

3.15 - Recreation

This section describes the existing setting for recreation and potential effects from project implementation on the site and its surrounding area. Descriptions and analysis in this section are based on information contained in the Multipurpose Open Space Element of the County’s 2015 General Plan.

3.15.1 - Existing Conditions

Riverside County Regional Parks

Riverside County includes a wide range of open space, parks, and recreational areas, including Joshua Tree National Park and major state parks such as Anza-Borrego, the Salton Sea State Recreation Area, and Chino Hills State Park. County parks also serve residents and visitors in the western portion of the County, as well as in the desert, mountain, and Colorado River regions. Riverside County maintains 35 regional parks, encompassing roughly 23,317 acres. Local parks are under the jurisdiction of County Recreation and Park Districts and serve the following areas: the Beaumont-Cherry Valley area; the Coachella Valley area; the Jurupa area; the Valleywide area incorporating the San Jacinto Valley, the Winchester area, the Menifee Valley, and the Anza Valley (Multipurpose Open Space Element of the 2015 County of Riverside General Plan).

Recreational Facilities in the Project Vicinity

The unincorporated community of Cherry Valley is located in the north-central portion of The Pass between the cities of Calimesa and Banning. The unincorporated community of Cherry Valley contains Edgar Canyon Nature Park and Bogart Park. The City of Beaumont contains six parks and two golf courses that are within 1 to 22 miles of the project area, including the Beaumont Sports Park, Stewart Park, Noble Creek Regional Park, Three Rings Ranch Community Park, Rangel Park, and Mountain View Park. Table 3.15-1 lists the park and recreational facilities located near the project site. The closest park to the project area is Noble Creek Park, which is located on Oak Valley Parkway, west of Beaumont Avenue, approximately 2.2 miles southeast of the project site. In addition, a small natural park (Edgar Canyon Nature Park) is approximately 2.4 miles east of the project site, located northeast of the intersection of Cherry Valley Boulevard and Beaumont Avenue. Additionally, there are a number of golf courses in the immediate area, including Oak Valley Southern California Professional Golfers Association (SCPGA), nearby in Beaumont, and the Calimesa Golf Course a few miles northwest of the project site, in Calimesa.

Table 3.15-1: Nearby Park/Recreational Facilities

Park Name	Cross Streets	Amenities	Approximate Distance from the Project Site
San Bernardino National Forest ¹²	Not Applicable	22 campgrounds, 133 day hiking areas, 37 backpacking areas, 22 mountain biking areas, fishing areas (lakes, ponds, rivers, and streams), learning center, 18 picnicking areas, five horse camping areas, 38 horse riding areas, skiing/snowboarding areas	12.27 miles northeast

Table 3.15-1 (cont.): Nearby Park/Recreational Facilities

Park Name	Cross Streets	Amenities	Approximate Distance from the Project Site
Public Parks/Recreational Facilities—Cherry Valley			
Edgar Canyon Nature Park ¹³	Vineland Street and Ave Miravilla	Open space	2.4 miles east
Bogart Park ¹	Winesap Avenue and International Park Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 26 tent and RV camp sites • Fishing pond • Picnic areas • Biking trails • Equestrian trails • Running trails • Hiking trails 	3.7 miles northeast
Highland Springs Resort Golf Course ¹¹	Overland Trail and Frontier Trail	Swimming pool, restaurant, meeting rooms, non-smoking rooms, high-speed internet, hot tub/jacuzzi, resort, convention center	4.66 miles east
Public Parks—City of Calimesa			
Calimesa Golf Course ¹⁰	Slack Place and 3 rd Street	1 golf course, putting green, chipping area, practice bunker, food & beverage available, pull carts, rental clubs, driving range	1.93 miles northwest
Public Parks—City of Beaumont			
Morongo Golf Club at Tukwet Canyon ²	Champions Drive and Cherry Valley Boulevard	2 golf courses, clubhouse with food and beverage services, practice facilities (double-end driving range, two large putting greens, and two chipping greens)	1.52 miles southwest
Oak Valley SPCGA ⁹	Oak Valley Village Center and Golf Club Drive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 golf course • Practice facilities • Clubhouse • Restaurants • Golf Shop 	2.12 miles southeast
Beaumont Sports Park ^{5,8}	Brookside Avenue and Beaumont Avenue	Running track, venue for organized sports and special sports events (basketball, baseball, softball)	2.97 miles southeast
Stewart Park ⁵	9 th Street and Orange Avenue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11-acre park • Pavilion • Restrooms • Baseball diamond • Basketball courts • Playground • Skateboard park 	3.93 miles southeast

Table 3.15-1 (cont.): Nearby Park/Recreational Facilities

Park Name	Cross Streets	Amenities	Approximate Distance from the Project Site
Noble Creek Regional Park ⁷	Near Oak Valley Parkway and Beaumont Avenue	Noble Creek Community Center	2.2 miles southeast
Three Rings Ranch Community Park ⁶	Brookside Lane and Claiborne Avenue	Tot lot with benches and picnic benches	3.25 miles southeast
Rangel Park ⁵	4 th Street and B Street	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Valdivia Field • Baseball fields • Lighted field • Tot area 	3.94 miles southeast
Mountain View Park ⁴	Wiehe Avenue and Gardena Avenue	Tot lot and two basketball half-courts	22 miles west
Institutional Facilities³			
Beaumont High School ¹⁴	Cherry Valley Boulevard and Beaumont Avenue	Tennis courts, fields, basketball courts and track	2.2 miles southwest
<p>Notes:</p> <p>¹ Website: http://www.rivcoparks.org/parks/bogart/bogart-park/. Accessed March 13, 2013.</p> <p>² Website: http://www.tukwetcanyon.com/. Accessed March 7, 2013</p> <p>³ These amenities are intended for use primarily by the high school. Some amenities such as the fields and track may be available to the public when school is not in session and on the weekends.</p> <p>⁴ Website: http://www.riversideca.gov/park_rec/amenities.asp. Accessed March 13, 2013.</p> <p>⁵ Website: http://www.ci.beaumont.ca.us/index.aspx?nid=33. Accessed March 13, 2013.</p> <p>⁶ Website: http://www.ci.beaumont.ca.us/index.aspx?nid=33. Accessed March 13, 2013.</p> <p>⁷ Website: http://www.bcvparks.com/facilities.php. Accessed March 13, 2013.</p> <p>⁸ Website: http://www.ci.beaumont.ca.us/index.aspx?nid=186. Accessed March 13, 2013.</p> <p>⁹ Website: http://www.scpaggolf.com/facilities-overview/. Accessed March 13, 2013.</p> <p>¹⁰ Website: http://www.golfnow.com/course-directory/california-golf-courses/calimesa-golf-courses/calimesa-country-club. Accessed March 13, 2013.</p> <p>¹¹ Website: http://www.hsresort.com. Accessed March 13, 2013.</p> <p>¹² Website: http://www.fs.usda.gov/sbnf. Accessed March 13, 2013.</p> <p>¹³ Website: http://www.walkscore.com/place/edgar-canyon-nature-park-cherry-valley. Accessed March 13, 2013.</p> <p>¹⁴ Website: http://beaumonths-beaumont-ca.schoolloop.com/. Accessed March 13, 2013</p> <p>Source: FCS, 2013.</p>			

3.15.2 - Regulatory Setting

State Regulations

Quimby Act

Section 66477 of the California Government Code, also known as the Quimby Act, was enacted in an effort to promote the availability of park and open space areas in California. The Quimby Act authorizes cities and counties to enact ordinances requiring the dedication of land, or the payment of fees for park and/or recreational facilities in lieu thereof, or both, by developers of residential subdivisions as a condition to the approval of a tentative map or parcel map. The Quimby Act permits the County to require parkland dedications not to exceed three acres of parkland per 1,000 persons residing within a subdivision, and/or in-lieu fee payments for residential development

projects. However, if the amount of existing neighborhood and community park space within the local jurisdiction exceeds that limit, the required dedication ratio cannot exceed five acres of parkland per 1,000 persons.

Local Regulations

Riverside County Ordinance

Under Riverside County Ordinance No. 460, Section 10.35, Riverside County has adopted provisions implementing the Quimby Act by establishing a requirement for dedication of three acres of parkland per 1,000 population, or payment of a fee in lieu of such dedication. The fee or land dedications may only be used to provide neighborhood and community parks that serve the proposed development.

3.15.3 - Thresholds of Significance

The County of Riverside utilizes Appendix G of the State CEQA Guidelines as its thresholds of significance for CEQA analysis. Further, the County provides a number of additional environmental considerations as part of the County's Environmental Assessment Checklist.

Would the project:

- a) Is the project located within a Community Service Area (CSA) or recreation and park district with a Community Parks and Recreation Plan (Quimby fees)?
- b) Would the project impact recreational trails?

According to the County of Riverside CEQA thresholds, to determine whether environmental impacts to recreation are significant, the following questions are analyzed and evaluated:

- a) Would the project include the use of existing neighborhood or regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?
- b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?

3.15.4 - Project Impact Analysis and Mitigation Measures

This section discusses potential impacts associated with the project and provides mitigation measures where necessary.

Recreational Facilities Physical Effect

Impact REC-1: **The project would not include the use of existing neighborhood or regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated.**

Impact Analysis

To understand the existing local recreational setting in the project area including local park districts and whether implementation of the project could potentially impact existing local recreation facilities in the area, FirstCarbon Solutions contacted Diane Gonzalez, Activities Specialist with the Beaumont-Cherry Valley Recreation and Park District, via email on May 21, 2013.

The project is located within the unincorporated community of Cherry Valley within Riverside County. According to the County's Geographical Information System (GIS) information for the project site, the project is located within a CSA for lighting only, and the project does not lie within a CSA for recreation. The Beaumont-Cherry Valley Recreation and Park District operates within the Cherry Valley/Beaumont area. The District does not have a Community Parks and Recreation Plan (Gonzalez, pers. comm.). Thus, the project will have a less than significant impact regarding a CSA for recreation, or a recreation and park district with a Community Parks and Recreation Plan.

As shown in The Pass Area Plan, Figure 8, Trails and Bikeway System, there are no county trails located on the project site. However, the City of Calimesa has a Proposed Multi-Use Trail System that includes several trailheads and trails categorized as "Unknown" within the project site. Once developed the Multi-Use Trail System will offer a variety of recreational options. The trails will be designed to incorporate the existing historic trails while preserving sensitive open space using linear strips of open space, public easements, and floodplains. Various types of trails will be provided for walkers, joggers, bicyclists, and equestrians.

Currently, the project site contains some informal trails that traverse the project site. Exhibit 3.15-1 illustrates the existing trails and proposed new trails and new parking area/trail head as part of the proposed project. The project would feature on-site trails that connect with existing trails in the northern portion of the site to contribute to the development of the City of Calimesa's trail system.

Employees associated with the project are not anticipated to have a significant impact on recreational trails, because the project is not expected to significantly increase the local population, and employees would not be expected to utilize these trails during the workday.

Currently, the closest recreational resources to the project site are the athletic fields at Beaumont High School located approximately 2 miles east. Residents in the project area use parks, recreational facilities, and programs provided by the County of Riverside and surrounding communities, including Beaumont and Calimesa. Refer to Table 3.15-1, Nearby Park/Recreational Facilities, which lists the parks and recreational facilities near the project site.

To understand the existing regional recreational setting in the project area and whether implementation of the project could potentially impact existing regional recreational facilities in the area, Marc Brewer, Senior Park Planner with the Riverside County Park and Open Space District, was

contacted via email on June 14, 2013. Mr. Brewer confirmed that the Riverside County Regional Park and Open-Space District does not expect a significant use impact from the project on the area's recreational facilities (Brewer, pers. comm.).

Furthermore, the project would feature on-site trails that connect with existing trails in the northern portion of the site, to contribute to the development of the City of Calimesa's trail system. Easements for these trails would be donated/dedicated to a responsible entity to be determined prior to project approval. Because dedication of trail easements is not required as mitigation for any environmental impact, selecting the responsible entity at a later date does not constitute improper deferral. A 10-foot-wide decomposed granite trail section would be constructed along the project frontage on the northern side of Cherry Valley Boulevard to accommodate pedestrians and equestrians. A trailhead would also be constructed in the southwest corner of the site, near the decorative water tower and barn features. Another decomposed granite trail would be provided along the western margin of the project site to accommodate hikers and equestrians, and would connect to the existing trails in the northern portion of the project site.

Development of trail access is not anticipated to have a significant impact on the environment, due to the limited nature of the improvements. The project would not otherwise include the use of existing neighborhood or regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated. Thus, impacts would be less than significant.

Level of Significance Before Mitigation

Less than significant impact.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation measures are required.

Level of Significance After Mitigation

Less than significant impact.

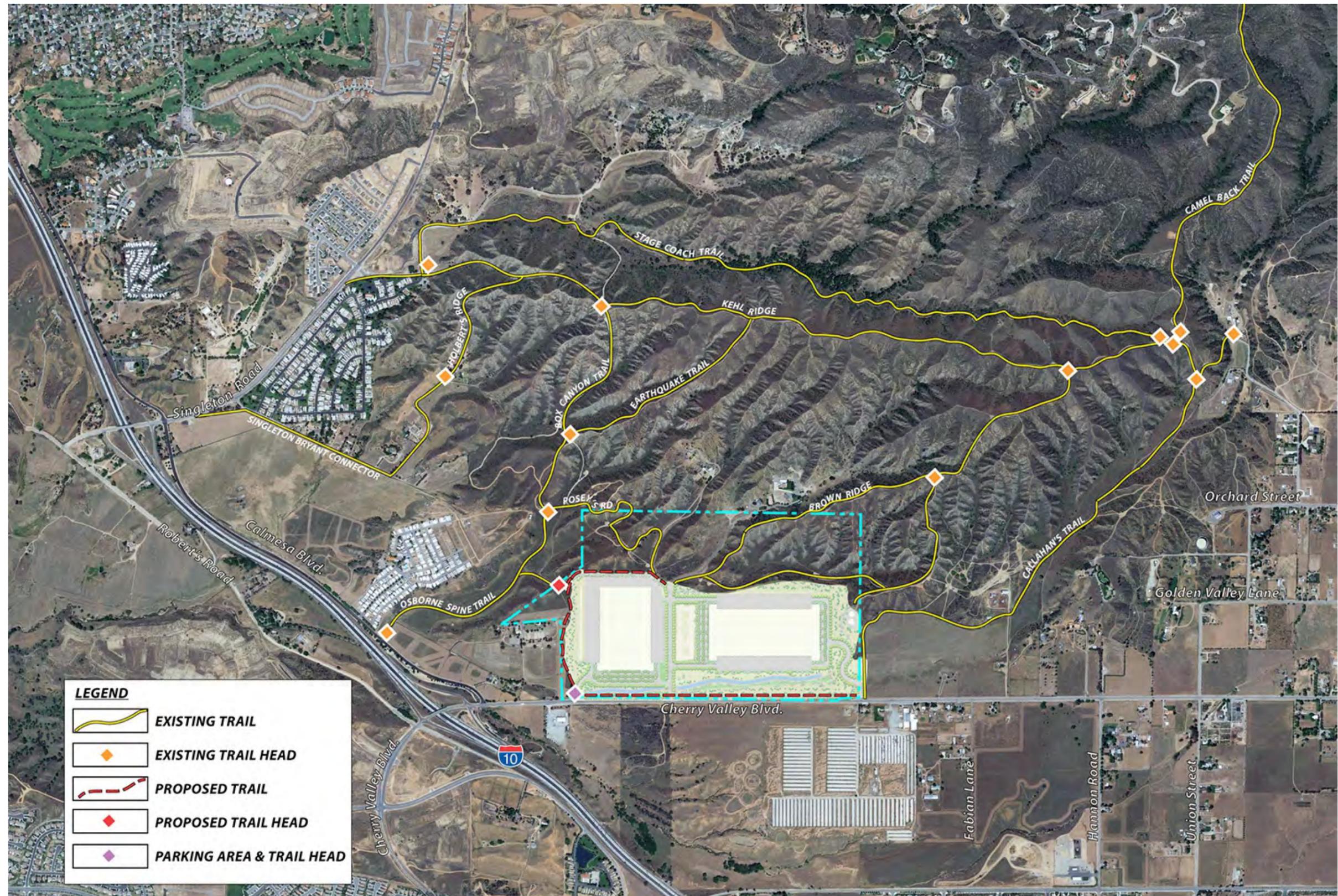
Recreational Facilities

Impact REC-2: **The project would not include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment.**

Impact Analysis

There are ample park facilities in the vicinity of the project site, as described in the paragraph below; therefore, the project would not include any recreational facilities. Because no parks or parkland are proposed as part of the project, it is not anticipated that the project would result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the development of new park facilities.

The closest park to the project area is Noble Creek Park, which is located on Oak Valley Parkway, west of Beaumont Avenue, approximately 2.2 miles southeast of the project site. There is also a small natural park (Edgar Canyon Nature Park), approximately 2.4 miles east of the project site, located northeast of the intersection of Cherry Valley Boulevard and Beaumont Avenue.



Source: HPA Architecture, 2015.



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Based on the project-specific economic studies, the project is estimated to create approximately 577 jobs in Riverside County during the construction phase, and 748 new permanent jobs (direct, indirect, induced) once in operation (Kosmont 2015). For further information on employment estimate assumptions, see the discussion in Section 3.13, Population and Housing, and the economic reports in Appendix J.

There is a potential for the project to draw new residents in the project area because of the new employment opportunities. Although the exact number of new residents is speculative, the increase is not expected to substantially increase demands on existing neighborhood or regional parks or other recreational facilities, because it is not anticipated that a substantial number of new residents would be drawn to the project area for the new jobs. Further, since most positions would be filled by employees already living within the local region, it is assumed that these employees would already be utilizing local recreational opportunities and parks. Regardless, even if all new positions generated by the project were filled with out-of-area employees, it would not be sufficient to negatively impact any parks. Employees of the project would not be expected to utilize recreational facilities during the workday. Therefore, the project would not require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities, which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment.

Level of Significance Before Mitigation

Less than significant impact.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation measures are required.

Level of Significance After Mitigation

Less than significant impact.

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