

7.0 EFFECTS FOUND NOT TO BE SIGNIFICANT

Through the scoping process, the City of Cerritos determined that there was no substantial evidence that the proposed General Plan Update would cause or otherwise result in significant environmental effects in the resource areas discussed below. As indicated in the CEQA Guidelines, no further environmental review of these issues is necessary for reasons summarized in the following discussion.

AESTHETICS

Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista: There are no officially designated scenic vistas within the City of Cerritos. Therefore, the proposed General Plan Update would not result in the adverse effect of a scenic vista.

Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway: No state scenic highways run through the City of Cerritos. Therefore, the proposed General Plan Update would not result in the damage of scenic resources within a state scenic highway.

AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES

Convert Farmland to non-agricultural uses: Approximately seven acres of land is zoned for the agricultural uses within the City. However, none of the areas zoned for agricultural uses are existing farmland. Therefore, no conversion of farmland to non-agricultural uses would occur with implementation of the proposed General Plan Update.

Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract: The City does not contain any land under a Williamson Act contract, but does contain approximately seven acres of land zoned for agricultural uses. However, none of the areas zoned for agricultural uses are existing farmland. The proposed General Plan Update does not involve any changes to policies regarding agricultural resources within the City. Thus, no impacts are anticipated in this regard.

Involve other changes in the existing environment which could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use: As previously stated, Cerritos has approximately seven acres of land zoned for agricultural uses. However, the City does not have any existing farmland within the City. Therefore, no conversion of farmland to non-agricultural uses would occur with implementation of the proposed General Plan Update.

AIR QUALITY

Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people: Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update for the City of Cerritos would not create odors affecting a substantial number of people, as no existing land use designations would be modified. Any new or additional policies, or modifications to existing General Plan policies regarding air resources are intended to strengthen the protection of such resources, and further eliminate negative impacts on air quality, including objectionable odors.

BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or indirectly through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service: The City of Cerritos does not have any sensitive or special status species. Therefore, implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would not adversely affect any candidate, sensitive or special status species.

Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service: Riparian habitats or other sensitive natural communities do not exist within the City of Cerritos. Therefore, implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would not adversely affect any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community.

Have a substantial adverse effect on Federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act: No known wetlands exist within the City of Cerritos. As such, implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would not adversely affect any federally protected wetlands.

Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites: Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would not adversely affect the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species, or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites.

Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan: No areas within the City of Cerritos are included within any natural community conservation plans or other habitat conservation plans. As such, implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would not conflict with the provisions of any such plans.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries: Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would not disturb any human remains including those interred outside of formal cemeteries within the City of Cerritos. Additionally, no existing land use designations are being modified as part of the proposed General Plan Update for the City of Cerritos. Any new or additional policies or modifications to existing General Plan policies, regarding cultural resources would be intended to strengthen the protection of such resources.

GEOLOGY AND SOILS

Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water: Cerritos is a fully serviced, urban City. Any new development within the City would connect to the City's sewer and storm drain system. Septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems would not be used.

Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving rupture of a known earthquake fault as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault. Although there are several known faults within close proximity to the City of Cerritos, there are no identified Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zones within the City's boundaries. The closest fault is the projected trace of the buried Norwalk Fault, approximately one mile to the north of Cerritos. Thus, surface ruptures resulting from earthquakes are unlikely to occur in Cerritos. Therefore, implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would not result in significant impacts in this regard.

Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving landslides. According to the Department of Conservation, Division of Mines and Geology's report, Seismic Hazard Evaluations of the Los Alamitos 7.5 Minute Quadrangle (March 1999), the City of Cerritos does not have the potential for landslides. Therefore, implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would not result in significant impacts in this regard.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY/HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area: The General Plan Update does not propose any changes in land use designations. Furthermore, the City of Cerritos is not located within a land use plan area or within two

miles of a public airport or public use airport. Therefore, implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would not result in significant impacts in this regard.

For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working the project area: The City of Cerritos is not located within the vicinity of a private airstrip, therefore significant impacts regarding safety hazards would not exist in that regard.

Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan: The General Plan Update does not propose any changes in existing land use designations within Cerritos. Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would not result in interference with any emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan for the City.

Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands: The City of Cerritos is almost completely developed. No wildlands exist within the City. Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would not expose people or structures to any impacts related to wildland fires.

HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY

Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow: The proposed General Plan Update would not result in any impacts related to inundation of the City by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow. The City of Cerritos has not identified seiche, tsunami, or mudflow as a key safety risk. The proposed General Plan Update project would not create any new hazards, or risks associated with these events. No impacts would occur in this regard.

LAND USE

Physically divide an established community: No existing land use designations are being modified as part of the proposed General Plan Update. Any new or additional policies regarding land use and planning are to preserve and enhance existing communities. Therefore, implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would not result in the physical division of established communities.

Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan: The City of Cerritos is almost completely built out. Any future development would occur on vacant or underutilized land. Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would not result in conflicts with any habitat or natural community conservation plans, since the City is not included in any such plans.

MINERAL RESOURCES

Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state: No known mineral resources are located within the City. Therefore, implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would not result in the loss of any known mineral resources.

Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site: No locally important mineral resource recovery sites are located within the City. Therefore, implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would not result in the loss of any such resources or resource recovery sites.

NOISE

For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been implemented, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels: The City of Cerritos is not located within an existing or planned airport land use plan, nor is located within two miles of a public airport. Therefore, no noise impacts associated with people residing or working in the vicinity of a public airport would result from implementation of the proposed General Plan Update.

For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels: No private airstrips are located within the City of Cerritos. The proposed General Plan Update makes no provisions for, nor does it include the development of any private airstrips in the City. Therefore, no noise impacts associated with people residing or working in the vicinity of a private airstrip would result from implementation of the proposed General Plan Update.

POPULATION AND HOUSING

Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere: The City of Cerritos is almost completely built out, and the proposed General Plan Update does not contain any specific development projects. There are approximately 26 acres of vacant land within the City, making up less than one percent of the City's total acreage. The vacant land that could potentially be developed would not displace existing housing. Furthermore, the City of Cerritos is preserving and would continue to preserve existing housing. This is shown throughout the General Plan Housing Element (1998-2005), in sections that cite the City's interest in providing affordable housing to all social and economic segments of the community. Therefore, implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would not displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere, and no impacts would occur.

Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere: As cited in the above paragraph, the City of Cerritos is almost completely built out, and the proposed General Plan Update does not contain any specific development projects. There are approximately 26 acres of vacant land within the City, making up less than one percent of the City's total acreage. The vacant land that could potentially be developed would not displace existing housing. Therefore, implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would not displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere, and no impacts would occur.

TRANSPORTATION

Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks: The General Plan Update does not propose to modify any existing land use designations. Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would not result in a change in air traffic patterns.

Substantially increase hazards due to design features (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment): No specific developments are included in the proposed General Plan Update. This issue would be addressed at the project level. No impacts are anticipated at this time.

Result in inadequate emergency access: No specific developments are included in the proposed General Plan Update. This issue would be addressed at the project level. No impacts are anticipated at this time.

Result in inadequate parking capacity: No specific developments are included in the proposed General Plan Update. This issue would be addressed at the project level. No impacts are anticipated at this time.