

**PROGRAMMATIC
INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE
DECLARATION**

THE CITY OF DOWNEY PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

MASTER PLAN

CITY OF DOWNEY, CALIFORNIA

Submitted to:

City of Downey
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SECTION I - INTRODUCTION

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

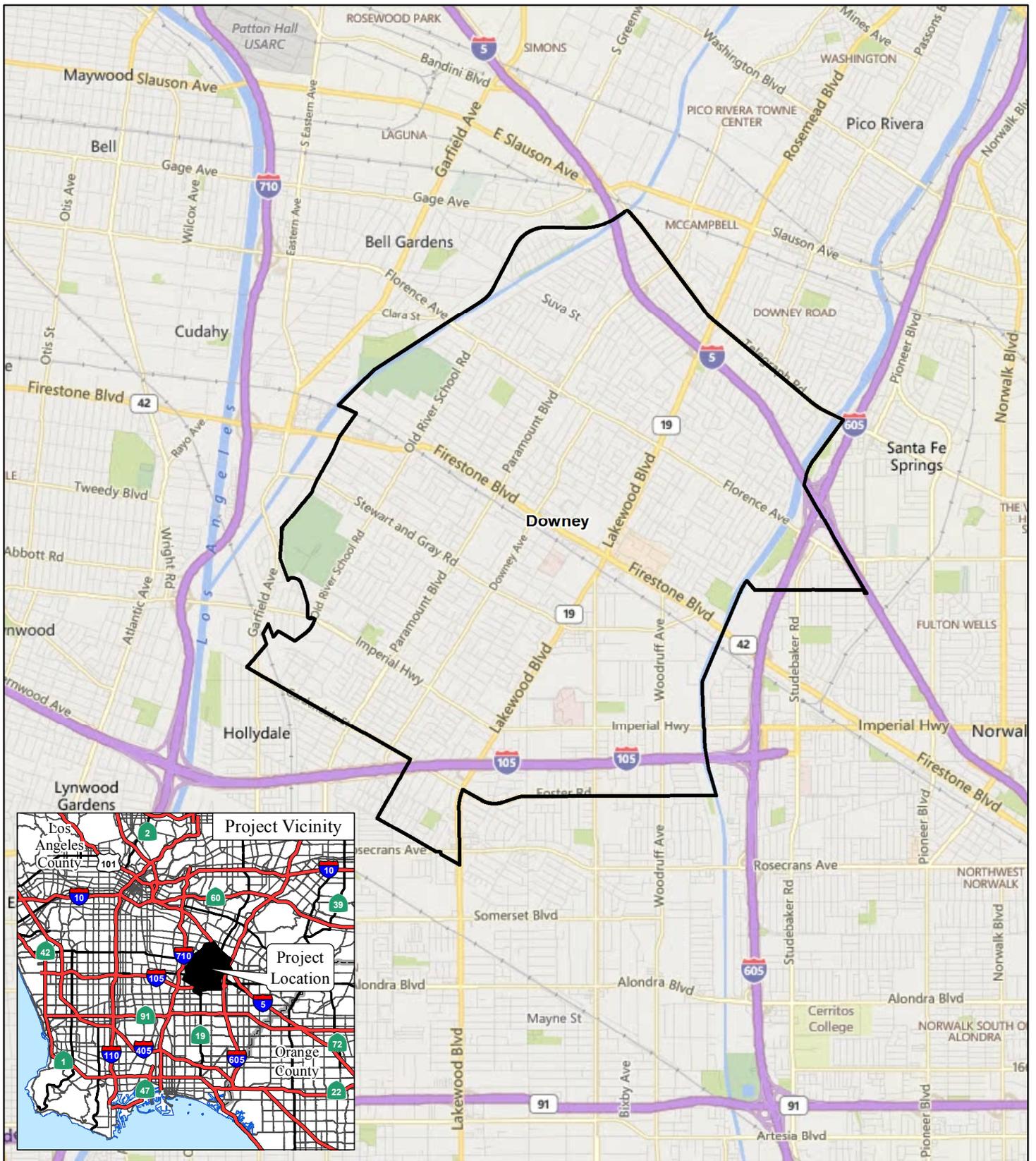
The proposed project consists of the adoption of the City of Downey Parks and Open Space Master Plan (Master Plan). The Master Plan is intended to serve as a guide and implementation tool for the management and development of parks and recreational facilities and programs within the City of Downey (City) (Figure 1). The Master Plan does not include any site-specific designs, grant any entitlements for development, or change any land use designations or zoning. The proposed Master Plan would be used by the City to determine how to best meet the future park and open space needs of its citizens through development, redevelopment, expansion, and enhancement of the City's parks system, open spaces, trails, recreational facilities, and programs.

The proposed Master Plan seeks to:

- Acquire, develop, redevelop, and maintain quality parks and trails that support equity of access by users, connectivity, and create a positive sense of place for all residents in the City.
- Improve the overall existing condition of parks and community facilities that will encourage greater positive use by residents in the City.
- Update community facilities both indoor and outdoor to maximize their use and appreciation by the community for people of all ages; to enhance the value of sports and fitness, quality of life, arts, and social places for the community to gather; and celebrate healthy living in the City.

The Master Plan was developed over the course of 16 months. The development process of the Master Plan provided opportunities for the community to share issues and concerns regarding improvements to facilities and services, fostered public dialogue regarding expectations, solutions, and vision for parks and recreation, and allowed the community to author recommendations regarding program and facility priorities. The proposed Master Plan builds on previous planning efforts, including the City of Downey Vision 2025 General Plan, the Bicycle Master Plan, the Downtown Specific Plan, the Downey Civic Center Master Plan, the Downey Energy Action Plan, the Downey Parks and Recreation: Draft Assessment, the Downey Unified School District Master Plan, the Emerald Necklace Expanded Vision Plan, and the Los Angeles Countywide Comprehensive Park and Recreation Needs Assessment.

The Master Plan is intended to be flexible, and presents findings and recommendations that should be evaluated, validated, and/or modified periodically as the City of Downey Parks and Recreation Department responds to unforeseen opportunities and constraints as well as changes in residents' needs and demands in the context of other City priorities. As such, the recommendations in the Master Plan are intended to be flexible guidelines that are adaptable to changing conditions, not an exacting set of rules to be followed.



LSA

LEGEND

 City of Downey Boundary



SOURCE: Bing Maps (2014); SCAG (2010)

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FIGURE 1

*Downey Parks and Open
Space Master Plan
Project Location*

DEVELOPMENT OF THE MASTER PLAN

The City conducted a thorough outreach and research campaign to identify existing conditions and prioritize future investment in parks and open space in the City. The City relied on a recreational facility needs assessment to identify the current and future recreational facility needs of the community and relative priority of each facility. In addition, the City took an inventory of recreational programs offered through the Parks and Recreation Department. Based on findings, the Master Plan provides facility recommendations, which are intended to address the needs identified through earlier research efforts.

The City's General Plan includes classifications for three park types (Pocket Park, Neighborhood Park, and Community Park), but does not include definitions for the park classifications. The proposed Master Plan defines the existing park classification system to identify uses and acceptable features of each park type. The Master Plan also defines two subcategories of Community Park; Community Sports Park and Civic Center Community Park, as well as two other facility types, Joint Use School Facilities and Special Use Facilities.

PROJECT CHARACTERISTICS

Increase in Park Acreage

The City of Downey Vision 2025 General Plan (2005) references a National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) standard of minimum park acreage of 1.5 acres per 1,000 residents. At the time of its publication (2005), the General Plan indicated an acreage shortfall of 50 acres in meeting this goal. Based on a 2015 estimate of population of 113,543 and a total of 117 acres of parkland, this deficit has increased to 53 acres. By 2035, if no new parkland is added and the community continues to grow as anticipated (to 118,994 by 2035), a parkland deficit of 61 acres is predicted. The NRPA no longer provides acreage standards for communities. The proposed Master Plan provides community needs as an alternate strategy to consider for the City's parkland acreage standard. The Master Plan analysis concluded that there is a current need for 211.2 acres of parkland to meet the current demand for park space, which will grow to 227.2 acres by 2035, a deficit of 94.2 acres for 2015 and 110.2 acres for 2035. In order to meet the demand for park space identified in the Acreage Analysis, the City would adopt a 1.9 acres per 1000 residents need for park space, which is higher than the 1.5 acres per 1000 residents established in the General Plan.

Recreational Facility Recommendations

The proposed Master Plan identifies two broad categories of recreational facility recommendations: maintenance and operations improvements to existing facilities; and community needs recommendations. Recreational facility recommendations by park site are summarized below and shown in Figure 2.

Maintenance and Operations Improvements

Apollo Park. Facility recommendations include various upgrades to existing facilities, including conversion to synthetic turf, improvements to the north bathroom, compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements, and playground renovations. No new or expanded facilities are proposed.

Barbara J. Riley Community and Senior Center. Facility recommendations consist of operational and maintenance upgrades with new sustainability upgrades, such as retrofitting exterior lighting to LED, and installing a cool roof and photovoltaic panels. No new or expanded facilities are proposed.

Brookshire Children's Park. Facility recommendations consist of operational and maintenance upgrades, including recycled water improvements, picnic tables, and drinking fountains. No new or expanded facilities are proposed.

Crawford Park. Facility recommendations include playground renovation, slurry parking lot, ADA parking and accessible entry, and turf and irrigation renovation. A 20-foot trail access is also proposed.

Columbus High School Fields. Facility recommendations for Columbus High School Fields include converting the soccer field to synthetic turf and installing lights at the sports fields. No new or expanded facilities are proposed.

Dennis the Menace Park. Facility recommendations include various upgrades to existing facilities, new park landscape lighting, resurfacing the playground, bathroom upgrades, community building upgrades, and replacing fencing. No new or expanded facilities are proposed.

Discovery Sports Complex. Facility recommendations consist of operational and maintenance upgrades including converting soccer fields to synthetic turf, ADA accessibility upgrades, and new sports field lighting. An expansion to the infiltration basin is also recommended.

Furman Park. Facility recommendations consist of operational and maintenance upgrades, including recycled water improvements, parking lot improvements, field lighting, and interior lighting retrofits. New bleacher seating for sports fields and backstops are also proposed.

Golden Park. Facility recommendations include various operation and maintenance upgrades such as recycled water improvements, renovations to turf, picnic areas, and parking lot, new ADA ramps and improved field lighting. Other recommendations include renovations to the front plaza of the community building, new storage space for sports equipment, and the conversion of the softball field to a game field.

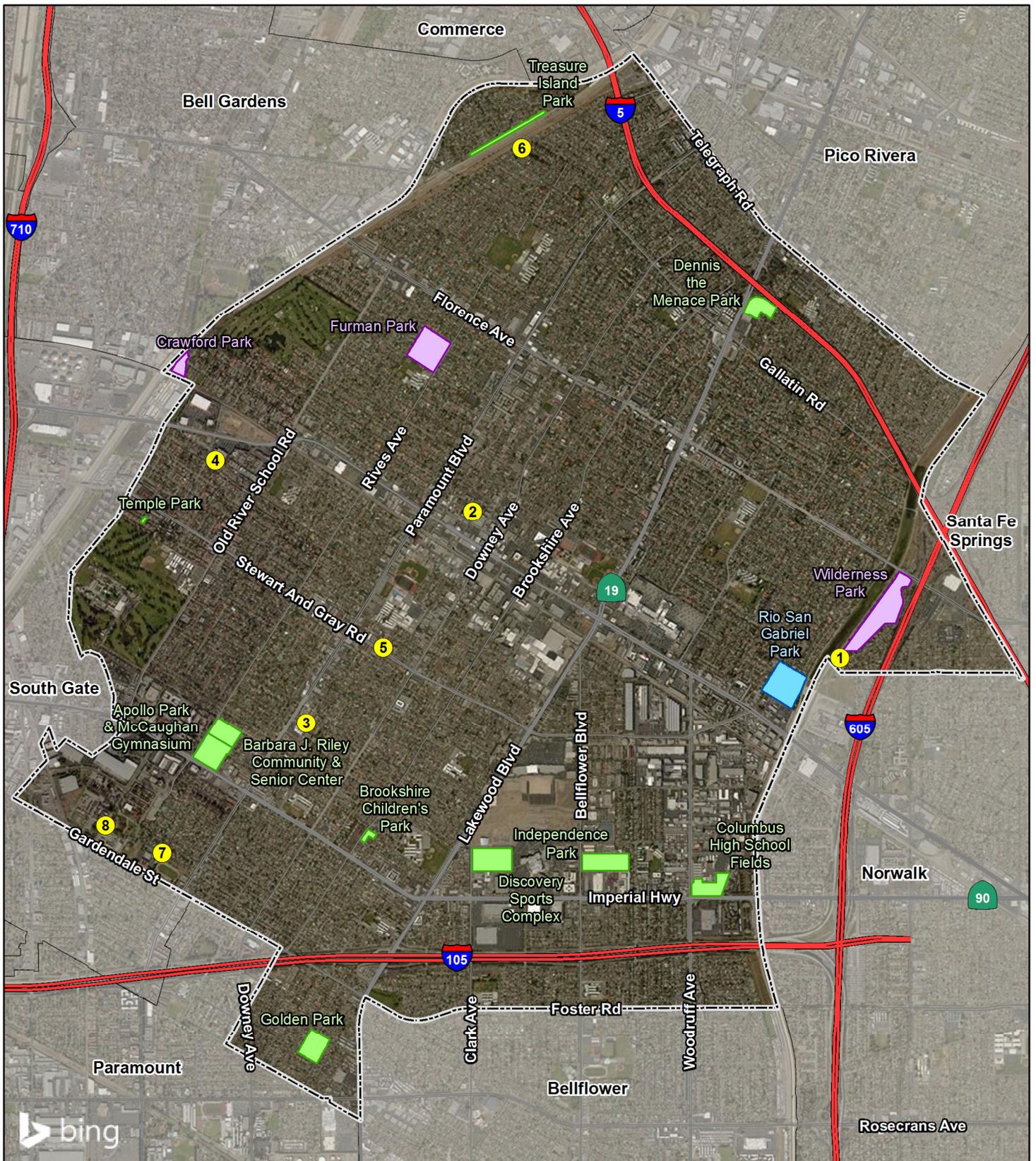
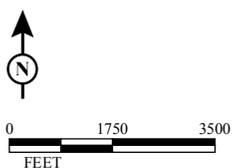


FIGURE 2

LSA

LEGEND

- Opportunity Sites
- City of Downey Boundary
- Upgrades Only
- Change in Use and Upgrades
- New Facilities and Upgrades



SOURCE: Bing Maps (2014); SCAG (2010)
 F:\RJM1402\GIS\Parks_OppSites.mxd (5/18/2016)

*Downey Parks and Open
 Space Master Plan*
 Existing Parks and Opportunity Sites

Independence Park. Facility recommendations consist of operational and maintenance upgrades to existing facilities. Recommendations include turf and irrigation improvements, parking lot, and tennis court renovations, ADA accessibility upgrades, and replacing existing restrooms and trellises connected to the tennis facility. No new or expanded facilities are proposed.

Rio San Gabriel Park. Facility recommendations for Rio San Gabriel Park include converting the existing park to passive use, and upgrades to the ballfield restroom and the community building. A new decomposed granite walking trail is also proposed.

Temple Park. Facility recommendations include turf and irrigation renovation, maintenance improvements, and a new flag pole with lighting. No new or expanded facilities are proposed.

Treasure Island Park. Facility recommendations include recycled water and maintenance improvements and an ADA parking path redesign. No new or expanded facilities are proposed.

Wilderness Park. Operational and maintenance improvements include irrigation upgrades, various upgrades to the community building ADA improvements throughout the site, and picnic area renovations. Other proposed recommendations include infiltration basin development, pond renovation, and bike trail access improvements.

Community Needs Recommendations

The proposed Master Plan also identifies Community Needs Recommendations that were derived from the Master Plan Community Engagement and Recreation Needs Assessment process.

Community needs recommendations include an additional softball field, 4 miles of bike trails, a new gymnasium, 21 additional playgrounds, a new soccer complex, a spray play/splash pad, and 42 miles of additional walking and jogging trails. Specific sites have not yet been defined for any of the Community Needs Recommendations listed in the Master Plan.

The proposed Master Plan also identifies a number of potential locations to be considered for future park development, termed Opportunity Sites. Figure 2 illustrates the locations of the opportunity sites identified in the proposed Master Plan. Table A provides additional information on the opportunity sites including acreage, existing use, potential use, and potential amenities.

CITY CHARACTERISTICS

The City of Downey is a 12.57 square-mile community located in southeast Los Angeles County (County). The City is surrounded by the cities of Pico Rivera to the north, Paramount and Bellflower to the south, Santa Fe Springs and Norwalk to the east, and Bell Gardens and South Gate to the west. Regional access to and from Downey is provided by the Santa Ana (Interstate 5 [I-5]) Freeway; the Glen Anderson (Interstate 105 [I-105]) Freeway; the San Gabriel River (Interstate 605 [I-605]) Freeway; and the Long Beach (Interstate 710 [I-710]) Freeway; as well as the Metropolitan

Table A: Opportunity Sites

No.	Site Name	Address	Acres	Existing Use	Potential Use	Potential Amenities
1	Wilderness Park Expansion	10999 Little Lake Road	1.8	Parkland	Existing Park Expansion	River trail access point, pathway, greenspace, potential bike pump track
2	La Reina Property 3	10910 La Reina Avenue	0.53	Vacant Lot	Pocket Park	Playground, seating, shade structure, pathway, tables/benches, green space
3	Orange Street Property	8000 Orange Street	0.16	Vacant Lot	Pocket Park	Playground/benches, green space
4	Former Well Site	7217 Adwen Street	0.17	Vacant Lot	Pocket Park	Playground/benches, green space
5	Former Well Site	8201 Stewart & Gray Road	0.19	Vacant Lot	Pocket Park	Playground/benches, green space
6	Former Well Site	9501 Guatemala Avenue	0.14	Vacant Lot	Pocket Park	Playground/benches, green space
7	Consuelo Street/Paramount Boulevard	Consuelo Street/Paramount Boulevard	1.7	Utility Easement	Linear Neighborhood Park	Walking trail, playground, shade structure, exercise stations, green space
8	Rancho Los Amigos South Campus	7601 Imperial Highway	18	Former Sanatorium/Hospital	Regional Multi-Sports Complex	Multi-use fields

Transportation Authority (MTA) Green Line Light Rail passenger train services at the Lakewood Boulevard station. According to California Department of Finance estimates, on January 1, 2015, the population of the City was 113,900.¹

According to the 2010 United States Census, Downey has grown at a greater rate (4.1 percent) than the County as a whole (3.1 percent) since 2000. Median household income in the City is 5 percent higher than the median household income for the County. Similar to the County, the highest rates of population growth are among residents between the ages of 45 and 64. Hispanic and White are the two most commonly cited ethnicities in the City, representing 71 percent and 18 percent of the population respectively.²

There are 12 parks (117 acres) and one community center within the City of Downey. The City currently has 5.7 miles of Class I bike trails. The City of Downey Bicycle Master Plan 2015 identifies and proposes an additional 14.7 miles of Class II and 18.9 miles of Class III bike trails. The City also

¹ California Department of Finance. E-1 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties, and the State – January 1, 2014 and 2015. Website: <http://www.dof.ca.gov/research/demographic/reports/estimates/e-1/view.php> (accessed on March 2, 2016).

² City of Downey. 2016. Parks and Open Space Master Plan. January.

has a long-standing agreement with Downey Unified School District that allows the City to utilize the Downey High School pool and the Columbus High School Sports Fields.

**OTHER PUBLIC AGENCIES WHOSE APPROVAL IS REQUIRED (E.G.,
PERMITS, FINANCING APPROVAL, OR PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT)**

- Downey Unified School District (for Joint-Use Facilities)

SECTION II - ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED

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

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

DETERMINATION (to be completed by the Lead Agency):

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

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

Signature

Date

Printed Name

For

SECTION III - INITIAL STUDY CHECKLIST AND ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION

This section analyzes the potential environmental impacts, which may result from the proposed project.

For the evaluation of potential impacts, the questions in the Initial Study Checklist are stated and answers are provided according to the analysis undertaken as part of the Initial Study.

They outline the following issues:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| 1. Aesthetics | 10. Land Use and Planning |
| 2. Agriculture Resources | 11. Mineral Resources |
| 3. Air Quality | 12. Noise |
| 4. Biological Resources | 13. Population and Housing |
| 5. Cultural Resources | 14. Public Services |
| 6. Geology and Soils | 15. Recreation |
| 7. Greenhouse Gas Emissions | 16. Transportation and Traffic |
| 8. Hazards and Hazardous Materials | 17. Utilities and Service Systems |
| 9. Hydrology and Water Quality | 18. Mandatory Findings of Significance |

The analysis considers the project's short-term impacts (construction-related), and its operational or day-to-day impacts. For each question, there are four possible responses. They include:

1. **No Impact.** Future development arising from the project's implementation will not have any measurable environmental impact on the environment, and no additional analysis is required.
2. **Less Than Significant Impact.** The development associated with project implementation will have the potential to impact the environment; these impacts, however, will be less than the levels or thresholds that are considered significant, and no additional analysis is required.
3. **Potentially Significant Impact Unless Mitigated.** The development will have the potential to generate impacts, which will have a significant effect on the environment; however, mitigation measures will be effective in reducing the impacts to levels that are less than significant.
4. **Potentially Significant Impact.** Future implementation will have impacts that are considered significant, and additional analysis is required to identify mitigation measures that could reduce these impacts to less than significant levels.

AESTHETICS

Would the project:

		Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b)	Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c)	Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d)	Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Discussion:

- a) **No Impact.** A scenic vista is typically defined as a viewpoint that provides expansive views of a highly valued landscape for the benefit of the general public. Aesthetic components of a scenic vista generally include (1) scenic quality, (2) sensitivity level, and (3) view access. The City of Downey, which is located in southeast Los Angeles County, is an urban environment. The Vision 2025 General Plan Update (2005) does not designate any scenic corridors or vistas within the City boundaries. Therefore, the proposed Master Plan would have no impacts related to a scenic vista.
- b) **No Impact.** The City is located in an urban environment in southeast Los Angeles County. There are no designated scenic highways or scenic resources within the City boundaries.¹ Therefore, no impacts to scenic resources would occur.
- c) **Less Than Significant Impact.** Improvements made based on the recommendations of the proposed Master Plan would occur in currently developed areas throughout the City and involve the provision of additional park and open space that would enhance the visual character of park sites and surrounding community. Any future development would be subject to the applicable City regulations and requirements, to ensure that improvements do not impact aesthetic values of the site and surrounding character. Therefore, potential impacts to aesthetic resources would be less than significant.
- d) **Less Than Significant Impact.** New or upgraded park lighting would comply with Municipal Code Section 9520.06(c), which requires shielding and prohibits light to spill off the site. Therefore, the proposed Master Plan would not create a new source of substantial light or glare that would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area. Future projects that could result in an increase in light intensity would be considered at the development review stage to ensure that the visual character and quality of sites is maintained either through zoning code requirements. Therefore, potential impacts related to light and glare would be less than significant.

¹ City of Downey, Downey Vision 2025 – Comprehensive General Plan Update Draft EIR. July 2004. p. 8-1.

AGRICULTURE & FOREST RESOURCES

Would the project:

		Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b)	Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use or a Williamson Act contract?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c)	Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d)	Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion:

- a) **No Impact.** The City is located in an urbanized area that is mostly built out. There are no agricultural lands, important farmland, or lands subject to a Williamson Act contract within the City’s boundaries. Similarly, the City does not contain any forestland or timberland or any land zoned for such uses. The City’s General Plan (Vision 2025) does not include provisions for agricultural uses in the future. Therefore, no impacts to agricultural or forest resources would occur.
- b) **No Impact.** The proposed Master Plan does not include the development of land designated for agricultural production or zoned for agricultural use, and would not conflict with existing zoning for agricultural uses or a Williamson Act contract or contribute to environmental changes that would result in the conversion of farmland to a nonagricultural use. The zoning code does not include provisions for agricultural uses. Therefore, no conflicts regarding zoning for agricultural resources would occur.
- c) **No Impact.** There is no farmland within the City’s boundaries. Furthermore, the proposed Master Plan would not result in the conversion of farmland to another use. The City’s General Plan (Vision 2025) does not include provisions for agricultural uses in the future. Therefore, no impacts related to the conversion of farmland to non-agricultural use would occur.
- d) **No Impact.** The Master Plan would not contribute to environmental changes that could result in conversion of forest land to a non forest use, and no impacts would occur.

AIR QUALITY

Would the project:

		Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b)	Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d)	Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e)	Create objectionable odors?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Introduction:

The project area is located within the South Coast Air Basin (Basin), and is within the jurisdiction of the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD). The SCAQMD and the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) are responsible for formulating and implementing the Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP) for the Basin. Every 3 to 4 years, SCAQMD prepares a new AQMP that updates the previous plan and has a 20-year horizon. The 2012 AQMP includes the new and changing federal requirements, implementation of new technology measures, and the continued development of economically sound, flexible compliance approaches. The SCAQMD adopted the Final 2012 AQMP in February 2013.

Both the State of California (State) and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) have established health-based ambient air quality standards (AAQS) for air pollutants. These “criteria” air pollutants for which AAQS have been established are considered by the EPA to be the most harmful to public health and the environment. The criteria pollutants of concern that are related to the proposed project include carbon monoxide (CO), particulate matter (PM), nitrogen oxides (NO_x), and sulfur oxides (SO_x). PM includes fine particulate matter less than 2.5 microns in size (PM_{2.5}) and coarse particulate matter less than 10 microns in size (PM₁₀).

Regional air quality is defined by whether the area has attained or not attained State and federal air quality standards, as determined by air quality data from various monitoring stations. The Basin is designated as nonattainment for ozone (O₃), PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} under the California AAQS, and nonattainment for O₃, PM_{2.5}, and lead (Pb) (Los Angeles only) for the National AAQS.

The various types of pollutants monitored within the vicinity of the project area are described below.

- **Carbon Monoxide (CO):** The entire Basin is in attainment/maintenance for the federal CO standard and in attainment for the State CO attainment standard. State and federal standards were not exceeded between 2012 and 2014.
- **Ozone (O₃):** The Basin is a nonattainment area for both the federal and State O₃ standards. The State 1-hour O₃ standard was exceeded 2 to 4 times per year in the last 3 years. The State 8-hour O₃ standard was exceeded 5 to 10 times per year in the last 3 years. The federal 8-hour O₃ standard was exceeded 1 to 5 times per year in the last 3 years.
- **Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂):** The entire Basin has not exceeded either federal or State standards for NO₂ in the past 3 years with published monitoring data. It is designated as a maintenance area under the federal standards and as a nonattainment area under the State standards.
- **Sulfur Dioxide (SO₂):** The entire Basin has not exceeded either federal or State standards for SO₂ in the past 3 years with published monitoring data. The entire Basin is in attainment with both federal and State SO₂ standards.
- **Coarse Particulate Matter (PM₁₀):** Neither the State 24-hour PM₁₀ standard nor the federal 24-hour PM₁₀ standard was exceeded in the last 3 years. The State annual average was also not exceeded in any of the past 3 years.
- **Fine Particulate Matter (PM_{2.5}):** The 2006 federal 24-hour standard was not exceeded in the last 3 years. The annual average concentrations did not exceed the State or federal standards in the past 3 years.
- **Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) or Reactive Organic Gases (ROGs):** There are no specific State or federal VOC thresholds because they are regulated by individual air districts as O₃ precursors.

Discussion:

- a) **No Impact.** The City of Downey is located within the South Coast Air Basin. The Basin is under the jurisdiction of the SCAQMD, which is the local agency responsible for ensuring that federal and State ambient air quality standards are attained and maintained in the Basin. The California Air Resources Board (ARB) has primary oversight regarding vehicle-related emissions.

A network of ambient air quality monitoring stations is located in the Basin to characterize the air quality environment. Pollutants monitored include O₃, CO, NO₂, PM, SO₂ and Pb. The proposed project is located in an area designated as nonattainment for the State's O₃, PM less than 10 microns in aerodynamic diameter (PM₁₀), PM less than 2.5 microns in aerodynamic diameter (PM_{2.5}), and Pb standards. The federal area designations are extreme nonattainment for 8-hour O₃, serious nonattainment for PM_{2.5}, nonattainment for Pb, and maintenance for PM₁₀, CO and NO₂.

In federal nonattainment areas, the Federal Clean Air Act (CAA) requires preparation of a State Implementation Plan (SIP), detailing how the State would attain the national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS) within mandated time frames. As part of the SIP requirement, each air quality regulatory district in California is required to submit an AQMP to the ARB for incorporation into the SIP. The SCAQMD developed the 2003 AQMP to demonstrate attainment of the federal PM₁₀ and 1-hour O₃ standards by 2010, and also included an NO₂ maintenance plan (SCAQMD 2003). The 2007 AQMP for the Basin was developed to demonstrate compliance with the NAAQS for PM_{2.5}, PM₁₀, 8-hour O₃ and 1-hour O₃, which was subsequently revoked but is still being tracked towards attainment. The United States Environmental Protection Agency

(EPA) partially approved the 2007 AQMP PM_{2.5} plan, and fully approved the 8-hour O₃ plan. Although the 2007 AQMP has supplanted the 2003 AQMP for O₃ attainment planning, the 2003 AQMP remains the federally approved AQMP for PM₁₀. In 2012, SCAQMD developed the 2012 AQMP to demonstrate attainment of the 24-hour PM_{2.5} standard and updated the EPA-approved O₃ control plan. The 2012 AQMP also builds on approaches in the 2007 AQMP for regional attainment of the federal PM_{2.5} and O₃ standards. The 2012 AQMP also includes a demonstration of the 1-hour O₃ standard attainment and vehicle-miles traveled offsets. A Supplement to the 2012 AQMP was prepared to demonstrate attainment of the 24-hour PM_{2.5} standard by 2015. The SCAQMD Governing Board approved the Supplement on February 5, 2015, and submitted to ARB/EPA for approval as part of the SIP (SCAQMD 2016).

The 2012 AQMP identifies emission reduction measures designed to bring the Basin into attainment of the State ambient air quality standards and the NAAQS. AQMP strategies include mobile source control measures and clean fuel programs that are enforced, through subsequent regulatory actions, at the State and federal level, on engine manufacturers and petroleum refiners and retailers. The proposed project's construction and operations would comply with AQMP control measures by virtue of local, State, and federal enforcement and, therefore, would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of the AQMP. The SCAQMD is currently developing the 2016 AQMP, which focuses on the Basin's attainment of the federal 2008 8-hour O₃ standard, and the 2012 annual PM_{2.5} standards, as well as updates to the attainment demonstration of the 2006 24-hour PM_{2.5}, the 1-hour O₃, and the 1997 8-hour O₃ standards.

The AQMP is based on projections from local General Plans; therefore, projects that are consistent with the local General Plan are considered to be consistent with the AQMP. The AQMP contains a number of land use measures and goals that are considered air quality positive. These include intensification of land uses near points of multiple transportation system access, mixed land uses to encourage nonvehicular mobility between homes, jobs, and goods/services, and economic revitalization of depressed and blighted urban core areas. Park facility improvements constructed pursuant to the needs of the proposed Master Plan would be approved in accordance with the provisions of the Zoning Code and in consistency with the General Plan. Therefore, the proposed project would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of the AQMP, and no impacts would occur.

- b) **Potentially Significant Impact Unless Mitigated.** Park facility improvements constructed pursuant to the needs of the proposed Master Plan would be evaluated for each project to ensure that air quality issues are addressed. Future projects would also be required to comply with SCAQMD regulations for both operational and construction emissions. Construction activities produce emissions from off-road construction vehicles exhaust, asphalt off-gassing, and fugitive dust, as well as exhaust from on-road vehicles associated with construction workers and material deliveries. These emissions would all vary daily as construction activity levels change. The park improvement projects are not expected to exceed SCAQMD construction emissions thresholds. While the development of the opportunity sites would be subject to environmental review and would be required to comply with local, State, and federal standards, each has the potential to produce construction emissions that exceed SCAQMD thresholds. Reduction of daily emissions can be achieved through modifications to construction schedules and use of low emissions construction equipment. These types of project controls may be required for the opportunity sites in order to reduce construction emissions to below SCAQMD thresholds. As part of environmental review, an air quality analysis will be required for each opportunity site to

determine the types of project controls that will be required for the project. This requirement is included in Mitigation Measure AQ-1.

It is not anticipated that, once construction is completed, any of the park improvements or opportunity sites would produce air emissions that are substantially different than before the improvements. Therefore, with implementation of Mitigation Measure AQ-1, the proposed Master Plan would not violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation.

- c) **Potentially Significant Impact Unless Mitigated.** The park facility improvements constructed pursuant to the Master Plan are all located in a nonattainment area for O₃, PM₁₀, and PM_{2.5}. The development of the opportunity sites has the potential to produce construction emissions that exceed SCAQMD thresholds. Reduction of daily emissions can be achieved through modifications to construction schedules and use of low emissions construction equipment. These types of project controls may be required for the opportunity sites in order to reduce construction emissions to below SCAQMD thresholds. As part of environmental review, a construction air quality analysis will be required for each opportunity site to determine the types of project controls that will be required for the project. This requirement is included in Mitigation Measure AQ-1.

It is not anticipated that, once construction is completed, any of the opportunity sites would produce air emissions that are substantially different than before the improvements. Therefore, with implementation of Mitigation Measure AQ-1, the proposed Master Plan would not result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is designated as non-attainment under an applicable federal or State ambient air quality standard.

- d) **Potentially Significant Impact Unless Mitigated.** Park facility improvements constructed pursuant to the needs of the proposed Master Plan may expose the surrounding land uses to airborne particulates and fugitive dust, as well as to a small quantity of construction equipment pollutants (i.e., usually diesel-fueled vehicles and equipment). These impacts would not be considered significant because the construction contractor would implement measures to reduce or eliminate emissions by following standard construction practices and complying with SCAQMD rules. The development of the opportunity sites has the potential to produce construction emissions that exceed SCAQMD thresholds. Reduction of daily emissions can be achieved through modifications to construction schedules and use of low emissions construction equipment. These types of project controls may be required for the opportunity sites in order to reduce construction emissions to below SCAQMD thresholds. As part of environmental review, a construction air quality analysis will be required for each opportunity site to determine the types of project controls that will be required for the project. This requirement is included in Mitigation Measure AQ-1.

It is not anticipated that, once construction is completed, any of the opportunity sites would produce air emissions that are substantially different than before the improvements. Therefore, with implementation of Mitigation Measure AQ-1, the proposed Master Plan would not expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations.

- e) **Less Than Significant Impact.** Some objectionable odors may emanate from the operation of diesel-powered construction equipment during project construction. These odors, however, would be short-term and limited to the construction period, and are not expected to affect a substantial number of people. Operation of the future projects implemented under the Master Plan would not introduce any new sources of odor and is not expected to result in objectionable odors in the long term. Therefore, impacts related to objectionable odors are less than significant, and no mitigation is required.

Mitigation Measure

- AQ-1** **Air Quality Analysis.** Prior to approval of any opportunity site development pursuant to the Parks and Open Space Master Plan, the City of Downey Parks and Recreation Director shall verify that an air quality analysis is conducted to ensure that project controls are identified in order to meet South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) thresholds.

BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Would the project:

		Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b)	Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, and regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e)	Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources? (i.e., tree preservation ordinance)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion:

- a) **Potentially Significant Impact Unless Mitigated.** Each existing park site and opportunity site identified in the Master Plan is located in a fully developed area of the City and is surrounded by residential, industrial, or commercial land uses. Existing habitats that occur on City park lands and opportunity sites identified in the Master Plan can be classified as ruderal, ornamental landscaping, developed, and disturbed or barren.¹ A California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) records search conducted in July 2016 did not identify any special-interest plant or animal species with a high likelihood of occurrence on each of the sites identified in the Master Plan. Furthermore, each of the Master Plan recommendations, if implemented, would not likely result in substantial habitat modifications.

While no special-status wildlife or plant species were identified as having a high potential for occurrence on the identified sites, there is a potential for trees and other vegetation and structures adjacent to the identified sites to support special-status species, including nesting birds. Nesting birds are protected under both the federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the California Fish and Game Code and cannot be subjected to take (as defined in the California Fish and Game Code) during the active nesting bird season, which typically runs from February 15 through August 15. If any construction activities, including tree removal and ground disturbance, are planned during the active nesting bird season, such activities could directly or indirectly affect native and nongame birds and their nests through increased noise and other disturbances. In order to mitigate potential impacts to special-status species, each future project would need to comply with State and federal regulations. Mitigation Measure BIO-1 requires a preconstruction survey by a qualified biologist to determine if special-status species are present as well as agency coordination for addressing special-status species. Mitigation Measure BIO-2 requires compliance with regulations for nesting birds. Therefore, with implementation of these two mitigation measures, there would be no potential for a substantial adverse effects, 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 (CDFW) or the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS).

- b) **No Impact.** None of the existing park sites and opportunity sites contains riparian habitats or other sensitive natural communities identified in local or regional plans, policies, and regulations or by the CDFW or the USFWS in the City. Moreover, the three river channels that are located within the boundaries of the City (the Rio Hondo Channel, the Los Angeles River, and the San Gabriel River) are concrete- or riprap-lined (north of Firestone Boulevard, the San Gabriel River has an earthen bottom and riprap banks) and support limited vegetation. Therefore, no impacts related to riparian habitat or other sensitive natural communities identified in local or regional plans would occur.
- c) **Potentially Significant Impact Unless Mitigated.** Two existing parks in the City of Downey contain potentially jurisdictional waters as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. The Discovery Sports Complex has Freshwater Ponds and Freshwater Emergent Wetlands and the Wilderness Park has Freshwater Ponds Wetland.² Expansion of the infiltration basin at the sports

¹ Jones & Stokes Associates, Inc. 1993. *Methods Used to Survey the Vegetation of Orange County Parks and Open Space Areas and The Irvine Company Property*. February 10.

² Ibid.

complex and pond renovation and the Wilderness Park would be subject to the requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.¹ Therefore, these waters would need to be evaluated to see if they meet the requirements of federally protected wetlands prior to any disturbance in these areas. Mitigation Measure BIO-3 includes the requirement for a jurisdictional delineation and adherence to any applicable agency permitting. No other Master Plan recommendations have the potential to impact federally protected waters. Therefore, with implementation of Mitigation Measure BIO-3, a substantial adverse effect on federally protected waters as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means would not occur.

- d) **Potentially Significant Impact Unless Mitigated.** Each park site and opportunity site identified in the Master Plan is located in a fully developed area of the City and is surrounded by residential, industrial, or commercial land uses. As such, none of the identified sites connect significant open spaces or bodies of water. The movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or established native resident migratory wildlife corridors or the uses of native wildlife nursery sites have not been identified in the City of Downey.² In addition, the park facility recommendations contained in the Master Plan would not result in the removal of native wildlife habitat. However, use of existing vegetation on the identified sites may be used as native or migratory bird-nesting sites. With implementation of Mitigation Measure BIO-2, which includes procedures to avoid impacts to migratory birds, potential impacts to wildlife movement would be less than significant.
- e) **No Impact.** Future projects could result in the removal of mature trees located on public recreational facilities, some of which may be considered “significant trees” according to the Chapter 4, Conservation Element, Vision 2025 General Plan. Therefore, any future project that would implement the proposed Master Plan would replace “significant trees” where feasible. Therefore, implementation of the Master Plan would not conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, and no impacts would occur.
- f) **No Impact.** The City does not contain an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP), Natural Community Conservation Plan (NCCP), or any other local or regional conservation plan. Therefore, the proposed Master Plan would not result in impacts related to conservation plans.

Mitigation Measures

BIO-1 Special-Status Species. The City of Downey Parks and Recreation Director shall retain a qualified biologist to perform focused preconstruction surveys to determine the presence/absence of special-status species with potential to occur in and adjacent to the proposed impact area of each project component. The qualified biologist shall provide the City Parks and Recreation Director with documentation of the results of each survey prior to the authorization to proceed with construction activities for each project component.

¹ United States Fish and Wildlife Services National Inventory Map. Website: <http://www.fws.gov/wetlands/Data/Mapper.html> (accessed on May 10, 2016).

² City of Downey, Downey Vision 2025 – Comprehensive General Plan Update Draft EIR Initial Study. March 2004. p. C-19.

If any State or federally protected plant or animal species is detected in or adjacent to the proposed impact area of each project component, the final mitigation strategy for directly impacted species shall be determined in conjunction with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) (if appropriate) through a mitigation plan approval process.

BIO-2: Migratory Birds and Raptors. If construction activities occur within the active nesting bird season (February 15 through August 15), the City of Downey Parks and Recreation Director shall retain a qualified biologist to conduct a preconstruction nesting-bird survey no more than 3 days prior to the start of construction. The nesting survey shall include the project site and areas immediately adjacent to the site that could potentially be affected by project-related construction activities such as noise, human activity, and dust, etc. If active bird nests are found within 500 feet of the designated construction area on the project site, the qualified biologist shall establish an appropriate buffer zone around the active nests. The appropriate buffer shall be determined by the qualified biologist based on species, location, and the nature of the proposed activities. Project activities shall be avoided within the buffer zone until the nest is deemed no longer active by the biologist.

BIO-3: Federally Protected Wetlands. The City of Downey Parks and Recreation Director shall retain a qualified professional to conduct a jurisdictional analysis of the two freshwater ponds at the Wilderness Park, as well as the infiltration basin at the Discovery Sports Complex prior to any disturbance in these areas. The results of the jurisdictional analysis shall be used to determine whether additional permitting and mitigation is required for these project components. If the results of the analyses identify federally jurisdictional waters with the potential to be impacted by Master Plan recommendations, the City Parks and Recreation Director shall ensure that no project component shall result in a net loss of federally protected waters by adopting impact avoidance measures, impact minimization measures, and/or compensatory mitigation measures, as specified in Clean Water Act Section 404 and 401 permits and/or the 1602 Streambed Alteration Agreement.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

Would the project:

		Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in CEQA Guidelines §15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b)	Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c)	Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d)	Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e)	Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource as defined in Public Resources Code 21074?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Discussion:

- a) **Potentially Significant Impact Unless Mitigated.** Two of the City’s major cultural resources, as identified in the Design Element of the General Plan, include:

The Downey Museum of Art: Located in Furman Park, the Downey Museum of Art is the only art museum located between downtown Los Angeles and Long Beach. Its permanent collection includes hundreds of items donated and acquired over the years with a special emphasis on the artwork of Southern California.

The Downey Historical Society: The Downey Historical Society is located in Apollo Park and includes artifacts, periodicals, original records, and a library collection focusing on the history of the Downey area from its beginnings as an agricultural community to the present.

The proposed park improvements in the Master Plan are not expected to involve the demolition or renovation of either identified major cultural resource; however, other historical resources may be present at the existing park sites. Most of the opportunity sites in the Master Plan are vacant; however, there is the potential for historical resources to be directly or indirectly impacted during development of these sites. Prior to implementation of any projects, a cultural resources record search and survey would be required to determine the potential to impact historical resources. A qualified historian/cultural resources specialist would then determine if protection measures, project modifications, monitoring, or recovery would be necessary to avoid substantial adverse changes to a historical resource. Mitigation Measures CULT-1 includes these requirements prior to project development. Therefore, with implementation of Mitigation Measure CULT-1, no substantial adverse changes in the significance of a historical resource as defined in California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines §15064.5 would occur.

- b) **Potentially Significant Impact Unless Mitigated.** Any project under consideration in the Master Plan that involves ground disturbance must be evaluated to determine whether development of that project will impact archaeological resources. A professional archaeologist would conduct this evaluation, which may consist of a record search and literature review, and field survey, as appropriate, and determined by the archaeologist. The archaeologist would make recommendations as to the need for protection measures, monitoring, or recovery on a project-specific basis. By following these steps, substantial impacts to previously undiscovered archaeological resources can be avoided. These requirements are specified in Mitigation Measures CULT-2 and CULT-3. Therefore, with implementation of Mitigation Measures CULT-2 and CULT-3, no substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5 would occur.
- c) **Potentially Significant Impact Unless Mitigated.** Depending on the geological conditions of the project sites and the specific development plans, the projects included in the Master Plan have the potential to impact paleontological resources. Therefore, any project under consideration in the Master Plan must be evaluated to determine whether development of that project would impact paleontological resources or unique geologic features. A professional paleontologist should be contacted to conduct this evaluation, which may consist of a fossil locality search, literature review, and field survey, as appropriate and determined by the paleontologist. The paleontologist will make recommendations as to the need for and type of mitigation on a project-specific basis. These requirements are included in Mitigation Measure CULT-3. Therefore, with implementation of Mitigation Measure CULT-3, the Master Plan would not directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature.
- d) **Potentially Significant Impact Unless Mitigated.** Future construction pursuant to the Master Plan recommendations may involve grading activities that have the potential to encounter previously unidentified human remains. If previously unidentified human remains are encountered during construction, State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 states that no further disturbance shall occur until the County Coroner has made a determination of origin and disposition pursuant to California Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 5097.98. This requirement is specified in Mitigation Measure CULT-4. Therefore, with implementation of Mitigation Measure CULT-4, potential impacts to unidentified human remains would be less than significant.
- e) **Potentially Significant Impact Unless Mitigated.** The City received letters from the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation (letter dated July 5, 2015) and the Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians (letter dated July 2, 2015) requesting formal notification of future projects within the City pursuant to Assembly Bill 52 (AB 52). The City sent a letter notifying both tribes of the proposed Master Plan on March 15, 2016. Responses were received from both tribes. In its response letter dated April 12, 2016, the Soboba Band of Mission Indians requested a Native American Monitor during ground-disturbing activities but deferred tasks to the Gabrieleño Tribal Consultants. In its response letter (undated), the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation also requested a Native American Monitor during ground-disturbing activities. In an email dated April 7, 2016, the City responded to the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation indicating that the City is proposing a Master Plan and would notify the tribe for each future project under the Master Plan. This notification is included in Mitigation Measure CULT-5. Therefore, with implementation of Mitigation Measure CULT-5, the Master Plan would not result in a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource as defined in PRC Section 21074.

Mitigation Measures

- CULT-1 Historical Resources.** Prior to approval of each park project, the City of Downey Parks and Recreation Director shall retain a qualified cultural resources specialist/historian to conduct a cultural resources review and literature search at the South Central Coastal Information Center of the California Historical Resources Information System. The record search shall establish the status and extent of previously recorded sites, surveys, and excavations within and immediately adjacent to the project area. After site evaluation, the qualified cultural resources specialist/historian shall determine if protection measures, project modifications, monitoring, or recovery would be necessary to avoid substantial adverse changes to a historical resource.
- CULT-2 Archaeological Resources.** Prior to approval of each park project, the City of Downey Parks and Recreation Director shall retain a professional archaeologist to conduct a cultural resources review and literature (record) search at the South Central Coastal Information Center of the California Historical Resources Information System to establish the status and extent of previously recorded sites, surveys, and excavations within and immediately adjacent to the project area. The professional archaeologist shall make recommendations as to the need for field surveys, protection measures, monitoring, or recovery.
- CULT-3 Paleontological Resources.** Prior to approval of each park project, the City of Downey Parks and Recreation Director shall retain a professional paleontologist to evaluate the project site, which may consist of a fossil locality search, literature review, and field survey, as appropriate and determined by the professional paleontologist. The paleontologist shall make recommendations as to the need for protection measures, monitoring, or recovery.
- CULT-4 Human Remains.** In the event human remains are encountered during construction at any of the project sites, the City of Downey Parks and Recreation Director shall immediately notify the County Coroner. No further disturbance shall occur until the County Coroner has made a determination of origin and disposition pursuant to Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 5097.98. If the remains are determined to be Native American, the County Coroner shall notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), which shall determine and notify a Most Likely Descendant (MLD). With the permission of the City Parks and Recreation Director, the MLD may inspect the site of the discovery. The MLD shall complete the inspection within 48 hours of notification by the NAHC. The MLD shall have the opportunity to offer recommendations for the disposition of the remains.
- CULT-5 Native American Tribal Notification.** For each project to be implemented under the Master Plan, the City of Downey Parks and Recreation Director shall notify the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation in writing and include a brief project description and location map. Project review activities, such as Native American Monitoring of ground-disturbance activities shall be evaluated on a project-by-project basis among the City Parks and Recreation Director, tribal representatives, and a professional archeologist.

GEOLOGY AND SOILS

Would the project:

		Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				
i)	Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ii)	Strong seismic ground shaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iii)	Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iv)	Landslides?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b)	Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e)	Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion:

a) i, ii, iii)

Less Than Significant Impact. The City of Downey is not located within an Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone, as indicated on the zone map issued by the State Geologist for the area. The City of Downey is located in an area considered to be seismically active, as is most of Southern California. Major active fault zones are located southwest and northeast of the City, with the Whittier fault being the fault with the greatest potential to impact the planning area. Additionally, all future projects would be subject to environmental review and would be required to comply with the existing seismic standards of the Uniform Building Code. Therefore, impacts related to the rupture of a known earthquake fault as depicted on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map would be less than significant.

a) iv) **Less Than Significant Impact.** Landslides are most common where slopes are steep, soils are weak, and groundwater is present. Landslides are not considered a potential hazard since the City of Downey has a relatively flat topography with no steep hills or slopes. Future development pursuant to recommendations in the proposed Master Plan would be subject to environmental review and would be required to comply with current City Code and California Building Code requirements and would not affect foundations or result in other structural or engineering modifications that could increase exposure of people or structures to risk associated with expansive soils. Therefore, impacts related to landslides would be less than significant.

b) **Less Than Significant Impact.** Any future project proposed in accordance with the Master Plan recommendations that disturbs soil would be required to adhere to standard erosion-control practices specified in the City of Downey Municipal Code (Section 8730.17, as amended). During construction, standard practices include compliance with the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permitting process and the use of Best Management Practices (BMP) included in a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP). Future projects would be required to comply with the Municipal Code with respect to Source Control and Treatment BMPs for controlling urban runoff. Therefore, impacts due to soil erosion would be less than significant.

c) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The State Division of Mines and Geology designated all areas within the City a liquefaction hazard zone, which would require geotechnical reports for new structures. The proposed Master Plan does not include approval of any specific project. Per Public Resources Code Section 2693(c), individual development geotechnical/soils reports would include recommendations to reduce seismic risk to acceptable levels to address potential impacts related to liquefaction.¹ Impacts related to unstable soils would be less than significant.

d) **Less Than Significant Impact.** Expansive soils generally consist of clay materials that occupy more volume when wet or hydrated. Volume changes associated with moisture content in expansive soils can cause uplift in the ground when they become wet, or less commonly, cause settlement when they dry out. . All of the soil types in the City of Downey can be compacted to a degree that does not hinder site development.² Therefore, no significant impacts would occur related to expansive soils.

¹ City of Downey, Downey Vision 2025 – Comprehensive General Plan Update Draft EIR Initial Study. March 2004. p. C-21.

² City of Downey, Downey Vision 2025 – Comprehensive General Plan Update Draft EIR Initial Study. March 2004. p. C-21.

- e) **No Impact.** The proposed Master Plan improvements do not include construction of, or connection to, septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems. The City of Downey is an urban area that is served by a sanitary sewer system. New septic tanks are prohibited within the City as per Section 7220.10 of the City's Municipal Code. Therefore, the proposed Master Plan would not result in any impacts related to the capability of the soils to adequately support the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems.

GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

Would the project:

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

Discussion:

Global climate change (GCC) is the observed increase in the average temperature of the Earth’s atmosphere and oceans along with other significant changes in climate (e.g., precipitation or wind) that last for an extended period of time.

The prevailing scientific opinion on climate change is that “most of the warming observed over the last 50 years is attributable to human activities.”¹ Increased amounts of carbon dioxide (CO₂) and other greenhouse gases (GHGs) are the primary causes of the human-induced component of warming. The observed warming effect associated with the presence of GHGs in the atmosphere (from either natural or human sources) is often referred to as the greenhouse effect.²

GHGs are present in the atmosphere naturally, are released by natural sources, or are formed from secondary reactions taking place in the atmosphere. The gases that are widely seen as the principal contributors to human-induced GCC include:³

- CO₂
- Methane (CH₄)
- Nitrous oxide (N₂O)
- Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs)

¹ Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). 2007. *Climate Change 2007: Working Group I: The Physical Science Basis*. Website: http://www.ipcc.ch/publications_and_data/ar4/wg1/en/contents.html (accessed January 25, 2013).

² The temperature on Earth is regulated by a system commonly known as the “greenhouse effect.” Just as the glass in a greenhouse lets heat from sunlight in and reduces the amount of heat that escapes, greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide in the atmosphere keep the Earth at a relatively even temperature. Without the greenhouse effect, the Earth would be a frozen globe; thus, although an excess of greenhouse gas results in global warming, the *naturally occurring* greenhouse effect is necessary to keep our planet at a comfortable temperature.

³ The greenhouse gases listed are consistent with the definition in Assembly Bill 32 (Government Code 38505), as discussed later in this section.

- Perfluorocarbons (PFCs)
- Sulfur hexafluoride (SF₆)

Currently, neither the CEQA statutes nor the CEQA Guidelines prescribe specific quantitative thresholds of significance or a particular methodology for performing a GHG emissions impact analysis. Significance criteria are left to the judgment and discretion of the Lead Agency. The discussion below provides an overview of the regulatory considerations and methodological approach related to GHGs for this Initial Study.

California's major initiative for reducing GHG emissions is outlined in Assembly Bill (AB) 32, the "Global Warming Solutions Act," passed by the California State legislature on August 31, 2006. AB 32 requires the ARB to:

- Establish a statewide GHG emissions cap for 2020, based on 1990 emissions, by January 1, 2008
- Adopt mandatory reporting rules for significant sources of GHG emissions by January 1, 2008
- Adopt an emissions reduction plan by January 1, 2009, indicating how emissions reductions will be achieved via regulations, market mechanisms, and other actions
- Adopt regulations to achieve the maximum technologically feasible and cost-effective reduction of GHGs by January 1, 2011

To assist public agencies in the mitigation of GHG emissions or analyzing the effects of GHGs under CEQA, including the effects associated with transportation and energy consumption, Senate Bill (SB) 97 (Chapter 185, 2007) required the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) to develop CEQA guidelines on how to minimize and mitigate a project's GHG emissions. On February 16, 2010, the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) approved the CEQA Guidelines Amendments and filed them with the Secretary of State for inclusion in the California Code of Regulations (CCR). The Amendments became effective on March 18, 2010. The Amendments encourage Lead Agencies to consider many factors in conducting a CEQA analysis, but preserve the discretion granted by CEQA to Lead Agencies in making their determinations.

CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.4 states:

- (a) The determination of the significance of greenhouse gas emissions calls for a careful judgment by the lead agency consistent with the provisions in section 15064. A lead agency should make a good-faith effort, based on available information, to describe, calculate, or estimate the amount of greenhouse gas emissions resulting from a project. A lead agency shall have discretion to determine, in the context of a particular project, whether to:
 - (1) Use a model or methodology to quantify greenhouse gas emissions resulting from a project, and which model or methodology to use. The lead agency has discretion to select the model it considers most appropriate provided it supports its decision with substantial evidence. The lead agency should explain the limitations of the particular model or methodology selected for use; or
 - (2) Rely on a qualitative analysis or performance based standards.

- (b) A lead agency may consider the following when assessing the significance of impacts from greenhouse gas emissions on the environment:
- (1) The extent to which the project may increase or reduce greenhouse gas emissions as compared to the existing environmental setting.
 - (2) Whether the project emissions exceed a threshold of significance that the lead agency determines applies to the project.
 - (3) The extent to which the project complies with regulations or requirements adopted to implement a statewide, regional, or local plan for the reduction or mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions. Such regulations or requirements must be adopted by the relevant public agency through a public review process and must include specific requirements that reduce or mitigate the project's incremental contribution of greenhouse gas emissions. If there is substantial evidence that the possible effects of a particular project are still cumulatively considerable notwithstanding compliance with the adopted regulations or requirements, an EIR must be prepared for the project.

CEQA Guidelines Section 15064(b) provides that the “determination of whether a project may have a significant effect on the environment calls for careful judgment on the part of the public agency involved, based to the extent possible on scientific and factual data,” and further states that an “ironclad definition of significant effect is not always possible because the significance of an activity may vary with the setting.”

As such, currently the CEQA statutes, the OPR guidelines, and the CEQA Guidelines do not prescribe specific quantitative thresholds of significance or a particular methodology for performing an impact analysis. As with most environmental topics, significance criteria are left to the judgment and discretion of the Lead Agency.

When assessing a project's GHG emissions, Lead Agencies must describe the existing environmental conditions or setting without the project and determine what constitutes a significant impact “consistent with available evidence and current CEQA practice.”

Not every project that emits GHGs will necessarily contribute to a significant cumulative impact on the environment. If it is determined a project will contribute to a significant GHG impact, mitigation should be implemented.

- a) **Less Than Significant Impact.** An individual project does not generate enough GHG emissions to significantly influence GCC. Rather, GCC is a cumulative impact. This means that a project may contribute to a potential impact through its incremental change in emissions when combined with the contributions of all other sources of GHGs (AEP 2007; SCAQMD 2015). In assessing cumulative impacts, it must be determined if a project's incremental effect is “cumulatively considerable” (CEQA Guidelines Sections 15064(h)(1) and 15130). To make this determination, the incremental impacts of the project must be compared with the effects of past, current, and probable future projects. To gather sufficient information on a global scale of all past, current, and future projects in order to make this determination is a difficult, if not impossible, task.

The AB 32 Scoping Plan mandated by AB 32 includes the main strategies that California will use to reduce GHG emissions. As part of its supporting documentation for the Draft AB 32 Scoping Plan, the ARB released the GHG inventory for California. One of the most effective strategies to reduce GHG emissions is to make California's transportation system more efficient. The highest levels of CO₂ from mobile sources (e.g., automobiles) occur at stop-and-go speeds (i.e., 0–25 miles per hour [mph]) and speeds over 55 mph. The most severe emissions occur from 0–25 mph. To the extent that a project relieves congestion by enhancing operations and improving travel times in high-congestion travel corridors, GHG emissions (particularly CO₂) may be reduced.

Future development pursuant to recommendations in the proposed Master Plan would be required to comply with current GHG regulations. Because the proposed Master Plan encompasses upgrades to existing parks and recreational facilities and future sites for parks and recreational facilities (primarily passive recreation that does not have a significant transportation component), it is expected that the proposed Master Plan's impact to long-term regional GHG emissions would be negligible, and a less than significant impact would occur.

- b) **Less Than Significant Impact.** As discussed above, the principal State plan and policy adopted for the purpose of reducing GHG emissions is AB 32. The quantitative goal of AB 32 is to reduce GHG emissions to 1990 levels by 2020. Statewide plans and regulations, such as GHG emissions standards for vehicles, are being implemented at the statewide level, and compliance at the specific plan or project level is not addressed.

The City of Downey is a member of the Gateway Cities Council of Governments (COG), which has adopted a Subregional Sustainable Communities Strategy in accordance with Senate Bill (SB) 375. This Strategy includes transportation projects as well as land use recommendations to reduce GHG emissions in the Gateway Cities subregion. As discussed in the Strategy, parklands and open space resources are an integral part of the planned urban development pattern for the subregion as depicted on the general plans of the Gateway cities. These resource areas contribute to the sustainability of the subregion by the various functions they perform, including meeting the recreational needs of the subregion's residents, and thereby contributing to their health and well-being through the provision of parks, golf courses, and other recreational facilities.

The proposed Master Plan is consistent with the City's General Plan, Municipal Code, and the Gateway Cities COG Subregional Sustainable Communities Strategy and does not conflict with AB 32, SB 375, or any plans or programs that have been adopted to achieve these legislative mandates. Therefore, the proposed Master Plan would not conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purposed of reducing the emissions of GHGs, and impacts would be less than significant.

HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Would the project:

		Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use or disposal of hazardous materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b)	Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonable foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c)	Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e)	For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g)	Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion:

- a) **Less Than Significant Impact.** Future Master Plan development projects would be subject to environmental review and would be required to adhere to applicable federal, state, and local regulations, including, but not limited to, Titles 8 and 22 of the CCR, the Uniform Fire Code, and Chapter 6.95 of the California Health and Safety Code. Hazardous materials regulations, which are codified in Titles 8, 22, and 26 of the CCR, and their enabling legislation set forth in Chapter 6.95 of the California Health and Safety Code, were established at the State level to ensure compliance with federal regulations to reduce the risk to human health and the environment from the routine use of hazardous substances.

Therefore, the proposed Master Plan would not create a potentially significant hazard to the public or the surrounding environment through the transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials during construction activities or long-term operation.

- b) **Potentially Significant Impact Unless Mitigated.** Future development pursuant to the proposed Master Plan could involve the use of hazardous materials and would be subject to environmental review and would be required to comply with existing government regulations. In addition, existing park sites and the opportunity sites may contain hazardous building materials that could be released into the environment during renovation, demolition, and redevelopment. To avoid impacts regarding the release of hazardous building materials, surveys are completed and the materials are removed by qualified personnel. Mitigation Measure HAZ-1 includes these requirements with respect to hazardous building materials. Therefore, with implementation of Mitigation Measure HAZ-1, the proposed Master Plan would not create a significant hazard to the public or the surrounding environment through foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the likely release of hazardous materials into the environment.
- c) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The proposed Master Plan is a planning and policy action and would not produce any significant amount of hazardous materials or emissions. Future projects would be subject to environmental review and would be required to adhere to applicable federal, state, and local regulations. Therefore, impacts related to hazardous materials, substances, or waste would be less than significant.
- d) **Potentially Significant Impact Unless Mitigated.** Government Code Section 65962.5 requires the State of California Department of Toxic Substance Control to maintain a list of known sites that contain hazardous waste and substances; and this list is regularly updated. Based on a review of the State Water Resources Control Board database (Geotracker) and CalRecycle Solid Waste Information System (SWIS) Facility/Site Listing database, no potential hazardous sites are reported to be at the site or adjacent to the opportunity sites.¹ Two leaking underground storage tank (LUST) sites, the Shell Station and K&M Lexus-Toyota Service, are both located northeast of Opportunity Site No. 5. The Shell LUST site is reported to be “case closed,” and the K&M Lexus-Toyota Service is reported to be open and a site assessment is currently underway. Hazardous waste concerns change over time, and there is the potential for the opportunity sites to contain hazardous materials and/or be impacted by hazardous waste prior to conversion to parks and recreational facilities. Therefore, prior to development at the opportunity sites, a qualified professional needs to determine the potential for contamination at the site and to determine

¹ CalRecycle. Website: <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/swfacilities/directory/Search.aspx>; State Water Resources Control Board. Website: <http://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/>; and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Website: <https://www.epa.gov/enviro/cerclis-search> (accessed July 7, 2016).

courses of action such as sampling, avoidance, monitoring, and/or remediation. This requirement is specified in Mitigation Measure HAZ-2. Therefore, with implementation of Mitigation Measure HAZ-2, potential hazardous materials releases at or on the opportunity sites would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment.

- e) **No Impact.** The City of Downey is not located within an airport land use plan or within 2 miles of a public airport or public use airport. Therefore, no impacts would occur.
- f) **No Impact.** The City is not located within 2 miles of a private airstrip, and as a result, the proposed Master Plan would not result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area. Therefore, no impacts would occur.
- g) **No Impact.** The proposed Maser Plan does not include any revisions to roadways, access points, or land uses that would interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. No impacts would occur.
- h) **No Impact.** The City of Downey is in an urbanized area of the County, no wildlands exist in the project vicinity, and the project site is not designated as a Special Fire Protection Area or a Fire Hazard Severity Zone on the Statewide CalFire Map. Therefore, no impacts related to wildland fires would occur.

Mitigation Measure

HAZ-1 Hazardous Building Materials. Prior to renovation or demolition at each project site, the City of Downey Parks and Recreation Director shall ensure that a qualified professional conducts surveys for hazardous building materials including, but not limited to: asbestos, lead, polychlorinated biphenyls, and mercury. Any hazardous building materials shall be removed, transported, and disposed of by a qualified abatement contractor consistent with local, State, and federal regulations.

HAZ-2 Hazardous Waste Assessment. Prior to approval of development of each opportunity site, the City of Downey Parks and Recreation Director shall ensure that a qualified professional conducts a Hazardous Waste Assessment to determine if hazardous waste is present on the site. Additional actions may involve sampling, avoidance, monitoring, and/or remediation. All work shall be conducted consistent with local, State, and federal regulations.

HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

Would the project:

		Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f)	Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

h)	Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
j)	Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion:

- a) **Less Than Significant Impact.** Future Master Plan development would be required to adhere to existing regulations and standard conditions that require implementation of BMPs to reduce pollutants in urban runoff consistent with the City’s Local Implementation Plan. No significant impacts would occur.
- b) **Less Than Significant Impact.** Downey is located in a highly urbanized setting and is mostly built out. There is little opportunity for natural replenishment of groundwater within the City, and the proposed Master Plan does not replace such opportunities. Groundwater recharge for the Central Basin is accomplished through the import of purchased water from the Metropolitan Water District and recycled water from the Whittier and San Jose Treatment Plants to the Rio Hondo and San Gabriel River Spreading Grounds upstream of the City.

As part of the Master Plan, grass will be replaced with artificial turf at some park locations, which would reduce water use in these areas.

The proposed Master Plan identifies seven potential locations to be considered for future park development, referred to as Opportunity Sites. Two of the identified opportunity sites are located on former well sites that are currently abandoned. However, according to the State Water Resources Control Board Geotracker website, the opportunity site located at 9501 Guatemala Avenue, abuts a water supply well still in operation.¹ Future development at this location would comply with regulatory requirements to protect water supply wells if this well is still in operation. All future projects implemented under the Master Plan are subject to environmental review and compliance with federal, State, and local regulations. Therefore, adoption of the proposed Master Plan would not substantially deplete groundwater supplies or substantially interfere with groundwater recharge.

- c) **Less Than Significant Impact.** Future project proposals resulting from adoption of the Master Plan would be required to comply with regulatory requirements related to runoff control such as the SWPPP and Low Impact Development (LID) ordinances to ensure that there is no substantial change to a site or area drainage that would result in substantial erosion on or off the site. Potential siltation would be addressed at the time of project development through retention and infiltration on the project site, where necessary. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.

¹ State Water Resources Control Board. Geotracker. Website: <http://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/gama/gamamap/public/default.asp?CMD=runreport&myaddress=7217+adwen+st%2C+downey%2C+ca> (accessed March 9, 2016).

- d) **Less Than Significant Impact.** Future project proposals resulting from adoption of the Master Plan would be required to comply with regulatory requirements related to runoff control such as the SWPPP and LID ordinances to ensure that they would not substantially change the rate or amount of surface runoff or result in flooding on or off the site. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.
- e) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The recommendations contained in the proposed Master Plan would not create or contribute to runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff. Future project proposals resulting from adoption of the Master Plan would be subject to environmental review and would be required to comply with existing federal, State, and local regulations to ensure that there is no substantial increase in the amount of runoff or increased pollutants in runoff. Therefore, potential impacts related to substantial sources of polluted runoff would be less than significant.
- f) **Less Than Significant Impact.** Future project proposals resulting from adoption of the Master Plan would be required to comply with regulatory requirements related to runoff control such as the SWPPP and LID ordinances to ensure that they would not otherwise degrade water quality. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.
- g) **No Impact.** Adoption of the proposed Master Plan would not result in any housing being placed in a 100-year flood zone. Thus, the proposed Master Plan would have no impact relative to the risk of property and life resulting from construction within the 100-year flood plain.
- h) i) **No Impact.** According to the Design Memorandum for Rio Hondo Channel Improvements (October 1997) produced by the United States Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), the Rio Hondo Channel has a 133-year design discharge capacity of approximately 50,300 cubic feet per second (cfs). Furthermore, the channel's minimum top of walls and levees were designed to contain 500-year flood return frequency events.

For the San Gabriel River, the 100-year flood is completely contained within the channel without exceeding channel capacity downstream to the Pacific Ocean. Its design capacity for the reach of the river adjacent to the City is 19,500 cfs, based on the Los Angeles County Drainage Area (December 1991) study prepared by the Corps.

There have not been previously identified, unresolved risks due to levee failure noted in previous studies of the City's two adjacent flood control channels, the Rio Hondo and the San Gabriel River. In addition, no other dam/levees in the vicinity of the City (i.e., Whittier Narrows) present a potential for failure or impact to the City. As such, no properties within the City are considered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to be within a 100-year flood zone. Therefore, the proposed Master Plan would not place a structure within a 100-year flood hazard area, and no flooding impacts would occur.

- j) **No Impact.** Seiching is a phenomenon that occurs when seismic groundshaking induces standing waves (seiches) inside closed bodies of water such as reservoirs and water tanks. Such waves can cause retention structures to fail and flood downstream properties. There are no substantial water retention facilities located in close proximity to existing and proposed recreational facilities. Park ponds have the potential to cause some flooding, but not inundation associated with a large body of water. The risk associated with possible seiche waves is, therefore, not considered a potential constraint or a potentially significant impact.

Tsunamis are generated wave trains generally caused by tectonic displacement of the sea floor associated with shallow earthquakes, sea floor landslides, rock falls, and exploding volcanic islands. The City is located approximately 10 miles from the ocean shoreline. According to the Tsunami Inundation Map for Emergency Planning, State of California - County of Los Angeles, Long Beach Quadrangle (California Emergency Management Agency [Cal EMA], the California Geological Survey, and the University of Southern California, March 1, 2009), the City is not within the tsunami inundation area. The risk associated with tsunamis is, therefore, not considered a potential hazard or a potentially significant impact.

Mudslides and slumps are described as a shallower type of slope failure, usually affecting the upper soil mantle or weathered bedrock underlying natural slopes and triggered by surface or shallow subsurface saturation. The City site is located within a relatively flat area. The risk associated with possible mudflows and mudslides is, therefore, not considered a potential constraint or a potentially significant impact.

LAND USE/PLANNING		Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<i>Would the project:</i>					
a)	Physically divide an established community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c)	Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion:

- a) **No Impact.** The proposed Master Plan sets forth recommendations and findings that are intended to guide the development of parks and recreational facilities and programs in the City. As such, the Master Plan will not provide for new land uses or infrastructure systems such as new roadways or flood control channels that would divide or disrupt neighborhoods. All proposed Opportunity Sites are within currently vacant and undeveloped land. Therefore, implementation of the proposed Master Plan would not result in the physical division of any established community.
- b) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The proposed Master Plan is consistent with pertinent planning documents regulating land use for the planning area as discussed below. Future projects developed under the Master Plan would be subject to environmental review and may require general plan amendments or zoning changes from existing uses to proposed uses, which would be approved along with future project and environmental document approval. Therefore, impacts related to land use conflicts would be less than significant.

City of Downey Municipal Code, Article IX-Land Use, Chapter 3- Zones and Standards

The City of Downey Municipal Code divides the City of Downey into 17 different zones. The following two zones are applicable to the Master Plan. The Master Plan will be consistent with the intent and purpose set forth in the Zoning Code.

- Section 9322 Open Space Zone
 - The intent and purpose of the Open Space Zone is to:
 - (a) Provide for permanent open space in the community by limiting development in areas which are so located, or having a configuration, or possessed of such geologic features that the residential or other structural use of the land might

endanger the health, safety, and welfare of residents from possible flood, fire, subsidence, or erosion.

(b) Prevent incompatible development in areas that should be preserved or regulated for scenic, recreational, conservation, aesthetic, or health and safety purposes.

- Section 9320 Public Zone

- The intent and purpose of these Public Zone regulations is to:

- (a) Encourage orderly and harmonious development of public facilities.

- (b) Provide adequate space to meet the needs of public facilities, including off-street parking and loading.

City of Downey Vision 2025 General Plan. Each city in California is required by State law to adopt a comprehensive, long-term General Plan for its physical development. The General Plan consists of mandatory and discretionary elements including land use, housing, circulation, conservation and open space, safety, noise, air quality, and economic development. California State law requires that the day-to-day decisions of a city should follow logically from, and be consistent with, the General Plan.

The Master Plan is intended to be used in conjunction with the General Plan to provide a coordinated program of recreational facility development and management. The proposed Master Plan recommendations are consistent with the goals set forth in the Open Space Element of the General Plan, including:

- Goal 7.1: Augment the availability of open space areas with other open spaces besides public parks.
- Goal 7.2: Optimize the use of established public parks to meet the needs of residents.
- Goal 7.3: Increase the amount of park acreage.
- Goal 7.4: Combine efforts by the local school districts and the city towards enhancing the community.

Downtown Specific Code. The Downtown Downey Specific Plan guides growth and development in Downtown, and seeks to encourage economic revitalization and the creation of a lively center of activity for the City. The Specific Plan establishes 131 acres as mixed use and looks to create unique districts with specific development standards and design guidelines. The Downtown Specific Plan is envisioned as a vibrant urban center providing a wide array of dining, working, living, shopping, entertainment, and cultural opportunities. The Specific Plan guides growth by dividing the downtown area into five land use districts: Downtown Core, Downtown Residential, Firestone Boulevard Gateway, Paramount Boulevard Professional, and Civic Center. Included in the vision for the Specific Plan are a number of potential open space opportunity areas that have the potential to add recreational areas to the City's existing park inventory as well as opportunities for the creation of pedestrian corridors.

Downtown Civic Center Master Plan. The Downey Civic Center Master Plan was developed to enact the first phase of the Downtown Specific Plan for the Civic Center District. The Master Plan was developed in collaboration with a panel of key stakeholders from the community, and reorganizes the layout of the district to meet the following goals and opportunities:

- Reintroduce vehicular and pedestrian linkages to the downtown and surrounding neighborhoods.
- Reallocate surface parking lots to maintain capacity while better utilizing Civic Center property to create a centralized civic open space for community festivals, fairs, and events.
- Repurpose excess roadways for pedestrian and bicycle access, curbside parking, and usable open space while enabling convenient automobile access at speeds that complement these modes.
- Enhance the design of all open spaces, including streets, parks, plazas, courts, and paseos—the “outdoor rooms” in which the life of the community may thrive.
- Phase the Master Plan into a series of strategic, incremental projects with public and private investment in order to feasibly implement the Vision.
- Serve as a catalyst for community and City discussion regarding financial mechanisms and strategies to both implement and maintain these improvements for the future.

The Civic Center Master Plan proposes a 1.16-acre central park gathering space, which includes a band shell and a playground. The Parks and Open Space Master Plan defines this space as a “planned” facility in Section 2.3.

Bicycle Master Plan. Concurrently with the development of the Master Plan, the City of Downey has finalized a Bicycle Master Plan (approved July 2015). Based on the context of transportation and bicycling within the City, along with the benefits of encouraging bicycling within the City of Downey, the Downey Bicycle Master Plan aims to maximize connectivity by bicycle to the assets already in place within the City. The primary goals of the Bicycle Master Plan are to provide a safe, efficient, and connected network of bicycle facilities that residents and stakeholders can enjoy for a variety of purposes. The Parks and Open Space Master Plan is intended to be used with the Bicycle Master Plan to provide increased access to the recreational opportunities within the City and beyond its borders.

Downey Unified School District Facilities Master Plan. The Downey Unified School District Facilities Master Plan identifies a strategic vision for the School District for facilities infrastructure for the next 10–15 years. The City currently has joint-use agreements with the School District for the use of all school facilities, the Downey High School Pool, and the Columbus High School sports fields. Through continued and expanded collaborative efforts, both the School District and the City can appreciate benefits through shared resources. The Parks and Open Space Master Plan provides recommendations for additional joint uses, which are in agreement with the current Downey Unified School District Facilities Master Plan (dated June 2014).

Los Angeles Countywide Comprehensive Park and Recreation Needs Assessment. As of the date of this report, the County of Los Angeles is developing comprehensive assessment of countywide park, infrastructure, and recreational needs and opportunities. The City of Downey is one of the 189 Study Areas included in the assessment, which establishes a transparent and best approach to engage all communities within the County in a collaborative process to gather data and input for future decision-making on parks and recreation. The findings of the Parks and Open Space Master Plan can assist the City to better refine the needs identified in the County study and identify potential projects for funding.

Energy Action Plan. In January 2015, Downey's City Council approved an Energy Action Plan. The main goal of the Energy Action Plan is to provide a roadmap for the City of Downey to reduce greenhouse emissions through reductions in the energy used in facility buildings and City operations. This Energy Action Plan identifies current and future opportunities that will contribute to the City's energy reduction goal. The Energy Action Plan included energy audits of several recreation facilities to assess energy savings potential, including: Barbara J. Riley Community and Senior Center, Discovery Sports Complex, Rio San Gabriel Park, and Wilderness Park. The recommendations included in the Energy Action Plan have implications to parks and park buildings and have been incorporated into the proposed Master Plan.

The Emerald Necklace Expanded Vision Plan. The Emerald Necklace Expanded Vision Plan establishes a comprehensive and strategic guide to creating a network of parks and public open spaces along the Los Angeles and San Gabriel watersheds and their rivers and tributaries. The City of Downey is an Emerald Necklace Coalition member, which includes 24 cities, 3 school districts, 3 homeowners associations, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles and Mountain Conservancy, and the Sierra Club. Coalition members have pledged to work collaboratively to preserve the Los Angeles and San Gabriel watersheds and their rivers and tributaries for recreational, open space, environmental education, job training, native habitat restoration and conservation, and nonvehicular transportation. The Master Plan supports the Emerald Necklace Expanded Vision Plan by encouraging and expanding recreational space within the City and along the San Gabriel and Rio Hondo Rivers (tributary of the Los Angeles River).

- c) **No Impact.** There is no adopted HCP, NCCP, or other habitat conservation plan within the City. Therefore, the proposed Master Plan would not result in an impact related to any applicable HCP or NCCP.

MINERAL RESOURCES

Would the project:

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

Discussion:

- a) **No Impact.** The City does not contain oil extraction operations, and there are no other known mineral resources with local, regional, or statewide importance within the City. Therefore, there would be no impacts on mineral resources.
- b) **No Impact.** The City is not known to contain locally important mineral resources. Therefore, no impacts related to delineated mineral resources would occur.

NOISE

Would the project result in:

		Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local General Plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b)	Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c)	A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d)	A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e)	For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Local Regulations:

City of Downey Noise Standards. The City of Downey’s Noise Element of the General Plan specifies the exterior and interior noise standards for each land use category.¹ Table B summarizes the City’s acceptable noise levels for land uses. As shown in Table B, the City has an established an exterior and interior noise standard of 60 A-weighted decibel (dBA) Community Noise Equivalent Level (CNEL) and 45 dBA CNEL and below, respectively, for residential and park land uses. Noise levels are expressed in CNEL. The CNEL is the energy average of the A-weighted sound levels occurring over a 24-hour period, with a 10 decibel (dB) penalty applied to A-weighted sound levels occurring during the nighttime hours between 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m., and a 5 dB penalty applied to the A-weighted sound levels occurring during evening hours between 7:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.

¹ City of Downey, Downey Vision 2025 General Plan. Noise Element. January 25, 2005. p. 6-4.

Table B: City of Downey Acceptable Noise Levels for Land Uses

Land Use	Interior ¹	Exterior
Residential	45 dBA CNEL and below	60 dBA CNEL and below
Schools, parks, and other non-residential noise-sensitive land uses	45 dBA CNEL and below	60 dBA CNEL and below
Commercial	65 dBA CNEL and below	--
Industrial	70 dBA CNEL and below	--

Source: City of Downey, Downey Vision 2025 General Plan. Noise Element. January 25, 2005.

¹ Interior noise levels based on windows closed.

² Exterior areas for residential areas limited to rear yards of single-family uses, and patios/balconies and common recreational areas of multiple-family uses. Exterior areas for schools limited to playgrounds areas, picnic areas and other areas of frequent human use.

CNEL = Community Noise Equivalent Level

dBA = A-weighted decibel

City of Downey Municipal Code. The City regulates maximum permissible noise levels by sound sources across property boundaries through Section 4606.3 in the Municipal Code. Table C shows the maximum permissible noise levels for each land use. As shown in Table C, the maximum permissible noise levels for residential land uses is 55 dBA for 60 minutes, 60 dBA for 12 minutes per hour, 65 dBA for 3 minutes per hour, and 70 dBA for 1 minute per hour.

Table C: City of Downey Maximum Permissible Noise Levels

Land Use	7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.	10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.
Residential	55 dBA – 60 minutes	45 dBA
	60 dBA – 12 minutes per hour	
	65 dBA – 3 minutes per hour	
	70 dBA – 1 minute per hour	
Commercial	65 dBA – 60 minutes	65 dBA
	70 dBA – 12 minutes per hour	
	75 dBA – 3 minutes per hour	
	80 dBA – 1 minute per hour	
Manufacturing	70 dBA – 60 minutes	70 dBA
	75 dBA – 12 minutes per hour	
	80 dBA – 3 minutes per hour	
	85 dBA – 1 minute per hour	

Source: City of Downey, Municipal Code.

dBA = A-weighted decibel

In addition, the City regulates construction noise through Section 4606.5 in the Municipal Code. As specified in the City’s Municipal Code Section 4606.5, construction activities are prohibited between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m., and noise levels generated from construction shall not exceed 85 dBA maximum instantaneous noise level (L_{max}) across any property boundary at any time during the course of a 24-hour day.

Discussion:

a), c), d) **Potentially Significant Unless Mitigated.** As the various improvements to existing facilities under the Master Plan are not anticipated to generate a substantial amount of traffic, a substantial traffic noise increase is not anticipated. In addition, the implementation of these improvements would be conducted outside of the prohibited hours between 9:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. and would not require intense site preparation, construction, or personnel. Noise levels generated from these improvements are not anticipated to exceed 85 dBA L_{max} across any property boundary. Therefore, noise levels generated from operation and construction activities would be considered less than significant, and no mitigation measures are required.

The park expansion and the new pocket parks and linear neighborhood park would be frequented by residents who live nearby. Therefore, as these amenities are not anticipated to generate a substantial amount of traffic, a substantial traffic noise increase is not anticipated. Similarly, the implementation of these improvements would be conducted outside of the prohibited hours between 9:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. and would not require intense site preparation, construction, or personnel. Noise levels generated from these improvements are not anticipated to exceed 85 dBA L_{max} across any property boundary.

The multi-sports complex and multi-use fields at the Rancho Los Amigos South Campus has the potential to increase traffic noise and exceed the City's noise standards for off-site noise-sensitive land uses. Also, the operations of new multi-sports complex and multi-use fields have the potential to exceed the City maximum permissible noise levels across property boundaries. Although construction activities for the multi-sports complex and multi-use fields would be conducted outside of the prohibited hours between 9:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m., the noise level generated from construction activities could exceed 85 dBA across property boundaries due to the type of development. In order to reduce potential significant noise impacts during construction and operation to less than significant levels, a Noise Impact Analysis would be required prior to project approval. The Noise Impact Analysis would determine the construction and operational noise levels at nearby receptors such as residents and park visitors and identify noise attenuation measures to be included during construction and as part of the project such as noise barriers (i.e., sound walls), as applicable. The Noise Impact Analysis will also specify additional construction noise reduction measures such as: (1) routing construction-related truck traffic along roadways that cause the least disturbance to nearby residents; (2) equipping all construction equipment, fixed or mobile, with properly operating and maintained mufflers consistent with manufacturers' standards; (3) placing all stationary construction equipment so that emitted noise is directed away from receptors nearest the project site; and (4) locating equipment staging in areas that will create the greatest distance between construction-related noise sources and receptors nearest the project site during all project construction. Mitigation Measure NOI-1 requires preparation of a Noise Impact Analysis that meets the requirements above for the multi-sports complex and multi-use fields at the Rancho Los Amigos South Campus. Therefore, with implementation of Mitigation Measure NOI-1: noise level standards established in the General Plan or Municipal Code would not be exceeded, and no substantial permanent or temporary increases in noise would occur.

b) **Less Than Significant Impact.** Construction of the future projects under the Master Plan would not require intense site preparation, construction, or personnel. No heavy construction equipment that would generate ground-borne noise and vibration would be used. Therefore, short-term construction of future projects under the Master Plan would not generate ground-borne noise and vibration levels that would result in community annoyance or structural damage. In addition,

short-term construction haul trips and worker commutes would not increase ground-borne noise and vibration on any roadways leading to the future project.

Once operational, the future projects implemented under the Master Plan would not generate ground-borne vibration. Therefore, ground-borne vibration and noise impacts generated by the future projects implemented under the Master Plan would be less than significant, and no mitigation measures are required.

- e) **No Impact.** The City is not located within an airport land use plan, within 2 miles of a public airport or public use airport. The closest airport, the Compton/Woodley Airport, is located approximately 5 miles southwest of the City. Therefore, no impacts related to excessive airport noise are anticipated.
- f) **No Impact.** The City is not located within the vicinity of a private airstrip. Therefore, there are no impacts related to this issue.

Mitigation Measure

NOI-1 **Noise Impact Analysis.** Prior to project approval, the City of Downey Parks and Recreation Director shall ensure that a Noise Impact Analysis is prepared by a qualified professional for the multi-sports complex and multi-use fields. The Noise Impact Analysis shall evaluate both construction and operational noise impacts consistent with the General Plan and Municipal Code and identify project features such as noise barriers that would be constructed as part of the project. The Noise Impact Analysis shall also include construction noise reduction measures to minimize impacts on surrounding residents and other sensitive receptors.

POPULATION AND HOUSING

Would the project:

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

Discussion:

- a) **No Impact.** The proposed Master Plan provides only concept plans for park and recreation facilities and improvements intended to serve as guidance for the City in implementing these types of improvements in the future. Future improvements would not include the development of any new housing or employment centers that would impact the location, distribution, density, or growth rate of populations within the City. Therefore, no impacts related to population growth would occur.
- b) **No Impact.** The proposed Master Plan would not result in the displacement of any existing housing. The park upgrades would not displace any housing, and the opportunity sites would not be developed with housing. Therefore, the proposed Master Plan would not result in impacts related to the displacement of housing.
- c) **No Impact.** The adoption of the proposed Master Plan would not result in the displacement of any number of people. Therefore, the proposed Master Plan would not result in an impact related to the displacement of people.

PUBLIC SERVICES		Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<i>Would the project:</i>					
a)	Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of or 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:				
i)	Fire Protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ii)	Police Protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iii)	Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iv)	Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
v)	Other public facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion:

- a) i) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The Downey Fire Department provides fire protection services for the City. The proposed Master Plan would not include the development of any new housing or employment centers that would introduce new people into the service area or increase the demand on fire protection services. The City Fire Department has indicated that implementation of the Master Plan would not require the construction of new or altered facilities. Therefore, no significant impacts would occur.
- ii) **Less Than Significant Impact.** Police services in the City are provided by the Downey Police Department, except for properties owned by the County of Los Angeles in the southwest part of the City, which are patrolled by the County Sheriff Department, based in Lynwood. The Downey Police Department (DPD) is located at 10911 Brookshire Avenue. The DPD is comprised of 150 total employees, including 111 sworn officers. These include a Chief of Police, 2 Captains, 6 Lieutenants, 16 Sergeants, 33 Detectives, and 6 motorcycle officers.¹ Some parks and trail expansions, as well as new parks at the opportunity sites, would require periodic patrols to ensure safety, which is expected to be handled by Park Rangers. The Park Ranger Program is currently in the early stages (preparing to process applicants), and implementation of the Master Plan would likely require an increase in the number of Park Rangers in the program to provide an adequate protective presence at the parks. As part of the environmental review of future Master Plan projects, the number of Park Rangers required would be incorporated into the capital and maintenance budgets for each project. Therefore, no significant impacts would occur.
- iii) **No Impact.** The City is served by the Downey Unified School District (DUSD), which houses approximately 22,742 students in grades kindergarten through 12 within 13

¹ City of Downey. FY 2015–2016. Adopted Budget. Website: http://www.downeyca.org/documents/FY2015-16_Approved_Budget.pdf (accessed March 2, 2016).

elementary, 4 middle schools, and 3 high schools.¹ In addition, the DUSD operates a continuation high school/adult school and several specialized facilities for students with special needs. The proposed Master Plan would not include the development of any new housing or employment centers that would introduce new people into the service area or result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered school facilities. The Master Plan does identify Joint Use Facilities, which would increase the recreational facilities available to DUSD. Therefore, there would be no impacts on school services and facilities.

- iv) **No Impact.** The proposed Master Plan includes recommendations to acquire, develop, redevelop, and maintain parks within the City. As such, the proposed Master Plan would add to and have a positive effect on the public recreation amenities available in the City. Therefore, the proposed Master Plan would not result in park impacts.
- v) **No Impact.** The proposed Master Plan is an implementation tool for the improvement of existing parks and recreational facilities and development of new recreational facilities to support the existing community and future development. Therefore, the proposed Master Plan would not impact other public facilities within the City.

¹ Downey Unified School District. About DUSD. Website: <http://www.dusd.net/about-dusd/> (accessed March 2, 2016).

RECREATION

Would the project:

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

Discussion:

- a) **Less Than Significant Impact.** In total, there are 12 parks and one community center, totaling 117 acres, within the City of Downey. The City currently has 5.7 miles of Class I bike trails. The City of Downey Bicycle Master Plan (2015) identifies and proposes an additional 14.7 miles of Class II and 18.9 miles of Class III bike trails.

The recreational facility and operation and maintenance recommendations presented in the Master Plan could increase usage at existing parks in the City. The Master Plan aims to bring more residents and employees to park facilities; however, recommended improvements are intended to improve the overall existing condition of parks and community facilities that will encourage greater positive use by residents in the City. The proposed Master Plan also seeks to acquire, develop, redevelop, and maintain quality parks and trails that support equity of access by users, and update community facilities both indoors and outdoors to maximize their uses and appreciation by the community for people of all ages. Future projects implemented under the Master Plan would be subject to environmental review and would be required to comply with the standards set forth in the Municipal Code and the 2025 General Plan. Therefore, impacts related to increased use and deterioration of recreational facilities would be less than significant.

- b) **Less Than Significant Impact.** Implementation of the Master Plan recommendations could result in construction or expansion of recreational facilities that would expand park resources. Future projects implemented under the Master Plan would be subject to environmental review and would be required to comply with the standards set forth in the Municipal Code and the 2025 General Plan. Therefore, impacts related to increased use and deterioration of recreational facilities would be less than significant.

TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC

Would the project:

		Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Cause an increase in traffic which is substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system (i.e., result in a substantial increase in either the number of vehicle trips, the volume to capacity ratio on roads, or congestion at intersections)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b)	Exceed, either individually or cumulatively, a level of service standard established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d)	Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e. g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e)	Result in inadequate emergency access?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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 supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion:

- a) **Potentially Significant Impact Unless Mitigated.** The Master Plan improvements to existing facilities are not anticipated to generate a substantial amount of traffic. In addition, implementation of these improvements would not require intense site preparation, construction, or personnel. Therefore, operational and construction traffic attributed to the existing facilities would be less than significant, and no mitigation would be required.

Although development of the opportunity sites includes several new amenities such as green space, trail access, pathways, playgrounds, benches, shade structure, and seating, these amenities are not anticipated to generate a significant amount of traffic. The park expansion would provide additional space for current Wilderness Park visitors, and the new pocket parks and linear neighborhood park would be frequented by residents who live in close proximity and can walk to

and from each potential location. The multi-sports complex and multi-use fields, however, have the potential to increase traffic and congestion at roadways and intersections. A Traffic Impact Analysis would be required to determine if this project would need off-site improvements in order to meet City standards. Any needed improvements would then be incorporated into the project. These requirements are included in Mitigation Measure TRA-1. Therefore, with implementation of Mitigation Measure TRA-1, development of the multi-sports complex and multi-use fields would not cause an increase in traffic, which would be substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system.

- b) **Potentially Significant Impact Unless Mitigated.** The County Metropolitan Transportation Authority adopted the Congestion Management Program (CMP) in 2010. This CMP establishes a standard of level of service (LOS) E for CMP system highways, roadways, and intersections in the County. Future projects implemented under the Master Plan would be subject to environmental review and would be required to comply with the standards set forth in the Municipal Code and the 2025 General Plan.

Improvements to the 14 existing facilities and future park development of seven opportunity sites would not generate a substantial amount of traffic exceeding standards on an individual or cumulative basis. However, development of the multi-sports complex and multi-use fields has the potential to increase congestion and impact CMP locations on an individual or cumulative basis. A Traffic Impact Analysis would be required to determine if this project would need off-site improvements in order to meet City standards. Any needed improvements would then be incorporated into the project. These requirements are included in Mitigation Measure TRA-1. Therefore, with implementation of Mitigation Measure TRA-1, development of the multi-sports complex and multi-use fields would not exceed, either individually or cumulatively, a level of service standard established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways.

- c) **No Impact.** The closest airport, the Compton/Woodley Airport, is located approximately 5 miles southwest of the City. The proposed Master Plan does not include the development of structures that would be of sufficient height that would potentially change air traffic patterns or development located within the immediate vicinity of airfields or airports. Therefore, the Master Plan would not impact air traffic patterns.
- d) **No Impact.** The proposed Master Plan does not include or involve any sharp curves, dangerous intersections, or incompatible uses. Therefore, the proposed Master Plan would not result in any potential hazards associated with a project design feature.
- e) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The General Plan Safety Element establishes policies to provide adequate emergency response.¹ In addition, the City requires that proposals for new development be submitted to the Fire Department for review to ensure that site design allows adequate access for Fire Department personnel in case of structural fire. All future development proposals pursuant to the Master Plan recommendations would be subject to environmental and Fire Department review. Emergency access would continue to be a primary consideration in the design of all future improvements to the City's transportation network. Therefore, impacts are considered less than significant.

¹ City of Downey, Downey Vision 2025 – Comprehensive General Plan Update Draft EIR. July 2004. p. 5-233 – 5-239.

- f) **No Impact.** None of the recommendations or implementation measures contained in the proposed Master Plan conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative modes of transportation (e.g., bus turnouts or bicycle racks). Therefore, no impacts would occur.

Mitigation Measure

- TRA-1** Prior to approval of the multi-sports complex and multi-use fields, the City of Downey Parks and Recreation Director shall ensure that a Traffic Impact Analysis (TIA) is prepared by a qualified professional. The TIA shall be prepared consistent with the requirements of the City and the Congestion Management Program (CMP) in order to identify potential impacts to regional/local circulation and site access. Based on the results and findings of the TIA, the City shall construct any identified roadway, intersection, driveway, signal, and signing improvements required to offset any operational and level of service deficiencies related to implementation of the multi-sports complex and multi-use fields.

UTILITIES/SERVICE SYSTEMS

Would the project:

		Potentially Significant Impact	Potentially Significant Unless Mitigated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a)	Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b)	Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment or collection facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d)	Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f)	Be served by a landfill with insufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g)	Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid wastes.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Discussion:

- a) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The Los Angeles County Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) administers the municipal NPDES permit requirements in the City. Under the NPDES permit issued to the County, all development and significant redevelopment projects are obligated to implement structural and nonstructural nonpoint source pollution control measures known as BMPs to limit urban pollutants reaching the waters of the United States to the maximum extent practical. The regulations require facilities that discharge storm water to obtain a NPDES permit. In addition, the NPDES storm water management program also calls for the implementation of

BMPs to the “maximum extent practicable...” in dealing with nonpoint sources of pollution such as: urban runoff, including automotive by-products, trash, food wastes, landscape and agricultural runoff, including pesticides and fertilizers, and runoff from construction sites. Both point sources, such as direct drainage sources, and nonpoint sources of water pollution, such as urban runoff, are usually discharged via separate storm drains to “waters of the United States” and are, therefore, regulated under the Federal Clean Water Act (CWA). The proposed Master Plan is a planning and policy document and, as such, would not require an individual wastewater discharge permit from the RWQCB.

The City of Downey must, therefore, comply with federal water quality, waste discharge, and total maximum daily load standards defined by the CWA. Future recreational development pursuant to the Master Plan recommendations would be required to comply with existing water quality standards and waste discharge regulations set forth by the RWQCB as well as LID and infiltration standards set forth in Section 5707, Source Controls for Specific Development Categories (as amended), of the City of Downey Municipal Code. Therefore, the proposed Master Plan would have less than significant impacts on wastewater treatment requirements.

- b) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The City of Downey gets 100 percent of its water from groundwater. Specifically, the City pumps groundwater from the Central Groundwater Basin, an adjudicated basin that limits the amount of water each purveyor can pump on an annual basis. The limit to the amount of groundwater that each pumper is allowed to extract from the basin on an annual basis is referred to as the “Allowed Pumping Allocation” (APA), which corresponds to 80 percent of the party’s total water rights.

The Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) prepared by the City has factored in future growth within the City of Downey and anticipates the City has a reliable water source to supply future development based on the availability of groundwater resources in addition to the availability of Metropolitan Water District (MWD) water for purchase. As part of the Master Plan, grass will be replaced with artificial turf at some park locations, which would reduce water use in these areas.

Sewage is collected by City collector facilities and conveyed to trunk sewers owned and maintained by the Sanitation District of Los Angeles County, District No. 2. Wastewater generated by the City is treated at the Joint Water Pollution Control Plant (JWPCP) located in the City of Carson, which has a design capacity of 385 million gallons per day (mgd) and currently processes an average flow of 321.6 mgd, and the Los Coyotes Water Reclamation Plant (WRP) located in the City of Cerritos, which has a design capacity of 37.5 mgd and currently processes an average flow of 32 mgd.

Future development pursuant to the proposed Master Plan would be subject to environmental review and would be required to comply with existing limitations for water use and sewage disposal. Based on the proposed upgrades and the passive use of most of the opportunity sites, significant impacts to water supply are not expected. Therefore, potential impacts would be less than significant.

- c) **Less Than Significant Impact.** Future development pursuant to the proposed Master Plan would be subject to environmental review and would be required to comply with drainage requirements as well as LID and infiltration standards set forth in Section 5707, Source Controls for Specific Development Categories (as amended), of the Downey Municipal Code. Therefore, impacts related to the expansion of new storm water drainage facilities or the expansion of existing facilities would be less than significant.

- d) **Less Than Significant Impact.** As described above, the City gets 100 percent of its water from groundwater, although emergency sources of water are available for purchase from the MWD.¹ The proposed park improvements in the Master Plan include features to reduce the use of water, such as artificial turf. The multi-sport complex opportunity site would increase the use of water when compared to the existing vacant facility and would be required to comply with local and State water conservation regulations. No new or expanded entitlements are expected, and no significant impacts would occur.
- e) **Less Than Significant Impact.** Development of the opportunity sites pursuant to the proposed Master Plan would be subject to environmental review and may be required to pay a sewerage connection fee to the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts for any new connections. However, based on the limited nature of the projects identified in the Master Plan, requirements for additional capacity are not anticipated. Therefore, impacts to wastewater treatment facilities would be less than significant.
- f) **Less Than Significant Impact.** Future development resulting from adoption of the proposed Master Plan would comply with existing and future statutes and regulations mandated by the City, State, or federal law. Therefore, impacts related to generation and disposal of solid waste are less than significant.
- g) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The California Integrated Waste Management Act (AB 939) (PRC Section 41780 [1989]) changed the focus of solid waste management from landfill to diversion strategies such as resource reduction, recycling, and composting. The intent of these diversion strategies is to reduce dependence on landfills for solid waste disposal. AB 939 established mandatory diversion goals of 25 percent by 1995 and 50 percent by 2000. Pursuant to AB 939, the City adopted the Source Reduction and Recycling Element (SRRE), which identifies policies and waste diversion programs to ensure that Downey is in compliance with the requirements of AB 939.

Future development resulting from adoption of the proposed Master Plan would be required to comply with federal, State, and local statutes and regulations related to solid wastes.

¹ City of Downey, Downey Vision 2025 – Comprehensive General Plan Update Draft EIR Appendix A. July 2004. p 5–248.

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

Discussion:

- a) **Potentially Significant Impact Unless Mitigated.** As described throughout the preceding checklist sections, the proposed Master Plan has 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. Mitigation Measures have been provided to reduce potential impacts to air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, greenhouse gas emissions/climate change, and transportation as a result of ground disturbance and existing park sites and development of the opportunity sites. With implementation of Mitigation Measures AQ-1, BIO-1, BIO-2, BIO-3, CULT-1, CULT-2, CULT-3, CULT-4, CULT-5, HAZ-1, HAZ-2, and TRA-1 potential impacts related to the quality of the environment, fish or wildlife habitat or populations, plant or animal communities, special-status species, or historical or prehistoric resources, would be less than significant.

- b) **Potentially Significant Impact Unless Mitigated.** As described throughout the preceding checklist sections, the improvements to existing parks would not result in cumulatively considerable impacts. Development of the opportunity sites has the potential to result in cumulatively considerable impacts without incorporation of mitigation measures. With implementation of Mitigation Measures AQ-1, BIO-1, BIO-2, BIO-3, CULT-1, CULT-2, CULT-3, CULT-4, HAZ-1, HAZ-2, and TRA-1, no cumulatively considerable impacts would occur.
- c) **Potentially Significant Impact Unless Mitigated.** As described throughout the preceding checklist sections, the improvements to existing parks would not result in substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly. Development of the opportunity sites has the potential to result in substantial adverse direct or indirect effects on human beings, without incorporation of mitigation measures. With implementation of Mitigation Measures AQ-1, HAZ-1, HAZ-2, NOI-1, and TRA-1, no substantial adverse direct or indirect effects on human beings would occur.

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SECTION V - MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM

MITIGATION MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

PRC Section 21081.6 (enacted by the passage of AB 3180) mandates that the following requirements shall apply to all reporting or mitigation monitoring programs:

- The public agency shall adopt a reporting or monitoring program for the changes made to the project or conditions of project approval to mitigate or avoid significant effects on the environment. The reporting or monitoring program shall be designed to ensure compliance during project implementation. For those changes which have been required or incorporated into the project at the request of a Responsible Agency or a public agency having jurisdiction by law over natural resources affected by the project, that agency shall, if so requested by the Lead Agency or a Responsible Agency, prepare and submit a proposed reporting or monitoring program.
- The Lead Agency shall specify the location and custodian of the documents or other material which constitute the record of proceedings upon which its decision is based. A public agency shall provide the measures to mitigate or avoid significant effects on the environment that are fully enforceable through permit conditions, agreements, or other measures. Conditions of project approval may be set forth in referenced documents which address required mitigation measures or in the case of the adoption of a plan, policy, regulation, or other project, by incorporating the mitigation measures into the plan, policy, regulation, or project design.
- Prior to the close of the public review period for a draft Environmental Impact Report or MND, a Responsible Agency, or a public agency having jurisdiction over natural resources affected by the project, shall either submit to the Lead Agency complete and detailed performance objectives for mitigation measures which would address the significant effects on the environment identified by the Responsible Agency or agency having jurisdiction over natural resources affected by the project, or refer the Lead Agency to appropriate, readily available guidelines or reference documents. Any mitigation measures submitted to a Lead Agency by a Responsible Agency or an agency having jurisdiction over natural resources affected by the project shall be limited to measures which mitigate impacts to resources which are subject to the statutory authority of, and definitions applicable to, that agency. Compliance or noncompliance by a Responsible Agency or agency having jurisdiction over natural resources affected by a project with that requirement shall not limit that authority of the Responsible Agency or agency having jurisdiction over natural resources affected by a project, or the authority of the Lead Agency, to approve, condition, or deny projects as provided by this division or any other provision of law.

MITIGATION MONITORING PROCEDURES

The mitigation monitoring and reporting program for the proposed project was prepared in compliance with PRC Section 21081.6. It describes the requirements and procedures to be followed by the City of Downey to ensure that all mitigation measures adopted as part of the proposed project would be carried out as described in this IS/MND. Table D lists each of the mitigation measures specified in this IS/MND and identifies the party or parties responsible for implementation and monitoring of each measure.

Table D: Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

Mitigation Measures	Responsible Party	Timing for Mitigation Measure	Completion Date
Air Quality			
AQ-1 Air Quality Analysis. Prior to approval of any opportunity site development pursuant to the Parks and Open Space Master Plan, the City of Downey Parks and Recreation Director shall verify that an air quality analysis is conducted to ensure that project controls are identified in order to meet South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) thresholds.	City of Downey Parks and Recreation Director	Prior to approval of opportunity site development	
Biological Resources			
BIO-1 Special-Status Species. The City of Downey Parks and Recreation Director shall retain a qualified biologist to perform focused preconstruction surveys to determine the presence/absence of special-status species with potential to occur in and adjacent to the proposed impact area of each project component. The qualified biologist shall provide the City Parks and Recreation Director with documentation of the results of each survey prior to the authorization to proceed with construction activities for each project component. If any State or federally protected plant or animal species is detected in or adjacent to the proposed impact area of each project component, the final mitigation strategy for directly impacted species shall be determined in conjunction with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) (if appropriate) through a mitigation plan approval process.	City of Downey Parks and Recreation Director	Prior to park project approval	

Table D: Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

Mitigation Measures	Responsible Party	Timing for Mitigation Measure	Completion Date
<p>BIO-2: Migratory Birds and Raptors. If construction activities occur within the active nesting bird season (February 15 through August 15), the City of Downey Parks and Recreation Director shall retain a qualified biologist to conduct a preconstruction nesting-bird survey no more than 3 days prior to the start of construction. The nesting survey shall include the project site and areas immediately adjacent to the site that could potentially be affected by project-related construction activities such as noise, human activity, and dust, etc. If active bird nests are found within 500 feet of the designated construction area on the project site, the qualified biologist shall establish an appropriate buffer zone around the active nests. The appropriate buffer shall be determined by the qualified biologist based on species, location, and the nature of the proposed activities. Project activities shall be avoided within the buffer zone until the nest is deemed no longer active by the biologist.</p>	<p>City of Downey Parks and Recreation Director</p>	<p>Prior to and during construction</p>	
<p>BIO-3: Federally Protected Wetlands. The City of Downey Parks and Recreation Director shall retain a qualified professional to conduct a jurisdictional analysis of the two freshwater ponds at the Wilderness Park, as well as the infiltration basin at the Discovery Sports Complex prior to any disturbance in these areas. The results of the jurisdictional analysis shall be used to determine whether additional permitting and mitigation is required for these project components. If the results of the analyses identify federally jurisdictional waters with the potential to be impacted by Master Plan recommendations, the City Parks and Recreation Director shall ensure that no project component shall result in a net loss of federally protected waters by adopting impact</p>	<p>City of Downey Parks and Recreation Director</p>	<p>Prior to construction at Wilderness Park and Discovery Sports Complex</p>	

Table D: Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

Mitigation Measures	Responsible Party	Timing for Mitigation Measure	Completion Date
avoidance measures, impact minimization measures, and/or compensatory mitigation measures, as specified in Clean Water Act Section 404 and 401 permits and/or the 1602 Streambed Alteration Agreement.			
Cultural Resources			
CULT-1 Historical Resources. Prior to approval of each park project, the City of Downey Parks and Recreation Director shall retain a qualified cultural resources specialist/historian to conduct a cultural resources review and literature search at the South Central Coastal Information Center of the California Historical Resources Information System. The record search shall establish the status and extent of previously recorded sites, surveys, and excavations within and immediately adjacent to the project area. After site evaluation, the qualified cultural resources specialist/historian shall determine if protection measures, project modifications, monitoring, or recovery would be necessary to avoid substantial adverse changes to a historical resource.	City of Downey Parks and Recreation Director	Prior to park project approval	
CULT-3 Paleontological Resources. Prior to approval of each park project, the City of Downey Parks and Recreation Director shall retain a professional paleontologist to evaluate the project site, which may consist of a fossil locality search, literature review, and field survey, as appropriate and determined by the professional paleontologist. The paleontologist shall make recommendations as to the need for protection measures, monitoring, or recovery.	City of Downey Parks and Recreation Director	Prior to park project approval	

Table D: Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

Mitigation Measures	Responsible Party	Timing for Mitigation Measure	Completion Date
<p>CULT-4 Human Remains. In the event human remains are encountered during construction at any of the project sites, the City of Downey Parks and Recreation Director shall immediately notify the County Coroner. No further disturbance shall occur until the County Coroner has made a determination of origin and disposition pursuant to Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 5097.98. If the remains are determined to be Native American, the County Coroner shall notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), which shall determine and notify a Most Likely Descendant (MLD). With the permission of the City Parks and Recreation Director, the MLD may inspect the site of the discovery. The MLD shall complete the inspection within 48 hours of notification by the NAHC. The MLD shall have the opportunity to offer recommendations for the disposition of the remains.</p>	<p>City of Downey Parks and Recreation Director</p>	<p>During construction</p>	
<p>CULT-5 Native American Tribal Notification. For each project to be implemented under the Master Plan, the City of Downey Parks and Recreation Director shall notify the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation in writing and include a brief project description and location map. Project review activities, such as Native American Monitoring of ground-disturbance activities shall be evaluated on a project-by-project basis among the City Parks and Recreation Director, tribal representatives, and a professional archeologist</p>	<p>City of Downey Parks and Recreation Director</p>	<p>Prior to park project approval</p>	

Table D: Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

Mitigation Measures	Responsible Party	Timing for Mitigation Measure	Completion Date
Hazards and Hazardous Materials			
HAZ-1 Hazardous Building Materials. Prior to renovation or demolition at each project site, the City of Downey Parks and Recreation Director shall ensure that a qualified professional conducts surveys for hazardous building materials including, but not limited to: asbestos, lead, polychlorinated biphenyls, and mercury. Any hazardous building materials shall be removed, transported, and disposed of by a qualified abatement contractor consistent with local, State, and federal regulations.	City of Downey Parks and Recreation Director	Prior to renovation or demolition at each project site	
HAZ-2 Hazardous Waste Assessment. Prior to approval of development of each opportunity site, the City of Downey Parks and Recreation Director shall ensure that a qualified professional conducts a Hazardous Waste Assessment to determine if hazardous waste is present on the site. Additional actions may involve sampling, avoidance, monitoring, and/or remediation. All work shall be conducted consistent with local, State, and federal regulations.	City of Downey Parks and Recreation Director	Prior to approval of development of each opportunity site	
Noise			
NOI-1 Noise Impact Analysis. Prior to project approval, the City of Downey Parks and Recreation Director shall ensure that a Noise Impact Analysis is prepared by a qualified professional for the multi-sports complex and multi-use fields. The Noise Impact Analysis shall evaluate both construction and operational noise impacts consistent with the General Plan and Municipal Code and identify project features such as noise barriers that would be constructed as part of the project. The Noise Impact Analysis shall also include construction noise reduction measures to minimize impacts on surrounding residents and other sensitive receptors.	City of Downey Parks and Recreation Director	Prior to approval of the multi-sports complex and multi-use fields.	

Table D: Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

Mitigation Measures	Responsible Party	Timing for Mitigation Measure	Completion Date
Traffic and Transportation			
<p>TRA-1 Prior to approval of the multi-sports complex and multi-use fields, the City of Downey Parks and Recreation Director shall ensure that a Traffic Impact Analysis (TIA) is prepared by a qualified professional. The TIA shall be prepared consistent with the requirements of the City and the Congestion Management Program in order to identify potential impacts to regional/local circulation and site access. Based on the results and findings of the TIA, the City shall construct any identified roadway, intersection, driveway, signal, and signing improvements required to offset any operational and level of service deficiencies related to implementation of the multi-sports complex and multi-use fields.</p>	<p>City of Downey Parks and Recreation Director</p>	<p>Prior to approval of the multi-sports complex and multi-use fields</p>	