

6.0 GROWTH INDUCING IMPACT OF THE PROPOSED ACTION

Growth-inducing impacts fall into two general categories, direct and indirect. Direct growth-inducing impacts are generally associated with the provision of urban services to an undeveloped area. The provision of these services to a site, and the subsequent development, can serve to induce other landowners in the vicinity to convert their property to urban uses. Indirect, or secondary growth-inducing impacts consist of growth induced in the region by the additional demands for housing, goods and services associated with the population increased caused by, or attracted to, a new project.

The purpose of a General Plan is to guide growth and development in a community. Accordingly, the proposed General Plan Update is premised on a certain amount of growth taking place. Los Angeles County, as well as the entire Southern California region, has experienced dramatic growth over the past two decades and this trend is expected to continue. The focus of the proposed General Plan Update, then, is to provide a framework in which growth can be managed and tailored to suit the needs of the community and surrounding area.

During the past four decades, the SCAG region, including Orange, Los Angeles, Riverside, Imperial, San Bernardino and Ventura counties has been one of the fastest growing regions in the nation. Between 1950 and 1970, the population doubled in size, growing at a rate of five percent per year. Between 1970 and 1990, the population doubled in size again, growing at a rate of five percent per year. In 1990, SCAG indicated that 14,640,832 people resided in the region. Between 1990 and 2000, the region's population grew by almost 13 percent to 16,516,006 million in 2000. Recent SCAG projections indicate that the regional population will increase by another 29 percent to 21,305,000 by the year 2020.

During the ten-year period of 1990 to 2000, the population of Los Angeles County increased 7.4 percent from 8,863,164 to 9,519,338¹. The population growth rate for Cerritos between 1990 and 2000 represents a decline of 3.3 percent in contrast to the increase Los Angeles County experienced.

The City of Cerritos is nearing buildout potential with approximately 99.4 percent of Cerritos already developed. According to SCAG projections, the projected population for the City is 59,100 persons by the year 2020. The buildout population as a result of implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would be 53,009.² Also, the

¹ Data obtained from 1990 and 2000 Census.

² Based upon a total of 15,871 dwelling units and 3.34 persons per household.

proposed General Plan Update provides for a buildout total of 15,871 dwelling units, which represents an increase of 179 new dwelling units over the 2001 total of 15,692. In addition, SCAG projects 31,200 employment opportunities within the City by the year 2020.³ This represents an increase of 1,360 jobs from the 29,840 employment opportunities that exist within the City in 2001.

New employment opportunities generated by implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would improve the ratio of houses to jobs in the area. The increased availability of employment within the City of Cerritos is desirable economically and may serve to attract additional residents, which may result in the overall growth of the community. Such growth, however, is expected to be balanced by the proposed residential development in the General Plan Update and in the project vicinity.

In conclusion, the proposed General Plan Update is not growth inducing, but is a response to growth in Los Angeles County. As stated above, the proposed General Plan Update would not significantly induce growth, but the increase to the area's employment base would help accommodate any future growth in the City of Cerritos and neighboring communities.

³ Source: www.scag.ca.gov, Southern California Association of Governments, 2001 RTP Growth Forecast, City Projections, 2020.