### **5.14 RECREATION**

### 5.14.1 Methodology

The proposed project was evaluated for its potential impacts on recreational facilities located within the City. The potential for adverse impacts on these recreational facilities, as well as impacts created due to the construction of additional recreational facilities is evaluated based on current facilities and use of existing recreational facilities within the City.

### 5.14.2 Environmental Setting

The City of Anaheim owns and operates nearly 50 developed parks totaling almost 700 acres. Park facilities include neighborhood, community and special use parks. Furthermore, the City has over 50 miles of developed and proposed riding and hiking trails. These trails link residents to parks and community facilities, and the Riding and Hiking Tails Master Plan links residents to the regional system, Cleveland National Forest, and the inter-county Santa Ana River Trail.

Open space areas are, by design, either active or passive. Active recreation areas typically include facilities such as tailored playing surfaces, buildings, parking areas, and similar modifications to a natural site. Passive recreation areas accommodate less structured recreational pursuits and typically include minor modifications such as trails, service vehicle access improvements, enhanced landscape materials and similar non-intrusive changes to the site.

The City of Anaheim has different types of public recreational open space areas, including special use parks-such as mini-parks, nature centers and specialized recreation centers; neighborhood parks; and, community parks. Figure 5.14-1 shows the location of these parks.



### Mini-parks

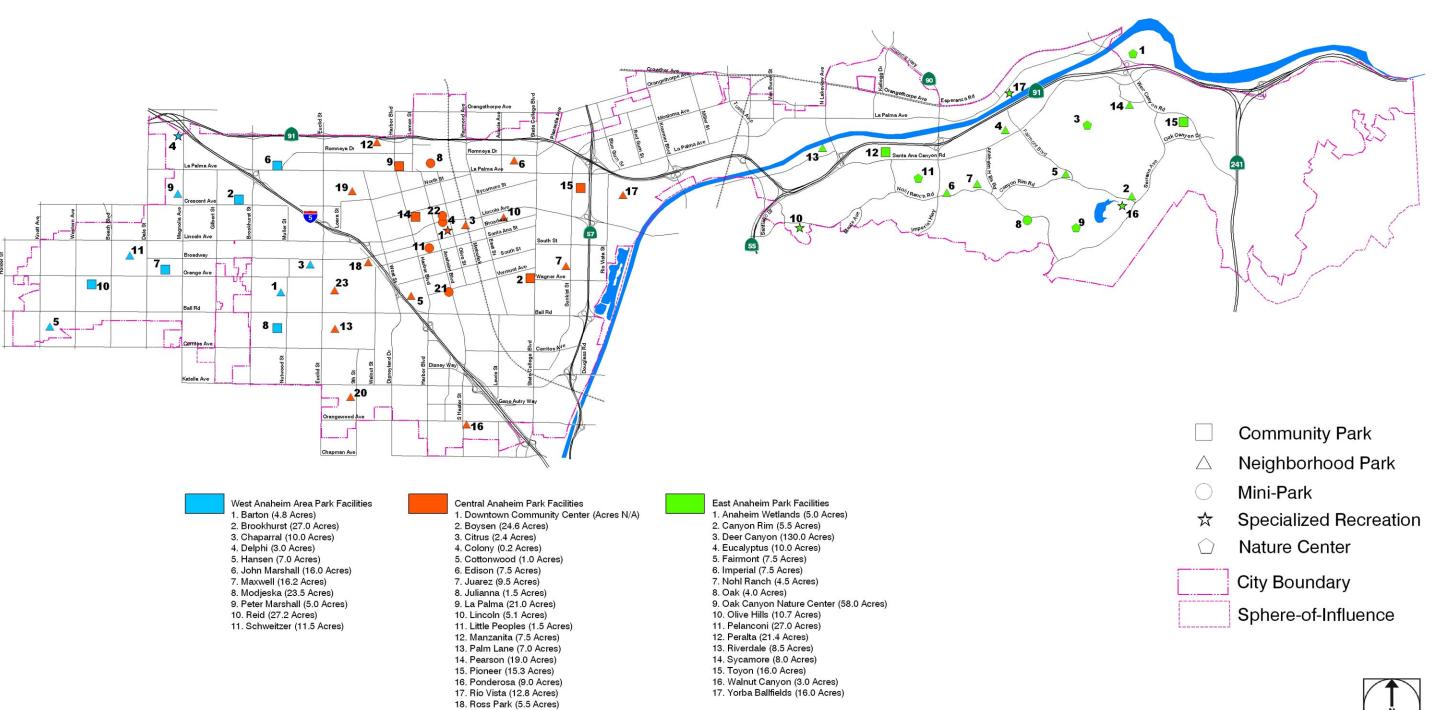
Often called pocket parks, these are the smallest type of park and are usually less than five acres in size. They often consist of passive recreational uses (although basketball, children's play areas and other active uses can be included), provide little or no parking and only serve the immediate area. George Washington Park, Walnut Grove Park, Cottonwood Park, Little People's Park and Juliana Park are good examples of this type of park. The City of Anaheim owns or operates seven mini-parks.

### **Nature Centers or Specialized Recreation Centers**

These facilities serve a specialized, Citywide need and tend to focus on one particular activity, such as a nature center or natural area, tennis or golf complex. The City of Anaheim owns or operates eight special use parks.

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# Location of Parks within the City of Anaheim



19. Sage (8.6 Acres) 20. Stoddard (9.4 Acres) 21. Walnut Grove (3.0 Acres) 22. George Washington (3.0 Acres)

23. Willow (8.8 Acres)

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### **Neighborhood Parks**

This is the most common type of park in Anaheim. These are parks to which people walk or bike and are located within the neighborhood they serve. They are typically 5 to 15 acres in size and have a service radius of one-half mile. Neighborhood parks are located on separate properties and provide amenities determined through public participation, often including picnic areas, unlighted athletic fields, tot lots, court games, passive green space, restrooms, recreation and neighborhood center buildings and off-street parking. If possible, these are located adjacent to elementary or middle schools to facilitate joint-use with local school districts. The City of Anaheim owns or operates 24 neighborhood parks. The neighborhood parks located within the City of Anaheim are listed in Table 5.14-1 below.

TABLE 5.14-1 NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS LOCATED WITHIN THE CITY OF ANAHEIM					
Neighborhood Park	Size of Neighborhood Park (In Acres)	Location			
Barton	n 4.8				
Chaparral	10	West Anaheim			
Hansen	7.0	West Anaheim			
Peter Marshall	5.0	West Anaheim			
Schweitzer	11.5	West Anaheim			
Citrus	2.4	Central Anaheim			
Edison	7.5	Central Anaheim			
Juarez	9.5	Central Anaheim			
Lincoln	5.1	Central Anaheim			
Manzanita	7.5	Central Anaheim			
Palm Lane	7.0	Central Anaheim			
Ponderosa	9.0	Central Anaheim			
Rio Vista	12.8	Central Anaheim			
Ross	9.5 (4 acres are undeveloped)	Central Anaheim			
Sage	8.6	Central Anaheim			
Stoddard	9.4	Central Anaheim			
Walnut Grove	3.0	Central Anaheim			
Willow	8.8	Central Anaheim			
Canyon Rim	5.5	East Anaheim			
Eucalyptus	10.0	East Anaheim			
Fairmont	7.5	East Anaheim			
Imperial	7.5	East Anaheim			
Riverdale	8.5	East Anaheim			
Sycamore	8.0	East Anaheim			

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### **Joint Use Agreements**

To supplement its own recreational facilities, the City also enters into joint-use agreements with six local school districts in which residents are able to use school facilities such as gymnasiums, play equipment, sports fields, swimming pools and classrooms. School facilities, although not formally included in the improved public open space category, offer a wealth of recreation resources ranging from open playfields and meeting rooms to specialized facilities such as swimming pools, gymnasiums, tennis courts and auditoriums. Although these facilities primarily support and augment the educational

process, a secondary and significant purpose is their use by the general public for recreational purposes.

Over the years, the City has entered into a number of agreements with the Anaheim City School District for use of various school facilities for public recreation. The majority of school open space and recreation facilities are typically limited in use to after school hours, weekends, and summer programs. Several neighborhood parks are "school/parks", a concept of locating park land adjacent to elementary schools for the economical joint use and maintenance of outdoor recreation facilities between the City and the Anaheim City School District.

The City also has joint use agreements with the Orange Unified School District, Savanna and Magnolia School Districts. These encompass the use of school facilities for athletic field and other recreational uses, typically after school hours, on weekends, and during summer periods.

### **Community Parks**

Community parks serve several neighborhoods and have a service radius of two-up to 2 miles. Their size ranges from 15 to 30 acres and they provide similar and larger amenities than a neighborhood park. These amenities generally include lighted ball fields, tennis courts, and community centers or recreation buildings. Community parks are also designed for vehicular as well as pedestrian access. Community parks are located adjacent to middle or high schools, when possible, in an attempt to facilitate joint-use with local school districts. Table 5.14-2 shows the Community Parks located within the City of Anaheim.

TABLE 5.14-2 COMMUNITY PARKS						
Community Park	Size of Community Park (In Acres)	Location				
Brookhurst	27.0	West Anaheim				
John Marshall	16.0	West Anaheim				
Maxwell	18.5	West Anaheim				
Modjeska	23.5	West Anaheim				
Twila Reid	27.2	West Anaheim				
Boysen	24.6	Central Anaheim				
La Palma	21.0	Central Anaheim				
Pearsen	19.0	Central Anaheim				
Pioneer	15.3	Central Anaheim				
Peralta	21.4	East Anaheim				
Toyon	16.0	East Anaheim				

#### Santa Ana River Trail

Another major open space resource is the Santa Ana River, but its use is limited by both flooding potential and water recharge efforts. Recreation opportunities include the Santa Ana River Trail, a national recreation trail designated within this corridor that, when completed, would incorporate 110 miles of trail system from San Bernardino County in the north to Orange County in the south. This trail is owned and operated by the County of Orange.

### Regional Parks

There are a number of regional parks, operated by the County of Orange, located in or adjacent to Anaheim. Regional parks are typically 50 acres or larger and have a wide range of amenities to attract a broad range of users and interests within and beyond the City limits. Regional Park facilities located in or adjacent to Anaheim include:

- Yorba Regional Park-166 acres in East Anaheim located along the north side of the Santa Ana River;
- Featherly Regional Park-150 acres located outside the City, north of the SR-91 Freeway, with camping, an amphitheatre and nature trails;
- Weir Canyon Regional Park-proposed park of 2,100 acres near the southerly extension of Weir Canyon Road in the City of Orange's Sphere-of-Influence; and,
- Santiago Oaks Regional Park-135 acres located along the Santiago Creek in Orange.

Implementation of the Green Element Goal 19.1, 20.1, and 21.1 and their policies and actions listed below should limit any impacts to these regional parks relating to park operations, safety, noise, night off-site light sources adjacent to wilderness areas, aesthetics, viewshed, flora, fauna and park infrastructure.

- Require that new development to mitigate light and glare impacts on surrounding sensitive habitat and open space areas, where appropriate. (Green Element, Goal 14.32, Policy 1)
- Develop guidelines for integrating residential and commercial development near regional open space through buffer zones, trail access and light and glare impacts. (Green Element, Goal 14.2, Action 1)
- Continue to improve and maintain proper lighting in park facilities and fields without undue glare impacts on adjoining residential areas. (Green Element, Goal 20.1, Policy 2)

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### State Parks

The eastern edge of the City of Anaheim is adjacent to the Chino Hills State Park. As such, the eastern edge of the city provides a potential gateway and link for wildlife corridors, trail and recreation uses. Through implementation of the Green Element's Goal 23.1 and 3.1 and its polices and actions, the City will continue to ensure that development in the easternmost portion of the City is sensitively integrated with the adjoining Chino Hills State Park.

### Additional Recreation

The City benefits from having the following additional outdoor recreational facilities:

**Golf Courses:** There are two 18-hole City-owned and operated golf courses in the City. These are the H.G. "Dad" Miller Golf Course, a 107-acre course with a clubhouse and driving range and the Anaheim Hills Golf Course, a 174-acre course with a driving range and club house.

**The Anaheim Tennis Center:** The City of Anaheim has a privately operated facility located adjacent to Boysen Park.

### Natural Open Space

The City of Anaheim borders some of the largest expanses of natural open space in the County and is part of the Orange County Central-Coast Subregion NCCP (Natural Communities Conservation Plan), a regional effort to preserve large habitat areas. The opportunity exists to create a "gateway" nature center

at the eastern boundary of the City. This nature center could combine education, research and access to adjoining wilderness areas and would provide access to the Tecate Cypress Preserve in Coal Canyon and a trailhead into the Cleveland National Forest. An important wildlife corridor was created with the California Department of Parks and Recreation's purchase of Coal Canyon, which served to link the Cleveland National Forest and Chino Hills State Park.

The Hill and Canyon Area has a significant amount of open space and abuts major open space resources, including the Chino Hills State Park, the Cleveland National Forest and the Santa Ana River. An important wildlife corridor was created with the California Department of Parks and Recreation's purchase of Coal Canyon, linking the Cleveland National Forest and Chino Hills State Park. Furthermore, the Irvine Company's recent dedication of open space to create a "sage to sea" wildlife corridor and land use pattern envisioned for the Mountain Park Specific Plan area opens up the opportunity to create a nature center and research facility accessible from the SR-91 Freeway. The proposed facility would constitute an environmentally sensitive interpretative center that provides access to the Tecate Cypress Preserve in Coal Canyon and a trailhead into the Cleveland National Forest. The City will continue to ensure that future development in the easternmost portion of the City is sensitively integrated with the adjoining habitat areas. Implementation of the Green Element's Goal 23.1 and 3.1 and it policies and actions would help ensure that development near regional open space resources would be sensitively integrated into surrounding sensitive habitat areas.

The Hill and Canyon Area has grown significantly and the City is actively working to preserve the remaining open space by implementing a trail and park system which links it to the largest natural open space area in the entire County.

One of the primary aesthetic resources of the Hill and Canyon Area are its natural slopes. Development on hillsides within the Hill and Canyon Area, where land use designations permit, requires careful siting, grading, and design in order to enhance the scenic quality of the area and to minimize exposure to hazards.

### Recreational Trails

The City of Anaheim has over 50 miles of developed and proposed riding and hiking trails and it has the potential for more as the City develops to the east. These trails link residents to parks and community facilities and the Riding and Hiking Trails Master Plan links them to the regional system, Cleveland National Forest, and the inter-county Santa Ana River Trail. Table 5.14-3 provides an inventory of trails located in the City of Anaheim.

The current City of Anaheim Riding and Hiking Trails Master Plan describes five primary goals of the trail system:

- Provide a mix of trails to accommodate short, medium and long rides or hikes;
- Link parks and other public uses and facilities together, wherever feasible;
- Link to regional trails in Orange and Riverside Counties as well as to the Cleveland National Forest and Chino Hills State Park;
- Implement the trail system at all planning levels to ensure appropriate dedication and improvement of rights-of-way; and,

Take advantage of existing rights-of-way, wherever possible, for trail development (i.e. flood channels, rail right-or-way, powerline easements).

	TABLE 5.14-3 INVENTORY OF EXISTING TRAILS							
No.	Name	Length (miles)	No.	Name	Length (miles)			
1	Santa Ana Canyon	6.93	13	Oak Canyon	1.94			
2	Lakeview	0.23	14	Hidden Canyon	2.39			
3	Crescent	0.44	15	Weir Canyon	3.68			
4	Pelanconi	0.47	16	East Hills	1.29			
5	Mohler Drive	0.23	17	Savi Canal	0.84			
6	Country	0.68	18	Anaheim Hills	1.14			
7	North Loop	0.25	19	Nohl Ranch	1.16			
8	Rainbow	0.61	20	Four Corners	4.14			
9	Hummingbird	0.51	21	Santa Ana River	10.30			
10	Imperial	0.23	22	Oak Canyon East	0.58			
11	Walnut Canyon Reservoir	1.56	23	Ridgeline	1.80			
12	Fairmont	1.61	24	Golf Course Trail	2.89			
TOTAL					45.9			

The City of Anaheim has completed approximately 46 miles or 84% of the trail system delineated in the Master Plan. Most of the trails that have yet to be completed are in the eastern portion of the Hill and Canyon Area.

The Master Plan will be extended to areas east of Weir Canyon Road providing direct links to the Cleveland National Forest trail network via the Coal Canyon and Santiago Trails and to the Riverside County riding and hiking trails via the Santa Ana River Trail.



### 5.14.3 Thresholds of Significance

The criteria used to determine the significance of impacts on recreation are taken from City-approved Thresholds of Significance based on the City's Initial Study and the model Initial Study checklist in Appendix G of the State CEQA Guidelines. The project would typically result in a significant impact on recreational facilities if it would:

- 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; or
- Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities
   which facilities, which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment.

### 5.14.4 Analysis of Environmental Impacts

IMPACT:

WOULD THE PROJECT WOULD 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

Impact Analysis: The City currently maintains park dedication standards that require new development an in the City to ensure that two-2 acres of parkland will be developed for each 1,000 residents. Depending on the magnitude of residential development, the dedication may be in the form of direct dedication of improved land, the payment of fees in lieu of dedication, or a combination of both. The City has a park dedication ordinance, and every year the City Council adopts a resolution setting park dedication fees. New park dedication standards or in-lieu fees can also be developed for non-residential

or mixed-use development. Typical parks in these areas would include sports fields and other active recreational opportunities to meet the needs of Anaheim's residents and employees and could supplement park needs of nearby residential neighborhoods. To supplement its own recreational facilities, the City also enters into joint-use agreements with local school districts in which residents are able to use school facilities such as gymnasiums, play equipment, sports fields, swimming pools and classrooms.

One of the key features of the Green Plan, as described in the Green Element, is the identification of Park Deficiency Areas. These areas are identified based on unmet needs established in the last update of the Parks and Recreation Element, new park demand created in areas with new residential land use designations, and future land use and employment trends described in the Land Use Element. Park Deficiency Areas are identified in those areas that, due to population pressures and limited park opportunities, are underserved by recreational facilities.

The locations of Park Deficiency Areas are general in nature and do not represent specific locations. Park Deficiency Areas are classified into three types: Neighborhood Parks, Community Parks and Special Use Parks. The first two types, Neighborhood and Community Parks, are described in the previous section. Deficiency Areas for these parks are typically located in residential areas that have already been identified as park deficient because of the underserved residential populations in the area.

The third category, Special Use Parks, represent opportunity areas that can meet a variety of special needs. While parks have been traditionally located within or adjacent to residential areas to meet the needs of Anaheim residents, several of the Special Use Park Deficiency Areas are located near major employment centers. These employment centers, identified in the Land Use Element, provide unique opportunities for future park facilities as opportunities for new parks in residential areas become increasingly scarce. With significant development expected in these areas over the next twenty years, new park dedication standards or in-lieu fees can be developed for non-residential or mixed-use development. In addition to the uses found in mini parks, nature centers and specialized recreation centers, typical parks in these areas would include sports fields and other active recreational opportunities to meet the needs of Anaheim's employees and could supplement park needs of nearby residential communities. Continued compliance with the City of Anaheim park dedication ordinance would mitigate any potential impacts to recreational facilities.

#### **Relevant Goals and Policies**

Proposed General Plan policies related to providing and maintaining an adequate amount of parks and parkland include:

- Maintain a Citywide standard of at least two acres of parkland per thousand residents. (Green Element Goal 189.1, Policy 1)
- Locate neighborhood parks within walking distance of the surrounding neighborhood. (Green Element Goal 189.1, Policy 2)
- Locate parks adjacent to schools, where possible, to facilitate joint-use of publicly owned land and facilities. (Green Element Goal 189.1, Policy 3)
- Design new facilities to serve as many compatible, overlapping uses as possible such as baseball/softball outfields also serving as soccer fields. (Green Element Goal 189.1, Policy 4)
- Develop a network of at least one 10,000 square-foot multiuse, indoor facility (e.g., gymnasium) per 25,000 residents. (Green Element Goal 189.1, Policy 5)
- Continue to provide a variety of park types and facilities, especially dedicated sports fields and
  practice fields, that fields that serve the diverse needs of Anaheim's neighborhoods. (Green
  Element Goal 189.1, Policy 6)

- Encourage development of park and community service facilities in areas of high employment concentrations to serve workers and residents alike. (Green Element Goal 189.1, Policy 7)
- Consider acquiring properties adjacent to schools, properties available on an opportunity basis, or excess freeway rights-of-way, when available, for park purposes. (Green Element Goal 189.1, Policy 8)
- Provide a wide variety of recreational facilities in both active and passive areas of parks to satisfy diverse needs and activities. (Green Element Goal <u>2019</u>.1, Policy 1)
- Design and redesign parks to reflect the latest recreational features, responsive to population trends and community needs. (Green Element Goal 2019.1, Policy 2)
- Develop non-traditional approaches to provide supplementary services and programs where facility deficiencies exist (e.g., mobile programs, street events, entertainment, storefront operations). (Green Element Goal 2019.1, Policy 5)
- Obtain dedication acquisition and development of trail rights-of-way to City standards in order to complete the trail network shown on the Green Plan and <u>Equestrian</u>, Riding and Hiking Trails <u>Master Plan</u>. (Green Element Goal 2<u>2</u>3.1, Policy 1)
- Link the trail system, where feasible, with existing or future parks and other appropriate <u>public</u> areas. (Green Element Goal 223.1, Policy 3)
- Link the trail system by incorporating trails and trail stops with Orange and Riverside Counties' regional trails and with those in Cleveland National Forest and Chino Hills State Park. (Green Element Goal 223.1, Policy 4)
- Expand the trail system by working with the Orange County of Orange Water District to incorporate a hiking and biking trail along Carbon Creek. (Green Element Goal 223.1, Policy 6)
- Coordinate with the Orange County Water District and Regional Water Quality Control Board to expand uses within water basins to include trails and trail access. (Green Element Goal 223.1, Policy 7)
- Support and help coordinate regional planning efforts with the California Department of Parks and Recreation, the County of Orange, and public/private interests to create a gateway nature facility. (Green Element Goal 3.1, Policy 2)
- Coordinate with Southern California Edison to pursue the implementation of recreational and open space amenities on utility easements. (Green Element Goal 34.1, Policy 1)
- Encourage Support the County of Orange to continue in their efforts to upgrade and maintain the Santa Ana River Trail. (Green Element Goal 45.1, Policy 1)
- Work with the County of Orange and the Orange County Water District to maintain and improve
  the recreational and scenic resources of the Anaheim Lakes and Five Coves areas and other
  appropriate water resource areas, including retarding basins and reservoirs. (Green Element
  Goal 45.1, Policy 2)

### **Existing Codes and Regulations**

 Future projects shall comply with the City's park dedication ordinance relative to parks and trails locations, sizes and design criteria

Level of Significance Before Mitigation: Less than significant.

Mitigation Measures: No mitigation measures are necessary.

**Level of Significance After Mitigation:** No significant adverse impacts were identified and no mitigation measures are necessary.



IMPACT: WOULD THE PROJECT WOULD INCLUDE RECREATIONAL FACILITIES OR REQUIRE
THE CONSTRUCTION OR EXPANSION OF RECREATIONAL FACILITIES WHICH
MIGHT HAVE AN ADVERSE PHYSICAL EFFECT ON THE ENVIRONMENT

*Impact Analysis:* In an effort to protect and enhance its resources, the City of Anaheim has combined its Conservation, Open Space, and Parks and Recreation and Community Services elements into a single comprehensive plan; the Green Element. Part of the Green Element's philosophy is to use scarce resources wisely and promoting sustainable growth and development. The Green Element is unique in the way that it combines two required elements of the general plan-open space and conservation-with parks and recreation. As such, it addresses two major goals simultaneously: 1) preservation of open space, ridgelines, public scenic vistas and specimen trees; and 2) provision for more parks and community centers.

An important component of the Green Element is the comprehensive and long-range preservation of open space areas. This includes space for habitat preservation and outdoor recreation. Through implementation of the Green Element Goals and Policies outlined above and compliance with the City's park dedication ordinance, any impacts to the environment through the construction of new development, or expansion of any existing land uses in the City would be adequately mitigated. Furthermore, implementation of Green Element Goals and Policies would help ensure that any development near regional open space resources, such as the Chino Hills State Park would be sensitively integrated into surrounding sensitive habitat areas.

### **Relevant Goals and Policies**

 See Relevant Goals and Policies listed above under "Project Would 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."

### **Existing Codes and Regulations**

 See Existing Codes and Regulations listed above under "Project Would 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."

Level of Significance Before Mitigation: Less than significant.

*Mitigation Measures:* No mitigation measures are necessary.

**Level of Significance After Mitigation:** No significant adverse impacts were identified and no mitigation measures are necessary.

### 5.14.5 Significant Unavoidable Adverse Impacts

There are no significant unavoidable adverse impacts related to recreation.