

## 6. Cumulative Impacts

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### 6.1 OVERVIEW

Section 15355 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines defines cumulative impacts as:

*"...two or more individual effects which when considered together, are considerable or which compound or increase other environmental impacts."*

Section 15355 further describes potential cumulative impacts as follows:

- (a) *The individual effects may be changes resulting from a single project or a number of separate projects.*
- (b) *The cumulative impacts from several projects are the change in the environment which results from the incremental impact of the project when added to other closely related past, present and reasonably foreseeable probable future projects. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor but collectively significant projects taking place over a period of time."*

### 6.2 ASSUMPTIONS REGARDING CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

Section 15130 of the CEQA Guidelines states that cumulative impacts shall be discussed where they are significant. It further states that this discussion shall reflect the level and severity of the impact and the likelihood of occurrence, but not in as great a level of detail as that necessary for the project alone. Section 15355 of the Guidelines defines cumulative impacts to be "... two or more individual effects which, when considered together, are considerable or which compound or increase other environmental impacts." Cumulative impacts represent the change caused by the incremental impact of a project when added to other proposed or committed projects in the vicinity.

The CEQA Guidelines (Section 15130 (b)(1)) state that the information utilized in an analysis of cumulative impacts should come from one of two sources, either:

1. A list of past, present and probable future projects producing related cumulative impacts, including, if necessary, those projects outside the control of the agency; or
2. A summary of projections contained in an adopted general plan or related planning document designed to evaluate regional or area-wide conditions.

The cumulative impact analyses contained in this DEIR uses method 2, as described above. The Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) has adopted growth forecasts for each Subregion within the SCAG region, including Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino, Riverside, Ventura and Imperial Counties through the year 2030. The City of Anaheim is located in the Orange County Council of Governments Subregion. Therefore, the following cumulative impact analysis utilizes the regional growth projections contained in the *Destination 2030 Final Draft 2004 Regional Transportation Plan, February 2004* for the Orange County Council of Governments Subregion.

As shown on Table 6.1-1, the adopted SCAG Growth Forecasts for the Orange County Council of Governments Subregion project a total population increase of 968,820 between 2000 and 2030. A total of 419,124 additional housing units are projected by 2030. Employment is expected to grow by approximately 796,247 employees. Of the total projected County-wide growth, the City of Anaheim



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General Plan and Zoning Code Update would accommodate 5% of the population growth, 6.5% of the growth in housing units, and 6.2% of employment growth.

**TABLE 6.1-1  
CITY OF ANAHEIM AND SCAG GROWTH FORECASTS**

	<i>City of Anaheim Projected Growth through Buildout <sup>1</sup></i>	<i>SCAG Growth Forecasts Orange County Subregion <sup>2</sup> 2000-2030</i>
Population	52,858	968,820
Housing Units	27,374	419,124
Employment	49,019	796,247

Sources:

<sup>1</sup> City of Anaheim Draft General Plan, March 2004.

<sup>2</sup> Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), "Destination 2030 Final Draft 2004 Regional Transportation Plan," February 2004.

The project is a comprehensive update of the Anaheim General Plan and Zoning Code Update that will guide future growth within the City and its Sphere of Influence as a whole. Thus, cumulative citywide impacts have been addressed in the preceding analysis in this DEIR. A broader examination of cumulative impacts involves considering the project together with growth in the region. As a result, the following discussion addresses the cumulative impacts of the proposed General Plan and Zoning Code Update in the context of overall growth projected for the region.

### **6.3 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS RELATED TO AESTHETICS**

All the cumulative projects would contribute to the alteration of the visual character of the region. Due to the developed nature of the City and the existence of light sources from both within the City and from surrounding cities, the proposed project is not anticipated to add significantly to the creation of light and glare in the region.

The aesthetic impacts of the proposed project associated with affects upon any scenic vistas, scenic resources, and the existing visual character of the City have been evaluated in Section 5.1, *Aesthetics*, of this DEIR and found to be less than significant on a project specific basis.

Potential project-related impacts from the generation of light and glare have been found to be less than significant when considered with recommended mitigation. In consideration of the preceding factors, the project's contribution to cumulative aesthetic impacts would be rendered less than cumulatively considerable, and therefore, less than cumulatively significant.

**Level of Significance Before Mitigation:** Less than significant.

**Mitigation Measures:** No cumulative mitigation measures are necessary.

**Level of Significance After Mitigation:** No significant impacts have been identified and no mitigation measures are required.

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### 6.4 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS RELATED TO AIR QUALITY

The future CO emissions are projected to be in compliance with the 1-hour and 8-hour state and federal standards, and therefore, the local CO impacts related to cumulative growth are not considered to be significant. Even though implementation of the General Plan and Zoning Code Update provides opportunities for additional development in the City of Anaheim, and regional growth will occur in the County as a whole, the continued reduction in vehicular emissions will offset the additional development to some extent. However, the emissions for the cumulative scenario will be significant, when compared to the daily significance thresholds. As a result, the project related emissions are considered a Significant Unavoidable Adverse Impact on a project-specific and cumulative basis.

Although the project will result in significant regional air quality impacts, the proposed project is consistent with AQMP and other regional plan strategies to reduce the number of trips and the length of trips in the region, and to improve the balance between jobs and housing at the subregional level. The AQMP recognizes that emissions due to trips and mode choices are not only a function of the transportation system, but also relate to the proximity of housing and job-generating land uses, and proximity of jobs to transportation infrastructure and transit.

**Level of Significance Before Mitigation:** Potentially significant.

**Mitigation Measures:** Project specific mitigation measures are listed in section 5.2. No other mitigation is considered feasible to address cumulative air quality impacts.

**Level of Significance After Mitigation:** Significant Unavoidable Adverse Impact.

### 6.5 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS RELATED TO BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Cumulative impacts to biological resources include the on-going loss of sensitive habitat areas. As the North County region continues to experience development these losses will increase in importance as natural habitat areas become more scarce. The proposed General Plan and Zoning Code Update provides goals, policies, and actions requiring conservation of natural resources. In addition, the City is mostly developed, except for the Hill and Canyon Area. The City's participation in formulating and implementing regional plans for the management of listed species in the area, such as the current NCCP area, would help mitigate significant impacts.

**Level of Significance Before Mitigation:** Less than significant.

**Mitigation Measures:** No cumulative mitigation measures are necessary.

**Level of Significance After Mitigation:** No significant impacts have been identified and no mitigation measures are required.

### 6.6 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS RELATED TO CULTURAL RESOURCES

Potential impacts related to cultural resources are site specific and cannot be accurately assessed on a cumulative basis. In very general terms, the northern portion of Orange County, including the eastern portions of Anaheim, has the potential to yield archaeological and paleontological resources. Central Anaheim contains most of the City's historical resources, including the historic structures in the Anaheim Colony Historic District. Such potential impacts would need to be mitigated on a case-by-case basis. The proposed General Plan and Zoning Code Update contains goals, policies and actions that address



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potential impacts on cultural resources. As such, the project's contribution to cumulative impacts related to cultural resources is less than considerable and, therefore, less than cumulatively significant.

**Level of Significance Before Mitigation:** Less than significant.

**Mitigation Measures:** No cumulative mitigation measures are necessary.

**Level of Significance After Mitigation:** No significant impacts have been identified and no mitigation measures are required.

### 6.7 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS RELATED TO GEOLOGY AND SOILS

Impacts relating to geology and soils are site-specific and generally cannot be considered in cumulative terms. A possible exception would be earthquake hazards. Mitigation of geologic, seismicity and soil impacts of development projects would be specific to each site. The proposed General Plan and Zoning Code Update contains goals, policies and actions that address potential impacts due to soils and geology. As such, the project's contribution to cumulative impacts related to soils and geology is less than considerable and, therefore, less than cumulatively significant.

**Level of Significance Before Mitigation:** Less than significant.

**Mitigation Measures:** No cumulative mitigation measures are necessary.

**Level of Significance After Mitigation:** No significant impacts have been identified and no mitigation measures are required.

### 6.8 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS RELATED TO HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Implementation of the General Plan and Zoning Code Update as well as other development outside the City would increase the number of persons exposed to potential hazards. Development of Emergency Preparedness Programs, as well as implementation of the goals and policies contained in the Hazards and Hazardous Materials section of this DEIR would provide adequate safety protection from hazards and hazardous materials. As such, the project's contribution to cumulative impacts related to hazards and hazardous materials is less than considerable and, therefore, less than cumulatively significant.

**Level of Significance Before Mitigation:** Less than significant.

**Mitigation Measures:** No cumulative mitigation measures are necessary.

**Level of Significance After Mitigation:** No significant impacts have been identified and no mitigation measures are required.

### 6.9 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS RELATED TO HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

Cumulative impacts to local and area-wide flooding and hydrology are dependent on the specific development proposed and the flood control/drainage improvements specific to the development. The Santa Ana River Mainstem project has been developed through Orange County, which provides protection from regional flooding, including flooding in the City of Anaheim. In addition, other regionally coordinated flood control solutions are also being developed. In general terms, an area-wide increase in impervious surfaces presents the potential for significant increases in drainage flows to and in nearby drainage facilities. Mitigating these increases can best be addressed on a site-specific basis in future

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development review processing. The proposed General Plan and Zoning Code Update contains goals, policies and actions that address potential hydrology and water quality impacts. As such, the project's contribution to cumulative impacts related to water and hydrology is less than considerable and, therefore, less than cumulatively significant.

**Level of Significance Before Mitigation:** Less than significant.

**Mitigation Measures:** No cumulative mitigation measures are necessary.

**Level of Significance After Mitigation:** No significant impacts have been identified and no mitigation measures are required.

### 6.10 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS RELATED TO LAND USE AND RELEVANT PLANNING

As described in both Section 5.8, *Land Use and Relevant Planning*, and Section 5.12, *Population and Housing*, of this DEIR, the number of people, jobs and housing will continue to increase over the next thirty years. Cumulative development would be accompanied by area-wide increases in traffic, noise, air pollutant emissions, demands on public services and utilities and visual/aesthetic impacts. Such impacts are not exclusive to certain types of land use or particular projects, and would occur to some degree with any type of new development. Implementation of the proposed project, along with other cumulative projects, would gradually, but permanently alter the existing land uses of much of the region.

While population growth may have the potential to result in other significant environmental consequences, those issues are addressed in other sections of the DEIR, and the growth itself, fostered by the proposed project, is not considered a significant cumulative impact. As such, the project's contribution to cumulative impacts related to population and housing is less than considerable and, therefore, less than cumulatively significant.

**Level of Significance Before Mitigation:** Less than significant.

**Mitigation Measures:** No cumulative mitigation measures are necessary.

**Level of Significance After Mitigation:** No significant impacts have been identified and no mitigation measures are required.

### 6.11 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS RELATED TO MINERAL RESOURCES

Potential impacts related to mineral resources are site specific and cannot be accurately assessed on a cumulative basis. The City currently contains three sites designated as containing mineral resources of Statewide Importance. Any such potential impacts to mineral resources sites would need to be mitigated on a case-by-case basis. The proposed General Plan and Zoning Code Update contains goals, policies and actions that address potential impacts on mineral resources. As such, the project's contribution to cumulative impacts related to mineral resources is less than considerable and, therefore, less than cumulatively significant.

**Level of Significance Before Mitigation:** Less than significant.

**Mitigation Measures:** No cumulative mitigation measures are necessary.

**Level of Significance After Mitigation:** No significant impacts have been identified and no mitigation measures are required.



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### **6.12 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS RELATED TO NOISE**

The assumptions used in the project noise analysis include traffic and other noise sources from all other projected potential area-wide development. As such, the analysis of potential noise impacts addresses cumulative noise impacts as well.

Implementation of the proposed General Plan Goals and Policies, existing codes and regulations, and mitigation measures listed above will reduce all potential short-term and long-term noise impacts to the extent feasible. Furthermore, the included mitigation for site operations could reduce any significant impacts on new, proposed development or the impact of any proposed industrial land uses to less than significant levels. However, as shown in Table 5.10-7, many roadways within the City are expected to generate noise levels in excess of 65 CNEL. As a result, in locations where these roadways are adjacent to existing sensitive land uses, the impacts are anticipated to remain significant.

**Level of Significance Before Mitigation:** Potentially significant.

**Mitigation Measures:** Project specific mitigation measures are listed in section 5.10. No other mitigation is considered feasible to address cumulative noise impacts.

**Level of Significance After Mitigation:** Significant Unavoidable Adverse Impact.

### **6.13 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS RELATED TO POLICE AND FIRE**

Cumulative growth would result in increased demand for police and fire services. Generally, these agencies incorporate growth anticipated in the adopted General Plan into their long range planning programs. Standard measures such as the payment of fees and incorporation of needed facilities were addressed in each cumulative project as determined appropriate in individual project environmental analyses.

Section 5.11, *Police and Fire*, of this DEIR has analyzed the potential impacts to police and fire services associated with implementation of the proposed General Plan and Zoning Code Update and concluded that no significant impacts would occur. As such, the project's contribution to cumulative impacts related to police and fire services is less than considerable and, therefore, less than cumulatively significant.

**Level of Significance Before Mitigation:** Less than significant.

**Mitigation Measures:** No cumulative mitigation measures are necessary.

**Level of Significance After Mitigation:** No significant impacts have been identified and no mitigation measures are required.

### **6.14 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS RELATED TO POPULATION AND HOUSING**

The analysis of Orange County's population and employment trends is provided in Section 5.12, *Population and Housing*, of this DEIR. Current Orange County projections represent numeric interpretation of current County and City policies, as reflected in the General Plan and Zoning Code Update.

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The proposed project updates the policies for future growth in Anaheim. As such, the Orange County projections account for proposed development within the study area and no significant cumulative impacts are expected.

The north Orange County region is expected to experience a significant amount of growth over the next several decades. The proposed project would contribute to regional growth in population, housing, and employment. However, implementation of the General Plan and Zoning Code Update would not significantly alter regional growth rates, because the anticipated growth was included in County projections.

While population growth may have the potential to result in other significant environmental consequences, those issues are addressed in other sections of the DEIR, and the growth itself is not considered a significant cumulative impact. As such, the project's contribution to cumulative impacts related to population and housing is less than considerable and, therefore, less than cumulatively significant.

**Level of Significance Before Mitigation:** Less than significant.

**Mitigation Measures:** No cumulative mitigation measures are necessary.

**Level of Significance After Mitigation:** No significant impacts have been identified and no mitigation measures are required.

### 6.15 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS RELATED TO PUBLIC SERVICES AND FACILITIES

All the cumulative projects would result in increased demand for public services and utilities. Generally, the various service agencies incorporate growth anticipated in the adopted General Plan into their long range planning programs. Standard measures such as the payment of fees and incorporation of needed facilities were addressed in each project as determined appropriate in individual EIR analyses.

Section 5.13, *Public Services and Utilities*, of this DEIR has analyzed the potential public service and utility impacts associated with the proposed project including schools, parks and recreational facilities, libraries, wastewater treatment, drainage and flood control systems, water supply and distribution systems, solid waste disposal, electricity, natural gas, and telecommunications systems and concluded that no significant impacts would occur. As such, the project's contribution to cumulative impacts related to public service and facilities is less than considerable and, therefore, less than cumulatively significant.

**Level of Significance Before Mitigation:** Less than significant.

**Mitigation Measures:** No cumulative mitigation measures are necessary.

**Level of Significance After Mitigation:** No significant impacts have been identified and no mitigation measures are required.

### 6.16 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS RELATED TO RECREATION

Cumulative growth with the City of Anaheim and the County as a whole would result in increases in population in the local area. As has been previously noted in Section 5.14, *Recreation*, the City of Anaheim currently maintains park dedication standards that require new development to ensure that two acres of parkland will be developed for each 1,000 residents added by proposed development. New



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park dedication standards or in-lieu fees can also be developed for non-residential or mixed-use development. 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. Furthermore, 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 promote sustainable growth and development.

The proposed General Plan and Zoning Code Update contains goals and policies that address potential impacts related to recreation. As such, the project's contribution to cumulative impacts related to recreation is less than considerable and, therefore, less than cumulatively significant.

**Level of Significance Before Mitigation:** Less than significant.

**Mitigation Measures:** No cumulative mitigation measures are necessary.

**Level of Significance After Mitigation:** No significant impacts have been identified and no mitigation measures are required.

### **6.17 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS RELATED TO TRANSPORTATION AND CIRCULATION**

The traffic analysis considers the impacts of traffic traveling through, as well as within, the City of Anaheim. Future cumulative travel patterns within and through the City of Anaheim would be directly influenced by changes to the surrounding regional transportation system. Significant impacts on transportation are associated with several regional serving streets, such as Harbor Boulevard and Ball Road, which is a significantly impacted intersection and is considered to be cumulatively significant. Therefore, the project will contribute to a cumulatively significant impact related to transportation and circulation.

**Level of Significance Before Mitigation:** Potentially significant.

**Mitigation Measures:** Project specific mitigation measures are listed in Section 5.15. No other mitigation is considered feasible to address cumulative transportation and circulation impacts.

**Level of Significance After Mitigation:** Significant Unavoidable Adverse Impact.