

## 4.10 PUBLIC SERVICES

This section evaluates implementation of the proposed project and its effect on public services by identifying anticipated demands and existing and planned service availability. For purposes of this environmental impact report (EIR), public services consist of (1) fire protection (including emergency medical services) and (2) police protection.

Data from personal communication with the San Bernardino Fire Department (SBFD) and San Bernardino Police Department (SBPD) were used for the preparation of this section, which can be found in Appendix K. Full bibliographic entries for all referenced communication and materials are provided in Section 4.10.8 (References).

No comment letters related to public services were received in response to the notice of preparation (NOP) circulated on August 3, 2007, for the proposed project.

### Fire Protection

#### 4.10.1 Environmental Setting

The SBFD provides fire protection and emergency medical services to the City, including the project site. The City has a resident population of approximately 201,823 people, and covers approximately 59.3 square miles (sq mi). Approximately 19 miles within the City's boundaries consist of wildland interface area, a major rail yard, an international airport, the County Seat, a jail, two major mall complexes, and two major interstate freeways.

The SBFD staffs twelve fire engine companies and two aerial truck companies housed in twelve stations and three platoons. The SBFD's current "on-duty" strength per shift (Total number of personnel available to respond to emergencies, including two battalion Chief Officers) is 56: 14 captains, 14 engineers, 14 dual role firefighter/paramedics, and 7 firefighters. The department responded to 28,171 life and property threatening emergency incidents during the 2008<sup>40</sup> calendar year. Of these 4,311 were fire and other type of alarms. The SBFD responded to 23,790 medical emergencies during this same timeframe. The SBFD processed an additional 4,116 Emergency Medical Dispatch responses (ambulance only). Station 231, located at 450 E. Vanderbilt Drive is staffed with trained hazardous materials specialists that respond in a specialized response unit. Station 230, located at 502 S. Arrowhead Avenue is staffed with rescue trained personnel that respond in a specialized rescue unit.

California fire departments are required by a number of agencies to perform a minimum number of training hours in specific fire related areas. The SBFD has implemented a comprehensive training program to meet these requirements. Additionally, the SBFD has area specific training such as emergency medical for trauma related incidences. The necessity for specific training is due to the high number of

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<sup>40</sup> Most recent data available, [www.ci.san-bernardino.ca.us/depts/fire](http://www.ci.san-bernardino.ca.us/depts/fire)

automobile accidents on the local highways and city streets, industrial accidents, and violence related calls.

Station 232, located at 6065 N. Palm Avenue, would be called upon as a first-responder, as it is the closest station to the project site. The station was established in 2005. The station is located approximately 0.3 mile east of the project site, on the north side of I-215. Station 225, located at 1640 N. Kendall Drive may also be called upon as a first-responder to the project site. This station is approximately 2.5 miles southeast of the project site. Current response times to the project site are within 7 minutes or less, 90 percent of the time.

Along with following national and state fire and building codes, the City has adopted more stringent fire regulations in the area of building construction. For example, automatic fire sprinklers are required in all buildings over 5,000 sf, and any structure that is two or more stories in height must have paved access to within 50 feet of the structure for roof access. Furthermore, the SBFD maintains an inspection program to ensure that all buildings are in compliance with all building codes.

As a way to offset the costs associated with fire suppression in the City, new development is required to pay a fire suppression fee. The fee, which is allocated to fire facility improvements as well as equipment and vehicle maintenance, comes to \$0.002 per square foot for industrial developments.

## 4.10.2 Regulatory Framework

### ■ Federal

There are no federal policies that would apply to fire protection for the proposed project.

### ■ State

#### ***Uniform Fire Code***

The Uniform Fire Code, published by the Western Fire Chiefs Association and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and incorporated into the California Building Code, established building design criteria and access requirements.

#### ***California Fire Code***

State fire regulations are set forth in Sections 13000 et seq. of the California Health and Safety Code, which include regulations concerning building standards (as also set forth in the California Building Code), fire protection and notification systems, fire protection devices such as extinguishers and smoke alarms, high-rise building and childcare facility standards, and fire suppression training. The 2011 edition of the California Fire Code (California Code of Regulations, Title 24, Part 9) is based on the 2009 International Fire Code.

## ■ Regional

There are no regional policies that would apply to fire protection for the proposed project.

## ■ Local

### ***City of San Bernardino Municipal Code***

The City of San Bernardino has adopted the California Fire Code and the Uniform Fire Code, with certain local amendments. To mitigate potential personal injury and property damage, the codes require design features to be incorporated into building design that reduce the risk and potential spread of fire.

### ***City of San Bernardino General Plan—Public Facilities and Services Chapter***

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| <b>Goal 7.2</b>     | Protect the residents and structures of San Bernardino from the hazards of fire:   |
| <b>Policy 7.2.1</b> | Assure that adequate facilities and fire service personnel are maintained by periodically evaluating population growth, response time, and fire hazards in the City  |
| <b>Policy 7.2.2</b> | Assess the effects of increases in development density and related traffic congestion on the provision of adequate facilities and services ensuring that new development will maintain fire protection services of acceptable levels |
| <b>Policy 7.2.3</b> | Establish a program whereby new development projects are assessed a pro rata fee to pay for additional fire service protection to that development   |
| <b>Policy 7.2.5</b> | Maintain an “ISO” fire rating of at least class 3  |
| <b>Policy 7.2.6</b> | Require that all buildings subject to City jurisdiction adhere to fire safety codes  |

### **Consistency Analysis**

The proposed project is designed to be consistent with the policies contained in the General Plan, including those related to fire protection services such as the requirement to include fire sprinklers. Further, the project is required to follow all state and local laws and regulations related to fire protection. Developer impact fees, a means to improve fire protection, would be paid by the developer to the City to ensure compliance with the above stated goals and policies. Project requirements would be applied to the project to ensure compliance with the above-mentioned goals and policies. Because the project is designed to support the public safety services, implementation of the proposed project would not conflict with the identified policies.

### 4.10.3 Project Impacts and Mitigation Measures

#### ■ Analytic Method

Significant impacts on fire protection services would result from an increase in population or building area that results in lengthened response times, inadequate fire flows, and/or the need for new or altered facilities. The SBFD has a standard for level of service that requires that an engine company arrive on the scene within 7 minutes or less, 90 percent of the time with appropriate personnel. For any 911 call received by the City’s dispatch system, both fire personnel and paramedics, who provide medical or emergency response services, respond. Therefore, the following discussion of fire protection services also includes emergency medical services. With respect to response times, this analysis evaluates whether the proposed project could be served by the SBFD within the emergency service goal, and whether adequate fire flows would be provided. Impacts to fire protection services are determined by analyzing the projected increase in the demand for fire protection services as a result of the proposed project and comparing the existing performance to future performance.

#### ■ Thresholds of Significance

The following threshold of significance is based on Appendix G of the 2011 CEQA Guidelines and City-specific thresholds, where applicable. For purposes of this EIR, implementation of the proposed project may have a significant adverse impact if it would:

- Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered government facilities, need for new or physically altered government facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives associated with fire protection.

#### ■ Less-Than-Significant Impacts

Threshold	Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, or the 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 fire protection?
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**Impact 4.10-1**      **Implementation of the proposed project could increase the demand for fire protection services, but would not require the construction of new or physically altered facilities to accommodate the increased demand for service and maintain acceptable response times. Further, implementation of project requirements PR4.10A through PR4.10C would ensure that this impact would remain *less than significant*.**

As of 2006, the population of the City of San Bernardino was 201,823. Since that time, no deficiencies in staffing or resources have been recognized. The City employs a total of 153 uniformed personnel. The

project site is served by Fire Stations Nos. 232 and 225. Both stations are within 3 miles of the project site. Fire Station 232, located approximately 0.3 mile east of the Project Site, was established in 2005 to better serve the residents and businesses located in the project area. The response time to the project site is currently estimated to be less than 7 minutes, at least 90 percent of the time (Estacio 2010).

The proposed project could result in an increase in service calls to the area by the SBFD as the project would develop a distribution facility that would operate 24 hours a day at a site that is currently vacant. However, Station No. 232, the fire station nearest the project site, currently maintains sufficient staff and equipment levels to provide service to the proposed development without resulting in an increase in response time or compromising the ability of the SBFD to respond to emergency calls in the vicinity (Estacio 2010). No new fire stations or physical alterations to the existing facility would be required as a result of the proposed development on the project site. This impact would, therefore, be considered *less than significant*.

Furthermore, the proposed project would comply with all regulations of California Health and Safety Code Sections 13000 et seq. and SBFD requirements pertaining to fire protection systems, such as the provision of state-mandated smoke alarms, fire extinguishers, appropriate building access, emergency response notification systems, fire flows, and hydrant pressure and spacing. The following project requirements shall be implemented, as required by federal, state, or local statute or code:

*PR4.10A The project developer shall comply with all regulations of California Health and Safety Code Sections 13000 et seq. and SBFD requirements pertaining to fire protection systems, such as the adequate provision of smoke alarms, fire extinguishers, building access, emergency response notification systems, fire flows, and hydrant pressure and spacing.*

As the project would potentially increase the number of calls required of the SBFD, project requirement PR4.10B would require the project developer to pay the applicable fire suppression fee, which is applied to all new developments within the City.

*PR4.10B The project developer shall pay the development impact fee of \$0.002 per square foot as required by the City to off-set potential cost impacts to the San Bernardino Fire Department. In addition, prior to the issuance of building permits, the developer shall participate on a fair-share basis in funding the continued operation and maintenance of Station No. 232. A one-time fair-share contribution equivalent to the Community Facilities District No. 1033 "in-lieu fee" established by Resolution No. 2004-107 of the Mayor and Common Council will mitigate the long-term impact of the project on emergency services of the Fire Department. As an alternative, an irrevocable agreement to annex the project site to Community Facilities District No. 1033 would satisfy this obligation.*

Additionally, to reduce the potential burden on the SBFD, the proposed project would comply with building codes outlined by the San Bernardino Municipal Code, including those requiring sprinkler systems to prevent the spread of fire.

The following project requirement shall be implemented, as required by federal, state, or local statute or code:

PR4.10C *The project developer shall comply with all applicable San Bernardino Municipal Code provisions regarding building design and project construction, including City Code 15.16.155, which requires that automatic sprinkler systems be installed in all new buildings having a floor area of more than 5,000 sf.*

In summary, because the proposed project would (a) not require the SBFD to construct new or physically alter existing SBFD facilities to respond to the project site within the desired response time, (b) provide development impact fees to mitigate any additional burden to the SBFD, (c) comply with all applicable state and local codes and ordinances, (d) adhere to the outlined project requirements, impacts to fire protection services would remain *less than significant*.

## **Police Protection**

### **4.10.4 Environmental Setting**

The SBPD provides law enforcement services to the City, including the project site. The SBPD is comprised of 325 sworn officers and 150 civilian support staff. There are three divisions within the SBPD. The Patrol Division provides general law enforcement services around-the-clock. Uniformed Officers and Community Service Officers respond to approximately 1,000 calls-for-service every 24 hours. Specialized law enforcement services such as Canine Officers, Traffic Officers, and Bicycle-Mounted Enforcement Officers are part of this division. The Investigations Division has two bureaus. The Investigations Bureau is made up of several units of detectives; the Specialized Crimes Unit, District Crimes Unit, and Robbery and Burglary Units are all supervised by tenured Sergeants. The entire bureau is led by a Police Lieutenant who is responsible for managing the complex investigative workload of this bureau. The Special Enforcement Bureau is made up of the Homicide Unit, Narcotics Unit, and the Multiple Enforcement Team (MET). The Special Enforcement Bureau is also managed by a Police Lieutenant. The Administrative Services Division provides all of the support services needed to manage a staff of over 450 employees.

In early 2004, the SBPD implemented the 21 Beat Plan, designed to provide better services for residents. Currently, the SBPD is divided into five distinct districts. These districts are then divided into three or four “beats” to offer more localized police protection and support. The goal of the program is to: build community trust, give beat officers time to build relationships with businesses and residents, give officers time to network with counterparts on different shifts about their beat, and give officers more proactive time on their beats to address issues. From the initial implementation of the 21 Beat Plan in 2004 through October of 2007, there were a total of 10,239 Part I crimes reported in the City. Part I crimes include murder, rape, robbery, assault, burglary, theft, and grand theft auto. The project site is located in the western district of the City, where there have been 2,341 Part I crimes recorded.

The SBPD has seven district offices located strategically throughout the City to offer the shortest response times. The SBPD holds a current ratio of approximately one sworn officer per 621 residents. The project site is within Adam 1 Beat, which is an established patrol route within the Western Policing District of the SBPD. The Central Station, located at 710 North “D” Street is currently the only station that is staffed 24 hours a day. On regular working days, the SBPD is staffed by a Chief, Assistant Chief,

four Captains, 10 Lieutenants, 44 Sergeants, 44 Detectives, 221 Officers, and 150 non-sworn personnel. There is currently no established formula used by the SBPD to determine a standard ratio of officers to residents. Each officer is equipped with standard policing equipment which allows for an acceptable level of service.

The City of San Bernardino requires all new developers to pay a law enforcement fee that goes towards improving facilities, vehicles, and equipment. For industrial development, the City's fee is \$0.005 per square foot.

## 4.10.5 Regulatory Framework

### ■ Federal

There are no federal policies that would apply to police protection for the proposed project.

### ■ State

There are no state policies that would apply to police protection for the proposed project.

### ■ Regional

There are no regional policies that would apply to police protection for the proposed project.

### ■ Local

#### ***City of San Bernardino General Plan***

##### **Citywide Goals and Policies Chapter**

**Policy 2.2.9** Require Police Department review of uses that may be characterized by high levels of noise, nighttime patronage, and/or rates of crime; providing for the conditioning or control of use to prevent adverse impacts on adjacent residences, schools, religious facilities, and similar “sensitive” uses.

**Policy 2.8.3** Encourage projects to incorporate the Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) and defensible space techniques to help improve safety.

##### **Public Facilities and Services Chapter**

**Goal 7.1** Protect the residents of San Bernardino from criminal activity and reduce the incidence of crime:

- Policy 7.1.1** Maintain a complement of personnel in the Police Department that is capable of providing a timely response to criminal activity and can equitably protect all citizens and property in the City.
- Policy 7.1.5** Ensure that landscaping (i.e., trees and shrubbery) around buildings does not obstruct views required to provide security surveillance.
- Policy 7.1.6** Require adequate lighting around residential, commercial, and industrial buildings in order to facilitate security surveillance.
- Policy 7.1.7** Require the provision of security measures and devices that are designed to increase visibility and security in the design of building siting, interior and exterior design, and hardware.

### Consistency Analysis

The proposed project is designed to be consistent with the policies contained in the General Plan, including those related to police protection services. The project developers would pay all applicable developer fees towards police protection to ensure an acceptable number of officers would be available. Further, the projects building designs would be reviewed by the City’s Planning Department to ensure that landscaping, lighting, and other aesthetic features associated with the project would improve the buildings overall security. Further the project is required to follow all state and local laws and regulations related to police protection. Project requirements would be applied to the project to ensure compliance with the above-mentioned goals and policies. As the project would include nighttime patronage and potentially involve high levels of noise, the project would require Police Department review, despite the lack of adjacent schools or other “sensitive” uses. Additionally, plans would be reviewed by the Police Department for the incorporation of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) techniques. Because the project is designed to support the public safety services, implementation of the proposed project would not conflict with the identified policies.

## 4.10.6 Project Impacts and Mitigation Measures

### ■ Analytic Method

Impacts on police protection services are considered significant if an increase in population or building area would result in inadequate staffing levels (as measured by the ability of the SBPD to respond to call loads) and/or increased demand for services that would require the construction or expansion of new or altered facilities. It is the goal of the SBPD to respond to calls for service as expeditiously as possible, and improve response times, especially priority E, 1 and 2 calls for service.

### ■ Thresholds of Significance

The following threshold of significance is based on Appendix G of the 2011 CEQA Guidelines and City-specific thresholds, where applicable. For purposes of this EIR, implementation of the proposed project may have a significant adverse impact if it would:

- Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives associated with police protection.

## ■ Less-Than-Significant Impacts

Threshold	Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, or the 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 police protection?
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**Impact 4.10-2      Construction and operation of the proposed project would increase the demand for police protection services, but it would not require the construction of new or physically altered facilities to accommodate the increased demand for service or maintain acceptable response times. Further, implementation of project requirements PR4.10D through PR4.10F would ensure that this impact would be *less than significant*.**

Implementation of the proposed project could increase the number of calls for police protection services by increasing the amount of industrial development within the City. The SBPD is comprised of 325 sworn officers and 150 civilian support staff. The proposed project could result in an increase in service calls to the area by the SBPD as a result of criminal activity or parking enforcement.

The SBPD has seen an increase in truck related parking enforcement citations in the project area. As the project would increase the number of large trucks in the area, further burdens may be placed on the SBPD in an effort to improve parking and circulation in the area. According to the SBPD, the department has been authorized to hire an additional forty police officers, which would be expected to relieve some of the burden presented by the proposed project.

In an effort to reduce the project's impact towards the SBPD, PR4.10D shall be implemented to ensure all vehicles related to the proposed project follow all applicable parking rules and regulations established for the area.

*PR4.10D      The developer shall ensure all vehicles associated with construction and everyday operation of the facility follow all applicable parking rules and regulation established in the area.*

As required by PR4.10E, the developer would pay all applicable fees to the City of San Bernardino to improve law enforcement facilities, vehicles, and equipment.

*PR4.10E      The project developer shall pay the development impact fee of \$0.005 per square foot as required by City to assist the funding for the San Bernardino Police Department.*

As there are no particular crimes typically associated with distribution centers, and as the site would be staffed 24 hours a day, the current staffing levels and available resources of the SBPD are anticipated to be adequate to serve the proposed project and project vicinity. In order to ensure potential developments are designed to improve overall security for employees and nearby residents, the SBPD has implemented a CPTED Program that ensures projects use adequate lighting, gates, and cameras to improve overall safety. PR4.10F shall require the developer to submit site designs and security plans to the SBPD to under a CPTED evaluation prior to project approval.

*PR4.10F The developer shall include adequate lighting, fencing, electronic gates, cameras, controlled ingress and egress to parking lots and building, and security minded landscaping to reduce criminal activity. The developer shall also contact the Western District of the San Bernardino Police Department and receive a CPTED assessment, which looks at site designs and security plans, prior to project approval.*

Following the established project requirements, the proposed project would not be anticipated to create a demand for police protection that would require the development of new or alter existing police facilities. Therefore, impacts to police protection would be considered ***less than significant***.

#### **4.10.7 Cumulative Impacts: Fire Protection and Police Protection**

The geographic context for the analysis of cumulative public services impacts is the City of San Bernardino, including all cumulative growth therein, as represented by full implementation of the City of San Bernardino General Plan.

As additional development occurs in the City of San Bernardino, there may be an overall increase in the demand for law enforcement and fire protection services, including personnel, equipment, and/or facilities. However, increases in demand are routinely assessed by these agencies as part of an annual monitoring and budgeting process, and law enforcement and fire protection services are increased as required. Therefore, police and fire protection services are anticipated to be adequate to accommodate future growth in the city. The proposed project is not anticipated to increase the overall population of the City, which would increase fire and police protection in other areas of the City. Further, as the project site and much of the surrounding area is currently undeveloped and vacant, the proposed project would help induce further development in the area. With more development, the areas safety would increase due to the constant presence of employees. Increases in fire and polices services are accomplished, in part, through collection of development fees for police and fire protection services and/or facilities. The cumulative impact, therefore, on police and fire services in the City would be less than significant, as every new development within the City of San Bernardino would be required to pay the applicable fees. Consequently, the cumulative impact of the proposed project would also be ***less than significant***.

#### **4.10.8 References**

Estacio, Martin. 2010. Personal communication with Captain of the San Bernardino Fire Department, October 14.

Keil, Dan. 2010. Personal communication with a Lieutenant in the San Bernardino Police Department, October 25.

San Bernardino, City of. 2005. *City of San Bernardino General Plan*, November.

