

5.12 PUBLIC SERVICES

This section addresses public services including: fire protection and emergency services, police protection, school services, and library services. Park services are addressed in Section 5.13, *Recreation*. Public and private utilities and service systems, including water, wastewater, and solid waste services and systems, are addressed in Section 5.15.

The proposal also includes the annexation of an adjacent 26.4-acre area consisting of six parcels owned by various property owners, with four of the lots occupied. A land use proposal has not been submitted for this 26.4-acre area and it is not owned or otherwise under the control of the applicant. For these reasons, no development is expected to occur on these parcels. The annexation area includes 13 current residents located within the City of San Bernardino's sphere of influence. These residents would become part of the population of the City upon annexation and would use the City's fire, police, school, and library services.

Alternative (Overhead Electric Lines) Development Plan

The Spring Trails project assumes that the Southern California Edison (SCE) overhead electric lines that traverse the western portion of the site will be located underground. In the event that the overhead electric lines cannot be located underground, an alternative plan accommodating the lines above ground, as shown in Section 3, *Project Description*, Figure 3-3A, *Alternative (Overhead Electric Lines) Development Plan*, is proposed for the project site. The alternative plan for Spring Trails is the same as the preferred plan in every respect except for the treatment of the land beneath the aboveground electric lines and the number of residential lots. The alternative plan contains 304 single-family detached units compared to 307 units proposed in the preferred development plan. Both scenarios are analyzed in this section to assess their impacts to public services.



5.12.2 Fire Protection and Emergency Services

5.12.2.1 Environmental Setting

The project site and the adjacent 26.4-acre annexation area are currently in the San Bernardino County Fire Protection District's Valley Service Zone. Upon annexation of the project site (352.8 acres) and the adjacent 26.4-acre area into the City, the annexed areas will be detached from the San Bernardino County Fire Protection District and its Valley Service Zone. However, initial response to calls for fire protection and emergency medical services from the site and annexation area is currently made by the San Bernardino City Fire Department (SBFD) through an automatic aid agreement. The nearest and first responding SBFD station to the project site and annexation area is the Verdmont Fire Station (Station 232) at 6065 Palm Avenue, about 1.5 miles southeast of the project site. The Verdmont Fire Station has a daily staff of four firefighters and is equipped with one paramedic engine truck and one brush truck. The current response time from Station 232 to the farthest, that is, northernmost, part of the project site is 12 to 13 minutes. The City of San Bernardino's response time standard is a five-minute drive time on 90 percent of emergency responses.

The San Bernardino City Fire Department is funded from the City's General Fund (Fratus 2009). The City charges new developments a development impact fee for fire facilities of \$740.85 per detached single-family unit. Development impact fees may be spent on facilities, equipment, and vehicles.

The nearest San Bernardino County Fire Department (SBCoFD) fire station to the project site and annexation area is Station 2 at 1511 Devore Road in the Community of Devore, about 3.75 miles northwest of the primary project site entrance. Station 2 has daily staffing of three firefighters, in addition to a company of paid call firefighter volunteers. Station 2 is equipped with one type 1 engine, one type 3 (wildland) engine, and

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one type 5 patrol vehicle (Lewis 2009). SBCoFD's response time standard for emergency service calls is that the first responding company leaves the station within 1 to 2 minutes of receiving the call; actual response times to emergencies vary because of the large size of the county (Flesher 2009).

Wildfire Hazards

The project site is currently in a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone in a State Responsibility Area (SRA), that is, an area where the state bears financial responsibility for fire suppression. As required by State law, the SRA designation will be removed upon annexation of the site into the City of San Bernardino. The SBFD has an automatic aid agreement with the SBCoFD and is also a participating agency in the California Master Mutual Aid Agreement, in which participating local and state agencies agree to provide mutual aid in dealing with disasters including fire, flood, and earthquakes. Much of the site is covered by vegetation that is highly flammable, such as chaparral and Riversidean sage scrub. In addition, the project site, located at the mouth of two canyons at the southwestern foot of the San Bernardino Mountains, is subject to very strong winds that travel down the mountain slope to the west and south, mostly in autumn and late summer.

Wildfire History

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Prevention (CAL FIRE) has records of wildland fires dating to the beginning of the 20th century on the proposed project site. In the past, fire seasons generally had a pattern. In most areas, at least a decade would pass with few fires, followed by a decade with many large fires. However, these estimated patterns are no longer used as planning tools due to extended droughts and potential effects of climate change. Large fires continue to occur at all times of the year in areas that have substantial amounts of fuels, in some cases burning several times every few years. The occurrence of the large fires also corresponds to periods of extremely high wind conditions.

In November 1980, the Panorama Fire burned through the site, leaving only the mature eucalyptus trees and vegetation in the canyon areas. In the fall of 2003, the Verdmont/Devore area, including the proposed project site, was burned by the Old Fire. The entire Spring Trails site was burned, with the exception of the extreme northern portion of Cable Canyon, altering the conditions of the site. Wildfires affected these same areas again in October 2007 when a fire at Martin Ranch Road and Meyers Road burned 123 acres (CAL FIRE 2007b).

Response to Wildfire

Vegetation fires on the project site would result in a multiagency response, which would include the SBFD, the SBCoFD, CAL FIRE and the US Forest Service (USFS). The SBFD has an automatic aid agreement with the SBCoFD and is also a participating agency in the California Master Mutual Aid Agreement.

Applicable Regulations

City of San Bernardino Municipal Code

Title 19: Development Code

The Foothill Fire Zones Overlay District (Section 19.15) is aimed at mitigating the spread of fire, minimizing property damage, and reducing the risk to the public health and safety. Section 19.15 contains requirements for fire department access; water supply; erosion control; site design; and construction materials and methods.

Title 15: Buildings and Construction

- Foothill Fire Zone Overlay District (Chapter 15.10) has the purpose of reducing injury, death, or property damage due to wildland fires in foothill areas of the City. Section 15.10 contains structural requirements for roofing and other elements of building exteriors such as vents; fire sprinklers; insulation; and fencing.
- Building Safety Enhancement Area Building Standards (Chapter 15.11) have the purpose of reducing injury, death, or property damage due to urban conflagrations spread by high winds. Section 15.10 contains structural requirements for building exteriors, and elements of building exteriors such as eaves and vents, insulation, and fencing.
- Fire Code (Section 15.16) adopts the 2007 California Fire Code (California Code of Regulations, Title 24, Part 9) with specified amendments and exceptions. Section 15.16 includes requirements for fire department access to buildings, and automatic fire extinguishing systems.

5.12.2.2 Thresholds of Significance

According to Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines, a project would normally have a significant effect on the environment if the project would:

- FP-1 Result in a substantial adverse physical impact associated with the provisions of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for fire protection services.



5.12.2.3 Environmental Impacts

The following impact analysis addresses thresholds of significance for which the Initial Study disclosed potentially significant impacts. The applicable thresholds are identified in brackets after the impact statement. The alternative (overhead electric lines) development plan contains 304 units compared to 307 units proposed in the preferred development plan. Therefore the analysis below uses the preferred development plan to assess impacts to fire protection and emergency services in the City.

IMPACT 5.12-1: THE PROPOSED PROJECT WOULD INTRODUCE 307 RESIDENCES AND ABOUT 1,025 RESIDENTS INTO A VERY HIGH FIRE HAZARD SEVERITY ZONE IN THE SAN BERNARDINO CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT SERVICE AREA, THEREBY INCREASING THE REQUIREMENT FOR FIRE PROTECTION FACILITIES AND PERSONNEL. [THRESHOLD FP-1]

Impact Analysis: The project would include 307 homes, four parks, and roadways for site and internal access to the roughly 353-acre project site. The project is expected to add about 1,025 residents to the site. Therefore, project development is expected to result in an increase in calls for SBFDF fire and emergency medical services. At project completion, SBFDF response time to emergency calls to the farthest part of the site from the Verdernont Fire Station is expected to be 12 to 13 minutes. This is seven to eight minutes more than the standard SBFDF response time of five minutes. After a reduction in staff from four to three firefighters, staffing at the station was recently restored to four firefighters (Moon 2009). The addition of the Spring Trails development to the area served by the Verdernont Fire Station may result in increased demand on emergency fire services. To offset the additional demand caused by new development projects, the City

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requires a fair-share contribution from new developments to help fund ongoing operation and maintenance of the Verdemont Fire Station.

The response force (three fire engines, one aerial ladder truck, and a chief officer with a minimum of fifteen personnel) needed to effectively combat a structure fire would need to be capable of being assembled at points within the project site. The third engine and aerial ladder truck to complete an effective response would come from a station farther away: from Fire Station 227 at 282 West 40th Street (6.75 miles from project entrance) or from SBCoFD Station 2 in Devore (3.75 miles from project entrance). SBCoFD Station 2 has daily staffing of three full-time firefighters supplemented by a company of paid call firefighters as needed, and is equipped with one type 1 (structure) engine, one type 3 (wildland) engine, and one type 5 patrol vehicle (Lewis 2009). While the San Bernardino County station is physically closer, additional time and effort would be required to coordinate with the County, which could delay the response. Either would come with a minimum of three firefighters. The aerial ladder truck, with four firefighters, would come from Fire Station 224 located at 2641 E Street (7.85 miles from project entrance; see Figure 5.12-1, *Fire Station Locations*). A fire battalion chief would also be dispatched.

In the event of a major wildfire on or threatening the site, additional firefighting resources would be brought to the area. Other City fire stations would respond as needed. The SBCoFD has five type 3 (wildland) engines, which are deployed at Fire Stations 225, 226, 227, 228, and 323. The three closest fire stations to this project have wildland engines. In addition, there is a county/CAL FIRE station nearby in Lytle Creek (Fire Station 20) and a new county fire station will be built as part of a new development in the southern Lytle Creek area, south of the Glen Helen Regional Park in Devore. The new station is dependent on development in the area and may be delayed with changes in the housing market. Vegetation fires result in a multiagency response, which would include CAL FIRE and the USFS.

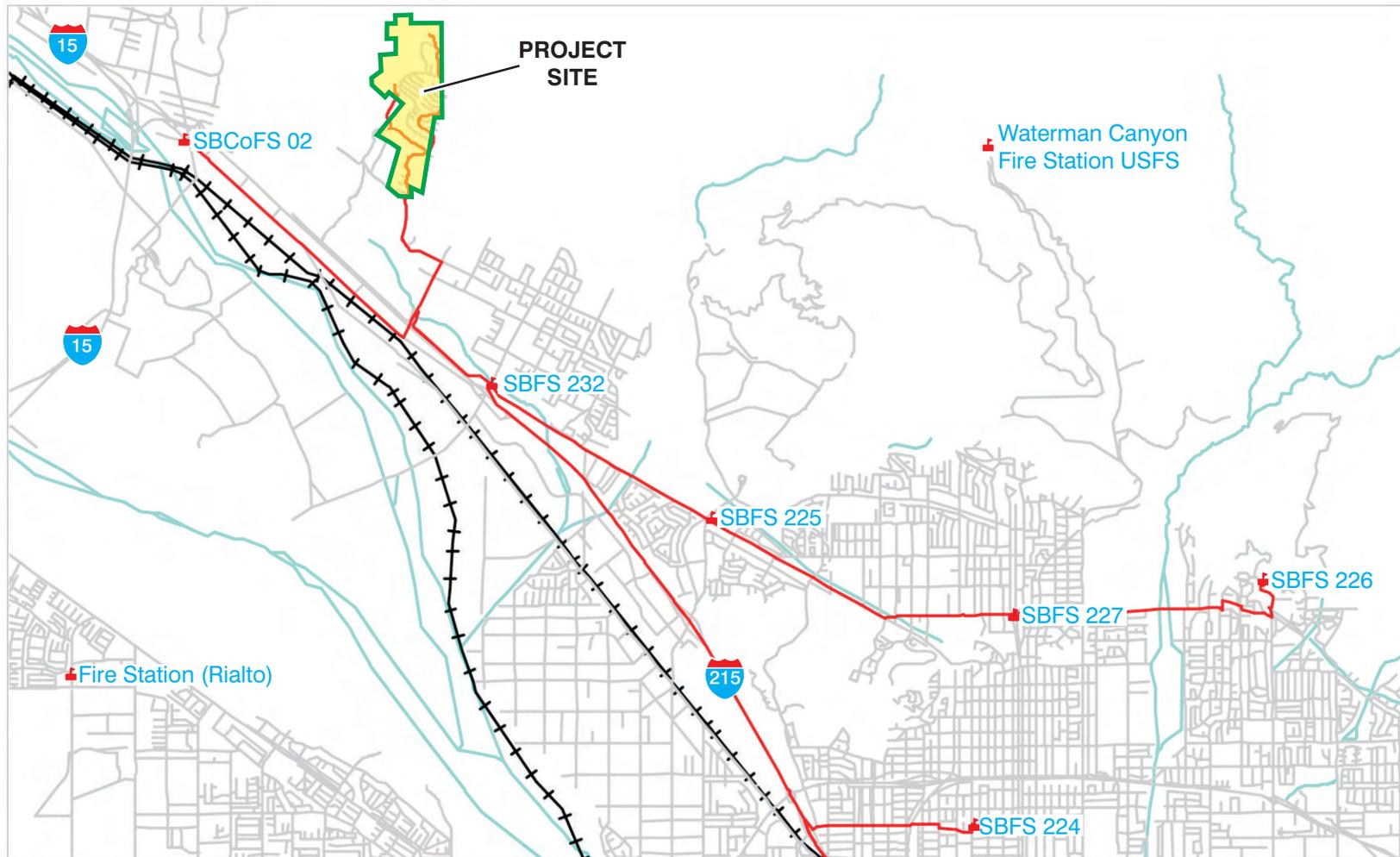
A fire protection/fuel modification plan has been required for the project and is included as Appendix G of this DEIR. See Section 5.6, *Hazards and Hazardous Materials*, for a more detailed discussion. The fire plan is designed to reduce the risks related to the high fire potential of the site. Topography, vegetative, weather, and structural components were used to analyze the setting and provide measures for reducing risks. It also meets the fire safety standards of the Foothill Fire Zone Overlay District (FF District) Standards (Chapter 15.10 of the San Bernardino Municipal Code), Building Safety Enhancement Area Building Standards (Chapter 15.11 Municipal Code), City of San Bernardino Development Code (Chapter 19.15), and City Fire Code (Chapter 15.16).

The fire protection plan divides the project site into three zones, Fuel Modification Zone A (flat, noncombustible construction), Fuel Modification Zone B (wet zone, 100 percent removal of undesirable plant species), and Fuel Modification Zone C (dry zone, 50 percent thinning of the native shrubs). See Figures 5.6-1, *Fire Protection Plan (North Side)* and 5.6-2, *Fire Protection Plan (South Side)*, in Section 5.6, *Hazards and Hazardous Materials*, for the locations of the fuel modification zones.

The fire protection plan also includes vegetation management guidelines, the allowed and undesirable plant palettes, planting maintenance and spacing guidelines, a construction management plan, infrastructure/structural construction features and requirements, and a compliance matrix to be used by the developer, residents, and the homeowners association of Spring Trails to reduce fire risks.

The minimum fire flow required for this project is 1,500 gallons per minute (gpm) at 20 pounds per square inch (psi) pressure for a minimum duration of four hours. Fire hydrants are required at a spacing of no more than 300 feet.

Fire Station Locations



-  Project Site
-  Fire Station
- SBCoFS San Bernardino County Fire Station
- SBFS San Bernardino City Fire Station



Source: Firesafe Planning Solutions 2008

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Water for fire flow would be provided by expanding and improving the offsite water system, and by onsite reservoirs and transmission lines, as shown in Figure 3-10, *Conceptual Water Plan, Area*, and Figure 3-11, *Conceptual Water Plan, Onsite Water Mains*, and listed in Table 5.12-1. The project would use infrastructure at pressure zones at elevations of 2,100 feet, 2,300 feet, 2,500 feet, 2,700 feet, and 3,000 feet. The project site falls in the 2,300, 2,500, 2,700, and 3,000 zones. Fire-flow storage required for each of the three onsite pressure zones is 360,000 gallons.

**Table 5.12-1
Proposed Water System Improvements**

Pressure Zone, Feet	Proposed Facility	Capacity Requirements
Recommended Onsite Improvements		
2,300	2,300 Zone Tank	4,000,000 gallons (Master Plan) 400,000 gallons (Spring Trails)
	2,300 to 2,500 Zone Pump Station	2,591 gpm (Master Plan) 2,048 gpm (Spring Trails)
2,500	2,500 Zone Tank	2,500,000 (Master Plan) 500,000 (Spring Trails)
	2,500 to 2,700 Zone Pump Station	2,004 gpm
2,700	2,700 Zone Tank	900,000 gallons
	2,700 to 3,000 Zone Pump Station	1,750 gpm
3,000	Reservoir	900,000 gallons
	No Pump Station in 3,000 Zone	NA
Offsite Improvements (Existing and Proposed)		
2,100	Meyers Canyon (existing)	2,000,000 gallons
	2,100 to 2,300 Zone Pump Station	3,528 gpm (Master Plan) 2,068 (Spring Trails)



Project water system improvements would be sized to provide required fire flow in addition to meeting project water demands. Pumping stations would be designed with 100 percent redundancy in the event that one or more of the pumping units fails, and equipped with onsite generators that can operate in a blackout or emergency condition.

The four occupied, multiple-acre lots within the 26.4-acre annexation area would continue to be serviced by the City of San Bernardino Fire Department.

Since the preferred and alternative development scenarios would have a similar number of residential units at buildout, this analysis is applicable to both the preferred development plan and the alternative (overhead electric lines) development plan.

5.12.2.4 Cumulative Impacts

Cumulative impacts on fire services would occur if additional development is planned for the surrounding area, increasing the need for Fire Station 232 to provide emergency service to the area. There is potential for cumulatively significant impacts to occur, requiring additional fire service facilities and personnel. The citywide population is expected to increase from 201,049 in 2005 to 265,515 in 2035, an increase of roughly 32.1 percent. Other developments in the City would be assessed Fire Protection Development Impact Fees, as would the proposed project. Such fees would help to reduce cumulative impacts to fire protection. This analysis of cumulative impacts is applicable to both the preferred development plan and alternative (overhead electric lines) development plan.

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5.12.2.5 Existing Regulations and Standard Conditions

San Bernardino Municipal Code, Chapter 15.10, Foothill Fire Zone Overlay District

San Bernardino Municipal Code, Chapter 15.11, Building Safety Enhancement Area Building Standards

San Bernardino Municipal Code, Chapter 19.15, Development Code

San Bernardino Municipal Code, Chapter 15.16, Fire Code

5.12.2.6 Level of Significance Before Mitigation

Without mitigation the following impact would be potentially significant:

- Impact 5.12-1 The proposed project would introduce 307 residences and about 1,025 Residents into a very high fire hazard severity zone in the San Bernardino city Fire Department service Area, thereby increasing the requirement for fire protection facilities and personnel.

5.12.2.7 Mitigation Measures

Impact 5.12-1

12-1 Prior to issuance of building permits, the developer shall participate on a fair-share basis in funding the continued operation and maintenance of the Verdemon Fire Station. A one-time fair-share contribution equivalent to the Community Facilities District Number 1033 “in-lieu fee” established by Resolution Number 2004-107 of the Mayor and Common Council would 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 Number 1033 would satisfy this obligation.

5.12.2.8 Level of Significance After Mitigation

Upon implementation of the mitigation measure and compliance with existing regulations and standard conditions, the impacts to fire services would be less than significant.

5.12.3 Police Protection

5.12.3.1 Environmental Setting

Since the project site and the adjacent 26.4-acre annexation area are currently in the City's sphere of influence, police protection is currently provided to the project site by the San Bernardino County Sherriff's Department (Maass 2009). The portions of the City adjacent to the project site are within the Northwest District of the City of San Bernardino Police Department (SBPD). The Northwest District has 39 sworn officers assigned over four shifts. The nearest SBPD station to the site and annexation area is the Main Station at 710 North D Street, roughly eight miles southeast of the project site. SBPD does not currently have plans to develop any additional police facilities and does not presently have a funding source for new facilities. The City of San Bernardino assesses new developments with a law enforcement development impact fee.

Between January 1 and June 30, 2009, SBPD responded to a total of 45,145 service calls; 992 of these were for life-threatening emergencies. The average response time for such emergency calls was about 4.3 minutes. Average response time varies by type of call, up to roughly 46.1 minutes for property crimes and administrative activity.

5.12.3.2 Thresholds of Significance

According to Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines, a project would normally have a significant effect on the environment if the project would:

- PP-1 Result in a substantial adverse physical impact associated with the provisions of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for police protection services.

5.12.3.3 Environmental Impacts

The alternative (overhead electric lines) development plan contains 304 units compared to 307 units proposed in the preferred development plan. Therefore, the analysis below uses the preferred development plan to assess impacts to police protection in the City. The analysis would be applicable for both scenarios.

IMPACT 5.12-2: THE PROPOSED PROJECT WOULD INTRODUCE NEW STRUCTURES AND RESIDENTS INTO THE SAN BERNARDINO POLICE DEPARTMENT'S SERVICE BOUNDARIES, THEREBY INCREASING THE REQUIREMENT FOR POLICE PROTECTION AND PERSONNEL. [THRESHOLD PP-1]



Impact Analysis: Upon annexation of the project site and county island, the SBPD would be providing police services to the project site. This would expand SBPD's service area and would likely result in an increase in calls for SBPD services. Such an increase in calls would be expected to create a need for additional police staff. The City of San Bernardino's development impact fee for law enforcement is \$597.74 per unit for detached single-family residential units. With a total of 307 units, \$183,506.18 would be charged to the project developer as law enforcement development impact fees. These fees may be spent on facilities, equipment, or vehicles.

5.12.3.4 Cumulative Impacts

Cumulative impacts on police services would occur if additional development is planned for the surrounding area, increasing the need for police services to the area. At General Plan buildout the City of San Bernardino, including areas now in the sphere of influence, is projected to have a population of roughly 265,515, an increase of 64,466, or 32.1 percent, over the 2005 population of 201,049. Additional developments in the City would be charged law enforcement development impact fees, as would the proposed project. Such fees, which may be spent on facilities, equipment, and vehicles, would help reduce cumulative impacts to police protection.

5.12.3.5 Level of Significance Before Mitigation

Impact 5.12-2 would be less than significant.

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5.12.3.6 Mitigation Measures

No mitigation measures are required.

5.12.3.7 Level of Significance After Mitigation

No significant impacts have been identified.

5.12.4 School Services

5.12.4.1 Environmental Setting

The project site and adjacent 26.4-acre annexation area is within the service area of the San Bernardino City Unified School District (SBCUSD). SBCUSD schools serving the project site and surrounding areas are described below in Table 5.12-2.

**Table 5.12-2
Existing Schools Serving the Project Site**

School	Location	Grades Taught	Enrollment 2008-09	Capacity
North Verdemont Elementary	3555 Myers Road, San Bernardino, approx. 0.6 mile southeast of project site	K-6	518	600
Cesar E. Chavez Middle	6650 North Magnolia Avenue, San Bernardino, approx. 0.9 mile southeast of project site	6-8	1,077	1,400
Cajon High	1200 Hill Drive, San Bernardino, approx. 4.1 mile southeast of project site	9-12	2,636	2,900

Source: DeLand 2009.

As shown above in Table 5.12-2, the unused capacity at each of these three schools is 82 seats at North Verdemont Elementary School, 323 seats at Cesar Chavez Middle School, and 264 seats at Cajon High School. No additional schools are currently planned for this area.

There is a districtwide shortage of elementary school classroom space, with 28 of 44 elementary schools currently on a multitrack, year-round schedule.

Applicable Plans and Regulations

Senate Bill 50

Senate Bill 50 (SB 50, or Proposition 1A, California Government Code Section 65995) was enacted in 1988 to address how schools are financed and how development projects may be assessed for associated school impacts. SB 50 provides three ways to determine funding levels for school districts:

- **Level 1 Fee.** Education Code Section 17620 provides the basic authority for school districts to levy fees against construction for the purpose of funding construction or reconstruction of school facilities and receive a 50 percent match from state bond money, subject to limits set forth in Government Code Section 65995.

- **Level 2 Fee.** The alternative school fee collected pursuant to Government Code Section 65995.5. Certain requirements in accordance with Government Code Section 65995.5 have to be met to collect this level of fees.
- **Level 3 Fee.** The alternative school fee collected pursuant to Government Code Section 65995.7. This fee is collected only when the State Allocation Board is no longer approving apportionments for new construction funding.

The general school fees (Level 1 fees) collected by the SBCUSD pursuant to Education Code Section 17620 and Government Code Section 65995 are currently \$5.40 per square foot (effective 2008) for new single-family residential units.

5.12.4.2 Thresholds of Significance

According to Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines, a project would normally have a significant effect on the environment if the project would:

- SS-1 Result in a substantial adverse physical impact associated with the provisions of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for school services.

5.12.4.3 Environmental Impacts

The alternative (overhead electric lines) development plan contains 304 units compared to 307 units proposed in the preferred development plan. Therefore the analysis below uses the preferred development plan to assess impacts to school services in the City. The analysis would be applicable for both scenarios.

IMPACT 5.12-3: THE PROPOSED PROJECT WOULD GENERATE ROUGHLY 102 NEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS, 52 NEW MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS, AND 60 NEW HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS IN THE SAN BERNARDINO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT SERVICE AREA. STUDENTS GENERATED BY THE PROJECT WOULD INCREASE ENROLLMENT AT NORTH VERDEMONT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, CESAR CHAVEZ MIDDLE SCHOOL, AND CAJON HIGH SCHOOL. [THRESHOLD SS-1].

Impact Analysis: Estimated student generation by the proposed project is shown below in Table 5.12-3, *Estimated Student Generation*.

**Table 5.12-3
Estimated Student Generation for the Proposed Project**

School Level	Student Generation Rate¹	Households	Total Student Generation
Elementary	0.3310	307	102
Middle	0.1695	307	52
High	0.1933	307	60

¹ Dolinka Group 2008.



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As shown in Tables 5.12-2 and 5.12-3 the project is estimated to generate roughly 102 additional students in the attendance area of North Verdemont Elementary School, 52 students in the attendance area of Cesar Chavez Middle School, and 60 students in the attendance area of Cajon High School. There is existing unused capacity at Cesar Chavez Middle School and Cajon High School to accommodate project-generated students. However, the unused capacity at North Verdemont Elementary School is 82 students, less than project-generated elementary school students. The project would create a potential need for teachers and support staff at the elementary, middle, and high school levels. In addition, the project may create a need for additional elementary school classroom space, depending on population trends in the area.

SBCUSD would charge the project Level 2 fees of \$5.40 per square foot for single-family residential units. School fees levied by school districts under SB 50 are defined as comprising full mitigation for a project's impacts on public schools.

The existing four occupied, multiple-acre lots within the 26.4-acre annexation area would continue to be serviced by the San Bernardino City Unified School District Service Area.

5.12.4.4 Cumulative Impacts

If there are other residential projects in the Verdemont area in addition to the proposed project, the district anticipates the need for more classrooms and staffing at the elementary school level. The District expects increases in staffing at the middle school and high school levels without facilities impacts. School fees levied on related projects pursuant to SB 50 would constitute mitigation for those projects' impacts on schools. This analysis of cumulative impacts is applicable to both the preferred development plan and alternative (overhead electric lines) development plan.

5.12.4.5 Existing Regulations and Standard Conditions

State

- SB 50

5.12.4.6 Level of Significance Before Mitigation

Upon implementation of regulatory requirements and standard conditions of approval, the following impacts would be less than significant: 5.12-3.

5.12.4.7 Mitigation Measures

No mitigation measures are required.

5.12.4.8 Level of Significance After Mitigation

No significant impacts have been identified.

5.12.5 Library Services

5.12.5.1 Environmental Setting

Library services are provided to the City of San Bernardino by the San Bernardino Public Library (SBPL). The closest library facility to the project site and adjacent 26.4-acre annexation area is the Dorothy Inghram

Branch Library at 1505 West Highland Avenue, 5.9 miles southeast of the project site. The facility is 3,000 square feet with a collection of 19,802 items; it is open five hours per day, Monday through Thursday, and is staffed by two part-time employees. A collection size of two items per person is generally considered to be adequate in the library profession (Price 2009a). The City of San Bernardino's population in 2008 was 205,493 (CDF 2008), and the SBPL's total collection size is 237,669 items (Price 2009b), or about 1.16 items per City resident. Therefore, the SBPL's existing collection does not meet the guideline for collection size commonly used in the library profession. The SBPL is funded mostly through City General Fund revenues, plus funding from the State Library, Friends of the Library, the San Bernardino Library Foundation, and individual donors. The City of San Bernardino charges a library facilities fee to new developments; for single-family residential developments the fee is \$596.63 per residential unit.

5.12.5.2 Thresholds of Significance

According to Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines, a project would normally have a significant effect on the environment if the project would:

- LS-1 Result in a substantial adverse physical impact associated with the provisions of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for library services.

5.12.5.3 Environmental Impacts

The alternative (overhead electric lines) development plan contains 304 units compared to 307 units proposed in the preferred development plan. Therefore the analysis below uses the preferred development plan to assess impacts to library services in the City. The analysis would be applicable for both scenarios.

IMPACT 5.12-4: THE PROPOSED PROJECT WOULD ADD ROUGHLY 1,025 RESIDENTS TO THE PROJECT SITE, INCREASING THE SERVICE NEEDS FOR THE DOROTHY INGRAM BRANCH LIBRARY. [THRESHOLD LS-1]

Impact Analysis: The project would include 307 single-family homes and would also involve the annexation of the project site into the City of San Bernardino. Upon annexation, the project would be in the service area of the San Bernardino Public Library, and the Dorothy Inghram Branch Library would be the closest SBPL facility. The average household size in the City of San Bernardino is roughly 3.34 persons. Therefore, the project at completion would be expected to add roughly 1,025 persons to the City. The 26.4-acre annexation area includes 13 current residents. The project along with the annexation area would thus result in an increase in demands for library service in the City. At a ratio of two volumes per resident, the project would create a need for roughly 2,050 additional library items. The annexation area would create a need for roughly 26 additional library items. The project-generated increase in population would also create increased need for technology such as computers at the Inghram Branch Library, and would contribute to a need for additional staffing. The library facilities fee that the City would charge to the project, \$596.63 per residential unit, would help the SBPL to meet the project-related increase in demands for library services.

5.12.5.4 Cumulative Impacts

The City of San Bernardino estimates that the City's population will increase to about 265,515 by 2025, including the areas now in the City's sphere of influence, an increase of 64,466, or 32.1 percent, over the 2005 population of 201,149. The proposed project would account for roughly 1 percent of that population increase. Growth in the City will lead to increased demand for library services. New or expanded library



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facilities will be needed, in addition to increases in materials, technology, and staffing (Price 2009). The SBPL is funded mostly through the City's General Fund. New developments built in the City will generate increased tax revenue, thus expanding the General Fund. Cumulative development therefore would not have a substantial adverse impact on library services, and the proposed project's impacts on library services would not be cumulatively considerable. This analysis of cumulative impacts is applicable to both the preferred development plan and the alternative (overhead electric lines) development plan.

5.12.5.5 Level of Significance Before Mitigation

Impact 5.12-4 would be less than significant.

5.12.5.6 Mitigation Measures

No mitigation is required.

5.12.5.7 Level of Significance After Mitigation

No significant impacts have been identified.