

3.10 POPULATION AND HOUSING

This chapter evaluates the proposed project in terms of population and housing growth forecasts for the City of Los Angeles. It also evaluates whether the proposed project would cause growth that exceeds projected or planned growth for the project area through the development of infrastructure, and whether the proposed project would displace housing or residents, necessitating replacement housing.

3.10.1 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The City of Los Angeles has established 35 Community Plan Areas, which are intended to implement the policies of the General Plan Framework. The project site is located within the Central City North Community Plan Area of the City of Los Angeles. This Community Plan Area encompasses approximately 2.57 square miles adjacent to downtown Los Angeles and is surrounded by the communities of Silverlake-Echo Park, Central City, Boyle Heights, and Northeast Los Angeles.¹ In 2010, the City of Los Angeles had a population of 3,792,621, and 1,318,168 households.² This represents a 2.17 percent increase in population and a 1.60 percent decrease in the number of households citywide for the period between years 2000 and 2010. Based on the 2000 Census, the Central City North Community has a population of approximately 24,071 residents, and 12,817 households.³ The average household size in the Central City North Community is approximately 2.88 persons per household, as compared to the citywide average of 1.87 persons per household.⁴ Approximately 85 percent of residents in this community are renters.⁵ There are no residential uses located on the project site.

3.10.2 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

THRESHOLDS OF SIGNIFICANCE

As part of the Initial Study (see Appendix A of this EIR), it was determined that the proposed project would not result in impacts related to the displacement of substantial numbers of existing housing or people because no housing currently exists on the project site, and all construction and demolition activities would occur within the boundaries of the project site. Accordingly, these issues are not further analyzed in the EIR.

¹ City of Los Angeles Department of City Planning, Central City North Community Plan, Adopted December 15, 2000.

² State of California, Department of Finance, *E-5 Population and Housing Estimates for Cities, Counties, and the State, 2010-2011, with 2010 Benchmark*, available at: <http://www.dof.ca.gov/research/demographic/reports/estimates/e-5/201120/view.php>, accessed: July 15, 2011.

³ City of Los Angeles Department of City Planning statistical information provided for the Community Planning Areas is based on 2000 Census data.

⁴ City of Los Angeles Department of City Planning, Maps and Stats, Statistical Information, Census 2000, Local Area Data Summaries by Community Plan Area, Central City North Community Plan Area, available at: <http://cityplanning.lacity.org/DRU/C2K/C2KRpt.cfm?geo=cp&sgo=ct>, accessed: July 15, 2011. Also, State of California, Department of Finance, *E-5 Population and Housing Estimates for Cities, Counties, and the State, 2010-2011, with 2010 Benchmark*, available at: <http://www.dof.ca.gov/research/demographic/reports/estimates/e-5/2011-20/view.php>, accessed: July 15, 2011.

⁵ City of Los Angeles Department of City Planning, Maps and Stats, Statistical Information, Census 2000, Local Area Data Summaries by Community Plan Area, Central City North Community Plan Area, available at: <http://cityplanning.lacity.org/DRU/C2K/C2KRpt.cfm?geo=cp&sgo=ct>, accessed: July 15, 2011.

3.10 Population and Housing

In accordance with the CEQA Guidelines, the proposed project would have a significant impact related to population and housing if it would:

- Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)

IMPACT ANALYSIS

POP-1 *The proposed project would not induce substantial population growth in the project area, either directly or indirectly. The impact would be less than significant.*

Implementation of the proposed project would entail construction and operation of a 32-acre park including various event spaces, observation and interpretive areas, recreation areas and pathways, parking, constructed wetlands and habitat area, as well as park furnishings and infrastructure. The proposed project does not include a residential component, and therefore, would not directly induce substantial population growth in the area. Although the proposed project includes utility infrastructure improvements, these improvements would serve the project site only and would not be intended to serve adjacent land uses.

As discussed in Chapter 2.0, Project Description, with the operation of the proposed project Friday night and weekend park usage and attendance are expected to increase from existing conditions, with as many as four daytime/evening/nighttime special events per year and a total attendance of up to 25,000 people each. Smaller events of 500 to 5,000 people are expected to occur monthly at the project site. In addition, the proposed project is expected to increase annual park attendance from approximately 125,000 people to 300,000 at the time of project buildout. The regional draw of park visitors is anticipated to introduce more people to the local area during special events. However, people are not likely to relocate their places of residence or work in order to visit the park. Rather, people throughout the region would visit the park to attend special events or participate in recreational activities at the project site. The project site is located in a primarily industrial and commercial area. The nearest residences are located along Broadway, north of and above the project site and several blocks to the south at the William Mead public housing complex. There is a potential for additional multi-family residential buildings to be constructed near the project site in the future. However, the construction of these uses would not be induced by the proposed project. Rather, they would be a part of the larger land use and development plan for the area as determined by the City. Therefore, the proposed project would not induce substantial population growth in the area, either directly or indirectly. As such, impacts would be less than significant.

3.10.3 MITIGATION MEASURES

No mitigation measures are required.

3.10.4 LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE AFTER MITIGATION

Impacts related to population and housing would be less than significant without mitigation.

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