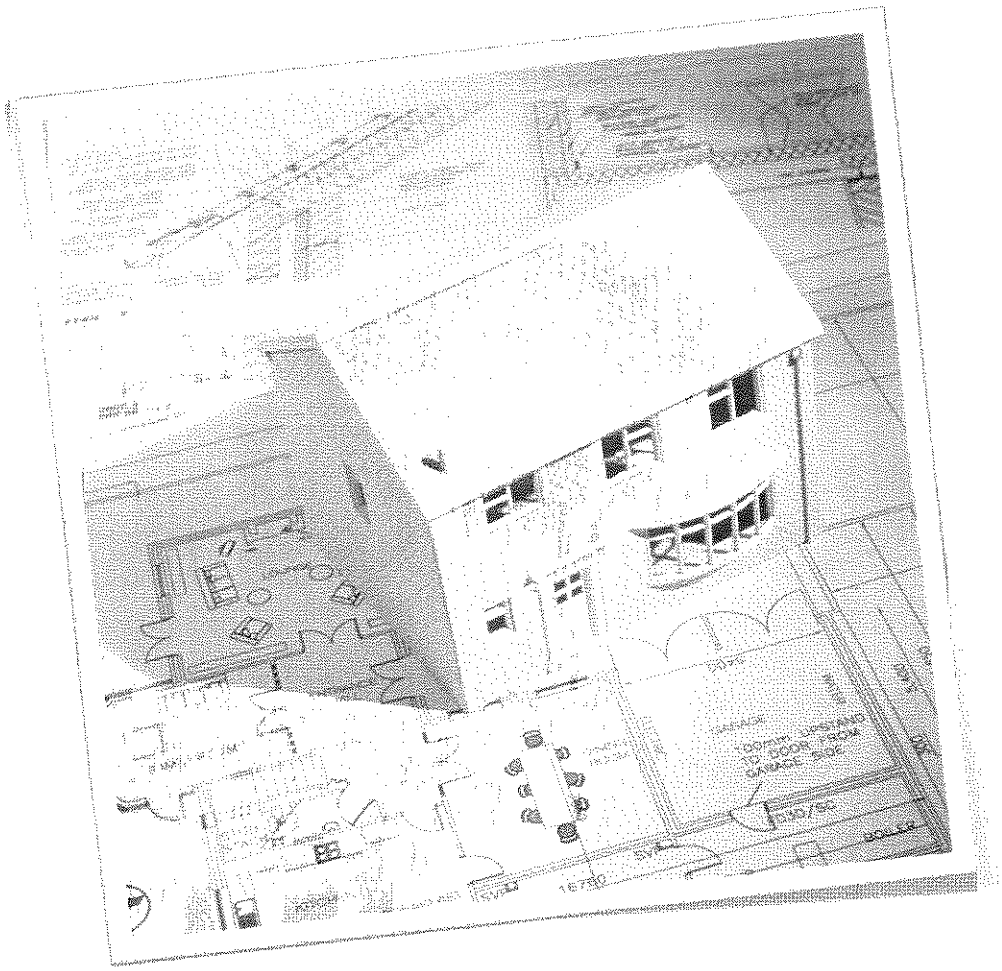
1. General Plan Research Report

Prepared by: _____

Saied Naaseh, Associate Planner

RESEARCH REPORT

Prepared for:	**Saied Naaseh**
Prepared by:	**Sarah Oliveira**
Date:	**6/23/14**
Research Topic:	**General Plan and Study overview**



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Riverside County General Plan- Ch. 10 Healthy Communities Element
Adopted March 23, 2011

Though at a county level, Riverside County General Plan offers Carson a look at the beginning of an element geared towards the health of its citizens. The Healthy Communities Element has several broad goals that are necessary as this is the first chapter of its kind in Riverside. Policies offer avenues to meet goals but lack a valued set of criteria, steps, or measuring tools. A discussion of indicators serves as a first step in being able to quantify the success of the element. However, specific indicators are not outlined in detail.

The sub-topics within the Element cover a wide range of health aspects of the community ranging from transportation to social capital. This comprehensive evaluation of all the pieces of public health help to solidify this Element as a Best Practice[1] to be emulated. The California Planning Roundtable acknowledges several applications for this plan's vision. First, public health project review comments are given the same weight as other department comments (e.g. Transportation, Public Works, Parks) during the entitlements process.[2] Secondly, a Health Impact Assessment is, "currently being considered for a major project for the first time. The Assessment goes beyond the CEQA process, which adds an important health dimension that helps identify and develop mitigation measures (e.g. related to walkability) to protect human health".[3]

A challenge in the creation of this element came from the County staff preferring that there were more prescriptive policies, e.g. more "shalls" than "shoulds" throughout. Still, the staff recognizes that this element is new and created no fiscal impacts. A lesson to be learned is that, "because healthy planning was new for the County, and a new policy area for most planners, it was important that the Element had broad support".[4]
The Element has a general focus on, "social capital, access to healthy foods and nutrition, health care and mental health, recreational centers and day care centers."[5] Health Indicators provided at the beginning of the chapter, "document the current health of the residents in a measureable manner so that as changes are adopted and the environmental changes progress toward achieving health goals can be monitored at the population level."[6] No specific indicators or data were provided in this section. The following are key goals and policies that stood out within the Riverside County Plan.

GOAL HC2[7] Countywide Land Uses. Encourage a built environment that promotes physical activity and access to healthy foods while reducing driving and pollution by:

2.1a Promoting the use of survey tools such as Health Impact Assessments, Development Application Health Checklist, or other tools the County deems effective to evaluate the impacts of development on public health.

2.1b Directing new growth to existing urbanized areas while reducing new growth in undeveloped areas of the County.

HC 2.2 Promote increased physical activity, walking, cycling and public transit, and reduced driving:

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[1] California Planning Roundtable. 1/21/2014. Reinventing the General Plan. Riverside County Great Model Report. Pp.7 <www.reinventingthegeneralplan.org/models/> Accessed 6/10/14
[2] Ibid.
[3] Ibid.
[4] Ibid.
[5] County of Riverside 3/23/2011. County of Riverside General Plan. Chapter 10: Pp. 3
[6] Ibid.
[7] County of Riverside 3/23/2011. County of Riverside General Plan. Chapter 10. Pp. 4

2.2a Requiring where appropriate the development of compact development patterns that are pedestrian and bicycle friendly.
2.2b Increasing opportunities for active transportation (walking and biking) and transit use.

A Health Impact Assessment helps evaluate the potential health effects of a plan, project, or policy before it is built or implemented.[8] The process takes into consideration input from different stakeholders to determine possible side effects and corresponding solutions. Monitoring and evaluating the assessment and changes to the plan are an important step in assuring public health. No other plans with this report address a Health Impact Assessment.

Health Impact Assessment is a structured method for assessing and improving the health consequences of projects and policies in the *non-health sector*.
- It is a multidisciplinary process combining a range of qualitative and quantitative evidence in a decision-making framework
- Benefits include improved interagency collaboration and public participation
- Limitations include a lack of agreed methods and gaps in the evidence base for health impacts

*U.S. National Library of Medicine
National Institutes of Health

GOAL HC3[9] Community Development Areas. Live/work location with access to jobs, housing, and services to achieve mobility, open space, and increase air quality. Where Appropriate:
HC 3.1 Require high-density, mixed use development near existing and proposed high use transit centers.
HC 3.3 Require pedestrian-oriented design that encourages the use of bicycles and walking as alternatives to driving and increases levels of physical activity.

GOAL HC 6[10] Healthy transportation system. Coordinate with transportation service providers and transportation planning entities to improve access to multi-modal transportation options throughout the County, including public transit.

GOAL HC 8[11] Social Capital. Promote development patterns and policies that:
HC 8.1b Encourage the improvement of vacant properties and the reinvestment in neighborhoods.

At this time there is no action plan describing transportation planning involvement. High-density, mixed-use, and infill development becomes a theme within these General Plans as a piece of the solution for public health, efficient transportation, and energy saving measures.

GOAL HC 11[12] Access to healthy foods and nutrition
HC 11.1 Improve access to fresh fruit, vegetables, and other healthy foods by encouraging a mix of food establishments that offer healthy food choices.

Though less comprehensive than the plans to follow, Riverside offers a first look at a new chapter in the search for better public health. As a template for Carson, this plan can be emulated and expanded upon for the creation of Carson's own chapter.

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[8] Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. 1/3/2014. "Health Impact Assessment". Atlanta, GA. <www.cdc.gov/healthyplaces/hia.htm> Accessed 6/18/14.
[9] County of Riverside 3/23/2011. County of Riverside General Plan. Chapter 10. Pp. 5
[10] County of Riverside 3/23/2011. County of Riverside General Plan. Chapter 10. Pp. 7
[11] County of Riverside 3/23/2011. County of Riverside General Plan. Chapter 10: Pp. 8
[12] County of Riverside 3/23/2011. County of Riverside General Plan. Chapter 10. Pp. 11

Marin County Plan- Adopted November 6, 2007

Ultimately, this document serves as one large 'sustainable action plan' and includes all of the required general plan elements but reorganizes them in a way that targets sustainable methods and integrates them completely into the county. The plan provides a comprehensive report on the current environmental setting within the county in all facets. Each major goal receives a "why is this important" section following an explanation of environmental, equitable, and economical impacts. Implementation steps are listed as well as a follow up on the program, responsible parties, potential funding, priority, and time frame.

An interesting addition to this report is the section for addressing how to read the Countywide Plan for residents and others. Due to the complex nature of the document, the County provides an overview of the organization so that it is simpler to navigate. Most of the implementation categories include a step that aims to provide public information, marketing, training, and education to support the various measures or programs being presented. The California Planning Roundtable noted several strong features, including specific benchmarks, the ability to evaluate progress, and the clear interconnection of topics.[13] Given the means and support, all cities and counties can strive for the creation of a County Plan such as this.

PUBLIC HEALTH

AG-3.a[14] Encourage Community Gardens. Allow community gardens on County property that is underutilized or where such use would complement current use, and amend the Development Code to require space for on-site community gardens in new residential developments of 10+ units.

CD-5.1[15] Assign Financial Responsibility for Growth. Require new development to pay its fair share of the cost of public facilities, services, and infrastructure.

TRANSPORTATION

GOAL AIR-3[16] Reduction of Vehicle-Generated Pollutants.

AIR-3.a Support Voluntary Employer-Based Trip Reduction. Provide assistance to regional and local sharing organizations, and advocate legislation to maintain and expand employer sharing incentives, such as tax deductions or credits.

AIR-3.b Promote new technologies and other incentives, such as allowing zero or partial zero emission vehicles rated at <45 miles per gallon in carpool lanes.

GOAL DES-2[17] Transit-Oriented Development.

DES-2.1 Concentrate commercial and medium to high density residential development near activity centers that can be served efficiently by public transit and alternative transportation modes.

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[13] California Planning Roundtable. 2007. Reinventing the General Plan. Marin Countywide Plan, Great Model Report. Pp.1 <www.reinventingthegeneralplan.org/models/> Accessed 6/10/14

[14] Marin County 11/6/2007. Marin Countywide Plan. The Built Environment Element: Agriculture and Food. Pp 2-169. <www.marincounty.org/depts/cd/divisions/planning/2007-marin-countywide-plan> Accessed 6/12/14

[15] Marin County 11/6/2007. Marin Countywide Plan. The Built Environment Element: Community Development. Pp 3-27. <www.marincounty.org/depts/cd/divisions/planning/2007-marin-countywide-plan> Accessed 6/12/14

[16] Marin County 11/6/2007. Marin Countywide Plan. The Natural Systems and Agriculture Element: Atmosphere and Climate. Pp 2-101. <www.marincounty.org/depts/cd/divisions/planning/2007-marin-countywide-plan> Accessed 6/12/14

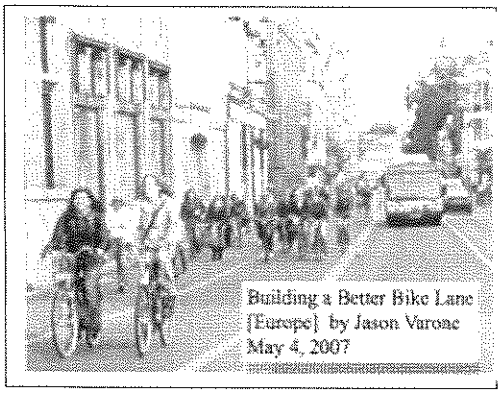
[17] Marin County 11/6/2007. Marin Countywide Plan. The Built Environment Element: Community Design. Pp 3-60. <www.marincounty.org/depts/cd/divisions/planning/2007-marin-countywide-plan> Accessed 6/12/14

Currently, there are transit options located within Carson that connect to destinations (such as DTLA) but the newer commercial and mixed-use development projects are becoming condensed along Carson St. several blocks away from the transit stop, limiting the accessibility of riders to those centers of living and consuming.

GOAL TR-1.c[18] Work with local, State, and federal governments, businesses, schools, seniors, and environmental groups to encourage use of transit, vanpools, carpools, car sharing, bicycles, and walking, including providing incentives to employers, commuters, and recreational users to support these transportation alternatives.

TR-1.i Amend the Development Code and work with cities and towns to allow reduced automobile parking requirements for projects that participate in subsidy programs for transit riders or provide direct access to multimodal transit hubs.

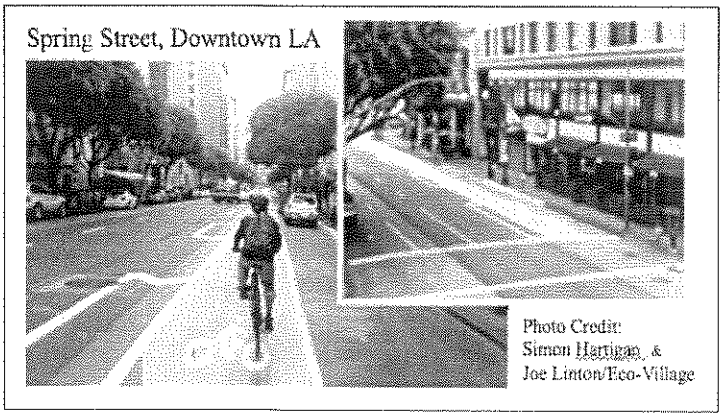
TR-2.2 Provide New Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities. Where appropriate, require new development to provide trails or roadways and paths for use by bicycles and/or on-street bicycle and pedestrian facilities. In-lieu fees may be accepted if warranted in certain cases.


Building a Better Bike Lane [Europe] by Jason Varone May 4, 2007

Bike racks offer a simple and low-cost benefit for bicycle riders in all areas. Having several locations where a rider is able to lock their bike with ease and gain access to the commercial locations within close proximity can increase the likelihood of ridership in said areas. Large sidewalks without bike racks remain unfriendly to riders and deter their use of the space.

TR-2.h Encourage Innovative Bicycle Lane Design. Where feasible, consider using techniques and ideas employed in other communities throughout Europe and the United States, such as colored bike lanes, signage, lighting, and other safety features.

Dedicated bicycle lanes create a safer environment for the riders and an easier view for auto drivers. Taking the lanes a step further by adding color to the lanes increases the perceived safety of their use. According to the Federal Highway Administration, bicyclists tend to position themselves, "more accurately as they travel across intersections," and "feel safer when the green colored pavement is present".[19]



[18] Marin County 11/6/2007. Marin Countywide Plan. The Built Environment Element: Transportation. Pp 3-151. <www.marincounty.org/depts/cd/divisions/planning/2007-marin-countywide-plan> Accessed 6/12/14

[19] Lindey, Jeffery A. (2011). "Memorandum: Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices." Federal Highway Administration. U.S. Department of Transportation. <http://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov/resources/interim_approval/ia14/ia14grnpmbiketlanes.pdf> Accessed 4/28/14

SUSTAINABILITY/ENERGY

GOAL AIR-4[20] Minimization of Contributions to Greenhouse Gases.

AIR-4.a Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions Resulting from Energy Use in Buildings. Implement energy efficiency programs and use of renewable energy

AIR-5.1 Determine [Marin]-Specific Climate Change. Participate in research that examines the effects of climate change on human and natural systems.

AIR-5.2 Prepare Response Strategies for Impacts, that aid systems in adapting to climate change based on sound scientific understanding of the potential impacts.

GOAL EN-1[21] Decreased Energy Use.

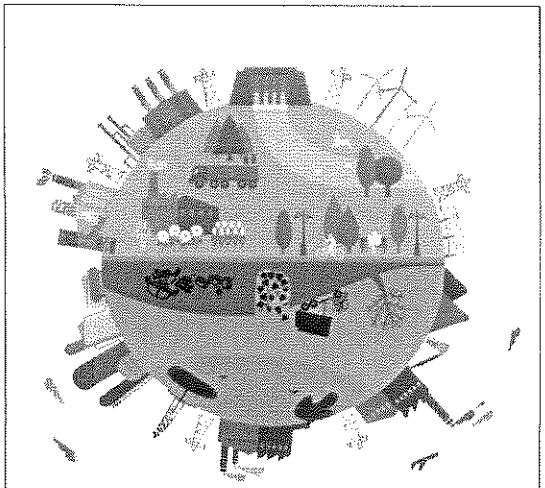
EN-1.1 Integrate energy efficiency and conservation requirements that exceed State standards into the development review and building permit process.

EN-1.2 Continue to offer incentives such as expedited permit processing, reduced fees, and technical assistance to encourage energy efficiency technology and practices.

EN-1.a Integrate sustainable energy resource planning and program implementation into long-range and current planning functions. Establish and maintain a process to implement, evaluate, and modify existing programs.

EN-1.b Adopt energy efficiency standards for new and remodeled buildings; Ordinance[22]

EN-1.d Consider requiring energy efficiency inspections, disclosure, and retrofits for existing residential and commercial buildings upon substantial remodel at change of ownership based on cost-effective and commercially available energy efficiency measures.



*GLACIAL ENERGY

GOAL EN-2[23] Increased Renewable Resource Use.

EN-2.3 Promote Renewable Energy. Facilitate renewable technologies through streamlined planning and development rules, codes, processing, and other incentives.

EN-2.a Use GIS to map and assess local renewable resources, the electric and gas transmission and distribution system, community growth areas anticipated to require new energy services, and other data useful to deployment of renewable technologies.

EN-2.b Identify possible sites for production of energy using local renewable resources such as solar, wind, small hydro, biogas, and tidal. Evaluate potential land use, environmental, economic, and other constraints affecting their development; and adopt measures to protect those resources, such as utility easement, right-of-way,

[20] Marin County 11/6/2007. Marin Countywide Plan. The Natural Systems and Agriculture Element: Atmosphere and Climate. Pp 2-102. <www.marincounty.org/depts/cd/divisions/planning/2007-marin-countywide-plan> Accessed 6/12/14

[21] Marin County 11/6/2007. Marin Countywide Plan. The Built Environment Element: Energy and Green Building. Pp 3-82. <www.marincounty.org/depts/cd/divisions/planning/2007-marin-countywide-plan> Accessed 6/12/14

[22] Marin County Single Family Dwelling Energy Efficiency Ordinance; new and remodeled homes larger than 3,500 square feet comply through energy efficiency techniques and/or use of renewable energy.

[23] Marin County 11/6/2007. Marin Countywide Plan. The Built Environment Element: Energy and Green Building. Pp 3-85. <www.marincounty.org/depts/cd/divisions/planning/2007-marin-countywide-plan> Accessed 6/12/14

and land set-asides.

EN-2.c Protect Solar Access. Continue to require the protection of passive or active solar design elements and systems from shading by neighboring structures and trees.

EN-2.d Identify and remove regulatory or procedural barriers to producing renewable energy in building and development codes, design guidelines, and zoning ordinances. Work with related agencies such as fire, water, and health that may impact the use of alternative technologies.

EN-2.e Provide incentives, such as fee reductions and expedited processing, for facilities that use renewable sources for energy production. Work with State and federal agencies to secure tax exemptions, tax rebates, or other financial incentives for such facilities.

EN-2.f Use Renewable Energy in County Facilities. Continue to develop and employ renewable energy and clean generation technologies such as solar, wind, biogas, tidal, cogeneration, and fuel cells to power County facilities using tax-free low-interest loans and other available financial options. Evaluate the feasibility of purchasing renewable energy certificates to reduce Marin County government's contribution to greenhouse gas emissions.

EN-2.g Explore Community Choice Aggregation. Evaluate and pursue implementation of CCA if it proves to be a cost-effective and low-risk strategy to accelerate the use of renewable energy resources.

EN-2.i Evaluate and implement as feasible local government financing options such as low-interest loans, pooled project financing, and joint ventures with other agencies with financing authority, such as the water districts.

Community Choice Aggregation, abbreviated **CCA**, is a system (neither a company nor an organization) adopted into law in the states of MA, OH, CA, NJ, RI, and IL, which allows cities and counties to aggregate the buying power of individual customers within a defined jurisdiction in order to secure alternative energy supply contracts on a community-wide basis, but allowing consumers not wishing to participate to opt-out.

GOAL EN-3[24] Adopt Green Building Standards.

EN-3.1 Initiate Green Building Initiatives. Encourage and over time increasingly require sustainable resource use and construction with nontoxic materials.

EN-3.2 Offer Effective Incentives. Continue to offer incentives that encourage green building practices.

The Marin County Plan provides substantial data and analysis to support each of the goals and subsequent polities. Creating and using the information gathered over all facets of the plan help to integrate the elements and enhance the understanding of interconnectedness between topics.

[24] Marin County 11/6/2007. Marin Countywide Plan. The Built Environment Element: Energy and Green Building. Pp 3-88. <www.marincounty.org/depts/cd/divisions/planning/2007-marin-countywide-plan> Accessed 6/12/14

The Fullerton Plan- Adopted May 1, 2012

The Plan Part II is divided into 4 elements, the built environment, the economy, the community, and the natural environment. Within each there are goals and policies to follow at the regional/sub region level, city level, neighborhood/district level, and project level. The Fullerton Plan takes on a different approach to plan organization. Instead of highlighting indicators and implementation strategies following each goal, as with Marin, the Fullerton Plan has a separate Part III of the plan dedicated to 'Indicators' and 'Action Plans'. The policies following each goal do not directly link up with the short-term action plan elements. Instead of each policy having its own section within the Action Plan, the subject lines are altered to Element/Goal/Action. For instance, Goal 9, Policy 9.2 discusses staff participation in organizations, however the Action Plan for item 9.2 is the "Buy Local" Ordinance, which falls within the Policy 9.2 description but does not match up directly. This makes finding the policy and corresponding action plan difficult. The Part III implementation section of this plan is where the policies begin to break down into actionable steps and dictates which agency is responsible for that action.

The following section, *Key Implementation Tools,* discusses zoning, specific plans, design guidelines, capital improvement programs, and application packages that will be utilized for the primary goals of the plan. Unlike the Marin Countywide Plan, the Fullerton Plan separates the implementation strategy of the goals and creates a new category for all these techniques to be listed in the same location. This method is clear and organized for the comprehension of general plan implications but lacks the structure for adequately addressing policies and individual goals in terms of unique implementation of each goal and policy.

PUBLIC HEALTH

Element 3; Goal 14[25] An environment with opportunities for community health and wellbeing

- P14.2 Healthy Living. Support policies, projects, programs and regulations that result in changes to the physical environment to improve health, well-being and physical activity.
- P14.3 Farmers' Markets. Support programs that facilitate successful farmers' markets at appropriate and convenient locations throughout the City.
- P14.4 Community Gardens. Support policies, projects, programs and regulations that encourage community gardens that are operated and managed by local volunteers and that provide for small-scale local food production in areas convenient to residents.
- P14.9 Healthy Buildings. Support policies, projects, programs and regulations that encourage buildings to support the health of occupants and users by using non-toxic building materials and finishes, using windows and design features to maximize natural light and ventilation, and providing access to the outdoor environment.

Encouraging healthy buildings for the sake of the occupants is unique to this plan. Generally, plans include the support of green building design and LEED certification but do not specifically mention non-toxic materials for the benefit of indoor air quality. Fullerton has also implemented the Healthy Eating Active Living (HEAL) Cities Campaign, a statewide community based prevention program that Carson also adopted on April 17th, 2012. Utilizing this program should aid Carson in increasing public health across the city.

[25] Fullerton 5/1/2012. The Fullerton Plan. Element 3: The Fullerton Community Pp 78. <www.cityoffullerton.com/depts/dev_serv/general_plan_update/the_fullerton_plan.asp > Accessed 6/12/14

TRANSPORTATION

Element 1; Goal 5[26] Promotion of transportation alternatives that enable mobility

P5.7 Complete Streets. Support projects, programs, policies and regulations to maintain a balanced multi-modal transportation network that meets the needs of all users of the streets, roads and highways.

P5.8 Maximization of Person-Trips. Support programs, policies and regulations to plan for and implement an efficient transportation network that maximizes capacity for person-trips, not just vehicle-trips.

Element 1; Goal 6[27] Creation of bicycle-friendly streets for all people

P6.4 Bicyclist Use on All Streets. Support projects, programs, policies and regulations to recognize that every street in Fullerton is a street that a bicyclist can use.

P6.12 Bicycle Parking and Facilities. Support projects, programs, policies, and regulations to provide convenient bicycle parking and other bicycle facilities in existing and potential high demand locations within the City.

SUSTAINABILITY/ENERGY

Element 4; Goal 22[28] Participation in regional efforts to address climate change and its local impacts.

P 22.7 Climate Adaptation. Support projects, programs, policies and regulations to address climate change impacts relevant to the City as an inland community, including increases in average and extreme temperature, decreased annual precipitation, more flooding during El Niño seasons, increased power outages and higher levels of smog.

P22.8 Sustainable Communities Strategies. Support projects, programs, policies and regulations to coordinate future community-based planning efforts of the Focus Areas for consistency with the SCAG Sustainable Communities Strategy and Orange County Sustainable Communities Strategy.

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

Element 2; Goal 9[29] Fiscal strength and responsibility

P9.2 Staff Participation in Organizations. Support policies and programs for allowing key City staff to actively participate with economic development organizations so that the City is informed of economic development efforts, opportunities to promote a business friendly environment are identified, and the City's interests are represented.

9.2 With in the Short-Term Action Plan.[30] "Buy Local" Ordinance designed to explore the creation of a buying local ordinance to encourage City departments to purchase goods and services from local businesses to take advantage of the multiplier effect of spending dollars within the economy.

Goal nine is specifically focused on the creation and sustainability of, "long-term fiscal strength and stability that has a foundation in local economic assets and adapts to dynamic market conditions", through strategies such as user fees for services, technology investment, privatization of services, capital improvement planning, and cross-sector alliances.

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[26]Fullerton 5/1/2012. The Fullerton Plan. Element 1: The Fullerton Built Environment. Pp 50. <www.cityoffullerton.com/depts/dev_serv/general_plan_update/the_fullerton_plan.asp > Accessed 6/12/14

[27]Fullerton 5/1/2012. The Fullerton Plan. Element 1: The Fullerton Built Environment Pp 50. <www.cityoffullerton.com/depts/dev_serv/general_plan_update/the_fullerton_plan.asp > Accessed 6/12/14

[28]Fullerton 5/1/2012. The Fullerton Plan. Element 4: The Fullerton Natural Environment Pp 105. <www.cityoffullerton.com/depts/dev_serv/general_plan_update/the_fullerton_plan.asp > Accessed 6/12/14

[29]Fullerton 5/1/2012. The Fullerton Plan. Element 2: The Fullerton Economy Pp 60. <www.cityoffullerton.com/depts/dev_serv/general_plan_update/the_fullerton_plan.asp > Accessed 6/12/14

[30] Fullerton 5/1/2012. The Fullerton Plan. PART III: The Fullerton Implementation Strategy Pp 231 <www.cityoffullerton.com/civicax/filebank/blobdload.aspx?blobid=7510> Accessed 6/12/14

Richmond General Plan 2030- Adopted April 25, 2012

Each chapter of the Richmond General Plan offers an extensive background of the city's current conditions as they relate to each of the major issues. The introduction to the Community Health and Wellness chapter creates a clear picture of Richmond today and how the City plans on addressing current and potential problems. The Energy and Climate Change chapter illustrates the use of energy and GHG generation within the City and how it may be diminished. The Growth Management chapter provides a detailed description of current land use, transportation, and infrastructure. Following this information for all chapters is a set of findings and strategies for potential solutions.

Following the policies presented for each goal is an Action Plan that outlines and describes the programs, plans, and ordinances that will aid in each success. At the end of the chapter, there is a Summary of Implementing Actions that includes the goal and each of the actions listed and described above, the lead agency responsible, and the supporting policies. To end the Health chapter, the plan describes the regulatory framework and provides a description of all the departments and agencies and outlines their key roles. The Energy and Climate Change chapter ends with a description of necessary organizations, plans, programs, and regulations and acts and the federal, state, and local level.

PUBLIC HEALTH

GOAL HW1[31] Improved Access to Parks and Open Space

HW1.1 An Integrated System of Parks, Plazas, Playgrounds and Open Space. The community's current and future needs for quality outdoor space can be met by improving existing parks, creating linear greenways in established neighborhoods, and creating new parks, plazas and open space in new developments. A comprehensive, integrated system should include parks, playgrounds, community greens, greenways and trails. Ensure adequate maintenance of these facilities to encourage safe and active use.

HW1.2 Diverse Range of Park Types and Functions. Regularly review the design and programming of all City parks to expand and diversify uses.

HW1.5 Joint-Use Opportunities. Promote access to non-City operated parks and recreational facilities. Joint-use opportunities serve to more efficiently utilize existing facilities and amenities, host programs in convenient neighborhood locations, better activate community areas so that they are in use during the day and in the evenings and enable the City and partners to share the cost of maintenance, upgrades and improvements for the benefit of the entire community.

Joint Use Opportunity or **Agreement**, is "a formal agreement between two separate government entities- school, city, county- setting forth the terms and conditions for shared use of public properties or facilities". -Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Part of the action plan for Goal 1 is to complete the long-range Parks Master Plan, ensuring that it includes a community needs assessment, identification of long-term goals for the Recreation Department, development of park designs, as well as the prioritization of projects. A key aspect to this plan is insisting on an outline of funding mechanisms and the addition of a Parks Maintenance Plan for park upkeep over time.

Richmond has a Parkland Dedication Ordinance and urges the creation of a Park Dedication Incentive Program for the provision of park space and fees beyond the minimum requirements. In

[31] Richmond 4/25/2012. Richmond General Plan 2030. Chapter 11: Community Health and Wellness. Pp 11.19. <http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/index.aspx?nid=2608> Accessed 6/12/14

addition, the plan calls for public safety design guidelines to assist existing park location to be developed alongside new park dedications. In addition to safety guidelines, the City shall update the street lighting standards to ensure that new public and private development and redevelopment projects, including all public works and capital improvement projects, incorporate pedestrian-scale lighting in the design of streets, parks and public spaces and encourages incentives for existing development to switch out their existing lighting with lighting that is consistent with the City's updated standards.

GOAL HW2[32] Expanded Access to Healthy Food and Nutritious Choices

HW2.1 Quality Food. Promote the availability of fresh fruits and vegetables and quality foods, especially in low-income and underserved neighborhoods.

The action plan for this Goal includes a Healthy Store Incentives Program, which promotes the stocking of healthier food options in convenience stores and others of similar size to target neighborhood that lack sufficient access. The plan also identifies key steps in the creation of urban agriculture locations involving the collaboration between groups and allocating resources to areas in need.

Urban Agriculture

Maya Donelson tends the rooftop garden of Glide Memorial Church in San Francisco. Photo Credit: Peter DaSilva for The New York Times

GOAL HW8[33] Improved Safety in Neighborhoods and Public Spaces

HW8.1 Invest in improvements to public facilities that provide social, economic and community benefits in underserved neighborhoods.

HW8.2 Activated Streets and Safe Public Spaces. Promote active use of public spaces in neighborhoods and commercial areas at all times of day to provide "eyes-on-the-street." Provide an appropriate mix of uses, high-quality design and appropriate programming of uses to facilitate natural surveillance in public spaces. Improve the sense of safety for potential users by providing and maintaining amenities and services.

TRANSPORTATION

GOAL HW4[34] Safe and Convenient Walking and Bicycling

HW4.3 Explore innovative solutions such as bicycle-sharing programs and encourage businesses, schools and residential developments to provide secure bicycle parking to ensure that these ecologically-friendly, low-impact transportation modes are available to all community members.

HW4.5 Complete Streets. Promote mixed-use urban streets that balance public transit, walking and bicycling with other modes of travel.

Steps to ensure safe accessibility include the Community Access and Mobility Criteria for capital improvement projects and new developments to address walking, bicycling, public transit, as well as vehicular access. In addition, streetscape improvements shall be continued for safety as well as aesthetics. Richmond included the expansion of the Green Streets Program as well as the Street Design Standards into the plan for a sustainable approach to storm water drainage, groundwater recharge, and landscaping.

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[32] Richmond 4/25/2012. Richmond General Plan 2030. Chapter 11: Community Health and Wellness. Pp 11.26. <http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/index.aspx?nid=2608> Accessed 6/12/14

[33] Richmond 4/25/2012. Richmond General Plan 2030. Chapter 11: Community Health and Wellness. Pp 11.48. <http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/index.aspx?nid=2608> Accessed 6/12/14

[34] Richmond 4/25/2012. Richmond General Plan 2030. Chapter 11: Community Health and Wellness. Pp 11.32. <http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/index.aspx?nid=2608> Accessed 6/12/14

SUSTAINABILITY/ENERGY

GOAL EC 4 Sustainable Development

EC4.1 Mixed-Use and Infill Development. Promote mixed-use infill development on vacant and underutilized parcels along commercial corridors. Support local-serving mixed-use in residential areas to provide needed services and amenities close to where people live and work. Require property owners to comply with and pay for state and federal requirements for site remediation as a condition for approving development on contaminated sites.

EC4.2 Compact Walkable Neighborhoods and Livable Streets. Promote safe and walkable neighborhoods and inter-connected streets through the design of streetscapes, public gathering places and all types of physical development. Provide pedestrian amenities such as sidewalks and street trees, transit and bike improvements, lighting and landscaping and appropriate traffic calming measures to ensure a safe pedestrian environment.

One way to generate infill development is through incentives highlighted within the plan that aim to, "promote new development and redevelopment projects to provide community amenities and uses that serve priority community needs and retain the existing urban limit lines".[35] Details on incentives were not explicitly described within the plan but are included for the generation of said incentives in the near future.

An interesting way that Richmond attempts to create a sustainable development is through the creation of a Green Business Strategic Plan. This strategic plan would be created in conjunction with local business support agencies and community stakeholders to support "green" companies as Richmond is declared a "Green Economic Development Area"

GOAL HW10[36] Green and Sustainable Development Practices

HW10.2 Green Buildings and Landscaping. Require energy and resource efficient buildings and landscaping in all public and private development projects. Encourage the use of green and sustainable development standards and practices in planning, design, construction and renovation of facilities; pro- mote the use of green streets that incorporate extensive landscaping, pervious surfaces and native planting; encourage new development and redevelopment projects to be LEED-certified green buildings; and promote ecologically-sensitive approaches to landscaping.

HW 10.4/EC3.1 Renewable Energy. Promote the generation, transmission and use of a range of renewable energy sources such as solar, wind power, and waste energy to meet current and future demand and encourage new development and redevelopment projects to generate a portion of their energy needs through renewable sources.

To actively address many of the aspects of this goal, the plan calls for the creation of a Climate Action Plan using baseline information and periodic updates. The plan also requires that newly constructed or renovated City-owned and private buildings and structures comply with the City's adopted Green Building Ordinances. Importantly, the City is to periodically upgrade requirements as mainline construction practices develop and new materials and building products become available. The Renewable Energy Program encourages and supports the generation, transmission and use of locally distributed renewable energy. The plan urges the advocacy at the regional and state level for upgrades to the existing power grid so that it can support renewable energy production and transmission.

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[35] Richmond 4/25/2012. Richmond General Plan 2030. Chapter 8: Energy and Climate Change. Pp 8.29. <http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/index.aspx?nid=2608> Accessed 6/12/14

[36] Richmond 4/25/2012. Richmond General Plan 2030. Chapter 11: Community Health and Wellness. Pp 11.61. <http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/index.aspx?nid=2608> Accessed 6/12/14

CITY OF CARSON

STAFF COMMUNICATION TO
THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

NEW BUSINESS **July 2, 2014**

SUBJECT: **List of Specific Recommendations to the City Council**

REQUEST: **Discuss and maintain a list of recommendations to the City Council to improve the environment in the City**

I. Introduction

Staff has placed this item on the agenda to allow the Commission to compile a list of issues, policies, and programs that would improve the environment in Carson. After gathering these issues, they can be presented to City Council for further direction.

II. Background

The Commission has expressed an interest to be instrumental in improving the environment in Carson and educate the community. In the past year, the Commission has been active in the community educating the public; however, other than commenting on specific projects, the Commission has not made suggestions to the City Council.

III. Analysis

The City is in the process of negotiating the contract for Chevron Energy to audit all City facilities and recommend improvements that would save water, electricity, and gas. These improvements will potentially lead to reduced emissions and improve the environment.

The City is also working with the South Bay Cities Council of Governments on the Energy Efficiency Climate Action Plan to adopt measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions both with municipal operations and communitywide.

Staff would like the commission to keep a list of all actions that could improve the environment. These activities could be included in these programs or make separate recommendations to the City Council if they do not fit into these programs.

IV. Recommendation

Discuss and maintain a list of recommendations to the City Council to improve the environment in the City

V. Exhibits

1. None

Prepared by: _____

Saied Naaseh, Associate Planner

CITY OF CARSON

STAFF COMMUNICATION TO
THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

NEW BUSINESS July 2, 2014

SUBJECT: **Notice of Preparation and Initial Study for Los Angeles County Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan, Siting Element Revision**

REQUEST: **Discuss and provide feedback regarding the Notice of Preparation and Initial Study**

I. Introduction

The County of Los Angles has released the Notice of Preparation and the Initial Study (NOP/IS) for the Countywide Siting Element Revision. The public comment period is June 19, 2014 through July, 28, 2014. Several scoping meetings will be held with the closest one at the Wilmington Library – 1300 N. Avalon Blvd., Wilmington, CA 90744. After the conclusion of the comment period, an EIR will be prepared to address the environmental impacts of this revision.

II. Background

The Siting Element is a long-term planning document that describes how the County of Los Angeles, and the cities within the County, plan to manage the disposal of their solid waste. The purpose of the Siting Element Revision is to update strategies, policies, and guidelines to address the solid waste disposal needs of the entire County for a 15-year planning period, as mandated by the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (Assembly Bill 939). The existing Siting Element was approved in 1998 and has now been revised to reflect updates including waste generation forecasts based on population and economic growth, and remaining disposal capacities based on landfill expansions and closures that have taken place since the approval of the original Siting Element.

III. Analysis

Staff is requesting the Commission to review the NOP/IS and provide comments to staff by July 21st.

IV. Recommendation

Discuss and provide feedback regarding the Notice of Preparation and Initial Study.

V. **Exhibits**

1. NOP/IS

Prepared by: _____

Saied Naaseh, Associate Planner

NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS

To: State Clearinghouse, Responsible Agencies and Interested Individuals

Date: June 16, 2014

Project: Los Angeles County Countywide Siting Element Revision

Location: Los Angeles County

Lead Agency: County of Los Angeles

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the County of Los Angeles through its Department of Public Works (Public Works) will be the lead agency for the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Los Angeles County Countywide Siting Element Revision (Siting Element Revision). In compliance with Section 15082 of the CEQA Guidelines, Public Works is sending this Notice of Preparation (NOP) to the State Clearinghouse, responsible agencies and interested individuals.

The purpose of this NOP is to solicit any comments you may have as to the scope and content of the environmental information related to your agency's statutory responsibilities in connection with the Siting Element Revision.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project consists of the Siting Element Revision pursuant to the statutory requirements in the California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Division 7, Chapter 9, Article 8 - Procedures for Preparing and Revising Siting Elements, Summary Plans, and Countywide and Regional Agency Integrated Waste Management Plans, Sections 18776 through 18786.

The Siting Element is a long-term planning document that describes how the County of Los Angeles, and the cities within the County, plan to manage the disposal of their solid waste. The purpose of the Siting Element Revision is to update strategies, policies, and guidelines to address the solid waste disposal needs of the entire County for a 15-year planning period, as mandated by the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (Assembly Bill 939). The existing Siting Element was approved in 1998 and has now been revised to reflect updates including waste generation forecasts based on population and economic growth, and remaining disposal capacities based on landfill expansions and closures that have taken place since the approval of the original Siting Element.

An Initial Study describing the project and outlining the potential environmental impacts, has been prepared and will be available for review from **June 19, 2014 to July, 28, 2014** on the Department of Public Work's website at http://dpw.lacounty.gov/sitingelement/ and at the locations below:

- County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works - 3rd Floor Annex Building
  Environmental Programs Division Public Counter, 900 S. Fremont Avenue, Alhambra, CA 91803, 1-888-777-4775
- Agoura Hills Library – 29901 Ladyface Court, Agoura Hills, CA 91301, (818) 889-2278
- Avalon Library – 215 Sumner Ave., Avalon, CA 90704, (310) 510-1050
- Claremont Library – 208 N. Harvard Ave., Claremont, CA 91711, (909) 621-4902
- Eagle Rock Library – 5027 Caspar Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90041, (323) 258-8078
- Encino-Tarzana Library – 18231 Ventura Blvd., Tarzana, CA 91356 (818) 343-1983
- Florence Library – 1610 E. Florence Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90001, (323) 581-8028
- La Crescenta Library – 2809 Foothill Blvd., La Crescenta, CA 91214, (818) 248-5313
- Lancaster Regional Library - 601 W. Lancaster Blvd., Lancaster, CA 93534, (661) 948-5029
- Lennox Library – 4359 Lennox Blvd., Lennox, CA 90304, (310) 674-0385
- Littlerock Library – 35119 80th Street East, Littlerock, CA 93543, (661) 944-4138
- Lynnwood Library – 11320 Bulliss Rd., Lynwood, CA 90262, (310) 635-7121
- Rowland Heights Library – 1850 Nogales St., Rowland Heights, CA 91748, (626) 912-5348
- South Whittier Library – 14433 Leffingwell Rd., Whittier, CA 90604, (562) 946-4415
- Temple City Library – 5939 Golden West Ave., Temple City, CA 91780, (626) 285-2136
- Valencia Library – 23743 W. Valencia Blvd., Santa Clarita, CA 91355, (661) 259-8942
- View Park Library – 3854 W. 54th St., Los Angeles, CA 90043, (323) 293-5371
- West Covina Library – 1601 W. Covina Parkway, West Covina, CA 91790, (626) 962-3541
- Westwood Library – 1246 Glendon Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90024, (310) 474-1739
- Wilmington Library – 1300 N. Avalon Blvd., Wilmington, CA 90744, (310) 834-1082

Public Works is seeking input concerning the scope and content of the environmental information and analysis to be contained in the EIR. Responses must be sent by 5:00 p.m. on **Monday, July 28, 2014.** For all responsible agencies, please direct all written comments using the Siting Element Website's commenting feature at http://dpw.lacounty.gov/sitingelement/ or by sending comments to the following contact below:

County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Attn: Mr. Patrick Holland
Environmental Programs Division
900 South Fremont Avenue, 3rd Floor
Alhambra, California 91803
Fax Number: (626) 979-5389
E-mail: sitingelement@dpw.lacounty.gov

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

The Initial Study contains the preliminary analysis of the environmental impacts of the proposed project in accordance with the State of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines.

According to the Initial Study, the Siting Element Revision may affect multiple environmental factors, thereby resulting in a Potentially Significant Impact or Potentially Significant Impact Unless Mitigated. Environmental impacts in the following areas will be analyzed on the EIR: Aesthetics, Air Quality, Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Geology and Soils, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Hydrology and Water Quality, Land Use and Planning, Noise, Transportation and Traffic, and Utilities and Service Systems.

SCOPING MEETINGS

Public Works will conduct six public scoping meetings to provide information and facilitate dialogue on the proposed project and to solicit information relating to the CEQA analysis for this project. While these meetings will provide a forum for discussion on the project, anyone wishing to make formal comments on the NOP must do so in writing.

DATE AND TIME	LOCATION
July 14, 2014 6:00-8:00 p.m.	Bassett Park, Gymnasium 510 N. Vineland Ave., La Puente, CA 91746
July 15, 2014 6:00-8:00 p.m.	Altadena Senior Center, Blain Hall 560 East Mariposa St., Altadena, CA 91001
July 17, 2014 6:00-8:00 p.m.	William S. Hart Regional Park, Hart Hall 24151 Newhall Ave., Newhall, CA 91321
July 21, 2014 6:00-8:00 p.m.	Calabasas Community Center, Agoura Room 27040 Malibu Hills Rd., Calabasas, CA 91302
July 23, 2014 6:00-8:00 p.m.	Watts Senior Citizen Center, Auditorium 1657 East Century Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90002
July 24, 2014 6:00-8:00 p.m.	The Center at Sycamore Plaza, Council Chambers 5000 Clark Ave., Lakewood, CA 90712

Please direct any questions regarding these meetings to 1 (888) 777-4775 or sitingelement@dpw.lacounty.gov.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY COUNTYWIDE SITING ELEMENT REVISION

INITIAL STUDY

Prepared For:

County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Environmental Programs Division
900 South Fremont Avenue, 3rd Floor
Alhambra, California 91803

Prepared By:

HDR Engineering, Inc.
3230 El Camino Real Suite 200
Irvine, CA 92602

June 2014

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This Initial Study was prepared by HDR on behalf of the lead agency, the County of Los Angeles through the Department of Public Works (Public Works) for revising the Los Angeles County Countywide Siting Element (Siting Element), pursuant to the Title 14, Division 7 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR), Chapter 9, Article 8, Sections 18776 to 18788.

1.1 PROJECT TITLE

Los Angeles County Countywide Siting Element Revision

1.2 LEAD AGENCY

County of Los Angeles through its Department of Public Works

1.3 PRIMARY CONTACT PERSON

Mr. Pat Proano
County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Environmental Programs Division
900 South Fremont Avenue, 3rd Floor
Alhambra, California 91803

1.4 PROJECT LOCATION

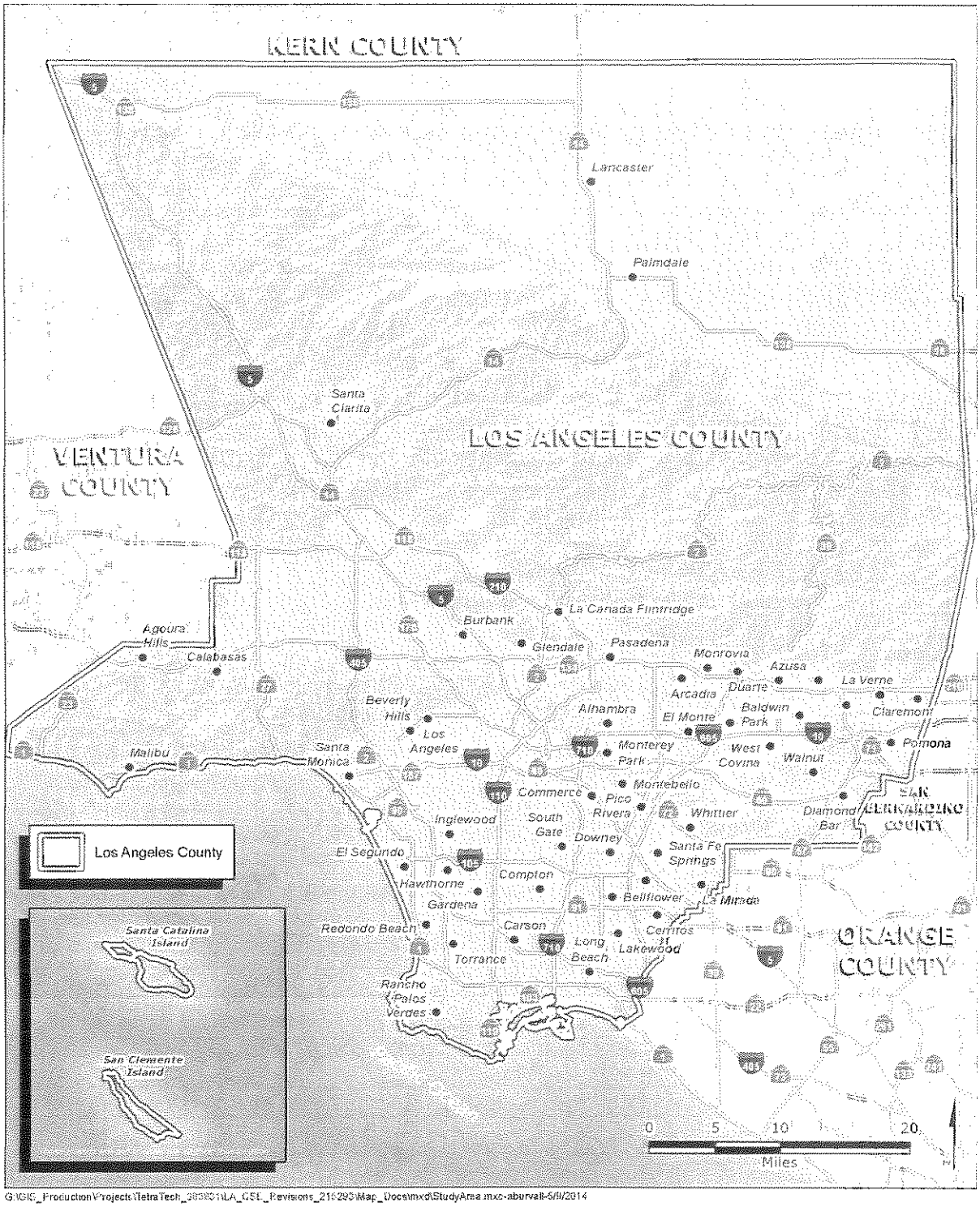
The project location is approximately 4,100 square miles[1] encompassing the unincorporated territories of the County of Los Angeles and 88 incorporated cities of the County of Los Angeles, California (see Table 1.4 -1, List of Incorporated Cities in Los Angeles County). The project location is bounded by Kern County to the north, San Bernardino County to the east, and Ventura County to the west. Also the project location is bounded by Orange County to the southeast and the Pacific Ocean to the south and southwest. San Clemente and Santa Catalina Islands are both encompassed within the territory of the County, and thus are part of the project location (Figure 1, Los Angeles County). There are approximately 140 unincorporated communities located within the five County Supervisorial Districts.

[1] Land area is the size, in square units (metric and nonmetric) of all areas designated as land in the Census Bureau's national geographic (TIGER®) database.

Table 1.4-1: List of Incorporated Cities in Los Angeles County

Agoura Hills
Alhambra
Arcadia
Artesia
Avalon
Azusa
Baldwin Park
Bell
Bellflower
Bell Gardens
Beverly Hills
Bradbury
Burbank
Calabasas
Carson
Cerritos
Claremont
Commerce
Compton
Covina
Cudahy
Culver City
Diamond Bar
Downey
Duarte
El Monte
El Segundo
Gardena
Glendale
Glendora
Hawaiian Gardens
Hawthorne
Hermosa Beach
Hidden Hills
Huntington Park
Industry
Inglewood
Irwindale
La Canada Flintridge
La Habra Heights
La Mirada
La Puente
La Verne
Lakewood
Lancaster
Lawndale
Lomita
Long Beach
Los Angeles
Lynwood
Malibu
Manhattan Beach
Maywood
Monrovia
Montebello
Monterey Park
Norwalk
Palmdale
Palos Verdes Estates
Paramount
Pasadena
Pico Rivera
Pomona
Rancho Palos Verdes
Redondo Beach
Rolling Hills
Rolling Hills Estates
Rosemead
San Dimas
San Fernando
San Gabriel
San Marino
Santa Clarita
Santa Fe Springs
Santa Monica
Sierra Madre
Signal Hill
South El Monte
South Gate
South Pasadena
Temple City
Torrance
Vernon
Walnut
West Covina
West Hollywood
Westlake Village
Whittier

Figure 1: Los Angeles County



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1.5 PURPOSE

The purpose of the revised Siting Element is to update strategies, policies, and guidelines to address the solid waste disposal needs of the County for a 15-year planning period, as mandated by the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (Assembly Bill 939).

1.6 DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

Overview

The project consists of the revised Countywide Siting Element for the County of Los Angeles pursuant to the statutory requirements in the California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 14, Division 7, Chapter 9, Article 8 - Procedures for Preparing and Revising Siting Elements, Summary Plans, and Countywide and Regional Agency Integrated Waste Management Plans, Sections 18776 through 18788.

The purpose of the revised Siting Element is to update strategies, policies, and guidelines to address the solid waste disposal needs of the County for a 15-year planning period, as mandated by the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (Assembly Bill 939). The existing Siting Element was approved in 1998 and has now been revised to reflect updates including waste generation forecasts based on population and economic growth, and remaining disposal capacities based on landfill expansions and closures that have taken place since the approval of the original Siting Element.

Similar to the Siting Element approved in 1998, the revised Siting Element will serve as a policy manual rather than a specific development program. With this understanding, the intent of the environmental analysis is not to provide detailed information on impacts and mitigation measures for specific solid waste management related projects or programs discussed in the Siting Element. Rather, definitive analysis can only be accomplished for specific sites and projects on an individual basis. As details develop, specific sites and projects must each fully comply with all requirements of CEQA and, thus, would be subject to future environmental documentation at the time specific projects are proposed.

As mandated by State law, the Siting Element must include, but is not limited to, the following:

1. A statement of goals and policies for the environmentally safe transformation and/or disposal of solid waste which cannot be reduced, recycled, or composted during the 15-year period.

2. An estimate of the total transformation or disposal capacity in cubic yards that will be needed for a 15-year period to safely handle solid wastes generated within Los Angeles County which cannot be reduced, recycled, or composted.

3. The remaining combined capacity of existing solid waste facilities existing at the time of the preparation of the Countywide Siting Element, in cubic yards and years.

4. The identification of an area or areas for the location of potential solid waste facilities or the expansion of existing facilities.

The Siting Element revision will address the above requirements with the intent of providing a means for proper planning and management of solid waste facilities on a countywide basis. The Siting Element revision contains goals and policies, and establishes "Siting Criteria" (see Appendix A – Siting Criteria) for developing new solid waste facilities (such as Class III landfills, inert waste landfills, transformation (waste-to-energy) facilities, conversion technology facilities, engineered municipal solid waste conversion facilities (EMSW facility), and biomass processing facilities, as well as expanding existing facilities. The Siting Element will also present a description and location map of sites identified: (1) as potentially suitable for development of solid waste facilities; and (2) as potential expansion of existing Class III landfills, inert waste landfills, and transformation facilities, where applicable. However, the Siting Element will require that prior to development of any one of these facilities or any other solid waste facility, the facility proponent must show the project to be consistent with the Siting Element, as well as undergo a vigorous site-specific assessment and permitting process at the local, State, and Federal levels, including addressing all environmental concerns as mandated by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). As a part of the determination of consistency with the Siting Element and its Siting Criteria, the project proponent must obtain approval from the Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force prior to the development of solid waste facilities.

The Siting Element revision, which covers the 15-year planning period, will contain the following changes from its previous version (1997):

- Removal of Elsmere Canyon and Blind Canyon from a list of potential new landfill sites;
- Potential expansions of several in-County Class III landfills, subject to state and local planning and regulatory processes, if determined to be environmentally sound and technically feasible
- Update of the goals and policies to enhance the sustainability of the solid waste management system including resource recovery and improved waste diversion activities; and
- Promotion of the development of alternatives to landfill disposal such as conversion technologies.

1.7 GENERAL PLAN CONSISTENCY

Various – Refer to Los Angeles County General Plan (Adopted 1980)

The Siting Element and its environmental document will include identification of existing solid waste facilities which are currently consistent with applicable local jurisdiction's General Plan.

The Siting Element and its environmental document also discusses and identifies areas for the location of potential new solid waste disposal facilities and potential expansions of the existing facilities in Los Angeles County that may be necessary to meet the disposal needs of the County during the 15-year planning period. These identified solid waste facilities may or may not be currently consistent with the local jurisdiction's General Plan. If a new project is found not to be consistent with the local jurisdiction's General Plan, then the project must be removed from the next revision of the Siting Element (per CCR, Section 41710 – 41712).

1.8 ZONING

Various – Refer to Los Angeles County Zoning Ordinance (See Title 22 of the Los Angeles County Code).

1.9 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

Los Angeles County is characterized by a diverse environmental setting. Basically, the County may be divided into four natural sub-regions: northern desert, central mountains, coastal low-lands, and offshore islands.

The northern desert includes the Antelope Valley portion of the County. This area consists of desert plains, hills, buttes, and dry lake beds. The major urban areas in the Antelope Valley are in the Cities of Lancaster and Palmdale and the adjacent unincorporated areas. Except for the foothills and buttes, the area is generally level and contains scattered vegetation. The northern deserts have a distinctive cover of grasslands, desert, and alkali sink shrubs. Pinon-juniper woodland, desert sagebrush, and chaparral blanket the southwestern desert fringes. Soils both beneficial and problematic for urban and agricultural use may be found in the Antelope Valley. Generally, the soils of the area are not useful for agricultural purposes and lie in a broad belt stretching from Neenach on the west to the San Bernardino County boundary on the east and extending down from the central mountains on the south to the dry lake beds northerly of Lancaster.

The central mountains consist of steep rugged terrain of the San Gabriel and Santa Susanna Mountain ranges. Higher elevations and northern slopes are covered with coniferous and oak forests and woodlands with chaparral belts, sagebrush, and grassland zones between them and the developed lowlands. Broad valleys exist in this area. The level areas are found primarily in the Santa Clarita Valley, Acton, and Agua Dulce areas. The middle and upper portions of the areas contain alluvial soils and are subject to flood hazards limiting the area's use.

The coastal lowlands are a highly urbanized area that contains the majority of the County's population. There are broad areas of soils which are beneficial for both agricultural and urban development. Major soil problems are present on the margin of the coastal plain. The urbanized areas include the relatively level coastal plain and the San Gabriel and San Fernando Valleys. These areas are interrupted by the Santa Monica Mountains, Palos Verdes Hills, and Puente/San Jose Hills. The coastal lowlands have been largely cleared of native vegetation and are covered with various species introduced from other areas, including a number of agricultural crops. Only the Transverse Hill Chain retains its natural cover of grass, coastal sage, and chaparral.

Finally, the offshore islands include Santa Catalina and San Clemente Island. Both islands are mountainous. Santa Catalina's soils are predominantly loam to clay and contain various types of vegetation. San Clemente Island is under Federal ownership and use.

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This section contains the Environmental Checklist prepared for the project. This checklist is consistent with the Environmental Checklist Form found in Appendix G to the State CEQA Guidelines. This checklist also includes two recommended questions proposed by the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) in April 2009 as additions to Appendix G to the State CEQA Guidelines. A summary of the substantial evidence that was used to support the responses in the Environmental Checklist is contained in Section 3.0, Environmental Analysis. The responses contained in this Environmental Checklist are based on reviews of relevant literature, technical reports, and regulations, and on analysis of existing geographical information from County maps and databases.

SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED

The project would affect multiple environmental factors thereby resulting in a Potentially Significant Impact or Potentially Significant Impact Unless Mitigated. A summary of the environmental factors potentially affected by this project, consisting of a Potentially Significant Impact or Potentially Significant Impact Unless Mitigated, include:

☒ Aesthetics	☐ Agriculture and Forestry Resources	☒ Air Quality
☒ Biological Resources	☒ Cultural Resources	☒ Geology / Soils
☒ Greenhouse Gas Emissions	☒ Hazards and Hazardous Materials	☒ Hydrology / Water Quality
☒ Land Use / Planning	☐ Mineral Resources	☒ Noise
☐ Population / Housing	☐ Public Services	☐ Recreation
☒ Transportation / Traffic	☒ Utilities / Service Systems	☒ Mandatory Findings of Significance

DETERMINATION

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

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

☐ 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.

Pat Prosano	June 16, 2014
Signature	Date
PAT PROSANO	County of L.A. Dept. of Public Works
Printed Name	For

		Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
2.1	**AESTHETICS** – Would the project:				
a)	Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	☐	☒	☐	☐
b)	Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c)	Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?	☐	☒	☐	☐
d)	Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	☐	☒	☐	☐
2.2	**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 Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment project; and forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board. Would the project:				
a)	Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	☐	☐	☒	☐

		Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
b)	Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act Contract?	☐	☐	☒	☐
c)	Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code Section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code Section 51104(g))?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d)	Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	☐	☐	☒	☐
e)	Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	☐	☐	☒	☐
2.3	**AIR QUALITY** – Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:				
a)	Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	☐	☒	☐	☐
b)	Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?	☐	☒	☐	☐
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)?	☐	☒	☐	☐
d)	Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	☐	☒	☐	☐
e)	Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?	☐	☒	☐	☐

	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
2.4 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES – Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	☐	☒	☐	☐
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	☐	☒	☐	☐
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on 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?	☐	☒	☐	☐
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	☐	☒	☐	☐
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as tree preservation policy or ordinance?	☐	☒	☐	☐
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?	☐	☐	☒	☐
2.5 CULTURAL RESOURCES – Would the project:				
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in § 15064.5?	☐	☒	☐	☐
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to § 15064.5?	☐	☒	☐	☐

	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	☐	☒	☐	☐
d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	☐	☒	☐	☐
2.6 GEOLOGY AND SOILS – Would the project:				
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.	☐	☐	☐	☒
(ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?	☐	☐	☒	☐
(iii) Seismic- related ground failure, including liquefaction?	☐	☐	☒	☐
(iv) Landslides?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	☐	☒	☐	☐
c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on-site or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?	☐	☐	☒	☐
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?	☐	☐	☒	☐
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?	☐	☐	☐	☒

		Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
2.7	**GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS** – Would the project:				
a)	Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	☐	☒	☐	☐
b)	Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	☐	☒	☐	☐
2.8	**HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS** – Would the project:				
a)	Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b)	Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	☐	☒	☐	☐
c)	Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	☐	☒	☐	☐
d)	Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	☐	☒	☐	☐
e)	For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	☐	☐	☐	☒
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?	☐	☐	☐	☒
g)	Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒

		Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
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?	☐	☐	☒	☐
2.9	**HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY** – Would the project:				
a)	Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?	☐	☒	☐	☐
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)?	☐	☒	☐	☐
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?	☐	☒	☐	☐
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?	☐	☒	☐	☐
e)	Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?	☐	☒	☐	☐
f)	Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?	☐	☒	☐	☐
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?	☐	☐	☐	☒

		Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
h)	Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?	☐	☒	☐	☐
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?	☐	☐	☒	☐
j)	Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?	☐	☐	☒	☐
2.10 LAND USE AND PLANNING – Would the project:					
a)	Physically divide an established community?	☐	☐	☒	☐
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?	☐	☒	☐	☐
c)	Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?	☐	☐	☒	☐
2.11 MINERAL RESOURCES – Would the project:					
a)	Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	☐	☐	☒	☐
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?	☐	☐	☒	☐
2.12 NOISE – Would the project result in:					
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?	☐	☒	☐	☐
b)	Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	☐	☐	☒	☐

		Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
c)	A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	☐	☒	☐	☐
d)	A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	☐	☒	☐	☐
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?	☐	☐	☐	☒
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?	☐	☐	☐	☒
2.13 POPULATION & HOUSING – Would the project:					
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)?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b)	Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	☐	☐	☐	☒
c)	Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	☐	☐	☐	☒

	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
2.14 PUBLIC SERVICES –				
a) 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:				
Fire protection?	☐	☐	☒	☐
Police protection?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Schools?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Parks?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Other public facilities?	☐	☐	☐	☒
2.15 RECREATION –				
a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?	☐	☐	☐	☒
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?	☐	☐	☐	☒
2.16 TRANSPORTATION & TRAFFIC – Would the project:				
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?	☐	☒	☐	☐

	Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
b) Conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including, but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?	☐	☒	☐	☐
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?	☐	☐	☐	☒
d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	☐	☐	☒	☐
e) Result in inadequate emergency access?	☐	☐	☐	☒
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?	☐	☐	☐	☒
2.17 UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS – Would the proposed project:				
a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?	☐	☐	☒	☐
b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	☐	☐	☒	☐
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?	☐	☒	☐	☐
d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?	☐	☐	☒	☐
e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	☐	☐	☐	☒

		Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigation Incorporated	Less than Significant Impact	No Impact
f)	Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?	☐	☐	☒	☐
g)	Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	☐	☐	☒	☐
2.18 MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE – Would the proposed project:					
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 major periods of California history or prehistory?	☐	☒	☐	☐
b)	Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?	☐	☒	☐	☐
c)	Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	☐	☒	☐	☐

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The environmental analysis provided in this section describes the information that was considered in evaluating the questions in Section 2.0, Environmental Checklist. The information contained in this environmental analysis is based on reviews of relevant literature and maps (see Section 4.0, References, for a list of reference materials consulted).

The environmental analysis in this Initial Study broadly evaluates the potential impacts related to changes in existing environmental conditions as a result of the County's adoption of the Siting Element revision. The Siting Element establishes goals, policies, and guidelines for proper planning and siting of solid waste disposal facilities on a countywide basis. It offers strategies and establishes siting criteria to be used as an aid to evaluate sites potential for development of needed solid waste facilities. As such, the listing of potential future landfill expansions and alternative technology facilities in the Siting Element does not and should not construe that a facility will be developed. Any future landfill expansion or alternative technology facilities would be subject to future environmental review once project-specific details are better known.

With this understanding, the Siting Element is considered a planning mechanism that provides for the review of potential solid waste facilities in areas that are suitable for such uses. This analysis considers potential environmental impacts of implementing the Siting Element goals, policies and guidelines over its 15-year planning horizon based on the disposal options (or scenarios) identified in the Siting Element.

3.1 AESTHETICS

This analysis is undertaken to determine if the project may have a significant impact to aesthetics, thus requiring the consideration of mitigation measures or alternatives, in accordance with Section 15063 of the State CEQA Guidelines. Aesthetics within the incorporated and unincorporated territories of the County, which would be subject to the proposed siting element revision, were evaluated with regard to the County of Los Angeles General Plan; Caltrans Scenic Highway Program designations; and previously published information regarding the visual character of the County, including scenic resources, vistas, and altitude as depicted in County maps.

The State CEQA Guidelines recommend the consideration of four questions when addressing the potential for significant impacts to aesthetics.

Would the proposed project:

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

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

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

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

Discussion. All solid waste disposal facilities identified under the project are required to be designed and operated to incorporate environmental control measures (see Appendix A – Siting Criteria). These measures, such as new lighting which has the potential to produce glare, would need to comply with the criteria in the Siting Element along with the County's Outdoor Lighting District Ordinance (2012) to avoid light pollution and light trespass. Similarly, buffer zones and aesthetic treatments, such as landscaping, berms, block walls, overfills, etc., are generally considered for any solid waste disposal facility to screen operations from outside viewers. All solid waste exports under the Siting Element would use the existing roadway network and, therefore, would be unlikely to impact aesthetics resources.

The details of project-specific mitigation measures are beyond the scope of this environmental document and will be addressed in the environmental document for each facility in accordance with CEQA.

3.2 AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTRY RESOURCES

This analysis is undertaken to determine if the project may have a significant impact to agricultural and forestry resources, thus requiring the consideration of mitigation measures or alternatives, in accordance with Section 15063 of the State CEQA Guidelines. Agricultural and forestry resources within the County were evaluated with regard to the California Department of Conservation (CDC) Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program (FMMP), the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) and the County of Los Angeles General Plan.

The State CEQA Guidelines define agricultural land as "prime farmland, farmland of statewide importance, or unique farmland, as defined by the United States Department of Agriculture land inventory and monitoring criteria, as modified for California," and is herein collectively referred to as "Farmland." The State CEQA Guidelines recommend the consideration of five questions when addressing the potential for significant impacts to agricultural and forestry resources.

Would the proposed project:

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

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

(c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?

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

(e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?

Discussion. According to the FMMP (2010), the potential landfill expansion sites are either classified as "urban and built-up land" or fall outside of the survey boundary (CDC 2010). The potential location of the alternative technology facilities at existing MRFs and/or transfer station facilities would generally occur within industrially zoned areas and existing landfills. According to the Williamson Act Maps produced by the California Department of Conservation, (DOC 2013), no portion of the County is under the provisions of an active Williamson Act contract, with the exception of a location on Santa Catalina Island. Hence, the conversion of important farmland or cancellation of an active Williamson Act Contract through the adoption of the Siting Element is unlikely.

There are only two national forests in Los Angeles County; the Los Padres National Forest and

the Angeles National Forest. Potential landfill expansion area sites are not located in the vicinity of these two national forests and alternative technology facilities would generally occur at industrially zoned locations. In this context, no impact would occur.

3.3 AIR QUALITY

This analysis is undertaken to determine if the project may have significant impacts to air quality, thus requiring the consideration of mitigation measures or alternatives, in accordance with Section 15063 of the State CEQA Guidelines. Air quality within the County, which would be subject to the project, was evaluated with regard to the County of Los Angeles General Plan, the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS), the California Ambient Air Quality Standards (CAAQS), and the federal Clean Air Act (CAA).

Data on existing air quality in the County are monitored by a network of air monitoring stations operated by the California Environmental Protection Agency, California Air Resources Board (CARB), the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD), and the Antelope Valley Quality Management District (AVAQMD). The County includes two local air districts with jurisdiction over the project facilities: SCAQMD and AVAQMD.

State CEQA Guidelines recommend the consideration of five questions when addressing the potential for significant impacts to air quality.

Would the proposed project:

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

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

(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)?

(d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?

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

Discussion. Los Angeles County extends across two major air basins: (1) the South Coast Air Basin (SCAB) and (2) Mojave Desert Air Basin (MDAB). The SCAQMD has jurisdiction over the SCAB, which is classified by the State as extreme nonattainment for the State 1-hour ozone standard, serious nonattainment for the State particulate matter less than 10 microns (PM_{10}), nonattainment for the State particulate matter less than 2.5 microns ($PM_{2.5}$), and partial nonattainment for lead (Pb). The SCAB is also classified as extreme nonattainment for the Federal 8-hour ozone standard. The MDAB is located within the jurisdiction of the AVAQMD and is classified by the State as extreme nonattainment for the State 1-hour ozone standard and

nonattainment for PM_{10}. The MDAB is also classified as severe nonattainment for the Federal 8-hour ozone standard.

Solid waste disposal facilities located in nonattainment areas with air emissions in excess of established limits will require pre-construction review under Federal New Source Review requirements and a permit to construct and operate from the SCAQMD or AVAQMD. This existing permitting framework combined with the requirements stipulated by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), the State Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), and the State Air Resources Board (CARB) would substantially mitigate any negative impact on air quality during both the development and operation of solid waste facilities identified under the Siting Element.

The details of project-specific mitigation measures are beyond the scope of this environmental document and will be addressed in the environmental document for each facility in accordance with CEQA.

3.4 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

This analysis is undertaken to determine if the project may have a significant impact to biological resources, thus requiring the consideration of mitigation measures or alternatives, in accordance with Section 15063 of the State CEQA Guidelines. Biological resources within the County were evaluated with regard to the Land Use element of the County of Los Angeles General Plan and information provided by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), and Bureau of Land Management.

The State CEQA Guidelines recommend consideration of the following six questions when addressing the potential for significant impacts to biological resources.

Would the proposed project:

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

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

(c) Have a substantial adverse effect on 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?

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

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

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

Discussion. The development of solid waste facilities identified under the Siting Element may require the removal of vegetation and/or habitat that is suitable for one or more federal- or state-listed plant or wildlife species. Jurisdictional wetlands or waters of the U. S. or State could also be adversely affected. Although, tentative areas have been identified for future solid waste facility sites, the Siting Element siting criteria recommends that unless determined otherwise by the local agency having jurisdiction over land use permits, significant ecologically sensitive areas, such as wetlands, habitats of threatened and endangered species should be avoided.

Compliance with these standards would generally avoid significant impacts to biological and wetland resources. Additionally, no local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan is adopted for areas where solid waste facilities are otherwise identified under the Siting Element.

The details of project-specific mitigation measures are beyond the scope of this environmental document and will be addressed in the environmental document for each facility in accordance with CEQA.

3.5 CULTURAL RESOURCES

This analysis is undertaken to determine if the project may have a significant impact to cultural resources, thus requiring the consideration of mitigation measures or alternatives, in accordance with Section 15063 of the State CEQA Guidelines.

State CEQA Guidelines recommend the consideration of four questions when addressing the potential for significant impacts to cultural resources.

Would the proposed project:

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

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

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

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

Discussion. The development of the solid waste facilities identified in the Siting Element may impact some cultural resources. Cultural resources, whether prehistoric or historic, are physical manifestations of cultural activity.

The details of project-specific mitigation measures are beyond the scope of this environmental document and will be addressed in the environmental document for each facility in accordance with CEQA.

3.6 GEOLOGY AND SOILS

This analysis is undertaken to determine if the project may have a significant impact to geology and soils, thus requiring the consideration of mitigation measures or alternatives, in accordance with Section 15063 of the State CEQA Guidelines. Geology and soils within the County were evaluated with regard to the County of Los Angeles General Plan and in consideration of the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Maps.

The State CEQA Guidelines recommend the consideration of seven questions when addressing the potential for significant impacts to geology and soils.

Would the proposed project:

(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.

  ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?

  iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?

  iv) Landslides?

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

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

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

(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?

Discussion. Development of any solid waste facilities identified under the Siting Element could cause disruptions, displacements, compaction, and over covering of soil and impacts may vary depending upon the facility's site characteristics.

To ensure that structural stability of the solid waste disposal facilities, the siting criteria in the Siting Element provides mitigation measures consistent with the requirements of the Federal, State, and local jurisdiction to be complied, including, but not limited to the California Code of

Regulations, Title 27; California Building Code and County siting requirements. Development of solid waste disposal facilities would require adherence to all modern earthquake standards. As a result, the potential to expose people or structures to potentially significant impacts – including risk of loss, injury, or death from strong seismic ground shaking – would be minimized through adherence to standard engineering practices in conjunction with site-specific mitigation.

The details of project-specific mitigation measures are beyond the scope of this environmental document and will be addressed in the environmental document for each facility in accordance with CEQA.

3.7 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

This analysis is undertaken to determine if the project may have significant environmental impacts due to greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. GHG emissions within the County were evaluated based on guidance provided by regulatory publications from the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association, the State Office of the Attorney General, California Air Resources Board (CARB), and Office of Planning and Research (OPR).

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reported that the majority of GHG emissions in the United States can be attributed to the energy sector, which accounted for 86.3 percent of total U.S. GHG emissions in 2007 due to stationary and mobile fuel combustion. For the industrial sector, the top 10 contributors to GHG emissions, which account for more than 90 percent of the total GHG emissions, include substitution of ozone-depleting substances, iron and steel production and metallurgical coke production, cement production, nitric acid production, hydrochlorofluorocarbon (HCFC) production, specifically, HCFC-22, lime production, ammonia production and urea consumption, electrical transmission and distribution, aluminum production, and limestone and dolomite use.

Would the proposed project:

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

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

Discussion. GHGs *emitted* by human activity are implicated in global climate change or global warming. The principal GHGs are carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), nitrous oxide (NOx), ozone (O3), water vapor, and fluorinated gases. Fossil fuel consumption in the transportation sector (on-road motor vehicles, off-highway mobile sources, and aircraft) is a major source of GHG emissions, accounting for one-half of GHG emissions globally. Solid waste disposal options identified in the Siting Element have the potential to result in the generation of GHG emissions. The operational GHG emissions for individual solid waste disposal facilities would be based on the method of disposal and the number of vehicle trips to and from these facilities, including truck disposal trips. Given that an incremental increase in operational activities would result under the disposal options identified in the Siting Element (e.g. increased haul trips, etc.), quantification of these emissions would be required to facilitate the integration of effective mitigation measures.

Los Angeles County has enacted a variety of policies and plans, including the Los Angeles Regional Climate Action Plan, to fulfill the objectives outlined in Assembly Bill (AB) 32 (the Global Warming Solutions Act). The project goals and objectives are achieved through various solid waste management options, which in turn, may result in a range of GHG emissions.

The details of project-specific mitigation measures are beyond the scope of this environmental document and will be addressed in the environmental document for each facility in accordance with CEQA.

3.8 HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

This analysis is undertaken to determine if the project may have a significant impact to hazards and hazardous materials, thus requiring the consideration of mitigation measures or alternatives, in accordance with Section 15063 of the State CEQA Guidelines.

Hazardous wastes are by-products of society that can pose a substantial or potential hazard to human health or the environment when improperly managed. Hazardous wastes exhibit at least one of four characteristics – ignitability, corrosivity, reactivity, or toxicity – or appear on special U.S. EPA lists.

Hazards and hazardous materials related to the project were evaluated based on expert opinion supported by facts, and a review of the County of Los Angeles General Plan.

The State CEQA Guidelines recommend the consideration of eight questions when addressing the potential for significant impact to hazards and hazardous materials.

Would the proposed project:

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

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

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

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

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

(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?

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

(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?

Discussion. Issues related to the past, improper management and disposal of solid waste have resulted in stringent regulatory requirements for the siting and operation of solid waste disposal facilities. Continued improper and illegal dumping increase the risk of contaminating the environment and pose a potentially more serious threat to the health of present and future generations. The siting and operation of solid waste facilities should not have a negative impact on the health and/or safety of citizens because these facilities are intended to provide a safer and controlled means to dispose of solid wastes, prevent illegal dumping, and, thus, reduce potential threats to public health and the environment.

In accordance with the California Health and Safety Code, individual solid waste facilities identified under the Siting Element would be required to prepare and submit a revised hazardous materials business plan. The hazardous materials business plan would typically include a delineation of hazardous materials and hazardous waste storage areas; a description of proper handling, storage, and disposal techniques; methods to avoid spills and minimize impacts of accidental spills; procedures for handling and disposing of unanticipated hazardous materials; and establishment of notification procedures for spills, employee training; and record keeping and reporting. The California Code of Regulations, Title 27 also requires a load check program for hazardous waste be implemented for solid waste facilities. Additionally, in the event that hazardous waste is inadvertently received at a solid waste facility site, a Hazardous Waste Contingency Plan (HWCP) would need to be in place to minimize hazards to employees.

The details of project-specific mitigation measures are beyond the scope of this environmental document and will be addressed in the environmental document for each facility in accordance with CEQA.

3.9 HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

This analysis is undertaken to determine if the project may have a significant impact to hydrology and water quality, thus requiring the consideration of mitigation measures or alternatives, in accordance with Section 15063 of the State CEQA Guidelines. Hydrology and water quality within the County were evaluated with regard to the County of Los Angeles General Plan, State of California Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) Basin Plan for the Colorado River RWQCB Region 7, and the National Flood Insurance Program Flood Insurance Rate Maps for the County.

The State CEQA Guidelines recommend the consideration of ten questions when addressing the potential for significant impacts to hydrology and water quality.

Would the proposed project:

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

(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)?

(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?

(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?

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

(f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?

(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?

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

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

(j) 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?

(k) Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?

Discussion. The project area encompasses two separate hydrologic regions (inland deserts and coastal plains) that are under the jurisdiction of the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), Region 6, and the Los Angeles RWQCB, Region 4. Expansion of solid waste disposal facilities identified under the Siting Element would require grading, waste disposal, and, in the case of landfills, gas systems, that have the potential to impact water quality. However, with the incorporation of appropriate best management practices (BMPs) and compliance with applicable State regulations and waste discharge requirements, such as including lined containment systems, potential water quality impacts would be minimized. Soil stabilization measures would be used to prevent soil erosion caused by stormwater runoff. On- and off-site drainage controls would also be required.

The Siting Element's siting criteria (see Appendix A) contain specific guidelines to protect surface and groundwater supplies by requiring that all facilities be constructed in areas posing minimal threats. This includes specific criteria regarding the proximity to groundwater, including major water supply sources and aquifer recharge areas, the permeability of surface materials, and facility placement outside the limits of the 100-year flood zone.

The details of project-specific mitigation measures are beyond the scope of this environmental document and will be addressed in the environmental document for each facility in accordance with CEQA.

3.10 LAND USE AND PLANNING

This analysis is undertaken to determine if the project might have a significant impact to land use and planning, thus requiring the consideration of mitigation measures or alternatives, in accordance with Section 15063 of the State CEQA Guidelines. Land use and planning within the County was evaluated with regard to the County of Los Angeles General Plan (1980) and its adopted maps, the County Code, and other regional plans and polices. Additionally, the Los Angeles County 2035 General Plan (General Plan Update) is currently under preparation and provides the policy framework for how and where the unincorporated County will grow through the year 2035. The State CEQA Guidelines recommend the consideration of three questions when addressing the potential for significant impacts to land use and planning.

Would the proposed project:

(a) Physically divide an established community?

(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?

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

Discussion. Surrounding land uses may be affected due to the development of solid waste facilities identified under the Siting Element. For this reason, the Siting Element's siting criteria (see Appendix A) addresses the need to include sufficient separation between these facilities and areas of concentrated population particularly residential developments, schools, and hospitals. Additionally, with the exception of land disposal facilities, these facilities are recommended to be located primarily in existing industrial zoned areas. The siting criteria also provides for the selection of sites that have compatible surrounding land uses (see A).

Additionally, each solid waste facility must have land use approval from the jurisdiction in which it resides. This approval is obtained through the respective jurisdiction's planning agency, involves extensive public involvement, regulatory agency scrutiny and requires the preparation and circulation of an environmental document in accordance with CEQA. Furthermore, each solid waste facility must have a finding of consistency with the Siting Element and applicable siting criteria (Appendix A).

The land use entitlement process for individual solid waste facilities, including a finding of consistency, are beyond the scope of this environmental document.

The details of project-specific mitigation measures are beyond the scope of this environmental document and will be addressed in the environmental document for each facility in accordance with CEQA.

3.11 MINERAL RESOURCES

This analysis is undertaken to determine if the project may have a significant impact to mineral resources, thus requiring the consideration of mitigation measures or alternatives, in accordance with Section 15063 of the State CEQA Guidelines. Mineral resources within the County were evaluated with regard to California Geological Survey and U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) publications and the adopted County of Los Angeles General Plan.

The State CEQA Guidelines recommend the consideration of two questions when addressing the potential for significant impact to mineral resources.

Would the proposed project:

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

(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?

Discussion. According to the LA County Natural Resources Areas Map (2012), one or more potential landfill expansions identified in the Siting Element are located in an area that contains oil and gas resources. As these landfill facilities are part of existing conditions, their expansion is unlikely to restrict the availability of mineral resources that would be of value to the State. The co-location of potential alternative technology facilities at existing landfills, MRFs, or transfer stations is unlikely to restrict the availability of one or more mineral resources.

3.12 NOISE

This analysis is undertaken to determine if the project may have a significant impact to noise, thus requiring the consideration of mitigation measures or alternatives, in accordance with Section 15063 of the State CEQA Guidelines. Noise within the County was evaluated with regard to the County of Los Angeles General Plan Noise element and the County Noise Control Ordinance.

The State CEQA Guidelines recommend the consideration of six questions when addressing the potential for significant impact to noise.

Would the proposed project result in:

(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?

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

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

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

(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?

(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?

Discussion. The solid waste management options identified in the Siting Element could result in increases in noise levels at on- and off-site locations depending on the locations where these facilities are ultimately sited and roadways that experience corresponding increases in heavy truck traffic. Depending on the locations and intensity of stationary and mobile noise sources involved, the potential exists for increased noise levels to impact nearby noise-sensitive land uses, which may also include less-sensitive land uses, such as parks and golf courses. However, with adequate mitigation measures such as specified transportation routes and, if necessary, the restriction of operating hours or incorporation of sound barriers, the effects can be substantially reduced. As such the siting criteria contained in the Siting Element calls for these solid waste facilities to be located where they will be compatible to the adjacent ambient noise levels and/or in areas where adequate mitigation measures, such as buffers, can be provided.

The details of project-specific mitigation measures are beyond the scope of this environmental document and will be addressed in the environmental document for each facility in accordance with CEQA.

3.13 POPULATION AND HOUSING

This analysis is undertaken to determine if the project may have a significant impact to population and housing, thus requiring the consideration of mitigation measures or alternatives in accordance with Section 15063 of the State CEQA Guidelines. Population and housing within the County was evaluated with regard to state, regional, and local data and forecasts for population and housing, and the proximity of the County to existing and future planned utility infrastructure.

The State CEQA Guidelines recommend the consideration of three questions when addressing the potential for significant impacts to population and housing.

Would the proposed project:

(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)?

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

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

Discussion. The solid waste management options identified in the Siting Element would result in an increase of both temporary construction-related and permanent operations-related employment opportunities for the County and the surrounding area. Given that potential solid waste facilities as part of the Siting Element would be in response to projected population growth, adoption of the Siting Element is unlikely to indirectly generate substantial population growth and related secondary effects (e.g. traffic, noise, etc.).

3.14 PUBLIC SERVICES

This analysis is undertaken to determine if the project may have a significant impact to public services, thus requiring the consideration of mitigation measures or alternatives, in accordance with Section 15063 of the State CEQA Guidelines. Public services within the County were evaluated based on review of the County of Los Angeles General Plan, the County website, and websites of the County police and fire departments.

The State CEQA Guidelines recommend the consideration of one question when addressing the potential for significant impact to 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:

(1) Fire protection?

(2) Police protection?

(3) Schools?

(4) Parks?

(5) Other public facilities?

Discussion. Solid waste disposal facilities identified under the Siting Element would be serviced by the respective cities or by the County depending on the type of public service. In this context, the solid waste management facility options and associated facilities under consideration would unlikely impact their current levels of service.

3.15 RECREATION

This analysis is undertaken to determine if the project may have a significant impact to recreation, thus requiring the consideration of mitigation measures or alternatives in accordance with Section 15063 of the State CEQA Guidelines. Recreation within the County was evaluated with regard to the County of Los Angeles General Plan, expert opinion, and technical studies, and in consideration of the potential for growth-inducing impacts evaluated in Section 3.12, Population and Housing, of this Initial Study.

The State CEQA Guidelines recommend the consideration of two questions when addressing the potential for significant impacts to recreation:

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

(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?

Discussion. The solid waste facilities identified in the Siting Element are not expected to result in an increase in population that would otherwise generate an increase in demand on existing public or private parks or other recreational facilities that could result in the physical deterioration of these facilities. Likewise, the project would not include the construction of new recreational facilities that could result in adverse physical effects on the environment. In this context, no impact would occur.

3.16 TRANSPORTATION AND TRAFFIC

This analysis is undertaken to determine if the project may have a significant impact to transportation and traffic, thus requiring the consideration of mitigation measures or alternatives, in accordance with Section 15063 of the State CEQA Guidelines. Transportation and traffic related to the project were evaluated with regard to the Circulation element of the County of Los Angeles General Plan, the Congestion Management Plan for the County, and Caltrans.

The State CEQA Guidelines recommend the consideration of seven questions when addressing the potential for significant impact to transportation and traffic.

Would the proposed project:

(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?

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

(c) 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?

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

(e) Result in inadequate emergency access?

(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?

Discussion. The solid waste management scenarios identified under the Siting Element have a potential to increase truck trips to and from various solid waste disposal facilities throughout the County and in adjacent counties. The additional daily truck trips resulting from solid waste management scenarios implemented over the course of the Siting Element's time period would incrementally add to the total number of daily haul truck trips in the future when compared to existing conditions. As a result, there is potential for the level of service (LOS) for affected roadways and intersections to degrade such that they fall below acceptable County LOS standards or standards contained in the County's Congestion Management Plan.

The details of project-specific mitigation measures are beyond the scope of this environmental document and will be addressed in the environmental document for each facility in accordance with CEQA.

3.17 UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS

This analysis is undertaken to determine if the project may have a significant impact to utilities and service systems, thus requiring the consideration of mitigation measures or alternatives, in accordance with Section 15063 of the State CEQA Guidelines. Utilities and service systems within the County were evaluated with regard to the County of Los Angeles General Plan and the California RWQCB Basin Plan for the Los Angeles Region. The scope of the utilities and service systems investigations included natural gas, telephone, electric, sewer, storm drain, and water utilities.

The State CEQA Guidelines recommend the consideration of seven questions when addressing the potential for significant impacts to utilities and service systems.

Would the proposed project:

(a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?

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

(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?

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

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

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

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

Discussion. With the development of potential solid waste facilities there may be increased discharges to stormwater drainage. Any such discharges must comply with all applicable federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste disposal.

The Siting Criteria provides mechanism to identify locations for additional solid waste facilities and can provide a positive impact by assisting government in ensuring adequate disposal capacity.

The details of project-specific mitigation measures are beyond the scope of this environmental document and will be addressed in the environmental document for each facility in accordance with CEQA.

3.18 MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

This analysis was undertaken to determine if the project would result in any of the conditions that would require the preparation of an EIR, in accordance with Section 15065 of the State CEQA Guidelines. Mandatory Findings of Significance for the project were evaluated with regard to the information contained in this Environmental Analysis gathered during literature reviews (see Section 4.0, References, for a list of reference materials consulted).

The State CEQA Guidelines require the consideration of three questions when determining whether a project may have a significant effect on the environment:

(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?

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

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

Discussion. By its very nature, the Siting Element would have a significant beneficial impact since it establishes siting criteria, which all future solid waste disposal facilities are required to comply with. As such, this is protective to the health and safety of the public and the natural environmental resources. Specific solid waste disposal projects identified under the Siting Element may have their own environmental impacts and will be required to prepare their own specific environmental documents as mandated by CEQA.

Since the objective of this Siting Element is to establish solid waste planning and management policies for the entire Los Angeles County, these policies may have short-term, individually limited and/or environmental effects that could cause potentially significant impacts unless mitigation measures are incorporated.

The details of project-specific mitigation measures are beyond the scope of this environmental document and will be addressed in the environmental document for each facility in accordance with CEQA.

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SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL AND TRANSFORMATION FACILITY SITING CRITERIA

I. SITING CRITERIA

The criteria presented herein can be used to evaluate the suitability of locations for solid waste land disposal and transformation facilities.

These criteria are not intended to replace any existing or future requirements/regulations mandated by Federal, State, and/or local agencies. However, these criteria have not been developed to be used for exclusionary purposes. Rather, the criteria have been developed to assist in achieving the following objectives to safeguard the public health and safety when siting a solid waste land disposal/transformation facility:

- Protect the residents
- Ensure the structural stability and safety of the facility
- Protect surface water
- Protect groundwater
- Protect air quality
- Protect environmentally sensitive areas
- Ensure safe transportation of solid waste
- Protect the social and economic development goals of the community

Each objective is defined in terms of a series of factors. These factors are listed in **Table 6A-1**. The description of each factor (**Table 6A-2**) provides a definition of the factor; an explanation of the significance of each factor in terms of potential impacts of the facility and concerns likely to arise from the community; a set of criteria to allow application of each factor to a site; and, where applicable, procedures for mitigating potential adverse impacts. For each criteria, the applicable solid waste land disposal/transformation facility is specified; unless otherwise noted, "land disposal facilities" are defined as both Class III and Unclassified (inert) landfills. It should also be recognized that some of the factors listed may not be applicable to all types of solid waste land disposal/transformation facilities and, therefore, care should be used as to the applicability of individual factors.

The United States Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) defines a sanitary landfill as "a land disposal site employing an engineered method of disposing of solid wastes on land in a manner that minimizes environmental hazards by spreading the solid wastes in thin layers, compacting the solid wastes to the smallest practical volume, and applying a compacting cover material at the end of each operating day." (40 CFR 240.101 (w).)

The California Public Resources Code (PRC) defines solid wastes as "all putrescible and nonputrescible solid, semi-solid, and liquid wastes, including garbage, trash, refuse, paper, rubbish, ashes, industrial wastes, demolition and construction wastes, abandoned vehicles and parts thereof, discarded home and industrial appliances, dewatered, treated, or chemically fixed sewage sludge which is not hazardous waste, manure, vegetable or animal solid and semi-solid wastes, and other discarded solid and semi-solid wastes. It does not include hazardous waste, low-level radioactive wastes or medical wastes." (PRC Section 40191.)

California classifies landfills further by defining the acceptable material disposed, and the construction and safety standards for each landfill classification. These classifications are found in Title 23, Section 2520 et seq. of the CCR. As defined, Class III landfills can accept any type of non-hazardous solid waste for disposal. Unclassified landfills can accept only non-organic inert materials.

The CCR defines a transformation facility as "a facility whose principal function is to convert, combust, or otherwise process solid waste by incineration, pyrolysis, destructive distillation, or gasification, or chemically or biologically process solid wastes, for the purpose of volume reduction, synthetic fuel production, or energy recovery. A transformation facility does not include a composting facility." (14 CCR 18720(a)(77).)

II. USE OF THE SITING CRITERIA

The siting criteria presented here for the planning and evaluation of proposed sites for solid waste land disposal and transformation facilities have broad applicability in the siting process. For each phase of the siting process (i.e., site selection, site evaluation, site permitting, and facility permitting), the siting criteria can be applied either directly or indirectly during the decision making processes. The use of a standard set of siting criteria can add predictability to the siting process for all participants by providing uniformity in the planning and evaluation of proposed facilities. The siting criteria provide the proponent, the regulator, and the community with a rational set of factors on which to judge the attributes (both positive and negative) of a proposed facility.

In the site selection phase, the siting criteria provide the facility developer with a set of guidelines and constraints for screening potential sites for facilities. If the facility developer knows at the outset that the regulators will evaluate the proposed sites using the same set of criteria, the facility developer is less likely to propose a site deemed unacceptable in terms of the criteria. The developer can determine the best site location with respect to achieving the criteria and eliminate locations that are deficient with respect to one or more crucial siting factors, especially those where mitigation

measures would be limited, costly, or not feasible. The criteria also provide the facility developer with incentives to blend the proposed facility into existing and future land use patterns. In addition, the siting criteria were developed within the realm of current solid waste and environmental regulations applicable to facility siting, By meeting the criteria the proposed facility may likely encounter fewer problems in the permitting phase of the siting process.

In the site evaluation phase, the siting criteria provide the local land use planner and others with review responsibility, and with a uniform set of criteria for evaluating all proposals. In essence, the criteria act as the model against which all facility proposals can be compared. The criteria will identify pertinent issues which must be specifically addressed in the evaluation of the site and in the environmental impact assessment, particularly with regard to the adequacy of proposed mitigation and the need for additional mitigation. The criteria can also be used as a checklist to determine which issues are likely to be of concern and should be focused on in the public debate over the siting of the facility.

In the site permitting phase, the siting criteria provide the decision-maker with a uniform set of factors on which to base judgments. If the proponent, decision-maker, and the public all view the proposed facility in the same context (i.e., through a uniform set of criteria), then the decisions on the facility will be based on the attributes of the facility and not on emotionalism or arbitrary judgment. By building a rational decision-making process into the facility siting process, facility developers and decision-makers can work with each other rather than against each other.

In the facility permitting process, the regulators will evaluate the facility with respect to established performance criteria (i.e., current regulations). As these are incorporated into the siting criteria, the facility developer's use of the siting criteria will allow him to incorporate the performance criteria into his site selection and facility design decisions.

The siting criteria apply to both informal and formal review and evaluation processes. The selection of a site will likely involve an informal use of the criteria (e.g., preliminary decisions based on visual siting or secondary information), whereas the site evaluation and permitting components will require formal review and evaluation processes in the form of technical studies and preparation of environmental impact analyses. But whether the criteria are applied formally or informally, the siting criteria provide a uniform set of constraints, standards, and guidelines for use in evaluating proposed facilities within a rational decision-making process.

TABLE 6A-1
SUMMARY OF SITING CRITERIA AND SITING FACTORS

SITING CRITERIA OBJECTIVES	SITING FACTORS FOR EACH SITING CRITERIA OBJECTIVE
A. Protect the residents.	- Proximity to populations.
B. Ensure the structural stability and safety of the facility.	- Flood hazard areas. - Areas subject to tsunamis, seiches, and storm surges. - Proximity to active or potentially active faults. - Slope stability. - Subsidence/liquefaction. - Dam failure inundation areas.
C. Protect surface water.	- Aqueducts and reservoirs. - Discharge of treated effluent.
D. Protect groundwater.	- Proximity to supply wells and well fields. - Depth to groundwater. - Groundwater monitoring reliability. - Major aquifer recharge areas. - Permeability of surficial materials. - Existing groundwater quality.
E. Protect air quality.	- Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) areas. - Nonattainment areas. - Landfill surface emission.
F. Protect environmentally sensitive areas.	- Wetlands. - Proximity to habitats of threatened and endangered species. - Agricultural lands. - Natural, recreational, cultural, and aesthetic resources. - Significant ecological areas.
G. Ensure safe and economic transportation of solid wastes.	- Proximity to areas of waste generation. - Distance from major transportation routes. - Structures and properties fronting minor routes. - Highway accident rate. - Capacity versus Average Annual Daily Traffic of access route.
H. Protect social and economic development goals of the community.	- Consistency with the General Plan.

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SITING CRITERIA OBJECTIVES	SITING FACTORS FOR EACH SITING CRITERIA OBJECTIVE	DEFINITION OF THE SITING FACTORS	SIGNIFICANCE OF THE SITING FACTOR	CRITERIA FOR THE SITING FACTOR
A. PROTECT THE RESIDENTS	Proximity to populations.	"Proximity to populations" is defined as the distance from the active portion of the facility to one or more dwellings used by one or more persons as a permanent place of residence, or to structures inhabited by persons temporarily for purposes of work other than daily activity.	Solid waste land disposal/transformation facilities should be located such that the health, safety, and quality of life of nearby residents and other persons are not jeopardized from planned or fugitive air emissions, odors, vectors, fires, noise from facility operations, subsurface migration of potentially harmful substances, and other possible impacts. A host community should consider requiring either a buffer distance or natural or engineered barriers, such as berms, buildings, trees, fences, etc., between solid waste land disposal/transformation facilities and residences.	Land Disposal Facilities: Facility must be in conformance with local land use and zoning requirements of a county or city planning agency. Los Angeles County prohibits construction of buildings or structures on or within 1,000 feet of a land disposal facility which contains decomposable materials/waste unless the facility is isolated by an approved natural or manmade protection system. The Cities within Los Angeles County may have similar restrictions. Transformation Facilities: These facilities should be located where the zoning and existing land use are compatible with the proposed use. For example, an abandoned chemical plant site in an industrial district could be considered to be a compatible land use for a transformation facility.
B. ENSURE THE STRUCTURAL STABILITY AND SAFETY OF THE FACILITY.	Flood hazard areas.	**"Flood hazard areas"** are defined as areas which are prone to inundation by floods having a 100-year return period, and debris flows resulting from major storm events. These areas can be determined by checking the Federal Emergency Management Agency flood insurance maps or with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works.	Inundation of a solid waste land disposal/transformation facility by flood waters, debris, and/or flash flooding may lead to the physical transport of wastes, possibly impacting water quality and water-dependent species. In addition, flooding interrupts the operation of the facility and could stress leachate handling systems of a land disposal facility.	All Facilities: Disposal facilities must comply with requirements of the Federal Clean Water Act, as amended, and local Stormwater/Urban Runoff requirements. Land Disposal Facilities: Federal and State regulations require new, existing, and expansions of existing Class III landfills to be designed, constructed, operated, and maintained to prevent inundation or washout due to floods with a 100-year return period. In addition, the landfill must not reduce the flow of a 100-year flood or reduce the temporary storage capacity of the floodplain.
	Areas subject to tsunamis, seiches, and storm surges.	**"Areas subject to tsunamis, seiches, and storm surges"** are defined as areas bordering oceans, bays, inlets, estuaries, or similar bodies of water which may flood due to tsunamis (commonly known as tidal waves), seiches (vertically oscillating standing waves usually occurring in enclosed bodies of water such as lakes, reservoirs, and harbors caused by seismic activity, violent winds, or changes in atmospheric pressure), or storm surges.	Inundation of a facility by flood waters may lead to the physical transport of waste, possibly impacting water quality and water-dependent species. In addition, flooding interrupts the operation of the facility and could stress the leachate handling system of a land disposal facility. Areas subject to tsunamis, seiches, and storm surges include the coastal areas of Los Angeles County. Inland lakes and reservoirs could be subject to seiching and storm surges. Coastal development is heavily restricted by Federal and State regulations, including the California Coastal Act of 1976.	All Facilities: Disposal facilities should avoid locating in areas subject to tsunamis, seiches, and storm surges unless designed, constructed, operated, and maintained to preclude failure due to such events.
B. ENSURE THE STRUCTURAL	Proximity to active or potentially	**"An active fault"** is defined as a fault along which surface displacement has	The stability of a facility, a major concern for permanent facilities, is related to the potential	All Facilities:

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STABILITY AND SAFETY OF THE FACILITY.	active faults.	occurred during Holocene time (about the last 11,000 years) and is associated with one or more of the following: • A recorded earthquake with surface rupture • Fault creep slippage • Displaced survey lines **"A potentially active fault"** is defined as a fault showing evidence of surface displacement during Quaternary time (from the last 11,000 years to about the last 2 to 3 million years) and characterized by the following: • Considerable length, e.g., over 30 miles • Association with an alignment of numerous earthquake epicenters • Continuity with faults having historic displacement • Association with youthful major mountain scarps or ranges • Correlation with strong geophysical anomalies	for movement of the earth along fault zones.	All facilities are to be designed and constructed in accordance with the local building code. <u>Class III Land Disposal Facilities:</u> Federal and State regulations prohibit the locating a new Class III landfill or a lateral expansion of an existing Class III landfill on a known Holocene Fault.
	Slope stability.	**"Slope stability"** is defined as the relative degree to which the site will be vulnerable to the forces of gravity, such as erosion, landslide, soil creep, earth flow, or any other mass movement of earth material which might cause a breach or carry wastes away from a facility, or inundate the facility.	The long-term containment of solid wastes at a site requires that the site be located in a geomorphic environment which does not encourage long-term instability by the processes of landslides and mass movement. The State of California prohibits the locating of new Class III landfills within areas of potential rapid geological change, including landslides and mass movement, unless containment structures are designed, constructed, and maintained to preclude failure.	<u>All Facilities:</u> Facilities located within these areas should have engineered design safety features to assure structural stability.
	Subsidence/Liquefaction.	**"Subsidence"** is defined as a sinking of the land surface following the removal of solid mineral matter or fluids (water or oil) from the rock beneath. **"Liquefaction"** refers to surface materials that develop liquid properties upon being physically disturbed.	Subsidence of the land may weaken the structural integrity of a facility. Liquefaction can quickly convert soil materials to fluid masses, resulting in the lateral spreading and subsidence of surface materials, and threatening the structural integrity of the facility.	<u>All Facilities:</u> Avoid locating in areas determined to have a high potential for failure due to subsidence or liquefaction unless containment structures are designed, constructed, and maintained to preclude failure as a result of such change.
	Dam failure inundation areas.	**"Dam failure inundation areas"** are defined as areas immediately adjacent to a river or stream below an embankment or masonry dam which would be inundated by the flow of water from the impoundment created by the dam if the dam were to fail.	Failures of large U.S. dams in the past 47 years illustrate the potential destruction to natural and manmade features in the danger reach. Dam impoundments have the potential to create a flood hazard which would have the same or worse effects as those associated with flood hazard areas. Dam owners in California are required by the State Office of Emergency Services to prepare and submit dam failure inundation maps to local jurisdictions for use on local land use planning activities.	<u>All Facilities:</u> Facilities should be located outside dam failure inundation areas.
C. PROTECT SURFACE WATER.	Aqueducts and reservoirs.	**"Aqueducts"** are defined as conduits for conveying drinking water supplies. **"Reservoirs"** are defined as impoundments for containing drinking water supplies	Run-off or drainage from a facility could possibly enter aqueducts or reservoirs depending upon a number of factors.	<u>All Facilities:</u>

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		with minimal natural drainage areas.		Disposal facilities must comply with requirements of the Federal Clean Water Act, as amended, and local Stormwater/Urban Runoff requirements. Class III Land Disposal Facilities: Federal and State regulations require new and existing Class III landfills to be fitted with subsurface barriers, as well as precipitation and drainage control facilities.
	Discharge of treated effluent.	**"Discharge of treated effluent"** is defined as the availability of wastewater treatment facilities to accept wastewater (effluent), or the ability to discharge treated effluent, when permitted, directly into a stream, including a dry stream bed, or into the ocean through a State-permitted outfall.	Some facilities will generate a treated effluent requiring discharge to receiving waters. Facilities could discharge to sanitary sewers, with the appropriate regulatory agency requiring adequate pretreatment of wastewaters to a specified level before discharge.	Facilities Generating Wastewaters: Facilities should be located in areas with adequate sewer capacity to accommodate the expected wastewater discharge. If sewers are not available, on-site treatment should be considered. Alternately, wastewaters could also be transported in bulk via highways to facilities capable of treating them. Facilities discharging into streams or into the ocean, directly or via storm drains, will require National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits issued by the Regional Water Quality Control Board. The NPDES permit sets limitations on the quantity and quality of the waste discharges, and may specify engineering and technical requirements to ensure compliance.
D. PROTECT GROUNDWATER.	Proximity to supply wells and well fields.	**"Proximity to supply wells and well fields"** is defined as the distance to areas used for extraction of groundwater drinking water supplies by high capacity production wells as identified by the presence of several wells that constitute a well field.	Areas that are immediately adjacent to wells and well fields may be extremely susceptible to contamination due to increased gradients and velocities caused by extraction of large volumes of water. An increased risk is associated with locating land disposal facilities in near proximity to existing production wells due to the potential danger of contaminating water.	Land Disposal Facilities: Facilities must meet the State of California's geologic setting criteria for ensuring no impairment of beneficial uses of surface water or of groundwater beneath or adjacent to the landfill.
D. PROTECT GROUNDWATER.	Depth to groundwater.	**"Depth to groundwater"** is defined as the minimum seasonal depth to the highest anticipated elevation of underlying groundwater from the bottom of any proposed waste containing facility.	If the water table rises above the bottom of a facility, it may breach the facility liner or foundations and come into direct contact with the waste, causing groundwater contamination to occur.	Land Disposal Facilities: For Class III landfills, all containment structures must be capable of withstanding

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				hydraulic pressure gradients to prevent failure due to settlement, compression, or uplift as certified by a registered civil engineer or engineering geologist registered in California. Federal and State regulations require new and expansions of existing Class III landfills to be fitted with containment structures that meet specified permeability standards. In addition, the facility must be fitted with a groundwater collection system and a leachate collection and removal system. Furthermore, facilities must meet the State of California's minimum requirements for ensuring no impairment of beneficial use of surface water or of groundwater beneath or adjacent to the landfill, which also includes location restrictions.
	Groundwater monitoring reliability.	**"Groundwater monitoring reliability"** is the reliability of a scientifically designed monitoring program to measure, observe, and evaluate groundwater quality and flow.	A reliable groundwater monitoring system around a facility is required to provide an early warning detection system for possible contaminant migration within the facility property boundaries. Corrective measures and remedial action are more effective and less expensive if initiated during the early stages of any contaminant migration. To assure that groundwater is reliably monitored, a facility should be located where the following can be characterized, modeled, and analyzed with a relatively high degree of confidence: • Subsurface geology • Hydrologic characteristics • Direction and magnitude of groundwater flow This implies that the site should be geologically and hydrologically uniform.	Land Disposal Facilities: Facilities must comply with the California Regional Water Quality Control Board permit requirements for groundwater monitoring.
	Major aquifer recharge areas.	**"Major aquifer recharge areas"** are defined as regions of principal recharge to major regional aquifers, as identified in the existing literature or by hydrogeologic experts familiar with Southern California. Such recharge areas are typically found in: • Outcrop or subcrop areas of major water-yielding facies of confined aquifers. • Outcrop or subcrop areas of confining units which supply major recharge to underlying regional aquifers.	Aquifers receive their principal water supplies from areas which allow water infiltrating from the land surface to rapidly recharge the aquifer.	Land Disposal Facilities: Facilities must meet the State of California's minimum requirements for ensuring no impairment of beneficial use of surface water or of groundwater beneath or adjacent to the landfill, which also includes location restrictions.
D. PROTECT GROUNDWATER.	Permeability of surficial materials.	**"Permeability of surficial materials"** is defined as the ability of geologic materials at the earth's surface to infiltrate and percolate water.	The surficial materials overlying major water bearing formations in an area provides a pathway for vertical migration of potential contaminants. Permeable geologic materials can allow rapid movement of pollutants into major regional aquifers. Thick deposits of fine-grained materials of low hydraulic conductivity retard the rate of vertical percolation of	Land Disposal Facilities: federal and State regulations require new and lateral expansions of existing Class III landfill facilities to be undertaln by a composite liner, consisting of a

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			pollutants to the groundwater, and provide an opportunity for detection and control of pollutant releases before it contaminates aquifers. Materials having a low permeability tend also to have favorable attenuation characteristics for individual contaminants.	lower clay liner and an upper synthetic membrane, and which is of sufficient thickness to prevent vertical movement of fluids including waste and leachate. The lower component of which shall consist of a minimum of two feet of compacted soil/clay with a hydraulic conductivity of no more than $1x10^{-7}$ cm/sec. Facilities must meet the State of California's minimum requirements for ensuring no impairment of beneficial use of surface water or of groundwater beneath or adjacent to the landfill, which also includes location restrictions.
	Existing groundwater quality.	**"Existing groundwater quality"** is defined as the chemical quality of the groundwater in comparison to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) Interim, Primary, and Secondary Drinking Water Standards; and, for constituents with no standards-to-follow guidelines suggested by research and reported in literature.	The significance of the potential impact of a facility on groundwater quality is related to the actual potential use of the groundwater. The USEPA has released guidelines defining protection policies for three classes of groundwater, based on their respective value and their vulnerability to contamination. The three classes are: • Class I: Groundwater that is highly vulnerable to contamination and characterized by being irreplaceable or ecologically vital. These are designated as Special Groundwaters. • Class II: Current or potential sources of drinking waters having other beneficial uses. • Class III: Groundwaters not considered potential sources of drinking water and of limited beneficial use or otherwise contaminated beyond levels that allow cleanup using reasonably employed treatment methods.	Land Disposal Facilities: Facilities must meet the California Regional Water Quality Control Board's minimum water quality protection standards and criteria in order to ensure no impairment of the beneficial uses of groundwater beneath or adjacent to the landfill.
E. PROTECT AIR QUALITY.	Prevention of significant deterioration (PSD) areas.	**"Prevention of significant deterioration (PSD)"** areas are defined as areas in attainment of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for one or more criteria pollutants. PSD areas are divided into three classes. Class I includes international parks, national wilderness areas exceeding 5,000 acres, national memorial parks exceeding 5,000 acres, and other areas approved by the EPA	The prevention of significant deterioration of high quality airsheds is mandatory under the Clean Air Amendments of 1990. Any new source meeting the statutory definition of either a new major source or modification to a major source locating in a PSD area must meet stringent conditions, including the installation of Best Available Control Technology (BACT), before initial construction or major modifications are allowed. Sources required to submit to	All Facilities: Facilities subject to PSD regulations will be required to submit Federal Title V permit applications to the SCAQMD for preconstruction review and apply BACT. All facilities locating in the South Coast Air Basin will be required to apply BACT

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		Administrator. All other areas are classified as Class II.	PSD preconstruction review are: • *A new major stationary source where the increase in potential to emit is either 100 or 250 tons per year, depending on source category;* • A significant emission increase of an attainment pollutant at an existing major stationary source; • A net emission increase at a major stationary source located within 10 kilometers of a Class I PSD area, if the emission increase would impact the Class I area by 1.0 $\mu g/m^3$ (24-hour average). The South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD), through the authority of the USEPA, is managing the PSD program in the South Coast Air Basin. The District's PSD regulations require, among other things, BACT for all stationary sources with a net emission increase of a criteria pollutant.	for any net emission increase of an attainment criteria air pollutant and demonstrate compliance with all other air quality rules and regulations. <u>Transformation Facilities:</u> In addition, the SCAQMD is required under Section 42315 of the California Health and Safety Code (H&SC) to perform a health risk assessment and make a determination that no significant increase in illness or mortality is anticipated by a project before issuing or renewing a permit to construct or operate.
	Nonattainment areas.	**"Nonattainment areas"** are defined as areas in which the level of one or more of the criteria pollutants (particulates, ozone, nitrogen oxides, sulfur dioxide, carbon monoxide, and lead) exceed the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS).	Federal law requires states to implement air pollution control programs to improve or preserve existing air quality in accordance with the NAAQS. Facilities, particularly incinerators, will emit pollutants in quantities which may exceed allowable limits. The South Coast Air Basin is non-attainment for ozone and fine particulates ($PM_{2.5}$). Facilities emitting nonattainment air contaminants and their precursors, such as volatile organic compounds, nitrogen oxides, and sulfur dioxide, will be subject to New Source Review requirements including application of BACT or Lowest Achievable Emission Rate (LAER). Net cumulative emission increase exceeding certain threshold limits will require the obtaining of offsets to balance the increased pollutant levels.	<u>All Facilities:</u> Facilities emitting non-attainment air contaminants will be required to submit permit applications to SCAQMD for preconstruction review, demonstrate compliance with the New Sources Review requirements, as well as the requirements of all other applicable air quality rules and regulations, and obtain a permit to Construct and a Permit to Operate from the SCAQMD. Air pollution control requirements for criteria and toxic air contaminants may vary depending on facility type, process equipment used, and, to a lesser extent, facility location. <u>Transformation Facilities:</u> In addition, the SCAQMD is required under Section 42315 of the H&SC to perform a health risk assessment and make a determination that no significant increase in illness or mortality is anticipated by a project before issuing or renewing a permit to construct or operate.
E. PROTECT AIR QUALITY.	Landfill surface emission.	Landfill gases can be generated as a result of organic waste decomposition process. These gases generally consist of methane, carbon dioxide, with small quantities of hydrogen sulfide and carbon chain substances.	Methane gas, produced from the decomposition of organic materials, can be emitted from Class III land disposal facilities without a landfill gas control system.	<u>Land Disposal Facilities:</u> Class III land disposal facilities are subject to the SCAQMD rules and regulations. All existing and proposed Class III land disposal facilities must comply with SCAQMD Rule 1150.1 "Control of Gaseous Emissions from Municipal Solid Waste Landfills"; and Title 40, Section 60 of the Code of Federal Regulations

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				"Standard of Performance for Municipal Solid Waste Landfills." These Rules require installation of a landfill gas control system and perimeter monitoring probes, and implementation of a monitoring program to ensure that landfill surface emissions do not exceed specified SCAQMD standards.
F. PROTECTION OF ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE AREAS.	Wetlands.	**"Wetlands"** are defined as areas, such as saltwater, freshwater, and brackish swamps, marshes, or bogs inundated by surface or groundwater with a frequency to support, under normal circumstances, a prevalence of vegetative or aquatic life that requires saturated or seasonally saturated soil conditions for growth and reproduction.	The preservation of wetlands area is critical to preserve a balanced ecosystem. The location of a land disposal facility in a wetlands area could result in the loss of critical habitats, loss of the wetlands for groundwater recharge, and an increase in the potential for pollutant dispersal in ground and surface waters. Wetlands areas are located primarily along the coast and near embayments and estuaries. Development in coastal areas, and wetlands areas in particular, is restricted by Federal and State regulations, including the California Coastal Act of 1976.	Transformation Facilities: Facilities should avoid locating in current wetlands areas, as defined in adopted general, regional, and State plans, unless: (a) industrial usage is permitted by the local government's land use planning or zoning, and (b) fish, plant, and wildlife resources can be maintained and enhanced in a portion of the site, or preserved elsewhere in the area. Land Disposal Facilities: Facilities should be located outside wetland areas, as defined in adopted general, regional, and State plans.
	Proximity to habitats of threatened and endangered species.	**"Habitats of threatened and endangered species"** are defined as areas known to be inhabited permanently or seasonally or known to be critical at any stage in the life cycle of any species of wildlife or vegetation identified or being considered for identification as "endangered" or "threatened" by the U.S. Department of Interior or the State of California.	Threatened and endangered species are important as biological resources because of the irreversibility of species extinction. The loss of such species would seriously interfere with the health of the ecosystem and deter human education and research.	All Facilities: A facility should not locate in habitats of threatened or endangered species unless the local land use authority makes a determination that a proposed facility is compatible with the surrounding resources and does not pose a substantial threat to the resource.
	Agricultural lands.	**"Agricultural lands"** are defined as lands zoned countywide and/or used locally for agricultural use.	Farmlands and other agricultural lands are natural and economic resources essential for food production. These lands serve both private and public interests in terms of food, jobs, and open space preservation.	Land Disposal Facilities: A facility located in areas zoned for agricultural uses must obtain a local land use permit from the local jurisdiction.
	Natural, recreational, cultural, and aesthetic resources.	**"Natural, recreational, cultural, and aesthetic resources"** are defined as public and private lands having local, regional, state, or national significance, value, or importance. These lands include national, state, regional, county, and local parks and recreation areas, historic and prehistoric resources, wild and scenic rivers, scenic highways, and public and private preservation areas.	Facilities sited in these areas could adversely impact the natural, recreational, cultural, or aesthetic value of the lands.	All Facilities: Facilities should avoid locating in these areas unless the applicant can demonstrate that a facility is compatible with the land use in the area.
	Significant ecological areas.	**"Significant ecological areas"** are defined as areas which possess biotic resources that are uncommon, rare, unique, or critical to the maintenance of wildlife on a federal, state, or countywide basis.	The preservation of significant ecological areas is critical for the protection and preservation of biological resources or for maintaining natural ecosystems.	All Facilities: Location of a proposed facility must be in conformance with a local jurisdiction's General Plan and abide by federal and state regulations regarding unique or protected species and their habitat.
G. ENSURE SAFE TRANSPORTATION OF	Proximity to areas of waste generation.	**"Proximity to areas of waste generation"** is defined as travel time from the wasteshed areas to the proposed facility.	The greater the distance between a wasteshed area and a proposed facility will result in the increase of transportation costs; emission of air pollutants; and risk in vehicle accidents.	All Facilities:

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SITING CRITERIA OBJECTIVES AND FACTORS

SITING CRITERIA OBJECTIVES	SITING FACTORS FOR EACH SITING CRITERIA OBJECTIVE	DEFINITION OF THE SITING FACTORS	SIGNIFICANCE OF THE SITING FACTOR	CRITERIA FOR THE SITING FACTOR
SOLID WASTE.			Generators also benefit from shorter travel requirements. Transportation costs can have a *marked impact on waste management costs.* High transportation costs could possibly induce some generators to use unsafe disposal practices.	Facilities should be centrally located near wastesheet areas to minimize potential impacts associated with greater travel distances. Alternate transportation, by rail, may be evaluated in regard to specific sites to be located at distant areas from the wastesheet.
	Distance from major routes.	**"Distance from major routes"** is defined as the distance along a minor route (city street, boulevard, or undivided highway) that a truck must travel to reach the facility after leaving the major route (street or interstate divided highway).	Public concern over a hauler's route is heightened when transportation occurs over roads not constructed for heavy truck traffic, not intended for it, or containing many restrictions such as traffic lights or horizontal and vertical curves. The distance on minor routes should be kept to a minimum to avoid interference with commercial or residential traffic and reduce the risks of accidents.	All Facilities: Distance traveled on minor roads should be kept to a minimum. Facilities are best located near an exit of a major route or accessed from major routes via routes used locally for truck traffic. Alternatively, local roads could be upgraded by increasing their load capacity, improving traffic controls, or building truck-only lanes or routes. The facility developer may build a direct access road to avoid the minor route(s).
	Structures and properties fronting minor routes.	**"Structures and properties fronting minor routes"** are defined by the number and type of residences, schools, hospitals, and shopping centers having primary access from the transportation route between the entrance of a facility and the nearest major route.	A great increase in truck traffic, particularly on roads used primarily by cars, may cause considerable noise, congestion, and disruption of normal daily activities.	All Facilities: Facilities should be located such that any minor routes from the major route to the facility are used primarily by trucks, and the number of nonindustrial structures (homes, hospitals, schools, etc.) is minimal.
	Highway accident rate.	**"Highway accident rate"** is defined as the occurrence of minor to fatal accidents per vehicle miles traveled, as recorded by the California Department of Transportation.	Accident rates vary significantly by type of road and average annual daily traffic (AADT). Accident rates should, however, be analyzed in conjunction with information about the percentage of truck usage and the design of the road. The accident rate alone should not be used to judge the safety of the highway.	All Facilities: The minimum time path from major wastesheet areas to a facility should follow highways with low to moderate average annual daily traffic and accident rates as guided by the research and findings of state, regional, county, and city transportation planners.
	Capacity versus average annual daily traffic (AADT) of access roads.	**"Capacity versus average annual daily traffic (AADT) of access roads"** is defined as the number of vehicles the road is designed to handle versus the number of vehicles it does handle on a daily basis, averaged over a period of one year.	Roads currently handling at or near the maximum number of vehicles should not be considered good routes for the transport of solid waste. Ideally the roads best suited for solid waste transportation are those on which the additional vehicles serving the facility will have little or no impact on the AADT relative to the capacity.	All Facilities: The changes in the ratio capacity to AADT should be negligible after calculating the number of trucks on the major and minor routes expected to service the facility.

APPENDIX 6A
TABLE 6A-2
SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL AND TRANSFORMATION FACILITY
SITING CRITERIA OBJECTIVES AND FACTORS

SITING CRITERIA OBJECTIVES	SITING FACTORS FOR EACH SITING CRITERIA OBJECTIVE	DEFINITION OF THE SITING FACTORS	SIGNIFICANCE OF THE SITING FACTOR	CRITERIA FOR THE SITING FACTOR
8. PROTECT THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GOALS OF THE COMMUNITY.	Consistency with the General Plan.	"Consistency with the General Plan" is defined as consistency of the proposed facility with the long-term goals of the county or city as expressed by its local planning instruments: the General Plan and implementing ordinances.	'Local Planning' is an ongoing process of directing growth and development in accordance with previously formulated plans, policy documents, ordinances, and actions. The State of California requires by law that counties and cities develop a General Plan and implementing ordinances. The Los Angeles County General Plan sets forth policies for the unincorporated areas in the County. This plan was coordinated with the cities in the County and basically reflects the planning efforts of these cities. A General Plan contains policy statements and guidelines reflecting the County's or city's outlook on future growth and development. Zoning ordinances are used as a principal means of implementing the General Plan. Each zone represents a special application of land use regulations and guidelines. This zoning, as required by State law, must be consistent with the adopted General Plan. Consistency between the facility and local planning is necessary to ensure that the facility development will not interfere with the achievement of city or County goals. Preferred sites are usually those that area away from residential areas and areas well-served by utilities.	All Facilities: The proposed facility must be consistent with the county or city General Plan. However, the applicant may petition for an amendment to the General Plan. In addition, the proposed facility must be found to be in conformance with the Countywide Siting Element of the County of Los Angeles. This is accomplished by obtaining a valid Finding of Conformance granted by the Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force.

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Los Angeles, CA 90041
(323) 258-8078

Encino-Tarzana Library
18231 Ventura Blvd.
Tarzana, CA 91356
(818) 343-1983

Florence Library
1610 E. Florence Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90001
(323) 581-8028

La Crescenta Library
2809 Foothill Blvd.
La Crescenta, CA 91214
(818) 248-5313

Lancaster Regional Library
601 W. Lancaster Blvd.
Lancaster, CA 93534
(661) 948-5029

Lennox Library
4359 Lennox Blvd.
Lennox, CA 90304
(310) 674-0385

Littlerock Library
35119 80th Street East
Littlerock, CA 93543
(661) 944-4138

Lynwood Library
11320 Bulliss Rd.
Lynwood, CA 90262
(310) 635-7121

Rowland Heights Library
1850 Nogales St.
Rowland Heights, CA 91748
(626) 912-5348

South Whittier Library
14433 Leffingwell Rd.
Whittier, CA 90604
(562) 946-4415

Temple City Library
5939 Golden West Ave.
Temple City, CA 91780
(626) 285-2136

Valencia Library
23743 W. Valencia Blvd.
Santa Clarita, CA 91355
(661) 259-8942

View Park Library
3854 W. 54th St.
Los Angeles, CA 90043
(323) 293-5371

West Covina Library
1601 W. Covina Parkway
West Covina, CA 91790
(626) 962-3541

Westwood Library
1246 Glendon Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90024
(310) 474-1739

Wilmington Library
1300 N. Avalon Blvd.
Wilmington, CA 90744
(310) 834-1082