

LOCAL**City of Rocklin Municipal Code**

The City of Rocklin Municipal Code, Chapter 8.20, Section 8.20.010, authorizes the Fire Department to clean up or abate the effects of any hazardous substance or waste deposited on property or within facilities in the city. In addition, the code states that any person who intentionally or negligently causes such a deposit will be liable for the payment of all costs incurred by the City as a result of such cleanup or abatement activity.

The City of Rocklin Municipal Code, Chapter 8.12, Section 8.12.030, authorizes the City Council, upon recommendation of the Fire Chief, to adopt standards for the maintenance and control of weeds on vacant parcels. In addition, the code states that the standards shall be reviewed and may be amended from time-to-time in response to environmental or geographical conditions, and that the standards shall be effective upon adoption by the City Council. As previously mentioned, Chapter 15.04, Section 15.04.110 adopts the California Fire Code. Section 15.04.120 amends the Fire Code as it applies to the city regarding sprinkler systems, open burning, and the location of aboveground storage tanks.

4.12.1.3 IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES**STANDARDS OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The impact analysis provided below is based on the following California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Appendix G thresholds of significance. A fire protection and emergency services impact is considered significant if implementation of the project would:

1. Create substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered fire related facilities or services, the construction and/or provision of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for fire protection and emergency services.
2. Expose people or structures to 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.

METHODOLOGY

Evaluation of potential fire protection and emergency medical service impacts was based on information provided by the RFD, as well as review of the applicable fire codes and regulations, the existing City of Rocklin General Plan and Municipal Code, and other relevant literature. A detailed list of reference material used in preparing this analysis can be found at the end of this section.

While the major fire threat in the city is related to urban development, there are areas in Rocklin that are subject to a threat of wildfire. These areas include Clover Valley, areas at the southern end of China Garden Road, portions of Whitney Oaks, the Croftwood/Dias Lane area, Whitney Ranch, open space easements, and recreational properties. Wildland fire hazards and the General Plan Update’s environmental impacts associated with wildland fires are discussed in Section 4.7, Human Health/Hazards, of this Draft EIR.

4.12 PUBLIC SERVICES

PROJECT IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Increased Demand for Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services

Impact 4.12.1.1 Implementation of the proposed project would result in increased demand for fire protection and emergency medical services within the Planning Area. For the City to meet the increased demand and in order to maintain acceptable response times or other performance objectives for fire protection and emergency services, it may be necessary to provide or construct new or physically altered fire-related facilities or services, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts. However, the proposed Rocklin General Plan Update’s mitigating policies and their associated action steps ensure the impact will be less than significant. Therefore, this is a **less than significant** impact.

Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update is expected to result in a total of 29,283 housing units and a population of 76,136 in the Planning Area within the 2030 planning horizon. This represents an increase of 8,247 housing units and 22,293 persons over baseline (2008) conditions in the Planning Area. The proposed General Plan Update would result in the need for additional RFD personnel, along with associated equipment and facilities, to provide adequate fire protection services at buildout. In addition, it is anticipated that increased population in the City of Rocklin would require AMR to provide additional services and associated equipment and facilities as demand increases.

As shown in **Figure 4.12-1**, the proposed General Plan Update indicates that a fourth fire station is planned off of Park Drive near Boulder Ridge Park. This site has already been designated as Public/Quasi-Public (PQP) on the existing and proposed General Plan Land Use Diagrams. The updated General Plan also identifies requirements for future developments to ensure adequate fire protection services, which could result in new or expanded facilities as discussed above. Typical environmental effects regarding the construction and operation of a fire protection/EMS facility may involve issues with noise (sirens), air quality (during the construction of the facility), biological resources (depending on location), cultural resources (depending on location), public utilities (demand for electric, water, and wastewater service), and traffic on a local level due to the interruption of traffic light timing by fire engines. The environmental effects of construction of such facilities within the Planning Area have been programmatically evaluated in the technical analyses of this DEIR as part of overall development of the Planning Area.

Future fire protection/EMS facilities would be subject to project-level CEQA review at such time as they are proposed for development.

Proposed General Plan Update Policies That Provide Mitigation

The following proposed General Plan policies would assist in avoiding or minimizing impacts associated with increased demand for fire protection and emergency medical services:

- Policy PF-1 Provide for adequate lead time in the planning of needed expansions of public services and facilities.*

- Policy PF-2 Require a study of infrastructure needs, public facility needs and a financing plan for newly annexing areas.*

- Policy PF-3* Require that any development that generates the need for public services and facilities, including equipment, pay its proportional share of providing those services and facilities. Participation may include, but is not limited to, the formation of assessment districts, special taxes, payment of fees, payment of the City's Construction Tax, purchase of equipment, and/or the construction and dedication of facilities.
- Policy PF-4* Disapprove development proposals that would negatively impact City-provided public services, unless the negative impact is mitigated.
- Policy PF-5* Require that construction of private development projects be coordinated with the construction of public facilities and services that are needed to serve the project.
- Policy PF-9* Provide for the ongoing operation and maintenance of City services through the use of existing or new Community Facilities Districts, Lighting and Landscaping Districts, Park Development and Maintenance Districts, special taxes and other similar financing mechanisms.
- Policy PF-11* Ensure that new development will not create a significant negative impact on the existing level of police and fire protection services.
- Policy PF-12* Identify certain types of development, such as assisted living facilities and group homes, that may generate higher demand or special needs for emergency services and require developer participation to mitigate the needs/demands.
- Policy PF-13* Analyze the cost of fire protection, police services and emergency medical response for annexations and major project developments and require a funding mechanism to offset any shortfall.
- Policy PF-20* Provide fire apparatus access in new development consistent with Rocklin Fire Department requirements, including appropriate access into open space and undeveloped portions of properties.
- Policy PF-21* Provide progressive fire protection resources as necessary to meet community needs.
- Policy PF-22* Require new development and projects proposing land use changes to annex into existing or new Community Facilities Districts for fire prevention/suppression and medical response, or to create other financing mechanisms as necessary.
- Policy PF-23* Require special fire suppression mitigation (such as sprinklering) for any new residential development located more than two road miles from a fire station and for any new commercial development located more than one and one-half road miles from a fire station.
- Policy PF-25* Require new development to meet fire flow requirements based on standards codified in the International Fire Code.

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- Policy S-16 Require new development and projects proposing land use changes to annex into existing or new Community Facilities Districts for fire prevention/suppression and medical response, or to create other financing mechanisms as necessary.*
- Policy S-17 Require substantially vacant newly annexed areas containing wildland fire potential to bear additional costs associated with contracting to CalFire for fire suppression or provide other means of mitigation approved by the Fire Department until such time as urban services become available.*
- Policy S-18 Incorporate fuel modification/fire hazard reduction planning (e.g., weed abatement, open space management plans, firebreaks, planting restrictions) on lands (both public and private) that contain terrain and vegetative features such as grass, woodlands and severe slopes.*
- Policy S-19 Maintain inter-jurisdictional cooperation and coordination, including automatic aid agreements with fire protection/suppression agencies in Placer County.*

Implementation of the above General Plan Update policies, along with project-level CEQA review of future fire protection/EMS facilities, would ensure that impacts associated with fire protection and emergency medical services would be reduced to a **less than significant** level.

As part of the proposed project, the City plans to amend the Redevelopment Plan to increase tax increment limitations, increase the limit on the principal amount of bonded indebtedness secured by tax increment revenue, and extend the time limit for the commencement of eminent domain proceedings to acquire non-residential property. These amendments are intended to provide the City's Redevelopment Agency with the financial and administrative resources necessary to continue assisting projects that implement its program of blight elimination within the Redevelopment Project Area. While the extended time and financial limits authorized by the Sixth Amendment may foster and encourage new development that might not occur without the Sixth Amendment, or may occur faster than had the Sixth Amendment not been adopted, all development would be consistent with the City's General Plan and with the development assumptions analyzed throughout this DEIR. Any future development resulting from amending the Redevelopment Plan would occur in areas designated for such development by the General Plan as the land uses permitted by the Redevelopment Plan are the allowable uses under the City's General Plan. Therefore, the proposed Sixth Amendment to the Redevelopment Plan would not result in increases in demand for fire protection and emergency medical services beyond what is analyzed for the General Plan Update above. Impacts would be **less than significant**.

In addition to the activities identified above, the project includes a Climate Action Plan (CAP) to address climate change and identify greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction measures. The City of Rocklin CAP augments the objectives, goals, policies, and actions of the City of Rocklin General Plan Update related to the reduction of GHG emissions; however, the CAP is intended to be updated on a more frequent basis than the General Plan, ensuring that implementation of City efforts to reduce GHG emissions is in compliance with current regulation. The CAP determines whether implementation of the proposed General Plan Update would be consistent with the state's ability to attain the goals identified in Assembly Bill (AB) 32, identifies GHG emission reduction measures, and provides monitoring of the effectiveness of GHG emission reduction measures. The CAP would not result increases in demand for fire protection and

emergency medical services beyond what is analyzed for the General Plan Update above. Impacts would be **less than significant**.

Mitigation Measures

None required.

Adequate Fire Flow

Impact 4.12.1.2 Implementation of the proposed project would result in increased development within the Planning Area and a need for water supply and infrastructure to provide adequate fire flows for fire protection. The creation of new or expansion of existing water supply infrastructure necessary to maintain acceptable response times or other performance objectives for fire protection and emergency services could create substantial adverse physical impacts, which could cause significant environmental impacts. However, the proposed Rocklin General Plan Update’s mitigating policies and their associated action steps ensure the impact will be less than significant. Therefore, this is a **less than significant** impact.

In addition to the fire protection facilities discussed under Impact 4.12.1.1 above, adequate water supply and fire flows would be necessary to ensure fire protection for future development. In particular, the proposed General Plan Update would result in intensification of land uses in the downtown area, which is served by a 24-inch transmission pipeline that is currently experiencing fire flow shortages. According to the Placer County Water Agency, new development projects served by the pipeline could be required to construct significant off-site improvements to maintain adequate fire flow. Other areas of the Planning Area have already been analyzed for impacts on fire flow. The Whitney Ranch and Clover Valley areas contain large areas of vacant undeveloped land, but both have approved land use entitlements for residential, commercial, office, and recreation development.

The site-specific environmental impacts associated with off-site improvements necessary for fire flows would be determined through project-level CEQA analysis at such time as they are proposed for development.

Proposed General Plan Update Policies That Provide Mitigation

The following proposed General Plan policies would assist in avoiding or minimizing impacts associated with adequate fire flows:

- Policy PF-1 Provide for adequate lead time in the planning of needed expansions of public services and facilities.*
- Policy PF-2 Require a study of infrastructure needs, public facility needs and a financing plan for newly annexing areas.*
- Policy PF-5 Require that construction of private development projects be coordinated with the construction of public facilities and services that are needed to serve the project.*
- Policy PF-11 Ensure that new development will not create a significant negative impact on the existing level of police and fire protection services.*

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Policy PF-25 *Require new development to meet fire flow requirements based on standards codified in the International Fire Code.*

Policy S-16 *Require new development and projects proposing land use changes to annex into existing or new Community Facilities Districts for fire prevention/suppression and medical response, or to create other financing mechanisms as necessary.*

Implementation of the General Plan Update policies listed above would ensure that adequate fire flow would be available to serve new development within the Planning Area. Therefore, impacts are considered **less than significant**.

In addition, as discussed in Section 3.0, Project Description, and under Impact 4.12.1.1 above, the project includes the Sixth Amendment to the Redevelopment Plan and the CAP, both of which would be consistent with the proposed General Plan Update and with the development assumptions analyzed throughout this DEIR. As these project components would not result in land use activities or population growth beyond what is identified in the General Plan Update, they would not result in impacts associated with adequate fire flow beyond what is analyzed for the General Plan Update above. Impacts would be **less than significant**.

Mitigation Measures

None required.

4.12.1.4 CUMULATIVE SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

CUMULATIVE SETTING

The cumulative setting for fire protection and emergency medical services includes the service area boundaries of the Rocklin Fire Department and American Medical Response. The RFD provides services within the current city limits of Rocklin. Areas outside of the city but within the Planning Area would be served by the RFD upon annexation into the city. The service area for AMR includes Rocklin, Roseville, Auburn, Lincoln, and portions of rural Placer County. The cumulative setting includes all existing, planned, proposed, approved, and reasonably foreseeable development within the RFD and AMR service areas that currently places demand on these services or is expected to place demand on them in the future. **Table 4.0-1** and associated assumptions in Section 4.0 of this Draft EIR contain a list of regional development projects that would be included in the cumulative setting.

CUMULATIVE IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Cumulative Demand for Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services

Impact 4.12.1.3 Implementation of the proposed project, in combination with other existing, planned, proposed, approved, and reasonably foreseeable development within the RFD and AMR service areas, would increase the demand for fire protection and emergency medical services and thus require additional staffing, equipment, and related facilities under cumulative conditions. Provision of these related facilities could cause substantial adverse physical impacts, which could cause significant environmental impacts. However, the proposed Rocklin General Plan

Update's mitigating policies and their associated action steps ensure the impact will be less than significant. Therefore, this impact is considered **less than cumulatively considerable**.

Future regional growth would result in increased demand for fire protection and emergency medical services throughout Placer County. However, the need for additional fire protection facilities associated with the General Plan Update and its project components would be limited to facilities needed to serve the Planning Area, as the Rocklin Fire Department's service area is generally limited to the city limits, unless the need for regionalization, including consolidation, becomes necessary. Regional growth would also require AMR to provide increased levels of emergency medical services to its service area commensurate with increased demand. As discussed under Impact 4.12.1.1, the environmental effects of construction of such facilities within the Planning Area have been programmatically evaluated in the technical analyses of this DEIR, and future fire protection/EMS facilities projects would be subject to project-level CEQA review at such time as they are proposed for development.

Proposed General Plan Update Policies That Provide Mitigation

The proposed General Plan policies identified under Impact 4.12.1.1 would reduce the proposed project's contribution to cumulative impacts associated with providing fire protection and emergency medical services.

Implementation of the proposed General Plan policies would ensure that the provision and expansion of fire protection and emergency medical services to serve development consistent with the General Plan Update would be planned for and funded. Therefore, the proposed project's contributions to the continued provision of fire protection and emergency medical response services in the cumulative setting would be considered **less than cumulatively considerable**.

As previously discussed, neither the Sixth Amendment to the Redevelopment Plan nor the CAP would result in impacts associated with increased demand for fire protection and emergency medical services or adequate fire flow beyond what is analyzed for the General Plan Update above.

Mitigation Measures

None required.

4.12.2 LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES

4.12.2.1 EXISTING SETTING

City of Rocklin Police Department

The Rocklin Police Department (RPD) provides law enforcement services to the City of Rocklin. The RPD is a full-service police agency with 83 full-time staff (54 sworn positions and 29 civilian positions), 5 part-time staff, and 120 citizen volunteers (City of Rocklin 2007, pg. 4). The RPD is currently approved for 89 full-time staff. The RPD has a number of units and specialties including uniformed patrol, traffic enforcement, neighborhood officers, investigations, canines, school resource officers, crime prevention, dispatch, records, evidence, and animal control (City of Rocklin 2008f). Rocklin participates in a statewide agreement to provide mutual aid.

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Facilities

The Police Department is headquartered at 4080 Rocklin Road in a 40,000-square-foot facility that includes a 24-hour full-service public lobby and a multipurpose community room that serves as a meeting place for the public, a training room for City employees, and a command center in times of emergency. In addition to the customer facilities that support administration, operations, and support services, the building includes a 1,560-square-foot 9-1-1 dispatch center, a 25-yard firing range, a temporary custody area, and a 2,000-square-foot fitness and training room (Roide 2008).

Calls for Service

The RPD handled 43,730 incidents, and officers and community service officers responded to 24,634 incoming calls for service in 2007 (City of Rocklin 2007, pg. 10). As of 2006, the RPD had a response time of 4 minutes and 23 seconds from the time of dispatch to arrival on scene for Priority 1 calls, which range from office alarms to burglaries and violent felonies. The average response time for other types of calls was 8 minutes and 30 seconds (Roide 2008).

Service Standards

The RPD currently does not have any adopted goals related to officer-to-population ratios or response times (Roide 2008). The RPD provides police services to maintain the current level of crime prevention and low crime rates.

Funding

The RPD is funded primarily through the City's General Fund, along with revenue from citations, fines, and fees. In addition, the RPD receives money from state agencies for specific programs, such as underage drinking and school resource programs. There are no development impact fees or construction assessment fees that fund the RPD (Roide 2008).

4.12.2.2 REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

STATE

Emergency Response/Evacuation Plans

Government Code Section 8607(a) directs the California Emergency Management Agency to prepare a Standard Emergency Management System (SEMS) program, which sets forth measures by which a jurisdiction should handle emergency disasters. The program is intended to provide effective management of multi-agency and multijurisdictional emergencies in California. SEMS consists of five organizational levels, which are activated as necessary: (1) Field Response, (2) Local Government, (3) Operational Area, (4) Regional, and (5) State.

Local governments must use SEMS to be eligible for funding of their response-related personnel costs under state disaster assistance programs. The City of Rocklin is generally responsible for emergencies that occur within city boundaries and has adopted an Emergency Operations Plan that is consistent with the SEMS.

4.12.2.3 IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

STANDARDS OF SIGNIFICANCE

The impact analysis provided below is based on the following CEQA Guidelines Appendix G thresholds of significance. An impact to law enforcement services is considered significant if implementation of the proposed project would:

1. Create substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of 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 law enforcement services.

METHODOLOGY

Evaluation of potential law enforcement impacts was based on information provided by the Rocklin Police Department, as well as review of the existing City of Rocklin General Plan and Municipal Code and other relevant literature. A detailed list of reference material used can be found at this end of this section. This material was then compared to the proposed General Plan Update’s specific law enforcement-related impacts. The impact analysis below focuses on whether those impacts would have a significant effect on the physical environment.

PROJECT IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Law Enforcement Services

Impact 4.12.2.1 Implementation of the proposed project would result in increased demand for law enforcement services within the Planning Area. For the City to meet the increased demand and in order to maintain acceptable response times or other performance objectives for law enforcement services, it may be necessary to provide or construct new or physically altered government facilities, the construction and/or provision of which could create substantial adverse physical impacts that could cause significant environmental impacts. However, the proposed Rocklin General Plan Update’s mitigating policies and their associated action steps ensure the impact will be less than significant. Therefore, this is a **less than significant** impact.

As the city builds out, there will be an increased need for personnel and equipment. The current Police Department facility located at 4080 Rocklin Road is designed to accommodate an increase in personnel proportionate to the need to maintain the current service model. The RPD has indicated that no additional facilities would be needed to accommodate the increase in personnel that would be required by the General Plan Update. Furthermore, although the RPD does not currently have funding for additional personnel or equipment, funding would be expected to increase based on the increased property tax revenue and sales tax revenue associated with any new residential and commercial development associated with the General Plan Update (Butler 2009).

Proposed General Plan Update Policies That Provide Mitigation

The following proposed General Plan policies would assist in avoiding or minimizing impacts associated with increased demand for law enforcement services:

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- Policy PF-1* *Provide for adequate lead time in the planning of needed expansions of public services and facilities.*
- Policy PF-2* *Require a study of infrastructure needs, public facility needs and a financing plan for newly annexing areas.*
- Policy PF-3* *Require that any development that generates the need for public services and facilities, including equipment, pay its proportional share of providing those services and facilities. Participation may include, but is not limited to, the formation of assessment districts, special taxes, payment of fees, payment of the City's Construction Tax, purchase of equipment, and/or the construction and dedication of facilities.*
- Policy PF-4* *Disapprove development proposals that would negatively impact City-provided public services, unless the negative impact is mitigated.*
- Policy PF-5* *Require that construction of private development projects be coordinated with the construction of public facilities and services that are needed to serve the project.*
- Policy PF-9* *Provide for the ongoing operation and maintenance of City services through the use of existing or new Community Facilities Districts, Lighting and Landscaping Districts, Park Development and Maintenance Districts, special taxes and other similar financing mechanisms.*
- Policy PF-11* *Ensure that new development will not create a significant negative impact on the existing level of police and fire protection services.*
- Policy PF-12* *Identify certain types of development, such as assisted living facilities and group homes, that may generate higher demand or special needs for emergency services and require developer participation to mitigate the needs/demands.*
- Policy PF-13* *Analyze the cost of fire protection, police services and emergency medical response for annexations and major project developments and require a funding mechanism to offset any shortfall.*
- Policy PF-16* *Provide law enforcement resources as necessary to meet community needs.*

Implementation of the above General Plan Update policies would ensure that the City would provide adequate law enforcement services to meet the city's needs and serve new development. Since the General Plan Update would not result in the need for new law enforcement facilities and General Plan policies would ensure the provision of adequate law enforcement services, impacts would be reduced to a **less than significant** level.

In addition, as discussed in Section 3.0, Project Description, and under Impact 4.12.1.1 above, the project includes the Sixth Amendment to the Redevelopment Plan and the CAP, both of which would be consistent with the proposed General Plan Update and with the development assumptions analyzed throughout this DEIR. As these project components would not result in land use activities or population growth beyond what is identified in the General Plan Update, they would not result in impacts associated with the provision of adequate law enforcement services

beyond what is analyzed for the General Plan Update above. Impacts would be **less than significant**.

Mitigation Measures

None required.

4.12.2.4 CUMULATIVE SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

CUMULATIVE SETTING

The cumulative setting for law enforcement services includes the service area boundaries of the Rocklin Police Department. The RPD provides services within the current city limits of Rocklin and would provide services to areas outside of the city but within the Planning Area should they be annexed into the city. Therefore, the cumulative setting is limited to the Planning Area and does not extend to a regional level. The cumulative analysis includes all existing, planned, proposed, approved, and reasonably foreseeable development within the Planning Area.

CUMULATIVE IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Cumulative Demand for Law Enforcement Services

Impact 4.12.2.2 Implementation of the proposed project, in combination with other existing, planned, proposed, approved, and reasonably foreseeable development within the RPD service area, would increase the demand for law enforcement services and thus require additional staffing, equipment, and related facilities under cumulative conditions. Provision of these related facilities could cause substantial adverse physical impacts, which could cause significant environmental impacts. However, the proposed General Plan Update's mitigating policies and their associated action steps ensure the impact will be less than significant. Therefore, this impact is considered **less than cumulatively considerable**.

As discussed in Impact 4.12.2.1, the General Plan Update and its associated project components would not result in the need for new law enforcement facilities and General Plan policies would require the provision of adequate law enforcement services commensurate with development. Rocklin participates in regional mutual aid as required by law.

Proposed General Plan Update Policies That Provide Mitigation

The proposed General Plan policies identified under Impact 4.12.2.1 would reduce the proposed project's contribution to cumulative impacts associated with law enforcement.

Implementation of the proposed General Plan policies would ensure that the expansion of law enforcement services needed to serve development consistent with the General Plan Update and its associated project components would be planned for and funded. Therefore, the proposed project's contributions to the continued provision of law enforcement services in the cumulative setting would be considered **less than cumulatively considerable**.

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As previously discussed, neither the Sixth Amendment to the Redevelopment Plan nor the CAP would result in impacts associated with increased demand for law enforcement services beyond what is analyzed for the General Plan Update above.

Mitigation Measures

None required.

4.12.3 PUBLIC SCHOOLS

4.12.3.1 EXISTING SETTING

The City of Rocklin is served by three public school districts: the Rocklin Unified School District, the Loomis Union School District, and the Placer Union High School District. The city is also served by the Sierra Community College District. Each is discussed in more detail below.

ROCKLIN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Rocklin Unified School District (RUSD) currently includes 10 elementary schools, 2 middle schools, 2 comprehensive high schools, and 1 continuation school and 1 independent study school (City of Rocklin 2008c). In addition to the RUSD’s existing facilities, 2 new elementary school sites and 1 new middle school site are planned as part of the Whitney Ranch development project.

Enrollment in the RUSD has grown rapidly over the last two decades, with total enrollment almost doubling in the last ten years (EPS 2008, pg. 50-51). The most recent enrollment figures for RUSD schools are shown in **Table 4.12.3-1** below.

**TABLE 4.12.3-1
ROCKLIN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT ENROLLMENT**

School	Enrollment
Elementary (K–6)	
Antelope School	463
Breen School	676
Cobblestone Elementary	462
Parker Whitney	477
Rocklin Elementary	558
Rock Creek Elementary	608
Ruhkala Elementary	402
Twin Oaks Elementary	514
Valley View Elementary	632
Sierra Elementary	493
Subtotal Elementary	5,285
Granite Oaks Middle School	814
Spring View Middle School	806

School	Enrollment
Subtotal Middle School	1,620
Rocklin High	1,674
Whitney High	1,438
Victory Continuation School	115
Subtotal High School	3,227
Rocklin Independent School	96
Total	10,228

Source: EPS 2008

*Totals do not include Rocklin Academy and Maria Montessori Charter schools.

Alternative Education

The RUSD operates the Rocklin Alternative Education Center, located at 3250 Victory Drive, across the street from Rocklin High School. The Alternative Education Center comprises Victory High School (continuation school), the Rocklin Independent School (alternative education school), and intervention programs such as night and summer school. During the 2007/08 school year, the Alternative Education Center had an enrollment of 96 students at the Rocklin Independent School and 115 students at Victory High (CDE 2008). The RUSD also sponsors two charter schools: the Rocklin Academy and the Maria Montessori Charter Academy (City of Rocklin 2008b).

School Capacity

In the RUSD Facilities Master Plan, the current capacity of schools is determined by counting the total number of classrooms and then excluding any classrooms used for supplemental and special programs (EPS 2008, pg. 20). However, there are two other measures of capacity used by the RUSD: design capacity and maximum capacity. Design capacity is the desired enrollment at a school to optimize the delivery of the education program and meet the district goals for providing a safe and secure environment. The maximum capacity is the greatest number of students that a school can accommodate by most efficiently using its facilities and adding the maximum allowable number of portable classrooms (EPS 2008, pg. 62). Table 4.12.3-2 below compares enrollment and capacity at RUSD schools.

TABLE 4.12.3-2
ROCKLIN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT ENROLLMENT VS. CAPACITY

School	Enrollment	Design Capacity	Maximum Total Capacity
Elementary (K–6)			
Antelope School	463	600	755
Breen School	676	600	755
Cobblestone Elementary	462	600	680
Parker Whitney	477	600	775
Rocklin Elementary	558	530	630
Rock Creek Elementary	608	620	725

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School	Enrollment	Design Capacity	Maximum Total Capacity
Ruhkala Elementary	402	360	455
Twin Oaks Elementary	514	600	605
Valley View Elementary	632	650	725
Sierra Elementary	493	525	525
Subtotal Elementary	5,285	5,685	6,630
Middle School			
Granite Oaks Middle School	814	800	1,170
Spring View Middle School	806	800	1,020
Subtotal Middle School	1,620	1,600	2,190
High School			
Rocklin High	1,674	1,800	2,280
Whitney High	1,438	1,800	2,280
Victory Continuation School	115	170	170
Subtotal High School	3,227	3,770	4,730
Rocklin Independent School	96	150	150
Total	10,228	11,205	13,700

Source: EPS 2008

*Totals do not include Rocklin Academy and Maria Montessori Charter schools.

Based upon the April 16, 2008, Rocklin School District Facilities Master Plan Final Report prepared by EPS, none of the elementary schools are operating above maximum capacity, and only Breen, Rocklin, and Ruhkala elementary schools are operating above design capacity. As shown in **Table 4.12.3-2**, both of the middle schools are operating below maximum capacity but above design capacity. As shown in **Table 4.12.3-2**, both high schools are below maximum and design capacity.

LOOMIS UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Loomis Union School District (LUSD) consists of six elementary schools and one charter school. These include H. Clarke Powers Elementary, Franklin Elementary, Loomis Grammar, Penryn Elementary, Placer Elementary, Ophir Elementary, and Loomis Basin Charter School (LUSD 2008). The LUSD does not have any schools in the City of Rocklin attendance areas. However, the LUSD does serve a minimal number of students who reside in Rocklin. Areas located east of Sierra College Boulevard, south of Pacific Street, east of Delmar Avenue, and north of Pacific Street are served by the LUSD. This includes primarily the Croftwood and Clover Valley areas along the eastern edge of Rocklin. The LUSD also serves students residing in Rocklin through inter-district attendance agreements. In addition, some students residing in Rocklin attend the Loomis Basin Charter School (Johnson 2008).

PLACER UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Placer Union High School District (PUHSD) consists of Placer, Del Oro, Colfax, Chana, Foresthill, and Maidu high schools, as well as the Placer School for Adults (PUHSD 2008). The

PUHSD does not have any schools in Rocklin attendance areas. However, the PUHSD does serve some students residing in the Rocklin High School attendance area based on PUHSD boundaries in the city limits as well as inter-district attendance agreements. As of October 2008, there were 120 students attending LUSD schools on inter-district attendance agreements (Evans 2008). These students predominantly attend Del Oro High School.

SIERRA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

The Sierra Community College District (SCCD) covers over 3,200 square miles and serves Placer, Nevada, and parts of El Dorado and Sacramento counties. The 300-acre main campus of Sierra College is located at 5000 Rocklin Road in Rocklin. In addition, the SCCD has a 115-acre Nevada County Campus in Grass Valley, a campus center in Truckee, and a campus center in Roseville (Sierra College 2008a). Sierra College offers associate of arts and associate of science degrees, along with technical training and certificates in over 70 areas and career fields. Sierra College also offers the first two years of pre-professional programs including medicine, law, engineering, computer science, education, and business administration (Sierra College 2007, pg. 66). In addition, the SCCD operates the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, which offers short-term, noncredit courses specifically designed to serve the interests of adults 55+ years of age (Sierra College 2008a).

WILLIAM JESSUP UNIVERSITY

William Jessup University is a private Christian college located at 333 Sunset Boulevard in Rocklin. The university offers undergraduate degrees as well as professional studies programs. Total enrollment was approximately 575 in 2008, including full- and part-time students. On-campus housing is available in the form of residence halls.

FUNDING AND FINANCING MECHANISMS

State Funding

The Kindergarten-University Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 1998 (Prop 1A)

Proposition 1A, Kindergarten-University Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 1998, was approved by the voters in November 1998. This proposition provided \$6.7 billion in general obligation bonds for K-12 public school facilities and provided the first funding for the new School Facility Program. The School Facility Program provides state funding assistance for two major types of facilities construction projects: new construction and modernization. At the time of the passage of this proposition, it was the largest school bond in the history of the state (California Strategic Growth Plan Bond Accountability 2008)

The Kindergarten-University Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2002 (Prop 47)

Proposition 47, the Kindergarten-University Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2002, was the first part of a \$25.3 billion statewide bond package. Proposition 47 was a \$13.05 billion bond measure approved by voters in November 2002 that provided \$11.4 billion in general obligation bonds for K-12 facilities through the School Facility Program, as well as funding for new programs, charter school facilities, critically overcrowded schools, joint-use projects, and small high schools (California Strategic Growth Plan Bond Accountability 2008). Funds are targeted to areas of greatest need and must be spent according to strict accountability measures. The remaining \$1.65 billion was allocated to build, repair, and upgrade community colleges and

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California State University and University of California facilities in order to provide adequate higher education facilities to accommodate growing student enrollment.

The Kindergarten-University Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2004 (Prop 55)

On March 2, 2004, voters in California passed Proposition 55, the second part of a \$25.3 billion statewide bond package. Proposition 55 authorized \$12.3 billion to help fund public school facility needs. The passage of Proposition 55 provided an additional \$10.0 billion in general obligation bonds for the construction and renovation of K-12 school facilities. These funds are made available through the School Facility Program and continue to assist school districts with overcrowding, accommodating future enrollment growth, and repairing and modernization of older facilities (California Strategic Growth Plan Bond Accountability 2008). The remaining \$2.3 billion is reserved for community college, California State University, and University of California facilities.

The Kindergarten-University Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2006 (Prop 1D)

Proposition 1D, officially the Kindergarten-University Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2006, was approved by the voters in November of 2006 and provided \$10.416 billion in general obligation bonds for educational facilities, of which \$7.329 billion was earmarked for K-12 projects (California Strategic Growth Plan Bond Accountability 2008).

School District Funding

Mello-Roos Community Facilities District Bonds

The 1982 Mello-Roos Community Facilities Act permits a school district to issue Community Facilities District (CFD) bonds and collect special taxes to fund the construction or renovation of school facilities if the bonds receive at least a two-thirds vote in an election. The RUSD has formed three CFDs in order to fund elementary school facilities: CFD No. 1 in 1988, CFD No. 2 in 1990, and CFD No. 3 in 2003. In addition to the annual taxes for each CFD, a one-time payment of \$1,500 per single-family home and \$1,000 per multi-family unit is required at the time a building permit is pulled. Virtually all new development in Rocklin will be in a CFD (EPS 2008, pg. 80).

Development Impact Fees/Senate Bill 50

Proposition 1A, or Senate Bill (SB) 50, was approved by California voters in 1998. A primary result of SB 50 was the creation of different levels of developer fees, which are discussed in more detail below. The RUSD adopted Level 1 development impact fees for new development in October 1999. The RUSD currently uses Level 1 fees to provide middle school facilities, high school facilities, support facilities, and administrative costs related to facilities development. The current adopted Level 1 fees are \$2.97 per square foot for residential units and \$0.47 square foot for nonresidential and age-restricted senior development (EPS 2008, pg. 80).

General Obligation Bonds

In addition, the school district can use general obligation (GO) bonds to fund school facilities, although voter approval is required. The RUSD used GO bonds to fund both high schools and the new middle school (EPS 2008, pg. 81).

4.12.3.2 REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

STATE

Leroy F. Greene School Facilities Act of 1998 (SB 50)

As discussed above, California voters approved Proposition 1A in November of 1998. Proposition 1A's companion legislation (Chapter 407, Statutes of 1998, SB 50) went into effect upon the measure's approval. SB 50 significantly altered the system of fees that can be placed on new development in order to pay for the construction of school facilities. Prior to the passage of Proposition 1A, school districts were limited in the amount of school facility developer fees they could charge. Also, as a result of the Mira, Hart, and Murietta decisions made in the years preceding the passage of Proposition 1A, cities and counties were able to impose additional school facility fees on development as a condition of obtaining land use approval. SB 50 and Proposition 1A provided a comprehensive school facilities financing and reform program by authorizing the \$9.2 billion school facilities bond issue, school construction cost containment provisions, and an eight-year suspension of the Mira, Hart, and Murrieta court cases. SB 50 created different levels of developer fees and prohibited local agencies from denying either legislative or adjudicative land use approvals on the basis that school facilities are inadequate. They also reinstated the school facility fee cap for legislative actions, which is adjusted bi-annually in January. According to Government Code Section 65996, the development fees authorized by SB 50 are deemed to be full and complete school facilities mitigation. These provisions were in effect until 2006 and will remain in place as long as subsequent state bonds are approved and available.

The three levels of developer fees established by SB 50 are described below:

1. Level 1 fees are base statutory fees. As of January 30, 2008, the maximum assessment for fees was \$2.97 per square foot of residential development and \$0.47 per square foot of commercial/industrial development (California State Allocation Board 2008).
2. Level 2 fees allow the school district to impose developer fees above the statutory levels, up to 50 percent of certain costs under designated circumstances. The state would match the 50 percent funding if funds are available.
3. Level 3 fees apply if the state runs out of bond funds after 2006, allowing the school district to impose 100 percent of the cost of the school facility or mitigation minus any local dedicated school monies.

In order to levy the alternate (Level 2) fee and qualify for 50 percent state matching funds, a school district must prepare and adopt a School Facilities Needs Analysis, apply and be eligible for state funding, and satisfy specified criteria. The ability of a city or county to impose fees is limited to the statutory and potential additional charges allowed by the act, as described above.

California Department of Education

The California Department of Education (CDE) establishes standards for school sites pursuant to Education Code Section 17251 and adopts school site regulations, which are contained in the California Code of Regulations, Title 5, commencing with Section 14001 (CDE 2000, pg. iv). Certain health and safety requirements for school site selection are governed by state regulations and the policies of the CDE School Facilities Planning Division (SFPD) relating to:

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- Proximity to airports, high-voltage power transmission lines, railroads, and major roadways;
- Presence of toxic and hazardous substances;
- Hazardous facilities and hazardous air emissions within one-quarter mile;
- Proximity to high-pressure natural gas lines, propane storage facilities, gasoline lines, pressurized sewer lines, or high-pressure water pipelines;
- Noise;
- Results of geological studies or soil analyses; and
- Traffic and school bus safety issues.

The SFPD originally prepared the *Guide to School Site Analysis and Development* in 1966. The guide assists school districts in determining the amount of land needed to support their educational programs in accord with their stated goals and in accord with recommendations of the CDE. Site size standards were updated in 1999–2000 to reflect significant changes in education, such as class size reduction in kindergarten through grade three, implementation of the (federal) Education Amendments of 1977, Title IX (gender equity), parental and community involvement, and technology. In addition to the educational reforms noted above, changes regarding the expanded use of buildings and grounds for community use and agency joint use and legislative changes in the site-selection process regarding environmental, toxic, and other student and staff safety issues were included in the updated standards. The guide contains specific recommendations for school size and suggests a ratio of 2:1 between the developed grounds and the building area (CDE 2000, pg. 10). The CDE is aware that in a number of cases, primarily in urban settings, smaller sites cannot accommodate this ratio. In such cases, the SFPD may approve an amount of acreage less than the recommended gross site size and building-to-ground ratio.

REGIONAL

Sierra College 2008–2011 Strategic Plan

The Sierra College Strategic Plan addresses the major demographic, educational, and economic challenges facing Sierra College through 2011 and creates a framework to establish goals, set priorities, and provide benchmarks to chart progress. The plan is designed to serve as the foundation for all SCCD planning efforts through 2011 (Sierra College 2008b).

Sierra College Facilities Master Plan

The Sierra College Facilities Master Plan was developed to provide the SCCD with an outline of the facility needs required to meet the educational goals of the college through the year 2015 and a strategy to respond to changing enrollment with functional solutions that meet the physical needs of the college.

The plan proposes a district-wide strategy to develop and modernize existing and future sites including modernization projects to correct the wear that has occurred over 42 years and new construction projects that would provide classrooms and laboratories needed for additional students. The plan emphasizes ensuring current safety standards, improving handicapped

accessibility, supporting educational instruction, updating technology, and improving the efficiency of college operations. The plan includes facilities to increase capacity from 20,000 students in 2005 to a capacity for 30,000 students in 2015.

LOCAL

Rocklin Unified School District Facilities Master Plan

The Rocklin Unified School District Facilities Master Plan lays out the framework for decisions regarding the construction of new schools to accommodate growing enrollment as well as the modernization requirements at various existing schools and RUSD facilities. The plan describes RUSD history and educational goals, existing schools, population and housing growth, enrollment trends, the need for new schools, and a financing strategy to fund modernization and new construction (EPS 2008, pg. 1).

4.12.3.3 IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

STANDARDS OF SIGNIFICANCE

The impact analysis provided below is based on the following CEQA Guidelines Appendix G thresholds of significance. A public schools impact is considered significant if implementation of the proposed project would:

1. Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of 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 any of the public services.

METHODOLOGY

The analysis of potential environmental impacts associated with public schools was based on information provided by the RUSD, including the 2008 Facilities Master Plan, and enrollment information from the California Board of Education. A detailed list of referenced material can be found at the end of this section. This material was compared to the potential number of students that could be generated by the proposed General Plan Update, as well as existing and planned school facilities, in order to determine if the General Plan Update would have a significant effect on the physical environment associated with the provision of public school services.

IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Increased Demand for Public Schools (Grades K through 12)

Impact 4.12.3.1 Implementation of the proposed project would increase population in the Planning Area, which would subsequently increase student enrollment in RUSD's and other districts' schools. It may be necessary to construct new or expanded school facilities to serve the increased demand. Construction or expansion of school facilities could result in substantial adverse physical impacts, which could cause significant environmental impacts. However, the proposed Rocklin General Plan Update's mitigating policies and their associated action steps, as well as state law requiring mitigation through the

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payment of development impact fees, ensure the impact will be less than significant. Therefore, this is a **less than significant** impact.

Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update is expected to result in a total of 29,283 housing units and a population of 76,136 within the 2030 planning horizon. This represents an increase of 8,247 housing units and 22,293 persons over baseline (2008) conditions in the Planning Area. Projected growth would increase student enrollment in the RUSD and other school districts that serve Rocklin and could thus result in the need for new or expanded public school facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts.

The RUSD Facilities Master Plan (EPS 2008) includes enrollment projections, which are presented in Table 4.12.3-3.

**TABLE 4-12.3-3
ROCKLIN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT ENROLLMENT PROJECTIONS – MODERATE AND FAST GROWTH**

Grade Level	2007/08 Enrollment	2012/13 Enrollment Projection		2019/20 Enrollment Projection	
		Moderate	Fast	Moderate	Fast
K-6	5,285	6,128	6,428	6,840	7,097
7-8	1,620	1,758	1,844	1,964	2,037
9-12	3,227	3,454	3,622	3,674	3,811
TOTAL	10,132	11,340	11,894	12,478	12,945

Source: EPS 2008

The RUSD Facilities Master Plan (2008) uses three different projection methodologies to predict future enrollment and determines that the percentage-of-population (POP) method is the most accurate for long-term projections (EPS 2008, pg. 53). The POP method compares the enrollment in each grade level to the population of the city. The RUSD Facilities Master Plan assumes a population of 61,788 in the RUSD at buildout of the District. The Facilities Master Plan projects that enrollment in elementary grades (grades K-6) will be approximately 11 percent of the city's population at buildout, that middle school (grades 7-8) enrollment will be approximately 3 percent of the city's population at buildout, and that high school (grades 9-12) enrollment will be approximately 5.8 percent of the city's population at buildout.

As previously mentioned, implementation of the proposed General Plan Update is expected to result in a population of 76,136 within the Planning Area, which is an increase of 14,348 persons over RUSD projections. This difference in population projections occurs because both the City of Rocklin and Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) projections include areas outside of the RUSD. As a result, population projections used in the General Plan Update (76,136) are higher than the population projections used in the RUSD Facilities Master Plan (61,788) (EPS 2008, pg. 42). Using the POP methodology and the above percentages to determine projected enrollment, increased population associated with the General Plan Update would result in approximately 1,578 additional elementary school students (14,348 x 0.11), approximately 430 additional middle school students (14,348 x 0.03), and approximately 832 additional high school students (14,348 x 0.058) over what is planned for in the RUSD Facilities Master Plan. These additional students would generate the need for new or expanded facilities beyond those currently planned for in the RUSD.

California Government Code Section 65995(h) states that "the payment or satisfaction of a fee, charge or other requirement levied or imposed... [is] deemed to be full and complete mitigation of the impacts of any legislative or adjudicative act, or both, involving, but not limited to, the planning, use, or development of real property, or any change in governmental organization or reorganization as defined in Section 56021 or 56073, on the provision of adequate school facilities." This provision applies to elementary, middle, and high school facilities. As discussed under the Funding subsection above, the RUSD currently has formed three CFDs in order to fund school facilities and levies Level 1 fees of \$2.97 per square foot for residential units and \$0.47 square foot for non-residential and age-restricted senior development to provide elementary school facilities, middle school facilities, high school facilities, support facilities, and administrative costs related to facilities development.

If deemed necessary, the development of new schools, or the expansion of existing schools, would contribute environmental impacts such as increased traffic, increased noise, potential habitat loss, degradation of air quality, degradation of water quality, potential conversion of agricultural land, and increased demand for public services and utilities such as water, wastewater, and solid waste services. The City of Rocklin has no direct control over the location and construction of schools. However, the environmental effects of construction of such facilities within the Planning Area have been programmatically evaluated in the technical analyses of this Draft EIR as part of overall development of the Planning Area. Furthermore, the RUSD would be required to conduct the appropriate environmental review prior to any significant expansion of school facilities or the development of new school facilities.

Proposed General Plan Update Policies That Provide Mitigation

The following proposed General Plan policies would assist in avoiding or minimizing impacts associated with increased demand for public schools and services:

- Policy PF-26 Evaluate all residential development project applications for their impact on school services and facilities. Where an impact is found, the project may be conditioned to the extent and in the manner allowed by law to mitigate the impact, such as requiring payment of school district fees and/or participation in a community facilities district to fund school facilities.*

- Policy PF-27 Require applications for annexations into the City which are outside of the Rocklin Unified School District to apply for inclusion into the Rocklin Unified School District.*

- Policy PF-28 Coordinate with school districts serving the City regarding locations for new school sites, and review proposed school sites for General Plan conformity, associated environmental impacts and compatibility with adjacent land uses.*

In addition to the above General Plan Update policies, future school sites proposed by the RUSD would be subject to CEQA and CDE standards for school sites. The CDE standards include the consideration of certain environmental, toxic, and other student and staff safety issues during school site selection. These standards would reduce the potential for significant environmental impacts to occur in association with the construction of new school facilities in the Planning Area. Finally, as noted above, current California law states that the environmental impact of new development on school facilities is considered fully mitigated through the payment of

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required development impact fees. Therefore, impacts associated with the provision of public school facilities are considered **less than significant**.

In addition, as discussed in Section 3.0, Project Description, and under Impact 4.12.1.1 above, the project includes the Sixth Amendment to the Redevelopment Plan and the CAP, both of which would be consistent with the proposed General Plan Update and with the development assumptions analyzed throughout this DEIR. As these project components would not result in land use activities or growth beyond what is identified in the General Plan Update, they would not result in impacts associated with the provision of public school facilities beyond what is analyzed for the General Plan Update above. Impacts would be **less than significant**.

Mitigation Measures

None required.

Increased Demand for Post-Secondary Education Facilities

Impact 4.12.3.2 Implementation of the proposed project would increase population in the Planning Area, which could increase demand for post-secondary education facilities provided by the Sierra Community College District. It may be necessary to construct new or expanded post-secondary education facilities to serve the increased demand. Construction or expansion of post-secondary school facilities could result in substantial adverse physical impacts, which could cause significant environmental impacts. However, the proposed General Plan Update's mitigating policies and their associated action steps, as well as state law regarding siting of school facilities ensure that impacts associated with provision of school facilities will be mitigated. Therefore, this is a **less than significant** impact.

Implementation of the General Plan Update is expected to result in a population increase of 22,293 persons over baseline (2008) conditions within the Planning Area. However, according to the SCCD Strategic Plan, population growth in the SCCD's service area does not necessarily produce a corresponding increase in the college-going population. Currently, the bulk of students attending Sierra College are in the 18 to 20 age range, a population group that is either stabilizing or decreasing slightly in both Placer and Nevada counties (Sierra College 2008b, pg. 28). Therefore, while the SCCD does acknowledge that a slight increase in the 18 to 20 age range population is possible in the future, it does not anticipate that an overall growth in population will result in an increase in student population at the SCCD, particularly not at the rates experienced in the past. Furthermore, although the Rocklin campus is nearing capacity, no significant expansion of the Rocklin campus is planned in the next three years because the SCCD is currently constructing new facilities at both the Nevada County and Truckee campuses in order to increase capacity in the SCCD. In addition, a future South Placer County site is planned that will ultimately serve 18,000 students (Sierra College 2008b, pg. 7). Facilities planned by the SCCD will increase capacity in the Sierra Community College District to 30,000 students by 2015.

William Jessup University may also experience increases in student enrollment. This institution is a private facility with a small student body, but it could require expansion as population growth continues and students seek alternatives to state or community colleges to complete their degrees.

If deemed necessary, construction of new schools, or the expansion of existing schools (both public and private), could result in impacts to the environment. These impacts include increased traffic, increased noise, potential habitat loss, degradation of air quality, degradation of water quality, potential conversion of agricultural land, and increased demand for public services and utilities such as water, wastewater, and solid waste services. Construction or expansion of post-secondary facilities, whether public or private, would be subject to separate environmental review under CEQA.

Proposed General Plan Update Policies That Provide Mitigation

The General Plan Update does not contain policies specifically related to post-secondary schools. However, implementation of General Plan Policy PF-26 would ensure that all new residential development projects in the city would be required to mitigate impacts to school services and facilities consistent with state law. Likewise, Policy PF-28 would ensure that the City would coordinate with the SCCD regarding future school sites in an effort to minimize environmental impacts and land use conflicts. In addition, future facilities proposed by the SCCD would be subject to CEQA review. Therefore, impacts associated with the provision of post-secondary school facilities are considered **less than significant**.

In addition, as discussed in Section 3.0, Project Description, and under Impact 4.12.1.1 above, the project includes the Sixth Amendment to the Redevelopment Plan and the CAP, both of which would be consistent with the proposed General Plan Update and with the development assumptions analyzed throughout this DEIR. As these project components would not result in land use activities or growth beyond what is identified in the General Plan Update, they would not result in impacts associated with the provision of post-secondary school facilities beyond what is analyzed for the General Plan Update above. Impacts would be **less than significant**.

Mitigation Measures

None required.

4.12.3.4 CUMULATIVE SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

CUMULATIVE SETTING

The cumulative setting for public school impacts includes the district boundaries for the Rocklin Unified School District (RUSD), the Loomis Union School District (LUSD), and the Placer Union High School District (PUHSD) for grade school services, and the service area of the Sierra Community College District for post-secondary education services. Any existing, planned, proposed, approved, and reasonably foreseeable development in the cumulative setting could result in cumulative impacts. **Table 4.0-1** and associated assumptions in Section 4.0, Introduction to the Environmental Analysis and Assumptions Used, includes a list of cumulative projects that could contribute to cumulative public school impacts.

CUMULATIVE IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Cumulative Public School Impacts

Impact 4.12.3.3 Population growth associated with implementation of the proposed project, in combination with other existing, planned, proposed, approved, and reasonably foreseeable development in the cumulative setting, would result

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in a cumulative increase in student enrollment and require additional school-related facilities to accommodate the growth. The construction of new or expanded school facilities could result in substantial adverse physical impacts, which could cause significant environmental impacts. However, the proposed General Plan Update's mitigating policies and their associated action steps, as well as state law requiring mitigation through payment of development impact fees, ensure the impact will be less than significant. Therefore, this is a **less than cumulatively considerable** impact.

As discussed under Impacts 4.12.3.1 and 4.12.3.2, implementation of the proposed General Plan Update and its associated project components is expected to result in population growth that would increase student enrollment in the RUSD and other school districts that serve Rocklin and could thus result in the need for new or expanded public school facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts.

However, as noted above, current California law states that the environmental impact of new development on elementary through high school facilities is considered fully mitigated through the payment of required development impact fees. Furthermore, any significant expansion of school facilities or the development of new school facilities (elementary through post-secondary) would be subject to the appropriate environmental review.

Proposed General Plan Update Policies That Provide Mitigation

The General Plan Update contains the policies listed under Impact 4.12.3.1, which would address the project's cumulative contribution to impacts on public schools. The RUSD and other school districts that serve Rocklin are subject to CEQA and CDE standards for proposed school projects. These standards would reduce the potential for significant environmental impacts to occur in association with the construction of new school facilities in the Planning Area. Additionally, as noted above, current state law indicates that the environmental impact of new development on grade K-12 school facilities is considered fully mitigated through the payment of required development impact fees. Post-secondary schools are also subject to CEQA review. Both CEQA review and CDE standards (as applicable to K-12 schools) would serve to mitigate impacts associated with school construction. Therefore, cumulative impacts on public school facilities are considered **less than cumulatively considerable**.

As previously discussed, neither the Sixth Amendment to the Redevelopment Plan nor the CAP would result in impacts associated with increased demand for public schools or post-secondary education facilities beyond what is analyzed for the General Plan Update above.

Mitigation Measures

None required.

4.12.4 PARKS AND RECREATION

4.12.4.1 EXISTING SETTING

CITY OF ROCKLIN COMMUNITY SERVICES AND FACILITIES DEPARTMENT

The City of Rocklin Community Services and Facilities Department oversees parks and recreation services in the city. The department maintains 30 developed parks, one undeveloped park, and

another 200 acres of open space. In addition, the department offers numerous activity and leisure-based programs for all ages, including sports and fitness, theatre and arts, education, and special events (City of Rocklin 2008e).

Community and Neighborhood Parks

The City of Rocklin Community Services and Facilities Department currently operates and maintains five community parks and 25 neighborhood parks, with two future parks planned within the Whitney Ranch development and one future park planned within the Clover Valley development. These parks, along with their location and acreages, are shown in **Table 4.12.4-1** and in **Figure 4.12-2**.

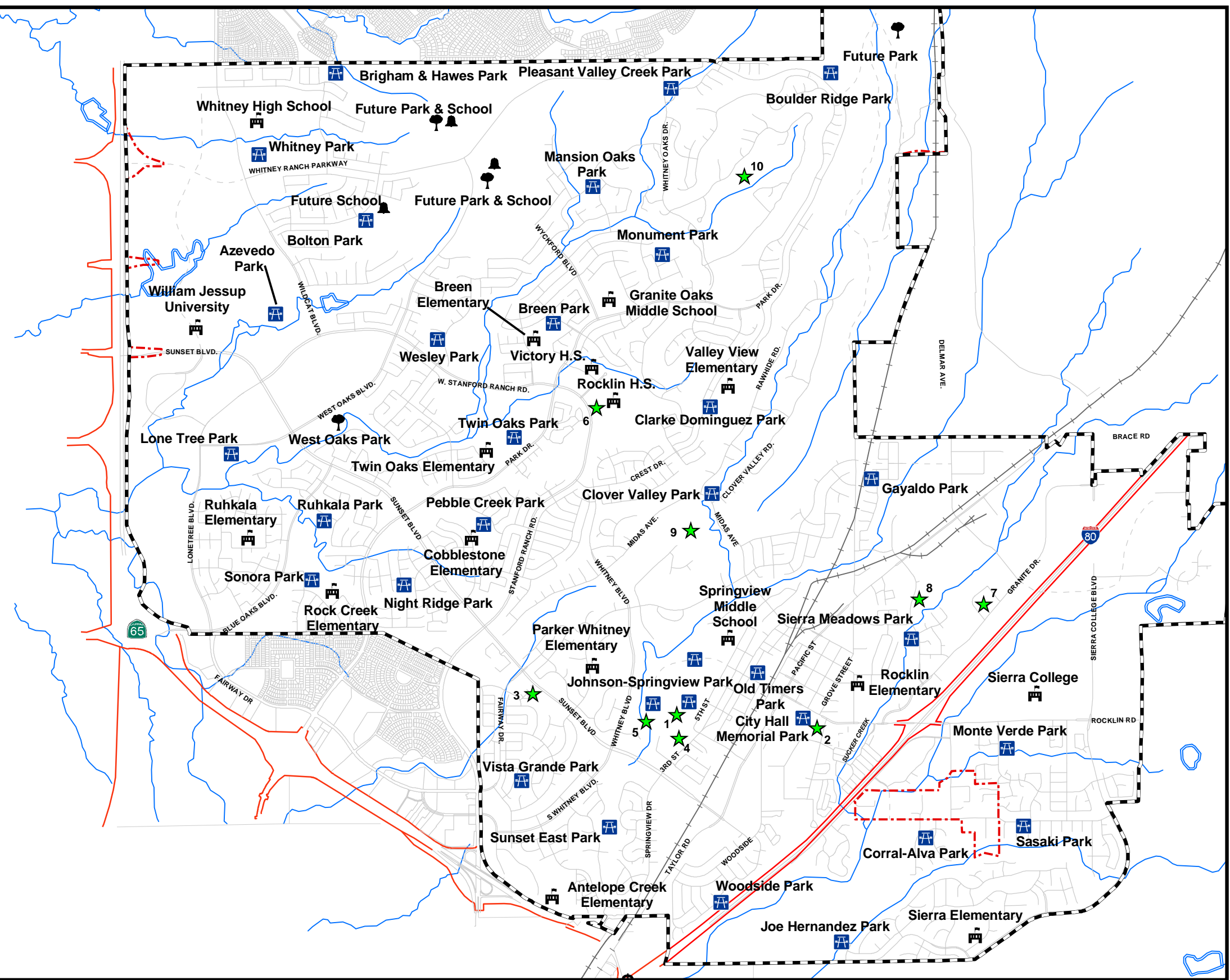
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LEGEND

- City of Rocklin - Sphere of Influence
- City of Rocklin - City Limits
- Existing Schools
- Future Schools
- Existing Parks
- Future Parks
- Recreational Facilities

1. Rocklin Community Center
2. Finnish Temperance Hall
3. City of Rocklin Sunset Center
4. 3rd Street Recreation Center
5. 5th Street Recreation Center
6. Aquatics Complex
7. In-the-Net Sports Center
8. Rocklin Bowl
9. Sunset Whitney Golf Course & Club
10. Whitney Oaks Golf Course & Club



Source: City of Rocklin Planning Dept./ Quad Knopf, Inc., 2009

Figure 4.12-2
Park and Recreation Facilities in the Planning Area

TABLE 4.12.4-1
CITY OF ROCKLIN COMMUNITY AND NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS (AS OF APRIL 2008)

Park	Location	Improved Acreage	Unimproved Acreage	Natural Reserve	Total Acreage
Community Parks					
Johnson-Springview	5480 Fifth Street	40	42	50.1	132.1
Lone Tree	West Oaks /Lone Tree Boulevard	25	5	0	30
Margaret Azevedo	1900 Wildcat Blvd. in Stanford Ranch development	14	10.1	0	24.1
Twin Oaks	5500 Park Drive in Stanford Ranch development	28	2	0	30
West Oaks	West Oaks/Sunset Boulevard in West Oaks subdivision	0	17	0	17
Whitney	1801 Whitney Ranch Parkway in Whitney Ranch development	20	20	0	40
Neighborhood Parks					
Bolton	Spring Creek/Ranch View in Whitney Ranch development	3	0	0	3
Boulder Ridge	Park Drive in Whitney Oaks development	8	3.6	0	11.6
Breen	Shelton Street/Swindon Road in Stanford Ranch development	5.9	0	0	5.9
Brigham & Hawes	Bridlewood/Leafy Way in Whitney Ranch development	3.6	0	0	3.6
Clarke Dominguez	Crest Drive in Whitney Oaks development	8	0	0	8
Clover Valley Lakes Park site	Future	0	5	0	5
Clover Valley	Clover Valley Road and Midas Avenue	3	0	0.7	3.7
Corral-Alva (formerly Quarry Ridge Park)	Greenbrae/Aguilar Road	2.5	3	0	5.5
Gayaldo (formerly Yankee Hill)	Aitken Dairy Road/Mockingbird Court/Union Pacific Railroad	1.5	0.5	0	2
Joe Hernandez	Cornwall/Ballantrae Way in Highlands development	3.5	0.5	0	4

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Park	Location	Improved Acreage	Unimproved Acreage	Natural Reserve	Total Acreage
Mansion Oaks	Pebble Beach Road and St. Andrews Drive	3	2.8	0	5.8
Memorial Park	Rocklin Road	1	0	0	1
Monte Verde	Rocklin Road and El Don Drive	2	0	2	4
Monument	Ketchikan Drive and Hood Road	3	4.2	0	7.2
Night Ridge	Night RidgeWay and Little Rock Road in Sunset West development	4	0	0	4
Old Timers	Rocklin Road and Front Street	0.1	0	0	0.1
Pebble Creek	Pebble Creek Drive and Sandalwood Road in Stanford Ranch development	4.5	0.5	0	5
Pleasant Valley Creek	Whitney Oaks Drive and Pleasant Creek Drive in Whitney Oaks development	4	5.3	0	9.3
Ruhkala	Surfbird Lane and Arnold Drive in Sunset West development	5	0	0	5
Sasaki	Southside Ranch Road	2	0	0	2
Sierra Meadows	Sierra Meadows Drive and Tamarack Drive	4	0	0.8	4.8
Sonora	Sonora Pass/Great Divide Way in Sunset West development	4	4.2	0	8.2
Sunset East	Willowynd Drive	2	5	8	15
Vista Grande	Onyx Drive in Five Star development	4.5	3.5	0	8
Wesley	Wesley Road and Denton Court in Stanford Ranch development	6	0.7	1.1	7.8
Whitney Ranch	Future (2 sites in Whitney Ranch development)	0	10	0	10
Woodside	Westwood Drive in Woodside subdivision	3.5	1.5	0	5
Totals		218.6	146.4	62.7	427.7

Source: Riemer 2008

Facilities

The Community Services and Facilities Department's facilities include the Rocklin Community Center, the Rocklin Sunset Center, and the Finnish Temperance Hall. The Rocklin Community Center is located at 5480 Fifth Street, adjacent to the Johnson-Springview Park Picnic Pavilion. The single-story brick building has a main hall and adjoining convenience kitchen and is rented out for indoor and outdoor events and gatherings. The Rocklin Sunset Center is located at 2650 Sunset Boulevard and has a large main hall, reception area, large commercial kitchen, six meeting rooms, stage, large grass area, and parking. In addition, offices for the Recreation Division of the Department of Community Services and Facilities are located in the Sunset Center. Registrations for most programs, facility rentals, and event ticket reservations are processed at this location. The Finnish Temperance Hall is located at 4090 Rocklin Road and is registered as a California Point of Historical Interest. Built in 1905 and restored in the late 1980s, the building has a hall and an adjoining convenience kitchen (City of Rocklin, n.d., pg. 12-13).

In addition, there are several sports facilities in the city that were developed through the joint efforts of the City of Rocklin and the Rocklin Unified School District. These include the Rocklin High School/City Aquatic Complex, the Whitney High School/City Aquatic Complex, and the Clarke Dominguez Gymnasium located on the campus of Rocklin Elementary School (City of Rocklin, n.d., pg. 16).

Recreation

The Community Services and Facilities Department offers various recreational programs and services for the city's residents, including:

- Active adult classes for adults ages 50 and older;
- Aquatics program;
- Performing and visual arts classes;
- Youth activities;
- Teen activities;
- Preschool;
- Before and after-school daycare; and
- Sports and fitness classes and leagues.

The Community Services and Facilities Department also sponsors special events such as Rocklin Cleanup Days, Evening in the Park, Make A Difference Day, Children's Trick-or-Treat Faire, and Breakfast with Santa (City of Rocklin 2008g, pg. 18-19).

Parkland Ratios

The City of Rocklin has an adopted standard of 5 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents. However, the standard does not specify whether parks should be improved or unimproved. Unimproved parkland includes open space specifically associated with parks. As of November 2008, the city has a total of 428 acres of parkland, with 219 of those being improved and the rest being unimproved or natural reserve (see **Table 4.12.4-1** above). The current park-to-population ratio for both improved and unimproved parkland is approximately 7.94 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents. However, the park-to-population ratio for improved parkland is 4.07 acres per 1,000 residents (Riemer 2008).

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Funding

The City of Rocklin requires new development to dedicate parkland or pay in-lieu fees at a rate of 5 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents, using an estimate of 2.6 residents per household. The City attempts to enter into “turnkey” agreements for park development whenever possible. Turnkey agreements require the developer to dedicate a fully improved park and in return the developer receives a credit for in-lieu fees (Riemer 2008). As development occurs, the City collects park fees to offset the demand created for park facilities.

In addition to the above-noted dedication efforts and imposition of fees, the City also imposes a Community Park Fee to finance community park and citywide recreational facilities improvements to reduce the impacts of increased use of existing facilities by the expanding population caused by new development in the city. This fee is charged and paid upon the application for any building permit for all non-exempt new development within the city. The current community park fee is \$711 per dwelling unit and \$569 per dwelling unit for single-family residential and multi-family residential, respectively (Riemer 2008).

4.12.4.2 REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

STATE

The California Parklands Act of 1980

Although a recreation element is not mandated by law to be included in a general plan, recreation resources are to be considered in the open space element of a general plan (Government Code Section 65560). The California Parklands Act of 1980 (Public Resources Code Section 5096.141–5096.143) identifies “the public interest for the state to acquire, develop, and restore areas for recreation...and to aid local governments of the state in acquiring, developing, and restoring such areas...” The act also identifies the necessity of local agencies to exercise vigilance to see that the parks, recreation areas, and recreational facilities they now have are not lost to other uses.

Quimby Act

The goal of the 1975 Quimby Act (California Government Code Section 66477) was to require developers to help mitigate the impacts of property improvements by requiring them to set aside land, donate conservation easements, or pay fees for park improvements. The Quimby Act gave authority for passage of land dedication ordinances only to cities and counties, thus requiring special districts to work with cities and/or counties to receive parkland dedication and/or in-lieu fees. The fees must be paid and land conveyed directly to the local public agencies that provide park and recreation services community-wide. Revenues generated through the Quimby Act cannot be used for the operation and maintenance of park facilities (Westrup 2002).

Originally, the Quimby Act was designed to ensure “adequate” open space acreage in jurisdictions adopting Quimby Act standards (e.g., 3–5 acres per 1,000 residents). In some California communities, the acreage fee was very high where property values were high, and many local governments did not differentiate on their Quimby fees between infill projects and greenbelt developments. In 1982, the Quimby Act was substantially amended via Assembly Bill (AB) 1600. The amendments further defined acceptable uses of or restrictions on Quimby funds, provided acreage/population standards and formulas for determining the exaction, and indicated that the exactions must be closely tied (nexus) to a project’s impacts as identified

through traffic studies required by CEQA. In other words, AB 1600 requires agencies to clearly show a reasonable relationship between the public need for the recreation facility or parkland and the type of development project upon which the fee is imposed (Westrup 2002). Cities or counties with a high ratio of parkland to inhabitants can set a standard of 5 acres per 1,000 residents for new development. Cities or counties with a lower ratio can only require the provision of up to 3 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents. The calculation of a city's or county's parkland-to-population ratio is based on a comparison of the population count of the last federal census to the amount of city- or county-owned parkland. As discussed above, the City of Rocklin charges fees based on the standard of 5 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents for new development.

LOCAL

City of Rocklin Municipal Code

Chapter 17.71 of the Rocklin Municipal Code provides for the financing of adequate park and recreation facilities by requiring residential uses be conditioned on the payment of a park and recreation fee. Fees collected pursuant to this chapter can be used only for the purpose of providing and maintaining park and recreational facilities.

Park Maintenance and Development Act of 1998

Chapter 3.34 of the Rocklin Municipal Code, also known as the Park Maintenance and Development Act of 1998, imposes a special tax on every residential parcel in the City of Rocklin solely for the purpose of raising revenue necessary for the development and maintenance of parks and related recreation facilities in the city.

4.12.4.3 IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

STANDARDS OF SIGNIFICANCE

The impact analysis provided below is based on the following CEQA Guidelines Appendix G thresholds of significance. A park and recreation impact is significant if implementation of the proposed project would:

1. Increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated.
2. Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment.

METHODOLOGY

Evaluation of potential parks and recreation service impacts was based on information provided by the City of Rocklin Community Services and Facilities Department, as well as review of the most recent recreation and facilities guides, the existing City of Rocklin General Plan and Municipal Code, and other relevant literature. A detailed list of reference material used can be found at this end of this section. This material was then compared to the proposed General Plan Update's specific park and recreation service-related impacts. The impact analysis below focuses on whether those impacts would have a significant effect on the physical environment.

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IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Increased Demand for Parks and Recreation Facilities

Impact 4.12.4.1 Implementation of the proposed project could increase population in the Planning Area, which could subsequently increase the use of existing parks and recreation facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facilities would occur and/or require the construction or expansion of parks and recreational facilities to meet increased demand which could have an adverse physical effect on the environment. However, the proposed Rocklin General Plan Update's mitigating policies and their associated action steps ensure the impact will be less than significant. Therefore, this is considered to be a **less than significant** impact.

The City has adopted park and recreational facilities improvement fees to finance parks and citywide recreation facilities improvements to reduce the impacts of increased use on existing facilities. The City also imposes a special tax on residential properties that provides funds for the development, repair, and maintenance of parks and recreation facilities. New developments are required to either dedicate parkland or pay park development fees based on a General Plan standard of 5 acres per 1,000 residents. In addition, the City has negotiated turnkey provisions whereby developers construct parks and install recreational equipment in parks as part of development projects. This allows developers to market their projects with a known time frame as to when new residents can expect completion of parks in their neighborhoods.

With an estimated 2008 population of 53,843 and 428 acres of parks (219 improved acres), Rocklin has 7.94 acres of parks (4.07 improved acres) per 1,000 residents. With the additional acreage of planned future parks bringing the City's total park acreage to 440, Rocklin's population could increase to approximately 88,000 and still provide 5 acres of parks per 1,000 residents. Based on current land use assumptions and projections including the intensification of land uses in the Downtown Rocklin Area, the city's population is estimated to be 76,136 at buildout.

Typical environmental effects regarding the construction and operation of parks and recreational facilities may involve issues with noise (during construction and use of playfields and playgrounds), air quality (during the construction of the facility), biological resources (depending on location), historic/cultural resources (depending on location), public services and utilities (demand for police and fire protection, electric, water, and wastewater service), and traffic on a local neighborhood level. The environmental effects of construction of such facilities in the Planning Area have been considered in the technical analyses of this DEIR as part of overall development of the Planning Area.

Proposed General Plan Update Policies That Provide Mitigation

The following proposed General Plan policies would assist in avoiding or minimizing impacts associated with increased demand for parks and recreation facilities:

Policy OCR-12 Provide for park and other outdoor recreational needs, both active and passive, through methods including but not limited to: collection of park user fees, dedication of parkland, or a combination of both; rehabilitation of existing park and recreation facilities; requiring the installation of park improvements; and requiring that financial mechanisms be created for long-term park and/or open space operation and maintenance.

Policy OCR-13 Require dedication of parkland, payment of in lieu fees for parkland, or a combination of both, as a condition of approval in the early stages of the development process, including approval of rezonings, where it is necessary to insure consistency with or implementation of the goals and policies contained in this General Plan.

Policy OCR-14 Provide developed as well as undeveloped parkland, recognizing that certain unique open space attributes may be best preserved by retaining them in a natural condition.

Policy OCR-18 Provide park facilities in a timely manner.

Policy OCR-19 Utilize locational and size guidelines that will allow the City to maintain a minimum of 5 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents.

Policy OCR-22 Require new development to mitigate its impact on park development and maintenance.

Policy OCR-23 Seek outside funding from local, State and Federal agencies, as well as the private sector, for new park development and rehabilitation of existing park facilities.

Policy OCR-25 Protect designated outdoor recreation sites from incompatible urban development.

Policy OCR-26 Maintain a Park Repair and Development Fund that receives revenues from a variety of sources.

Policy OCR-27 Establish Class I bikeways where feasible along public roadways when roadways are adjacent to open space and parkland.

Policy OCR-28 Integrate, to the extent practical, the City's bike and trails network with trails in adjacent jurisdictions and the region.

Policy OCR-30 Provide recreation programs that meet resident needs.

Policy OCR-31 Provide recreation programs that foster financially self-supporting recreational facilities.

Policy OCR-33 Provide active recreation facilities and related infrastructure within community parks, such as lighted athletic fields, soccer fields, softball diamonds and parking areas.

Policy OCR-34 Provide recreation facilities for neighborhood residential areas in neighborhood parks that include informal turf areas, playgrounds, and passive recreation opportunities.

Policy OCR-35 Seek funding sources for a variety of recreational programs and facilities, including program fees, lease agreements and concessions, State and Federal funds, and the City Americans with Disabilities Act Superfund.

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Policy OCR-36 Participate on a regional level (with other local jurisdictions) in hosting sports tournaments and recreational events that promote tourism, whenever feasible.

Policy OCR-38 Provide additional active recreational opportunities such as community centers, a performing arts center, swimming pools and gymnasiums.

Implementation of the above General Plan policies would ensure that the City would adequately provide for parks and recreation needs for residents and that new development would mitigate project-level impacts to parks and recreation facilities. Implementation of these policies would ensure that impacts to parks and recreation services would be **less than significant**.

In addition, as discussed in Section 3.0, Project Description, and under Impact 4.12.1.1 above, the project includes the Sixth Amendment to the Redevelopment Plan and the CAP, both of which would be consistent with the proposed General Plan Update and with the development assumptions analyzed throughout this DEIR. As these project components would not result in land use activities or growth beyond what is identified in the General Plan Update, they would not result in impacts to parks and recreation services beyond what is analyzed for the General Plan Update above. Impacts would be **less than significant**.

Mitigation Measures

None required.

4.12.4.4 CUMULATIVE SETTING, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION MEASURES

CUMULATIVE SETTING

The cumulative setting for parks and recreation consists of the City of Rocklin's parks and recreation service area boundary, which corresponds with the Planning Area. Under buildout conditions, the City would operate and maintain Rocklin's parks and recreation facilities. Any existing, planned, proposed, approved, and reasonably foreseeable development within the Planning Area that currently places demand on Rocklin's parks and recreation facilities, or is expected to place demand on them in the future, could contribute to cumulative impacts.

CUMULATIVE IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Cumulative Park and Recreation Demands

Impact 4.12.4.2 Implementation of the proposed project could increase population in the Planning Area, which could subsequently increase the use of existing parks and recreation facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facilities would occur and/or require the construction or expansion of park and recreational facilities to meet increased demand which could have an adverse physical cumulative effect on the environment. However, the proposed Rocklin General Plan Update's mitigating policies and their associated action steps ensure the impact will be less than significant. This would be a **less than cumulatively considerable** impact.

Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update and its associated project components would address future city needs for parks and recreation facilities through implementation of the

General Plan policies identified under Impact 4.12.4.1, which ensure that new development would be required to dedicate land for parks or to pay in-lieu fees for the acquisition and development of new parks at a rate of 5 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents.

Proposed General Plan Update Policies That Provide Mitigation

The proposed General Plan Update policies listed under Impact 4.12.4.1 would assist in avoiding or minimizing impacts associated with increased demand for parks and recreation facilities. Implementation of these General Plan policies would ensure that the City would adequately provide for parks and recreation needs for residents and that new development would mitigate the project's cumulative contribution to impacts on parks and recreation facilities. Therefore, the proposed project would have a **less than cumulatively considerable** impact on parks and recreation services.

As previously discussed, neither the Sixth Amendment to the Redevelopment Plan nor the CAP would result in impacts associated with increased demand for parks and recreation facilities beyond what is analyzed for the General Plan Update above.

Mitigation Measures

None required.

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