5.11 PUBLIC SERVICES

This section of the DEIR addresses the potential for implementation of the Proposed Project to impact public services in the City of Long Beach, including fire protection and emergency services, police protection, school services, and library services. The analysis in this section is based in part on the service provider responses provided in Appendix G of this DEIR. Park and recreational services are addressed in Section 5.12, Recreation. Public and private utilities and service systems, including water, wastewater, storm drain, and solid waste services and systems, are addressed in Section 5.14, Utilities and Service Systems.

5.11.1 Fire Protection and Emergency Services

5.11.1.1 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

Regulatory Background

Federal, state and local laws, regulations, plans, or guidelines related to geology and soils that are potentially applicable to the Proposed Project are summarized below.

Federal

International Fire Code

The International Fire Code (IFC) regulates minimum fire safety requirements for new and existing buildings, facilities, storage, and processes. The IFC includes general and specialized technical fire and life safety regulations addressing fire department access, fire hydrants, automatic sprinkler systems, fire alarm systems, fire and explosion hazards safety, use and storage of hazardous materials, protection of emergency responders, industrial processes, and many other topics.

State

California Health and Safety Code

Sections 13000 et seq. of the California Health and Safety Code include fire regulations for building standards (also in the California Building Code), fire protection and notification systems, fire protection devices such as extinguishers and smoke alarms, high-rise building and childcare facility standards, and fire suppression training.

California Fire Code

The California Fire Code (CFC; California Code of Regulations Title 24, Part 9) sets forth requirements including emergency access, emergency egress routes, interior and exterior design and materials, fire safety features including sprinklers, and hazardous materials. The CFC is issued on a three-year cycle; the 2013 Edition (the most recent version, which took effect January 1, 2014) of the CFC is adopted and incorporated by reference in Chapter 18.48 (Fire Code) of the City’s Municipal Code.
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Local

City of Long Beach Municipal Code

The following provisions from the City’s Municipal Code focus on fire services impacts associated with new development projects and are relevant to the Proposed Project:

- **Chapter 18.23 (Fire Facilities Impact Fees).** This chapter sets forth the fees that are imposed on residential and nonresidential development to ensure new development pays its fair share of the costs required to support needed fire facilities and related costs necessary to accommodate such development. The funds are to be utilized for payment of the actual or estimated costs of fire facilities, apparatus, and equipment related to new residential and nonresidential construction.

- **Chapter 18.48 (Fire Code).** The Long Beach City Council adopts and incorporates by reference as though set forth in full in this chapter the 2013 Edition of the California Fire Code (CFC), excluding sections, chapters or appendices pursuant to Section 18.48.040. The CFC sets forth requirements including emergency access, emergency egress routes, interior and exterior design and materials, fire safety features including sprinklers, and hazardous materials.

City of Long Beach Proposition H

The Police and Fire Public Safety Oil Production Act Fund, Proposition H, was established to provide dedicated funds for police officers and firefighters by assessing a special production tax on oil producers in Long Beach. The special tax proceeds support police and fire response to public safety needs. As of the 2014 fiscal year, the tax rate is $0.28 per barrel (Long Beach 2013).

Existing Conditions

Fire protection and emergency medical services in Long Beach, including the Project Site, are provided by the Long Beach Fire Department (LBFD). LBFD is divided into the five following bureaus, which are further broken down into divisions: Operations Bureau, Fire Prevention Bureau, Support Services Bureau, Administration Bureau, and Disaster Management Bureau. LBFD maintains one department headquarters and 23 fire stations, including two fire boat stations in the port area and one airport fire station in the Long Beach Airport. LBFD also has nine permanent lifeguard facilities and 41 seasonal stations, a training center, and an emergency communications and operations center.

Fire Stations, Staffing, and Equipment

The four closest LBFD fire stations to the Project Site are Station No. 3 at 1222 Daisy Avenue, approximately 0.5 mile to the west; Station No. 7 at 2295 23rd Street, within the Project Site; Station No. 9 at 3917 Long Beach Boulevard, approximately 0.7 miles to the north; and Station No. 10 at 1417 Peterson Avenue, approximately 1.0 miles to the east (see Figure 5.11-1, Public Services Serving the Project Site). Existing equipment and staffing at these four LBFD fire stations are described in Table 5.11-1.
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In total, LBFD has 17 fire engines; 3 ladder trucks; 1 light-force company; 8 paramedic rescue ambulances; 5 basic life support ambulances; 2 fire boats; 3 airport apparatus; 1 urban search and rescue task force; 1 hazardous materials task force; 6 fire/lifeguard rescue boats; 7 beach rescue units; and 1 dive rescue unit (LBFD 2013).

Per day, LBFD is staffed with 108 firefighters and three operations battalion chiefs. All engines and trucks are staffed with four members, and all paramedic rescue ambulances are staffed with two firefighter/paramedics. Eleven lifeguards per day are staffed during the winter and 70 lifeguards per day are staffed during the summer months (LBFD 2013). According to LBFD, existing resources are able to adequately serve the City under current conditions (Kean 2015).

**Calls for Service and Response Times**

Table 5.11-2 details the number and types of calls for service from 2010 to 2013, is the latest data available from LBFD. As shown, calls for service have been similar in the most recent four-year period with the majority of calls requesting medical services.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Call Type</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fire</td>
<td>5,101</td>
<td>4,857</td>
<td>4,939</td>
<td>4,867</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical</td>
<td>39,977</td>
<td>41,868</td>
<td>44,196</td>
<td>44,125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Fire</td>
<td>2,797</td>
<td>2,494</td>
<td>2,698</td>
<td>2,739</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hazardous Materials</td>
<td>650</td>
<td>636</td>
<td>545</td>
<td>511</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lifeguard/Marine Safety</td>
<td>17,612</td>
<td>17,733</td>
<td>17,867</td>
<td>16,142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>66,137</td>
<td>67,588</td>
<td>70,244</td>
<td>68,384</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LBFD has a response time goal of 6 minutes and 20 seconds. Currently, its average response time is 4 minutes and 17 seconds citywide (Kean 2015).
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Funding

Funding for LBFD operations and maintenance comes primarily from the City’s General Funds, Tidelands, and revenue from LBFD’s responsibilities as the City’s Certified Unified Program Agency (mainly hazardous materials inspection services). Tidelands operation revenue includes permit fees and rents from various waterfront concessions; Convention Center and Hyatt leases; The Aquarium of the Pacific; Queen Mary rent; and parking revenue from beach lots.

Per Chapter 18.23 (Fire Facilities Impact Fees) of the City’s Municipal Code, fire facilities impact fees are also collected from all new residential and nonresidential development to pay for the acquisition of new property; construction and furnishing of new buildings; purchasing of new equipment, apparatus, and vehicles; funding of a master plan to identify capital facilities, and the cost of financing any of the previously mentioned items. Fees effective as of October 2013 are detailed in Table 5.11-3.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Land Use Type</th>
<th>Fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Residential</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single-Family</td>
<td>$496 per unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multifamily</td>
<td>$378 per unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Residential</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial</td>
<td>$0.267 per square foot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office</td>
<td>$0.325 per square foot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial</td>
<td>$0.132 per square foot</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Long Beach 2014.

Additionally, a small percentage of LBFD’s funds come from Proposition H, the Police and Fire Public Safety Oil Production Act. Approved in 2007, Proposition H was established to provide dedicated funds for firefighters and police officers by assessing a special production tax on oil producers in Long Beach. As of the 2014 fiscal year, the tax charges a $0.28 per barrel tax on all oil producers in the City.

Furthermore, other revenue sources include paramedic fees, fire building plan and building checks, various state and federal grants, and private donations.

5.11.1.2 THRESHOLDS OF SIGNIFICANCE

According to Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines, a project would normally have a significant effect on the environment if the project would:

FP-1 Result in a substantial adverse physical impact associated with the provisions of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for fire protection services.
5.11.1.3 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

The following impact analysis addresses thresholds of significance for which the Initial Study disclosed potentially significant impacts. The applicable thresholds are identified in brackets after the impact statement.

**Impact 5.11-1:** The Proposed Project would introduce new dwelling units, residents, nonresidential uses, and workers into the Long Beach Fire Department’s service boundaries, thereby increasing the demand for fire protection and emergency services. [Threshold FP-1]

**Impact Analysis:** The potential impacts to fire protection and emergency services resulting from the Proposed Project within each of the areas of the Project Site are addressed below:

**Midtown Specific Plan Area**

Implementation of the Midtown Specific Plan would increase the overall demand on fire protection and emergency services in the City. Future growth in accordance with the Midtown Specific Plan is expected to create the typical range of fire and emergency service calls, and increase the need for new fire facilities, apparatus, and personnel in order to maintain adequate response times. LBFD’s costs to maintain equipment and apparatus and to train and equip personnel would also increase.

According to LBFD, the fire stations in the vicinity of the Midtown Specific Plan area are the busiest in the City of Long Beach. For example, on average, the rescue units that serve the Project Site and its surroundings respond to over 15 calls for service per 24 hour shift period. LBFD’s goal is to reduce the calls for service to approximately 10 calls per 24 hour shift period. LBFD states that the increase in population due to the Midtown Specific Plan would likely lead to more calls for service. Therefore, LBFD believes that a rescue unit should be added to Fire Station No. 7 at 2295 23rd Street (Kean 2015).

However, considering the existing firefighting resources available in the City, project impacts on fire protection and emergency services are not expected to occur. The increase in potential services needed would not require the construction of a new fire station or improvements to the primary fire stations (Station’s No. 3, 7, 9 and 10) that serve the Midtown Specific Plan area. Implementation of the Midtown Specific Plan is also not anticipated to significantly increase LBFD’s response times to either to the Project Site or the surrounding vicinity. LBFD has a response time goal of 6 minutes and 20 seconds. Currently, its average response time is 4 minutes and 17 seconds citywide (Kean 2015). Additionally, future development that would be accommodated by the Midtown Specific Plan would occur in an area of the City already served by LBFD; therefore, the Midtown Specific Plan would not result in an expansion of LBFD’s service area. In the event of an emergency within the Midtown Specific Plan area that requires more resources than the primary fire stations that serve the area could provide, LBFD would direct resources to the site from other LBFD stations nearby.

Additionally, the potential demand for additional personnel, equipment, and operational costs generated by the Midtown Specific Plan, would be funded and offset through the increased tax revenue generated from the additional development allowed under the Midtown Specific Plan. Individual development projects would be reviewed by the City and LBFD and would be required to comply with the requirements in effect at the time...
building permits are issued, including the payment of the fire facilities impact fee, per Chapter 18.23 (Fire Facilities Impact Fees) of the City’s Municipal Code. The funds collected pursuant to this chapter are utilized for payment of the actual or estimated costs of fire facilities, apparatus, and equipment related to new residential and nonresidential construction. Payment of the Fire Facilities Impact Fee ensures that individual project applicant’s pay their fair share of costs related to fire protection services and facilities.

LBFD would also continue to be supported by Proposition H revenue, a per barrel tax on all oil producers in Long Beach; the City’s General Funds; the City’s Tidelands operation revenue; and other revenue sources such as paramedic fees, fire building plan and building checks, various state and federal grants, and private donations. The additional personnel, building, and materials costs for fire services in the City required due to increased demand from future development accommodated by the Midtown Specific Plan would be offset through these revenue sources.

Additionally, during the City’s development review and permitting process, LBFD would review and approve individual development projects to ensure that adequate facilities, infrastructure, and access are provided to serve the needs of LBFD. For example, individual development projects would be required to incorporate adequate fire protection facilities to the satisfaction of LBFD. Specific fire and life-safety requirements for the construction phase of future development projects that would be accommodated under the Midtown Specific Plan would be addressed at the building and fire plan check review stage for each development project.

All development projects that would be accommodated under the Midtown Specific Plan would also be required to comply with the most current adopted fire codes, building codes, and nationally recognized fire and life safety standards of Long Beach, Los Angeles County, and the State of California. For example, development projects would be required to comply with the most current edition (2013) of the CFC, which is incorporated by reference in Chapter 18.48 (Fire Code) of the City’s Municipal Code. Compliance with these codes and standards is ensured through the City’s and LBFD’s development review and building plan check process.

Based on the preceding, implementation of the Midtown Specific Plan would not result in substantial adverse impacts related to fire protection and emergency services.

Area Outside the Midtown Specific Plan

Under the Proposed Project, the area that is outside the Midtown Specific Plan, which covers two residential blocks around Officer Black Park (approximately 4 acres) west of Pasadena Avenue between 21st Street and 20th Street (see Figure 3-5, Current and Proposed Zoning Designations), would be extracted from PD 29 and retain its underlying conventional zoning designations, which include Single-Family Residential, standard lot (R-1-N); Three-Family Residential (R-3-S); and Park (P). With the exception of the zoning designation revisions that would be undertaken, no physical change (e.g., additional development intensity, redevelopment) is expected to occur within this area and all existing uses (which include residential uses, a church, and Officer Black Park) are expected to remain. Therefore, no impacts to fire protection and emergency services are anticipated to occur.
5.11.4 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

The geographic area for cumulative analysis of fire protection services is the service territory for LBFD. Residential and employment population increases and associated increases in the demand for public services have been taken into account in long-range planning efforts on behalf of the County of Los Angeles, the City of Long Beach, and the agencies providing public services to the area.

At buildout, approximately 1,700 dwelling units and 369,000 square feet of commercial and employment land uses are projected for the Proposed Project (see Table 3-3, Overall Land Use Projections for Proposed Project). New residents and workers are expected to increase demand for fire protection services and would contribute to the need to expand facilities and operate such services. Increased property and sales tax from future new developments would increase the City's General Funds in rough proportions, providing funding for any capital improvements necessary to maintain adequate fire protection facilities, equipment, and/or personnel. By maintaining a consistent level of service through expansion or facility improvements, LBFD would be able to ensure that its performance objectives are consistently met. In addition, compliance with the existing regulations would maintain adequate access within the project area, which further ensures an adequate level of service for fire protection and emergency services to residents and workers in the Project Site.

Furthermore, as with the Proposed Project, individual development projects pursuant to the City’s General Plan would be reviewed by the City and LBFD and would be required to comply with the requirements in effect at the time building permits are issued, including the payment of the fire facilities impact fee, per Chapter 18.23 (Fire Facilities Impact Fees) of the City's Municipal Code.

Therefore, the Proposed Project's increased demand for fire protection services, in conjunction with the increased demand for cumulative development pursuant to the City’s General Plan, would not result in significant cumulative impacts.

5.11.5 EXISTING REGULATIONS

- International Fire Code
- California Health and Safety Code
- City of Long Beach Municipal Code, Chapter’s 18.23 (Fire Facilities Impact Fees) and 18.48 (Fire Code)

5.11.6 LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE BEFORE MITIGATION

Upon implementation of regulatory requirements, the following impact would be less than significant: 5.11-1.

5.11.7 MITIGATION MEASURES

Impacts are less than significant and mitigation measures are not required.

5.11.8 LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE AFTER MITIGATION

No mitigation measures are required and impacts would remain less than significant.
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5.11.2 Police Protection

5.11.2.1 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

Regulatory Background

Local laws, regulations, plans, or guidelines related to geology and soils that are potentially applicable to the Proposed Project are summarized below.

City of Long Beach Municipal Code

The following provisions from the City's Municipal Code focus on police services impacts associated with new development projects and are relevant to the Proposed Project:

- **Chapter 18.22 (Police Facilities Impact Fees).** Imposed on residential and nonresidential development for the purpose of assuring that impacts created by new development pay its fair share of costs required to support needed police facilities and related costs necessary to accommodate such development.

City of Long Beach Proposition H

The Police and Fire Public Safety Oil Production Act Fund, Proposition H, was established to provide dedicated funds for police and fire services by assessing a special production tax on oil producers in Long Beach. The special tax proceeds support police and fire response to public safety needs. As of the 2014 fiscal year, the tax rate is $0.28 per barrel (Long Beach 2013).

Existing Conditions

The Long Beach Police Department (LBPD) provides police services to the entire City, including the Project Site. The Project Site is within LBPD's West Patrol Division and Beats 3 and 4. The West Patrol Division substation is located at 1835 Santa Fe Avenue, approximately 1.3 miles west of the Project Site (see Figure 5.11-1, Public Services Serving the Project Site). The substation operates 24 hours a day and seven days a week within minimal onsite staffing. Officers are mostly deployed to Beats 3 and 4 in the West Division area.

Performance Standards

LBPD strives to respond to emergency and non-emergency calls for service within their average response time goals as follows:

- **Priority One** (crime in progress/life threatening situations) – 5 minutes or less

- **Priority Two** (non-emergency calls/committed crimes with possible evidence available) – 20 minutes or less

- **Priority Three** (crimes with no evidence potential, but required/desired crime report) – 30 minutes or less

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1 In police terminology, a beat is the territory and time that a police officer patrols.
Currently, LBPD has average response times of 4.8 minutes for Priority One, 22.2 minutes for Priority Two, and 30.9 minutes for Priority Three. LBPD states that existing resources, including personnel, equipment, and facilities, are able to adequately serve the City under current conditions (Phillips 2015).

Crime Statistics

Crime statistics gathered by LBPD from 2010-2014 are listed in Table 5.11-4. As shown in the table, property crimes (i.e., burglary, grand theft, petty theft, arson, etc.) have fluctuated up and down, but violent crimes (i.e., murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault) have gradually decreased within the five year period.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 5.11-4</th>
<th>LBPD 2010-2014 Crime Statistics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Crime Type</td>
<td>2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Violent</td>
<td>2,543</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property</td>
<td>10,576</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>13,119</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: LBPD 2014.

Funding

Funding for LBPD comes primarily from the City’s General Funds, general grants (e.g., federal, state, and county grants), and Tidelands operations. Tideland operations revenue is related to operations along the Long Beach port, and includes permit fees and rents from waterfront concessions; Convention Center and Hyatt leases; The Aquarium of the Pacific; Queen Mary rent; and parking revenue from beach lots. In addition, similar to LBFD, a small percentage of LBPD funds is obtained from Proposition H, which provides dedicated funds for both fire and police services through a per barrel tax on Long beach oil producers.

Further, per Chapter 18.22 (Police Facilities Impact Fees) of the City’s Municipal Code, LBPD receives funding from police facilities impact fees which are charged on all new residential and non-residential development. Table 5.11-5 details the fees based on land use type. The funds obtained from the police facilities impact fees are required to be used to fund costs of providing additional police services attributed by new development, including the acquisition, construction, and furnishing of new law enforcement facilities, purchasing equipment and vehicles, and funding of a master plan to identical capital facilities to serve LBPD.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 5.11-5</th>
<th>Police Facilities Impact Fees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Land Use Type</td>
<td>Fee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residential</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single-Family</td>
<td>$703 per unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multifamily</td>
<td>$537 per unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Residential</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial</td>
<td>$0.442 per square foot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office</td>
<td>$0.538 per square foot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial</td>
<td>$0.218 per square foot</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Long Beach 2014.
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PUBLIC SERVICES

5.11.2 THRESHOLDS OF SIGNIFICANCE

According to Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines, a project would normally have a significant effect on the environment if the project would:

PP-1 Result in a substantial adverse physical impact associated with the provisions of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for police protection services.

5.11.2.3 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Impact 5.11-2: Implementation of the Proposed Project would introduce new residential and nonresidential structures, residents, and workers into the Long Beach Police Department service boundaries, thereby increasing the requirement for police protection services. [Threshold PP-1]

Impact Analysis: The potential impacts to police protection services resulting from the Proposed Project within each of the areas of the Project Site are addressed below.

Midtown Specific Plan Area

The Midtown Specific Plan at buildout would increase demands for police protection services in the Midtown Specific Plan area through development of approximately 1,700 dwelling units and 369,000 square feet of commercial and employment land uses, which would lead to an increase in residents and workers, respectively, in the Midtown Specific Plan area (and City). During the construction and operation of the future development projects that would be accommodated under the Midtown Specific Plan, the need for police services is expected to grow due to the increase in population and workers and associated potential for additional crime and accidents. Crime and safety issues during project construction may include: theft of building materials and construction equipment, malicious mischief, graffiti, and vandalism. After construction, development that would be accommodated by the Midtown Specific Plan is anticipated to generate a typical range of police service calls as similar developments, such as vehicle burglaries, residential thefts, disturbance, driving under the influence.

However, LBPD indicated that the increase in demands on police services resulting from the Midtown Specific Plan would not adversely impact LBPD’s existing resources. The increase in potential services needed would not require the construction of a new police station or improvements to the existing station that serves the Midtown Specific Plan area. Implementation of the Midtown Specific Plan is also not anticipated to significantly increase LBPD’s response times to either to the Project Site or the surrounding vicinity. If calls for service increase and exceed the capacity of LBPD’s existing workforce, additional staff would be requested. In addition, the proposed street closures associated with the proposed parklet’s may impact service delivery, but impacts would be assessed as the project progresses (Phillips 2015). Additionally, future development that would be accommodated by the Midtown Specific Plan would occur in an area of the City.
already served by LBPD; therefore, the Midtown Specific Plan would not result in an expansion of LBFD’s service area.

Furthermore, as development occurs in accordance with the Midtown Specific Plan, the City’s General Funds would increase proportionally and would allocate additional funds to LBPD to hire and train additional police officers or administrative personnel. In addition, applicants of individual development projects would be required to pay police facilities impact fees in accordance with Chapter 18.22 (Police Facilities Impact Fees) of the City’s Municipal Code, which would contribute to LBPD’s funds to acquire, construct, and furnish new law enforcement facilities and purchase new equipment. The funds collected pursuant to this chapter are utilized for payment of the actual or estimated costs of police facilities, apparatus, and equipment related to new residential and nonresidential construction. Payment of the Police Facilities Impact Fee ensures that individual project applicant’s pay their fair share of costs related to police protection services and facilities.

LBPD would also continue to be supported by Proposition H revenue, a per barrel tax on all oil producers in Long Beach; the City’s Tidelands operation revenue; and other revenue sources such as general grants (e.g., federal, state, and county grants). The additional personnel, building, and materials costs for police services in the City required due to increased demand from future development accommodated by the Midtown Specific Plan would be offset through these revenue sources.

Based on the preceding, implementation of the Midtown Specific Plan would not result in substantial adverse impacts related to police protection services.

Area Outside the Midtown Specific Plan

As noted above, with the exception of the zoning designation revisions that would be undertaken in this area of the Project Site under the Proposed Project, no physical change (e.g., additional development intensity, redevelopment) is expected to occur within this area and all existing uses are expected to remain. Therefore, no impacts to police protection services are anticipated to occur.

5.11.2.4 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

Local population growth would result in an increased demand for public services and facilities, including law enforcement. Service providers would continue to evaluate levels of service and potential funding sources to meet demand. Long-range planning for the provisions of public services and facilities is typically based on the City’s General Plan growth projections. Through assessments of the City’s capital improvement needs and annual budget review process, police department needs would be assessed, and budget allocations would be revised accordingly to ensure that adequate levels of police services, including police protection facilities, equipment, and/or personnel, are maintained throughout the City.

At buildout, approximately 1,700 additional dwelling units and 369,000 square feet of commercial and employment land uses are projected for the Proposed Project, which is expected to increase demand for police services and would contribute to the need to expand facilities. However, the long-term plans and provisions for police services, based on land use designations and anticipated growth in the City’s General Plan, are discussed in more detail in Section 5.10, Population and Housing.
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Additionally, increased property and sales tax from future new developments would increase the City’s General Funds in rough proportions, providing funding for any capital improvements necessary to maintain adequate police protection facilities, equipment, and/or personnel. By maintaining a consistent level of service through expansion or facility improvements, LBPD would be able to ensure that its performance objectives are consistently met. Furthermore, as with the Proposed Project, individual development projects pursuant to the City’ General Plan would be reviewed by the City and would be required to comply with the requirements in effect at the time building permits are issued, including the payment of the fire facilities impact fee, per Chapter 18.22 (Police Facilities Impact Fees) of the City’s Municipal Code.

Therefore, the demand for police services would not be adversely affected by the Proposed Project in conjunction with cumulative development pursuant to the City’s General Plan. No significant cumulative impacts related to police services are anticipated.

5.11.2.5 EXISTING REGULATIONS

- City of Long Beach Municipal Code, Chapter 18.22, (Police Facilities Impact Fees)

5.11.2.6 LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE BEFORE MITIGATION

Upon implementation of regulatory requirements, the following impact would be less than significant: 5.11-2.

5.11.2.7 MITIGATION MEASURES

Impacts are less than significant and mitigation measures are not required.

5.11.2.8 LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE AFTER MITIGATION

No mitigation measures are required and impacts would remain less than significant.

5.11.3 School Services

5.11.3.1 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

Regulatory Background

State and local laws, regulations, plans, or guidelines related to geology and soils that are potentially applicable to the Proposed Project are summarized below.

State

California State Assembly Bill 2926: School Facilities Act of 1986

To assist in providing school facilities to serve students generated by new development, Assembly Bill (AB) 2926 was enacted in 1986 and authorizes a levy of impact fees on new residential and commercial/industrial development. The bill was expanded and revised in 1987 through the passage of AB 1600, which added Sections 66000 et seq. to the Government Code. Under this statute, payment of
impact fees by developers serves as CEQA mitigation to satisfy the impact of development on school facilities.

**California Senate Bill 50**

Senate Bill (SB) 50, passed in 1998, provides a comprehensive school facilities financing and reform program and enables a statewide bond issue to be placed on the ballot. Under the provisions of SB 50, school districts are authorized to collect fees to offset the costs associated with increasing school capacity as a result of development and related population increases. The funding goes to acquiring school sites, constructing new school facilities, and modernizing existing school facilities. SB 50 establishes a process for determining the amount of fees developers would be charged to mitigate the impact of development on school districts from increased enrollment. According to Section 65996 of the California Government Code, development fees authorized by SB 50 are deemed to be “full and complete school facilities mitigation.”

Under this legislation, there are three levels of developer fees that may be imposed upon new development by the governing school district. Level I fees are assessed based upon the proposed square footage of residential, commercial/industrial, and/or parking structure uses. Level II fees require the developer to provide one-half of the costs of accommodating students in new schools, and the state provides the remaining half. To qualify for Level II fees, the governing board of the school district must adopt a School Facilities Needs Analysis and meet other prerequisites in accordance with Section 65995.6 of the California Government Code. Level III fees apply if the state runs out of bond funds, allowing the governing school district to impose 100 percent of the cost of school facility or mitigation minus any local dedicated school monies on the developer.

**Existing Conditions**

**School Services and Facilities**

Long Beach Unified School District (LBUSD) provides school services to the Long Beach student population, including the Project Site. As shown in Figure 5.11-1, Public Services Serving the Project Site, and detailed in Table 5.11-6, the Project Site is in the attendance area of four LBUSD elementary schools, three LBUSD middle/intermediate schools, and one LBUSD high school. In addition, there are a number of private or charter schools within or near the Project Site that may also serve the area’s student population, including Oakwood Academy, Colegio New City School, and Holy Innocents Parish School.

As shown in Table 5.11-6, existing school facilities at all LBUSD schools serving the Project Site have remaining capacity for future students with the exception of Jackie Robinson Academy and Hughes Middle School. Nevertheless, there are other elementary and middle schools with remaining capacity that future students of the Proposed Project would be able to attend; also, according to LBUSD, existing school facilities are adequate to serve LBUSD’s current conditions (Ahn 2015).
5. Environmental Analysis

PUBLIC SERVICES

### Table 5.11-6 LBUSD Schools Serving the Project Site

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Grades</th>
<th>Current Enrollment</th>
<th>Current Capacity</th>
<th>Remaining Capacity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Elementary Schools</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roosevelt Elementary (K-5)</td>
<td>K-5</td>
<td>973</td>
<td>1,025</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1400 E. 20th Street</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long Beach, CA 90806</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birney Elementary (K-5)</td>
<td>K-5</td>
<td>694</td>
<td>925</td>
<td>231</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>710 W. Spring Street</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long Beach, CA 90806</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smith Elementary (formerly Burnett Elementary; K-5))</td>
<td>K-5</td>
<td>806</td>
<td>1,025</td>
<td>219</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>565 E. Hill Street</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long Beach, CA 90806</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jackie Robinson Academy (K-8)</td>
<td>K-8</td>
<td>948</td>
<td>925</td>
<td>-23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2750 Pine Avenue</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long Beach, CA 90806</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Middle/Intermediate Schools</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington Middle School (6-8)</td>
<td>6-8</td>
<td>1,115</td>
<td>1,512</td>
<td>397</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1450 Cedar Avenue</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long Beach, CA 90813</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hughes Middle School (6-8)</td>
<td>6-8</td>
<td>1,511</td>
<td>1,269</td>
<td>-242</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3846 California Avenue</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long Beach, CA 90807</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jessie E. Nelson Academy (6-8)</td>
<td>6-8</td>
<td>867</td>
<td>891</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1951 Cherry Avenue</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Signal Hill, CA 90755</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>High Schools</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polytechnic High School (9-12)</td>
<td>9-12</td>
<td>4,099</td>
<td>4,104</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1600 Atlantic Avenue</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long Beach, CA 90813</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: Ahn 2015.*

1 Current enrollment as of March 20, 2015.

### Funding

Pursuant to SB 50, LBUSD has the authority to charge developers with development impact fees. Revenue generated from these impact fees are used to accommodate the student population generated from new development projects by expanding and improving school facilities. Current LBUSD’s school impact fees are $3.36 per square foot for residential additions greater than 500 square feet, and $4.85 per square foot for new residential construction/redevelopment. New commercial and industrial developments are charged $0.54 per square foot (LBUSD 2014a). Based on LBUSD, the fees will be updated by the State in 2015 and 2016; however, it is uncertain whether the fees will increase, decrease, or remain the same.
Measure K

Measure K was approved by voters in November 2008, which makes available $1.2 billion from property taxes to build, renovate and improve schools within LBUSD. The funds come from bonds that occur four to six times in the span of ten years. Measure K funds are used primarily for school improvements, including retrofitting schools to meet earthquake safety standards; meeting federal handicap accessibility requirements; upgrading science labs, classrooms, libraries, and restrooms; improving energy and water efficiency; and removing lead paint and asbestos in older buildings (LBUSD 2010). LBUSD’s 2008 Facility Master Plan developed a priority list of projects that analyzes which schools will be built or renovated and when.

The schools serving the Project Site and their planned improvements to be funded by Measure K are detailed below:

- **Roosevelt Elementary School.** Completely rebuilt to increase size from 64,000 square feet to 100,000 square feet with street congestion improvements; replacement of portables with permanent buildings; central amphitheater; common area; a playground built above a ground-level parking garage; and a multipurpose room with stage and audio/visual alcove. The newly constructed school will have 47 classrooms with a capacity of 1,100 students (LBUSD 2012a). The school is expected to open in fall 2015.

- **Washington Middle School.** Construction of new unisex restroom; concrete pedestrian ramps and handrails; parking lot accessibility improvements; wall in basement hallway; non-slip floor finish; directional signage; drinking fountains; and fire extinguisher cabinets (LBUSD 2014b).

- **Jessie E. Nelson Academy.** Construction of a new 89,288-square foot middle school designed for 850 students. The school has 31 classrooms; administration offices; a library/media center; a gymnasium; a health office; a kitchen; a multipurpose room; and other support facilities. Outdoor facilities include a soccer field, five basketball courts, and an open quad area with hardscape and landscape areas. This project has been completed and opened for operations in fall 2012 (LBUSD 2012b).

- **Long Beach Polytechnic High School.** Seismic upgrades to the auditorium building and interim portable classrooms during construction (LBUSD 2014c).

5.11.3.2 **Thresholds of Significance**

According to Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines, a project would normally have a significant effect on the environment if the project would:

SS-1 Result in a substantial adverse physical impact associated with the provisions of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for school services.
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PUBLIC SERVICES

5.11.3.3 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Impact 5.11-3: The Proposed Project would result in the generation of 640 additional students, which would impact the school enrollment capacities of LBUSD schools that serve the Project Site. [Threshold SS-1]

Impact Analysis: The potential impacts to school services resulting from the Proposed Project within each of the areas of the Project Site are addressed below.

Midtown Specific Plan Area

Buildout of the Midtown Specific Plan would allow for up to 1,736 additional dwelling units, which would result in a population increase of 4,195 additional residents (see Table 3-1, Land Use Projections for Midtown Specific Plan Area). The population increase would lead to an increase in student population, which in turn would add additional demand for LBUSD services and facilities.

Table 5.11-7 provides an estimate of the number of K–12 grade level students that would be generated by buildout in accordance to the Midtown Specific Plan. The estimates use student generation rates specific to LBUSD and are based on general citywide single- and multifamily housing developments. Student generation rates are used by school districts to estimate the number of students generated by new development in order to determine whether or not existing school facilities would be adequate for future students.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade Level</th>
<th>LBUSD Student Generation Rates</th>
<th>Project Buildout</th>
<th>Generated Students</th>
<th>Current Enrollment</th>
<th>Current Enrollments + Generated Students</th>
<th>Total District Capacity</th>
<th>Remaining Capacity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SFR</td>
<td>MFR</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elementary (K-5)</td>
<td>0.2186</td>
<td>0.1743</td>
<td>86 SFR 1,650 MFR</td>
<td>306</td>
<td>3,421</td>
<td>3,727</td>
<td>3,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle School (6-8)</td>
<td>0.1095</td>
<td>0.0802</td>
<td></td>
<td>142</td>
<td>3,493</td>
<td>3,635</td>
<td>3,672</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High School (9-12)</td>
<td>0.1620</td>
<td>0.1079</td>
<td></td>
<td>192</td>
<td>4,099</td>
<td>4,291</td>
<td>4,104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>1,736 units</td>
<td>640</td>
<td>11,013</td>
<td>11,653</td>
<td>11,676</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Ahn 2015.
Notes: SFR = single family residential; MFR = multifamily residential

As shown in Table 5.11-7, LBUSD would have capacity to serve the additional 640 students that would be generated by the Midtown Specific Plan. Additionally, the need for additional services is addressed through compliance with the school impact fee assessment. SB 50 (Chapter 407 of Statutes of 1998) sets forth a state school facilities construction program that includes restrictions on a local jurisdiction’s ability to condition a project on mitigation of impacts on school facilities in excess of fees set forth in Education Code Section 17620. These fees are collected by school districts at the time of issuance of building permits for commercial, industrial, and residential projects. LBUSD would be able to collect these school impact fees from future
development projects that would be accommodated by the Midtown Specific Plan, pursuant to SB 50. The State Legislature has declared that the payment of those fees constitutes full mitigation for the impacts generated by new development, per Government Code Section 65995. Since all of future project-related development projects must pay their appropriate impact fees, each project would mitigate the impacts associated with its activities.

Therefore, based on the preceding, impacts from implementation of the Midtown Specific Plan on school services are not anticipated to be significant.

Area Outside the Midtown Specific Plan

As noted above, with the exception of the zoning designation revisions that would be undertaken in this area of the Project Site under the Proposed Project, no physical change (e.g., additional development intensity, redevelopment) is expected to occur within this area and all existing uses are expected to remain. Therefore, no impacts to school services are anticipated to occur.

5.11.3.4 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

Cumulative development in the City of Long Beach may generate a substantial increase in student population in LBUSD schools. As LBUSD’s enrollment increases, administrators must seek short-term and long-term remedies to accommodate those added students. In recognition of these conditions, the State Legislature provided authority for school districts to assess impact fees for both residential and nonresidential development projects. Those fees, as authorized under Education Code Section 17620(a) and Government Code Section 65995(b), are collected by municipalities at the time building permits are issued and conveyed to the affected school district in accordance with a defined fee structure. Legislature has declared that the payment of these fees constitutes full mitigation for the impacts generated by new development, per Government Code Section 65995. Since all future development projects associated with the Proposed Project, as well as well as cumulative development pursuant to the City’s General Plan, must pay their appropriate impact fees, each development project would mitigate the impacts associated with its activities. No cumulative impact upon LBUSD is anticipated as a result of the implementation of the Proposed Project in conjunction with other area-wide development activities.

5.11.3.5 EXISTING REGULATIONS

- California State Assembly Bill 2926: School Facilities Act of 1986
- California Senate Bill 50

5.11.3.6 LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE BEFORE MITIGATION

Upon implementation of regulatory requirements, the following impact would be less than significant: 5.11-3.

5.11.3.7 MITIGATION MEASURES

Impacts are less than significant and mitigation measures are not required.
5. Environmental Analysis

PUBLIC SERVICES

5.11.3.8 LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE AFTER MITIGATION

No mitigation measures are required and impacts would remain less than significant.

5.11.4 Library Services

5.11.4.1 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

Regulatory Background

There are no federal, state and local laws, regulations, plans, or guidelines related to library services that are applicable to the Proposed Project.

Existing Conditions

Library Services and Facilities

Library resources and services in City are provided by Long Beach Public Library. The main library is the Long Beach Public Library (LBPL) located approximately one mile south of the Project Site at 101 Pacific Avenue. There are 12 libraries within the LBPL system; details regarding their size, population served, collection items, etc. are provided in Table 5.11-8.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Library</th>
<th>Year Built</th>
<th>Size (square feet)</th>
<th>Population Served</th>
<th>Schools Served</th>
<th>Staff FTE</th>
<th>Items Circulated Annually</th>
<th>No. of Volumes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Main</td>
<td>1977</td>
<td>135,000</td>
<td>491,564</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>54.85</td>
<td>467,920</td>
<td>320,455</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alamitos</td>
<td>1929</td>
<td>7,475</td>
<td>53,536</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4.19</td>
<td>51,409</td>
<td>34,303</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bach</td>
<td>1958</td>
<td>7,000</td>
<td>32,054</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>4.02</td>
<td>105,706</td>
<td>40,832</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bay Shore</td>
<td>1959</td>
<td>6,900</td>
<td>26,693</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4.02</td>
<td>96,397</td>
<td>41,902</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brewitt</td>
<td>1948</td>
<td>5,225</td>
<td>32,577</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4.19</td>
<td>60,798</td>
<td>31,351</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burnett</td>
<td>1969</td>
<td>7,500</td>
<td>47,802</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>5.04</td>
<td>49,691</td>
<td>50,043</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dana</td>
<td>1958</td>
<td>6,800</td>
<td>41,791</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4.36</td>
<td>128,043</td>
<td>45,146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>El Dorado</td>
<td>1970</td>
<td>8,160</td>
<td>20,055</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>5.92</td>
<td>170,890</td>
<td>56,836</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harte</td>
<td>1957</td>
<td>6,500</td>
<td>35,879</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>5.26</td>
<td>70,696</td>
<td>42,261</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Los Altos</td>
<td>1957</td>
<td>6,750</td>
<td>39,296</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>4.09</td>
<td>113,132</td>
<td>43,587</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark Twain</td>
<td>2007</td>
<td>16,000</td>
<td>57,433</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>8.94</td>
<td>147,111</td>
<td>63,837</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North</td>
<td>1951</td>
<td>6,800</td>
<td>99,144</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>7.11</td>
<td>89,604</td>
<td>32,576</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: LBPL 2012

1 Based on 2000 U.S. Census

2 FTE = Full Time Equivalent staff members

In addition to providing books, LBPL offers downloadable audiobooks, e-books, DVDs, CDs, videos, and other emerging media types. Patrons at any of the LBPL branch libraries have access to all collection items in the entire library system through interlibrary services. LBPL also has meeting room and auditorium rentals; family learning centers (i.e., homework and research help); book clubs; toddler, preschool and family story time; online computer tutorials; self-service checkout stands; computer studio; business and career resources;
senior services; and special events at various neighborhood libraries. According to LBPL, existing library facilities and resources, including books, computers, etc. adequately serve the LBPL service population (Jones 2015).

The LBPL libraries closest to the Project Site and most likely serving existing and future the residents of the Project Site are the Main Library, Burnett, Mark Twain, and Dana Neighborhood Library (see Figure 5.11-1, Public Services Serving the Project Site). Details regarding their facilities and services are provided in Table 5.11-9.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Branch</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Facilities/Resources</th>
<th>Special Services</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Main Library</td>
<td>101 Pacific Avenue</td>
<td>135,000 square feet; 320,500 volumes;</td>
<td>Public access computers; Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Long Beach, CA 90822</td>
<td>auditorium and meeting rooms</td>
<td>Learning Center; Information Center for People with</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Disabilities; government publications collection;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>The Studio, Makerspace and learning lab; Miller</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Room, Art resource center; Summer Reading Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burnett Neighborhood</td>
<td>560 E. Hill Street</td>
<td>7500 square feet; 50,000 volumes;</td>
<td>Public access computers; Family Learning Center;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library</td>
<td>Long Beach, CA 90806</td>
<td>community room</td>
<td>Summer Reading Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark Twain Neighborhood</td>
<td>1401 E. Anaheim Street</td>
<td>16,000 square feet; 65,000 volumes;</td>
<td>Public access computers; Family Learning Center;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library</td>
<td>Long Beach, CA 90813</td>
<td>community room; study rooms</td>
<td>Summer Reading Program; Khmer collection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dana Neighborhood Library</td>
<td>3680 Atlantic Avenue</td>
<td>6900 square feet; 45,000 volumes;</td>
<td>Public access computers; Family Learning Center;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Long Beach, CA 90807</td>
<td>community room</td>
<td>Summer Reading Program</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In addition, a new Main Library is proposed as part of the larger development of a new civic center for the City of Long Beach. Funding for the new Main Library is provided by a public private partnership with Plenary-Edgemoor Civic Partners and the City of Long Beach (Jones 2015).

**Funding**

Funding for LBPL salaries and maintenance and support comes from the City’s General Fund. According to the City’s 2014 Adopted Annual Budget, LBPL expects a one-time fund to expand the number of electrical outlets available for laptop computer users; replace the public computer management system; add security cameras inside all facilities; and handle the most critical roof repairs for the branch libraries. In addition, a one-time fund will provide furniture, equipment, and opening day collection for the newly renovated North Library (Long Beach 2013). In addition to General Funds, revenue is also obtained through library activities such as library fines, facility rentals, and passport photo/execution fees as well as grants and private donations, provided mainly by the Friends of the Long Beach Public Library and the Long Beach Public Library Foundation.
5. Environmental Analysis
PUBLIC SERVICES

5.11.4.2 THRESHOLDS OF SIGNIFICANCE

According to Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines, a project would normally have a significant effect on the environment if the project would:

LS-1 Result in a substantial adverse physical impact associated with the provisions of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for library services.

5.11.4.3 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Impact 5.11-4: The Proposed Project would result in the generation of up to 4,195 additional residents in Project Site, which would lead to an increase in demand for local library services. [Threshold LS-1]

Impact Analysis: The potential impacts to library services resulting from the Proposed Project within each of the areas of the Project Site are addressed below.

Midtown Specific Plan Area

Buildout of the Midtown Specific Plan has the potential to generate up to 4,179 new residents in the Project Site (and City). The increased population would lead to increased demand for local library services; however, LBPL stated that additional resources and/or facilities are not needed to support future residents under the Midtown Specific Plan. Specifically, according to LBPL, existing library facilities and resources, including books, computers, etc. adequately serve the LBPL service population (Jones 2015).

Additionally, although future project residents would be mainly served by the libraries shown in Table 5.11-9, LBPL Libraries Serving the Project Site, they would have access to all 12 libraries within LBPL’s system (see Table 5.11-8, LBPL Library Statistics). In addition, a new Main Library is proposed as part of the new civic center currently being planned for the City of Long Beach. The new library would likely be larger and have more resources and facilities to serve a larger population. Project residents would also have access to Los Angeles County Public Library (LACPL) facilities and resources outside in surrounding neighboring cities via a library card issued by LACPL.

Furthermore, LBPL would continue receiving funding for library facilities and resources through the City’s General Fund and through library activities, such as fines, facility rentals, and passport photo/execution fees as well as grants and private donations, provided mainly by the Friends of the Long Beach Public Library and the Long Beach Public Library Foundation.

Therefore, based on the preceding, impacts from implementation of the Midtown Specific Plan on library services are not anticipated to be significant.
Area Outside the Midtown Specific Plan

As noted above, with the exception of the zoning designation revisions that would be undertaken in this area of the Project Site under the Proposed Project, no physical change (e.g., additional development intensity, redevelopment) is expected to occur within this area and all existing uses are expected to remain. Therefore, no impacts to school services are anticipated to occur.

5.11.4.4 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

Cumulative population growth within the City associated with the Proposed Project and development pursuant to the General Plan may potentially increase the demand for library services beyond the capacity of the existing and currently planned LBPL system. However, as stated above, a new Main Library is proposed as part of the new civic center development currently being planned for Long Beach. The new library would be larger and have more resources and facilities to serve a larger population. In addition, funding for library services are allocated through the City’s General Funds. Therefore, as new developments within the City occur, property and sales tax would increase in rough proportion and contribute to an increase in the City’s General Funds and consequently a larger allocation of funds towards library services.

Future construction and operation of new library facilities, triggered by a shortage of libraries and future population growth throughout the City of Long Beach, could result in significant impacts. However, until the time when the precise location and type of facility are identified, the potential significant impacts cannot be meaningfully evaluated and mitigated. Addressing potential significant impacts associated with any potential sites or facilities of unknown size would be too speculative at this time. Therefore, no cumulatively significant impacts associated with the construction and operation of new library facilities to address the future shortfall in library service standards can conclusively be identified at this time.

5.11.4.5 EXISTING REGULATIONS

No existing regulations or standard conditions apply to library services.

5.11.4.6 LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE BEFORE MITIGATION

Upon implementation of regulatory requirements, the following impacts would be less than significant: 5.11-4.

5.11.4.7 MITIGATION MEASURES

Impacts are less than significant and mitigation measures are not required.

5.11.4.8 LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE AFTER MITIGATION

No mitigation measures are required and impacts would remain less than significant.
5. Environmental Analysis
PUBLIC SERVICES

5.11.5 References


Jones, Susan. 2015, April 6. Response to service provider questionnaire. Long Beach Public Library, Manager of Main Library Services.

Kean, David. 2015, April 2. Response to service provider questionnaire. Long Beach Fire Department, Assistant Fire Chief/Operations Bureau.


Ramirez, Javier. 2015, June 23. Phone conversation. Long Beach Fire Department, Community Services Assistant.